DISCIPLESHIP (PART 1)





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INTRODUCTION

A disciple means a follower or a person who believes in the teaching of a master. The disciples of Jesus Christ in His days on earth were of two groups. The first was made up of twelve, who were often referred to as apostles, while the second was made up of 120.

The testimony about Jesus is that His death did not terminate the existence of His followers, but they increased and stopped fighting His cause.

In this teaching, we shall look at the need for, the making of, and the expected traits of a disciple.

Bible Text: Matthew 10:1–42

NEED FOR DISCIPLES

Disciples are needed to carry on and accomplish Christ's mission on earth. The gospel that is being preached today is by Christ through His disciples (Mark 16:15–20).

THE MAKING OF A DISCIPLE

The making of a disciple entails:

- Deep hunger and desire for the knowledge of God (1 Peter 2:2)
- Kingdom responsibility being engaged in the house of God (Amos 6:1)
- Complete obedience to God's Word (Hebrews 3:12–14; 1 John 1–2)

TRAITS OF TRUE DISCIPLES

Jesus admonishes His disciples to possess the following traits:

- Love (John 13:34–35)
- Dedication (John 12:26)
- Total obedience (Titus 2:9; 2 Corinthians 2:9; Matthew 13:10–17)
- Sanctification (John 7:17–19)
- Brokenness (Galatians 2:20)
- Fruitfulness, i.e. winning souls for the Master (Jesus)
- Learning (Matthew 13:10–17)

CONCLUSION

Being a disciple is not a function of how long you have been saved, the number of years, or the title you carry in the church. One can grow into a disciple within months, while another may remain a convert, if not backsliding, for years.

Discipleship involves embracing God's kingdom responsibilities after the salvation experience, progressing from kingdom infancy to maturity (Hebrews 5:12–14).

About the Author

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