

Questions and Answers #37

The Attitude of Christ no. 3

Brian Kocourek, Pastor

December 2, 2007

This Morning we will continue with our study on the Attitude of Christ. This will be number three in our series.

This morning I want to focus our attention on point number four of the five points concerning the attitude of Christ. Thus far as we have examined the attitude of Christ, or we have seen that an attitude is not a mental conception, Or something that just resides in the mind. The actual definition of the word attitude strongly suggests to us that it has to do with the body and an outward expression of your thoughts, feelings, etc. which are displayed using the body or body language.

***Spiritual amnesia 64-0411 P:29** So we find out when this spiritual amnesia get a-hold of the people, then they're in a bad condition. Now, we find the same now. Now, You must be identified. **Somewhere you must show, your life shows, tonight, where you are identified.** You are identified either in Christ or out of Christ. You are not halfway. There's no such a thing as a drunk sober man. There's no black white bird. You're either a saved, or you're not saved. You're a saint or a sinner, one or the other. And **your spiritual attitude towards God's Word identifies you, exactly where you're standing.** God's Word vindicated, proved, that the baptism of the Holy Ghost is just the same as it ever was on the day of Pentecost, or any other time. And Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. And your attitude towards that identifies whether you have spiritual amnesia or not. That's right. No matter whether you're a deacon, or even if you're a preacher; it doesn't make... They get it too. So we find out it's contagious, and hits the whole thing.*

***Palmerworm cankerworm caterpillar locust 53-0612 P:26** The way I treat you, that's my attitude towards God.*

Demonology 1 Physical 53-0608A P:23

I take it myself, and before God as my Judge, I put it in the Gospel work yonder, so I know that on that day that I'll--when I will have to give an account for my stewardship, it's given correctly. That's exactly right, 'cause I realize as I treat the people I'm treating God. Just my attitude towards you is my attitude towards Christ. And your attitude towards me is the same thing (That's right.), towards Christ.

Thus far we have examined three points concerning the Attitude of Christ, or perhaps I should say, the attitude of Christ that we should have, and in doing so we have seen, what an attitude is and what the right mental attitude is. We found that there is only one right attitude and that is what God thinks about it, and His actions toward the object of the attitude. We found that Jesus Christ came to earth to display to the world God's attitude towards the world, the sinner and the Seed of God. We found that the right mental attitude will produce what it is meant to produce.

We examined the Scriptures, and took a handful of people in the Scriptures and examined their reaction to the Word of God. Their reaction to the promises of God was their attitude towards God and His Word, for He is the Word. We showed by many infallible Scriptural proofs that the right mental attitude towards any divine promise of God will bring it to pass.

We also examined **Hebrews 11**: and we read of many examples of men and women who displayed the right mental attitude towards God's word and we saw how they received the thing God had promised them.

Painted face Jezebel 56-1005 P:12 The Bible says that they were examples in Hebrews 11. And on over in 12 it says, in Hebrews,... seeing that we're compassed about with such a great cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin that doeth so easily beset us,... that we might run with patience the race that's set before us, Looking to the author and finisher of our faith;... (the Lord Jesus Christ.) Now, if we see what God did back there to those people, upon certain attitudes that they taken towards God, and then if we find out if we'll take the same attitude that they did, we will receive the same reward that they did. You can just expect, 'cause God never changes. He's just the same. His blessings is the same, and His penalties is the same. And Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Last Sunday we also showed you why we must have a right attitude? Because the attitude is what brings the results. If you do not come with the right attitude you will never get anything from God except a rebuke, and hardship. And that is the way it is with anyone in life. You all know that raising children. That is one of the first things you teach your children, is to have a right attitude towards others and to have respect for Mom and Dad, and authority. And that is the way it is with God.

So you see the importance of our attitude and the atmosphere that it creates. We set an atmosphere by the attitude we express by our body language, and the tone of our voice, and the way we look and the way we posture our body. Body language means something to people, and it means something to God. It expresses our attitude.

This morning I wish to speak on point number 4) and that is **how our attitude affects those around us.**

Hebrews Chapter 7 part 1 57-0915E P:86 Your attitude towards Christ will make a great impression on what your children will be. Your life that you live before your family will make an impression on what your children will be. 'Cause the Bible said that He'd visit the iniquity of the parents upon the children to the third and fourth generation. Now, just a few moments before closing. And therefore if perfection... (There's your perfection again.)... were by the Levitical priesthood, (for under it the people received the law,) what further need that there come another priest should rise after the order of Melchisedec, and not be called after the order of Aaron?

Look at the attitude of Lot and look at the effect of his testimony to his sons in law. The Bible said when he begged them to leave, he appeared to them as though he were one that mocked. In other words,

GENESIS 19:14 *And Lot went out, and spake unto his sons in law, which married his daughters, and said, Up, get you out of this place; for the LORD will destroy this city. But he seemed as one that **mocked** unto his sons in law.* (the word mocked here speaks of jesting or play acting. It was the way he said it to them that they doubted his sincerity, they thought he was only kidding, and it cost them their lives.) **15 ¶** *And when the morning arose, then the angels hastened Lot, saying, Arise, take thy wife, and thy two daughters, which are here; lest thou be consumed in the iniquity of the city. 16 And while he lingered, the men laid hold upon his hand, and upon the hand of his wife, and upon the hand of his two daughters; the LORD being merciful unto him: and they brought him forth, and set him without the city.*

Discernment of spirit 60-0308 P:1 *Our heavenly Father, I want to express if I can this morning, how in my heart I feel towards One, the holiest of Holy coming down to the earth and to redeem a sinner like myself. And I'm sure that these ministers that's present now can feel the same way, that it was by Your grace that we have been made the ministers of this covenant that Thou has given with Adam's fallen race. And we are here this morning, Father, gathered for no other purpose but to know and to study to know, rather, the will of God and what we must do to make Christ real to the people of this generation. **Knowing surely that in the day of the judgment we will be brought face to face with this generation.** And, being ministers, we will be judges. And the people to which we have spoken to, and **their attitude towards the Word that we bring them, will determine their eternal destination.** Therefore, Lord, in that day we would be a judge for or against the generation that we preached to.*

Notice the attitude they take towards the Gospel that I preach will determine their eternal destination. Then how ought we to handle the word of God in such a way as to never knowingly provoke those who are listening to us to turn away from what we teach because of our own attitude towards them. You can preach the truth with a Sword and hammer or you can preach it with sincerity and humility and perhaps by the way you preach it, some might listen that would not have otherwise. And to realize that life and death lays in our hands as we teach the Good news.

How sincere ought we to be, and how consecrated to the truth ought we to be, that to know that the attitude people take when they hear this great Gospel of the doctrine of Christ, and if we should preach it with an attitude ourselves that would cause others to turn away, how they could end up eternally sealing their doom. Then it ought to be done with love, and sincerity and compassion, with all humility before God.

Demonology 1 Physical 53-0608A P:23 *I take it myself, and before God as my Judge, I put it in the Gospel work yonder, so I know that on that day when **I will have to give an account for my stewardship, it's given correctly.** That's exactly right, 'cause I realize **as I treat the people I'm treating God. Just my attitude towards you is my attitude towards Christ. And your attitude towards me is the same thing (That's right.), towards Christ.***

Angel and three pulls 51-0414 P:8 *Now, the people's attitude... Some people make up their mind, that when they come to the meeting, that they're coming to find something to criticize. Well now, Satan will be sure to show you that. If you come determined, you're going to find something good, God will show it to you. Now, **it's your attitude, dear Christian. And notice.***

God in His people 50-0227 P:3 And then, as I bring Christ to you, He will be on your hand. And you'll have to answer for what attitude you took towards it: if you turned it down, or if you accepted it. God will have you to answer for your attitude of this meeting, so you must realize **it's a very sacred thing.**

Jesus keeps all of his appointments 64-0418E P:97 Would you let Jesus set in this day? You say, "If I'd have been back there, if I'd have seen Him like that, I wouldn't have done that." What about it right now? **Your own present attitude identifies what you'd have done then. See? The attitude you take now,** you feel like that you're well enough? All right. That's between you and God. I'm not no judge. I'm just responsible for the Word. See? He's here in the meeting. They come out of churches too. But they're going in to settle it right now. That's all of it. They're ready. Why do you want to live a halfway Christian life for? **Either be for God, or be against Him, so the world will know your colors and know where you stand.** God bless them as they go. They're going in just like to die out to themselves. They're going to give their life. They're going to Calvary. They're going to be crucified to the things of the world, and the fashions of this glamorous day we're living in here. They're going to die to Jesus Christ, Whose Presence is here right now. They're going to die out to themselves, and be born anew to Jesus Christ.

You see how your attitude identifies who you are, and what you stand for?

Look at **Balaam**, and his attitude towards the children of Israel. Because he had his eyes so much on the money, his attitude blinded him from the reality of the Pillar of fire in the camp of Israel.

BLIND BARTIMAEUS 56-0407 E-65 Now, brother, that's all right. Now, we love the Lord Jesus. It happens to be tonight, a man is to start the prayer line off tonight. And we're happy to have this man standing here. He comes to proclaim that he's got faith in God. And he comes not for that, and then he comes this way, knowing that he believes me, as His servant. For what if he would be standing here as a hypocrite, or anything, and penned it. You know what would happen? Perhaps what he come saying, he'd take. How many knows that those things happen, that's been in my meeting? Oh, I've seen them stand in the prayer lines; they'd have to pack them out. I've seen them drop on the platform where they were standing. I've seen epileptics...?... and run through screaming and jumping, throwing their hands and everything else. I've seen them walk right there and drop there cold dead as could be. That's right. We're not playing church.

E-66 You remember that night at that--over there in Toronto, Canada, when that minister come to the platform, and he thought it was a mental telepathy. So he said, "What it is, if the person writes what they got on the prayer card," now imagine, writing their sin on...?... All right. Said, "Then he transfers it to... The usher picks up the prayer card, holds the prayer card, and meditates, and transfers it to them." And he come in the prayer card--in there with a whole lot of stuff on his prayer card, he had, TB, and a lot of things. He come up there; I said, "There's nothing wrong with you." He said, "Oh, look. Look at my prayer card." I said, "It's nothing to do with it. You're here trying to find out something. You think it's telepathy. Now, the disease that you put on that prayer card, is on your body." That's right. And when he did, I got a letter here about two years ago from him. He said, "Oh, Brother Branham, come to me." I said, "You see that man setting up there in the balcony with the red tie on, blue suit?

You and him set together last night a table, had a green cover over it. And a woman set over in the corner. And you said that you'd come prove that it was mental telepathy." And that man said, "That's the God Almighty truth. That's right. That's right." And the man grabbed me by the pant's leg, he said, "Pray for me, Brother Branham." I said, "That's between you and God now. It's out of my hands. He's done spoke it. That's you now." And the man's laying bedfast to this day. How about up here in New York, when that guy stood there trying to hypnotize me, make me bark like a dog? They had been around there hypnotism. And the Holy Spirit looked around and said, "You son of the Devil," said, "cursed be you." And he's paralyzed. That's right. Find out sometime. You see? How many remembers reading the book, that maniac that come to the platform that night? Ask the police force up there, see what happened. See? It's God, friends. Wake up. Believe.

Look how **Pharaoh's** heart grew harder each time Moses came with a demand to set the people free. Look at his arrogant attitude. Pharaoh is known throughout all history for his attitude and the display outwardly of his lack of respect for God.

And notice how that **Easu** is noted for his attitude towards the birthright and how he despised the birthright, and gave it away for a meal ticket.

CAN WE SEE JESUS 58-0619E E- *How many has been in meetings and seen impersonators come to the platform, fall right on the platform paralyzed and have to pack them out, and they're still paralyzed. Some of them lose their mind, and go completely insane, put them in the institution to die. See? Just depends on what the Holy Spirit says. The curse that He puts on them, that stays forever. See? So just watch now and find out whether it's right or not.*

And what about the **Pharisee** that invited Jesus to supper? What is that story written for in this Bible? It is to show us a comparison between having the right attitude and the wrong attitude. The Pharisee, had the wrong attitude towards Christ but the prostitute that came in and washed his feet expressed the right attitude.

And what about those 20 some students who would not bow their heads, and those demons entered into their bodies and they had to be taken out because they all came down with epilepsy?

DISEASES AND AFFLICTIONS 50-0100 158 *Might say, while he's getting the lines lined up, every one in here knows the... We're trying to say this, that you must be reverent. We will not be responsible... I have to say this by law every night. I am not responsible for any critic in the meeting. These things go from one to the other, especially epileptic and so forth like that. I've seen people come in the meeting perfectly normal; see a spastic setting here, and this spastic go out normal and the critic go out crippled. I've seen them come in as many as twenty-eight at a time, fall with epilepsy, in the floor. These demon powers will find a place to go. And, friends, that's the Bible. How many knows that's Bible doctrine? Let's see your hand. This is just the New Testament church in action, isn't it, friends? the power of Almighty God to deliver.*

EXPECTATION THE 58-0508 E-13 *Sometimes people are critical. It's because they don't know. If they don't know any better, then we feel sorry for those people, that they do not know any better. And it would be a horrible thing to think, friend... What if you were one of those*

people who were critical of Christ and did not believe? If you would've followed the meeting and noticed what would happen, of the people that's gone insane, died with cancer, set paralyzed, after the meetings were over... That is not just my word; that's authentic, on record, signed statements and documents. E-14 I've seen people in the meeting be paralyzed and have to be packed from the meeting, who come in laughing, cutting up. I've seen people who lost their mind, and two days later, found on the streets, officials of the city at Phoenix, Arizona, entirely insane, died the same way, calling for mercy and asking for someone to come pray for them. We do not play church. That day is over. We live in the church of the living God. So let us be reverent and have respects for God Who we worship.

***Jesus keeps all of his appointments 64-0418E P:52** If He could pull some kind of a gimmick, or--or--or do some kind of a--a miracle... Like He did before Pilate... Pilate, his only opportunity he ever had, and he asked Him, wanted to see something done, wanted to... "Let's see some sign." He ought to have repented. That's what this cruel, hell-bound world ought to do tonight, is repent of their sins. That's what these church members ought to do; repent of their unbelief, stand up for Him. He's the same yesterday, today, and forever. And **He identifies Himself just like He did then. And the people today take the same attitude as that Pharisee took, same kind of an attitude:** let Him set, after inviting Him. Yet, they don't want Him; they just do it, like, for manners. He knows it. We've done to Him today, just like they did then, instead of washing Him, washing His--the reproach away, instead of trying to stand up, saying, "You're mistaken. It's the Word of God made manifest. It's what He promised. He said He'd pour out His Spirit in the last days. We're living in the last days." Instead of that, we just kind of set back like they did. We're afraid to take a stand.*

Abraham is noted as the Father of our Faith , and yet it was his attitude that no matter what the circumstances might be, He was going to believe God despite what the flesh, and the circumstances might say otherwise.

And what about **Job**? Job is noted for having the right attitude. He said, though the skin worms destroy my flesh, yet in my flesh I shall see the Lord. When his wife told him to curse God and die the death, he told her she spoke like a foolish woman, and said, “though He slay me, yet I will trust Him.”

And what of **David**? He wasn't noted for being a righteous man. Neither was he noted for being a peace loving man. But he had the right attitude towards God and His Promises. And when he was wrong he admitted it and confessed his sin, and God forgave him. And God said, He is a man after my own heart. Look at his attitude when some of his men because of their great love and admiration for David cut their way through miles of flesh, just to get him a drink because he thirsted. And when they brought it back, he could not drink it because it was too precious for the reason that these men risked their own lives for it, so he poured it out to the Lord as a drink offering, sacrificing his own thirst for respect to God.

And what of **Joseph**? He never performed any miracles? He never healed the sick? He never preached a great sermon. Nor did he perform any feat of great strength. He never conquered the enemy through military genius, nor did he fight off the enemy with sticks, or stones, or even a sword. He never displayed the miraculous in any way, but what God showed us in so many verses of Scripture, is that Joseph was a man that had the right attitude towards God no

matter what his lot happened to be. He was no different in His opinion and attitude towards God when he was in prison or when he was second only to Pharaoh. What an attitude, when he certainly could have made the fool of his brothers and if he had wanted he could have taken their lives. But he had the right attitude, and he displayed it towards his brethren, and his attitude was a fore shadow of God's attitude towards us. He not only willingly forgave his brothers for selling him into slavery, but he knew that God had allowed it to bring him to Egypt so that he could be used to save the entire world of famine.

And why do you suppose the story of the **Shunamite** woman was written in the Bible? Because one little woman had the right attitude towards God's anointed.

And why do you think **Hattie Wright**'s name is so well known to the message believers in this day? Because her attitude was right towards God and His Servant. And look at the effect that, that woman had on Elijah, God's prophet for that hour. If it hadn't have been for her determination, and her positive attitude towards the promise of God, Elijah would never be known for praying for the young lad to come back from the dead.

And what about that **big colored woman down in Memphis** that brother Branham called aunt Jemima? The whole story of her waiting at the gate for Elijah to come and pray for her son, is right out of the pages of the old testament with the Shunamite woman calling for Elijah to come. And when she prayed, brother Branham said, I could tell she had talked with the Father quite often. That whole story speaks of a woman that held onto the right attitude towards God no matter what trial or tragedy that seemed to come her way.

And what if Jesus? What a great attitude he had. He was willing to let go of his own thinking and receive the mind of the Father. He said, not my will but thy will be done. He let go of his own desires, and thoughts, and speech and actions, and let God direct him in all things, even to his own death.

*Investments the 64-0314 P:20 The Bible said here that they were rich, said they had need of nothing. This young boy was rich, had need of nothing. "We're a fine denomination. We've got great orders built. We've got the brotherhood. We've got all this, that, or the other. We've had our creeds for the hundreds of years. We set... We have need of nothing. Don't tell us anything about it." Now, that's more of an arrogant attitude than this young fellow took. He didn't take that type of a attitude. The Bible said that Jesus looked upon him and loved him .I wonder today, if in the midst of all of our confusion and our worldliness, and yet trying to hold our Christian profession, if it isn't **the love of God that constrains the ministry** to stay on the field. I wonder if it isn't the same thing as here we find Him knocking at the door, trying to get in. Now, we find these things, they... All through the ages it's been this way.*

*Testimony 53-0902 P:9 And I told her what I'd just seen. I said, "I stood here and condemned you, and thought God ought to come in and tear the place up, with such as this going on. But I've changed my mind. God forgave me. And I want Him to forgive you." And right there at that seat, I led her to Jesus Christ. Amen. See? **It's your attitude towards things. Don't condemn others. If they do wrong, be good to them anyhow. Just look over those things. Because God's had to look over a whole lot for you and I.** That's right. God help us to have that attitude always in our hearts. You pray for me that I'll never look upon people like that no more. No matter what they're doing. That I'll always look up on them, that they're creatures of*

God. That God sent His Son to take their place. And me as a minister, I'm grateful that He forgive me. And I want Him to forgive them also. That's the way we should do it.

SPEAK TO THIS MOUNTAIN 59-1123 E-30 *The Spirit of the Lord came upon me and I begin to shake. And it said, the Spirit of the Lord said, "There is a trap set for you, and be thou careful what you say." ... And when we got to the meeting that night I said to the audience, "Remember, THUS SAITH THE LORD, there is a trap set for me. And all of you pray that I'll know to do the right thing when this comes to pass."*

E-31 *And the next night it happened. The devil sent in two people, a young boy and girl to break up the meeting. And that was in--it was in, not New Hampshire, but Vermont. Freddy, you remember the name of the city, it was the capital, what--of Vermont. And we were just across Lake Champlain. And so when we were in the meeting this boy... The girl looked like kind of a Mongolian girl. But the boy was just holding... They were both at least twenty-five years old apiece. But such immoral acts in a church... They were setting about like this from me. And when I started preaching, he would just grab her, and throw her head back, and climb up on her, and kiss her, and carry on, and just act awful in the meetings. And the ushers couldn't make him be quiet. And I said to him from the platform, I said, "Young man, don't do that; you're attracting the attention while I'm preaching." And he just laughed right out at me. I thought, "Oh, oh, there it is, there's the trap, right there."*

I went right ahead speaking just the same. And oh, he got so immoral with her, till I had to stop again. I said, "Don't do that, sir, please." I said, "If you want to make love to the young lady, then you leave the building, but this is a--a religious meeting." I said, "You shouldn't do that. Don't--please don't do that while I'm preaching." I started again and he just made it worse.

E-32 *And then when I was turn--I said, "Don't..." And Something said to me, "Say what you will, and it'll be done." I stood there. Mr. Mercier, the tape boy, and all of them standing, Brother Fred, and many of them standing present, the perspiration was just running from me. Something said, "Say, 'Blindness,' it'll be blind. Say, 'Death,' and they'll pack them out. Say what you will." I couldn't speak. I couldn't move. And it just left. I thought, "God, what--what must I do?" And I turned, and he stood there, and his face white, looking at me. I thought, "What must I say?" Then I turned, and looked like, before I knew what I'd said, I said, "I forgive you of your act." And it must have been just the right thing to say. It was God trying a--a reaction on an action. That night it was revealed to me that I'd said the right thing. I knew it was all leading to something, but what was it? What to do?*

You know you have to watch what with a Divine gift what you do with it. Remember what Moses did? So I must've said the right thing. "I forgive you." For you know John, young John, wanted to burn up Samaria one time because they wouldn't feed them. Jesus said, "You don't know what kind of a spirit you are. The Son of man came to save life, not to destroy it." And I... Them Scriptures just kept pouring over, all night. I didn't sleep. But that was a trap set that Satan would get me all worked up and then make me say the wrong thing. But the Holy Spirit was there and told me beforehand to be careful what I said. Oh, the goodness of God, how it was. It... Just His mercy. "Be careful what you said." And from then on there was a relief come. Then about... I begin to notice the different things that I would speak out unconsciously, not knowing what I said, and it would happen that way. I begin to speak about it.