

16 December 2018: Preached by Rev DrQuek Suan Yew

Topic: Life of Christ: Who is on the Lord's Side?

Scripture text: Mark 9:38-41

1. Jesus had twelve disciples when He was on earth and Apostle John was one of them. All who are on the Lord's side are also disciples of Jesus Christ. Apostle John saw a man casting out devils in the name of Jesus and presumed that he was not a follower of Christ. Apostle John's presumption was wrong when he used his close association with Christ as a yardstick to determine that the man was not Christ's follower (verse 38). It is needful to examine ourselves and others to see if all parts of our lives are Bible-based. Ignorance to God's Truth is not an excuse to sin.

2. Jesus told Apostle John to stop forbidding the man as He can use any of His disciples to perform miracles (verse 39). We have to use a biblical yardstick and wise discernment to evaluate the practices in the church especially when Christianity has fallen away from the fundamental faith.

3. A man is on the Lord's side as long as his understanding of doctrines and way of living are based upon the Word of God (verse 40). We first check his beliefs and then evaluate if his life is in obedience to God's Word. The Word of God is our guide in life. Not all who attend church are on the Lord's side. For example, Judas Iscariot was one of the twelve disciples, yet he betrayed the Lord due to his greed. A true disciple of Christ will follow Christ and serve one another out of their love for Christ (verse 41). May we hold fast to sound biblical doctrines and follow the Lord faithfully.