



God's Reward For Faithful Service

".... whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward" (Matthew 10:42).

Bulletin VCMT21

26 June 2019

"He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. 38 And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. 39 He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it. 40 He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me. 41 He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward; and he that receiveth a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward. 42 And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward" (Matthew 10:37-42).

God is a faithful father who never fails to reward those who diligently and sacrificially serve Him faithfully. Many today, operate on the wrong notion that since Christ has paid it all, we can just sit down passively and expect to have the best of heaven. They fail to recognise the fact that nothing goes for nothing, and that the path to excellence is paved with the willingness to take risks for God.

As part of preparing His disciples for successful ministry, Jesus opened their understanding to the price they must pay to achieve excellence, and also of the faithfulness of God to reward sacrificial service. These timeless principles, should guide our actions in every facet of life, and particularly in Christian service, if eternal reward is our goal.

1) "He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me" (vs 37). Love for God takes priority over every other loves. To be worthy of God, our lives should demonstrate that nothing can stand in our path to loving him. Learn from Paul's declaration "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?... For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other

"... He that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me" (Matthew 10:38).

creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:35,38-39). A writer once said that our level of commitment to God can be determined by what it takes to stop us. What could that be for you?

- 2) "And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me" (vs 38). The cross was a symbol of death. By this illustration, Jesus was teaching that commitment to him, should persevere through death.
- 3) "He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it" (vs 39). Self preservation is the enemy to progress. Many have lost not only their effectiveness, but also their reward through fear and self-preservation.
- 4) "He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me" (vs 40). God is represented on earth today by His ministers, therefore, receiving them (e.g. by obedience to their teachings, etc.) equates to receiving God.
- 5) "He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward; and he that receiveth a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward" (vs 41). God's reward for his prophets and servants, gets transmitted also to those who recognise and receive them.
- 6) "And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward" (vs 42). "For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister" (Hebrews 6:10).