ALTITUDE OR ATTITUDE

Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; 1 Tim 6:17 (KJV)

 One of the devotions in the devotional archives of our website was a devotional on “attitude” by Brother Adam NeSmith. It is a great devotional and it would be a blessing to anyone who would read it. In our text today, Paul is coming down on some folks who did not have a negative attitude but still had a bad attitude or at least not the right attitude. I think there are times when we have a little more altitude than attitude. A little success, a little praise, a little attention and what could have been a good attitude becomes some bad altitude or high mindedness. What a different world this would be if all of us realized that we are not near as good as we think we are but are mere recipients of God’s grace.

 On the other hand it is easy for us get all down in the mulligrubs and think that everyone is against us and that we can never achieve anything. Paul did not want us to have such an attitude so he gives us that wonderful verse in Philippians chapter four verse thirteen “I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.”

 Christ had an attitude of giving not just of things or what he had but of his very life. Pilate thought he had the power to take Jesus life but Christ told him he was not taking his life but rather He (Christ) was giving it. What an attitude! I read about a chaplain that was visiting soldiers in a makeshift hospital near the field of battle during World War II. As he came to one young soldier who was missing an arm he said “You must feel great loss.” The young soldier responded by pointing to his stub and saying “Oh my arm? I did not lose it. I gave it.” With an attitude like that a person can’t lose.

 God help us not to be too high minded and not too low minded but rather be right minded by your standards. You will have to help us because things do not work very well when we are in control. So set your heavenly gauge on our minds and make the necessary adjustments.

Yours in Christ,

Brother Randy Burtram