

Two Believers The Lord Will Not Accept

Matt. 7:21-23

Introduction:

- A. Jesus does not accept everyone who calls him Lord.
 - 1. To “know” equals approval or acceptance.
 - 2. To say, “Lord, Lord,” suggest some kind of faith in Jesus as Lord.
- B. Jesus warns of two kinds of believers that he will not accept in “that day.”

Discussion:

I. The Underactive Believer (v. 21).

- A. With some it is doctrinal.
 - 1. Baptist Manual: “Solely by faith”; “wholly by grace.”
 - 2. Methodist Discipline: “We are justified by faith only...” (Art. IX) (cf. Jas 2:14-26).
- B. With some it is carelessness (Matt. 25:1-13).
 - 1. Intend to obey gospel, if ever get around to it.
 - 2. Intend to start attending, visiting, etc. – someday.
- C. With some it is hindrances (Matt. 13:22; Gal. 5:7).
 - 1. May be too busy: work, family, civic projects, etc.
 - 2. May be too sensitive: Feelings hurt.
- D. With some it is fear (Matt. 25:25)
 - 1. Of failure (cf Phil 4:13).
 - 2. Of persecution (cf. 2 Cor. 5:1).
 - 3. Of family pressures (cf. Matt. 10:37; 1 Pet. 3:1-2).
 - 4. Of economic loss (Mk. 8:36).
 - 5. Of Social loss (John 12:42,43)
- E. With some it is self-centered laziness.
 - 1. Unwilling to go out of way to serve Lord and others.
 - 2. Too much trouble to be bothered with Romans 12:11-15.

II. The Overactive Believer (vv. 22-23)

- A. The “iniquity worker” (v. 23).
 - 1. Invoking His name does not make truly in His name (v. 22).
 - 2. Must abide in the doctrine of Christ (2 John 9-11).
- B. The “feelings follower” (Acts 26:9; Jer. 17:9).
 - 1. Depends of feelings for salvation, rather than revelation.
 - 2. Governed by emotions, rather than rational study.
- C. The “go-getter” (cf. Rom. 10:2)
 - 1. Too busy getting on with it, to check on authority.
 - 2. To busy “doing great works”, to discuss the scripturalness of those works.

Conclusion:

- A. Let us be active believers.
- B. But, lawfully active.