



## **Title: The Manifestation of the King (part 2) – The Demands of Discipleship**

**Text:** Matt. 8:18-22

18 Now when Jesus saw great multitudes about him, he gave commandment to depart unto the other side. 19 And a certain scribe came, and said unto him, Master, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest. 20 And Jesus saith unto him, The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head. 21 And another of his disciples said unto him, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father. 22 But Jesus said unto him, Follow me; and let the dead bury their dead.

### **Introduction:**

1. The King has engaged in the various ministries outlined by Matthew in 4:23 – preaching, teaching, and healing.
2. In review to last week: Jesus healed the leper (8:2-4), healed the Centurion's servant (8:5-13), healed Peter's mother-in-law (8:14-15), healed those possessed with devils and "all that were sick" (8:16) – these healings demonstrate that Jesus is the Messiah and King (8:17, cf. Isa. 53:4, etc.).
3. In this passage the Lord responds to two would be disciples.
4. The Lord Jesus avoided all unnecessary publicity (8:4, 18) – since his hour has not yet come – and even though "great multitudes" gathered the envy of the scribes and Pharisees (and any other group that was interested in numbers/masses – Herodians, Sadducees, etc.). The crowd should never dictate what we do – only the will of the Father (as Jesus has done).
5. The Lord Jesus trained disciples to take His place. We need to do the same! This is our purpose.
6. The Lord Jesus never hid the demands of discipleship.

### **I. The Disciple and Possessions.** (vv.18-20) [discipleship problem – too hasty]

- A. The first character was a "scribe" (Heb. *Sopherim*; Gk. *Grammateus*). Their world revolved around "words" – to read, write, and arithmetic (they even counted the words of a text). Very: sedentary life (Tag: *palaupo*).
- B. The scribe was informed about the hardships of Christ's itinerant ministry.
- C. The scribe was most likely looking for popularity/notoriety – BUT missed the purpose of a life of sacrifice.
- D. Jesus used a Messianic title – his favorite – "the Son of man" (based on Dan. 7:13). This title demonstrates humility (Ps. 8:4) and power (Ps. 80:17) and is mainly Messianic (relating to Christ's mission and purpose – to rule and reign on earth in the Kingdom of Heaven).
- E. It is best to inform the would be disciples of the tasks that are involved in following Christ than to see them fail for their lack of knowledge.
- F. A disciple must explore: understanding, desire, training, schedule, and follow through or keeping or maintaining that schedule.

### **II. The Disciple and Relationships.** (vv.21-22) [discipleship problem – too slowly]

- A. "me first" – this was his major problem.
- B. The implication was that his father had not yet died.
- C. Jesus responds in the spirit of Lev. 21 (the O.T. priests are not to be overly mourn the dead, and lay aside his service to God).
- D. If the Lord desire for a disciple to do something NOW, it must be done NOW (do not delay). Distractions can detract from discipleship.

### **Conclusion:**

1. The Lord Jesus is interested in wholehearted disciples.
2. Both men had a poor view of discipleship. The first, was a desire for popularity; the second, was the attitude of nonchalance – Tag. *walang pakialam* o *walang bahala*.