# The Importance of Teachers

The greatest teacher of all time - is the Lord Jesus Christ.

We want to consider some of methods He used, to be an effective teacher.

A teacher is an explainer, to help people understand matters with great clarity.

We want consider some of the styles Jesus used when he taught.

In every city where Jesus traveled, he the taught people,

Mt 9:35\* "And Jesus went about <u>all the cities</u> and villages, teaching in their synagogues." He was shaping their minds and thinking.

According to Luke 19:47\* He taught every day in the temple.

After the resurrection, he taught the men on the road to Emmaus.

Lu 24:27\* And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.

After his resurrection: He taught the 12 apostles "And he said unto them, These are the words which I spoke to you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me. Then he opened their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures," Luke 24:44,45.

Before he went back to heaven, He gave them The Great Commission - "Go, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: <u>Teaching them to observe all things</u> I have commanded you:" Matthew 28:19, 20, KJV.

After the resurrection - <u>The apostles taught everyone</u> Ac 5:42\* "And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to <u>teach</u> and preach Jesus Christ."

# Teaching is very important.

What you believe, affects our destiny, even our eternity.

Concepts, beliefs, have a spiritual force in them...affect the way we live.

They take us somewhere. As we have said before ...

Everyone in hell is there because of something they believed. Such as....

There's no hereafter. It doesn't matter what you believe. God loves all...

One Pastor said, once you accept Jesus, you can never be lost.

Even if you accept the mark of the beast, you cannot be lost.

Concepts, ideas, have a tremendous spiritual force in them.

The effect our lifestyle, our attitudes, and even our eternal destiny.

Only the truth can make us free, as it says in John 8:32: "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

Hosea 4:6 states, My people are destroyed [ruined] for lack of knowledge: People need understanding. They need things clearly explained to them.

People perish for <u>lack of knowledge</u>. Prov 29:18 "Where there is no vision, the people <u>perish</u>: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he."

The word "perish" here, means to cast of all restraint. To be careless!

People live carelessly when they don't have knowledge and understanding.

This is the reason <u>right teaching</u> is so important! Truth makes us free. Truth keeps us on course, keeps us safe, and takes us to heaven. Jesus taught eternal truth, eternal vision, <u>everywhere</u> he went. In every city that Jesus traveled to, he thoroughly taught them truth. We also are called to go and <u>teach</u> all nations, And we are to teach them <u>everything</u> that God has commanded us.

Isaiah 53:11 foretold the importance of knowledge: "by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities."

People perish because of the lack of knowledge.

Today, many theological schools are too intellectual. They use many technical words and terms that only an elite few can understand.

But what is the whole purpose of teaching spiritual truths?

It is not to show others how intelligent we are.

It is not to draw attention to ourselves, and our learning. No!

It is to take what is complex, and make it very clear and simple.

So clear, that even young children can understand it, and be transformed.

I always remember a few years ago, a lady who's giving a weather report.

She used many complex words to forecast the coming weather.

I hardly understood anything she said.

The key to being an effective teacher, is to make everything clear / simple. We need the anointing - spirit of understanding, of wisdom, of knowledge. Not large intellectual terms and words, that only a few can understand.

One author noted that Jesus spoke within a range of 600 vocabulary words. All his words were simple, uncomplicated words, a child could understand. For example:

"Forgive, and you shall be forgiven".

"Seek and you shall find".

"It is more blessed to give than to receive."

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy"

Jesus was the greatest teacher of all times. He was profoundly clear and simple. He spoke with words that were easy to be understood.

He could relate to dignitaries and leaders, or very poor people and beggers. Jesus adjusted his teachings to people on every level.

#### Jesus focused on Priorities - Mary and Martha.

"Mary, sat at Jesus' feet, and heard his word. But Martha was distracted with much serving, and came to him, and said, Lord, don't you care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her to help me. And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, you are worried and anxious about many things: But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her." Luke 10:39-42, KJV.

In this teaching, Jesus was emphasizing <u>eternal things we take with us</u>. As Mary sat at the feet of Jesus, listening to his words, something eternal was being imparted to her. Wisdom, understanding, vision, peace, his nature, and much more. Martha was too concerned with temporal things. Like ... having everything just right in the house.

Jesus taught often about heaven and hell. Being ready for the next life. What to invest in during this short life; (so should we when we teach). Not to lay up for ourselves treasures on Earth... they are temporary. But lay up for ourselves treasures in heaven... these are eternal. He taught on - Qualities of those who rank highest in heaven. Being great in the kingdom of heaven, or least important in the kingdom.

Jesus could say much in a few words. Example, in John 8, is the story of the woman taken in adultery. All religious leaders wanted to stone her. Jesus did not get into a long theological debate with them. He simply said: He who is without sin, let him cast the first stone.

They were all confounded, and all of them left the scene.

Jesus always got to the very heart of the matter.

Then he said to the woman, "Your sins are forgiven, go and sin no more."

He avoided meaningless, endless discussions, and arguments. He could say much in just a few words. Jesus taught with authority, not as the scribes, who only quoted intellectual theories.

## Jesus taught by contrast

He said: Those who go down the lowest, will be exalted to the highest. If you want to be great in God's kingdom, learn to be the servant of all. And he experienced everything that He taught. He went lower than any man, and the Father has exalted him above all.

# Most of His teachings were by contrast

No man can serve two masters: He taught - Get on one side, or the other. He compared: the children of light / the children of darkness

The Children of this world / the the Children of the heavenly kingdom

The Wheat and the Tares. / the redeemed and the unredeemed

If you were not with me / you are against me.

If you do not gather the harvest my way / you are scattering the harvest.

The five wise virgins / The five foolish virgins (Mt. 25:1-11)

The narrow gate / The wide gate;

The sheep / goats The good fish / bad fish

Seeking the praise of God / Or the praise and honor of men

Letting our light shine before men / Hiding our light under a cover.

Jesus taught, if you are ashamed of me I will be ashamed of you.

If you confess me before men, I will confess you before my Father

What is the point of all the teachings of Christ? There are only two ways. Either you are mine, or you are you are not mine. No in-between's. If you are not for me, you are against me. If you are ashamed of me I will be ashamed of you. Jesus wants a whole-hearted bride, without spot or blemish.

There are only two kinds of people in the world.

There are many races and languages, but only two kinds of people.

Those that belong to God, and those who don't.

Those that say yes to God, and those who ignore him or scorn him.

Remember the two criminals who were crucified on each side of Christ.

This is a picture of the human race.

One said yes to Jesus, and the other one said no.

God's precious blood was being shed for all the sins of the world.

God was offering forgiveness and eternal life to everyone.

But Only some respond to his generous offer.

One dying criminal said, Lord remember me when you come to your kingdom The other one mocked Jesus, and rejected him.

Jesus taught, get on one side or the other. Make your choice!

And be whole hearted!

Nearly all his teachings were by contrast.

Let us follow the methods of the master teacher. Amen!