



When the Honeymoon is Over, Press On!

Date: September 2nd, 2018

Text: Acts 8:1-8

Passage Summary: As we grow in what it means to be a bold follower of Jesus Christ, there can be points along the way that epitomize the saying, “the _____ is _____”!

180 Degree Truth #1: See that when opposition and persecution in our Christian faith lead us to conclude that the honeymoon is over, we can _____ in the _____ nature of God’s character! (8:1-8)

Application: Recognize that the redemptive nature of God’s character is realized when

- all of life’s circumstances become an _____ to _____ the gospel message! (v.1-8)

See that all of life’s circumstances become an opportunity to preach the gospel the more we realize...

We have been _____ for this!

We have been _____ for this!

God’s gift of salvation _____ through this!

Remember: When it comes to the redemptive nature of God’s character, be careful not to run ahead and prematurely draw conclusions concerning what He allows; instead, determine to give God the last word by looking for opportunities to use your circumstances as a _____ to _____ the gospel message!

Core Conviction to Live By: Resolutely determine that in light of the eternal rest that awaits us and the eternity that is stake in the lives of those around us, to leave a godly legacy that is not confined to this life, but exceeds it; so not if, but when you come to a “honeymoon is over” moment in your Christian walk, by the _____ of God, _____ on!

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Acts 1:8

“Those who had been scattered preached the word wherever they went.”

Acts 8:4

“Prosperity is often more dangerous than adversity. Prosperity makes you feel strong in your own might. But when you’re struggling, you know you need the Lord. And that’s a much better position to be in, because as Paul wrote, ‘And He said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness. Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ’s sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong’ (2 Corinthians 12:9-10). The church as a whole has never suffered in suffering. Under heavy persecution, the church spread the gospel throughout the world. But when it has become prosperous, a political power, that’s when the church has lost its strength, its witness and its effectiveness.”

Chuck Smith