

Hard Sayings of Jesus

Keith Dixon
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Gray

Introduction

1. Matthew 22:34-40
2. Both the Pharisees and the Sadducees were constantly trying to entrap Jesus and find something wrong with His teaching.
3. Both of these religious groups like the Confetti and Cymbals of what their religion had become Matthew 23:1-7; 15:1-9
4. Even some of disciples were caught up in “easy religion” John 6:59-71
 - a. Christ teaching were not hard to understand but hard to accept 1 John 5:3; Matthew 23:4
 - b. Note that Christ did not say, yes this is hard, therefore now I will make it easier for you
 - c. He did tell them that the spiritual man is more important 6:63
 - d. Thus we can understand the importance of what Jesus has said and we have recorded for us. Matthew 4:4; Hebrews 4:12; Luke 8:11; 1 Peter 1:23; James 1:18
 - e. When they realized they might have to change their lives, many of them quit. 6:66
5. There must be still some sayings that are hard for some today.

II Discussion of what must be hard sayings of Jesus for some today

1. That everyone is a sinner Romans 3:9; 23
 - a. The condition Ephesians 2:1-3, 11-12
 - b. The consolation Ephesians 2:1, 4-6, 13, 16
 - c. The contact The blood Revelation 1:5; Romans 6:3-4; John 19:34; Acts 22:16
 - d. What hinders you is a question that needs to be asked? Is this too hard
2. That everyone who is saved is added to the church Ephesians 2:13-16 (1:22-23); Acts 2:47; Mark 16:15-16
3. That there is a correct way to live Ephesians 5:25-27
 - a. What organization can take the place of the church in doing good works?
 - b. Helping others is a part of the church Acts 6: James 1:27; Galatians 6:10
 - c. What fraternal organization can take the place of the church 1 Timothy 3:15; 1 Peter 2:17; Ephesians 2:19; 3:15
 - d. Is this a hard saying if so why?

III Conclusion

1. These may be some hard sayings for some, not because they are not understood, but because we do not want to accept them.
2. We do not want to repent, change our lives 1 John 5:3
3. But if heaven is to be ours, we must accept these and all sayings of Jesus
4. Do you need to change from a sinner to a saint, become part of the family of God
5. Now is the time

Sources: Simplicity itself by Edwin Jones Karnes church of Christ preacher 5/8/05. Studies in John by Robert Taylor; Show us the Father by W.T. Hamilton.