**And the Oscar Goes To**

1Corinthians 9:24-27 Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. (25) And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they *do it* to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. (26) I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: (27) But I keep under my body, and bring *it* into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway. (KJV)

The other night was what Hollywood aka La La Land calls the Oscars; where they pat each other on the back for what a great job of acting they have done. It is called La La Land because they have exchanged an opportunity of a life with God, a reality of truth, to live a life of acting out others’ lives instead of their own, thus living a reality of a lie; always having to compromise their reality so that they can get that next big break in the industry. Choosing uncertainty over the peace and assurance of God.

So at the end of the night there was a snafu in the presentation of the Oscar for best picture; those who were to announce the winners were given the wrong card and announced the wrong winners. It wasn’t realized until everyone was already on stage, awaiting the Oscar to be put into their hands. Thus they had to correct the mistake and those who thought they had won had to leave the stage, their dream of an Oscar dashed, and the true winners were called up onto the stage to receive their reward of an Oscar. Talk about a disappointment for those who thought they had won.

Now look at that in the context of the stage of life; many are called but few are chosen. We all have a choice of the reality of our life here on earth.

Matthew 7:13-14 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide *is* the gate, and broad *is* the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: (14) Because strait *is* the gate, and narrow *is* the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it. (KJV)

Many will be called up to the judgement seat of Christ thinking they won; perceiving they did all the right things, only to realize they did not win the crown of life. They had a false reality, a false hope; they were ever learning but never able to come to the knowledge of the truth that would set them free to be who God created them to be, their true purpose, being a witness unto the truth.

At a point in their life they came to a crossroad and had to choose which direction they were going to take. And I am sure the devil was there with a highlight reel of what they could have if they took the path of least resistance, his path, the broad path based on a lie and not on the truth or will of God. In the end they compromised, and chose the things of this life greater riches than the life that God had planned for them. And so they have their reward, their reality for eternity, which will be much more than just disappointment.

Matthew 7:21-23 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. (22) Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? (23) And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity. (KJV)

1Corinthians 6:9-10 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, (10) Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. (KJV)

For the few, the body of Christ, the true believers, who chose the path of life based on the reality of God and His Word, they are the true winners. Those who chose to put their flesh into subjection to the Spirit and walk the straight and narrow path which will lead them to life and life more abundantly (the life that Jesus Christ died and paid the price for you to have) doing the will of God along the way, knowing His Son, they will win the race, they will receive the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give them at that day.

So in the end…the Oscar goes to…the body of Christ. When all is said and done the grand prize at the end of this life, the incorruptible crown, the crown of righteousness, is eternal life for those who love God, His Son Jesus Christ, and who answered the call, and ran the race according to His purpose which He proposed for them.

Dearly loved brethren in Christ, fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life and don’t let it go. God bless and keep the faith.

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