



Finish: Par for the Course is Different in God's Economy!

Date: March 7th, 2021

Text: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-6

Passage Summary: While the church can be established in the gospel of Christ and used by God to make a world of difference, it does not make us immune from being _____ or _____ in times of opposition!

180 Degree Truth #1: See that God desires to grant affirmation and assurance in the face of opposition as we realize _____ for the _____ is different in His economy! (2:1-6)

Application: Recognize that when it comes to par for the course in God's economy, it involves...

- _____! (v.1-2)

"Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you."

1 Peter 4:12

Remember: When it comes to opposition, we would do well to draw _____ from Paul's _____; "You know, brothers, that our visit to you was not a failure. We had previously suffered and been insulted in Philippi, as you know, but with the help of our God we dared to tell you his gospel in spite of strong opposition." (1 Thessalonians 2:1-2)

- _____! (v.3-6)

"Therefore judge nothing before the appointed time; wait till the Lord comes. He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will expose the motives of men's hearts. At that time each will receive his praise from God."

1 Corinthians 4:5

See that integrity in our ministry of the gospel involves pure _____!

I have _____ best _____ in mind!

"For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake."

2 Corinthians 4:5

I _____ before _____!

"Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

Psalms 139:23-24

I _____ to please and glorify _____!

"Am I now trying to win the approval of men, or of God? Or am I trying to please men? If I were still trying to please men, I would not be a servant of Christ."

Galatians 1:10

Remember: When it comes to integrity, we would do well to _____ Paul's _____; "...we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God." (2 Corinthians 4:2)

Core Conviction to Live By: Resolutely determine to receive the affirmation and assurance God desires to grant to His church in these unsettling and uncertain times, an affirmation and assurance that is grounded in the _____ work of Christ on the _____!