

The Problem With Christian Superstars - Colossians 4:7-18 – September 29th, 2019

- I want to talk with you about the unsung hero's of the Christian faith who serve faithfully behind the scenes and go unnoticed.
- Sadly, we've made "Rock Stars" out of pastors and Christian leaders and in so doing; dismiss those who do most of the work.
- Thankfully, the text before us today teaches us it's not so much the who's who, as much as it is the "who's he or who's she."

1 Corinthians 12:14-26 - 14 For in fact the body is not one member but many. 15 If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I am not of the body," is it therefore not of the body? 16 And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I am not of the body," is it therefore not of the body? 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would be the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where would be the smelling? 18 But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased. 19 And if they were all one member, where would the body be? 20 But now indeed there are many members, yet one body. 21 And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"; nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." 22 No, much rather, those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary. 23 And those members of the body which we think to be less honorable, on these we bestow greater honor; and our unpresentable parts have greater modesty, 24 but our presentable parts have no need. But God composed the body, having given greater honor to that part which lacks it, 25 that there should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another. 26 And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.

- What Paul is saying to the Corinthian church and demonstrating here to the Colossian church is that everyone is as important.
- In other words, those who get all the attention are just as important if not less than those who are unrecognized for their part.
- I believe it's for this reason that God deemed it necessary to inspire the Apostle Paul to recognize and appreciate the unseen.

- Tychicus teaches us to never see anonymous as synonymous with needless as he delivered letters as an assistant to Paul.
- Onesimus teaches us God can change anybody. He was Philemon's slave who ripped him off, ran off, then, he gets saved.
- Aristarchus teaches us that those who are with you through the hard times are invaluable in their suffering alongside of you.
- Mark teaches us to never give up on people as he abandoned Paul and Barnabas on a missionary journey leading to a split.
- Barnabas teaches us to never underestimate the power of encouragement, as he was known as the son of encouragement.
- Justus teaches us that even though no one knows our name, God does, and He also notices every little thing we do for Him.
- Epaphras teaches us the paramount importance of those who labor fervently in prayer for others and do so behind the scenes.
- Luke teaches us that God gives us talents, and skills in order that we might use them for his glory in furthering the kingdom.
- Demas teaches us not everyone finishes well as 2 Timothy 4:9-10 tells us Demas forsook Paul because he loved the world.
- Nympha teaches us the importance of women's role within the body of Christ and also the importance of the home fellowship.
- Archippus teaches us the importance of remaining steadfast, persevering and enduring to the end when ministry gets tough.

- I'll close with a most interesting account found in the book of First Samuel that to me, really sums this all up in a powerful way.
- David has returned victorious after the Amalekites had taken everything from him and his 600 men when they were in Ziklag.
- The problem is the 400 men who fought wouldn't share the spoils with the 200 who stayed behind because they were weary.

1 Samuel 30:24-25 - 24 Who will listen to what you say? The share of the man who stayed with the supplies is to be the same as that of him who went down to the battle. All will share alike." 25 David made this a statute and ordinance for Israel from that day to this.