

Acts 24:24,25 (NKJV)

“And after some days, when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, who was Jewish, he sent for Paul and heard him concerning the faith in Christ. Now as he reasoned about righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come, Felix was afraid and answered, "Go away for now; when I have a convenient time I will call for you."”

Righteousness, Self-Control, and the Judgment to Come

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Paul's sermon to Felix clearly demonstrates:

- The importance of righteousness

I Timothy 6:11 (NKJV)

“But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness.”

Philippians 3:12-14 (NKJV)

“Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”

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- The need for self-control

Galatians 5:22,23 (NKJV)

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.”

I Corinthians 9:27 (NKJV)

“But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.”

Romans 6:12,13 (NKJV)

“Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.”

Proverbs 25:28 (NKJV)

“Whoever has no rule over his own spirit is like a city broken down, without walls.”

II Corinthians 10:5 (NKJV)

“casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,”

Ephesians 4:26,27 (NKJV)

“Be angry, and do not sin”: do not let the sun go down on your wrath, nor give place to the devil.”

Proverbs 16:32 (NKJV)

“He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, And he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city.”

II Peter 1:5-10 (NKJV)

“But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins. Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble;”

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- The need for self-control
- Faith in Christ demands obedience

Luke 6:46 (NKJV)

““But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do the things which I say?”

Matthew 7:21 (NKJV)

“Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.”

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- There will be a day of reckoning

II Corinthians 5:10,11 (NKJV)

“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are well known to God, and I also trust are well known in your consciences.”

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- Knowing what you need to do isn't enough

James 2:19-20 (NKJV)

“You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe--and tremble! But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead?”

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