



January 8-14, 2017

Text: II Corinthians 13:5

SUMMARY OF “SERMON”: The Corinthian Church has been infiltrated with false teachers since Paul’s founding of the church. These teachers had undermined Paul’s apostolic authority and his presentation of the gospel. So Paul asks the Corinthians to examine what they really believe to see if their faith is truly in Jesus Christ, crucified and risen – and present with them through the indwelling Holy Spirit.

RELATED BIBLE PASSAGES FOR THE COMING WEEK [The Bible readings this week speak of the importance of understanding genuine faith in Jesus Christ.]

Monday, Jan. 9 – Luke 6:46-49 [Jesus contrasts two types of people here. Both identify themselves as belonging to Him but only those that actually obey His word and follow Him are true believers.]

Tuesday, Jan. 10 – Jeremiah 32:26-44 [In this prophecy, Jeremiah declares both God’s judgment on Israel’s rebellion in the form of Babylon’s conquest of Jerusalem but also God’s mercy in His restoration. Of particular importance, is the work of grace in transforming hearts in vv.40-41 – fulfilled in Christ who is our focus.]

Wednesday, Jan. 11 – Romans 6:1-14 [A form of nominalism was evident in the early Church. Some confessing Christians believed that since God’s grace is greater than our sin then Christians can live however they want – after all, why be concerned about sin when we are under grace. Paul counters that true believers desire to live righteously and serve God, not sin.]

Thursday, Jan. 12 – Micah 6:1-8 [The people of Israel, in spite of a history of God’s gracious hand upon them (vv.4-5) were not following God’s ways. Yet they still went through the religious motions of worshipping God with their ritual sacrifices (vv.6-7). What God desires is a change of heart expressed in righteous living (v.8).]

Friday, Jan. 13 – III John [In this short letter, John contrasts two individuals. Gaius represents faithful true believers who assist Christ’s church in every way. Diotrephes, on the other hand, is a church leader who inwardly is self-focused and hinders church ministry and does not give evidence of truly following Christ.]

Saturday, Jan. 14 – Jeremiah 7 [The people of Judah were double-minded. They still went to the temple of God and called on His Name (vv.4, 10) yet did not follow His ways and instead engaged in practices encouraged by the pagan nations around them. Their actions revealed that they weren’t really God’s people]



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