

TRUTHS THAT CAN CHANGE PEOPLE  
II COR. 5:14-17

Introduction:

- A. Some people are saved and some aren't.
  - 1. Does this surprise us?
  - 2. The broad way and the narrow way.
  - 3. Matt. 7:13.
  
- B. Some saved people serve the Lord, some don't.
  - 1. Does this surprise us?
  - 2. The Parable of the Sower. Matt. 13:19-23.
  - 3. 3 out of 4 were non-productive.
  - 4. See some observations.
  
- C. Paul was saved and he served the Lord.
  - 1. Paul "believed" on the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - 2. Paul gave himself to serve.
  - 3. Why did he do these things?

I. WHAT WERE SOME TRUTHS THAT PAUL BELIEVED THAT CHANGED HIM?  
NOT IN BUT AFTER SALVATION.

- A. He knew his body would be destroyed.
  - 1. v1.
  - 2. dissolved = disunite the parts, of anything.

[death]

- B. He knew that he would be judged.
  - 1. v10.
  - 2. Judgment Seat = a raised platform.

[judgment]

- C. Paul believed that God was to be feared.
  - 1. v11.
  - 2. terror = phobos = fear.

[terror]

- D. Paul knew the love that Jesus had for him.
  - 1. v14a, "for the love of Christ constraineth us"

2. constraineth = sunecho - to hold or keep together,  
ie. it coerces, or compels, restriction, flow faster
  
- E. Paul believed that all men are dead.
  1. v14b, "because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead."
  2. What kind of death? Every kind.
  
- F. Paul believed that if we have been raised with Him we should serve Him.
  1. v15.
  2. He died for us, let us live for Him.
  
- G. Paul knew that the flesh could not judge the spiritual.
  1. v16, Do not use flesh to judge spiritual.

## II. ANYONE CAN BE LIKE PAUL. V17

- A. Paul was "in Christ", this made the difference.
  1. "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature."
    - a. creature = ktisis - a making, creation.
    - b. If we are in Christ we are "new."
    - c. What is new? Not the Flesh!
  2. "old things are passed away, behold all things are become new."
    - a. All spiritual things are new.
  
- B. This can be true of "any man."
  1. "He died for all."

### SOME OBSERVATIONS:

1. People who are not won with the truth will never stand for the truth. They may argue for truth. They may be indignant about truth, they will never pledge and give all for it.

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2. People who are won by personality will be offended by personality, even the personality of Jesus Christ. People who are won by baby Jesus will be offended by bloody Jesus.
  
3. People forsake the work of God for three reasons:
  1. A shallow reception of truth. v19.
  2. Outside trouble. v20,21.
  3. Inside rot. v22.
  
4. It is not that, "the truth hurts." Truth hurts only because of the deep, deep wounds that sin and self have inflicted. Alcohol, (isopropyl) is refreshing to healthy skin but it "burns like fire" in the wounds.