Doing What Others Will Not Do Part #1

Tony Mauck · Ephesians 4:16

INTRODUCTION

- Wouldn't it be great if there was no war anywhere in the world, that all countries could get along with one another.
- Wouldn't it be great to have a home where there was never any conflict whatsoever?
- Some folks are baptized into Christ, and they think as a result of that, they're not going to have any problems anymore.

1 A Utopian View of the Life of a Christian

1 Peter 4:18; Hebrews 12; 1 Timothy 3:15

- It is with difficulty that the righteous are saved.
- Some people have this utopian view of the life of a Christian and not just the life of a Christian, but their involvement in the local church.
- Realistically, in the local church, everyone is not going to behave themselves as they ought.
- The fact is, some will struggle to live their lives consistently with the truth.

2 The Proper Working of Each Individual Part

Ephesians 4:16; Ephesians 5:27

- From whom the whole body being fitted and held together by that which every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part.
- God has an expectation of the proper working of each individual part in the body. If you're in the body, that means you.
- We've all been a part of congregations where the workload seems to be shouldered by less than 50% of the group.
- Shouldn't the goal be in a local church to render every person holy and blameless before God?

3 Settling for Less Than Our Best

- A lot of the times, the reason why it's not utopia starts right here. With the problems of me in particular.
- Well, then maybe we're settling for less than our best.
- Does God deserve our best or not?
- We will be held accountable not by what we determined that we are capable of, but what God believes we were capable of doing.

4 Jesus Did What No One Else Could Do

John 12:32; 1 Peter 2:22; Mark 3

- He not only did what others would not do, he did what no one else could do.
- He did no sin, neither was there any guile found in his mouth.
- All three of these examples of true leadership are accomplished in what we might call tough, nonconducive atmosphere.
- It's not really about them. It's about my determination. And that's what a true leader is all about.
- I can't supply your part for you.

5 The Example of the Prophets

Jeremiah 20; Hebrews 11

- Here's Jeremiah prophesying a message of doom to a people that God says they're not going to change.
- But he said, the Lord is with me like a dread champion.
- Sometimes these prophets didn't have a lot of allies as they proclaim God's message.

6 The Example of the Gentiles

Matthew 15

- Lord, I am not worthy for you to just say the word.
- There is a centurion standing there who says, certainly this was a righteous man, the son of the living God.
- The power of faith in your circumstances, whatever they are, no matter the opposition.

THE CHALLENGE

Do you have the determination this morning, if you're not a Christian, to rise above the average? And let the Lord elevate you to heavenly places in Christ by becoming a Christian.

MY NOTES