

The Christian's Fellowship With Jesus Christ

Introduction

- A. The Christian is a privileged person indeed. He has, by the grace of God, been adopted into a relationship with God described as "sonship". John 1:12
- B. There are many rights and privileges with characterize this relationship. One of these is that of fellowship with Jesus Christ. It is important to recognize that this fellowship means more than a legal relationship. It involves the experience of love and a "sharing together". What this means in our daily life is the content of this lesson.

God is faithful, by Whom ye were called unto the fellowship of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord. I Corinthians 1:5

I. Jesus Christ Has Given Us His Yoke, Matthew 11:28-30.

Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn of Me, for I am meek and lowly in heart, and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.

Observation: To take the yoke of another means first of all a submission to that person and then a sharing together. This is where the Christian life begins - with a whole-hearted surrender to Jesus Christ by a decision of faith whereby we trust Him as Savior and Lord. Only then does the Christian life become possible and the yoke easy.

II. Jesus Christ Has Given Us His Name, John 14:13,14.

And whatsoever ye shall ask in My Name. that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask anything in My Name, I will do it.

Observation: In this fellowship with Jesus Christ He has given His Name to all believers with all the delegated authority which goes with this. He has given us His Name to use against the enemy (Luke 10:17; I Peter 5:9) and as the basis of our prayers and walk with God (John 15:16; 16:24).

III. Jesus Christ Has Given Us His Commandments, John 14:15.

If ye love Me, keep My commandments.

Observation: In His mercy and goodness, God has given us His commandments, so that we may be kept from spiritual bankruptcy. When we learn how to receive and express our love to Him these commandments are not difficult (I John 5:3). Instead of limiting us these commandments are the ways whereby we find spiritual fulfillment.

IV. Jesus Christ Has Given Us His Peace, John 14:27.

Peace I leave with you. My peace I give unto you, not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

Observation: Peace is first of all a relationship and then an experience of security, well-being and happiness. To be at peace with God and to have His peace is one of the greatest gifts of sonship.

V. Jesus Christ Has Given **Us** His Word, John. 15:7. (John 17:14)

If ye abide in Me and My Words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

Observation: The Christian has been made the recipient of divine revelation. We have been given the Word of God. The lord Jesus Christ exhorts us to allow His Word to "abide" in us. From the parable in this chapter we gather that the word "abide" means "to share without resistance". We must be honest with God and choose to obey His Word.

VI. Jesus Christ Has Given Us His Love, John 10:9.

As the Father hath loved Me, so have I loved you, continue ye in My love.

Observation: To be loved by Jesus Christ means that He recognizes us as persons, gives us our rightful place in His plan, and will do the right thing by us. All of this, we must realize, is more than words - it is an action.

VII. Jesus Christ Has Given Us His Joy, John 15:11.

These things have I spoken unto you, that My joy might remain in you and that your Joy may be full.

Observation: This joy is more than the contentment that comes when things are going well. It is a deep seated relationship of the enjoyment of God Himself. Joy is a by-product of fellowship with God in daily obedience. Without this our lives will never be at their best.

VIII. Jesus Christ Has Given Us His Grace, II Corinthians 12:9.

And He (God) said unto me (Paul), My grace is sufficient for thee

Observation: The grace of God is the product or the resultant benefit which has been produced by the Lord Jesus Christ in His Crucifixion, Resurrection, Ascension, and sending the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost. All of this benefit has been given to every person who has received Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. In this verse we are taught that whatever need we have - the grace of God has been designed to meet that need. When we find out the will of God related to our need, and do it, then we will find the grace of God to be our daily sufficiency.

IX. Jesus Christ Has Given Us His Strength, II Corinthians 12:9.

And He said unto me, My grace is sufficient-for thee, for My strength is made perfect in weakness . . .

Observation: It was strength that the Apostle Paul needed in his immediate situation - and it was the grace of God that met that need. This great verse states a principle that can be continually applied in the life of every believer. God has provided for our every need. This is found in His grace which becomes our strength or enablement to meet the demands of our daily life.

Conclusion: Now we must choose to implement this fellowship with Jesus Christ.

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