

BEING LIKE JESUS

TEXT: Hebrews 12:1-2

INTRODUCTION:

1. Being like Jesus should be the goal of all of us! (Hebrews 12:1-2 READ)
 - a) In life, word, deeds, worship, evangelism, Bible class, sermons, all we do should be as close to the way Jesus did it as we can come.
 - b) There are cultural differences, languages differences, matters of expedience, etc.
 - c) But, we must be careful to lead people to the Christ of the church, which will in turn also lead them to the church of the Christ (Acts 2:47).
 - d)* Acts 9:35 *So all who dwelt at Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord.*
 - e)* Acts 11:21 *And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the Lord.*
2. Rom 15:7 *Therefore receive one another, just as Christ also received us, to the glory of God.*
3. Eph 5:1-2 *Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.*
4. Eph 5:25 *Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her.*
5. Col 3:12-13 *Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; 13 bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.*
6. 1 Peter 2:21 *For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps:*

I. Sinners Liked Him, but, Knew Where He Stood!

- 1) Luke 15:1-3 eats with Sinners (but didn't condone their sin).
- 2) Mark 2:16-17 (Effective physicians must go around sick people).
- 3) John 4:17-18 *"You've had five husbands and now are living with a man!"*
- 4) John 8:12 Woman taken in adultery: Ended with "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."
- 5) Luke 17:12 Ten lepers (unclean, no one would go around them, but He did)!
- 6) Mark 7:24ff Persistent Gentile woman who had demon possessed daughter.
- 7) Luke 7:36ff Sinful woman who anointed Him with oil, tears and wiped feet with hair!

II. He Was Serious About Worship!

- 1) Matthew 4:10 *Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is*

written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.'"

- 2) Matt 15:9 *And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men."*
- 3) John 4:23-24 *But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."*

III. He Rose Above Criticism !

- 1) Matthew 22:16 *And they sent to Him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that You are true, and teach the way of God in truth; nor do You care about anyone, for You do not regard the person of men.*
- 2) Mark 2:1-11 *Healed a paralyzed man on Sabbath and was accused of blasphemy.*
- 3) Mark 6:1-4 *"Who are you to be telling us these things!"*

IV. He Cared More for Others, Than He Did Himself!

- 1) Matt 26:39 *He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will."*
- 2) John 3:16
- 3) Philippians 2:1-11
- 4) Hebrews 5:8 *"Though He was a Son, he learned obedience, by the things which He suffered.*

V. He Did Not Waste Time With Vengeance!

- 1) If anyone ever had a right to, it was Him!
 - a) Matt 26:67-68 *Then they spat in His face and beat Him; and others struck Him with the palms of their hands, saying, "Prophecy to us, Christ! Who is the one who struck You?"*
 - b) Matt. 26:60
- 2) Paul later taught the same lesson: Romans 12:15-21

VI. He Despised the Desecration of the Temple! (That which God deemed to be holy)!

- 1) Matthew 21:12; Mark 11:15-19; Luke 19:45-48; John 2:13-22.
- 2) *The church is the temple today! (1 Cor. 3:16-17 "Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are."*

- 3) Made up of individual members (1 Cor. 12:27-28) *"Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually."*
- 4) Romans 12:4-6: *For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.*
- 5) Living stones (1Peter 2:5-4).

VII. He was Calm in the Midst of the Storm!

- 1) Luke 8:22-25 *Now it happened, on a certain day, that He got into a boat with His disciples. And He said to them, "Let us cross over to the other side of the lake." And they launched out. But as they sailed He fell asleep. And a windstorm came down on the lake, and they were filling with water, and were in jeopardy. And they came to Him and awoke Him, saying, "Master, Master, we are perishing!" Then He arose and rebuked the wind and the raging of the water. And they ceased, and there was a calm. But He said to them, "Where is your faith?" And they were afraid, and marveled, saying to one another, "Who can this be? For He commands even the winds and water, and they obey Him!"*
- 2) Matt 26:62-63 *And the high priest arose and said to Him, "Do You answer nothing? What is it these men testify against You?" But Jesus kept silent. And the high priest answered and said to Him, "I put You under oath by the living God: Tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God!"*
- 3) Isaiah 53:7 *"He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth."*

Conclusion:

1. Being more and more like Jesus should be the goal of every Christian!
2. Eph 4:11-16 *And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head — Christ — from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.*