

TRUE APOSTLESHIP



There is a spiritual progression in the Christian walk with the Lord that should be seen in the life of the believer when they profess their faith in Christ as their Lord and Savior. In the Bible, we see 3 groups of people, each tasked with greater and greater spiritual responsibility.

The multitude which followed Jesus had many character traits that differed from the disciples and when you compared the characters of the disciples in the beginning of Jesus' ministry to the characters they had the Upper Room in Acts 1, they had matured in Christ even more! We believe Christ needs apostles, not just disciples, to be able to stand for Him in the time of trouble, when we will have no intercessor.

Christ bids all of us to be His disciples, but should we remain only disciples and not press toward the high calling to become apostles? Will Christ find faith on the earth when he returns (Luke 18:8)?

THE GREAT MULTITUDE

- (Mt 13:2, 14:14, 15:32, 21:8; Mk 3:7, 4:1; Lk 6:17, 14:25; Jn 6:2; Acts 14:1)

Matthew 13:2, Mark 3:7, 4:1	Followed Jesus at a distance, never cared to ask questions, such as "Why, Lord?"
Matthew 14:14, Luke 6:17, John 6:2	Received benefits of Jesus' love and grace for them (such as healing and miracles) even though they are unconverted.
Matthew 15:32	Did not know how to eat on their own, were reliant on Jesus to feed them, would go hungry if someone was not there to feed them spiritually.

Matthew 21:8	Were used of God to prepare the way for Jesus' entry into Jerusalem during Passover Week.
Matthew 21:46	Had a protective zeal for the Christ they thought He was, they were willing to kill for the Jesus they felt was going to free them from the Romans.
Luke 19:39	Was used to disguise the Pharisees as spies among the multitude to try to build a case against Jesus to kill him
Acts 14:1-4	Would go to evangelistic meetings just to stir up trouble with new converts and to sew division among the church

THE DISCIPLES

- (Is 8:16; Mt 5:1, 9:11, 9:37, 12:49, 13:10, 15:36, 16:13, 16:24, 17:6, 17:16, 21:1-6, 26:36, 40, 45, 56)

Isaiah 8:16, 20	Will bind up the testimony and seal the Law of God among themselves (Identification of a disciple)
Matthew 5:1	Sat at Jesus' feet to learn of him (they came to Jesus, they did not wait for Jesus to come to them)
Matthew 8:25	Knew their own helplessness and need of a Savior
Matthew 9:11	They were questioned by the Pharisees to explain the things Jesus did
Matthew 9:37	Were willing to labor in the harvest despite having little help
Matthew 12:49	Are considered the mothers, brothers and sisters of Christ, by Christ himself
Matthew 13:10-13	Sought to know the mysteries of God and took time to ask Jesus "Why" when they did not understand something

Matthew 15:36	Jesus gave to the disciples for them to feed the multitude
Matthew 16:13	Required to know who the Son of Man was
Matthew 16:24	Self Denial was necessary for spiritual progress
Matthew 17:6	Fear was still apart of their faith and spiritual walk
Matthew 17:16-17	Had limitations to their power/gifts, could not heal certain types of people with demonic possession (These kind require a greater faith, v17)
Matthew 21:6	Followed Jesus' commandments
Matthew 26:36, 40, 45, 56	In the time of trouble/hour of temptation, being a disciple is NOT enough, those who shall endure the hour of temptation that is to come upon the whole world (Rev 3:10), are called to come up higher in the ladder of spiritual progress than were the disciples, who failed to watch and pray with the Lord one hour at midnight in the Garden of Gethsemane

THE APOSTLES

- (Mt 10:1-2; Lk 11:46-49, 17:5, 22:15-20; Acts 1:1-8, 2:37, 2:42-43, 4:33, 5:29, 6:1-6, 8:8-22, 15:5-11, 16:4-5, 13-15, 16-18; 19:11-16)

Matthew 10:1-2	Disciple + Power (Exuasia) = Apostle
Lukee 11:46-49	They carried the burdens of others that the Pharisees refused to bare, and endured persecution by the leaders
Luke 17:5	Is always asking for God to increase their faith more and more and more

Luke 22:14-20	Understand Communion and partake of it in faith that they will do it again with their Lord in the new Jerusalem
Acts 1:1-8	Baptized with the Holy Spirit, —> Friends of God - Theophilus —> Go to the uttermost parts of the earth for the Lord
Acts 2:37	Preach with great power and conviction (those who listen to them are pricked in their hearts)
Acts 2:42-43	Required to teach doctrine and come to weekly fellowship and performed signs and wonders
Acts 4:32-35	Created unity among the congregation, not division and was responsible with money giving to those with the greatest need
Acts 5:19	Rely on angels for mode of transportation
Acts 5:29	Obey God rather than men
Acts 6:2	Practice discipleship over those younger than them, training them in the ministry
Acts 6:3	Appoint church business leaders and care takers of the widows
*Acts 6:4	Apostle's primary ministry is to give themselves continually to prayer and the ministry of the Word of Go
Acts 8:15-22	Responsible for the transmission of God's Power to others by the laying on of hands, such that the new believer may receive Holy Spirit, after the person was baptized.
Acts 15:5-11	Settled doctrinal disputes in the churches; here it was circumcision vs justification by faith

Acts 16:4-5	Establish churches in the faith and increase their number daily
Acts 16:16-19	Cast out demons
Acts 19:13-17	Are known by satan and his fallen angels for being too much like Jesus
1 Corinthians 4:9	Are made a spectacle unto the world, angels, and mankind
1 Corinthians 12:28, Ephesians 4:11	First spiritual gift of the New Testament Church
2 Corinthians 11:13-15, Revelation 2:2	Their works will be counterfeited by false apostles, men filled with demons working miracles
2 Corinthians 12:11	Christ is the chiefest apostle
2 Corinthians 12:12	Identifiers of apostleship: patience, signs, wonders, and mighty deeds
Ephesians 2:19-20	Responsible for laying the foundation upon which the citizens of heaven and the household of God is built on
Ephesians 3:3-6, Revelation 10:7	Are revealed the mystery of Christ of how the Gentiles should be made fellow heirs and partakers of the Promise
2 Peter 3:2	Are to repeat the commandments of the Lord
Jude 1:17-19	Prophecy of the mockers who have come in the last days who have not the Spirit
Revelation 18:20	God will avenge all evil deeds done toward any of his holy apostles
Revelation 21:14	The 12 foundations of the of the New Jerusalem are given the names of the 12 apostles of the Lamb → Tie in to the 144,000 who will finish the work began by the first 12 apostles of Christ.

