**EXPECTING THE IMPOSSIBLE [B]**

**Matthew 7:15 – 20**

**INTRODUCTION:**

1. The words of our text are a warning against deceit (Col 2:8).

A. The Apostle Paul aim is to put his converts on their guard against those who

 might divert them from their simple faith in Jesus and their sufficiency in Him.

B. Knowing Christ, you can lay your hand on the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

C. The first act of the Christian LIFE is to receive Christ (Mt 6:33), then [our] attitude.

 1. They are matters of daily experiences (Lk 9:23-25) and every moment afterward

 [we] must continue receiving Him (Rom 8:18, 35).

1. Breathe in the love and power of Jesus. Take deep breaths.
2. [We] shall be rooted in Him in secret, built up in our outward walk and behavior.
3. If [we] have Christ, [we] have God’s Fullness (Jn 10:30; 2 Jn 9).
4. When Christ is in us, ***NOT*** only are [we] true in judgment and speech, **BUT** [we] recognize truth wherever it is to be found.
5. Has fulfilled the Law in all respects on [our] behalf (Mt 5:17; Col 2:14).

 2. Appearances are deceitful, **BUT** the fruit is evidence of being either good or bad.

 1. It is impossible for a good tree to produce evil fruit and vice versa (Mt 7:17-19).

 A. To go to a bad tree expecting good fruit is to expect the impossible.

2. To expect the impossible of others is foolish; understand God only expects what is possible.

3. Regarding the possible verses the impossible, let’s remember these three [3] things:

 A. There are some things impossible that are in the realm of possibility.

 B. There are some things impossible under any circumstances.

 C. There are some things impossible under certain condition.

1 This is the area of concentration concerning this lesson.

**BODY:**

**1. NON-CHRISTIANS OFTEN EXPECTS THE POSSIBLE**

 A. To expect forgiveness without faith and repentance is to expect the impossible.

 1. The Jew and the Modernist expect God's blessings without faith (Jn 8:24).

 2. People of the world may expect God's favor without repentance (Acts 17:30).

 3. God's laws are [we] should ***NOT*** expect to be saved without compliance.

 B. To expect remission of sins without baptism is to expect the impossible.

 1. The gospel must be obeyed in order to be saved (Rom 6:17).

 A. Baptism is a part of the gospel (Mt 28:18-20; Rom 6:1 – 6; Gal 3:26, 27)

 2. The question often comes, “Can God save if one is ***NOT*** baptized?”

 A. It is ***NOT*** a matter of what God can or can ***NOT*** do.

 1. It is a matter of what He said He will do (Mt 19:26; Heb 6:18).

 3. Baptism is a condition of remission and ***NO*** exceptions are revealed in the Scriptures.

 A. Mk 16:15, 16; Ac 2:38; 22:16; 1 Pet 3:21

 C. To expect security at the judgment without doing God’s Will is to expect the impossible

 1. Mt 7:21 – 27

 A. Safety and security in eternity are impossible without proper respect for and obedience to the word having been spoken (Jn 12:48).