

## The Marks of the Committed Christian

(John 13:31-38)

- I. An Unending Focus on God's Glory.
  - A. God's glory is wrapped up in His attributes.
  - B. At the cross every attribute of God was manifest in a way that had never been manifest before.
    1. The world and Satan threw all they had at Christ, and His **power** overcame it all.
    2. The wages of sin is death and that penalty had to be enforced, or God's **justice** would be compromised.
    3. Even though God loved Jesus with an infinite love, His **holiness** could not tolerate looking on the sins of the world.
    4. God had promised a Savior and, at the cross, God showed His **faithfulness**.
    5. The human mind cannot comprehend the **love** that would allow God to let His Son die for our sins.
  - C. The resurrection, ascension, and the exaltation of Christ are all important, but His greatest glory is yet to come.
- II. An Unfailing Fondness for God's Children.
  - A. Jesus' love is selfless, sacrificial, and forgiving.
  - B. Unfortunately, in the church there are often factions, splits, and cliques; people gossip, backbite, talk, and criticize.
  - C. We manifest visible love when we can go to somebody we have wronged and make things right.
    1. The wrongs we suffer are insignificant compared to what Christ suffered.
    2. No matter how serious the wrong you have suffered, love demands that you forgive.
- III. An Undivided Faithfulness toward God's Son.
  - A. Discipleship must go beyond making a vow to God, which we tend to do glibly and keep infrequently.
  - B. Discipleship demands a loyalty that holds up under every kind of pressure.
  - C. Four things made Peter fail his test of loyalty.
    1. He boasted too much. (Luke 22:31-33)
    2. He prayed too little. (Luke 22:45-46)
    3. He acted too fast. (Luke 22:50)
    4. He followed too far off. (Luke 22:54-62)
- IV. Conclusion
  - A. Perhaps the most significant thing we learn from Peter is that God can turn a life around when it is finally yielded to Him.
  - B. It wasn't too late for Peter, and it is not too late for you.
  - C. You may lack the marks of a committed Christian, but God can transform you into a true disciple if you simply surrender and let Him have your will.