Resurvection Life of Jesus Church BACK TO THE BOOK OF ACTS (BBA) RLJ-1118 JOHN S. TORELL JANUARY 27, 2008 PART 10E: THE ORGANIZATION JESUS BUILT

STRIFE AND BICKERING

People will be people and the 120 men and women who followed Jesus were no exception. The apostles noticed that Jesus had divided His group and trusted some more than others for some reason. We only have a little glimpse of the jockeying for position that took place; Jesus did not take it lightly and put an end to it. Matthew 18:1-5; 20:20-28; Mark 9:33-37; 10:35-45

When parents came and wanted their children blessed by Jesus, the apostles tried to block the parents. Jesus intervened and told them how He wanted it done. Matthew 19:13; Mark 10:13-16

When John and James got angry, they wanted to kill all the people in a village because they refused them lodging. Jesus had to clarify again what His mission was and how to do things. **Luke 9:51-56**

Jesus set up a three step program for solving problems in His organization; it is the same for the church today. **Matthew 18:15-17**

WHAT JESUS DID AND DID NOT DO

Jesus paid taxes that the Romans extracted from the Jewish people. **Matthew 22:15-22**

Jesus paid temple tax. Matthew 17:24-27

Jesus attended a synagogue service every Sabbath. Mark 3:1-5; Luke 4:16

Jesus did not keep the traditions as prescribed in the Talmud. Mark 7:1-5

REJECTION

Jesus did not escape the sharp dagger of rejection from the Devil and the four Gospel writers do not tell us how deeply Jesus was hurt. Once Jesus started His ministry and God was moving through Him, He went back to his hometown to minister but the people only mocked Him. **Matthew 13:53-58; Mark 6:1-5**

The worst rejection Jesus faced was when his own entourage, whom He had been with for three and half years, abandoned Him when He was arrested. Jesus needed comfort, love and support, but it was not there. **Matthew 26:47-56, 69-75**

When His inner core of the apostles went back to Galilee after the crucifixion and took up their fishing again, Jesus did not abandon them, but came to them and with tender love brought back their faith in Him as the Messiah. **John 21:1-19**



The apostle James, who had walked with Jesus and been rebuked by Jesus, learned his lesson about strife and gave us a great teaching on this subject. James 3:13-18

The apostle Paul had never walked with Jesus but he experienced rejection that must have made him weep with pain. But by reading his report on rejection, we can learn what we must do in order to be victorious. **2 Timothy 4:6-18**

HOW WOULD YOU HAVE FARED?

What would you have done if you would have lived at this time and been one of the 120 followers of Jesus? Today you are part of the Church of Jesus Christ and the only difference is that the Church today is led by the Holy Spirit, which we cannot see with our physical eyes. The situation and mission is still the same. The Devil has not changed and there are millions of unsaved people out there headed for hell. What are you doing about it?

HOW ARE YOU LIVING YOUR CHRISTIAN LIFE?

DO YOU HAVE AN EAR TO HEAR WITH?