

MISTAKES MADE BY UNBELIEVERS

John 5:40

(Not entirely original with me)

Introduction: There are many, many, perhaps countless Christians, people who have placed their belief in the Lord Jesus Christ and have therefore received eternal life, been indwelt with the Holy Spirit and been given a special gift to be used in service for the Lord. However there are countless millions who for whatever reason have never believed in Jesus and therefore are not Christians. Why don't people come to the Lord Jesus when they are told about Him?

I. MISTAKES PEOPLE MAKE IN NOT BECOMING CHRISTIANS

1. There are many who WISH that they were Christians but are not.
 - Many wish for this and for that but it never happens.
 - Wishing does not replace WILLING.
 - Drunkards, druggies, etc., WISH they were sober and off drugs, but never does what is necessary to do so.
 - When a person realizes his/her condition in the eyes of God but does not make up his/her mind to become a Christian, it just does not happen.
2. Having a DESIRE to be safe and happy as Christians are, is not being WILLING to come to Christ.
 - Being anxious to be a Christian, having eternal life and a place in heaven does not replace TRUSTING the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - Desire does not replace obedience to the Lord Jesus Christ.
3. Being WILLING to do other things is not the same as a WILLINGNESS to come to Christ.
 - One can be willing to pray, read the Bible, to do good to others but it is NOT the same thing as being willing to come to the Lord Jesus Christ in faith and surrender, taking up one's cross and following Him.
4. Praying to come to the Lord Jesus Christ, praying that one might repent, praying for faith but never doing anything about it, never exercising one's faith, does not make one a Christian.
5. If one does not trust, he/she will not submit. If one does not accept the Lord's will or accept Him the way He asks, then one will become a Christian.

II. CORRECTIONS TO THE MISTAKES PEOPLE MAKE IN NOT BECOMING CHRISTIANS

1. The Holy Spirit is necessary to help one become a Christian.
 - The Holy Spirit can influence and persuade one to yield to what his/her heart/mind wants to do.
 - The Holy Spirit deals with a person's reason, conscience and feelings as a counselor does with one who is addicted to alcohol or drugs.
 - The Holy Spirit helps a person put steps to his/her wanting to become a Christian and actually put his/her trust in the Lord Jesus.
2. The Holy Spirit teaches, convinces, reproves, enlightens and draws the lost one into the steps of believing.

3. Many people are "waiting" to be made willing (converted). Once a person yields to the facts of his/her condition in God's eyes (lost and damned) he/she is to act, step out on faith in the Lord Jesus.
4. One's affirmation that he/she is willing to be a Christian but never taking the necessary steps can be fatal.
 - If one is willing but never acts, then all responsibility is upon that person, not upon anyone else.
 - **"...*Thy will be done on earth as it is done in heaven...*"** To refuse to accept Jesus Christ is to go against God's will. Who wants to go against God's will?
 - When a person sees his/her reason for being willing but not actually doing anything and overcomes that reason, then he/she will be saved.
5. Being willing but not feeling right keeps some from becoming a Christian.
 - Salvation is not based on a person's certain feelings.
 - Salvation comes when one accepts the fact that he/she ought to give it all up for the Lord Jesus.
 - Yield to one's persuasions of the truth about the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - It is not feeling a certain way that brings salvation but yielding to one's convictions about Jesus.

CONCLUSION:

1. People who are not Christians are stubborn and unbelieving.
 - They refuse to bow to the will of God.
 - They refuse to accept the atonement Jesus brought.
 - They refuse to accept the authority and will of the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - They don't want God as their king, ruler or Jesus Christ in their lives.
2. The Christian is to go to the lost unbelieving and present to try to help them understand exactly what it is to receive the Lord Jesus, why they should come to Him and when they do, what happens to them.
3. ***"...Whosoever will, let him/her take the water of life freely..."...The Spirit and the bride say come, and let him/her that heareth say, come, and let him/her that is athirst come, and whosoever will, let him/her take the water of life freely..."...Look unto me and be ye saved, all ye ends of the earth..."***
4. Unbelievers can come to the Lord Jesus Christ right now! Will you come?