

The Christians Attitude



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Study Number: 1

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My plea: It is my hope and prayer that you are searching for the truth that is contained in God's word, the Bible. My desire is to help you understand and obey these truths God has revealed in the pages of His word. It is to that end that I write this material. Please observe all of the Scripture references and evaluate whether the conclusions I have drawn are in harmony with God's word. If they are, I ask that you make honest application of those truths to your life and obey God's instructions.

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The Christian's Attitude

The Christian's attitude is not always what it should be. Therefore, we need to challenge ourselves to develop the proper attitudes at all times!

Now, as we begin this study, I want to take a moment to define what I mean by the word "attitude." Let's consider a definition and some synonyms of the word "attitude" as I intend to apply it throughout this study (note that there are other meanings of this word; but, the definitions and synonyms I have chosen are specifically relevant to our study). *Merriam-Webster's Online Dictionary* defines the word: "a mental position with regard to a fact or state...a feeling or emotion toward a fact or state" (Attitude. (n.d.). Retrieved January 3, 2015, from <http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/attitude>). *Thesaurus.com* offers these synonyms (words with the same or similar meaning): approach, belief, bent, bias, character, demeanor, disposition, mindset, opinion, perspective, philosophy, position, sentiment, stance, standpoint (attitude. (n.d.). Roget's 21st Century Thesaurus, Third Edition. Retrieved January 03, 2015, from [Thesaurus.com website: http://www.thesaurus.com/browse/attitude](http://www.thesaurus.com/browse/attitude))

Since what we are describing is the Christian's *mindset*, this is an important study! Proverbs 23:7 helps us to understand the significance of the Christian's mindset: "For as he thinks in his heart, so is he..." So, the attitudes (mindsets) that we have about various things will govern our actions – and be influential in

determining whether our lives are lived according to the teachings of God's word or not!

For example, if you do not have the proper attitude toward assembling with the saints, you may neglect those opportunities, fail to worship properly, be discouraging to your brethren, etc. If you do not have the proper attitude toward clothing, you may wear revealing, suggestive, or immodest clothing that fails to glorify God. If you do not have the proper attitude toward entertainment, you may be watching sinful television programs/movies, listening to ungodly music, or participating in other unrighteous activity in the name of "entertainment."

The purpose of this study is to encourage you to think about your attitude (mindset) as a child of God, to understand the importance of your attitude, to understand who/what must shape your attitude, and to understand who you *must be* as a Christian.

Attitudes Make A Difference!

Your attitudes make a difference in whether you will live your life to please God or not. Throughout the Scriptures, you can plainly see that attitudes either result in people living for God or rebelling against Him. Therefore, let's consider the importance of your attitude – especially as seen in Jesus' parable of the soils.

Jesus' parable of the soils

In Luke 8:4-8, Jesus teaches a parable about a sower who sowed seed on different types of soil – and experienced different results. Consider His teaching: "And when a great multitude had gathered, and they had come to Him from every city, He spoke by a parable: 'A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell by the wayside; and it was trampled down, and the birds of the air devoured it. Some fell on rock; and as soon as it sprang up, it withered away because it lacked moisture. And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up with it and choked it. But others fell on good ground, sprang up, and yielded a crop a hundredfold.' When He had said these things He cried, 'He who has ears to hear, let him hear!'"

This parable is also recorded in Matthew 13 and Mark 4. In all three of these passages, Jesus not only tells the parable, but He also gives the meaning of

the parable. Remember, a parable is an earthly story involving things folks would have been familiar with – that conveys a spiritual message. In this parable, Jesus says that the seed represents the word of God (Luke 8:11) – and the different types of soils represent different hearts of men and women. So, this parable is about how different individuals respond to the word of God whenever that “seed” is planted in their hearts.

Clearly, the parable indicates that individuals do respond differently to the word of God depending on their hearts/attitudes! Consider a few examples of this.

In Acts 2, Peter was preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ, calling upon men and women to repent and to be baptized for the remission of their sins (vs. 38). Then, consider what is said in verse 41: “Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them.” So, this passage shows individuals who accepted and obeyed the word of God.

In Acts 24, Paul has been giving a defense before Felix, the governor. However, Paul is also trying to teach Felix the gospel of Jesus Christ. Verse 24 says that Felix heard Paul “concerning the faith in Christ.” Then, consider verses 25-26: “Now as he reasoned about righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come, Felix was afraid and answered, ‘Go away for now; when I have a convenient time I will call for you.’ Meanwhile he also hoped that money would be given him by Paul, that he might release him. Therefore he sent for him more often and conversed with him.” So, this passage shows an individual who recognized the truth of what Paul had taught; but, simply wasn’t interested in doing what he needed to do to obey the truth.

In Acts 26, Paul was giving a defense before King Agrippa. Yet, once again, Paul was trying to teach this individual the gospel. In fact, in verses 26-27, Paul said that he was convinced that King Agrippa knew the things he was teaching to be true. Yet, consider verses 28-29: “Then Agrippa said to Paul, ‘You almost persuade me to become a Christian.’ And Paul said, ‘I would to God that not only you, but also all who hear me today, might become both almost and altogether such as I am, except for these chains.’” Once again, this passage shows an individual who was convinced of the truth; but, did not act in obedience to it.

Now, having seen a few examples of different responses to the gospel’s message, let’s consider Jesus’ explanation of the different types of attitudes that can be seen in Jesus’ parable (consider Luke 8:11-15).

Attitude that doesn’t accept the seed

Jesus makes reference to some seed that is sown “by the wayside” (NKJV) – or, “along the path” (ESV). This has reference to the area that has been untouched by the plow. So, this is hard-packed soil that is not penetrated by the seed! Therefore, the seed will simply lay on top of the ground and will easily be devoured by the birds of the air.

Spiritually-speaking, this has reference to an individual who has the word of God taken out of his heart by the devil (lest he would believe and be saved), and does not understand the word (Matthew 13:19). This is certainly true of some individuals who have developed an attitude of indifference toward spiritual things. Therefore, the word of God will not penetrate their hearts and it will be easily taken away from them by devil – as he is successful in appealing to their fleshly desires.

Attitude that doesn’t endure

Next, Jesus makes reference to the seed that is sown on the rocky soil. Because of this rocky soil, the seed won’t penetrate deep enough to establish a sufficient root. Consequently, the plant will quickly wither and die.

Spiritually-speaking, Matthew 13:20-21 says that this has reference to an individual who initially accepts the word of God; but, it doesn’t fully take root in his heart to become established. So, this individual does not endure the trials, persecutions, and afflictions that come along with following the Lord. Some individuals have an attitude that simply will not make an unconditional commitment to follow the Lord – regardless of what comes along!

Attitude that doesn’t value the right things

Then, Jesus makes reference to seed that is sown on the thorny ground. He says that this plant will be choked out by the weeds that are growing along with it!

Spiritually-speaking, Mark 4:19 indicates that these individuals have a desire for other things – such as the riches and pleasures of this life. Furthermore, they are focused on the cares and worries of life. Some individuals simply do not have an attitude to clean out the desire for sin and the pursuit of physical things from their lives when they become Christians. Therefore, they have the attitude that tries to serve two masters (compare with Matthew 6:24)!

Attitude that values God's word

Finally, Jesus makes reference to the seed that is sown on the good ground. He says that this plant will produce fruit (though some plants will produce more fruit than others, according to their individual abilities).

Spiritually-speaking, this is an individual who has an honest and good heart who is willing to hear and obey the word of God, giving his entire life over to the Lord. Therefore, this individual will bear fruit for God! Some individuals have an attitude that will be receptive to the truth of God's word – no matter what it requires of them (see Luke 9:23-26; Luke 14:33).

You will find yourself somewhere in this parable!

Jesus did not teach this parable so that folks would have a greater understanding about agriculture! Jesus taught this parable because it accurately describes the hearts of all who have ever lived – including you! You will find yourself in this parable *somewhere!*

Which of these four attitudes describes your attitude? Are you like the hard-packed soil along the path that simply doesn't accept the truth of God's word because you have closed your mind to it? Are you like the rocky soil that won't allow God's word to penetrate your heart deep enough to take solid root so that you can endure the trials, persecutions, and afflictions of life? Are you like the thorny soil that attempts to cultivate God's word in your life, while also attempting to cultivate a desire for worldly things? Or, are you like the good ground that allows the word of God to take root, grow up into a mature plant, and produce spiritual fruit for the Lord?

Again, your attitude is described by one of these four categories. You need to spend time seriously evaluating your life so that you can discover the truth about your attitude. 2 Corinthians 13:5 exhorts: "Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? — unless indeed you are disqualified." As you make these evaluations of your life, please realize that only the attitude that values God's word above everything else will result in eternal life in Heaven!

What The Christian's Attitude Must Not Be Shaped By

At this point in our study, perhaps you are wondering, "Why do some people have attitudes that truly value and accept the word of God – and others have attitudes that do not want to listen to or obey God's word completely?" The fact is that there are many different things that are attempting to shape our attitudes. However, if we allow the wrong thing to shape our attitudes, we will find our attitudes not to be what God wants them to be! Please consider some things that our attitudes must *not* be shaped by (ultimately).

Family

This is one of the most natural things that we might think our attitudes *should* be shaped by. And, certainly, God has designed it so that our family members ought to be influential. For instance, Proverbs 22:6 says, "Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it." Yet, we must be very careful so that we do not allow our attitudes to ***ultimately*** be shaped by our family members.

Many individuals have allowed their family members to be the ultimate source that shapes their attitudes (mindsets) toward various things (for the good or for the bad). However, the Scriptures are clear that our family members must not hold the final authority over how our attitudes are shaped. In fact, Jesus even said that there will be times when individuals will have to take stands against their family members in order to be pleasing to Him.

Consider what Jesus taught in Matthew 10:34-39: "Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword. For I have come to 'set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law'; and 'a man's enemies will be those of his own household.' He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it."

As you consider the implications of this passage, it ought to help you to realize that Jesus requires you to follow Him first and foremost – even before your family members! So, although the Scriptures demonstrate that there is great value in heeding the advice of your parents (and children are commanded to obey their parents), your attitudes must not ***ultimately*** be shaped by any of your family members – because they are only human and are capable of leading you into error.

Friends

Another common source that works to shape our attitudes is our friends. And, the Scriptures speak highly of good friends. Proverbs 18:24 says, “A man who has friends must himself be friendly, But there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.” Yet, we must be very careful not to allow our friends to ***ultimately*** shape our attitudes.

It is easy to be influenced by the friends we enjoy spending time around, talking with, etc. However, remember that our friends are capable of having attitudes that are not shaped by God’s word – and can easily pass those attitudes to us! 1 Corinthians 15:33 demonstrates this to be true: “Do not be deceived: ‘Evil company corrupts good habits.’” In the context, Paul is correcting some false ideas about the resurrection that had developed in the city of Corinth. Evidentially, there were some who had influenced members of the church in Corinth to believe that there is no resurrection. Paul, very clearly, is providing evidence for the fact that Jesus rose from the dead – and that we will all take part in a future resurrection.

His statement in verse 33, then, demonstrates how evil companions can spread such false ideas and lead to the ruin of good morals/habits. That is, the companions some Christians in Corinth had kept resulted in the false attitudes about the resurrection being spread in the congregation! Further, he warns the Corinthians not to be deceived so as to believe that evil companions can have no negative impact on their good morals!

So, God has warned us that friends can be extremely influential – and we must be careful about who we choose to keep company with! We must not allow any of our friends (no matter how close they are to us) to ***ultimately*** shape our attitudes! In fact, as Christians, there will likely be many times we will need to take strong stands against our friends – and perhaps even sever some close relationships, so that we are not negatively influenced by them.

Our environments

The various environments we put ourselves in can have influence on shaping our attitudes. So, we need to be careful as to which environments we are willfully putting ourselves into – i.e. the places we choose to live, the places we choose to go to school, the places we choose to work, etc. Now, I am not suggesting that there will ever be a “perfect” environment here on this earth. Yet, there will be some environments that will present greater obstacles to your faith on a more regular basis than others.

For instance, the Bible talks about Lot’s decision for himself and his family to dwell in the land of Sodom and Gomorrah. Genesis 13 records how Lot made the decision to dwell in this land because it looked very prosperous. However, the Scriptures reveal that “the men of Sodom were exceedingly wicked and sinful against the Lord” (Genesis 13:13). Then, consider what is said in 2 Peter 2:7-8 about this decision: “and delivered righteous Lot, who was oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked (for that righteous man, dwelling among them, tormented his righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing their lawless deeds).”

Although the Scriptures do not say that Lot’s attitudes were altered, certainly his decision to live in this wicked environment “tormented” him dearly – and proved to be very costly (as he had to flee the city and lost family members when God destroyed these cities). So, we need to be very careful as to the environments we *willingly* put ourselves in. Certainly, we do not want to be guilty of allowing these environments to ***ultimately*** shape our attitudes!

The world

The Bible tells us that we should consider ourselves to be strangers and pilgrims here on this earth. And, as “sojourners and pilgrims,” we must “abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul” (i.e. 1 Peter 2:11-12). Jesus said that we must not consider ourselves to be “of” the world – even though we are “in” the world (see John 15:18-19). So, even though we live in the flesh and we live in this world, we must not allow all of the things of this world to ***ultimately*** shape our attitudes.

In 1 John 2:15-17, John wrote, “Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world — the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life — is not of the Father

but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.”

In Galatians 5:16-26, we are taught that the ways of the flesh are contrary to the ways of the Spirit. Specifically notice Galatians 5:16-18: “I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.”

So, as Christians, we must not allow ourselves to simply follow along with the ways of this world. Instead, as Romans 12:2 says, we must determine to be different from the world – and not allow the attitudes of the world to *ultimately* shape our attitudes (because the attitudes of the world are contrary to the attitudes of God – and are only temporary)!

Human “wisdom”

Included in this world we are living in are many different opinions and philosophies – many of which are contrary to the wisdom that comes from God. Often, the world will attempt to assert its own views and opinions on the Christian – even though they are often contrary to Bible teachings. Then, if the Christian refuses to go along with the modern-day ideas, he is often accused of being “intolerant,” “old-fashioned,” “opposing ‘science,’” “ignorant,” or any number of things. However, the Christian must not *ultimately* allow the ideas and philosophies of men to shape his attitudes!

First, you must realize that God is infinitely wise. After all, He is the one who has created this world! Romans 11:33-36 says, “Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out! ‘For who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has become His counselor?’ ‘Or who has first given to Him And it shall be repaid to him?’ For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.”

Then, you must also realize that man’s (so-called) “wisdom” pales in comparison to God’s wisdom. Isaiah 55:8-9 says, “For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways,” says the Lord. ‘For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.’” 1 Corinthians 1:25 says, “Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men,

and the weakness of God is stronger than men.” 1 Corinthians 3:18-20 says, “Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you seems to be wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, ‘He catches the wise in their own craftiness’; and again, ‘The Lord knows the thoughts of the wise, that they are futile.’”

Therefore, God reveals the error of following man’s ideas and philosophies: “There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death” (Proverbs 14:12). Jeremiah 10:23 also says, “O Lord, I know the way of man is not in himself; It is not in man who walks to direct his own steps.”

Mankind has often believed he has become wiser than God. However, it has always resulted in evil – and never in good! Therefore, rather than putting our trust in man’s “wisdom” and allowing our attitudes to *ultimately* be shaped by it, we must learn to trust in the Lord with all our hearts and “lean not” on our own understandings, acknowledging Him in every area of our lives (Proverbs 3:5-6).

Never allow your attitude to be shaped by these!

There are many things that attempt to shape our attitudes: Our family members, our friends, our environments, the world, human “wisdom,” and many other things. However, none of these are the proper standard we should allow to shape our attitudes *because they all are rooted in men – and not in God!* Please, do not be deceived into thinking that you can consistently place yourself in the close company of ungodly attitudes and not have them begin to negatively effect you! You cannot allow the devil to consistently plant “weed seed” in your heart so that it can choke out the word of God (as demonstrated by the parable of the soils)!

What The Christian’s Attitude Must Be Shaped By

As we have seen, you must *not* allow the kinds of things we have been describing to *ultimately* shape your attitudes. Yet, something or someone must still be

responsible for shaping your attitudes into what God would want them to be.

Give God control of your attitudes!

Sometimes we are guilty of trying to resist the will of God and develop our attitudes according to our own ideas and philosophies. However, this will never result in our living the kinds of lives that God wants us to be living!

Instead, we must learn to submit ourselves entirely to the Lord! James 4:7 says, “Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.” To “submit” means to yield yourself to the desires of another. For instance, if you are driving along the road and you approach a “Yield” sign, you must yield (or, submit) your desire to keep going to the other drivers. In the same way, as you live your life, there will likely be many things you will desire to do or think that are not according to God’s will. However, if you truly want to honor God in your life, you will resist the devil’s temptation to fulfill your own desires and yield yourself to God’s desires.

If you desire to be pleasing to God, you must give God full control of your attitudes by allowing Him to make them into whatever He wants them to be! You must give yourself to God as clay in the Potter’s hand! Jeremiah 18 uses this kind of language regarding the Israelites (God’s people in the Old Testament).

Consider Jeremiah 18:1-6 and evaluate if you are willing to give your life and your attitudes to God’s control in this way. “The word which came to Jeremiah from the Lord, saying: ‘Arise and go down to the potter’s house, and there I will cause you to hear My words.’ Then I went down to the potter’s house, and there he was, making something at the wheel. And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter; so he made it again into another vessel, as it seemed good to the potter to make. Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying: ‘O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter?’ says the Lord. ‘Look, as the clay is in the potter’s hand, so are you in My hand, O house of Israel! The instant I speak concerning a nation and concerning a kingdom, to pluck up, to pull down, and to destroy it, if that nation against whom I have spoken turns from its evil, I will relent of the disaster that I thought to bring upon it.’”

God’s word

How does God mold our lives and our attitudes if we are willing to give ourselves over to His control in this way? It is through His written word –

the Bible! It is this word that is the power of God unto salvation for all who believe (Romans 1:16)! Therefore, this word is capable of transforming our lives from the ways of ungodliness to the ways of righteousness – if we will give ourselves to be obedient to it!

Consider what is said in 2 Timothy 3:16-17: “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.” 2 Peter 1:3 says, “as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue.”

So, these passages help us to understand that God has given us everything that we need to know that will enable us to be what He wants us to be – through His written word, the Bible! We must simply be diligent to study and make application of this saving message so that our lives and our attitudes will be shaped by His word!

Your attitude toward...

So, when you give yourself to God in this way, your attitude toward entertainment, marriage, divorce, remarriage, truth, error, assembling with the saints, clothing, alcohol, judging, death, sin, etc., etc., etc., will be shaped by God – and you will be able to conduct your life accordingly!

A Picture Of The Christian

As we consider the importance of attitudes – and the importance of having our attitudes shaped by God through His word, let’s consider what a Christian’s life will look like if all of his attitudes are given to God! Simply consider the pictures of complete devotion to God that are presented in each of the following passages.

Luke 9:23-26

“Then He said to them all, ‘If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it. For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and is himself destroyed or lost? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words, of him

the Son of Man will be ashamed when He comes in His own glory, and in His Father's, and of the holy angels.”

Luke 14:26-27, 33

“If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple. And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple....So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.”

Romans 12:1-2

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1

“Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: ‘I will dwell in them And walk among them. I will be their God, And they shall be My people.’ Therefore ‘Come out from among them And be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, And I will receive you.’ ‘I will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and daughters, Says the Lord Almighty.’ Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.”

James 1:27

“Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.”

1 Peter 2:9-12

“But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who

had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy. Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul, having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by your good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation.”

The “big picture”

All of these verses help us to see the “big picture” of who the Christian is expected to be – someone who is entirely devoted to the Lord’s service and someone who stays away from sin. However, it is also important to view the individual pieces that compose this “big picture.” One of the most important “pieces” to this picture is right attitudes! If we are diligent to develop the right attitudes regarding Bible teaching, right actions will follow! However, we will never achieve this “big picture” if our attitudes are not right regarding Bible teachings!

Conclusion

What kind of heart do you have? What are your attitudes (currently)? Who or what has *ultimately* shaped your attitudes? Do you even understand what the Christian must be?

If you do not have the proper attitudes, you can change by bringing them into subjection to the will of God! As a Christian, you can do this by repenting of the wrong attitudes you have had in the past (and repenting of the wrong actions that have resulted from those attitudes), confessing your sin to God, and asking Him for forgiveness (Acts 8:22; 1 John 1:8-2:2)! Then, you must live differently in the future than you have in the past – with new attitudes that are patterned after God’s word!

Study Questions

How is the word “attitude” being used in this study?

Why is a study on the Christian's attitudes important?

Who should have control of our attitudes? Explain.

1. Attitude Make A Difference!

What does Jesus' parable of the soils teach?

Through what will God shape our attitudes – if you allow Him?

List and describe the four different attitudes observed in this parable:

List some examples of attitudes that will be shaped by God.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

4. A Picture Of The Christian

Make some observations from the following passages that provide the "big picture" of who the Christian should be. Explain how developing the right attitudes is essential to becoming who God wants you to be.

Which of these four attitudes describes you? Explain your reasoning.

1. Luke 9:23-26 –
2. Luke 14:26-27, 33 –
3. Romans 12:1-2 –
4. 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1 –
5. James 1:27 –
6. 1 Peter 2:9-12 –

2. What The Christian's Attitude Must Not Be Shaped By

List some things that should not (ultimately) shape the Christian's attitude. Explain each.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

3. What The Christian's Attitude Must Be Shaped By