

ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENTS

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287 Cincinnati Avenue
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Harvest Club Edition

Jn.18:3-11. Also Lk.22:50.

Peter cops a wrong attitude.

The proper attitude can often be obtained through adjustment.

I. Men Who Needed Attitude Adjustments.

A. Peter in the Malchus incident.

B. Peter later by Paul.

Gal. 2:11-15 *But when Peter was come to Antioch, I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed. :12 For before that certain came from James, he did eat with the Gentiles: but when they were come, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing them which were of the circumcision. :13 And the other Jews dissembled likewise with him; insomuch that Barnabas also was carried away with their dissimulation. :14 But when I saw that they walked not uprightly according to the truth of the gospel, I said unto Peter before them all, If thou, being a Jew, livest after the manner of Gentiles, and not as do the Jews, why compellest thou the Gentiles to live as do the Jews? :15 We who are Jews by nature, and not sinners of the Gentiles,*

C. Jonah after being swallowed.

D. The disciples who wanted to call down fire.

Lk.9:52-56 *And sent messengers before his face: and they went, and entered into a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for him. :53 And they did not receive him, because his face was as though he would go to Jerusalem. :54 And when his disciples James and John saw this, they said, Lord, wilt thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elias did? :55 But he turned, and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of. :56 For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them. And they went to another village.*

E. Paul in his persecution of Christians, prior to his conversion.

1. Fell out with Barnabas.

Acts 15:37-40 *And Barnabas determined to take with them John, whose surname was Mark. :38 But Paul thought not good to take him with them, who departed from them from Pamphylia, and went not with them to the work. :39 And the contention was so sharp between them, that they departed asunder one from the other: and so Barnabas took Mark, and sailed unto Cyprus; :40 And Paul chose Silas, and departed, being recommended by the brethren unto the grace of God.*

F. Madman of Gadara.

1. Naked, raving, disfiguring and fascinated with death

- G. Job.
 - 1. Wrongly attributed his calamities to God rather than Satan.
 - a. Hadn't taken into account his confession of fear.
 Job 3:25-26 *For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and that which I was afraid of is come unto me. :26 I was not in safety, neither had I rest, neither was I quiet; yet trouble came.*
- H. Elijah.
 - 1. Depressed, even after a great victory, considered himself the only Godly person on earth.
 1Kgs. 19:4, 18 *But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree: and he requested for himself that he might die; and said, It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life; for I am not better than my fathers. :18 Yet I have left me seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him.*

II. Attitude Makes A Difference.

- A. Your attitude toward circumstances, not the circumstance, determine victory or defeat.
 - 1. Effects your health and welfare.
 - 2. Pessimism versus optimism.
- B. Defines who you are.
 Prov. 23:7 *For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he:*
- C. Attitudes are contagious.
 1Cor. 15:33 *Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.*
- D. God will adjust your attitude if you don't.
 Hebr. 12:6 *For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, ...*
 1Cor. 11:31-32 *For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged. :32 But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world.*
 - 1. Paul blinded by the light on the road to Damascus.
 - 2. Jonah swallowed by a whale.
 - 3. Our children sometimes require attitude adjustments.
 - a. We have a responsibility to them. Their future depends on their attitude.

III. Adjusting Your Own Attitude.

- A. Protect your identity.
 - 1. Hebrew children of Daniel.
 - a. Names were changed by the enemy.
 - [1.] From Hananiah, “Gift of the Lord,” to Shadrach, “Command of Aku, the moon god.”
 - [2.] From Mishael, “Who is what God is,” to Meshach, “Who is as Aku is.”
 - [3.] From Azariah, “Who Jehovah helps,” to Abednego, “Servant of Nebo.” (The god of science and literature.)
 - [4.] From Daniel, “God is judge,” to Belteshazzar, “Prince of Bel. (Baal)”
 - b. Sadly, we still recognize these men by the wrong identities.
 - 2. If the devil can change your identity, he can control you and conform you to his will.
 - a. Your negative confession will transform you into his chosen identity.
 - [1.] Works both ways.
 - 3. Incorporate the confession of what and who God says you are into your lifestyle.
- B. Walk in forgiveness, repentance.
 - 1. Puts things in a different perspective.
 - 2. Destroys bitterness at it’s roots.

Hebr. 12:15 *Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;*

Matt. 3:10 *And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.*
- C. Walk in the Spirit (submission to the Word.)

Josh. 1:7-8 *Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest. :8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.*
- D. See yourself the way you God sees you. Blessed and victorious.
- E. Maintain a Biblical perspective in your relations to others.
 - 1. God, people.
- F. Walk humbly esteeming others above yourself .

Phil. 2:3 *Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.*

Conclusion: Develop an attitude of: **Gratitude. Confidence. Encouragement.**

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