Lesson
5 Nov 72
Teach
2 Oct 77
Lesson
Aug 79 | Dec 15, 85
9-1-91 | 5-8-16

The Followers of Christ

1.) <u>The afar-off</u> (Mat 26:58) But Peter followed him afar-off unto the high priests palace, and went in, and sat with the servants, to see the end.

True today

A.) at one time this is the way Peter followed. He did not want to follow closely; neither did he wish not to follow at all.

B.) This afar-off following led Peter to deny Christ. (Mat 26:69-75) pg 1048

For eternal life in heaven → C.) The safe way to live is to resist the devil and draw nigh to God.

IN PART

(James 4:7,8) Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you.

2.) <u>The bread-seekers</u> (John 6:26,27) Pg 1127

Christ is the bread of life. →

A.) Their feigned hunger for the bread of life (6:35) was to secure the bread that perisheth. Their interest was strictly material.

Giving of ourselves as getting

B.) The Christian spirit is that of giving rather than getting, serving rather than being served.

(Mt. 20:28) Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Christ gave his life - what are we giving

LIGHT - WHERE ARE YOU STANDING?

3.) <u>The glory-seekers</u> (III John 9) I wrote unto the church: but DI-OT-RE-PHES, who loveth to have the preeminence among them, receiveth us not.

Decision maker

A.) Diotrephes belonged to this classification. He was willing to work in the church if he could have the preeminence. Like many today, they have a "big shot" complex; are selfish and self-centered, and think the world revolves around them.

B.) Many of the problems in church work have this as the basis. Some feel that they are not getting enough attention. They have a high regard for self, that it is easy for their greatness to be offended.

C.) They need to learn humility

(Mat 18:3) And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.

(Mat 23:11) But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant.

(Mt 20:20-28) pg 1037-38

JAMES + JOHN SON'S OF ZEB-E-DEE

Jesus speaking Don't place yourself above any one else.

MOTHER - 2 SON'S RIGHT + LEFT of CHRIST IN HEAVEN.

4.) The critical

A.) Judas criticized Mary's anointing Jesus.

(John 12:3-8) pg 1137 59

OMIT (Mark 14:4,5) pg 68

NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO, SOMEONE HAS TO CRITICIZE IT.

No matter how unfounded an adverse criticism may be there are always others who will join in and echo it.

B.) Judas said that he was opposed to the anointing because he wanted to give the price of the ointment to the poor - he lied, he didn't care for the poor; he was a thief (Jn 12:4-6).

A man's real reason for criticizing a thing may be very different from what he says; the chances are he will not state the real reason.

5.) The fussy (Phil 4:2) I beseech Eu ō dī ās, and beseech Syn tȳ chē, that they be of the same mind in the Lord.

A.) The relationship between these two was so bad that it called for public mention. ~~Two people cannot walk with the third person without all three walking together.~~ So when two people are not walking together, then at least one of them is

MAYBE ~~MONDAY~~ ~~MAYBE~~ BOTH.

not walking with Christ.

PEOPLE TAKE SIDES - CHURCH IS SPLIT.

B) War - both carnal and spiritual - is costly. (Gal 5:15) But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another.

Peace in the church is not a luxury; it is a necessity

It may be hard at times →

(Rom 12:18) If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

(Rom 14:19) Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another.

SONG "MASTER THE TEMPEST IS RAGING"

6.) The fearful (Mk 4:36-41) pg ~~1057~~ 1019

So fear is the product of a little faith.

where there is a strong faith there is no fear of starving (Mt. 6:25-34) pg ~~8~~ 1019

SERVE GOD AND HE WILL LOOK OUT FOR YOU.

No fear of man (Heb 13:6) So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

No fear of persecution (Mt 10:28) ~~pg~~ And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

And no fear of death (Ps 23:4) Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Fear the Lord and keep his commandments = love the Lord and keep his commandments = love

7.) The sacrificial (II Cor 8:1-5) pg ~~1228~~ A) This is one example of some people's giving more than they were able, but this is very unusual.

WHAT ARE YOU SACRIFICING? 2 HR A WEEK - OUT OF 168

B.) The Christian life is a life of sacrifice - (Rom 12:1) I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living

what ever you do or say do it with God in your mind.

sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

we enter the race to win - but you must finish the race

8.) The faithful-unto-death (II Tim 4:6-8) pg ~~240~~ 1267

A) Paul is an example; he entered the fight to triumph; he entered the race to win; he embraced the faith to keep it. HE WAS READY TO GO TO HEAVEN.

Don't give up if you fall - get up and finish the race

B.) Perseverance is essential to eternal salvation (Mt 10:22) and ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved.

pain in running the race

(Rev 2:10) Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life. INJURY - FAMILY OR FRIENDS

endure long enough and you will win.

Faithful unto death for the joy of having a crown of life.

Choose

In the Christian long distance race we have to go all out to win; we cannot hold down our pace for a burst of energy at the end of the race. We do not know how long our race here is going to be.

Runners at the back of the pack - letting others take all the wind.