

I Corinthians 16 Don't Settle for Less notes

I Corinthians 3:21-23

--Are we settling for less than what is ours?

They were settling for far less in the Corinthian church: settling for worldly wisdom when worldly wisdom doesn't even know who created us.

-Settling for thinking like mere men when they had the mind of Christ.

-Settling for Paul or Peter or Apollos when they had all the teaching and full counsel of God.

Paul hits them with a shocker: **VV. 21-23**

--Someone described verse 21 like a lightning Bolt—quick like a flash but leaves a lasting impression.

--"Everything"? Yes! in case we don't understand, Paul tells us it is really everything.

1. We pass by so many verses like this.

--Its like we are watching a movie that's too spectacular to be real.

--**Romans 8:17** – Joint heirs = equal heirs

--**John 17:22** – The same glory God gave Jesus He gives to us.

--**Luke 12:32** -- Whatever God has given Jesus, He has given us.

--**Matthew 5:5** – "earth" is not a euphemism. **Revelaton 21:7**

--Listen to the incredulity: **Romans 8:32**

Ephesians 1:3 – Every spiritual blessing; here are several:

1. Adoption – feels like its second rate to natural born, but in that culture they could disown their natural born but never disown one adopted.
2. Redemption – He's already paid for everything for you! It's an eternal all inclusive package.
3. Grace – **II Timothy 1:9** How much in advance? Before it all began.
4. The Holy Spirit; the Mind of Christ; -- **Matthew 11:11** – John was better/greater than Elijah, David, Samuel, Daniel, Joseph, etc., but the least Christian is greater/has it better than John did.

I Corinthians 3:21-22 – like so many other things, the Corinthians had things backwards; they didn't belong to Paul or Cephas or Apollos, instead these men belonged to them!

--They were the servants to the people of Corinth not the overlords.

We have the very best of all these great people.

--"Wouldn't it be great to sit under Moses and have his insights and his humility as our example?" We've got that in the first 5 books of the Bible!

--"Wouldn't it be amazing to hear the heart songs of David that he learned while he kept the sheep?" We've got that!

--"Wouldn't it be amazing to hear Paul teach or John or Peter?" We've got that!

--"Wouldn't it be great to hear Jesus' own words and be in His presence every day?" We've got that!

"World, life and death" – We've covered world and life, but what about death "death is yours".

--"Can we give it back?" You don't want to.

--We were slaves/owned by death before Jesus, but in Christ, death is our servant.

--Knowledge of it makes us wise, serious, and fruitful, and keeps from living forever in our fallen state and brings us to Jesus.

"Present" – **Romans 8:38** – All things aren't good, but all things work for good.

--They won't start some time in the future doing this, but are working for your good already.

--All things are currently serving you to make you a better version of yourself.

"Future" – Let these words about our future sink in:

-We will shine like the sun in the kingdom of our Father.

-We will be kings and priests.

-We will judge angels.

-We will rule over cities.

-We will be pillars in the temple of God.

-We will sit with Jesus on His throne.

-We will never sin or be tempted again.

-We will be the fulness of Him who fills all in all.

The future is ours!

"**Because we are Christs**" -- not because we are worthy, not good, not perfect, not sinless, not smart, not faultless.