

CHRISTIANITY COMES IN CANS

Are you aware that Christianity comes in cans? I am sure that I have met some people along the way who would be glad to “get some religion” if they could just get it in a small, inexpensive, easily-accessible package like a can. While it does not come in that sort of can, it does come in some cans:

Get all you can. The people in the world (and many in the church) are already attempting this, but they are trying to get the wrong things. They seek material things, power, fame, fleshly pleasure, and such like. Those who are serious about following Christ will seek other things. They will **get all they can** of the Word of God, fellowship with the saints, and spiritual strength and growth (Acts 2:42). Those who desire to get all they can of these things will never forsake the assembly, will make a time each day for Bible study and prayer, will attend lecture programs and Gospel meetings where they can learn more, will read sound and wholesome books and papers, and such like. They will be so hungry for Truth and the blessings it brings that they will pursue every source to get all they can (Mat. 5:6). Many do not follow Christ very closely because they do not **get all they can** of the right things.

Save all you can. Many people are doing this, but their primary interest is in saving the wrong things. Some folk save everything they get their hands on. I once knew a man who ate scraps out of garbage cans so he could increase his considerable investments. If some Christians would get as concerned about saving imperishable things as they are about saving perishables it would almost cause a revolution in the church. If we would be true to the example and teaching of Christ, we must save all the souls we can, starting with our own. Parents must do their best to save their children and grandchildren. We all have other family members we should try to save. We must

seek to save all of our friends that we can. No, we will never save them all, but who knows which ones we can until we try? The Lord will not judge us so much by how many we save, but by how hard we tried to **save all we can**.

Give all you can. Some people are doing this for their careers, the sports team of which they are a member, a civic club, a political party, or some other cause. Again, if some would give as much to the Lord and His work as they do to secular causes, it would make drastic improvements in what His people could accomplish. I speak not merely of the giving of money, but the gift of self (2 Cor. 8:5). The essence of discipleship is self-denial (Luke 9:23), by which we seek the kingdom first, serve others, and are willing to suffer for the Savior. Those who thus behave will not be stingy with their money, time, or talent. Neither do they have to be begged to give.

—Dub McClish

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