

## The R5

Neil Marnewick, July 2015

(This is not the verbatim sermon, but a representation of the message.)

Read Joshua 1:1-9. How many times did God say to be strong and courageous?

Read 1 Cor 13. Yet, if I don't have love, then I have no value to the Kingdom.



If we look at a R5 coin, anyone in South Africa can distinguish this coin from any other piece of nickel or brass. It is made in a distinct shape and size. On the front it is identified to have this value.

Joshua 1 is like the front of the coin. It boldly states its value and purpose. The statement is strong and courageous, as we ought to be at times.

The back of the coin is like 1 Cor 13. It carries the seal of the owner and the mandate where it operates. With God's love we establish the working of the Spirit, in love and humility.

Note that the coin is uniform in thickness and that the markings front and back are both equally clear. It is in balance.

Likewise, we need to be in balance between strong and courageous vs loving and humble. Note that the coin is only complete with both front and back stamped clearly and equally.

If the markings are not clear at either the front or the back the coin will be incomplete and cannot be used. If the coin is stamped poorly the quality control will reject the coin. The metal pieces will be separated from each other and be sent back for melting.

Before the brass and nickel could be used they had to go through a purification process. Metal can only be purified through a melting process - of high heat. As long as there are impurities the metal is not good enough to be used. Should it be used in production and it is discovered to have impurities it will be rejected and go back into the oven for further purification.

You have felt this in your own life, how God is purifying you through a melting pot and pruning. This is to make you pure, so that you can be used for something with value. Purification cannot happen when you lie relaxed on your couch in front of the tv. It is a process of discomfort, of pain where the action in life happens, and only the pure metal will endure, whilst the impurities will withdraw and burn away.

Metal can be tested by x-rays and acid for example. It can be pierced and formed, stretched and ground, to determine its properties - to confirm what is inside. The test results will grade the material and judge how good it is.

You may feel like you are pushed and rayed, but the Master is making sure that you will be ready. Life can be acidic and eat away from your joy, comfort and peace, but it cannot devalue your heart unless you give in.

Certain aspects of your character can only be tested in certain situations, not through talking about how you would react when all is well.

When the metal has been confirmed to comply to specifications the sheets are sent where they are pressed out in their shapes.

The picture on the coin and the script is pressed into a certain predetermined form. The press comes down and forms that metal, pushing the molecules around. It generates internal friction in the steel, which causes heat.

Even after purification processes Jesus forms you with pressure and you may feel the heat inside, but it is because He creates a certain identification in you. Some areas are pressed deeper than others to create distinctions.

The R5 coin follows the shape of the die, which is based off a master.

We are being moulded in the image of the Master.

When He is done, we're distinctly like Him. Everybody will recognize the value and the image of the Master. It is a process that all of God's children will go through.

We recognise the R5 coins easily because they are everywhere. Children of God are to be everywhere and be easily distinguishable. Therefore we can help each other, motivate and guide and be guided.

Maybe being strong comes naturally to you and not the gentle humble part, or vice versa. However, we need to endure and let Jesus form us, so that his value can be distinguished in our lives. So, when we go out into the world they will recognize our value, so that we can bring value to others on behalf of the Master.

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