

The Kind of Person The Lord Can Use

2 Tim. 2:21

Introduction:

- A. Suitability is important to any work.
 - 1. Secular Work: Doctor, Nurse, teacher, salesman, etc.
 - 2. Religious Work: Elder, deacon, preacher, Song leader, etc.
- B. Suitability is important to all the Lord's work.
 - 1. Ungodly are unsuitable. (v. 16,17)
 - 2. Unfaithful are unsuitable. (v. 18,19)
 - 3. Uncommitted are unsuitable. (Lk. 9:62).
- C. The person useful to the Master has two basic requirements:

Discussion:

I. A *Purged* Person: “If a man therefore purge himself...”

- A. God used patriarchs **after** they were purged from heathen.
 - 1. Abraham separated from idolatrous Ur. (Heb. 11:8).
 - 2. Moses separated from Egyptians. (Heb. 11:24-26).
- B. God uses us **after** we are purged from old sins. (cf 2 Pet. 1:9).
 - 1. Purged by blood of Christ. (Eph. 5:25-27; Rev. 1:5).
 - 2. Purged by our own obedience — “purge (cleanses) himself”
 - a. From love and practice of sin in repentance. (Lk. 13:3).
 - b. From guilt of sin in baptism. (Eph. 5:26; Acts 22:16).
- C. God uses us if we stay purged from sin. (cf. 2 Pet. 2:20-22).
 - 1. Keep selves unspotted from world. (Jas. 1:27; Jude 23; 2 Cor. 6:14-18).
 - 2. Keep applying the blood. (1 John 1:5-2:1; Acts 8:22).

II. A *Prepared* Person: “prepared unto every good work” (cf. Tit. 3:1)

- A. N.T. emphasizes readiness to work.
 - 1. Ready to give an answer. (1 Pet. 3:15)
 - 2. Ready to search Scriptures (Acts 17:11).
 - 3. Ready to preach. (Rom. 1:15; cf. Acts 8:4).
 - 4. Ready to share (give). (1 Tim. 6:17-19).
- B. N.T. emphasizes readiness “**every** good” work. (cf. 2 Tim. 3:17).
 - 1. Not just works considered to be “great” (cf. 2 Kings 5:13).
 - 2. But, also things considered to be “little” (cf. Lk. 16:10)
 - a. Woman with alabaster box. (Mk. 14:8).
 - b. Good Samaritan.
 - c. Widow indeed. (1 Tim. 5:10).
 - d. Judgment. (Matt. 25:35-40)
 - 3. Even works that go unnoticed by others (cf. Mt. 6:1)

Conclusion:

- A. Let us purge ourselves and be ready to work in order to:
 - 1. Be useful to Lord now.
 - 2. Be able to stand in the Judgement.