

New Hebron Missionary Baptist Church

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Pastor Rodney E. Smith, Sr. Bible Study

"...from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation..."

(2 Tim. 3:15)

Remain Faithful to The Lord

{1 Corinthians 4:1-3}

- (v.1) Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God.
- (v.2) Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.
- (v.3) But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged of you, or of man's judgment: yea, I judge not mine own self.

v.1

- "account..." [Grk.] regard, take inventory, or to compute.
- Paul is keenly aware that Christian leaders are not just seen by God but b men as well.
- "ministers" an under-oarsman, or a subordinate. This points out the humility we need to be used by the Lord. [Matt. 23:12; Jn. 3:30]
- "...of Christ" our directives comes from the Lord and His word.
- "stewards of the mysteries of God" steward: manger; mysteries of God: that which is unknown until God revealed it (God's Word).
- God demands that His chosen men be faithful managers of His word. [2 Tim. 2:15]

v.2)

- "faithful" dependable, trustworthy, or loyal.
- God puts a higher value on faithfulness than fruitfulness. [Rev. 2:10]

v.3)

- Paul speaks about three categories of judgement: the church "you", the world "man's judgement", and himself.
- "you" Paul is not arrogant or prideful but he explains that it's a "small thing" to be judged by the Corinthian congregation.
- What people think of you, whether it be good or bad, is not the final word.

- We are not to be controlled by compliments or critics. [Eph. 6:5,6]
- "man's judgement" contrasted with the church, the opinions of the world about him is also not the final word. [1 Cor. 2:14]
- "mine own self" Paul's own personal thoughts of himself couldn't be trusted either. He may be too flattering or even too hard on himself at times.
- God knows more about us than we know about ourselves. [Matt. 26:21,22]

Notes:	