

## Unexpected Pressure - Unprepared Character

### The Unexpected Source of Christian Conviction

Scripture(s): Romans 8:1-8; 1 Peter 3:13-15; Hebrews 4:11-13; 1 Peter 1:14-16, 22-23; 2 Corinthians 10:3-6

I. The first component to solid Christian convictions is deciding \_\_\_\_\_ you act that Jesus must be followed. The power to make Christ King of our decisions is found when we trust Him more than we fear \_\_\_\_\_.

1 Peter 3:13-15 <sup>13</sup> Who is there to harm you if you prove zealous for what is good? <sup>14</sup> But even if you should suffer for the sake of righteousness, you are blessed. AND DO NOT FEAR THEIR INTIMIDATION, AND DO NOT BE TROUBLED, <sup>15</sup> but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence;

II. The second component to solid Christian convictions is diligent attention to our \_\_\_\_\_. True care for our hearts happens when \_\_\_\_\_ realities govern our life rather than the fleeting promises of the flesh.

Hebrews 4:11-13 <sup>11</sup> Therefore let us be diligent to enter that rest, so that no one will fall, through following the same example of disobedience. <sup>12</sup> For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. <sup>13</sup> And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.

1 Peter 1:22-23 <sup>22</sup> Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from the heart, <sup>23</sup> for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and enduring word of God.

III. The third component to solid Christian convictions is we subdue all \_\_\_\_\_ thinking. To think clearly, we must identify the \_\_\_\_\_ we believe and replace them with God's truth.

2 Corinthians 10:3-6 <sup>3</sup> For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, <sup>4</sup> for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. <sup>5</sup> We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ, <sup>6</sup> and we are ready to punish all disobedience, whenever your obedience is complete.

Remember this - The source of a Christian's conviction is the \_\_\_\_\_ walking in the Spirit who has made us alive.

Our challenge: Make it your true ambition to walk with the Spirit by knowing and choosing the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.

1. Choosing - Consider carefully to discover if your trust of God \_\_\_\_\_ your fear of consequences.

2. Heart care - Spend enough real time with God in His Word that what He \_\_\_\_\_ about is what you \_\_\_\_\_ about.

3. Clear thinking - Be honest about the \_\_\_\_\_ that speak to you and destroy them by knowing and depending on God's truth. Start with \_\_\_\_\_.

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"God of Wonders"

"Cornerstone"

"Purer in Heart, O God" 492

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