

Postage Stamp Lessons

Romans 2:5-11

Jesus, Master Teacher, used everyday things to teach of His kingdom

Much of His recorded teaching was done by parables - A parable is a comparison between a familiar fact and a spiritual truth; Some are proverbial, some allegorical, and others illustrative

Jim Sasser 1977 lessons learn from a postage stamp (cost increase JB)

Varied types yet 1 purpose - delivery of mail from 1 place to another

Postage Stamps Were Made

They Did Not Just Happen - Made itself? No intelligence? From nothing?

Man created by God; didn't just happen - **Psalms 100:3**

Every effect or result...must be an adequate cause - **Hebrews 3:4**

So, the created postage stamp teaches the lesson

A Postage Stamp Bears An Image Of Significance

Such as: Washington, Kennedy, Queen Elizabeth, flag, eagle, etc

Man is made in the image of God, his Maker - **Genesis 1:26-27; 2:7**

Can reason, think, has eternal spirit - **Mark 2:8**

Image and value are related - Because man bears the image of God, he has great value & significance

Stamps Are Made, Governed And Controlled By Authority

Our Federal Government regulates the use of postage stamps

Try placing a 47 cent stamp on a letter tomorrow - requires 49 cents

Man must be governed by Divine authority - **Matthew 28:18-20; Hebrews 5:8-9**

If divine law ignored, man won't reach desire destination - **2Thess 1:7-9**

The Ragged Edge On The Stamp Is No Real Hindrance

Many Christians have "ragged edges"

Physical - ugly, tall, short, bald, crippled, scarred face **2Corinthians 12:7-10**

Spiritual - inexperience, stumbling, family interfere **1Corinthians 12:18-25**

Though stamps are ragged, get there just same if stick to their task

A Stamp Is Of No Benefit Until Put To Use

Man usually has to get "licked" before he is of much use to the Lord

Before Paul could be "chosen vessel" had to become "empty vessel" - **Acts 9:15-16; Luke 14:10; Luke 9:23-24**

"Licking" comes in forms of sickness, poverty, loss of loved ones, persecutions, trials, etc, and in the realization that we are sinners; Hardships are good for us if we endure - **2Timothy 2:1-5; Hebrews 12:3-7**

May stumble over very steps, used to lead us to higher ground **James 1:2-4**

Stamps Vary In Value

The value may start at one cent and ascend through several dollars

Each stamp is to do its best. One-cent works as hard as eight-cent

Our talents differ - **Matthew 25:14-30**; We must do what we can with what we've got - **Mark 14:3-9; 9:41**

Stamps Co-operate

They Work Together - All sizes and values work together to get the job done (tag to Isaac)

Christians are to be united, cooperate, in doing what cannot do alone

2Corinthians 6:1; John 17:20-21; 1Corinthians 1:10; 1Corinthians 3:5-8

A postage stamp will work anywhere you put it - Letter; post card; greeting card; bill; advertisement; package, etc

Christians are to be humble, do all can whether job is large or small

Philippians 2:5-11; Romans 1:14-16

Stamps Must Be Purchased

Cannot be used until they are bought -Christians purchased with blood of Christ - **Acts 20:28; 1Corinthians 6:20**

A stamp on a letter is not ready to be on its way from its origin to its destination until it is first "canceled out"

So, our old life of sin must be "canceled out before we are truly ready to begin our journey - **Acts 2:38; 22:16; 3:19**

A stamp's work is to persevere until it reaches its destination

Tried removing cancelled stamp from a letter? It is quite difficult

We must stick to the job until reach destination - **Matthew 10:22; 24:13; Romans 2:5-11; Revelation 2:10; 1Corinthians 15:58**

Are you willing to be purchased by the precious blood of Jesus? Have sins "canceled out" and "stick" to your faith firm unto the end? If so, why not now?