

WHAT DISCIPLES SHOULD BE, WHAT JESUS EXPECTS

Matthew 28:16-20

By Raymond White

Many people claim to be disciples of Jesus who think that Jesus doesn't expect all that much of them. Actually, Jesus expects and demands a great deal of us. Here's a short list.

[1] BE AVAILABLE

Matthew 28:16 Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them

The first thing that Jesus expects of you is to be available, to be willing to go to wherever you are needed. Like the familiar church hymn, "I'll go where you want me to go, dear Lord." And where might that be? Well, he needed them on a mountain top for a conference. They came willing. He might need you to be at church instead of out boating, at home instead of out with the gang, on a mission, with a sick friend, at your job supporting your family, at your school preparing for your future. Wherever you go, whatever you do, just be asking yourself, "Is this where Jesus wants me to be?" And if Jesus needs you to be someplace else, be willing to interrupt what you are doing, and go there.

[2] WORSHIP

Matthew 28:17 And when they saw him they worshipped him.

Men do not deserve your worship — not kings, not prophets, not celebrities, not rich people, not employers, not politicians.

Angels do not deserve your worship. John tried to worship an angel and was reprimanded for it, *Revelation 19:10* And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not. I am thy fellowservant, and of they brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God...

Idols do not deserve your worship. That was one of the core grievances that God had with early Israel that led them to captivity. Following that captivity, no Jew would ever again bow to an idol. They had other problems, but idolatry was not one of them.

Finally, devils do not deserve your worship. That is the very thing Satan wants — *Matthew 4:9* ... fall down and worship me — and that is precisely the thing we should deny him.

Who then should we worship? God: *Matthew 4:9* ...Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. And Jesus: *Revelation 4:10* ...worship him who liveth forever and ever.

[3] SUBMIT

Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

Why would you resist that? All power. He controls everything. Wouldn't you want to be on that team rather than on the opposing team?

[4] OBEY

Matthew 28:19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

There's their marching orders: go, teach, baptize.

[5] TRUST

Matthew 28:20 Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.

So, what else do you need? What are you waiting for? He who has all power is with you always, so get on with it. Nothing else is needed. You're in his service? Then serve. You have everything you need to do whatever he needs you to do.