

John the Baptist and the question, “What should we do?”

Many, in anticipation of the end of the world, came to John the Baptist and asked, “What should we do?” John answered back, “The man with two tunics should share with him who has none, and the one who has food should do the same.” To the tax collectors he said, “Don’t collect more than you are required to.” And to the soldiers he said, “Do not extort money and do not accuse falsely.” (Luke 3: 10- 15)

Thus, what then would a modern John the Baptist say on the same issue, if it were today? Beyond the fact that we should believe in Jesus and his Greatest 1 Command (1st John 3: 23), we believe he would say: “On an individual level, everyone should deny one’s self and seek the well being of the community.” To those who have personalized services and small retails he would say, “Give discounts more often.” And to the bigger services and merchants he would say, “Start lowering your prices, whether it is gas prices, house rentals, or even the price of milk. Remember what Spirit Airlines in Florida did on Sept. 11, 2002 when everyone flew for free; giving a new meaning to being “Free Spirited!” Still to others, he would also say, “Get involved with your nearest town meeting and voice yourself on how to make your community a healthier place to work and live.”

Therefore, like the original John the Baptist, we too are not so much for giving money to organizations to help people. It is important and we will still do it, but money being the main medium for action, tends to become a way for people to buy their way into the Kingdom of Heaven. Also, Jesus said you cannot serve both God and money. (Matt. 6: 24) Money won’t allow the kingdom to fully materialize on earth in the way God the Father and Jesus want. The poor widow who gave from her heart gave more than the rich who gave from their pockets. (Mark 12: 41-44) So, we would rather have people give of themselves by actually getting their hands and feet dirty through participating one on one with others, which is what Heaven will end up being anyway.

Moreover, if we humans put our ideas and hearts together, we will find answers deep within us. For example, we know of an organization where they give free medical assistance to those who cannot afford it on their own. They are called the “Open Door Health Center” in Florida City, Florida –USA. Their Tel. is (305- 246- 2400). Also, there is a Chiropractor who periodically collects food for the South American hungry children. It would be great to tell the Chiropractor about the Open Door Health Center and vice versa. By volunteering in some form, or just calling them to thank them and tell them that they are in line with the truth of the Gospel (Gal. 2: 14), it might help to reassure their faith, or increase faith. And maybe, by calling, they will come to the realization that Jesus’ 1 command is not hard to obey, because they have always been doing it. What we are trying to do is make connections, so that Jesus’ vision of “Heaven on Earth” will finally seem possible and take affect. The most famous remark given by the theologian Tertullian was his account of a pagan exclaiming, ‘See how these Christians love one another!’ (See: A History of Christianity pg. 36, by Owen Chadwick) Many do not know this, but the true first Christians who displayed Jesus’ 1 Command in action converted many to Jesus, and it was the driving force of the gospel, not the indoctrinating or arguing over some form of systematic theology.

Finally, all that is heard in the news is negative. Why not promulgate good and uplifting news, especially how people are interacting in a human way towards each other, as our “Truly Human God” acted towards the first Christians. We believe the internet web pages associated with Greatest-1-Command.com, Greatest1Command.com and the writings by Robert D. Brinsmead can be a good starting point. Also, be aware that some of the religious systems will persecute you as they did Jesus when he preached love, equality with himself, and “Heaven on Earth”. Let’s make connections, and tell others not to give up like the first Christians did when they got enslaved all over again in a system that went beyond “Jesus’ 1 Command”, towards too “Many Commandments”. (1st John 2:18)

Special Note: If here and now we do not make heaven on earth, then Jesus will come and make it work! He will first begin the public judgment in the house of God and expose people’s negligence towards their community, with the Pastors, Priest and Imams first in line. Last of all, Jesus chose ordinary people like fishermen, doctors, and tent makers like the Apostle Paul. Ordinary people are in the right position to preach, especially in the house of God without an adherence to a status quo, which is the last hindrance towards having heaven on earth. Jesus was a carpenter and he would have it no other way. In heaven we will all be Pastors, Priests and Kings. (Rev.1: 6) Therefore, whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven, and if heaven is on earth...it is time to use the Keys! (Matt.16: 19)

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