

II Timothy, Sermon #9

II Timothy 2

A lot of people followed Jesus, but when it was all said and done, only a handful left.

What did they call the people that followed Jesus? Disciples

- Jesus had a high dropout rate because Jesus made Christianity clear
- He told the people “This is what it means to follow Me”
- They heard and many of them jumped ship

In many churches, if they began to preach the Bible, people would leave!

John 6:66, *“From that time many of His disciples went back, and walked no more with Him.”*

Titus 1:16, *“They profess [acknowledge] that they know God; but in works they deny Him, being abominable [detestable], and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate” – [worthless]*

I’ve entitled today’s sermon – “Jesus Is True – What About You?”

II Timothy 2:11

Let us stand for the reading of God’s Holy Word

II Timothy 2:11-13

Let us pray.

You may be seated.

“Jesus Is True – What About You?”

#1 – A disciple of Jesus Christ is living and lasting.

Vs. 11

- “Died” indicates an act in the past, that is talking about Jesus’ death.
- “Live” indicates the present and future. This is the wonderful work of salvation.
If we be dead with Him, we also live with Him

When we come to Christ and receive Him as our Savior, His death becomes our death, His life becomes our life.

When Christ died for sin at Calvary, He paid with His life our sin debt. He died for me. I Corinthians 15:3, that is a part of the Gospel.

At the cross, a victory was won which provided us with the power not to live as we once did, serving our old master – sin, but to live eternally, serving our new master Jesus Christ.

Romans 6:5-7 (Turn left in your Bible).

- These words remind us of Galatians 2:20. I am crucified with Christ. Nevertheless, I live, yet not I, but Christ liveth in me. His **resurrection** means new life for us. We have new life in Christ.

This means that this very day God wants to live His life out through us by the power of the Holy Spirit.

- Who owns us _____? – Ye are not your own
- What did He pay for us? – We have been bought with a price – the blood of Christ

This new life is our present possession and is eternal – Philippians 1:6, He who hath begun a good work in you will perform it.

Have we appropriated the death of Christ for our sins by faith?

This new life in Christ also causes us to endure the afflictions from an unbelieving and ungodly world. II Timothy 2:12 – If we suffer – endure, remain—perseverance

Vs. 12 says we will reign with Christ on this earth in the Millennial Kingdom.

A disciple of Jesus Christ is living and lasting.

#2 – A disciple of Christ is visible and verbal

Vs. 12b

If we deny Jesus Christ, **He also will deny us.**

The Greek word “**deny**” is in the future tense; it means “If in the future we deny Him.”

It looks at some confrontation that makes the cost of confessing Jesus Christ very high and thereby tests one’s true faith.

This is a warning from God.

A person who fails to endure and hold onto his confession of Christ will **deny Him**, because he never belonged to Christ at all.

Now who said, “If we deny Him, He also will deny us?” This is found somewhere else in our Bibles.

Turn to Matthew 10 – Jesus said it – folks.

Matthew 10:32-33

#2 – A disciple of Christ is visible and verbal.

The Bible tells us upfront, that not all people who claim Christ verbally – are really His.

- Jesus said, people draw near unto Me with their mouth and honor Me with their lips – but their heart is far from Me (Matthew 15:8).

Matthew 10:32-33 says, “Whosoever”

“Whosoever” – we are not just talking about the twelve disciples, but **All** those who claim to be followers of Christ.

Say “amen” if you claim to follow Jesus Christ!

Some followers are real and genuine; some followers are fake

Vs. 32 – confess – to declare, to acknowledge, to identify oneself with
Dr. Pepper, license tag

A real true disciple will confess Jesus before men.

To confess Christ is to be open about our faith, our beliefs
The mouth confesses what the heart believes

Romans 10:9-13 – These verses do not teach that there is a two-step process for salvation.

Look at verse 9 – Jesus Christ is Lord

Outward confession with the mouth is a reflection of genuine belief in the heart

Confess Him boldly – not to be ashamed, vs. 11

When was the last time we looked a person in the eye and said, “Have you ever accepted Jesus Christ as your personal Savior and been born again?”

We should be willing to confess Him anywhere!

- Fair-weather Christians – only when it is convenient
- Fair-weather preachers – in season and out of season

Vs. 32 – Jesus claims us because we claimed Him

Vs. 33 – deny – refuse, reject

You may say, “Preacher, Peter denied the Lord”

He did, but if we are a genuine believer, we will respond as he did – The Bible says he went out and wept bitterly; his heart was broken.

Many people deny Christ by living like the rest of the world

- No higher standards – no higher values
- We cannot tell them apart – in how they dress, where they go, what they watch, what they do

Many people deny Christ with their lips – Their speech is foul, vulgar, profane and they even take the Lord’s name in vain.

The true and false disciple is a repeated theme in the Bible.

Wide gate

Narrow gate – walking the narrow way

Good fruit

Bad fruit

Jesus said, “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of Heaven.”

Wheat and tares – that grow together in the same field.

We confess Christ by our actions, our words, our living, our love, and our caring

We live in an area where most everybody says they are a Christian, but in their living, they deny Him.

We want to live Godly and righteously in this present age, looking unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of our faith.

We believe that Christianity is more than just Sunday mornings

People, sometime in the future, there is coming an hour where every person will stand in front of Jesus and in the presence of God

Verses 32-33 have to do with when we stand before God

- It will be Jesus and you in the sight of God
- Whether we are accepted in, welcomed, claimed – or whether we are denied entrance

Jesus said in Matthew 7:23 – “And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you; depart from Me.”

Are you saved? Are you born again? Does your life prove it?

Jesus said, You will know my faith by my what? Works.

A disciple is visible and verbal

Thirdly, a disciple is loyal to Jesus – vs. 34

The object of His coming is peace but the effect of it was war

Vs. 35-36 – this conflict may be in our own house – because of Jesus Christ and our loyalty to Him.

When we become loyal to Jesus, loyal to Him, we are going to have friction in other areas.

Vs. 37 – not worthy – not deserving of Me

Jesus wants us to understand upfront what it may cost us to receive Him. It may cost our family.

We must be willing to forsake everything and everyone for Him – loyalty

The rich young ruler was sincere

A disciple is loyal to Jesus—Jesus must take precedence, preeminence, first place – over all things.

If we are more concerned about what people think and pleasing people, we are in trouble.

Fourthly, a disciple must be willing to sacrifice

Folks, I'll be honest with you – most of the people in my generation really don't know much about sacrifice – we are consumed with our own interests

A disciple must be willing to sacrifice – his family, his life, everything for the cause of Christ.

Vs. 38 – Now you can see why people left Jesus

Cross – before Jesus' Crucifixion
Rather common

At one time, because of a Jewish insurrection against the Romans – some 2000 Jews were crucified at once – the roads were lined with crosses

Now, when Jesus spoke this and they knew what it meant – vs. 38

The cause of Christ – sake of Christ – is everything

Follow after Me – vs. 38 – means to be in the same way with

In America – the love of things greatly influences the commitment of believers

Is there a greater investment than the Kingdom of God?

Our financial giving—is it out of our abundance or out of sacrifice?

Vs. 39

If we think we have found our life in the things of this world – shall lose our life

But if we lose our life, sacrifice ourselves, give ourselves for Christ's sake – we will find
it

Jesus is true, How about you? Part 1 – next week, Part 2.

Let us stand for closing invitation

Bow your heads and close your eyes.

Have you received Jesus Christ as your Savior?

If you would like to in the midst of all you heard today, I'm going to lead you in prayer

You pray silently,

If you pray this from your heart to God and mean it, God will hear you.

"Dear God in Heaven,

I know I am a sinner; I know I have done wrong.

Please forgive me for my sins.

I believe that Jesus died on the Cross and shed His blood to cover my sins.

I believe Jesus was buried and rose again and I want Him to save my soul.

Come into my life and make me whole.

In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen."

As our heads are still bowed—

Believer

- _ a disciple is living and lasting
- a disciple is verbal and visible
- a disciple is loyal to Jesus
- a disciple must be willing to sacrifice

You take a few moments to pray

In this quiet moment, seal whatever God has laid on your heart

Let us pray

If you accepted Jesus as your Savior today, please let me know as you leave church.

I would like to help you get started right in your Christian life

Rear of Document

Acts 3:13-15, "The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified His Son Jesus; whom ye delivered up, and denied Him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let him go. But ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you; and killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses."

I John 2:22-23, "Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son. Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: (but) he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also."