

## THE SPIRIT-CONTROLLED LIFE – PART 3

--ROMANS 12:9-13--

### INTRODUCTION:

We have been going over some 25 exhortations by Paul of characteristics or duties that should be exemplified in the life of a disciplined, obedient, Spirit-controlled Christian. We have covered the personal characteristics and half of those characteristics and duties that we are to have toward our brothers and sisters in Christ. This morning we will finish the other half.

### II. DUTIES OF A SPIRIT-CONTROLLED LIFE – FAMILY

(Romans 12:12-13)

- a. We come back to the second category of the duties of the Spirit-controlled life towards God's \_\_\_\_\_, our brothers and sisters in Christ.
- b. The Christian life is an \_\_\_\_\_ life, which means we are accountable to someone for something.

#### ***IIi. Rejoicing in hope (Romans 12:12a)***

- a. Paul beginning in verse 12 exhorts us to be, “*Rejoicing in \_\_\_\_\_.*” (Romans 12:12, NASB95) (Romans 8:23-25; 1 John 3:1-3)
- b. This rejoicing in hope, the looking forward to our glorified bodies, of being with the Lord forever is what \_\_\_\_\_ us as believers. (1 Corinthians 15:58; Matthew 25:21; 2 Timothy 4:8)

#### ***IIg. Persevering in Tribulation (Romans 12:12b)***

- a. Closely related to our rejoicing in hope, Paul exhorts us to be “*persevering in \_\_\_\_\_.*” (Romans 12:12b, NASB95) (2 Timothy 3:12)
- b. There are other kinds of tribulation for those seeking to live for Christ and that could be \_\_\_\_\_ in the form of spiritual attack from the spiritual forces of evil. (Ephesians 6:10-12; Romans 5:1-5)

#### ***IIh. Devoted to Prayer (Romans 12:12c)***

- a. How is it that we keep ourselves rejoicing in hope and persevering in tribulation? Paul gives us that answer in the next exhortation where he commands us to be “*...devoted to \_\_\_\_\_.*” (Romans 12:12c, NASB95)
- b. In that same passage in Ephesians 6 Paul tells us that one of the \_\_\_\_\_ that we have in our battle with the spiritual forces of evil is prayer. (Ephesians 6:18-20)
- c. Paul told the Thessalonian believers in 1 Thessalonians 5:17 to “*...pray without \_\_\_\_\_.*” (1 Thessalonians 5:17, NASB95)

#### ***IIi. Generous towards the Needs of the Saints (Romans 12:13a)***

- a. Paul gives us two more \_\_\_\_\_ in verse 13 that we are to practice towards our brothers and sisters in Christ.
- b. Paul exhorts us to be, “*...\_\_\_\_\_ to the needs of the saints...*” (Romans 12:13a, NASB95)
- c. The main point in this verse here in Romans has to do with the giving side of \_\_\_\_\_ and so it is translated “contributing.” (1 Timothy 6:17-18; 1 John 3:17-18)
- d. I know that in the eyes of our world we \_\_\_\_\_ certain things, but in the eyes of the Lord we own nothing.
- e. Jesus used the parable of the good Samaritan to show us that as believers we have a responsibility to \_\_\_\_\_ anyone that we see in need. (Galatians 6:10)

#### ***IIj. Practicing Hospitality (Romans 12:13b)***

- a. Not only should we be contributing to the needs of the saints, but he writes that we must be “*...practicing \_\_\_\_\_.*” (Romans 12:13b, NASB95) (Hebrews 13:1-2)
- b. In Paul's day there was no such thing as Motel 6 or Days Inn, in fact, \_\_\_\_\_ were scarce, expensive, and often dangerous places to stay. (3 John 5-8)
- c. Paul commands you, I encourage you to practice \_\_\_\_\_.

## CONCLUSION:

I know I have gone long this morning, but I wanted to finish up the first half of this final section. Next week we will go on to the second half of this final section of Romans 12 and look at the last two categories where Paul exhorts us in the duties we are to have. First, to people in general and then the duties we are to practice towards those who have declared us their enemies.

This morning Paul has exhorted us in how we are to be devoted to our brothers and sisters in Christ in brotherly love. We are to rejoice with them in hope, encouraging one another with our future hope in Christ, standing together we are to persevere in tribulation, being devoted to prayer, praying for one another that we might keep our eyes on the reward and stand fast in the strength of the Lord and in His mighty power. That we might be contributing to the needs of the saints and practicing hospitality. Are these characteristics evident in your life? Ask the Lord to develop these characteristics in your life and then begin practicing them.