

#2 - LIVING MEANS CHRIST (Making It Real)

Making Use of Our "Chains" - "If it only weren't for _____"

The Crises of Orientation: Re-oriented to Our New Reality

- We were born dis-oriented - incomplete, deficient
- All must be oriented to the new reality of Christ
 - ...God FOR us - Jo 3:16; Ro 5:8-10; I Jo 4:7-8,19
(dealt with all our enemies)
 - ...God IN us - Ga 2:20; Col 1:27; 2:9-10
(not characterized by deficit any longer)
 - ...God THROUGH us
(all of life a means of His expression)
- We respond with loving trust
 - ...of love (Phil 1:8-9; Deut 7:7-8)
 - ...of trust (Ro 1:16-17; Heb 11:3)

The Dynamics of Christian Trust/Faith:

- Receptive: a non-selective readiness to listen and obey (Ro 1:16; 16:26)
 - ...bowing before one will
- Responsive: "I believe You"
 - ...abandonment to a Person - Lk 1:38
- Expressive: act upon the Truth (for the purpose of His manifestation)
 - ...all knowing is in the action - Jo 7:17

Making Use of Our "Chains" - Phil 1:12

- Focus not on the "chains", but on the "Lord of the chains" - Phil 1:13
- They "pioneer" us/the gospel into new territory - Phil 1:12
 - ...so Christ may be proclaimed... exalted - Phil 1:18-20
- Give Christ your "mess", He turns it into a "message" - II Cor 1:3-4
 - ...for the sake of others - Phil 1:21ff; II Cor 1:6

