

A Humble Attitude Lk. 17:5-10

Thesis: To help us understand the necessity of completing our duty before the Father.

Introduction:

God is not going to thank us for doing what He expects us to do.

I. The disciples come to Jesus with the need to increase their faith (17:5-6).

A. The disciples came to the right person in order to help them increase their faith (17:5).

1. These apostles had always been with Jesus.
 - a. It was John who led Peter and Andrew to Jesus (Jn. 1:35-42).
 - b. They had been with Jesus from His baptism until His resurrection (Acts 1:21-22).
 - c. They had heard many of the lessons that Jesus had taught them.
 - d. They understood, at least to a small degree, that Jesus was the Son of God.
 - e. Now, they come to Jesus and ask Him to increase their faith.
2. In this instance, Jesus tells them about the power of their faith (17:6).
 - a. Lk. 17:6 - So the Lord said, "If you have faith as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be pulled up by the roots and be planted in the sea,' and it would obey you."
 - b. Jesus is not speaking of literal things.
 - 1) Jesus never did something for His disciples that they could not do for themselves.
 - 2) He is teaching His disciples that there is nothing that they will not be able to do with their faith.
 - c. Instead, Jesus is teaching them the value of a strong faith.

B. Today, we must see the need to increase our faith.

1. Growing in our faith is extremely important.
 - a. II Pet. 3:18 - but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
 - b. If we are not growing, we are dying.
 - c. It takes a great deal of effort for us to continue to grow in our faith.
2. If we are going to increase our faith, we must turn to Jesus.
 - a. This is not something that we cannot do in and of ourselves.
 - b. We must turn to Jesus in order to increase our faith.
 - c. Heb. 12:1-2 - Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, {2} looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him

endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

II. Jesus then tells His disciples a parable to teach them the necessity of a humble attitude (17:7-9).

A. The parable that Jesus tells shows that a servant is to serve his master before he serves himself (17:7-8).

1. A master would never tell his servant to come in from the field to sit and eat with his master (17:7).
2. Instead, the master would tell his servant to prepare a meal for him, and then he could sit and eat and drink when his master is filled (17:8).

B. When this servant accomplishes his duty, he is not thanked for doing his job (17:9).

1. Jesus makes it very clear that this servant was only doing his job.
2. He would not receive the praise of his master because he was doing what was his duty.

III. Today, we must understand that God expects certain things from us (17:10).

A. No matter what the religious world may say, God expects certain things from His children.

1. Church attendance
 - a. Sign on church bulletin board: “*Visitors Welcome, Members Expected*”
 - b. We should not have to be invited to attend the services of the church.
 - c. Heb. 10:24-25 - And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, {25} not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.
2. Visit one another
 - a. Js. 1:27 - Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.
 - b. Acts 2:46-47a - So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, {47} praising God and having favor with all the people.
3. Help those in need
 - a. Lk. 10:25-37 – The Parable of the Good Samaritan
 - b. I Jn. 3:17 - But whoever has this world’s goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him?
4. Love one another

- a. **Mt. 22:39** - “And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’”
 - b. **Rom. 13:8-10** - Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law. {9} For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery,” “You shall not murder,” “You shall not steal,” “You shall not bear false witness,” “You shall not covet,” and if there is any other commandment, are all summed up in this saying, namely, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” {10} Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.
5. Love God with all of our being
- a. **Lk. 10:25-28** - And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and tested Him, saying, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” {26} He said to him, “**What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?**” {27} So he answered and said, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,’ and ‘your neighbor as yourself.’” {28} And He said to him, “You have answered rightly; do this and you will live.”
 - b. **Mt. 22:35-38** - Then one of them, a lawyer, asked Him a question, testing Him, and saying, {36} “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?” {37} Jesus said to him, “**“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’** {38} **This is the first and great commandment.”**

B. When we accomplish these things, we are doing nothing more than our duty.

1. It is only when we understand this that we are increasing our faith.
2. While we should be thankful for those that do the work of the church, we do not work in order to be thanked.
3. If we are waiting for someone to thank us for doing our Christian duty, we are waiting for the wrong reward.

Conclusion: