CHURCH LEADERS MUST BE

Ephesians 3:20, 21 reads, "NOW UNTO HIM THAT IS ABLE TO DO EXCEEDING ABUNDANTLY ABOVE ALL THAT WE ASK OR THINK, ACCORDING TO THE POWER THAT WORKETH IN US, UNTO HIM BE GLORY IN THE CHURCH BY CHRIST JESUS THROUGHOUT ALL AGES, WORLDS WITHOUT END. AMEN."

This is the third and final message on what church leaders should be. Every church and every pastor needs some people who are willing to step out and assume leadership and help lift part of the pastor's weighty load. There are certain qualities every leader must have or seek to acquire to be an effective leader for the Lord. Every pastor experiences heartache when he thinks of the people who are 'has beens' or 'would be' in the Lord’s work. So many people have the potential of being a great blessing to the Lord, their church and their pastor, but are not. Let us consider five other characteristics leaders must possess.

I. CHURCH LEADERS MUST BE COMPATIBLE.

Compatible with the people. Compatible means existing together in harmony. A leader must love the people and seek to work with them. He cannot compromise the truth or waver in conviction but he ought to seek to labor together in harmony. The believers in Acts 2:44 are described as having all things in common. They were in harmony with one another. People can work together if they seek to do the Lord’s work according to the Lord’s will. Leaders will not be able to work with everyone in harmony because some people want their way. They will do anything and everything to get their way. This is the height of pride and the depth of a stubborn spirit.

Compatible with the power. A leader must allow God’s Spirit to lead him and guide him. In our text Paul said God was able to do far for us above all that we ask or think. He does this, "...ACCORDING TO THE POWER THAT WORKETH IN US." Paul prayed for a thorn to be removed from his life. The Lord told Paul His grace was sufficient for him. Notice what Paul said, "...MAY GLADLY THEREFORE WILL I RATHER GLORY IN MY INFERIORITY, THAT THE POWER OF CHRIST MAY REST UPON ME," II Cor. 12:9. The Holy Spirit not only abides in the believer’s heart, but He also seeks to move us, motivate us and mold us into the image of Jesus Christ. A leader must be submissive and yielded to the Holy Spirit.

Compatible with the Provider. Jesus asks His disciples, "AND, WHY CALL YE ME, LORD, LORD, AND DO NOT THE THINGS WHICH I SAY?" Luke 6:46. A leader needs to be what the Lord wants Him to be. He does this by studying God’s word and applying it to his life. Paul wrote the admonition, "...BEBESEECH YOU THEREFORE, BRETHREN, BY THE MERCIES OF GOD, THAT YE PRESENT YOUR BODIES A LIVING SACRIFICE, HOLY, ACCEPTABLE UNTO GOD, WHICH IS YOUR REASONABLE SERVICE," Rom. 12:1.

Compatible with the position. Every person is not a leader. There must be a few leaders and many followers. A definite problem occurs when a person is not fit or suitable for the position he wants to occupy or is elected to occupy. A leader ceases to be a leader when he starts driving the people or forcing the people into service. People who
put on "airs" and pretend in leading should not be surprised to look around and not see people following.

II. CHURCH LEADERS MUST BE CONSISTENT.

Consistent in lip. Paul instructed the Ephesians, "LET NO COMMUNICATION PROCEED OUT OF YOUR MOUTH, BUT THAT WHICH IS GOOD TO THE USE OF EDIFYING THAT IT MAY MINISTER GRACE UNTO THE HEARERS," Eph. 4:29. The saved person and especially the leader has no business cursing, telling dirty jokes, continually griping and complaining, lying and misrepresenting the truth, or gossiping and backbiting. The Psalmist instructed us numerous times to praise the Lord and tell of all His wonderful works. "REJOICE IN THE LORD, O YE RIGHTEOUS: FOR PRAISE IS COMELY FOR THE UPRIGHT," Psalm 33:1.

Consistent in loyalty. Jesus said, "SEEK YE FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD, AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS: AND ALL THESE THINGS SHALL BE ADDGED UNTO YOU," Matt. 6:33. Paul said we are to glorify God in body and spirit because we are bought with a price, I Cor. 6:20. We are to live for Jesus because He lived and died for us, II Cor. 5:14,15. The secret to real joy is: J - Jesus first; O - Others second; Y - Yourself last.

Consistent in living. Paul wrote, "WHEREFORE, COME OUT FROM AMONG THEM AND BE YE SEPARATE, SAITH THE LORD...," II Cor. 6:17. Our talk and our walk must agree to be consistent. One Sunday School teacher taught a lesson on putting God first. He did not stay for church because he went home to be with his company. God's people who teach and preach the truth and then live contrary to the truth are not consistent. The old adage is still true, "O consistency, thou art a jewel."

III. CHURCH LEADERS MUST BE CALLING.

Call by telephone call. The telephone is a tremendous blessing. You can visit a friend or loved one just a few blocks away or thousands of miles away. God help us to use the telephone for making calls for Him. Anyone can take a few minutes to personally talk with the saint and the sinner for the Lord. In a day of unconcern and indifference people still need care and love expressed to them by personal call.

Call by personal car. The automobile is another great blessing. You can travel hundreds of miles away in one day. You can make 10-25 calls in one day for the Lord by visiting in your car.

A young man was called into the Army. He wrote his sweetheart every day for one year. At the end of the year his sweetheart married the mailman. A personal visit is far better than any other means of contact. Love for the Lord and man will move us to go and visit people for Him.

Call by persistent card. Our mail system is another great blessing. For a few cents you can send a written message to another state or across the world. It takes only a few minutes to write a card to remind and invite people to the Lord's house. Some people are pleasantly surprised to find a card, note or letter in their mail. They enjoy the message received. It is encouraging to me as a pastor to read a note or letter of love and appreciation.

IV. CHURCH LEADERS MUST BE CHALLENGING.

Challenge to goals. We should make putting Jesus first a supreme goal in life, Matt. 6:33. Paul wrote, "I PRESS TOWARD THE MARK FOR THE PRIZE OF THE HIGH CALLING OF GOD IN CHRIST JESUS," Phil. 3:14. It is easy to gripe and condemn the lack of sincerity and dedication, but it is needed for leaders to urge people on and strive to motivate them to greater things. It is almost impossible at times to strike the cords of motivation in some lives, but we must keep trying. When people are down and out and discouraged they need to be challenged by God's word.

Paul gives us the key to reaching and attaining a closer walk and a claiming of God's blessings and promises. He penned these words, "I HAVE Fought A GOOD FIGHT, I HAVE KEPT THE FAITH," II Tim. 4:7. "FOR TO ME TO LIVE IS CHRIST, AND TO DIE IS GAIN," Phil. 1:21. Paul was constantly reaching forth and pressing onward, forward, and upward for the Lord.


Paul had a great burden for the lost person, Rom. 9:2:10:1. The burden drove him to travel extensively on three missionary journeys and even to prison. Concern for the lost sinner and lingering saint should drive us untiringly to go, go and go for the Lord.

Challenge to grow. Leaders need to challenge God's people to grow spiritually, numerically, prayerfully and financially. We ought to want the Lord's work to grow. We need to see people saved and the saved serving the Lord. This will take the personal involvement of the Lord's people. If you won't go, we won't grow.

There must first be a personal growth. Peter wrote, "BUT GROW IN GRACE, AND IN THE KNOWLEDGE OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST...," II Peter 3:18. He also wrote, "AS NEWBORN BABES DESIRE THE SINCERE MILK OF THE WORD, THAT YE MAY GROW THEREBY," I Peter 2:2. God wants His people to grow from babes in Christ to mature adults. I once heard
of a boy who carried his bottle and was still sucking on it in the second grade in school. God's people must grow up before they can be used in a greater way.

As we grow personally we will want the Lord's work to grow. We will want to see the lost saved and the saved serving the Lord. We will not only want to see our church grow we will want to help her grow. Isaiah has the key to growth for the Lord's churches. Listen to Isaiah 6:8, "ALSO I HEARD THE VOICE OF THE LORD, SAYING, WHOM SHALL I SEND, AND WHO WILL GO FOR US? THEN SAID I, HERE AM I: SEND ME."

V. CHURCH LEADERS MUST BE COMMENDING.

Commend for work. It is refreshing to find someone who loves the Lord and shows it in his speech, action, and attitude. That person is indeed letting his light shine, Matt. 5:16. You can witness by living for Jesus when you are persecuted, tested, tempted, sick and even dying. Every person needs encouragement. Develop the art of commending people for their witness for the Lord. It will help you and them too. In each of the letters to the seven churches of Asia Jesus commended them for the good.

Commend for work. Jesus said to the church at Ephesus, "I KNOW THY WORKS, AND THY LABOUR, AND THY PATIENCE."

Rev. 2:2. Praise is not always a sign of pride or selfishness. It is when it is deserved. You can either complain or condemn the nine who did not show up or you can commend the one that did. God help every church leader to learn to give credit where it is due and commend people for their labors.

Commend for walk. People do not have to work for the Lord or live for the Lord. Paul said we ought to live for Him who died for us, I Cor. 5:14,15. Living for the Lord is basically voluntary with God's people. We choose to serve and live for the Lord. We need more like Joshua. "AND IF IT SEEM EVIL UNTO YOU TO SERVE THE LORD, CHOOSE YOU THIS DAY WHOM YE WILL SERVE:

WHETHER THE GODS WHICH YOUR FATHERS SERVED THAT WERE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE FLOOD, OR THE GODS OF THE AMORITES, IN WHOSE LAND YE DWELL; BUT AS FOR ME AND MY HOUSE, WE WILL SERVE THE LORD." God help us to tell people that we do appreciate their walking in the ways and word of the Lord. John said we have fellowship with Him and each other as we walk in the light, I John 1:7.

Lord, give us the grace to commend instead of condemn. The Sunday School Superintendent talks about the attendance being down. The young pastor chews the faithful few out for the attendance being down. We have a tendency to complain and gripe about things not being the way we want them to be. Such talk can even drag someone who is up down. God grant us the grace and strength to emphasize the good and to encourage those who are discouraged.

Be a leader for the Lord. Help your pastor and your church. Do not be satisfied to be on the sideline.

THE BELIEVER'S
IDENTIFICATION
BADGE

MUNCY HARRIS

Text: Hebrews 2:17

I. LOOKING AT CHRIST.
A. Look at Christ as Saviour of the world. John 1:29
B. Look at Christ as the author and finisher of our faith. Hebrews 12:2

II. LEANING ON CHRIST.
A. Leaning on Christ identifies the church with the Saviour. Song of Solomon 8:5
B. Leaning on Christ pictures fellowship and identifies us as His disciples. John 13:23

III. LISTENING TO CHRIST.
A. Listening to Christ identifies the sheep of the Great Shepherd. John 10:27

IV. LOVING LIKE CHRIST.
A. Loving like Christ is a new commandment. John 13:34
B. Loving like Christ identifies us as His disciple. John 13:35
C. Loving like Christ gives us assurance. I John 3:14

V. LIVING AS CHRIST.
A. Living as Christ makes us obedient. I John 2:5,6,8
B. Living as Christ will cause us to sacrifice. Romans 12:1

VI. LABORING WITH CHRIST.
A. Laboring with Christ is not a lonely existence. I Cor. 3:9
B. Laboring with Christ provides rest for the weary. Matt. 11:28

VII. LONGING FOR CHRIST.
A. Longing for Christ will transform you from the world. Phil. 3:20
B. Longing for Christ makes us anxious disciples. Rev. 22:20

ARE YOU A BELIEVER?
THE WAY TO BLESSINGS

In our lesson for today, we will be noticing Joshua 3:1-17 on the general subject, "THE WAY TO BLESSING." It is so important to keep in mind that the Jordan river here in this text does not stand for death as some erroneously teach. (Refer to first lesson introduction.) The crossing of Jordan illustrates the passing of a Christian from one level of Christian life to another. It involves the end of self-life and the beginning of the Christ-life. It includes the end of life by effort in all of it's stressness and strains to a life lived on the principles of obedience and faith. The reason we do not hear much teaching on this subject is that it takes all of the "glory" away from man and puts it where it rightfully belongs to the Lord. We like to pride ourselves and say that the reason that we are successful is because of our know how or our ability. We see so many today who are involved in the political arena of self-exaltation. Surely this must nauseate the Lord because this was exactly what caused the first sin. The Devil told Eve that if she would eat of the fruit from the tree she would be as god and wise. In other words he said, "You'll be SOMEBODY" -- the exaltation of self. This same thinking - self-exaltation was the thing that caused the Lord to intervene at the Tower of Babel. In Genesis chapter 11, Nimrod said "let us make us a name" - self-exaltation. God was displeased and came down and confounded their languages.

Today, so many are involved in their own selfish programs and plans and yet, seemingly nothing is happening. Surely God wants us to give of our best to Him, but if you think "your best" is what's getting the job done you're sadly mistaken.

Someone said we're trying so hard to "be Somebody" that we're allowing sophistication to sap the strength out of our spirituality. The Way to Blessing is learning how to OBEY the Lord and RESPOND BY FAITH in a positive way to His declarations. Then, when the blessings come or success is obtained, the Lord should get the Glory. This is exactly what the Lord is trying to teach Israel in the text. He told them to go into the land and promised He would be with them and drive out the enemy as they marched forward and obeyed His every command. You'll remember that previously they had failed - because they looked at themselves instead of the Lord.

So, as we make this study, keep in mind that the crossing of Jordan illustrates the passing of a Christian from one level of Christian life to another. Between these 2 different lifestyles lies a seemingly river of impossibility. In this lesson we'll notice the following:

I. THE COMMAND. Josh. 3:1-4
II. THE CONSECRATION. 3:5-6
III. THE COVENANT. 3:7-13
IV. THE CROSSING. 3:14-17
V. THE CONCLUSION.

I. THE COMMAND. JOSHUA 3:1-4
In verse 1 you notice the PLACE. They came to Jordan. In verses 2 & 3 you see the PLAN. They were to follow the ark. The ark was a symbol of the presence of the Lord. Then in verse 4 we see the PURPOSE of them following the ark. If it represented the presence of the Lord then they were to follow the Lord. It was to be their guide. There was to be a space between them and the ark. The purpose here being that there were so many of them that this distance was needed so that all of them would be able to see the ark.

II. THE CONSECRATION. 3:5-6
In verse 5 you notice the PURITY. They were to sanctify themselves. Not our possess-
ty," but rather it worked because they made themselves available by obedience to His Ability.

V. THE CONCLUSION.
The ark had to go in front of the people. Remember the ark symbolizes the presence of the Lord. The people had to follow. This is obedience and faith. Notice these verses as they relate to our Christian life today. Rom. 6:1-4 and Phil. 3:10-12.

You can claim the impossible by looking to Jesus. Look up I John 4:4 and Heb. 12:1-2. We need to get our eyes off of the problem and our abilities and get our eyes on Jesus. What is the impossible river that keeps you from the spirit controlled life?

Is it a bad habit?
Is it an unloving spirit?

Is it harsh judgments?
Is it that your feelings are easily hurt?
Is it the vindication of self?
Is it jealousy?

Whatever it may be - admit it - confess it as sin - step across in the power of the spirit and start learning that Jesus not only saved your soul but He wants to be LORD of your life! John 10:10

(continued from May)

THE "I'S" OF PAUL

Philippians 4:13
Galatians 2:20

LUTHER CRAWFORD

III. I AM APPOINTED AND ORDAINED A PREACHER (HIS CALL).
A. I am appointed a preacher, II Timothy 1:11.
1. Preachers are not to call themselves.
2. Preachers are not to be called by others, other preachers, family, or friends.
3. Preachers are called of God.
B. I am ordained a preacher, I Tim. 2:7, of the gospel of Christ.
1. I am separated unto the gospel, Rom. 1:1.
2. I am ready to preach the gospel, Rom. 1:15.
   a. A called preacher cannot be satisfied not preaching. Jeremiah an example, Jer. 20:9.
   b. A called preacher prepares to preach, he studies, the spirit guides, and as Paul said, "I speak the truth."
   c. A called preacher preaches the word in season and out of season, II Tim. 4:2.
   d. A called preacher fully preaches the gospel, Rom. 15:19; I Cor. 15:1.
   e. A called preacher preaches to himself, lest he be a castaway, I Cor. 9:27.

f. A called preacher's attitude is: "Woe is me if I preach not the gospel," I Cor. 9:16.
g. A called preacher is thankful to be a minister, I Tim. 1:12.

IV. I SERVE AND I SUFFER (HIS COMMISSION).
A. I serve God, II Tim. 1:3; Acts 27:23.
2. Some serve sin, divers lusts, and pleasures, Titus 3:3; Rom. 6:6.
3. Some serve the creature (something made), Rom. 1:25.
B. I serve with all humility of mind, Acts 20:19 (lowliness of mind).
1. The reward of humility is the fear (reverence) of the Lord, Proverbs 22:4.
2. There can be no honor before humility, Prov. 15:33; 18:12.
3. Put on, therefore, kindness, meekness of mind, meekness and longsuffering, Col. 3:12.
C. I serve in newness of spirit, Romans 1:9; 7:6.
D. I suffer.
2. I bear the marks of suffering, Gal. 6:17.
3. Paul listed those marks in II Cor. 11:24-33.
4. His re-action to suffering? II Cor. 12:10.

V. I HAVE GREAT HEAVINESS AND CONTINUAL SORROW (HIS CONCERN), Romans 9:2.
A. Paul's grief and burden was for sinners.
1. His own brethren in the flesh, Rom. 10:1.
2. He could wish himself cut off and separated from God for his own people, Rom. 9:3.
3. He was concerned for Gentiles, Rom. 15:15-16.
B. Paul's burden was for the saints.
1. I minister to the saints, Romans 15:25.
2. I teach the saints, I Cor. 4:17.
ARISE
AND
GO

D.B. WRIGHT

TEXT: Genesis 28:10-22; 35:1-4

INTRODUCTION:
A. God says IT IS HIGH TIME to arise!
   Romans 13:11,12
B. The time is RIGHT to go! John 4:9;
   II Cor. 6:2b; Eccl. 12:1
C. A lot of time had elapsed in the life of
   Jacob between Genesis 28 and 35, in fact
   above fourteen years.
   1. Jacob had been running for his life!
   2. Jacob had been reaping what he had sown!
   3. God hadn't forgotten His child! He knew
      where he was and what he was doing.
   4. Psalm 89:31-33
D. I wonder if God isn't making this same
   appeal to some of His children today?

I. ARISE AND GO UP TO BETHEL (The Place of Com-
   munion with God!)
   A. The place where you first met the Lord!
   B. The place where you first became acquainted
      with His promise to be with you. Gen. 28:15
   C. The place and time you made God some pro-
      mises. Gen. 28:22
   D. Go BACK TO BETHEL WITH A PURPOSE!
      1. To "dwell!" I Cor. 15:58
      2. To "build" there an alter:
         a. A place to commune with God in prayer.
         b. A place to worship God WHO IS WITH YOU.
         c. A place to worship God in SACRIFICE.
         d. A place to FEAST AND FEED YOUR SOUL WITH
            JESUS.
         e. To LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE FOR THE BENEFIT
            OF OTHERS. Luke 8:16
         f. To lift the hands of fellow-labourers.
            Hebrews 12:12,13.

II. ARISE AND GO HOME!!!!
   A. Some of the most needy mission fields are re-
      presented in the HOMES OF THIS VERY CONGREG-
      ATION!
   B. Mark 5:19
      1. There are children whose parents seldom en-
         ter a church building other than for a
         funeral or wedding!
      2. There are companions whose companions are
         either not saved or living out of the will
         of God!
   C. Go home and teach! Prov. 22:6; Ephes. 6:4
   D. God to Israel. Deut. 6:6,7

E. Think of the horror it would have been if
   Noah had gone on board the ark WITHOUT his
   wife; his sons; his daughters-in-law:
   1. What a shame that we spend YEARS OF
      LABOR...MUCH MONEY...TO HELP OUR LOVED
      ONES GET MEDICAL ATTENTION, EDUCATION
      AND NEVER MENTION GOD TO THEM!
   2. We will spend hours upon hours minis-
      tering to the physical, mental, needs
      and never mention God to them!
   3. We talk about the dangers of drugs,
      alcohol, snakes, storms, water,... but
      never mention the ETERNAL FATE OF A
      LOST SOUL!
   F. God said of the only man called "MY FRIEND!"
      Genesis 18:19
   G. God appeals to companions of lost compan-
      ions...conduct yourself in such a way so
      that...I Peter 3:1

III. ARISE AND GO TO THE PUBLIC!
   A. Jesus went to the place of public drinking
   B. Jesus stopped under a tree by the side of
   C. Philip ran in obedience to the Holy Spirit
      to a chariot. Acts 8.
   D. THE GOSPEL MESSAGE IS THE SINNER'S ONLY
      HOPE OF SALVATION!
      1. Romans 1:16
      2. Romans 10:17
      3. Acts 4:12
      4. John 14:6
   E. Jesus taught His followers to go. Luke
      14:21-23.
   F. The 3,000 saved on the day of Pentecost
      went "HOUSE TO HOUSE" and soon there were
      5,000 more!

IV. ARISE AND GO THROUGH "MISSIONS!"
   A. Mission work is the heart-beat of God!
      John 3:16
   B. Jesus said to His Church. John 20:21;Mark
      16:15; Luke 24:46-48; Acts 1:8
   Conclusion:
   A. Jacob responded to God's appeal!
   B. Who is God dealing with in this service?
   C. NOW IS THE TIME TO "ARISE, AND GO!" Right
      now during the invitation.
   D. Maybe you need the prayers of God's other
      children.

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THE WALKS OF A BELIEVER

R.L. BAILEY

Text: Ephes. 2:1-3

I. WALK NOT ACCORDING TO THE WORLD.
   A. Fulfilling the lusts of the flesh and mind.
   B. Walking as if they were dead in sins.
   C. Not to walk this way. II Cor. 5:17

II. WALK WORTHY OF THE VOCATION YE ARE CALLED.
   A. We are to live in a way that is in harmony with our calling.
   B. We are to be happy where God has placed us.
   C. With longsuffering and patience.

III. WALK NOT AS OTHER GENTILES WALK. Ephes. 4:17
   A. Vanity of man.
   B. Understanding darkened.
   C. Alienated from the life of God.
   D. Ignorant and blind of heart.
   E. Working all uncleanness with greediness.

IV. WALK IN LOVE. Ephes. 5:2

V. WALK AS CHILDREN OF THE LIGHT. Ephes. 5:8
   A. No longer in darkness.
   B. Light makes manifest. Gen. 1:2; Matt. 5:16

VI. WALK CIRCUMSPECTLY. Ephes. 5:15,16
   A. Means to walk accurately, or pointedly, having a purpose.
   B. Not as fools walk.
   C. Redeeming the time.

VII. CHRIST IS OUR EXAMPLE.
   A. He walked worthy of His vocation.
   B. He did not walk as others walked.
   C. He walked in love. John 3:16
   D. He walked circumspectly. Luke 19:10

THE UNEXPECTED STORMS OF LIFE

DANNY CHAPPELL

Text: Matt. 8:23-27

Intro. This event took place as the disciples were obeying the voice and command of Jesus. We do not expect the storms of life when we are obeying the direct will of the Master. However, sometimes they come anyhow.

I. THE STORM OF SURPRISE.
   A. It came when they were in the presence of Christ. V23
   B. It came when they were doing His bidding. V18
   C. It came in violent measure. V24
   D. It appeared that Jesus wasn't concerned. V24.

II. THE SAILORS OF UNBELIEF.
   A. The reason for their fear. V25
   B. The degree of their faith. V25
   C. How often do we doubt the Master even when we have His promises?

III. THE SAVIOUR OF REBUKE.
   A. He rebuked the disciples. V26
   B. He rebuked the storm. V26
   C. He is able to control the circumstances in our lives which we have little or no power over.

IV. THE SUBMISSION OF REBELLION.
   A. On the part of the storm. V26
   B. On the part of the disciples. V27
TWO GIFTS

Text: Matthew 26:6-13

I. THE GIFT OF MARY.
   A. COSTLY. 300 pence-1 year wage-expensive for this woman who had no husband.
      1. She already received gift of salvation from Jesus.
      2. She listened to Jesus, a Prophet of God.
      3. She sat at Jesus' feet her Priest and God.
      4. She anointed Jesus her King and Ruler in life.
      5. She knew Jesus' power. She knew He would die and rise again. She already had seen His power over death when Jesus raised her brother Lazarus from the dead.
      6. Her faith was strong. She gave her all to Jesus, yet she was the one who was bettered. It was better to have given it all than to have kept part back.
   B. Criticized. It smelled sweet to Jesus. It smelled wasteful to others.
      1. Judas spoke against the deed, but all thought the same.
      2. When it comes to large sums the flesh takes over, but when it is given in faith it is never wasted. To Jesus it was evidence of adoration.
   C. Commended. Mark 14:8 We also need to do what we can for Jesus.
      1. Jesus called it good.
      2. Is there any higher commendation than that?
   D. Commemorated. V13

II. THE GIFT OF GOD.
   A. It is costly. John 3:14-16.
   B. It is criticized. Matt. 26:57-68; Luke 23:1
   C. It is commended. Mark 1:11
   D. It is commemorated. Acts 20:7; I Cor. 16:2
       I Cor. 11:24-26

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