

Is Faithful Attendance Really Necessary

Sunday Morning - 4/11/2021

- I. Introduction
 - A. During this study we want to consider our ways with regards to our attendance (Hag 1:7)
 - i. We are discussing those who willfully miss the assembly
 - ii. We are not discussing those who want to be here but just can't make it due to health or a similar reason
 - B. There are two categories of Christians
 - i. One group is those who say, "How little can I do and get into Heaven"
 - ii. The second group is those precious souls who say, "How much can I do in the service of my Lord?"
- II. Consider your attitude
 - A. Do I have an attitude of gratitude (Col 2:6-7)?
 - B. Do I have an attitude of sincerely wanting to please the Lord (1 Thess 4:1)?
 - C. Do I have an attitude of praising God and bringing Him glory (Eph 3:21, Phil 1:11)?
 - D. Do I have an attitude of fervency (Rom 12:11)?
- III. Consider your time
 - A. A week has 168 hours
 - i. A typical church meets 4 hours each week
 - ii. 4 out of 168 is 2.38% (remove 49 hours for sleep and it's still just 3.6%)
 - B. In the context of time, James says to those who know to do good and don't it is sin
- IV. Consider your example
 - A. Ask yourself, "what if everyone attended services as I do?"
 - i. If you are regular in your attendance the congregation would be at max capacity
 - ii. If you only attend Sunday morning the preacher will be alone every other service
 - B. We learn as a child the principle of "monkey see monkey do"
 - i. What if someone saw your lack of attendance and it discouraged them from coming?
 - ii. It should make us shudder to think of leading others to sin and potentially lose their souls because of our example
- V. Consider your elders
 - A. Elders are the shepherds of the flock (Acts 20:28)

- i. They feed us as the flock (1 Peter 5:2)
 - ii. The necessary inference is that they have the authority to choose the feeding times
- VI. Consider your brethren
 - A. It truly lights up the service when you come (Matt 5:16)
 - B. The Hebrew writer says to consider your brethren to provoke them to love and good works (Heb 10:24-25)
 - i. Interestingly, the way to do that is to avoid forsaking the assembly
 - ii. How can I provoke my brethren for good when I am not here?
- VII. Consider your soul
 - A. We can debate this all day but the fact of the matter is, if we are faithful we will be here
 - i. A faithful Christian has God as the number one priority
 - ii. If God is at the top then service will be our top priority for our time if, of course, we are able to come
 - B. Jesus discusses the wise and foolish man (Matt 7:24-27)
 - i. Notice both the men heard the saying but only one did them
 - ii. Great is the fall of the one who doesn't – the fall of the soul
- VIII. Consider your Savior
 - A. What if Jesus had been absent that Thursday night in the garden of Gethsemane?