

BIBLICAL DESCRIPTIONS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Introduction

- 1) The name “**Christian**” is divinely given to God’s people today (Acts 11:26; 26:28; 1 Pet. 4:16)
- 2) There are several Biblical descriptions of God’s people
 - a) These descriptions identify characteristics of a true New Testament Christian
- 3) Not every description is an accurate representation of a Christian (cf. Rev. 3:1)
 - a) The description must not only be claimed, but demonstrated in life
- 4) Consider some of the following *descriptive titles* of God’s people:

I) **SOLDIER**

- A) We are soldiers in the army of the Lord (2 Tim. 2:3-4)
 - 1) Engaged in warfare (1 Pet. 2:11; 2 Cor. 10:3-5)
- B) We are to be properly armed/dressed as a soldier (Eph. 6:13; 1 Thess. 5:8)

II) **ATHLETE**

- A) We are athletes running the race “set before us” (Heb. 12:1-4)
 - 1) We are to compete with the goal to win (1 Cor. 9:24-27)
- B) Good athletes compete according to the rules (2 Tim. 2:5)

III) **SOWER/FISHERMAN**

- A) Sowers are those who spread the word (Lk. 8:5, 11)
 - 1) Sowing is a work that must continue in each generation (2 Tim. 2:2)
- B) Fishermen seek to catch souls for the Lord (Mk. 1:17; 16:15-16)

IV) **LIGHT**

- A) Christians are “light in the Lord” who walk as children of light (Eph. 5:8)
 - 1) Also called sons of light and sons of day (1 Thess. 5:5)
- B) A contrast to the darkness of the world around us (Phil. 2:15; Matt. 5:14-16)

V) **PEACEMAKER**

- A) We are to be peacemakers – bringing together [reconcile] that which is separated (Matt. 5:9)
 - 1) Peacemakers between sinners and God (by the gospel – Rom. 5:1)
 - 2) Peacemakers between divided brethren (Col. 3:15)
- B) Brings about the peace of God within the Christian (Jn. 16:33)

VI) **MINISTER**

- A) A minister is one who serves others (Rom. 12:7; 1 Pet. 4:10)
 - 1) All Christians are to be ministers of the word and of love (Gal. 5:13)
 - 2) To be done without partiality – all deserve our attention and service (Gal. 6:10)

VII) **REFRESHER**

- A) One who serves others and obeys God is a refresher of souls (2 Tim. 1:16-18; Philem. 20)
 - 1) In a world of trials and troubles, we need refreshing brethren
 - 2) Godly, kind attitude a wonderful release from tense, uptight troubles

Conclusion

Are we known by these descriptions? As Christians we should because they describe Christ our Lord. Let us not major in some and neglect others – be complete and mature in these characteristics, and in all that is taught in God’s word. Have a Bible name and live up to it!