

How to Be Faithful

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Gray

Introduction

1. Revelation 2:10
2. Some will be thrown into prison
 - a. The purpose will be to try us
 - b. The goal is the crown of life
 - c. They must be faithful, trusted, reliable in this kind of tribulation
3. In this hour of temptation they were to be faithful
4. We will suffer persecution 2 Timothy 3:12
 - a. It was said of Polycarp, when brought before the judge and commanded to abjure and blaspheme Christ answered, "Eighty and six years have I served him, and he never did wrong, how then can I blaspheme my king who hath saved me?"
 - b. Persecution is but for a moment 2 Corinthians 4:17
 - c. The Word of God encourages us to never give up James 1:12
5. The crown of life is worth it all
6. What does it take to be faithful?

II Discussion

1. It takes dedication to be faithful
 - a. This is the idea of a living sacrifice Romans 12:1-2
 - b. We have made the decision to dedicate our lives to Christ Romans 6:3,16-17
2. It takes discipline to be faithful
 - a. Paul had to discipline himself 1 Corinthians 9:27
 - b. Self-control must be practiced and added to our lives Galatians 5:23; 2 Peter 1:5ff NKJV; ASV
 - c. The rules have been set by God and we must live within them to receive the crown of life 2 Timothy 4:6-8
3. It takes determination to be faithful
 - a. Determination is not the same for all people Matthew 13:20-22
 - b. Determination is not all by ourselves Philippians 4:13
 - c. Determination is seeking first the kingdom of God Matthew 6:33
 - d. Determination is abounding in the work of the Lord 1 Corinthians 15:58
4. It takes diligence to be faithful
 - a. In our study 2 Timothy 2:15
 - b. In our growth 2 Peter 1:5
 - c. Yet we can become interested in other things and lose our diligence for God Luke 8:14
5. It takes dependability to be faithful
 - a. This is the meaning of the word
 - b. Moses was faithful Numbers 12:7; Hebrews 3:5
 - c. Abraham was faithful Nehemiah 9:7-8; Galatians 3:9
 - d. Timothy 1 Corinthians 4:17
 - e. We can become undependable at some point in our life Peter, Moses, Abraham

III Conclusion

1. The goal is to receive the crown of life, this can be had by being faithful
2. We have discussed 5 ways to help us be faithful, are you?
3. If not then come now

Sources: Old sermon preached in Dec. 2007; PC commentaries