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Date 01/10/2021

God's People, God's Outreach

The Theory and Reality of Outreach

From Paul's Letters

Romans - world renown faith in Christ (1:8), need spiritual gifts (1:11), multi-cultural & multi-intellectual (Greek/non-Greek & wise/foolish, 1:15), sinful practices while judging others (2:1-5), legalistic Jews (2:17-4:25), cocky Gentiles (11:1-24), self-centered (14:1-15:3).

Corinthians - graced with <u>spiritual gifts</u> (1:4-7; 12:1-14:39), but worldly (3:1), numerous divisions and factions (1:10-4:5), immoral (5:1-13; 6:12-20), lawsuits (6:1-11), <u>teachable</u> and repentant (2 Cor 2:6-8; 7:8-13).

Ephesians - <u>faithful</u>, spiritually blessed, and chosen in Christ (1:1-14), transformed in Christ (2:1-10; 4:20-24).

Philippians - gospel partners (1:4), obedient (2:12-13), generous and supportive (4:14-19).

Colossians - <u>holy</u>, <u>faithful</u>, renown for <u>love for the saints</u> and <u>gospel fruitfulness</u> (1:2-9).

Thessalonians - work produced by <u>faith</u>, labor prompted by <u>love</u>, endurance inspired by <u>hope</u> (1:2-3), contagious <u>Spirit-led faith</u> (1:4-10), receptive to <u>God's Word</u> (2:13-13), <u>suffered and persevered</u> for Christ (2:14-3:7), <u>love for each other</u> (4:9-10), growing <u>faith</u> and <u>love for each other</u> (2 Th 1:3),

From Revelation 2-3

Ephesus - commended for <u>hard work</u>, <u>perseverance</u> under opposition, <u>not tolerating the wicked</u>. Criticized for forsaking their love for Christ.

Smyrna - commended as <u>truly rich</u> despite affliction and poverty. No criticism.

Pergamum - commended as <u>faithful</u> despite harsh persecution.

Criticized for putting up with false teachings.

Thyatira - commended for <u>deeds</u>, <u>love</u>, <u>faith</u>, <u>service</u>, <u>perseverance</u>.

Criticized for tolerating sexual immorality.

Sardis - commended because there were a few who remained faithful.

Criticized for a reputation for being alive, but are actually dead, and asleep.

Philadelphia - commended for faithful endurance despite little strength.

No criticisms.

Laodicea - No commendation.

Criticized for lukewarm faith, boasting of being rich & wealthy, but are actually wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked.

What is WOCC Like, Are You Satisfied?

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What are we like at WOCC, and are you satisfied?

There is <u>trust</u> in this, that the Holy Spirit will lead you.

Outcome will be *surprising*.

Who are we?

2 Criteria:

- 1. Satisfied with WOCC
- 2. Active participant

Jesus' custom was to go into the Synagogue on the Sabbath day. Luke 4:16 Paul went into the Synagogue, as was his custom. Acts 17:2 Hebrews 10:24-25.

Most of us are <u>not</u> doing the church comparison thing and sitting on the fence.

Just let your people be your mouthpiece, and don't worry about anyone else.

Survey Results: