

"LIFE-IS-WORTH-LIVING"

Phil-2:15-16

James O.
Sept 2-51

"when redeemed man comes to know his eternal worth he comes to know also that life is worth living" - worn out Cor + Paul Cor

when times are darkest he shines as one of the sons of God "as Paul words it "holding forth the word of life -

- a. He has worked out his own salvation with fear and trembling -
- b. He has yielded his will to a higher will -
- c. He takes fresh hold on the word of life

Result = Others seeing the lesser light of this human example find their way by this light to the greatest light which is Christ -

An awful night of sin has now fallen upon humanity -

- a. men are losing faith
- b. They are letting go old convictions
- c. They break established traditions
- d. They give up holy ideals
- e. They surrender to defeatism

(Two windows - { shadows of sin come in
- sunrise of Christ's love comes in
Result = God must have His lights - He needs the youth of to-day for lights - who will shine out in the post-war world after we older ones have gone on - They are yielding to full time Xmas services.

So Paul says - "as sons of God ye shine as lights in the world; holding forth the word of life"

what kind of an example of this was Paul?

- a. He had known the worse in life but still he lived in the best.
- b. He had seen sin conquer but still looked for the triumph of right.
- c. He had been beset by the opposition of men but remained loyal to the mission of Christ.
- d. He wanted not let the darkness get him down - but arose above the gloom.
- e. He wanted not be over come by things as they were but let his light shine to make them what they ought to be -

"A light for the purpose of life"

I. Life is worth living when we accept it as a gift from God, a gift full of meaning and possibilities.

when a noted artist committed suicide an editor said this - "He was a successful artist - with editors eager to snatch the paper from beneath his pencil - but he found life emptier than do men in the headlines"

EMPTY - what a word!

Empty barrel -

" purse

" pen

" Name

" chair in the home

There may be empty graves and because of that we may have our lives full -

God thinks of us and places His Providence around us - which means that we count for something - and a man can keep his chin up when he feels that he counts in life -

God is our Friend. we should be His friends all of our lives - Having such fellowship we shine on lights holding forth the word of life."

Robt. Lewis Stephenson did not meet James Chalmers till Chalmers was very old - and Stephenson said - "I have come to love you too late" in life we come to love too late in life - youth needs God - that keeps down trouble -

2. Life is worth living when there is a holy cause -

"It is not enough to know what to live for - one must know also what to die for" "Death is not hard - the hard thing is getting up to death." The daughter - "It's making my bed next to his bed" - men have answered the call of the cross - knowing Cause to be holy -

God always has a holy cause and will guide us into it - and there is always something left undone unless we do what He reveals to be our task -

3. Life is worth living when trouble is ever come -

Dr. Paul Scherer speaks of those who have

"woven life's defeats into battle flags
and made them to wave in the winds
of misfortune"

Victorious living is determined by how
one faces calamity"

There is inspiration in the story of
the violin maker who got his wood
for his instruments from the north side
of the tree - that the north winds have
blown strong and cold - the great
Heavenly musician has brought the
sweetest melody from troubled lives

4. Life is worth living when we make
it worth going on.

The late Clarence Darrow denied that life
is worth going on - advised a youth
to "chuck life away" - yet in a court
room he used this gem to save
a youth from the gallows - this will
be remembered long after his "Chuck
life away" advice has been forgotten

We believe that beneath the claim of some
to-day that life is not worth going on
there smoulders the feeling that it is
worth going on -

Dorothy Parker has written
about that mixed sense of the
futility and need -

She said -

there is little in taking or giving,
there is little in water or wine,
this living - this living - this living
was never a project of mine.

oh hard is the struggle and sparse is
the gain of the one at the top
for art is a form of catharsis
and love is a permanent flop
and work is the province of cattle
and rest for a clam in the shell
so I am thinking of throwing the battle
would you kindly direct me to hell?

But listen - there is courage for conflict
when one follows Him who never re-
treated - there is faith for living when
one is kept by Him who never lost faith
there is hope for tomorrow when one
belongs to Him who is the Resurrection
and the life

Let us then be "sons of God shining
as lights in the world holding forth the
word of life"

"Life is worth living"

