

**Sermon Notes of
Ron Morgan's Sermon on July 31, 2022:**

**"Are You Ready for Your New Career?
(1 Corinthians 2:9-10)"**

[In today's sermon, Ron Morgan, at church in the Y, show us that God is preparing us in this life through the Holy Spirit for our new careers in the coming kingdom.]

Introduction:

- The title of today's sermon is, "Are You Ready for Your New Career?"
- A career is an occupation undertaken for a significant period of a person's life with opportunities for progress.
- If you are going to live for all eternity – the 50 or 60 years you spend now on your career is not a significant portion of your life.

- Maybe your career is yet to come.
- Are you ready for it? Are you preparing for it?
- "I'm ready for something", you say! "I'm ready for a change.
- We need to make some changes around here because things are not going well.

Today's Headlines:

- All the headlines, today, are about Covid, crime, inflation, recession, Joe Biden, Hunter Biden, Donald Trump, January 6th and now Monkey Pox.
- They're also about Russia and Ukraine, China and Taiwan, the drought on the West Coast, flooding on the East Coast, and we just lost 16 people because of the flooding in Kentucky this past week.
- Then there's the border crisis and fentanyl crisis.

- Ron is not professing to know all the answers to these problems – he is professing to not know all the answers.
- The possibilities are too unlimited for his limited mind.
- Ron is the kind of guy that likes to leave all of us with more questions than answers.
- So, let's leave the answers to one of the wisest man to ever live on this planet, which was Solomon – maybe he has some answers.
- Because, right now there's a lot of pressure on each one of us.

Ecclesiastes 1:1-14 (English Standard Version), The words of the Preacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem. 2 Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity. 3) What does man gain by all the toil at which he toils under the sun?

4) A generation goes, and a generation comes, but the earth remains forever. 5) The sun rises, and the sun goes down, and hastens to the place where it rises.

- It seems many of us that the time is just flying by.

6) The wind blows to the south and goes around to the north; around and around goes the wind, and on its circuits the wind returns.

7) All streams run to the sea, but the sea is not full; to the place where the streams flow, there they flow again.

- Ron talked about the destruction that the flood waters caused in Kentucky.

8) All things are full of weariness; a man cannot utter it; the eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor the ear filled with hearing. 9) What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done, and there is nothing new under the sun.

10) Is there a thing of which it is said, "See, this is new"? It has been already in the ages before us. 11) There is no remembrance of former things, nor will there be any remembrance of later things yet to be among those who come after.

12) I the Preacher have been king over Israel in Jerusalem. 13) And I applied my heart to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven.

- These next sentences are so important to understand.

13b) It is an unhappy business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with. 14) I have seen everything that is done under the sun, and behold, all is vanity and a striving after wind.

- Now these words are not from the guy who works at the car wash every day.
- These are the words of the wisest man to ever live, according to the Bible.
- And, guess what – he didn't have to play Mega Millions to get his money.
- This is Solomon's view of everyday life, but what is your view of everyday life?
- Is it all vanity? Are we on a treadmill just running from our birth until we die?
- Do you agree with Solomon or is there possibly more to life than what just meets the eye?
- Maybe Solomon's characterization is correct, but maybe things are not going to turn out at the end of the day, the way Solomon had pictured it.
- Maybe our NEW CAREER will not be just vanity or in vain.
- Maybe we have a couple of tools that Solomon didn't have.
- One of these incredible tools is the Bible and the other is the Holy Spirit.

The Bible:

- Now, the Bible is the most popular and least used instrument or tool on the planet.
- There's a purpose for the Bible – it's not just for reading
- First, Ron categorizes the Bible as a diary, because it contains intimate thoughts of some pretty important people in our history.
- It's also a history book – it's a recording of the beginning to the end – from our mortal beginning to our spiritual destination, which has no end.
- It's also a biography, because people have written about important men and what they did.
- It's also an instruction book – it tells us what to do under certain circumstances and it's there for our benefit, not just for our reading.

- It's also a manual as it addresses our personal vehicles, which are our bodies that the Spirit travels around in.
- Now, our vehicle comes with about a 70 year warranty, give or take a few years.

Creation of man:

- Now, why did God decide to invest His time and energy into us?
- When we were included in the program, it didn't take us long to mess up.
- In the Garden of Eden, everything was perfect and we had access to everything.
- And, what did we do – we went to the one object that God said, "Not to touch; don't partake."
- We need to understand how small we are on God's scale, yet how important we are on God's scale.
- If you know the owner of the company, who is God, even though you are just an insignificant janitor, and He takes care of you, you don't have to worry about your insignificance.
- Now, people ask the question, who was the first man on this planet? Was he a black man in Africa? Or was he a white guy in Europe? Or a yellow guy in Asia?
- Ron doesn't think we should spend a lot of time with that question, because one thing we do know is that the first guy was just a piece of dirt.
- It's not really about who was first, it's about the fact that God breathed life into that piece of dirt and he became a living man.
- Now, even though we don't think about it, times were very different back then than they are now.
- For instance, Eve had a conversation with a snake. But today, you can't get a woman to approach a snake behind glass, let alone have a conversation with one.
- But for Eve, it didn't seem to be a problem.
- When God formed man from the dust of the ground, He was here.
- Yes, God was here, but He left. But, He came back, because we needed Him!
- But, when He came back, He didn't come back as God, He came back as a baby.
- How humble and how undercover is that?
- And then He grew up here on the earth so there was no reason to feel threatened by Him, because He was quite normal – yet we killed Him.
- But, we killed Him with His permission.

John 18:36 (King James Version), Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence.

- So, if Jesus held Himself back, we have to be patient and watch things work out, as well.
- But, because Jesus said, "My kingdom is not from here", it might be a clue as to why everything is not in vain, as Solomon thought.
- Solomon was wise, but he wasn't God.
- Now, Jesus Christ also says that He's going "to prepare a place for us."

- Ron does have any clues about where this is, but he doesn't have to worry about it, because he trusts God.

Do you believe these key scriptures?

- Now, do you believe John 3:16?

John 3:16, (King James Version) For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

- Ron asked for a show of hands for those who believe that scripture.
- A 100% of the audience raised their hands.
- This is the core of Christian belief.
- And, now, do you believe John 14:2, as well?

John 14:2 (King James Version), In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

- Now, do you believe 1 Corinthians 2:9-10?

1 Corinthians 2:9-10 ((King James Version), But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. 10) But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

- So, what are the deep things of God? We don't know, for sure.
- And, if our future career is going to be beyond this physical life, what will we be doing forever?
- Maybe, we'll be involved in different civilizations beyond earth.
- So, the road ahead of us has a lot of mysteries.
- Even in this life, we don't know all the details of a new job that we're going into.
- But, we need the enthusiasm to learn new skills.
- You know that when Solomon said, "Things stay the same and they never change", we need to remember that God has revealed to us through His Spirit new things.
- Now, when God came back, He interacted with us.
- He taught us, He lived amongst us, and since He was a teacher and friend, people were able to interact with Him.
- But, the religious leaders were not able to interact with Him, so they tried to ask Him so tough embarrassing questions they hoped He couldn't answer.
- So, here in Matthew 22, a Pharisee, an expert in the law, asks this tough question:

Matthew 22:36-40 (New International Version), "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" 37) Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' 38) This is the first and greatest commandment. 39) And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' 40) All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

- Jesus' answer was so truthful, that the Pharisee and the other religious leaders didn't have a comeback.
- Now, here's a conversation between Jesus and a non-religious person

Mark 10:17-22 (New International Version), As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. "Good teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" 18) "Why do you call me good?" Jesus answered. "No one is good – except God alone. 19) You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, you shall not defraud, honor your father and mother.'

20) "Teacher," he declared, "all these I have kept since I was a boy." 21) Jesus looked at him and loved him. "One thing you lack," he said. "Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." 22) At this the man's face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth.

- Now, most of us don't have great wealth.
- But, what if Jesus told us to go sell our car and give the proceeds to the poor.
- With that request, our face would fall, as well.
- But, if we are deep in our trust in Christ and deep in the Spirit, we would profit spiritually by doing that.
- So, we are preparing for our new career, but we're not quite there yet.
- God is on a different level from us, but He understands us perfectly, because He made us, He designed us.
- God knows our weaknesses, He knows our abilities and He's made provisions for what He knows.

John 14:15-21;25-31 (English Standard Version), 15) "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. 16) And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever,

- God knows that we need a helper to be able to do His will.
- And, how long is the Helper going to be with us and help us? A short period of time? No, forever!

17) even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

- That's so critical to understand – the Spirit dwells with us and will be in us,

18) "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. 19) Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. 20) In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. 21) Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."

22) Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, "Lord, how is it that you will manifest yourself to us, and not to the world?"

- The world would like to take God out of things.

23) Jesus answered him, “If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. 24) Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me.

25) “These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. 26) But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. 27) Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

28) You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I will come to you.’ If you loved me, you would have rejoiced, because I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. 29) And now I have told you before it takes place, so that when it does take place you may believe. 30) I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no claim on me, 31) but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father. Rise, let us go from here.

- These are so incredible words from Jesus.
- Now, this next verse shows that God has chosen us to do a job and has given us the Holy Spirit to aid us to be able to do the job.

1 Corinthians 1:27 (King James Version), But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty.

- Now, as we spend time with the Holy Spirit, because He's in us, we reflect these character traits.

Galatians 5:22-23 (King James Version), But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23) Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

- It would seem to Ron that these fruits of the Spirit would translate to anywhere in the universe.
- So, maybe our career is going to be teaching and spreading the word and grace of God.
- Ron doesn't absolutely know for sure, but It just seems logical that if he is here on earth and could travel to the backside of the universe, he hopes that the inhabitants of that place would have the fruits of the Spirit.
- And if those inhabitants don't have those fruits of the Spirit, maybe he's been sent there, so they could experience them.
- Ron doesn't know what are ultimate career is going to be like for all eternity, but all he knows is that it's not what we're doing today.
- Now, we need to understand that today's world is not filled with the Holy Spirit, but rather we are.
- Also, we need to understand that someone actively working against us being filled with the Holy Spirit. Jesus warned us about this.

- But, we don't have to fear because it's not the "what" it's the "who."
- It's not the internet, it's not Joe Biden, it's not Donald Trump, it's the "who" who came into the world and that's who we need to be aware of and in contact with.
- People use the internet for good and for bad.
- If we use the internet and other electronic devices to waste our time, we need to stop those actions and do things more valuable.
- Now, we're going to have the opportunity right now and in the coming future to use all of these qualities of the Spirit.
- For example, if you are a person of peace and people can't really irritate you that easily, they will probably keep you out of some situations that you really don't want to find yourself in.
- So, we can use those tools of the Spirit now, but we're definitely practicing and developing for our future career in our next life.
- So, let's read how Peter warns us about the "what" in this world, who is our enemy.

1 Peter 5:8-11 (New International Version), 8) Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. 9) Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

10) And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. 11) To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen

Concluding comments:

- Now, all of us, who are going through issues of life, know how it's going to end up at the end of the day, because we have the Holy Spirit within us.
- So, when we are suffering, please acknowledge what the Spirit reveals to you.
- Every instance of trials that we have in this life is for our spiritual growth and development.
- God also gives us the opportunity to interact to lend a helping hand to others who are struggling with issues.
- Sometimes, we feel overwhelmed because the demand is so great and we have limited resources and limited time to interact.
- We need to be led by the Spirit so we don't overextend ourselves.
- However, we shouldn't fight against the Spirit that's telling us to move and to help others, because that urge for us to help is for our spiritual development.
- Now, if we find ourselves with the opportunity to sell our independence and move in with our parents to become their caregivers, the parents are the beneficiaries, but the development is about us.
- That's going to be a temporary situation, but our career is for all eternity.
- So, don't deny the promptings of the Holy Spirit and don't become overwhelmed by fulfilling it, because God takes care of us all.

- Now, let's remember, we don't have to argue who was first at the beginning, because the first guy was just a piece of dirt.
- Our future is fantastic because where we've come from in our mortal beginning to our spiritual destination is not bad for a piece of dirt.
- We also have to remember that even though we're struggling during the day, by the end of the day, it's all good, because of God.
- Everyone have a blessed week and a blessed stay here on the planet, as we work through our educational portion and let's hope that it translates into tomorrow, because God is a great God