Get Behind Me

Ken Chapman · Matthew 16:13–24

INTRODUCTION

- If you're the type that seems to say the wrong thing at the wrong time, you can relate to Peter, can't you?
- He wasn't preparing reporters. He was grooming disciples. And so he said, But who do you say that I am?
- Peter understood clearly the person of Jesus Christ. But his next comment shows that he had no idea about the mission of Jesus Christ.

1 Even Believers Can Become Adversaries

Matthew 16:23

- He turned and said to Peter, get behind me, Satan. For you're not mindful of the things of God, but of the things of men.
- Even though Peter had some of it right, he did not fully comprehend nor appreciate what Jesus had to do.
- The word Satan means adversary. And so it is possible that what Jesus is saying to Peter is get behind me, you adversary.
- You are standing in the way of my mission, my work.
- But can I be standing in the way? If not of the person, then of the mission of Jesus Christ.

2 We Cannot Accept Part of Jesus

Matthew 23:23; 2 Peter 1:5–11

- We cannot accept part of Jesus without accepting everything He is and all that He demands of us.
- By its very definition, a disciple is a follower. In fact, a disciple is a learner and a follower.
- Peter learned the hard way that we can't have a one-dimensional view of Jesus. We can't have a one-dimensional Christianity.
- Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, for you pay tithe of mint and anis and cumin and have neglected the weightier matters of the law.
- Giving all diligence. Add to your faith virtue. And to virtue, knowledge.
- A Christian must do both. That our Christianity is not simply defined by what we don't do.

3 We Must Remember Our Place

Matthew 16:23–24

- He says both boldly and simply to Peter, get behind me. Get behind me, Peter.
- The word behind in verse 23 is the same word as after me in verse 24.
- If anyone desires to come after me, let him take up his cross and follow me.
- Not out front, leading and deciding. But our place is behind Jesus. Following. Obeying.

- There can be no crossless Christ, Peter. And then he turns to his disciples and says, There can be no crossless disciples.
- They were going to have to give up every aspect of their selfish will.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Are you a well-rounded Christian? Are you willing to be a follower? Whatever Jesus asks of you.**

MY NOTES