

SERMON OUTLINE

SERMON TITLE:	The Soul Winner's Six Mighty Motivations
SERMON REFERENCE:	2 Corinthians 5
LWF SERMON NUMBER:	#2483

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) Our achievements in life will be primarily compelled by our motivations.
 - i) What motivates you, impels you, and drives you, will cause you to be whatever you end up being.
- b) We need to be motivated to be a soul winner.
 - i) We want to bring souls to Christ.
- c) Perhaps the mightiest soul winner was the Apostle Paul.
- d) In 2 Corinthians 5, we find out what motivated Paul and what made him to be the greatest missionary the world has ever known.

2) THE SOUL WINNER'S COMPULSION (2 CORINTHIANS 5:9)

- a) Paul had a compelling motive that drove him.
- b) 2 Corinthians 5:9
 - i) This was Paul's compulsion and why he worked so hard.
 - (1) It is also the reason why we work so hard.
 - ii) This does not mean that we work in order to get to Heaven.
 - (1) Paul is saying that he wants God to be pleased with him.
- c) If we are not endeavoring to bring souls to Christ, then we are not acceptable to God.
 - i) It doesn't matter how much money we give, how faithfully we attend church, how eloquently we may preach, or how circumspectly we may walk.
 - (1) If we are not trying to bring souls to Jesus Christ, then we are not pleasing Him.
 - ii) No matter whom we may please, we are a failure if we displease God.
 - iii) If we please God, then it really doesn't matter how many people we displease.
- d) The way to please God is to bring souls to the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - i) This is our compulsion.
- e) Andrew Murray, a great Christian of yesteryear, said that there are two classes of Christians:
 - i) Soul winners
 - ii) Backsliders

3) THE SOUL WINNER'S COMPENSATION (2 CORINTHIANS 5:10)

- a) 2 Corinthians 5:10
 - i) There is a day coming when we will be compensated.
 - (1) The Bible calls that the Judgment Seat of Christ.
 - (a) This is not the Great White Throne judgment where the unsaved will appear.
 - ii) The Greek word for "judgment seat" in this verse is the word, "Bema."
 - (1) The "Bema" was a raised platform in the middle of the Olympic field where runners would come and receive their reward, or else they would be disgraced and receive no reward.

- iii) We will be compensated as we win souls for the Lord Jesus Christ.
- b) 1 Corinthians 9:24-26
 - i) If we want to get the crown, then we must train ourselves.
 - ii) We have to discipline ourselves.
- c) One day, we will face the Lord and receive a crown if we are a soul winner.
 - i) When we win souls to Christ, we don't receive a corruptible crown, but an incorruptible one.
- d) What is the Judgment Seat of Christ?
 - i) It will be a reward for some and a regret to others.
 - ii) 1 Corinthians 3:11-15
 - (1) One day, the way we lived will be made manifest.
 - (2) The fire will try every person's work to see what sort it is, not what size it is.
 - (a) God is looking for quality, not quantity.
 - (3) Every saved person is going to come to the Judgment Seat of Christ.
 - (a) If you are a soul winner, then your life will be gold, silver and precious stones.
 - (b) If you're not a soul winner, then your life will be wood, hay and stubble.
 - (4) Our lives will be revealed and tested by fire.
- e) The Judgment Seat of Christ will be a reward for some.
 - i) Some people say that they don't believe in rewards, but God does.
 - (1) Revelation 22:12
 - (2) 1 Corinthians 3:8
 - (3) Matthew 6:20
 - (a) Not everyone is going to be the same in Heaven.
 - (i) This verse makes no sense if we all have the same treasure.
 - (b) There is treasure that we are going to lay up.
 - ii) The Judgment Seat of Christ that the Apostle Paul is talking about in 2 Corinthians 5 is a time of reward.
- f) The Judgment Seat of Christ will also be a time of regret for some.
 - i) 1 Corinthians 3:15
 - (1) Some will be singed but saved.
 - (a) Everything that they have lived for will go up in flames.
 - ii) One day, you will stand before the Judgment Seat of Christ and receive the things done in the body, whether they be good or evil.
 - iii) There will be no soul winning in Heaven.
 - (1) All the soul winning we will ever do for all eternity we must do now.
 - (2) How sad it will be to go to Heaven and not have brought any souls to Jesus.
 - iv) Some say that if they just make it to Heaven, that will be fine with them.
 - (1) 1 Corinthians 3:15
 - (a) The Bible says clearly that if anyone's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss.

- v) We don't win souls in order to get to Heaven; we get to Heaven by the grace of God.
 - g) The Apostle Paul said that his compensation is the Judgment Seat of Christ.
- 4) THE SOUL WINNER'S CONVICTION (2 CORINTHIANS 5:11)
- a) 2 Corinthians 5:11
 - i) We persuade people.
 - (1) Paul did not have a take-it-or-leave-it attitude.
 - ii) Paul knew that there is a death to die and a judgment to face.
 - iii) "Knowing the terror of the Lord."
 - (1) That is, knowing what it means for a soul to die unredeemed and go to Hell.
 - b) There is a place of everlasting fire that the Bible calls Hell.
 - i) When we lead a soul to Jesus Christ, they no longer face an eternity in Hell or the terror of the Lord.
 - (1) They can know the grace of the Lord.
 - ii) Some people believe that there is no Hell.
 - (1) If there is no Hell, then the Bible is a bundle of blunders.
 - (a) The Bible warns us over and over again about Hell.
 - (2) If there is no Hell, then the Lord Jesus is a deceiver.
 - (a) The greatest Hell-fire preacher in the Bible is Jesus Christ Himself.
 - (b) Mark 9:43-44
 - (3) If there is no Hell, then Calvary was a mistake.
 - (a) Jesus died on the cross to save us.
 - (i) He was humiliated, beaten and bruised.
 - (ii) He was spat upon.
 - (iii) They pulled His beard from His cheeks.
 - (iv) His back was striped with marks from the lash.
 - (v) He was bruised by the rods.
 - (vi) Nails were driven into His quivering hands.
 - (vii) He cried out to God asking why He had forsaken Him.
 - 1. Matthew 27:46
 - (viii) With all of this, would Jesus have died to save souls from a Hell that didn't exist?
 - (4) If there is no Hell, then how can there be any Heaven?
 - (a) The same Bible that tells us about Heaven also tells us about Hell.
 - (i) We can't pick and choose; we can't say that we only believe the parts that tell us about Heaven.
 - c) We have a generation of people who have failed to understand the terror of the Lord.
 - i) The Bible speaks of people living in the last days who have no fear of God.
 - (1) Romans 3:18
 - d) God is a God of love, but if we preach the love of God to the exclusion of the judgment of God, then we've only given half the truth.

- i) When half the truth becomes the only truth, then that half of the truth is an untruth.
- 5) THE SOUL WINNER'S COMPASSION (2 CORINTHIANS 5:13-15)
- a) 2 Corinthians 5:13-15
 - i) "Whether we be beside ourselves" means whether we've lost our mind or be insane.
 - (1) There were people who were saying that the Apostle Paul was mentally unstable.
 - ii) Paul's compassion was driving him.
 - iii) Paul is speaking of the love of Christ that was shown to him and that is now shed abroad in his heart by the Holy Ghost.
 - b) How can we say that we love the Lord Jesus and not be concerned for the souls for which He died?
 - c) It is not a love for souls that motivates us, but it's because we love Jesus.
 - i) John 21:15-17
 - ii) We love people, but the chief motivation of our lives is His love for us, and therefore, His love through us.
 - d) God loves us, and He loves those all around us and wants them to be saved.
- 6) THE SOUL WINNER'S CONFIDENCE (2 CORINTHIANS 5:16-17)
- a) 2 Corinthians 5:16-17
 - i) Paul's confidence was that he knew that if he led a soul to Christ, then that person would be a new creature.
 - (1) He or she becomes brand new in the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - ii) "Henceforth know we no man after the flesh."
 - (1) Paul did not look at people as to whether they were big shots or little shots, rich or poor, educated or uneducated, weak or strong, famous or non-famous.
 - (a) That is of the flesh.
 - (2) He saw them as souls for whom Jesus died.
 - b) We tend to see people according to the flesh.
 - i) All people are important to Christ.
 - ii) The up and out are just as lost as the down and out.
 - iii) The down and out are just as precious as the up and out.
 - iv) We should never call any man common if Jesus Christ died for him.
 - c) We need to see every person as our potential brother or sister.
 - i) We need to have the confidence that if any man be in Christ Jesus, he is a new creature.
 - (1) 2 Corinthians 5:17
 - d) When we fish for men, we take men out of a horrible life into Heaven, into a beautiful life.
- 7) THE SOUL WINNER'S COMMISSION (2 CORINTHIANS 5:18-20)

- a) 2 Corinthians 5:18
 - i) We have been called to the ministry of reconciliation.
- b) 2 Corinthians 5:19-20
 - i) We have been reconciled by Calvary.
 - ii) God has brought us to Himself.
 - iii) God did not save us simply to sit and to sour, but to serve.
- c) We have been reconciled; therefore, we have been given a ministry of reconciliation.
 - i) That is, to get people reconciled to God.
- d) In this passage in 2 Corinthians, Paul says that we are appointed Heaven's ambassadors.
 - i) An ambassador is someone who represents the person of a King in the court of another.
 - ii) We are ambassadors for Jesus Christ.
 - (1) You can't get any higher than being an ambassador to the King of kings.
 - iii) God has anointed and appointed us.
 - (1) If we are not interested in being an ambassador when we've been appointed an ambassador, then we are guilty of treason against Heaven's King.
 - (2) To refuse is not only ineffective, but it is a revolt.
 - iv) If we are not interested in evangelism, then to some degree, we are in apostasy.
- e) There are people stumbling in darkness who can walk in light if we will only open God's Word and share with them how to be saved.
 - i) You don't have to be trained to witness to someone; just share what Jesus has done for you.
 - ii) Then, get trained and learn how to witness.
- f) If you received a thousand dollars for every soul you led to Christ, would you share Jesus more often?
 - i) It's really a matter of motivation.

8) CONCLUSION

- a) 2 Corinthians 5:9
 - i) It doesn't matter how many people applaud you, if you don't please Jesus, what difference does it make?
- b) Will you endeavor to win souls to Jesus Christ?
- c) Ask God to lay someone on your heart and to win that soul through you.
- d) If you do not know Jesus Christ as your personal Savior and Lord, all that is necessary for you to be saved has already been done.
 - i) Jesus suffered, bled and died on the cross to pay your sin debt.
 - ii) He rose again from the dead to show that He is the Son of God, and He wants to save you.
 - iii) Jesus will save you if you will trust Him.

- e) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- f) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
 - i) Romans 3:23
 - ii) Romans 10:9-10
 - iii) Romans 10:13
 - iv) Acts 16:31
 - v) John 3:16