

The Inconvenience of Christianity

Acts 24:24-25

Introduction:

- A. Felix's idea of Christianity.
 - 1. When convenient – at our leisure.
 - 2. Only if nothing else to do.
 - 3. Only after personal interests met.
 - 4. Still very much alive today.
 - 5. The “Convenience generation.”
- B. Obeying and serving God is not a matter of convenience for anyone

Discussion:

- I. It Was Not Convenient for *Jesus* (Phil. 2:8)**
 - A. Inconvenience of leaving heaven (Phil. 2:3-12)
 - B. Inconvenience of earthly life. (Luke 9:58; 2 Cor. 8:9)
 - C. Inconvenience of earthly mission (cf. Mark 6:31)
 - D. Inconvenience of the trial and crucifixion.
 - 1. Done willingly for us (cf. Matt. 26:51-54)
 - 2. Done to obey the Father (Heb. 5:8, 9; Phil. 2:8).
- II. It Was Not Convenient for *Early Disciples*.**
 - A. Discipleship not a matter convenience with Jesus (Lk. 9:59-62; 14:16-33).
 - B. Early disciples left all (Mark 10:28-31)
 - C. Spirit of sacrifice and duty in early church. (Acts 2:45; 4:18-20)
- III. It Is Not Convenient for the *Faithful Today*.**
 - A. Must not obey gospel, only if convenient (Acts 24:25).
 - 1. Convicted not concerned about convenient place
 - 2. Convicted not concerned about convenient time (cf. Acts 16:33).
 - B. Must not attend services, only if convenient.
 - 1. Paul waited seven days (Acts 20:6,7; cf. v. 16).
 - 2. Christians have assembled at inconvenient places.
 - 3. Some only if nothing else to do or nowhere else to be.
 - 4. Some only if they can come as they are.
 - C. Must not do other duties, only if convenient.
 - 1. Take care of own (family member) (1 Tim. 5:8).
 - 2. Rear children (Eph 6:4)
 - 3. Attending to needs of others (Jas. 1:27; Matt. 25:34-40).

Conclusion:

- A. What if Jesus had done only convenient things for us?
- B. What if our parents had done only convenient things for us?
- C. What if teachers/preachers had done only convenient things for us?
- D. We must get out of this “service only at our convenience” mind set.