

Sermon Notes

Road to Jericho

“Who is My Brother?”

I. The call to be neighborly.

A. Mr. Rodgers?

1. Background.
2. His theology is reflective of the age and has now gained a hold on many within the church.

B. Key Text and numerous interpretation errors.

1. Matthew 25:31-46.

II. Exposition.

A. Expository errors.

1. Failure to note context.
 - a. Part of a grouping of parables concerned with judgment.
 1. The _____ virgins.
 2. The _____.
 3. The _____ and the _____.
2. Failure to identify the hungry and needy.
 - a. Leads to the social gospel (felt needs only).
3. Failure to understand Jesus’ usage of the first person.
 - a. Wrong conclusion – All men have spark of divinity.
 1. Rebuttal. Note Genesis 3:5.
 - b. Wrong conclusion – Global presence of universal religion is evidence of universal presence of Christ.
 1. Rebuttal. Note Romans 1:16-32.
4. Failure in concluding mankind is all a part of the universal fatherhood of God.
 - a. Matthew 25:40 – brother – Hence all men are brother.
 - b. Rebuttal. Universal fatherhood of God destroys the doctrine of adoption – Eph. 1:4-6.

B. Exposition of the text.

1. No question that God calls upon His people to care for the needy.
 - a. James 2:14-26.
2. Who are the brothers? verse 40.
 - a. Greek is *adelphos(oi)*.
 - b. Matthew is the only writer of this parable. He has previously signaled how to interpret the mercy of vs. 40.
 1. Matthew 12:46-50.
 2. He is referring to Christians in need.
 - a. Repeated in Mark 3:31-35; Luke 8:19-21.
 - b. Also see I Timothy 5:8.
 3. Error of Desmond Tutu and legions of others.
 - c. More examples.
 1. Matthew 23:8.
 2. Matthew 28:10,16.
 3. Look more closely at our main text – Matthew 25:32.
 - a. If a nation rejects a brother it also rejects Christ.
 - b. Note backdrop of Matthew 10.
 1. Concluding reading: Matthew 10:40-42.

III. Points for Reflection.

- A. The brothers of Matthew 25 is a reference to the people of God.
- B. In the course of carrying out this duty to present the truth brethren become hungry, thirsty, strangers, naked, sick, and imprisoned.
- C. But what about those in the world who are not Christians and suffer hardship? Do we turn a blind eye and deaf ear to their need? NO!
 1. Lev. 19:18,34; Luke 10:27; Rom. 13:9; Gal. 5:14; James 2:8.