

“Are We Ashamed to Be Christians?”

Mark 8:34-38

Introduction

- I. Each day, we must decide how to live our lives (Matt. 7:13-14).
 - A. We can choose to run with the multitudes (Exo. 23:2).
 - B. We can choose to run with fellow Christians (Heb. 12:1-2).
- II. It is sad to see brethren who are seemingly ashamed of serving their Lord (Luke 9:26).
 - A. Are we ashamed of God's Word?
 - B. Are we ashamed of living differently than the world?
 - C. Are we ashamed to suffer for the cause of Christ?

Discussion

- I. Are we ashamed of God's Word?
 - A. Are we willing to use Scriptures in our daily lives?
 - B. Do people know us as Bible toting, Bible quoting folk (Psm. 119:11)?
 - C. God's Word is life giving (John 6:68; Heb. 4:12; Rom. 1:16).
 - D. Will we fight for God's Word to be upheld (1 Tim. 1:18-19)?
- II. Are we ashamed of living differently than the world?
 - A. Do we fear “standing out” from others (2 Cor. 6:17)?
 - B. Is the acceptance of the world our motivator (1 John 2:15-17)?
 - C. We should look to Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah for examples (Dan. 1:8; 3:10-30).
 - D. Our lives should be lived in such ways that the world can see the difference (Titus 2:8; 1 Pet. 3:16).
- III. Are we ashamed to suffer for the cause of Christ?
 - A. First century Christians were willing to suffer (1 Pet. 4:12-13; 2 Tim. 3:12).
 - B. Paul is perhaps the “poster child” of being willing to suffer (2 Cor. 11:23-30; 2 Tim. 1:8, 12; Phil. 1:20-21).
 - C. Are we willing to give all for the cause of Christ (Rev. 2:10)?

Conclusion

- I. Are we ashamed to be Christians?
- II. Is Jesus ashamed of us (Heb. 2:11-12; Matt. 10:32-33).