

21T11b Secret Agent Christians (Part 2)

Hello my friends. Thanks for joining me at the PUNLA Coffee Table. So, get your coffee or tea. Get comfortable and let's talk. If what I say is nonsense, then it's definitely from me. If anything I say brings you wisdom, then that's just God using me.

We are continuing the series I've titled "Secret Agent Christians". I heard a pastor talking about "Secret Agent Christians" recently. He was talking about two groups of Christians; Disciples and Secret Agents. He described the "Secret Agent Christians, as Saved Christians but not disciples of Christ. Those who have done the minimum required for entry to heaven. This really confused me.

So I set out to figure this out and I'm sharing my process with you. First I pray for guidance and allow God to seed my mind. Second, I use the internet and tools to scour the bible for the topic. Then I read and let God guide me. God will guide the process.

Last time we talked about what Jesus said in Matthew 13 in the Parable of the Sower and Matthew 7 in a passage where Jesus told people who thought they were believers, "I don't know you, depart from me". I ended the last session with a story from Bill Weiss. In the story, Bill told us that if we don't follow directions we probably won't get where we want to go. Bill also used a second story,

The Second story was more of a question. Pick a celebrity, anyone. Actor, athlete, wealthy person. Anyone. Go to their house and knock on their door. Tell them you are moving in with them. Just because you know about them and you are a good person. Do you think they would let you move in. Probably not. So why do we think Jesus will let us in, if we don't have a relationship with Him.

The moral is He, Jesus, knows the way to His house. And He will only let in those who He knows and has a relationship with.

The next thing I did was to clearly define our two categories. A Disciple is actively following Christ. Follow is an action word, so disciples have to be doing actions for Christ. "Secret Agents" are Christian in name only with little or no action to back it up. No fruit to show as evidence of their commitment to Christ.

I decided to see what the Bible says. Does the bible have two classes of Christians? I set out to research Disciples first. I did an internet search for "disciple in the bible." As with every internet search you have to discern the information. Here is the search results I got. I have marked the ones I choose to use.

Next I searched "Salvation in the Bible. Here is the search results I got. Again I have marked the ones I choose to use.

My reasons are I'm familiar with the sources. If it is a new source, I do a little research about who they are, other beliefs they profess. You must do this to make sure they are reliable sources. Here are a few I used for this research but again I test every source even those I know well.

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| a. www.biblestudytools.com . | e. abideandseek.com |
| b. www.openbible.info | f. www.crossway.org |
| c. biblehub.com | g. dailyverses.net |
| d. bible.org | h. bible.org |

So I look at each source for bible references only. I do not read the commentaries at this point. I make a list of scripture from these sources to review. Here is my list of scriptures to understand what a Disciple is and Salvation, I already screened out the calling of the apostles. And I concentrate on the gospels first.

DISCIPLE

- 1) John 21:17 Feed my sheep
- 2) John 15:18-19 World will hate you
- 3) John 8:12 Never walk in darkness
- 4) John 12:26 Must Follow Me
- 5) John 15:1-27 True Vine
- 6) Matthew 28:19-20 Great Commission (Mark 16:15)
- 7) Matthew 4:19 Fisher of men
- 8) Matt 25:1-13 Bridesmaids parable
- 9) Luke 13: 24-27
- 10) Acts 1:8 Witnesses for Christ Everyone everywhere
- 11) James 2:14-26 faith without works is dead

SALVATION

- 1) John 3:16-18 God so loved the world
- 2) John 5:24 everlasting life
- 3) 1 John 5:13; The Certainty of God's Witness
- 4) 1 John 2:3-6 test of knowing Christ (disciples)
- 5) Mark 16:16 He who believes will be saved
- 6) Acts 16:30-31 Philippian Jailer Saved
- 7) Ephesians 2:8-9 salvation by grace not works
- 8) Romans 10:9-10 How are you saved
- 9) Romans 1:16 The Just Live by Faith
- 10) Titus 3:4-8 Graces of the Heirs of Grace
- 11) Hebrews 6:4-6 Fallen away

So I selected 11 verses for each Disciple and Salvation. There are many others but I found these the most compelling. Then I just start reading. Remember the rules of bible study. Who, What, When and Why. Understand Who wrote it and who it was written to, What was the culture, what was happening, when was it written, Why was it written (purpose). I prefer to always start with the words of Jesus and then work for there.

I'm going to stop here for today. I'll pick up our discussion next time with what the bible says. As we explore if there are really "Secret Agent Christians"

Let me close with a prayer.

Lord Jesus, thank you for putting me at a time in history when someone like me to research and study your bible with these amazing tools. I'm so thankful for your words in the bible and your promise to make it clear and to give us the wisdom we need if we only ask. I pray that the listener consider the big picture you are painting with all the words of the bible. Help them to see the full picture, not just a single brush stroke.

I pray these things in your name Jesus. Amen

Thank you for joining me at the PUNLA Coffee Table. If you liked the message, please click like. And Please Subscribe to our channel. Leave comments here, or our website or email me. I want your feedback so let me know what you think

Until next time at the PUNLA Coffee Table. God bless.