

Good for Nothing

Matt. 5:13

Introduction:

- A. “Good for nothing” — cf. Boy hired to be good.
 - 1. Things: Land, bitter milk, flavorless salt.
 - 2. People: Through moral and spiritual decay.
- B. “Good for nothing” means it does not serve its purpose.
 - 1. Flavorless salt may make a good path, but no good as salt.
 - 2. Christians might make good citizens, parents, etc, but no good as Christian.

Discussion:

II. CHURCHES that are “good for nothing”.

- A. Those built on wrong foundation. (1 Cor. 3:11)
 - 1. Doctrinal error.
 - 2. Factional spirit.
- B. Those with unscriptural practices.
 - 1. Worship.
 - 2. Work.
 - 3. Organization.

III. BAPTISMS that are “good for nothing”.

- A. Baptism without faith. (Mk. 16:16; Acts 8:36,37).
- B. Baptism without repentance. (Acts 2:38). - cf. Infant baptism.
- C. Baptism for wrong purpose. (Acts 2:38; 22:16).
 - 1. Baptized to join a denomination.
 - 2. Baptized to show salvation.
- D. Baptism by sprinkling or pouring. (Rom. 6:4).

IV. RELIGIOUS ENTHUSIASM that is “good for nothing”.

- A. Acts without proper authority. (Matt. 7:21-23; 15:9,13-14).
- B. Acts without proper motive. (1 Cor. 13:2,3; Matt. 6:1-6).

V. LIFE GOALS that are “good for nothing”. Ecc. 5:16

- A. Materialistic goals. (Mk. 8:36,37).
- B. Temporal goals: Wisdom, wealth, physical strength.
- C. Religious goals: Earthly kingdom, earthly utopia, etc.

VI. DISCIPLES (church members) that are “good for nothing”

- A. Lost influence for good. (Matt. 5:13).
 - 1. Through worldliness.
 - 2. Through unbridled tongue. (Jas. 1:26).
 - 3. Through ungodly attitude.
- B. Lost will to do good. (Luke 13:6-9).
 - 1. Do church no good.
 - 2. Do church harm -- better off without them. (v. 7).
 - 3. Good for nothing but to gripe, growl, hinder those who want to do good.

Conclusion:

- A. What are you good for?
- B. “Nothing” if not a faithful Christian.