

UNHAPPY CHRISTIANS

Genesis 34:25-31 Deuteronomy 10:8, 9 Joshua 13:29-33

Introduction: God chose Abraham from all others to be the one through whom He would build a nation that would worship Him. God also chose Moses to deliver His nation from slavery and to take them to a land that He had chosen. God then chose where each tribe would go within that chosen land. Fact: God chooses who His people are. God chooses what His people will do. God provides for His people when they are doing what He has chosen for them to do. The same fact applies to Christians. Many christians are unhappy, discontented with their lives. Why would a christian be unhappy?

I. MANY CHRISTIANS ARE UNHAPPY WITH THEIR LIVES

1. Lonely and unhappy lives are being lived by many christians.

- Hopes have been shattered, are in ill health, cannot seem to please anybody, marriage has failed, no home life at all, a single parent with children to raise, just feel unwanted.

2. If not careful, one may tend to become resentful and blame God for all his/her unhappiness.

- *"...but unto the tribe of Levi, Moses gave not any inheritance; for the Lord God of Israel was their inheritance, as He saith unto them..." (Joshua 13:33)*

- God separated the tribe of Levi from the other 11 tribes and gave them no land as He did the others.

- God gave the tribe of Levi something different. He called them to a life time of service to Him.

- God gave the tribe of Levi 48 cities to live in when they were not serving their Temple duties. They were to take care of God's Holy things.

- The tribe of Levi served as mediators between God and the other 11 tribes. They represented God where ever they went.

3. Many christians are called by God to such a life but don't know it, thus are frustrated and unhappy with their lives.

- When one is where God wants and is doing what God wants, then there are no frustrations, no resentments, no loneliness, no emptiness, no feelings of being useless.

- God has certain ones He wants to take care of worship things and to represent Him in the community.

- Look around, do you see some doing this? Are they happy?

II. NO CHRISTIAN HAS SUCH A BAD PAST THAT GOD CANNOT USE

1. Two brothers, Simeon and Levi, committed murder and were never forgiven by their father, Jacob. Why would God want to use these men, they had a bad past.
2. God is the one who cleanses hearts and restores shattered lives. Whatever has happened in the past is past and does not keep God from using that christian.
3. God turns things around and for Levi it was when Moses called from the side of Mt. Sinai for those who were on the Lord's side to come to him. Levi and all his tribe hurried over to Moses and thus to the Lord. His brother Simeon, however, did not.
4. Levi turned to God when things were bad. In the wilderness, not knowing where anybody was going, idolatry and sin all around him, Levi chose to go to God's side.
5. From the beginning God knew Israel would be His nation. Also from the beginning God has know who would become a christian and has watched that life from infancy to where it is now. God has never left His children and has plans for every one who believes and becomes a christian.
6. Remember christian, God has known you before you were born and has great plans for you.

III. FOR SOME CHRISTIANS, GOD HAS SIMILAR PLANS AS HE HAD FOR LEVI

1. Some feel that since not much is happening in their lives that could be God ordered, God must be punishing them for something and that they are disqualified to serve God.
2. Christian, remember, God has different things for His children. Not everybody is to do the same thing or to have the same thing.
3. God chooses what each person is to do for Him and nothing is "second best" where God is concerned. "A world wide know evangelist or a custodian in God's house" both are of equal importance if each is doing what God wants done.
4. Sometimes God has to bring in certain circumstances to get His children's attention, not as punishment, but to just get their thoughts back to Him.
5. Sometimes God does not allow some His children to have the same things as others because those things are not needed for what God has in mind for them to do for Him.

CONCLUSION:

1. Remember, God has something that only YOU can do for Him.
2. God also chooses some to serve Him as the tribe of Levi did, to serve Him full time.
3. If a christian is willing, God will give him/her something to do for Him.