

July 29, 2020

Beseeching the Brethren

For the next few weeks, we will be meditating upon a familiar passage of scripture, **Romans 12:1-2**. The word beseech is a word that is little used in today's vocabulary. The Greek word for beseech means to call, to invite, or to invoke. Webster's 1828 dictionary defines beseech as to entreat, to implore, or to pray with urgency. Paul is not simply asking a question or making a suggestion, he is pleading. There is an urgency in his words that correlates with and communicates the importance of the message to follow. The word beseech is found 63 times in scripture. It would be a profitable study to look up each of these references to discover the message that follows. Very often, it is a message of great importance.

Notice also to whom Paul is speaking. He is speaking to brethren. Those who have been born again by faith in Jesus Christ. These are believers and thus brethren in the Lord. The message that is to follow is not for the lost. It is not for those who know not Christ. It is for those who possess Christ as one of His children.

Thirdly, notice the word, therefore. The word, therefore, takes us back to what Paul said previously. Notice that Romans 11 ends with an Amen. It is likely that the, therefore, applies to the first eleven chapters in which he deals largely with the matter of salvation and justification by faith in contrast to the law. How does being saved by faith impact the way we live? Take a moment just to read the last part of **Romans 11, verses 33-36**.

Paul concludes this portion of his letter with the preeminence of Christ. No man can ever mine all the riches, wisdom, and knowledge of God. No man will ever discover all the judgments and ways of the Lord. God is so much greater than man. Everything in this life exists by and depends upon God. "For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things..." Nothing exists or happens apart from the knowledge and providence of God. The glory, the preeminence, the greatness, the awesomeness of God, serves as the basis for Paul's pleading. The magnitude of God may mean nothing to the lost, but it should be everything to the believer. To what degree do you exalt God in your life? How does who God is effect how you think and what you do? The motive behind every aspect of the Christian life is God Himself. Take time this week to meditate upon who God is and what it means to you.