

“Leave Us Alone!”

(Compiled by Paul R. Blake)

Introduction:

- A. There are times when we prefer that others leave us alone.
 - 1. When I'm angry or upset, I don't want to talk to anyone until I calm down
 - a. Saddened by circumstances; I want quiet time to process and restore my resolve
 - b. Troubled by a problem; don't want to talk with anyone until I have had time to pray and meditate - Job 10:20-21
 - c. Tired at bedtime and can't concentrate. Want to be left alone.
 - 2. After a certain amount of teasing, a person may say, "leave me alone."
- B. Some people want to be left alone for the wrong reasons.
 - 1. Luke 4:34 - The demons wanted Jesus to leave them alone so they could go on plaguing man and continue to cause trouble.
 - 2. Hosea 4:17 - God said to "Let Ephraim alone; they were steeped in idolatry. That is what the nation of Israel had been begging God to do; they abused His prophets
 - 3. Many sinners and some professed Christians say, "leave us alone."

I. WHY SOME WANT TO BE LEFT ALONE

- A. Because they are satisfied
 - 1. Acts 13:45-46 - Because they are satisfied with their religion. The Jews at Antioch of Pisidia were satisfied in a religion without Christ.
 - 2. Rev. 3:14-17 - Because they are satisfied without religion; Laodicea was satisfied with riches and didn't think they needed the Lord
 - 3. Gal.1:6-7 - Because they are satisfied with another gospel.
 - a. Acts 17:11 - Berea not satisfied until they saw it in scripture.
 - b. Acts 8:30-31 - Ethiopian eunuch was not satisfied, so he asked.
- B. Because they are afraid
 - 1. Feral kittens in a barn hiss to tell you to "leave them alone"
 - a. Tame kittens are not afraid, and therefore won't hiss at you.
 - 2. Matt. 21:46 - The rulers feared the people.
 - a. John 12:42-43 - Afraid of what people may say or think.
 - b. John 9:22 - Afraid of what men would do.
 - c. Heb.13:6 - The must learn fearlessness
 - 3. Mark 11:18 - Afraid of Jesus' power
 - a. Afraid He will require too much of them
 - b. Afraid He will require too much change in their lives
 - c. Luke 9:45 - Afraid to ask
 - d. Luke 12:32 - Must never be afraid of the Lord
- C. Because they are indifferent
 - 1. Matt. 27:3-4 - The chief priests were indifferent because of their sins.
 - 2. Rev. 3:14-17 - Laodicea was indifferent because they were distracted by material matters.

3. 2Peter 3:3-4 - Scoffers are indifferent because they are ignorant and without faith.
- D. Because they are ignorant
 1. Matt. 8:34 - They begged Jesus to leave. They didn't know him and were afraid of what they might learn if he stayed.
 2. 2Peter 3:5-8 - Some ignorance is willful.
 3. 1Tim. 1:12-13 - Some ignorance is sincere, but misguided.
- E. Because they think the cost is too great
 1. Luke 14:25-33 - We are expected to count the cost.
 2. Matt 16:24-26 - The cost will be high.
 3. Some think it costs too much:
 - a. Money - Matt.19:20-22
 - 1) They won't need money where they're going.
 - b. Time - Matt. 13:22; Luke 8:14
 4. Acts 24:25 - Some wait for a sale or bargain

II. WHY THEY SHOULD NOT BE LEFT ALONE

- A. Some feel they are better off if left alone religiously.
 1. No questions to worry about answering
 2. No challenges to ideas already preconceived and fixed
 3. No thinking required, no effort
 4. No changes to make
- B. But we won't want to be left alone...
 1. In time of life's sorrows, troubles, pain - John 16:32
 2. In the hour of our departure from this life - 2Tim. 4:6-11
 3. In the resurrection - John 5:28-29
 4. In the Judgment - Matt. 25:41-46
 5. In eternity - 2Thes. 1:7-10

Conclusion:

- A. Loving people dare not leave you alone. We will not leave you alone. The Lord will never leave you alone. Why not obey Christ now?