



The
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“Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men” (Matt. 4:19, NASB).

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“I Don’t Know Enough Yet”

How often gospel preachers and other Christians hear these words from the lips of someone they are trying to persuade to obey the gospel. And in most cases, the statement is false.

The apostles of the Lord went out among pagan people who had never even heard the name of Christ or God. They preached *one* gospel sermon; and so simple is the scheme of redemption that these heathen people, the majority of whom were totally illiterate, understood and obeyed the gospel — by the uncounted thousands.

Perhaps in the very fact of their simple uncluttered paganism we have the answer. They had not been taught a lot of things about Christ that were not so; their minds were not cluttered and confused, bewildered, and befuddled by the “theologies” of men. With them it was a simple choice between Christ and paganism. It was not a choice between the relative importance of Christ’s commands — whether some of them were “essential” and others “non-essential.” It did not occur to them that any of His commands were non-essential. They were not bedeviled by the conflicting claims of parties and sects and schisms, each screaming its own excellence and anathematizing its fellows.

The honest soul who holds back from obeying the Lord today because he thinks he “doesn’t know enough,” should take a lesson from these early disciples. Come to the Word of God with the same open mind, the same desire to learn that those primitive peoples brought to the apostles’ words; the word of God is as brilliant and as clear in our day as it was in theirs. You will not be confused by claims of men; you will not read in God’s Word of a single one of the modern Protestant churches, any more than you will read of the Roman Catholic Church. There is not one word in the Bible telling anyone what to do to become a member of any of these human organizations.

If a man will divest his mind of all thoughts of this church or that church, this creed or that creed, and simply open the Book and do what it teaches him, God will “add” that man to the right church. He will not be confused; he will not be misled. If one knows that Christ is the Son of God, that His word must be obeyed, one knows enough to initiate his obedience—an obedience that will bring him step by step into full fellowship in the family of God — and eventually into heaven itself.

--- Fanning Yater Tant (1908-1998), via “Thought for Today,” March 22, 2023

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