"Who Will Be the Greatest?" By Pastor Parrish Lee Sunday, June 3rd, 2018

You may be seated.

Giving honor to God who is the Head of our lives. Giving honor to our Maker, our Creator, our Master, our Savior, our Lover, our Way-maker. Giving honor to Him who came such a long, long, way for every one of us, and has never, never, never lost a battle, nor lost us. Giving honor to that one, true, wise, and self-God. Giving honor to all of those who have come and gone before us: our founding Pastor, he and his family, one of the elders, Pastor Paine, when he was Pastor, him and his family, and now to the elders, to them and their families. Giving honor to all of those who have come to stand in the gap and to make up the hedge. And, giving honor, this day, to all of y'all, who say, "Lord, Your will is better than any of my will. And, I come to present myself to You, that You might feed me, to go out and be closer with You in my life." Giving honor to all of y'all.

Have, have a real interesting week this week. We have a Scripture theme, but we also have a separate theme. our Scripture theme, I'm going to ask brother Jesse, if he would come, it's going to be from The Book of Mark, and chapter nine, and it's going to be verses thirty-three through thirty-five. I do believe, I do believe that all the messages this month are going to be very interesting. In fact, the last message this month is actually going to be in the next month. It is so interesting; we have to have it. We have to have it. But, Jesse, just use that mike right there. Right, and it's going to be from The Book of Mark, chapter nine, verses thirty-three through thirty-five.

Mark 9:33-35 And he came to Capernaum: and being in the house he asked them, What was it that ye disputed among yourselves by the way? But they held their peace: for by the way they had disputed among themselves, who should be the greatest. And he sat down, and called the twelve, and saith unto them, If any man desire to be first, the same shall be last of all, and servant of all.

That's good. Thank you, bro. I'm probably going to ask you to do some more reading, throughout the message.

If we could just bow our heads. Almighty God, who is like unto You? Every time we come before You, we are steadily amazed. Your presence is amazing to us. We count it our highest honor to worship You, to praise You, and lift You up. And, Almighty God, we present ourselves to You, that You might have Your way with us. We ask that You bless the sermon part of Your message, today. And, God, that You might give to us that which You would desire for us to have. And, that we would not leave here void of what You came to give us. And, that we would truly have a closer relationship with You, thereby. So, this we pray and we claim in Jesus name, and everyone said amen.

So, brother Jesse just read our Scripture theme for the month. But, the actual theme for this month is, "Questions of the Disciples." "Questions of the Disciples." Sounds real interesting, doesn't it? And, it starts right off, he just read this, I'd like to—well, actually, we're going to be coming back to that. So, why don't we read these in order? And, there were many questions by the disciples. But, this particular one is the question for today, "Who will be the greatest of all?" Now, now this isn't the only time that the disciples—this is the apostles, but, the disciples, that is the many ones that followed the Lord Jesus—this isn't the only time that question came up. From The Book of Matthew, chapter eighteen, and verses number one through five. I'm going to read

that one, but Jesse, have Matthew chapter twenty-three ready. But in Matthew, chapter eighteen, verses one through five:

Matthew 18:1 At the same time came the disciples unto Jesus, saying, Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?

A little bit different question, here, then there was that comes a few chapters later, but he goes on to say:

Matthew 18:2 And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them,

Who is going to be greatest in Heaven? And, the Lord Jesus calls a little child, and puts him in the midst of them. And, it says in verse three:

Matthew 18:3-5 And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me.

"...receiveth me." But, that was the Kingdom of Heaven. They asked a different question in chapter twenty-three. If you would come, Jesse. You're going to read verses two, and then five, and then seven.

Matthew 23:2 Saying The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat:

Matthew 23:5 But all their works they do for to be seen of men: they make broad their phylacteries, and enlarge the borders of their garments,

Matthew 23:7 And greetings in the markets, and to be called of men, Rabbi, Rabbi.

And read verse eleven and twelve also.

Matthew 23:11-12 But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant. And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted.

Amen, thank you brother. Don't go too far, the next was going to be in Luke, chapter twenty-two.

So, here, here they're not asking about who's going to be greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven. Here they're saying, "Who of us is going to be greater than the other one? Who of us is going to be greater among us? Who of us is going to be the greatest?" And, it went on in verse number two, He talked about the scribes and the Pharisees, "They sit in Moses seat," and then he went on, and he says, "But all their works they do to be seen of men." And, He goes on, "They broaden their phylacteries, they enlarge the borders of their garments, and they love the greetings in the marketplace, 'Call me a name, call me teacher; call me Rabbi." They love to be seen, and they wear the prettiest clothes, and to have some sort of title that would put them, separate them above other people around them. And, the Lord goes on to say, "He that is greatest among you. We're not talking about the Pharisees; we're talking about us. And, if you want to know who's going to be greatest here, he will be your servant." That's a complete departure from what they were looking at, from what they were used to.

The book of Luke, chapter twenty-two, verses twenty-four through twenty-seven. I'm going to ask you to read again, if you would, bro.

Luke 22:24-27 And there was also a strife among them, which of them should be accounted the greatest. And he said unto them, The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors. But ye shall not be so: but he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve. For whether is greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth? is not he that sitteth at meat? but I am among you as he that serveth.

Thank you, bro, and, then have John, thirteen, ready. So, in Luke, when He talks about who will be the greatest, if we notice, in verse twenty-four, "There was also a strife, a strife among them..." about this. Now, strife is a contention. Strife is a dispute. Strife is a work of the flesh. There's a strife among them, the Scripture says. And, the Lord explains—we're going to address this in a little bit—but, the Lord explains, the kings of the gentiles, they exercise lordship, those who they call greater, they exercise lordship, they lord over people. And, then, He says "You disciples won't be like them." He goes on to say the true, greater disciples will be like the younger ones. They'll be like the ones that listen, they will be the ones that don't look for everything. They will be like the ones who don't call and make themselves more special than anybody else. The true, great disciples. And, He said, "They will be as those that serve," and, He says, more importantly, the Lord says, "I am with you like one who serves. I do that. And, there's no question, there's no question who's the greatest here, right now. And, I am here as one that serves."

From The Book of John, chapter thirteen, verses twelve and thirteen. Each one, each one of the Gospels gives an account—If you would, please, Jesse—each one of the Gospels gives some account of this. John, thirteen, twelve through fifteen if you would, please.

John 13:12-15 So after he had washed their feet, and had taken his garments, and was set down again, he said unto them, Know ye what I have done to you? Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you.

Amen. Thank you, Bro. We did talk about this, earlier this year. But, this is after the Last Supper, and He tells them, He tells them after He'd washed their feet, He tells them, "Don't you know what I have done to you? You call me Master and Lord and that is the truth, I am your master, and I am your Lord and if I am your Lord and Master, and I wash your feet, that is the example that you must do. That you have to do. That is the example, that you serve one another." And, this is the example of being great. This is the example of being great. And, now the account in The Book of Mark, which is our mainstay for today. From The Book of Mark, one last Time, brother Jesse, from The Book of Mark, chapter nine, verses thirty-three through thirty-five:

Mark 9:33-35 And he came to Capernaum: and being in the house he asked them, What was it that ye disputed among yourselves by the way? But they held their peace: for by the way they had disputed among themselves, who should be the greatest. And he sat down, and called the twelve, and saith unto them, If any man desire to be first, the same shall be last of all, and servant of all.

Thank you so much, brother. In verse thirty-three, "And he came to Capernaum: and being in the house, he asked them What was it that you disputed among yourselves by the way?" So, our Lord knew that the disciples had questions, because we do have questions. And, the Lord knows we have questions. And, when they didn't want to bring up—I don't know if you've been in this case—but, when they didn't want to bring up the question to the Lord, He in turn, brought it up. And, I don't know if you've ever had some things going on in your mind, or in your heart, and,

you know, you're kind of pondering it, but you didn't really want to ask the Lord, you know? Maybe you were afraid of the answer, maybe you were afraid that He might address the attitude, rather than the question. I, personally, believe we need to bring everything to the feet of the Lord. I personally believe that we need to leave lay everything at his feet. Personally, I believe that. Maybe not everybody has that conviction, but I, personally, believe that. I went out, I wanted to buy a certain car, about ten years ago. Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, I need to say this. I wanted to buy this certain car, about ten years ago, but, but I wanted to make sure I was right. I wanted to make sure I was right, so, so what I did was, I said, "I'll bring it to the Lord." and that way I'll know." So, I had gone, and I did some shopping, and I settled on what I wanted to, what I wanted to get. Then I came to church here, I brought my little Bible, I brought my wallet, I brought my rental keys—oh, yes, my rental car keys, because I needed a vehicle, and I brought them to the altar, and I had a prayer. I didn't make a big deal about it. I expected the Lord to answer me. And, as I prayed, I expected the Lord to answer me, and I said, "Lord, if You don't want me to have this, because it's all worked out, then just let it fall. Let it be like they can't even find what we were talking about, because I know how salesmen are when they got you on you the hook for a sale. they do not want to let it go." Am I right? If they know they're going to make some money, they're going to follow up with it. So, I went walked back in, the day that we had appointed, I walked over, the salesman actually greeted me at the door. We walked over to the computer; he said, "I've got it all ready for you, Mister Lee. I can't wait to go." The computer flared up, their fingers did the dancing, and then I heard, "Wait a minute." And then I heard, "I don't understand." And then I heard, "I don't know what happened," and my heart sunk. And, I had to get my little self together, but I knew exactly what had happened. Exactly, I don't know why. But, I knew what had happened. Because, what I prayed for was, "God if this not Your will, let it go away," and it went away. And, they went, and they asked everybody, "We had this all worked out, where is this car? And, it was gone. And, as I got up, I said, "Thank you so much for your time." "But we can make a deal on another one," and I said, "No, we can't," because, I'm not going to stand, after God has answered me, and go against what His answer was. And, so, sometimes we, as disciples of the Lord, we might not want to bring it to the Lord, because we don't want to hear the answer, sometimes. Sometimes we just don't want to hear that which You're going to— "God, if You're going to tell me no, then I've got to obey it, but, God, if I don't ask You, You can't tell me." And, the disciples never asked Him. But, the Lord is mighty magnificent. The Lord don't always just wait for you to ask Him. Sometimes, He says, "You have already made up your mind, you aren't going to ask Me, so I, I'm going to ask you, what is it that you disputed among yourselves along the way? What is the question? What is it that you keep to yourself, and you don't tell Me? What is it that you have in your heart that you're not giving Me? What is it? What is it?" And, the disciples, they never did answer, so, He had to answer them. And, their answer would have been, if they said, they would say something along the lines of, "Lord, I just want to be great. I see all these great people. Lord I want to be—You've given us power, but, You know, I'm right up here next to James the lesser, I want to be James the greater. And, You know that John, and that other James, the Sons of Thunder, oh, man, that's a pretty lofty title. What about me? Give me a big title, too, God. How about the Son of All? How about one of them titles, Lord? How do I get to be that upper-tier? How do I get to be greater than my co-workers and my brothers? How do I get to that special place, God? Is it by knowing more verses than everybody? Is that it, God? Because if that's it, then I want You to give me that. It's about being more popular? Is it about preaching the best messages? Is that it, God? Because, if it is that, then God, You can give me that. What is the criteria, Lord, for being great? What is it?" And the Lord tells them, simply, "If you want to be great, be servant of all." If you want to be great, if you want to be the great one—and I know, we're not talking about the greatest in Heaven, now, we're talking about just the greatest amongst you—be the one who doesn't expect accolades, and a pat on the back. Be the one who serves, and has a heart of serving. You see, in serving everyone else, our brothers and sisters, we actually serve Him.

I got a call recently from somebody and they asked me, and they asked me, said, "Oh, oh, Brother Parrish, hey, so, I hear you're going to be a pastor now. So, I guess you finally will have arrived. You're finally going to be somebody special, huh?" Yeah, that's what I heard. They might not have said it like that, but that's what I heard. The answer that we had to give, that I had to give, was not the answer they were expecting. Because, the truth is, and I had to tell them, person, I'm not going to say brother or sister, "Person, the truth is, if I'm not doing what God called me to do in the first place, no badge, no title, no nothing that I wear on my chest is going to matter, because, if anything, I will be held more accountable, more accountable because you're called, and you're not listening. Because, you're called to do whatever it is that God has put in your path. Called you by name, created you special to do, whatever that is, and you, somewhere along the line, have said with your life—I have said, somewhere, along with my life, no, Lord, no." So, the conversation changed, and they really began to understand a little bit more where my personal conviction is. Because, we don't know what tomorrow holds. We only know Who holds tomorrow. That is who we have to answer to. That is who we want to hear, as the prayer said today, "Well done. My good and faithful servant." I mean, it's going to—the Bible said did the Heavens will roll away like a scroll, and it said that all will gather there, even the Kings of the earth, they will look upon him, and they will say, when they see Him that sits on the throne, rocks cover us, mountains fall on us, and hide us from His face (Revelation 6:15-16), but us, who are arrayed in white raiment and, what have washed their robes and made them white (Revelation 7:14), us, we say, "Hallelujah, Lord, God. Oh, I've been waiting to see You again. Thank You, thank You, thank You." "Well done My good and faithful servant. Enter into the joy of the Lord." And, as the prayer said, all our tears shall be wiped away, neither to cry anymore (Revelation 21:4).

Part 2 Be Careful for Strife

As great as the apostles were, they did have some disagreements among themselves. As great as the apostles were, they did have some disagreements among themselves. One was when John, John and James, when they had approached the Lord Jesus, and they said, grant us, Lord, grant us that one may sit on Your right and one on Your left." Yeah, they had some disagreements, because, after the Lord Jesus gave them their answer, the other disciples, apostles, they were they were filled, the Bible says, with indignation. "How dare they come up and take the—I wish I would have thought of it." Yeah, so they did have some sort of disagreements with themselves from time to time. This one was another. But, we read again in Luke 22:24 and there was also a strife among them. A strife among them. And, the strife was which of them should be accounted the greatest. And, I'm sure they compared what they've done in the Lord. I'm sure they said, "Well, I'm more special, because—" and, "I am this, because—" and I'm sure they had their reasoning, but they were just trying to find out who was going to have the preeminence. The Bible goes on to say, goes on to say, in the book of Proverbs, chapter seventeen, and verse number fourteen. Now strife, strife is contention. It's contention. It is potentially, extremely, very dangerous. Once you have strife in the church, once you have strife in your fellowship, once you have strife in the home, in your family, whenever you have strife, contention is there, and contention will bring division. From The Book of Proverbs, chapter seventeen, and verse fourteen:

Proverbs 17:14 The beginning of strife is as when one letteth out water: therefore leave off contention, before it be meddled with.

Therefore, leave it off! The beginning of it is like water, being let out. Now, once you let water out of whatever vessel you have it in, try and get it back in. Let the cat get out of the bag, and then try to get the cat back in. Once contention gets out, try and just say, "Oh, I'm so sorry," it's already out! Now, we've got a problem. Now we need the repair. But, before it ever gets out,

we have the opportunity not to even let it be meddled with. Contention. And, this contention, this contention is so strong, in the book of Acts, chapter fifteen, and verse thirty-nine, the contention is so strong it's so divisive, it's such a weapon, strife is such a work of the flesh that in the book of Acts, chapter fifteen, and verse thirty-nine, talking about Paul and Barnabas. Paul and Barnabas. The Bible says, here:

Acts 15:39 And the contention was so sharp between them, that they departed asunder one from the other: and so Barnabas took Mark, and sailed unto Cyprus;

And if we were to read on, we see that Paul took Silas. They split up over contention. Apostles of God. Holy man, filled with the Holy Ghost allowing contention to come in, not being able to have a true godly answer, and now we've got division. And, yeah, we don't even know—yeah, history bears it out, but not so much the Scriptures, about what happened to Barnabas. Because of contention. Because of contention. So, when we see the strife that the disciples had about who's going to be great, it was strong, you've got to see trouble coming. And, we Christians, we have the power to arrest contention. We have the power not to be yielding unto the flesh. Who will be greatest in my house? Who will be greatest on the track? Who will be greatest in school? Who will be greatest on my job? Who will be greatest, who will be greatest? That only has an avenue for pride.

Part 3 Where Does This Thought Come from?

Where does this question, the very question, who will be the greatest, where does that even come from?

You know, America is a real unique country. America is a place filled with immigrants. Except for the aborigine people. Some people call them Indians. But they are not Indians; they are the Aborigines of the land. And, America, the United States of America, anyway, is filled with immigrants, has a lot of immigrants that have come to this land. And, well, since we've had a place of immigrants, I learned something, I learned something in a college class. They say when the people are a community, and they're real familiar with everything, like whatever the countries may be, or whether it was Italy or France or Germany or Ghana or Ivory coast, or whatever the country's may be. They have an already community worked out, but when you're an immigrant you have to develop, you have to describe, you have to conceive some sort of worth and value system, a worth and value system. So, as the immigrants would come here, what was important in the land that they came from, they come here and they see everything has changed in this society. So, in America, you look at—in this college class that I was in, they said this is why you can tell that America is so different: look at even their sports. Their sports, in the United States, one of the biggest, most money making sports we've got is football. Football. Why football over soccer? Soccer is what's famous for the world. They have the World Cup, everybody else is on board. Every other country, it's a big deal. So much, here, it might be on one of the Spanish channels, maybe. It might be on one of the deep dark—unless America, unless the USA is in it, then they'll put it on, I don't know, channel nine, or something, not one of the big channels. And, so, why is that? Because Americans like two things: they like getting something and keeping it. They like having something themselves. That's what Americans like. And, Americans like something else. They like being defined that they are better. They don't like being low. Americans like being high. And, in football, there's two things that stand out. One thing that they love is when they get land, or yards, we call it, they like keeping it. In soccer, it goes back and forth, real fast, you don't keep it. Americans don't like that concept. Why go down there if you're just going to have to come back? And, the other thing they like is that one man can be important, more important than everybody else. They like that. Americans love that. The guarterback. Oh, yeah,

pay him the money, because he's all right. The running back. Oh, man, you see him? He's a bad boy. The wide receiver. Give him the money! This is what the American value system is. And, we even have names that we give them, we call them MVP's. MVP's. But, this all came from somewhere else. It's even deeper rooted in our psyche. Before there was the United States, before there were the disciples, before they were even people on Earth, there was another one who had this thought. From the book of Isaiah, chapter fourteen, and verses twelve through fourteen. Jesse, you get ready with Ezekiel, chapter twenty-eight, if you would, please. But, Isaiah, fourteen, verses twelve through fourteen:

Isaiah 14:12-14 How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

This thought, yeah, it came before we were even here on Earth, on the planet Earth. This thought from a long time ago. From The book of Ezekiel, chapter twenty-eight, verses fourteen through seventeen—I'm sorry, it's thirteen, thirteen through seventeen:

Ezekiel 28:13-17 Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created. Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee. By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee.

Thank you, Brother Jesse. "Every precious stone was thy covering." Thou wast the anointed cherub that covereth. Verse number seventeen: "Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of the brightness:" And, the Lord says, "I will cast you to the ground." Wanting to be more beautiful, wanting to be smarter, wanting to be more vocal, wanting to be anything, anything just so much better than the next person, has an origin. It originated somewhere, and we are reading the originator of it, but, the Lord has an answer for that. In Isaiah, forty-two, and verse number eight. Isaiah, forty-two, verse number eight. Amazingly wonderful scripture. They all are, but I really love this one, too.

Isaiah 42:8 I am the LORD: that is my name...

And, this LORD here, if you notice, is all capital letters, that is the Lord God Almighty; that is Elohim. That is Him.

Isaiah 42:8 I am the LORD: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images.

My glory, my glory I will not give to another. Now, He'll give us wisdom, He'll give us some of His power, He'll give us discerning, He'll give us some of His spirit, God will give us many things, but His glory He won't give to anybody. His honor, His respect, what is due God, nobody

else gets, but, He will give us—oh, yeah, He'll give us wisdom, He'll give us sight, He'll give us a victory, God will give us so many things, but when it comes to His glory, nobody gets that. "I am the LORD, that is My name: and My glory will I not give to another, neither My praise, My praise to any graven images."

Last part:

Part 4: Keep Me Near the Cross

So, we want to make sure that we don't fall into the trap—now, we need to esteem to be as great as possible. Not at the cost of somebody else. We need to try to be the best that we can be in everything, everything. We should try it with our best. But, not at somebody else's hurt. Not when it diminishes somebody else. There is an answer. There is an answer for this dilemma. There is an answer. And, this answer is simply, "Lord Jesus, keep me near the Cross. Lord Jesus, keep me near the Cross." And, there is a reason we need to remember the cross, because when we remember the Cross, we know who actually does everything for us. When we remember the cross—see, people who have been in the faith for a while, we've got, we've got a challenge against us. If you've been saved for a while, if you've been a Christian for a while, God has used you, or us. If we've been in the faith for a while, we've been used, we've been touched, we've felt his presence, we've had a chance to glorify, magnify God, we've had opportunities where we've shared, and we anointed, and we were anointed when we shared, and we've had times where we were able to get into the Scriptures and we would learn, and we would learn these things. We've had these opportunities, if we've been in the faith for any length of time at all. And, the problem becomes that, as we see God blessing us more and more and more, and as we learn more and more, and as we grow more and more, it can become a temptation for us to forget who did it. And, who continues to do it. And, to think it is us, ourselves. And, think we have the wisdom, we have the knowledge, we did it on our own. That is the dilemma, the challenge that faces Christians have been in the faith for any length of time. This is why we must stay near The Cross this is why we must stay near the Cross. Greater people than us in this room have fallen due to this. Nebuchadnezzar, Nebuchadnezzar, when God had told him, "I'm the Lord, I did all these things, I made you like this great tree and all, look at everything that comes around to you," and he went out, and he was contemplating, what God had said to him, and he said, "Have not all these things my hand made?" And, the Bible says while it was in his mouth, God answered him. While it was in his mouth. While it was right there. He didn't even completely finish, and God took everything away from him. And, it said he went like an animal—the description is kind of like a bird—for seven years. And, then, after God restored him, he said, "Great is God! Now I know that God, alone, does all these things!" (Daniel 4:30-37) King Herod, he had the same issue. He gave us great speech, a great speech. And, the Bible says that they said it's like a voice of a god. And, he gave not God the glory, and the very next thing was, he got eaten up with worms, and then he died. Got eaten up with worms, and then he died (Acts 12:21-23). And, even apostle Paul, he reproves a church, he reproves a church, because they were doing something out of the way, and he told the Corinthians, "That you haven't even repented, but you're puffed up." He told them (1 Corinthians 5:2). And, then he rebuked them. And, it's for our admonition. So, Lord, yes, Jesus, Lord Jesus, please keep us near the Cross. I've heard said that at the cross there's only one great one. And, all the rest of the ground is level. At the cross, no big I's and no little you's. At the cross, there's only one great one. And, everything else is level. The truth of this, is everybody can be great, because every single one of us can be more and more like the Lord Jesus. And, that alone is what makes us great. Amen. Give the Lord a praise.