1. The choice is ours, do we fully embrace God or embrace God with <u>SOME</u> of the world and its sin?

2. Satan creates cataracts in our <u>SPIRITUAL</u> eyes causing people to see dimly and false belief to enter into the church.

3. *"I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not <u>PREVAIL</u> against it." Matthew 16:18* 

4. We understand that the "great house" in 2 Timothy 2:20 is the true Church of Christ composed of <u>TRUE</u> believers. The "vessels" represent individuals within the church.

5. "Has the potter no right over the clay, to make out of the same lump one <u>VESSEL</u> for honorable use and another for dishonorable use?" Romans 9:21

6. To cleanse us of dishonorable vessels means to purge pseudo-believers and the unfaithful from God's church or to lead them to cleansing faith. Sin is contagious and spreads like gangrene. The writer of Proverbs 13:20 warns, *"Whoever walks with the <u>WISE</u> becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm."* 

7. "So <u>FLEE</u> youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart." 2 Timothy 2:22

8. Paul says that as we flee the passions and lusts of the <u>WORLD</u> we are to run to *"righteousness, faith, love, and peace"*. If we are not running towards God as we flee sin, we will grow tired and sin will overtake us.

9. "Preach the word; be <u>READY</u> in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching." 2 Timothy 4:2

10. Should we love others any less than Christ loves us? Of course not! Obedient slaves to their Master, the Lord Jesus Christ, will demonstrate their love by spreading the <u>GOSPEL</u>.

11. Christ calls us and Paul calls us to engage like soldiers waging battle, competitive athletes, and good farmers, honorable <u>VESSELS</u> in service to His kingdom.

Pastor Bill Butler

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