

I. Obey

- A. "Do all things without grumbling or questioning"
 - i. no grumbling or questioning in public life
 - ii. no grumbling or questioning in work and life
 - iii. no grumbling or questioning in church
- B. Does this catch your breath?
 - i. there is no end or limitation or partitioning to Christ's demands ("all things")
 - ii. there is no room for negotiation
 - a) do you find grumbling in your soul?
 - b) do you find questioning in your soul? (Isaiah 6:8)
- C. How do we bear witness to the truth of the gospel?

II. Like Christ in the world

- A. Describing what obedient Christians are
- B. "That you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish"
 - i. blameless – doing everything we should (Luke 1:6; Philippians 3:6; 1 Thessalonians 3:13; Hebrews 8:7)
 - ii. innocent – unused, undefiled (Genesis 17:1; Job 1:1, 8; 2:3; 4:17; 9:20; 11:4; 12:4; 15:14; 22:3, 19; 33:9; Matthew 10:16; Romans 16:19)
 - iii. without blemish – free of stain or imperfection (many mentions in the Pentateuch – spotless animals for sacrifice; Psalm 18:23, 30, 32; Proverbs 11:5, 20; Ezekiel 28:15; chapters 43, 45, 46; Daniel 1:4; Ephesians 1:4; 5:27; Colossians 1:22; Hebrews 9:14; 1 Peter 1:19; Jude 24; Revelation 14:5)
- C. Children of God (John 1:12-13; 11:52; Romans 8:15-17, 21, 23; 9:8; Ephesians 5:1; 1 John 3:1-2, 10; 5:2)
- D. "In the midst of a crooked and twisted generation" (Matthew 11:16; 12:39-45; 16:4; 17:17; 23:36; Mark 8:12, 38; 9:19; 13:30; Luke 7:31; 9:41; 11:29-32, 50-51; 16:8; 17:25; 21:32; Acts 2:40; 14:16; Eph. 3:21)
- E. "Among whom you shine as lights in the world" (Matthew 5:14; Acts 13:47; 26:18, 23; 2 Corinthians 4:6; 6:14; Ephesians 5:13-14; Colossians 1:12; 1 Thessalonians 5:5; 1 Peter 2:9; see also Romans 2:19; 13:12; Ephesians 5:8-9; 1 John 1:7; 2:8-10; Jesus is the light of the world: John 1:9; 3:19; 8:12; 9:5; 11:9; 12:46; see also Acts 22:6ff.)

III. How can these things be?

- A. What path are you going to pursue in order to attain greatness?
- B. It is unquestioning obedience to God before the world, as it was for Jesus himself.
- C. Christ's burden is not like the law's burden.
- D. Come to him.