

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What prompted the two disciples to make their request for position in God's Kingdom?
2. How does the world define greatness?
3. What is true greatness?
4. What are some ways we can demonstrate true greatness?

SUMMARY:

As we examine the life of the greatest man who ever lived, we find none of the evidences of greatness which usually first comes to mind. Christ, through His life and teachings, gave us a new and real meaning for the word "great". It is a meaning that ought to affect the lives of all people who desire to please the living God. Anyone who wishes to be great can do so by becoming a servant of others.

It is true that this greatness may not be recognized by fellow man here on earth but God will certainly not overlook it. His rewards for greatness continue into eternity.

These men who were first taught these lessons did go on to greatness. Their efforts to their fellow men have carried on down to this very day.

NOTES:

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #3

October 16, 2022

Fourth Quarter

THE KING DEFINES GREATNESS

LESSON TEXT: *Mark 10:35-45*

LESSON SETTING: Jesus and his twelve disciples are walking to Jerusalem.

TIME: About 33 A.D.

- I. GREATNESS DESIRED.** Mark 10:35-40
 - A. Ambition (vs. 37) Genesis 11:4; Luke 22:24
 - B. Self-exaltation (vs. 37) Proverbs 25:27; Matthew 23:12
 - C. Self-confidence (vs. 39) Matthew 26:33; 1 Corinthians 10:12
- II. GREATNESS DESCRIBED.** Mark 10:41-44
 - A. Man's Idea - Supremacy (vs. 42) Daniel 4:30
 - B. Satan's Definition - Genesis 3:5; Matthew 23:5-7
 - C. Jesus' Definition - True Greatness (vs. 43-44)
Matthew 5:19; 20:26; Matthew 23:11; Luke 1:15
- III. GREATNESS DEMONSTRATED.** Mark 10:45
 - A. By Jesus (vs. 45) Philippians 2:7
 - B. Jesus, a Servant (vs. 45) Luke 22:27; John 13:4-5
 - C. Sacrificing (vs. 45) John 15:13; Ephesians 5:2; 1 John 3:16

GOLDEN TEXT: *"FOR EVEN THE SON OF MAN CAME NOT TO BE MINISTERED UNTO, BUT TO MINISTER, AND TO GIVE HIS LIFE A RANSOM FOR MANY."*
Mark 10:45

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: Proverbs 4:10-17; 23:20-23,29-35

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: 1 Corinthians 9:24-27

QUARTERLY THEME: Christ - King and Savior

TOPIC: THE DANGERS OF INTEMPERANCE

INTRODUCTION:

God in His wisdom not only provided the straight path for man to follow, but He also allowed Satan to provide the not so straight path. Thus a choice to follow the straight path means something. Man can for a time follow a path of intemperance, probably enjoy it, and even feel he is escaping the penalties for intemperance. This sort of living not only carries the penalty of spiritual death and an eternity apart from God but it often leaves damage and scars that can never be repaired.

The truly sad part is the ease with which one can slip into an intemperate situation. It is common knowledge that a whole barrel of good apples cannot make a rotten one sound. Three good limbs cannot cure the infection in a diseased one, but the opposite is true. A rotten apple can condemn a whole barrel and a diseased limb can infect sound ones. The real cure is the preventive one of separation from evil and continued association with righteousness.

God provided, with each temptation, a way of escape. We ought therefore to recognize the danger of intemperance and search diligently for the path He has provided.

CENTRAL TRUTH: Strong drink confuses the mind and leads the user into other vices.

GOLDEN TEXT: *ENTER NOT INTO THE PATH OF THE WICKED,
AND GO NOT IN THE WAY OF EVIL MEN.* Proverbs 4:14

Along with the knowledge of good and evil, and the ability to choose, which God conferred upon the human race, goes the guilt for making the wrong choice. Man has from the very first tried to abdicate his moral responsibility. Man does not want what he deserves and as the much joked about ostrich also seeks methods to “stick his head in the sand.” Wine and strong drink are just such crutches and their only purpose is to cause man to enter such a state as to make things seem what they are not. The truth is not changed—it only seems so.

Although it can be historically proven that alcohol has caused more deaths, broken up more families and physically ruined more lives than any other recorded single cause, each person who indulges feels that he or she is immune to its dangers. Each drink not only contributes to the industry which causes all this unhappiness, but may be the trigger which leads to alcoholism.

So much of the evil of the world has a close association with the use of alcohol and tobacco so that they seem almost to go hand in hand. For this reason we also need to avoid all appearance of evil. (1 Thessalonians 5:22)

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF October 17 – 23

- M. *The Wisdom of Temperance. Proverbs 4:10-17; 23:20-23, 29-35
- T. The Law Concerning Strong Drink. Leviticus 10:1-10
- W. A Warning Against Strong Drink. Proverbs 31:1-9
- T. A Curse Upon Strong Drink. Isaiah 28:1-13
- F. An Intemperate Feast Interrupted. Daniel 5:1-9
- S. The Shame of Drunkenness. Habakkuk 2:4-17
- S. The Abstaining Christian. 1 Peter 4:1-7

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