

Majoring in Minors

Matt. 23:23-24

Introduction:

- A. A farmer told new farm hand to grease his wagon. Farmhand greased everything but the axle.
- B. Pharisees “neglected weightier matters” by focusing on little things. Focused on gnat forgot camel.
 - 1. Should not have ignored little things — “these things you ought to have done...”
 - 2. Often not right versus wrong, necessary versus unnecessary — but matter of perspective.
- C. Martha was so focused on serving that she missed “one thing ... needed.” (Lk. 10:30-42).
- D. All the above majored in minors. There are areas where we may major in minors.

Discussion:

I. In Operating Our Homes.

- A. By putting housekeeping above home-keeping.
 - 1. Whole family benefit from hospitality at home (cf. Rom. 12:13; 1 Tim. 3:2)
 - 2. The Lord’s cause furthered by use of the home (Acts 16:15)
- B. When it comes family health and welfare.
 - 1. Food: Physical important, spiritual more important. (John 6:27)
 - 2. Exercise: Bodily profits — godliness profits more. (1 Tim. 4:8)
 - 3. Education: Secular knowledge and training needed — spiritual needed more.

II. In Preaching and Teaching.

- A. Style above substance - manner above material - delivery above delivered - Messenger above message - attitude above aptitude.
- B. What is taught is major consideration. (John 8:24; Acts 20:27; 2 Tim. 4:1-4; Phil. 1:18).

III. In Worshiping the Lord.

- A. Emphasis on performance, atmosphere, comfort, place, etc. — all good and helpful.
- B. Major consideration should be worshiping in spirit and truth. (John 4:24).

IV. In Choosing a Local Church.

- A. Christians are to be members of a local church (cf. Acts 9:26-28).
- B. Christians sometimes major in minors in choosing congregations.
 - 1. Too much attention to:
 - a. Socio-economic, numerical, peer make-up of the church.
 - b. Impressive facilities and organized activities.
 - 2. Too little attention to:
 - a. Scriptural and spiritual considerations.
 - b. Where can I (and my family) do the most good? (Matt. 10:28; Phil. 2:4).

V. In Working to “Making Disciples.”

- A. Baptism is important and essential to making disciples. (Matt. 28:18-20).
 - 1. Saves (1 Pet. 3:21)
 - 2. Takes away sin (Acts 2:38; 22:10).
 - 3. Puts one into Christ and the church (Rom. 6:3; 1 Cor. 12:13)
- B. Even here it is possible to major in minors by making baptism “*the* thing.”
 - 1. Too little emphasis on repentance (Lk. 24:47; Acts 17:30; 2 Pet. 3:9).
 - 2. Too little emphasis on teaching to “observe all things” — commitment.
 - 3. Too little emphasis on the life to follow baptism (Rom. 6:1-4).

Conclusion:

- A. Let us learn to put the emphasis where it needs to be in all things
- B. Let us seek to bring believers to repentance, then baptize them.