

Some Evils Christ Saw In The Lives Of The People

Intro: While Christ was on earth He saw many things. He saw some things that were good and some things that were evil. Today, let us notice some of the evil things that Christ saw in the lives of the people.

I. HE SAW SELFISHNESS IN THE LIFE OF HEROD.

A. Mat. 2

1. Herod was so selfish, he wanted only to protect his own interest.
2. He killed all the children in Bethlehem, from two years old and under.

B. Examples of Unselfishness.

1. Christ; Mat. 20:28 ²⁸ Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.”
2. The good Samaritan; Luke 10:30-37 ³⁰ And Jesus answering said, A certain *man* went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded *him*, and departed, leaving *him* half dead. ³¹ And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³² And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked *on him*, and passed by on the other side. ³³ But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion *on him*, ³⁴ And went to *him*, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵ And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave *them* to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee. ³⁶ Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves? ³⁷ And he said, He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise.”
3. Paul; Phi. 3:4-8 ⁴ Though I might also have confidence in the flesh. If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more: ⁵ Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, *of* the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless. ⁷ But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. ⁸ Yea doubtless, and I count all things *but* loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them *but* dung, that I may win Christ.”

C. Christianity demands unselfishness.

1. Mat. 22:39 ³⁹ And the second *is* like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.”
2. Phi. 2:3-4 ³ Let nothing *be done* through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. ⁴ Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.”

II. THE SAVIOR SAW CARELESSNESS IN THE LIVES OF HIS OWN MOTHER AND FATHER.

- ### A. Luke 2:41-52
- ⁴¹ Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the passover. ⁴² And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast. ⁴³ And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew not *of it*. ⁴⁴ But they, supposing him to have been in the company, went a day's journey; and they sought him among *their* kinsfolk and acquaintance. ⁴⁵ And when they found him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking him. ⁴⁶ And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers. ⁴⁸ And when they saw him, they were amazed: and

his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing. ⁴⁹ And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business? ⁵⁰ And they understood not the saying which he spake unto them. ⁵¹ And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart. ⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man."

1. They went a whole day's journey thinking Jesus was in the crowd.
2. After three days they found him in Jerusalem in the temple.

B. Often, we are careless with our most precious valuables.

1. Our children.
2. Our love.
3. Our friendships.
4. Our souls.

III. JESUS SAW INAPPRECIATION IN THE LIVES OF HIS NEIGHBORS.

A. Mat. 13:53-58 ⁵³ And it came to pass, *that* when Jesus had finished these parables, he departed thence. ⁵⁴ And when he was come into his own country, he taught them in their synagogue, insomuch that they were astonished, and said, Whence hath this *man* this wisdom, and *these* mighty works? ⁵⁵ Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? and his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas? ⁵⁶ And his sisters, are they not all with us? Whence then hath this *man* all these things? ⁵⁷ And they were offended in him. But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, save in his own country, and in his own house. ⁵⁸ And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief."

B. It caused Jesus to say, "A prophet is not without honour, save in his own country, and in his own house."

C. We may get so close to a thing that we cannot appreciate it.

1. Like the man who said, "I cannot appreciate the forest because of the trees."
2. Distance lends enchantment and value.
 - a. An expert is someone who lives 50 miles away and carries a briefcase.
 - b. An elder once said, "We are having brother So-and-So to come and hold us a meeting. He must be a good preacher because he lives so far away."

IV. CHRIST SAW INSINCERITY IN THE CONDUCT OF SOME OF HIS PROFESSED FOLLOWERS.

A. John 6:26 ²⁶ Jesus answered them and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled."

1. Christ had previously fed the 5,000 men with five loaves and two fishes.
2. They were now following Christ for the food.

B. In Mat. 6 Jesus teaches sincerity as the true motive in:

1. Giving; Mat. 6:1-4 ¹ Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven. ² Therefore when thou doest *thine* alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. ³ But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth: ⁴ That *thine* alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly."
2. Praying; Mat. 6:5-13 ⁵ And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites *are*: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. ⁶ But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly. ⁷ But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen *do*: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. ⁸ Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him. ⁹ After this manner

therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. ¹⁰ Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as *it is* in heaven. ¹¹ Give us this day our daily bread. ¹² And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. ¹³ And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.”

3. Fasting; Mat. 6:16-18 ¹⁶ Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. ¹⁷ But thou, when thou fastest, anoint thine head, and wash thy face; ¹⁸ That thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy Father which is in secret: and thy Father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly.”

V. OUR LORD SAW PARTYISM AND CEREMONIALISM IN THE RELIGIOUS LIFE OF THE PHARISEES.

A. Mat. 23

B. Our service to God must come from the heart.

1. Mat. 22:37 ³⁷ Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.”
2. John 4:23-24 ²³ But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. ²⁴ God *is* a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship *him* in spirit and in truth.”
3. Rom. 6:17-18 ¹⁷ But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. ¹⁸ Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.”

- #### C. Service from the lips out is in vain; Mat. 15:7-9 ⁷ Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying, ⁸ This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with *their* lips; but their heart is far from me. ⁹ But in vain they do worship me, teaching *for* doctrines the commandments of men.”

VI. JESUS SAW SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS PARADED IN THE LIVES OF THE PHARISEES.

- #### A. This caused him to speak the parable in Luke 18:9-14 ⁹ And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: ¹⁰ Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. ¹¹ The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men *are*, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. ¹² I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess. ¹³ And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as *his* eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner. ¹⁴ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified *rather* than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.”

- #### B. Far from being self-righteous John wrote; 1 John 1:8 ⁸ If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.”

- #### C. At best we can only say, “I count not myself to have apprehended” (Phi. 3:13 ¹³ Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but *this* one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,”))

VII. CHRIST SAW BETRAYAL IN THE LIFE OF JUDAS.

- #### A. Mat. 26:14-16, 47-50 ¹⁴ Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went unto the chief priests, ¹⁵ And said *unto them*, What will ye give me, and I will deliver him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver. ¹⁶ And from that time he sought opportunity to betray him.... ⁴⁷ And while he yet spake, lo, Judas, one of the twelve, came, and with him a great multitude with swords and staves, from the chief priests and elders of the people. ⁴⁸ Now he that betrayed him gave them a sign, saying, Whomsoever I shall kiss, that same is he: hold him fast. ⁴⁹ And forthwith he came to Jesus, and said, Hail, master; and kissed him. ⁵⁰ And Jesus said unto him, Friend, wherefore art thou come? Then came they, and laid hands on Jesus and took him.”

B. In deception Judas kissed Jesus.

1. That which could have been the whitest the kiss has gone down in history as the blackest because the motive was wrong.
2. Nations have their Benedict Arnold's, and Christianity has its Judases.

C. Many today betray Christ.

1. For money.
2. For popularity.
3. For the pleasures of sin.

VIII. CHRIST SAW LYING IN THE TESTIMONY OF THE FALSE WITNESSES.

A. Mat. 26:60 ⁶⁰ "But found none: yea, though many false witnesses came, *yet* found they none. At the last came two false witnesses," **They misrepresented Christ.**

B. Many false witnesses misrepresent him today by misrepresenting His Word; 2 Pet. 2:1-3 ⁴¹ "But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. ² And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. ³ And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not."

IX. JESUS SAW THE CROOKEDNESS OF POLITICS IN THE JUDGMENT OF PILATE.

A. Mat. 27:17-26 ¹⁷ "Therefore when they were gathered together, Pilate said unto them, Whom will ye that I release unto you? Barabbas, or Jesus which is called Christ? ¹⁸ For he knew that for envy they had delivered him. ¹⁹ When he was set down on the judgment seat, his wife sent unto him, saying, Have thou nothing to do with that just man: for I have suffered many things this day in a dream because of him. ²⁰ But the chief priests and elders persuaded the multitude that they should ask Barabbas, and destroy Jesus. ²¹ The governor answered and said unto them, Whether of the twain will ye that I release unto you? They said, Barabbas. ²² Pilate saith unto them, What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ? *They* all say unto him, Let him be crucified. ²³ And the governor said, Why, what evil hath he done? But they cried out the more, saying, Let him be crucified. ²⁴ When Pilate saw that he could prevail nothing, but *that* rather a tumult was made, he took water, and washed *his* hands before the multitude, saying, I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye *to it*. ²⁵ Then answered all the people, and said, His blood *be* on us, and on our children. ²⁶ Then released he Barabbas unto them: and when he had scourged Jesus, he delivered *him* to be crucified."

B. Statesmanship follows the course of right; politics pursues the course of popularity.

C. We must keep pressure methods and political maneuvering out of the church.

X. THE SON OF GOD SAW CRUELTY IN THE LIVES OF THE SOLDIERS.

A. Mat. 27:27-31 ²⁷ "Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the common hall, and gathered unto him the whole band *of soldiers*. ²⁸ And they stripped him, and put on him a scarlet robe. ²⁹ And when they had platted a crown of thorns, they put *it* upon his head, and a reed in his right hand: and they bowed the knee before him, and mocked him, saying, Hail, King of the Jews! ³⁰ And they spit upon him, and took the reed, and smote him on the head. ³¹ And after that they had mocked him, they took the robe off from him, and put his own raiment on him, and led him away to crucify *him*."

1. Cruelty.
2. No sympathy, no tenderness.

B. Eph. 4:31-32 ³¹ "Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: ³² And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."

- C. **1 Pet. 3:8-9** ⁴⁸ Finally, *be ye* all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, *be pitiful, be courteous:* ⁹ Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing.”

XI. CHRIST SAW INGRATITUDE IN THE LIVES OF THE NINE LEPERS WHOM HE HAD HEALED.

- A. **Luke 17:11-19** ¹¹ And it came to pass, as he went to Jerusalem, that he passed through the midst of Samaria and Galilee. ¹² And as he entered into a certain village, there met him ten men that were lepers, which stood afar off: ¹³ And they lifted up *their* voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us. ¹⁴ And when he saw *them*, he said unto them, Go shew yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed. ¹⁵ And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God, ¹⁶ And fell down on *his* face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷ And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where *are* the nine? ¹⁸ There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger. ¹⁹ And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole.”
1. Only one returned to thank Him.
 2. It seems today most people are not very thankful.
 3. They think they have everything coming to them and that the world owes them everything.
- B. **Col. 2:7; 3:15** ⁴⁷ Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.... ^{3:15} And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.”

Conclusion: What does Christ see in your life?