

The Reward Of Welcome Reception

Matthew 10:40-42

Intro:

- A. **The Apostles would not serve the Lord in a vacuum.**
 - 1. They must go from city to city.
 - 2. They must go from house to house.
 - 3. This is not door-knocking per-se, it is going into a house that is worthy and using it as a place to teach those who would listen.
- B. **Not every city or house would welcome them.**
 - 1. Some would not value their message. V.13
 - 2. They were to absolve themselves and God by making a visible sign of having been rejected.
- C. **Jesus also taught the Apostles concerning those who would graciously receive them.**
 - 1. They would receive a reward.
 - 2. They would not lose their reward.

I. The Reception Of The Disciple.

- A. **"He that receiveth you receiveth me..." v.40**
 - 1. receiveth = δεχομαι = "to take to one's self what is presented by another or brought by another, to accept, embrace, admit, approve, allow. "It implies a subjective reception, showing that a decision of the will has taken place with respect to the object presented, and that the acceptance manifests it."
 - 2. "He that giveth welcome unto you..." -Rhm
- B. **"...and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me."**
 - 1. receiveth = (see A, 1, above)
 - 2. "...is receiving Him that sent me."
 - 3. When the truth is rejected, God is rejected, when truth is received, God is received, for God is truth and His Son is the truth.
 - 4. 1 Samuel 8:7 - "...for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me..." (God to Samuel)

II. God's Principle Of Judging And Rewarding For Those Who Receive The Apostles.

A. **Receiving a prophet. V.41a**

1. receiveth = δεχομαι = (see A, 1)
2. prophet = προφητης = "one who speaks forth openly before anyone, a proclaimer of a divine message."
3. reward = μισθος = hire, wages, pay

B. **Receiving a righteous man. V.41b.**

1. receiveth = (see A,1,I)
2. righteous = δικαιος = "just," "meeting all claims," "a right state, of which God is the standard."
3. reward = (seeII,A,3,same)

III. God's Principle Of Rewarding Acts Of Kindness.

A. **"And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of disciple..." v.42**

1. "...lowly ones" - TCNT
2. "...the humblest of my disciples..." - Gspd
3. These innocent followers of mine."
4. cup = ποτηριον = "a drinking vessel."

B. **"...verily say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward."**

1. lose = απολλυμι = "to lose utterly."
2. reward = μισθος = "wages," "pay"

C. **In England, 1154, John T. Christian, Volume 1.**

1. "After the year 1000 the Paulicians began to make the appearance in England. In 1154 a body of Germans migrated into England, driven into exile by persecution. A portion of them settled in Oxford. William Newbery (Rerum Auglicarum, 124. London, 1667) tells of the terrible punishment meted out to the pastor Gerhard and the people. Six years later another company of Paulicians entered Oxford. Henry II ordered them to be branded on the forehead with hot irons, publicly whipped through the streets of the city, to have their garments cut short at the girdles, and

be turned into the open country. The villages were not to afford them any shelter or food, and they perished a lingering death from cold and hunger (Moore, Earlier and Later Nonconformity in Oxford, 12).

D. **In the last days.**

1. Revelation 13:15-17
2. This would include forbidding anyone to aid or to help them.

IV. The Basis Of The Disciple's Reward.

A. **For what we do.**

1. "he deeds done in the body"
2. "give to drink..."

B. **For what we say.**

1. "every idle word"
2. The words of our mouth are important.

C. **For how we treat those who preach and teach God's word.**

1. The text
2. I also believe this has application today.