

The Bishop's Corner

Vessels of Honor

Praise the Lord Saints,

“Nevertheless, the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: ‘The Lord knows those who are His,’ and, ‘Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity.’ But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some to honor and some to dishonor. Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work” (2 Timothy 2:19-21, NKJV).

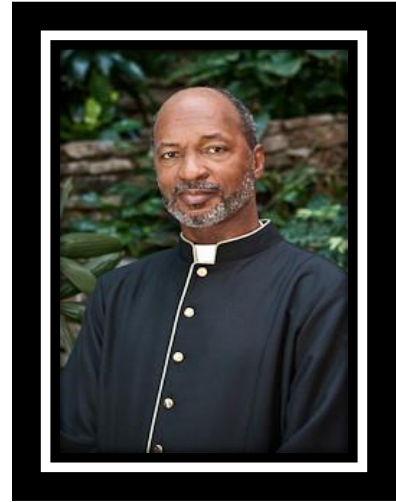
We must remember that the foundation of God stands sure on Jesus Christ and not on a certain church or church organization. Apostle Paul was great and got persecuted because he preached the gospel of Jesus Christ and he suffered so that others could be saved. “Consider what I say, and may the Lord give you understanding in all things. Remember that Jesus Christ, of the seed of David, was raised from the dead according to my gospel, for which I suffer trouble as an evildoer, even to the point of chains; but the word of God is not chained. Therefore, I endure all things for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory” (2 Timothy 2:7-10, NKJV).

If we are vessels of gold in Christ's house, we are vessels of gold wherever we go. We must strive to be vessels of honor. Vessels of honor do not get entangled in carnal things such as fame and fortune. “No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier” (2 Timothy 2:4, NKJV). We must not let the world system overwhelm us so that it causes us to lose our place in God. “Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage” (Galatians 5:1, NKJV). We want to always be a shining light and let nothing dim it.

Our ministry is of Jesus Christ, and it is life giving. We should not try to make the word of God fit us, but we must fit the word of God. When we are filled with the Holy Spirit, we do what God says in His word. “Therefore, since we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we do not lose heart. But we have renounced the hidden things of shame, not walking in craftiness nor handling the word of God deceitfully, but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God” (2 Corinthians 4:1-2, NKJV).

God bless you,

Bishop Charles D. Smith
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For more of Bishop Smith's teachings, go to the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Website at <http://www.gulfcoastclgi.org> and click on "Encouragement" then "Teachings."