

Keep It Simple, Saints – Simplicity In Christ 2 Corinthians 11:1-4

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- Simplicity – 1) singleness, simplicity, sincerity, mental honesty.
- ESV – sincere and pure devotion to Christ.
- LITV – the purity which is due to Christ.
- ASV – the simplicity and the purity that is toward Christ.
- Living Oracles – from the simplicity due to Christ.
- False teaching always complicates, and it never truly simplifies.

Pure and Unmixed Devotion

- Mat. 6:1-18 – religion practiced for worldly reasons and goals is not discipleship.
- Mat. 6:19-24 – Discipleship requires an all-important goal, and undivided attention to the Master.
- Mat. 6:33 – the kingdom of heaven must be the primary motive, the first priority, and the ultimate goal.

Pure and Unadulterated Doctrine

- Lk. 10:16 (Commission of the 70) – cannot accept Christ and reject His words.
- Mk. 7:6-13; Lk. 8:14 – worldly pursuits choke out the fruitful word.
- Col. 2:6-10 – philosophy, human traditions, worldliness, compete with Christ for our loyalty.
- 1 Cor. 1:18-21 – only the message of the cross saves!
- 1 Tim. 6:12-16 (v. 14) the Gospel must be kept without spot, blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ's return.

Simplicity of Mind and Purpose

- Mat. 18:1-4; 1 Pet. 5:5-7 – Requires humility! (compare Pro. 3:33-35)
- Mk. 10:42-45 – greatness only comes via service.
- 2 Tim. 2:24-26 – the Servant's Code.

- 1 Pet. 2:21-25 – Christ had a single aim, was without guile, was purely honest, never used falsehoods, and never deceived.
- V. 21 – His is the only suitable example for us!

Simplicity and Purity of Worship

- Jn. 4:23-24 – the Father seeks such to worship Him.
- 1 Pet. 2:4-5 – spiritual house, holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices!

Col. 3:16-17: the Lord's supper (Lk. 22:19-20; 1 Cor. 11:23-25; Acts 20:7); Giving (1 Cor. 16:1-2; 2 Cor. 9:6-7); Prayer (Mat. 21:13; 1 Tim. 3:15; Eph. 5:18-21; Col. 3:16-17); Singing (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16; Mk. 14:26; 1 Cor. 14:15; Heb. 2:12); Preaching/teaching/learning/growing (Acts 20:7; 1 Tim. 4:6; 2 Tim. 4:1-4; Heb. 10:23-27).

- Worship designed by Christ is simple, reverent, and pure – in contrast to the imposing grandeur of Jewish worship and the worldly opulence of pagan worship.

Simplicity and Purity of Life

- Heb. 13:5 – requires contentment, not covetousness.
- Rom. 8:6 “For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.”
- 1 Tim. 4:12 – Believers need examples in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity.
- Jas. 1:27 – Pure religion serves the helpless.
- Pro. 30:8-9 “Remove falsehood and lies far from me; Give me neither poverty nor riches—Feed me with the food allotted to me; Lest I be full and deny You, And say, “Who is the LORD?” Or lest I be poor and steal, And profane the name of my God.”

Decision...

- 1 Jn. 2:15-17 – the means by which Eve was beguiled still drive error today, including the corruption of Christianity and the church.
- Do not be beguiled from simplicity in Christ...

Luk 10:16 He who hears you hears Me, he who rejects you rejects Me, and he who rejects Me rejects Him who sent Me."

Mar 7:9 He said to them, "*All too well* you reject the commandment of God, that you may keep your tradition.

Mar 7:13 making the word of God of no effect through your tradition which you have handed down. And many such things you do."

Luk 8:14 Now the ones *that* fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity.

COL 2:6-10

1Co 1:18 For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

1 TIM 6:12-16

Mat 18:3 and said, "Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.

Mat 18:4 Therefore whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

1Pe 5:5 Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to *your* elders. Yes, all of *you* be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for "GOD RESISTS THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE."

1Pe 5:6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,

1Pe 5:7 casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

Mar 10:42 But Jesus called them to *Himself* and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them.

Mar 10:43 Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant.

Mar 10:44 And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all.

Mar 10:45 For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

2Ti 2:24 And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient,

2Ti 2:25 in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth,

2Ti 2:26 and *that* they may come to their senses *and escape* the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to *do* his will.

1 PET 2:21-25

Joh 4:23 But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him.

Joh 4:24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

1Pe 2:4 Coming to Him *as to* a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God *and* precious,

1Pe 2:5 you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Heb 13:5 Let your conduct *be* without covetousness; *be* content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU NOR FORSAKE YOU."

1Ti 4:12 Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

Jas 1:27 Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, *and* to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

YOU ASK WHY I FOLLOW THIS JESUS?

You ask why I follow this Jesus?
Why I love Him the way I do?
When the world's turned away from His teachings
And the people who serve Him are few.

It's not the rewards I'm after
Or gifts that I hope to receive
It's the Presence that calls for commitment
It's the Spirit I trust and believe.

The Lord doesn't shelter His faithful
Or spare them all suffering and pain,
Like everyone else I have burdens,
And walk through my share of rain.

Yet He gives me a plan and a purpose,
And that joy only Christians have known,
I never know what comes tomorrow,
But I do know I'm never alone.

It's the love always there when you need it;
It's the words that redeem and inspire,
It's the longing to ever be with Him
That burns in my heart like a fire.

So you ask why I love my Lord Jesus?
Well, friend, that's so easy to see,
But the one thing that fills me with wonder is
Why Jesus loves someone like me.

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