

THE MAN BEHIND THE PLOW

Text: Luke 9:57-62.

INTRODUCTION:

1. It cost to be a disciple of Christ.
2. Many people are not willing to pay the price.
 - A. We lose 50% of the young people.
 - B. We lose 50% of the new converts.
3. Why do these people look back?

BODY: WHY DO PEOPLE LOOK BACK?

I. THEY HAVE BEEN OFFENDED.

A. By difficult truths.

1. Jn. 6:60-61 then 66.
2. 2 Pet. 3:16.

B. Because their ways are condemned- Matt. 15:12. **Then His disciples came and said to Him, "Do You know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this saying?"**

C. By another member- Gal. 5:15. **But if you bite and devour one another, beware lest you be consumed by one another!**

D. By hypocrites- Rom. 2:21-24.

II. BECAUSE THEY HAVE NOT BEEN FULLY CONVERTED.

A. Some are still disciples of their family.

1. Matt. 10:35-39.
2. Lk. 9:59-60.

B. Some have no convictions. They became a Christian for the wrong reasons- Jn. 6:26. **Jesus answered them and said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw the signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled."**

C. Some obey a form not from the heart.

1. Rom. 6:16-18.

2. Rom. 10:9-13.

3. Acts 8:37. **Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may."**

III. SOME LOOK BACK BECAUSE THEY HAVE LOST THEIR FAITH.

A. All of us must guard against sin.

1. Paul did- 1 Cor. 9:27. **But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.**

2. Peter sinned- Gal. 2:11-13.

B. Apostasy is possible.

1. Examples- 1 Tim. 1:19-20. 1 Tim. 4:1.

2. Many warnings, 1 Cor. 10:12 is only one.

3. Cure for apostasy- Gal. 6:1.

C. Why do they lose faith?

1. Rom. 10:17. Faith comes by hearing.

2. If they fail to study they lose faith.

IV. SOME LOOK BACK BECAUSE THEY LACK SPIRITUAL GROWTH.

A. They will not attend the services of the church- Heb. 10:25 **"Not forsaking the .."**

B. They constantly must be pampered- Matt. 13:20-21.

C. They are more interested in the past than in the present- Phil. 3:13.

V. SOME LOOK BACK BECAUSE WE HAVE FAILED THEM.

A. We have shown partiality.

1. Acts 10:34-35.

2. 1 Cor. 12:25.

3. There are no second class Christians. None are more saved than others.

B. We fail to edify them- Matt. 28:18-20.

C. We fail to put them to work leaving the house empty- Matt. 12:43-45.

CONCLUSION:

1. Why do some look back?

A. They have been offended.

B. Some are not fully converted.

C. Some have lost their faith.

D. Some lack spiritual growth.

E. Some we have failed.

2. Heb. 12:1-4.

3. You are the one behind the plow, which way are you looking?

4. Invitation:

A. Acts 2:38-41.

B. As a Christian Acts 8:22.