

January 2019 Newsletter



Sundays At 6:30 AM on



HONORING JESUS' WILL

By Vanny Chan

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Before Jesus died on the cross, He emphasized the importance of obeying His doctrines and commandments (**John 13:15; 14:15**). While on earth Jesus fulfilled all the prophecies that pointed to Him. Jesus is the prophet that Moses prophesied about and proclaimed to the Israelites. Moses taught that this prophet that we know as Jesus must be obeyed (**Deuteronomy 18:15-19; Acts 3:22-23; Luke 24:19**).

Jesus is the Son of God that came to die for our sins so that we could be saved and go to heaven to be with Him (**John 3:16**). Before his crucifixion, Jesus told his disciples what would happen and what they must do. He commanded them to go all over the world preaching the good news so that people can be saved from sin. Shortly before Judas betrayed Him, Jesus also established a memorial for His death and commanded His disciples to keep it in remembrance of Him. Let us read about Jesus' will before He died and return to Heaven.



Jesus taught His disciples to observe the Lord's Supper. Jesus said, *"This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me."* Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, *"This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you."* (**Luke 22:19-20**).

We find in Matthew's account, *"While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Take and eat; this is my*

body.' Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, 'Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins'" (**Matthew 26: 26-28**).

Imagine someone dear to you knew that he would be dying soon. What if he asked you to do something to remember him? If your dear friend was going to die so that you could live would you in return be willing to remember him in a special way? You would be eager to do whatever you could! How do you respond to the Lord Jesus, our Creator, Teacher, Lord, and Savior asking you to remember him in a special way? Would you be willing to do this? How should we keep Jesus' memorial? We must do it as the Bible said!

The Apostles had obeyed His commandments.

They saw Jesus with their own eyes, heard Him teach with their own ears, and they were guided by the Holy Spirit to write down

all He taught and commanded for every Christian to learn and obey (**1 John 1:1-3, 1 Corinthians 11:23**). Worshipping God is not based on our thoughts, on our wants, or on pleasing others. Worshipping God means doing what pleases God. Jesus said *"God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth"* (**John 4:24**). If you have changed, added, or taken away what has been written in the Scriptures, you are not abiding in the doctrine of Christ (**2 John 9**), and, sadly, you do not have Christ in you. And no matter whatever else you say or do to honor God, it is useless. Jesus says, *"These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. They worship me in*

1/6 Sermon #1178

Bible's Most Frequent Command

1/13 - Sermon #1179

Confessing Christ

1/20 - Sermon #1180

Bright and Morning Star

1/27 - Sermon #1181

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vain; their teachings are merely human rules” (Matthew 15:8-9). If you do not take true worship seriously, what does it benefit one to believe in Jesus, worship Him every Sunday, and tell others about him? Please read Matthew 7:21-23.

BE AN EXAMPLE IN WORD

By Cody Stone

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“Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity” (1 Timothy 4:12).

In this first letter to Timothy, the Apostle Paul plays the role of mentor and counselor to this young evangelist. He knows the many challenges Timothy faces as he immerses himself in a work that would be a challenge to older evangelists but which is especially challenging to a young man.

Earlier in the book, Paul has written to instruct Timothy about confronting false doctrine that will lead people astray, about dealing with the lawless and immoral, about the conduct of men and the dress of women, and about the selection and training of church leadership.

In this passage, however, Paul gets specific and advises the young evangelist about his own personal conduct that will have everything to do with his success in the great work he has undertaken in Ephesus.



The warning is clear and specific: if Timothy is not what he ought to be, no one will heed his teaching. He must maintain the respect of the people with whom he is working.

In fact, it is with this point that Paul begins this personal admonition to Timothy: *“Let no one despise your youth.”* He is telling him to be careful to live in such a way so that people will follow his lead for their spiritual lives. *“Give no one a reason to despise you because of your youth. Show yourself wise and capable in the work you’ve been called to do!”*

Paul doesn’t want people to look at Timothy’s life and say he is not living the principles he is preaching. If Timothy lives

carelessly and commits the sins of youth, people will say he is a hypocrite; and they will refuse to listen to him.

Specifically, the first point is that Paul warns Timothy he must be an example in Word. Since Timothy’s public speaking is addressed in verse 13, Paul is probably referring to Timothy’s private communication. The context would lead us to conclude he is advising him to avoid the sins of the tongue: don’t lie, don’t gossip, don’t allow innuendos of immorality to cross his tongue, just to mention a few.

As well, Paul refers to sound words when he writes to the Colossian church: *“Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.” (Colossians 4:6).* This idea is in line with Paul’s thought in 1 Timothy. He can be an example by speaking words that are gracious, wholesome, and palatable. As the blandest of foods can be perfected with just a dash of salt, our words can be delightful and pleasant to the hearers with just a dash of grace.

In the context of their long and emotionally strenuous dialogue, one of Job’s friends says, *“For the ear tests words As the palate tastes food” (Job 34:3).* The question every Christian should ask himself is... How do my words taste? If our speech is tasteful, we can rejoice knowing we have set forth a good example to our brethren and the world. If our speech is distasteful, we have given believers and non-believers alike reason to ignore us.

Solomon gives another way to be an example in Word: *“And a time to keep silence, And a time to speak” (Ecclesiastes 3:7).* Knowing when it is wise to speak and when it is wise to be silent is a lesson well-learned. King Solomon must have known this principle well since he emphasized it throughout his writings: *“He who has knowledge spares his words, And a man of understanding is of a calm spirit. Even a fool is counted wise when he holds his peace; When he shuts his lips, he is considered perceptive” (Proverbs 17:27-28).*

Of course, the most powerful message Paul has for the young preacher is to use words effectively in converting people to Jesus. With our words, we can show people a glimpse of Jesus, and that glimpse can make lasting changes in the lives of people who need it the most. All that power and responsibility is in the hands of those Christians who choose to care about their example, and it all starts with our words.



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