

“What In The World Are We To Do?”

Phil. 2:12-15

Introduction:

- A. Christians often ask, “What in the world are we to do?”
- B. Philippians told: What in the world they were to do.
 - 1. Do it for their salvation. (v. 12).
 - 2. Do it in midst of crooked and perverse generation. (v. 15).

Discussion:

I. Obey God In The world. (vs. 12-13).

- A. Constantly. (“always”).
 - 1. Not always convenient. (cf. Acts 24:25)
 - 2. Not always applauded. (cf. Acts 28:22)
 - 3. Not always understood. (cf. 1 Pet. 4:4)
- B. Conscientiously (“not as in my presence only....”).
 - 1. Our sincerity is tested when alone with God. (cf. Rom. 3:5).
 - 2. Our sincerity is tested when absent from those who obey.
 - 3. Our sincerity is tested when in midst of those who do not obey.
 - 4. Our sincerity is shown by the consistency of our obedience.
- C. Carefully. (“fear and trembling; for it is God who works in you...”).
 - 1. In awe and respect for the power and majesty of God. (Acts 17:28)
 - 2. In awe and respect for the worship of God. (John 4:24)
 - 3. In awe and respect for the promises of God. (2 Pet. 3:9)
 - 4. In awe and respect for the threats of God. (Heb. 10:26-31)
 - 5. In awe and respect for the authority of God. (Col. 3:17)
 - a. Some things authorized for all Christians – Individually and collectively (as church)
 - b. Some things authorized for certain Christians.
 - (1) Various “offices”
 - (2) Men and women.
- D. Completely. (“do *all* things”)
 - 1. Can offend in one point and be guilty of all. (Jas. 2:10).
 - 2. Gospel must be preached completely so can be obeyed completely. (Acts 20:20,27).
 - 3. Every transgression receive just recompense of reward. (Heb. 2:2,3)
- E. Cheerfully. (v. 14).

II. Shine As Lights In The World. (v. 15).

- A. In that they are different from darkness of world. (Mt 5:14-16; 6:23).
 - 1. As Christians.
 - 2. As Congregations.
- B. In that they guide those lost in darkness. (cf. Lighthouse, beacon, light in window).

III. Hold Forth The Word of Life In The World. (v. 16).

- A. Study it. (2 Tim. 2:15; Acts 17:11).
- B. Guard it. (cf. 2 Tim. 3:16,17).
- C. Preach it. (2 Tim. 4:1-4).
- D. Preserve it. (Gal. 2:4,5).
- E. Practice it. (1 Pet. 1:14-25).

Conclusion:

- A. What in the world are you going to do?
- B. You must decide what in the world you are going to do? No one can do it for you.