

GENTLE AND LOWLY

17.09.22

RE-CAP

- ***Ch 1 - His heart – Matt Ch11:28-30***
- ***Proverbs Ch 4:23 Above all else guard your heart for it is the well-spring of life*** Jesus, being gentle and lowly in heart, encourages us to seek His rest, by taking his yoke (kindness) and his non-burden!
- ***Ch 2 - His heart in action!*** - Leper in Matthew Ch8:2-3 - Paralyse man in Matthew Ch9:2 - The crowds Matthew Ch9:35-36 – ***The most dominant theme is the way that the Holy Son of God moves toward, touches, heals, embraces, and forgives those who least deserve it, yet truly desire it!***
Hebrews Ch13:8 ***Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever!***
- ***Ch 3 – Jesus endured the cross for the*** joy of seeing His people, forgiven and restored to a right relationship with God! The joyous anticipation of pleasing the Father and seeing His people made invincibly clean! (Luke Ch15:7, John Ch15:11 + Ch17:13). The more we go, the more Jesus' joy grows!
- ***Ch 4 – Hebrews Ch4:14-16 – The Great High Priest who is Able to Sympathise!*** His heart is drawn to our distress! Pages 45 + 46 introduce Jesus' “solidarity” with us in our daily discipleship. His solidarity can reassure, strengthen, and comfort us!
- ***Ch 5 – Hebrews Ch5:2 – The Great High Priest who deals with us gently!*** Metriopathein Dunamenon “He has the capacity to deal with those he is drawn to, gently!
- ***Ch 6 – John Ch6:37 - all that the Father gives me will come to me and all that come to I will never cast out.*** The perseverance of the heart of Christ!
- ***Ch 7 – Hosea Ch11:8-11 – For I am God, and not man – the Holy One among you. What our sins evoke!*** What do his holiness and purity mean for the way he feels about the sin of those who do belong to him?
- ***Ch 8 – Hebrews Ch7:25 - TO THE UTTERMOST!*** Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them – Hebrews Ch7:25
- Reflect on the phrase “to the uttermost” in Hebrews Ch7:25. How is that phrase, translating a single Greek word (panteles), a comfort to you? (pg82-83)
- ***Ch 9 – An Advocate!*** What are some truths about Jesus the advocate, as taught in 1 John Ch2:1? Jesus aligns Himself as an Advocate, whereas as an intercessor Jesus mediates between the two parties.
- ***Ch 10 – THE BEAUTY OF THE HEART OF CHRIST!***
- Anyone who loves his father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves his son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; (Matthew Ch10:37) Do you think much in terms of beauty when you think of God or of Christ? Are you “romancing” the heart of Christ?

- **CH 11 – THE EMOTIONAL LIFE OF CHRIST!** When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in His spirit and troubled – John Ch11:33 Is Jesus a human right now? YES!
- **CH 12 – A TENDER FRIEND** – Matthew Ch11:19
- Do you find it instinctively irreverent to speak of Christ as our friend? (pg113)
- What in your life experience informs your answer? (pg113)
- In what ways is Jesus Christ the perfect friend, a better friend than any human ever could be? (pg115-120)
- What does it mean that Jesus is your companion? (pg117-118)
- **CH 13 – Why the Spirit? I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper – John Ch14:16** Have you thought about this side to the Holy Spirit before? (pg121-122) What does 1st Corinthians Ch2:12 teach us about the role of the Spirit? (pg125)
- **CH14 – FATHER MERCIES “...the Father of mercies and God of all comfort.” 2 Corinthians Ch1:3** Consider the quote by A. W. Tozer that kicks off the chapter 14. What wounds in your own heart do the Father's perfect mercies need to heal?
- **CH15 - “He does not afflict from His heart” Lamentations Ch3:33** The natural work is God being merciful, and the strange work is God's judgement!
- **CH16 – THE LORD, THE LORD! A God merciful and gracious, slow to anger Exodus Ch34:6** Psalm 138:5-6, are you letting your own “natural assumption about who God is” melt away?
- **CH17 – His ways are not our ways – Isaiah Ch55:6-15!** “He isn't like you. Even the most intense of human love is but the faintest echo of heaven's cascading abundance.”
- **CH18 – YEARNING BOWELS!** Jeremiah Ch31:20 Given the thrust of the first 29 chapters of Jeremiah, what would you expect to find in chapters 30-33, as God gives His response to the first 29 chapters?
- **CH19 – BY GOD BEING RICH IN MERCY! Ephesians Ch2:4!** What is the significance of the word “being” in the phrase “being rich in mercy.....”?
- Paul includes himself in the indictment he describes: “among whom we all once lived ...”? (Eph Ch2:3) How can he, the former scrupulous Pharisee who kept all God's rules meticulously, include himself in this indictment? (pg 176-177)
- **CH20 – OUR LAW-ISH HEARTS, HIS LAVISH HEART!** Galatians Ch2:20! Do you identify yourself with this description? (pg184-185)
- How does Christ's work, and the heart from which that atoning work flowed, address your “of-work-ness”? (pg185-188) Do you have a harder time believing God fully forgives your present sins as a Christian than believing that He forgives your past sins as a non-Christian? (pg189-190)
- **CH21 – HE LOVED US THEN; HE'LL LOVE US NOW!** How would you put into your own words the inner logic of Romans Ch5:6-11? How does that logic apply to your ongoing life as a disciple of Christ? (pg 190 -194) Is it

possible for you who are in Christ to become any more secure in the heart of Christ than you are right now? (pg 194-195) Will you be more secure in heaven than you are now? (pg 194-195)

- **CH22 – TO THE END! JOHN CH13:1 “HAVING LOVED HIS OWN WHO WERE IN THE WORLD, HE LOVED THEM TO THE END.”**
- When you think about the love of Christ, do you find yourself believing that Christ loved you at the point of your conversion, but that his love slowly powers down as you move through life, failing him time and again? (pg 197-198) Explain in your own words what Jesus bore at the cross? (199-202)
- **CH23 - BURIED IN HIS HEART FOREVERMORE! “So that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable of his grace in kindness toward us” Eph Ch2:7**
- What are some ways in which we glorify God? (pg 205-6)
- What is one way we glorify God, according to Jonathan Edwards? (pg 205-6)
- In another place Edwards sets God's “majesty and greatness” alongside his “gentleness and sweetness.” What is Edwards point? (pg 207-8)
- What, according to Ephesians 2:7, is the point of heaven? (pg 208-9)
- Is this what you think of what we will be enjoying for all eternity? (pg 208-9)
- Ponder what words such as “immeasurable” and “riches” and “kindness” mean in Eph Ch2:7? (pg210-11)
- What are some fears or anxieties in your life right now that do not loom as large in light of these eternal realities just around the corner for those of us in Christ? (pg 210-11)
- What does this chapter and it's reflection on Eph Ch2:7 mean for you for the rest of this year? (pg211-13)
- What worries you right now, which you can be freed into entrusting God, mindful of the eternity inevitably awaiting you? (pg 211-13)