

Unveiling Me: The Preparation

James 1:12 – “God blesses those who patiently endure testing and temptation. Afterward they will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.”

Your faith might be tested when other people try to convince you to take shortcuts or do something you know is wrong. However, the Lord blesses those who stay on the right path despite the hardships they might encounter, rather than taking shortcuts.

It takes patience to stay on the course God has for you.

2 Timothy 2:20-21 – “In a wealthy home, some utensils are made of gold and silver, and some are made of wood and clay. The expensive utensils are used for special occasions, and the cheap ones are for everyday use. If you keep yourself pure, you will be a special utensil for honorable use. Your life will be clean, and you will be ready for the Master to use you for every good work.”

Paul is Timothy’s mentor. Paul is training Timothy in how to become a man of God and unleash the special God-given gifts within him.

Many people become the wooden utensils. They take shortcuts. They say the right words but fail to back up their words with actions. But in the end, Jesus will say, “I never knew you” (**Matthew 7:21-23**). They may use Christ’s name, but they don’t have a relationship with him. They know of God, but they don’t know God.

“Your life will be clean” does not mean that your life will be perfect. It means you will learn from your mistakes and turn your life around to follow Christ. It means you can use your experiences to help other people overcome the same obstacles you faced.

We need to change our mindset of “good versus bad.” Nobody on the face of the earth is perfect. Even “good” people make mistakes, and sometimes those who follow all the rules are not very nice people.

1 Peter 1:13-16 – “So prepare your minds for action and exercise self-control. Put all your hope in the gracious salvation that will come to you when Jesus Christ is revealed to the world. So you must live as God’s obedient children. Don’t slip back into your old ways of living to satisfy your own desires. You didn’t know any better then. But now you must be holy in everything you do, just as God who chose you is holy. For the Scriptures say, ‘You must be holy because I am holy.’”

Again, this is not talking about being sinless. The Bible is acknowledging that we are full of sin. But before we came to Christ, we didn’t know any better. Now we do know what is right, so we need to change the direction of our life to bring God glory. We will not be successful all the time, but we should never stop striving to follow Christ.

You need to get out of the mindset of not being good enough. It’s not about being perfect; it’s about living in your divine purpose. God is ready to use you.

True Christians are accepting of everyone rather than judging others. God loves everyone and wants them to come to him, regardless of their past actions.

Nothing will disqualify you from the love of God. God is waiting to receive you with open arms; all you have to do is come back to him.