

WHO WILL TELL THEM?

The majority of people in the world know little, if anything about the Lord's church. Most of them have rarely, if ever visited an assembly of the local church. If they have, they may not have visited often enough to learn much about it. Therefore, it is not surprising that their opinion of the church is often misguided and full of misconceptions. Many gain what little they may know from misinformed or prejudiced sources.

Honest seekers may often depend upon some member they know for their information about the Lord's church. This is good if the member happens to be one who is truly committed to the Lord and His word. We should all be able to encourage questions about our faith and life and hope. *"But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear; ¹⁶having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed."* (1 Pet. 3:15-16) Peter had already written, *"Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul, ¹²having 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."* (1 Pet. 2:11-12)

If Christians conduct themselves as the Lord intends, it will provoke questions from the "good soil" hearts. Therefore, let us live right and study hard that we may know how we are to answer every man who asks us about what the Bible teaches concerning the Lord's church of which we are members. The ability to answer questions simply, directly, and meekly comes as a result of studying the word, living by the word, and imbibing the spirit of Christ.

We emphasize the need to invite others to attend our classes and preaching services, as well we should. It is good when they "Come and See". We should continue to do that as regularly as possible, and also on special occasions. However, we must understand that it is not only the preacher and/or elders who are charged with the responsibility of teaching the Word of the Lord. We should never lose sight of the fact that all Christians have a

responsibility, to the extent of their ability, to go and preach.

“Therefore those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the word.” (Acts 8:4)

Finally, we must tell them about the church of Christ (that means the church that belongs to Christ) as it is revealed in the Word of God. First, we must show them by our godly conduct that we follow the Bible, and we must learn how to have a “thus says the Lord” for what we believe, teach and practice.

AND, THAT IS WHO WILL TELL THEM !!!

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