#### What's Our Purpose?: A Study in Contrasts - Part 1

## 1. Not to Please Everyone But to Please the Lord

(Col 3:22-24) Bondservants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh, not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but in sincerity of heart, fearing God. And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.

# 2. Not to Teach What We <u>Want</u> to <u>Hear</u> But What We <u>Need</u> to Hear

(Acts 20:27) For I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God. (2 Tim 4:1-4) I charge *you* therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: <sup>2</sup> Preach the word! Be ready in season *and* out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. <sup>3</sup> For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, *because* they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; <sup>4</sup> and they will turn *their* ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

(1 Thes 2:4-5) <sup>4</sup> But as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, even so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God who tests our hearts. <sup>5</sup> For neither at any time did we use flattering words, as you know, nor a cloak for covetousness-- God *is* witness.

# 3. Not To Gain Glory But To Give Ourselves For Others

(1 Thes 2:6-9) <sup>6</sup> Nor did we seek glory from men, either from you or from others, when we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. <sup>7</sup> But we were gentle among you, just as a nursing *mother* cherishes her own children. <sup>8</sup> So, affectionately longing for you, we were well pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God, but also our own lives, because you had become dear to us. <sup>9</sup> For you remember, brethren, our labor and toil; for laboring night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, we preached to you the gospel of God.

### 4. Not To <u>Retain</u> Everyone But To <u>Impact</u> Everyone

(1 John 2:18-19) Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour. They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but [they went out] that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us.

## 5. Not To Teach Man's Imperfect Ideas But God's Inspired Word

As you have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving. Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ. (Col 2:6-8)

O Timothy! Guard what was committed to your trust, avoiding the profane [and] idle babblings and contradictions of what is falsely called knowledge – by professing it some have strayed concerning the faith. Grace [be] with you. Amen. (1 Tim 6:20-21)

# 6. Not to Pursue Trends But To Preach the Truth

Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. But shun profane [and] idle babblings, for they will increase to more ungodliness. (2 Tim 2:15-16)

<b>7.</b>	Not To Make God	_ of Your But To Make I	Him the of
	It		
8.	Not To Temporarily Change Your But To Permanently Change		
	Your		
9.	Not To Develop		
10.	Not To	But To	_
11.	Not to Focus on	Accomplishments but	Victories
<b>12</b> .	Not To Make Us	But To	To The
	Image of Jesus Christ		