

JESUS CHRIST
JEHOVAH'S KING
DISCIPLESHIP

1. THE THOUGHTS OF NATURAL MAN

- A. MATTHEW 18:1-35 AT THAT TIME THE DISCIPLES CAME TO JESUS AND ASKED, "WHO IS THE GREATEST IN THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN?"
 - I. MEN STILL TRY TO CLASSIFY EACH OTHER AS TO POSITION AND REWARDS CONTRARY TO THE CONSTANT TEACHINGS OF JESUS.
 - (1) MATTHEW 20:20-28 THEN THE MOTHER OF ZEBEDEE'S SONS CAME TO JESUS WITH HER SONS AND, KNEELING DOWN, ASKED A FAVOR OF HIM. [21] "WHAT IS IT YOU WANT?" HE ASKED. . . . YOU KNOW THAT THE RULERS OF THE GENTILES LORD IT OVER THEM, AND THEIR HIGH OFFICIALS EXERCISE AUTHORITY OVER THEM. [26] NOT SO WITH YOU. INSTEAD, HOWEVER WANTS TO BECOME GREAT AMONG YOU MUST BE YOUR SERVANT, [27] AND WHOEVER WANTS TO BE FIRST MUST BE YOUR SLAVE-- [28] JUST AS THE SON OF MAN DID NOT COME TO BE SERVED, BUT TO SERVE, AND TO GIVE HIS LIFE AS A RANSOM FOR MANY."
 - (2) MATTHEW 23:8-11 "BUT YOU ARE NOT TO BE CALLED 'RABBI,' FOR YOU HAVE ONLY ONE MASTER AND YOU ARE ALL BROTHERS. [9] AND DO NOT CALL ANYONE ON EARTH 'FATHER,' FOR YOU HAVE ONE FATHER, AND HE IS IN HEAVEN. [10] NOR ARE YOU TO BE CALLED 'TEACHER,' FOR YOU HAVE ONE TEACHER, THE CHRIST. [11] THE GREATEST AMONG YOU WILL BE YOUR SERVANT.
 - (A) JESUS DOES ANSWER THE QUESTION! WHAT IS HIS ANSWER?

2. THE ANSWER

- A. MATTHEW 18:[2] HE CALLED A LITTLE CHILD AND HAD HIM STAND AMONG THEM. [3] AND HE SAID: "I TELL YOU THE TRUTH, UNLESS YOU CHANGE AND BECOME LIKE LITTLE CHILDREN, YOU WILL NEVER ENTER THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN. [4] THEREFORE, WHOEVER HUMBLING HIMSELF LIKE THIS CHILD IS THE GREATEST IN THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.
 - I. FIRST A NEW WALK WITH GOD!
 - (1) Psalm 19:7 The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul. The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple.
 - (2) Acts 3:19 Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord,
 - (3) James 5:19 My brothers, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring him back,
 - II. YOU CHANGE AND BECOME LIKE A LITTLE CHILD.
 - (1) CHILDREN DO NOT DESIRE AUTHORITY.
 - (2) DO NOT REGARD OUTWARD DISTINCTIONS
 - (3) FREE FROM MALICE
 - (4) ARE TEACHABLE
 - (5) DEPEND ON THEIR PARENTS [THOSE IN AUTHORITY]
 - (6) RENEW YOUR MIND DAILY

3. TREATMENT OF BELIEVERS FROM THE WORLD.

- A. MATTHEW 18:[5] "AND WHOEVER WELCOMES A LITTLE CHILD LIKE THIS IN MY NAME WELCOMES ME. [6] BUT IF ANYONE CAUSES ONE OF THESE LITTLE ONES WHO BELIEVE IN ME

TO SIN, IT WOULD BE BETTER FOR HIM TO HAVE A LARGE MILLSTONE HUNG AROUND HIS NECK AND TO BE DROWNED IN THE DEPTHS OF THE SEA. [7] "WOE TO THE WORLD BECAUSE OF THE THINGS THAT CAUSE PEOPLE TO SIN! SUCH THINGS MUST COME, BUT WOE TO THE MAN THROUGH WHOM THEY COME!

I. "AND WHOEVER WELCOMES A LITTLE CHILD LIKE THIS IN MY NAME WELCOMES ME."

(1) LIKE THIS!!!!

(A) WHAT IS JESUS SPEAKING ABOUT?

(I) A BELIEVER!

II. WANT TO WELCOME JESUS INTO YOUR LIFE?

(1) THEN WELCOME A CHILD "LIKE THIS" IN THE NAME OF JESUS.

(A) DO WE KNOW HOW STRONG THIS STATEMENT IS?

(I) DO WE BELIEVE IT?

III. HOW IMPORTANT IS IT NOT TO HARM A CHILD'S SPIRIT?

(1) NOW IMPORTANT OBSERVATIONS!

(A) CAN A CHILD OF GOD SIN?

(I) WHAT DOES GOD DO WITH THE CHILD WHO SINS?

(B) WHO IS GOING TO PAY FOR THE SIN?

(I) WILL THE PUNISHMENT BE SMALL?

1) JESUS WILL NOW GO INTO DETAIL OF WHAT HE WANTS US TO KNOW!

4. OFFENDING THOSE IN THE KINGDOM

A. MATTHEW 18: [8] IF YOUR HAND OR YOUR FOOT CAUSES YOU TO SIN CUT IT OFF AND THROW IT AWAY. IT IS BETTER FOR YOU TO ENTER LIFE MAIMED OR CRIPPLED THAN TO HAVE TWO HANDS OR TWO FEET AND BE THROWN INTO ETERNAL FIRE. [9] AND IF YOUR EYE CAUSES YOU TO SIN, GOUGE IT OUT AND THROW IT AWAY. IT IS BETTER FOR YOU TO ENTER LIFE WITH ONE EYE THAN TO HAVE TWO EYES AND BE THROWN INTO THE FIRE OF HELL.

I. HE IS STILL TALKING ABOUT THE SAME SUBJECT.

(1) SINNING AGAINST A CHILD.

(A) HOW IS A HAND OR FOOT USED AGAINST A CHILD?

(B) HOW IS A EYE USED AGAINST A CHILD?

II. WHAT DOES JESUS ADVISE PERSONS WHO DO THESE SINS TO DO?

5. THE WAY OF THE KINGDOM!

A. MATTHEW 18: [10] "SEE THAT YOU DO NOT LOOK DOWN ON ONE OF THESE LITTLE ONES. FOR I TELL YOU THAT THEIR ANGELS IN HEAVEN ALWAYS SEE THE FACE OF MY FATHER IN HEAVEN.

I. NOW IS THE REASON THAT ALL THIS IS SO IMPORTANT!

(1) A FATHER TAKES CARE OF HIS SMALL CHILDREN!

(A) AND IF THE CHILD'S ANGEL CAN NOT TAKE CARE OF THE PROBLEM, THE FATHER WILL.

6. THE LOST SHEEP, THE SEEKING SAVIOR

A. [11] FOR THE SON OF MAN IS COME TO SAVE THAT WHICH WAS LOST [12] "WHAT DO YOU THINK? IF A MAN OWNS A HUNDRED SHEEP, AND ONE OF THEM WANDERS AWAY, WILL HE NOT LEAVE THE NINETY-NINE ON THE HILLS AND GO TO LOOK FOR THE ONE THAT WANDERED OFF? [13] AND IF HE FINDS IT, I TELL YOU THE TRUTH, HE IS HAPPIER ABOUT THAT ONE SHEEP THAN ABOUT THE NINETY-NINE THAT DID NOT WANDER OFF. [14] IN THE SAME WAY YOUR FATHER IN HEAVEN IS NOT WILLING THAT ANY OF THESE LITTLE ONES SHOULD BE LOST.

- I. JESUS HAS COME TO SAVE THE LOST!
 - II. WHAT WAS LOST?
 - (1) MAN
 - III. IF A MAN OWNS A HUNDRED SHEEP, AND ONE OF THEM WANDERS AWAY, WILL HE NOT LEAVE THE NINETY-NINE ON THE HILLS AND GO TO LOOK FOR THE ONE THAT WANDERED OFF?
 - (1) WHAT DOES A MAN OWN?
 - (A) FIRST WHO IS THIS MAN?
 - (i) THE GOD HEAD!
 - IV. JESUS IS NOT WILLING THAT ANY ARE LOST!
 - (1) HE WILL DO ALL TO FIND THAT ONE THAT IS STILL LOST!
 - V. IN THE SAME WAY YOUR FATHER IN HEAVEN IS NOT WILLING THAT ANY OF THESE LITTLE ONES SHOULD BE LOST.
7. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THOSE IN THE CHURCH
- A. MATTHEW 18:[15] "IF YOUR BROTHER SINS AGAINST YOU, GO AND SHOW HIM HIS FAULT, JUST BETWEEN THE TWO OF YOU. IF HE LISTENS TO YOU, YOU HAVE WON YOUR BROTHER OVER. [16] BUT IF HE WILL NOT LISTEN, TAKE ONE OR TWO OTHERS ALONG, SO THAT 'EVERY MATTER MAY BE ESTABLISHED BY THE TESTIMONY OF TWO OR THREE WITNESSES.' [17] IF HE REFUSES TO LISTEN TO THEM, TELL IT TO THE CHURCH; AND IF HE REFUSES TO LISTEN EVEN TO THE CHURCH, TREAT HIM AS YOU WOULD A PAGAN OR A TAX COLLECTOR.
 - I. KEEP RELATIONSHIPS WITHIN THE CHURCH AS LONG AS POSSIBLE.
 - II. IF A PERSON WILL NOT LISTEN, HE SHOULD BE SHUNNED.
8. BELIEVERS PROMISED POWER
- A. MATTHEW 18:[18] "I TELL YOU THE TRUTH, WHATEVER YOU BIND ON EARTH WILL BE BOUND IN HEAVEN, AND WHATEVER YOU LOOSE ON EARTH WILL BE LOOSED IN HEAVEN.
 - I. WHO IS IN CHARGE ON EARTH TODAY?
 - (1) WHAT IS THE PROBLEM?
9. POWER OF TWO BELIEVERS
- A. MATTHEW 18:[19] "AGAIN, I TELL YOU THAT IF TWO OF YOU ON EARTH AGREE ABOUT ANYTHING YOU ASK FOR, IT WILL BE DONE FOR YOU BY MY FATHER IN HEAVEN.
 - I. WHAT IS THIS PROMISE?
10. UNDERSTANDING THE POWER OF JESUS!
- A. MATTHEW 18:[20] "FOR WHERE TWO OR THREE COME TOGETHER IN MY NAME, THERE AM I WITH THEM."
 - I. WHAT DOES JESUS SAY HERE?
 - (1) DO WE UNDERSTAND IT?
 - (2) BELIEVE IT?
11. LAW OF FORGIVENESS
- A. MATTHEW 18:[21] THEN PETER CAME TO JESUS AND ASKED, "LORD, HOW MANY TIMES SHALL I FORGIVE MY BROTHER WHEN HE SINS AGAINST ME? UP TO SEVEN TIMES?" [22] JESUS ANSWERED, "I TELL YOU, NOT SEVEN TIMES, BUT SEVENTY-SEVEN TIMES.
 - I. NOW JESUS SAYS WHAT SHOULD BE BOUND, AND WHAT LOOSED?

- (1) WHY?
 - (A) SEE THE ABOVE!
 - (I) CAN GOD TRUST WHAT WE SAY?
 - (II) DO WE USE WORDS IN SUCH A WAY THAT GOD CAN NOT GIVE US THE POWER THAT HE DESIRES WE HAVE?

12. FORGIVENESS: PARABLE OF THE UNMERCIFUL SERVANT.

- A. MATTHEW 18:[23] "THEREFORE, THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS LIKE A KING WHO WANTED TO SETTLE ACCOUNTS WITH HIS SERVANTS. [24] AS HE BEGAN THE SETTLEMENT, A MAN WHO OWED HIM TEN THOUSAND TALENTS WAS BROUGHT TO HIM. [25] SINCE HE WAS NOT ABLE TO PAY, THE MASTER ORDERED THAT HE AND HIS WIFE AND HIS CHILDREN AND ALL THAT HE HAD BE SOLD TO REPAY THE DEBT. [26] "THE SERVANT FELL ON HIS KNEES BEFORE HIM. 'BE PATIENT WITH ME,' HE BEGGED, 'AND I WILL PAY BACK EVERYTHING.' [27] THE SERVANT'S MASTER TOOK PITY ON HIM, CANCELED THE DEBT AND LET HIM GO. [28] "BUT WHEN THAT SERVANT WENT OUT, HE FOUND ONE OF HIS FELLOW SERVANTS WHO OWED HIM A HUNDRED DENARII. HE GRABBED HIM AND BEGAN TO CHOKER HIM. 'PAY BACK WHAT YOU OWE ME!' HE DEMANDED. [29] "HIS FELLOW SERVANT FELL TO HIS KNEES AND BEGGED HIM, 'BE PATIENT WITH ME, AND I WILL PAY YOU BACK.' [30] "BUT HE REFUSED. INSTEAD, HE WENT OFF AND HAD THE MAN THROWN INTO PRISON UNTIL HE COULD PAY THE DEBT. [31] WHEN THE OTHER SERVANTS SAW WHAT HAD HAPPENED, THEY WERE GREATLY DISTRESSED AND WENT AND TOLD THEIR MASTER EVERYTHING THAT HAD HAPPENED. [32] "THEN THE MASTER CALLED THE SERVANT IN. 'YOU WICKED SERVANT,' HE SAID, 'I CANCELED ALL THAT DEBT OF YOURS BECAUSE YOU BEGGED ME TO. [33] SHOULDN'T YOU HAVE HAD MERCY ON YOUR FELLOW SERVANT JUST AS I HAD ON YOU?' [34] IN ANGER HIS MASTER TURNED HIM OVER TO THE JAILERS TO BE TORTURED, UNTIL HE SHOULD PAY BACK ALL HE OWED. [35] "THIS IS HOW MY HEAVENLY FATHER WILL TREAT EACH OF YOU UNLESS YOU FORGIVE YOUR BROTHER FROM YOUR HEART."
- I. WHAT IS THIS ALL ABOUT?
- II. WHAT WERE YOU FORGIVEN?
 - (1) ARE YOU STILL KEEPING OTHERS UNDER BONDAGE BECAUSE YOU WILL NOT FORGIVE THEM?
- III. WHAT DOES GOD THINK ABOUT THIS?
 - (1) HOW GREAT WAS OUR SIN AGAINST GOD?
 - (2) HOW GREAT IS THE SIN OF OTHERS AGAINST US?
- IV. WHAT DOES JESUS SAY ABOUT ALL THIS?
 - (1) THEN THE MASTER CALLED THE SERVANT IN. 'YOU WICKED SERVANT,' HE SAID, 'I CANCELED ALL THAT DEBT OF YOURS BECAUSE YOU BEGGED ME TO.
 - (2) [33] SHOULDN'T YOU HAVE HAD MERCY ON YOUR FELLOW SERVANT JUST AS I HAD ON YOU?"
 - (3) [34] IN ANGER HIS MASTER TURNED HIM OVER TO THE JAILERS TO BE TORTURED, UNTIL HE SHOULD PAY BACK ALL HE OWED.
 - (4) [35] "THIS IS HOW MY HEAVENLY FATHER WILL TREAT EACH OF YOU UNLESS YOU FORGIVE YOUR BROTHER FROM YOUR HEART."
 - (A) DO YOU BELIEVE JESUS?