

# MID - COURSE CORRECTIONS

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 28, 2010

PASTOR'S PREACHING

1Co 9:24 Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.

1Co 9:25 And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they *do it* to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.

Eph 2:1 And you *hath he quickened*, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

Eph 2:2 **Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world**, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

2Th 3:1 Finally, brethren, pray for us, **that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified**, even as *it is* with you:

2Th 3:2 And that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for all *men* have not faith.

2Th 3:3 But the Lord is faithful, who shall stablish you, and keep *you* from evil.

2Ti 4:7 I have fought a good fight, **I have finished my course**, I have kept the faith:

2Ti 4:8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

1Ti 1:19 Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith **have made shipwreck**:

**Concerning faith** - In respect to the whole subject of faith. They are unfaithful to God, and they reject the whole system of the gospel. "Faith" is sometimes used to denote the gospel - as faith is the principal thing in the gospel.

**Have made shipwreck** - There is an entire destruction of faith - as a ship is wholly ruined that strikes on a rock and sinks.

## MID - COURSE CORRECTIONS:

1. The Apollo Spacecraft missions, while in flight to the moon, were on course less than one percent of the time. The moon, due to its elliptical orbit, is an average of 238,886 spinning miles from Earth. With the earth on its axis, its orbiting of the Sun, its dense atmosphere, its own gravitational pull (The velocity needed to escape from the earth at its surface is approximately 7 Miles (11.3) per second, the moon's gravitational pull as it orbits the earth, the calculations required for the spacecraft to reach its goal, is mind-boggling.
2. The moon's diameter, which we see here on earth in its fullness every twenty eight days, is 2,000 miles. Had the North American Space Agency (NASA) been able to perform a "dead reckoning" shot to the center of the moon (which is an impossible feat) and be only one degree off of the moon's "dead center," the spacecraft would miss the outer edge of the moon completely by 2,163 miles. Again, that is with being "off target" by only one degree. The bottom line was that all of these logistical problems necessitated NASA's scientists to perform continual mid-course corrections.
3. As blood bought Christians we must ever remind ourselves that we are headed to a much, much more beautiful, glorious and eternal place than the moon's barren landscape. The destination to which we are headed is much farther away than the moon, and, like the moon, it wouldn't take much to miss it.

Mat 7:14 Because strait *is* the gate, and narrow *is* the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

**Few there be that find it** - The strait gate, **στενη πυλη**, signifies literally what we call a wicket, i.e. a little door in a large gate. Gate, among the Jews, signifies, metaphorically, the entrance, introduction, or means of acquiring anything. So they talk of the gate of repentance, the gate of prayers, and the gate of tears. When God, say they, shut the gate of paradise against Adam, He opened to him the gate of repentance.

4. Heaven, to which we are headed, is an extremely righteous place while the world we live in is extremely wicked place and growing more so by the minute.

The devil we must contend with continues to go about as a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour.

5. And the treasure we possess, the Baptism of the Holy Ghost is still in vary earthen vessels. What this means, is that we, as the people of God, are in need of **constant mid-course** corrections. If we truly intend to reach our goal!

## **Indispensible Items to Consider**

### **1. We must have Good, Instructive, Positive and Corrective Preaching:**

2Ti 4:2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

2Ti 4:3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

2Ti 4:4 And they shall turn away *their* ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

1Th 5:16 Rejoice evermore.

1Th 5:17 Pray without ceasing.

1Th 5:18 In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

1Th 5:19 Quench not the Spirit.

1Th 5:20 Despise not prophesyings.

1Th 5:21 Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.

1Th 5:22 Abstain from all appearance of evil.

1Th 5:23 And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and *I pray God* your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1Co 1:21 For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.

### **2. We must have good Instructive, Positive and Corrective Personal Bible Study:**

2Ti 3:15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

2Ti 3:16 All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

2Ti 3:17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

3. **We must have Good, Instructive, Positive and Corrective Church Services:**

Heb 10:25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some *is*; but exhorting *one another*: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

a. Need more than, just one service a week – Mid Week service is important.

4. **We must have Good, Instructive, Positive and Corrective Fellowship:**

2Co 6:14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

1Jn 1:6 If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:

1Jn 1:7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

Pro 27:17 Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.

a. You use steel to sharpen steel, and one friend sharpens another.

1Co 15:33 Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.

a. “Do not be misled; “Bad company corrupts good character.”

5. **We must have Good, Instructive, Positive and Corrective Prayer Time with God.**

Jud 1:20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

Jud 1:21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

Jud 1:22 And of some have compassion, making a difference:

Jud 1:23 And others save with fear, pulling *them* out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.

Jud 1:24 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present *you* faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,

Jud 1:25 To the only wise God our Saviour, *be* glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.