

More Andrews Needed

“One of the two who heard John speak, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, ‘We have found the Messiah’ (which is translated the Christ) And he brought him to Jesus. Now when Jesus looked at him, He said, ‘You are Simon the son of Jonah. You shall be called Cephas’ (which is translated a stone),” John 1:40-42.

Shortly before this, John the Baptist “saw” and “bore witness” that Jesus is “*the Son of God,*” “*the Lamb of God*” Who came to take away “*the sin of the world,*” John 1:29-32. Andrew was one of the two which “*heard John speak,*” and being convinced that Jesus is the “*Messiah*” of Old Testament prophecy and promise, “*followed*” Him. But the outstanding aspect of Andrew following Jesus lay in the fact that He did not follow Him alone. He found his brother, Peter, and “*brought him to Jesus!*”

Much is known, and said, about Peter, who became a very fruitful apostle of Jesus Christ, whereas relatively little is known about Andrew. But it took an Andrew to find a Peter and to bring him to Jesus! Surely there are some appropriate lessons in this for us. In the following paragraphs are a few of these vital lessons.

1. The fact that Andrew could say “*we have **found** the Messiah*” implies that he had been seeking Him. The “*Pearl of Great Price,*” Matt. 13:45-46, can be found by those who “*ask,*” “*seek,*” and “*knock*” in the right way, Matt. 7:7.

2. Andrew demonstrated the greatest evidence of having been blessed by his having “*found the Messiah.*” He **shared** this discovery by **bringing** another (his own brother) to Jesus. Can those who make no effort to bring others to Christ truthfully say “*we have found the Messiah?*”

3. Jesus Himself came “*to seek and to save that which is lost,*” Luke 19:10. Christianity is the religion of Jesus Christ. A Christian, a true disciple, is a follower of Christ, a thought which is necessarily inferred in the definition of the words “*Christian*” and “*disciple.*” Hence, those who refuse to follow the seeking and saving example of Christ, have no more right to call themselves “*Christians*” or “*disciples*” than those who never farm have in calling themselves “*farmers.*” An individual can meet in a “*church building*” (Meeting house), and live in a farm house, but merely meeting in a “*church building*” will no more make one a Christian than merely living in a farm house will make one a farmer.

4. We may be of average ability and have limited opportunities, but if we follow the example of Andrew, we may be able to lead others to Christ. Herein God is glorified and precious souls are saved.

Brother or sister in Christ, you may never become a Peter. But you **can** be an Andrew, and we are greatly in need of more Andrews. Perhaps our shortage of potential Peters is caused by our dearth of Andrews. —Bobby Witherington

*“And **the things** that you have heard from me among many witnesses, **commit** these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also,” 2 Tim. 2:2.*

The Parable of Our Times

By George Carlin

The paradox of our time in history is that we have taller buildings but shorter tempers, wider freeways, but narrower viewpoints. We spend more, but have less, we buy more, but enjoy less. We have bigger houses and smaller families, more conveniences, but less time. We have more degrees but less sense, more knowledge, but less judgment, more experts, yet more problems, more medicine, but less wellness. We drink too much, smoke too much, spend too recklessly, laugh too little, drive too fast, get too angry, stay up too late, get up too tired, read too little, watch TV too much, and pray too seldom. We have multiplied our possessions, but reduced our values. We talk too much, love too seldom, and hate too often. We've learned how to make a living, but not a life. We've added years to life, but not life to years. We've been all the way to the moon and back, but have trouble crossing the street to meet a new neighbor. We've conquered outer space but not inner space. We've done larger things, but not better things. We've cleaned up the air, but polluted the soul. We've learned to rush, but not to wait. We build more computers to hold more information, to produce more copies than ever, but we communicate less and less. These are the times of fast foods and slow digestion, fancier houses, but broken homes. These are days of quick trips, disposable diapers, throwaway morality, one night stands, overweight bodies, and pills that do everything from cheer, to quiet, to kill. It is a time when there is much in the showroom window and nothing in the stock room. A time when technology can bring this letter to you, and a time when you can choose either to share this insight, or to just hit delete.

Remember, spend some time with your loved ones, because they are not going to be around forever. Remember, say a kind word to someone who looks up to you in awe, because that little person soon will grow up and leave your side. Remember, to give a warm hug to the one next to you, because that is the only treasure you can give with your heart, and it doesn't cost a cent. Remember to say, “I love you” to your partner and your loved ones, but most of all, mean it. A kiss and an embrace will mend hurt when it comes from deep inside of you. Remember to hold hands and cherish the moment for someday that person will not be there again. Give time to love, give time to speak, and give time to share the precious thoughts in your mind.” —Copied

*“See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, **redeeming the time**, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be unwise, but **understand what the will of the Lord is**,” Eph. 5:15-17.*

Why The Atheist is “A Fool”

Psalm 14:1

He says in his heart, “there is no God,”
but obtains his food from the earthly sod.

He believes he evolved from a single cell, which created itself, with no spirit to indwell.

He believes there was no life, space, or earth,
no God to create humans, or beings, to give birth.
But suddenly, all things began with a big bang.
though no basis exists for such reasoning to hang.

He regards man simply as molecules in motion,
though there is no data to support this notion.
The belief that nothing plus nothing equals
something is fuzzy math.
which results in one following a dangerous path.

He describes religion as “the opiate of the masses”
and would impose his unbelief upon all classes.
Yet as he approaches life’s end,
he realizes that, for him, death is no friend.

He attributes the universe to an uncaused cause,
the belief of which violates all known laws.
His value system is described as situation ethics,
because he has exchanged God’s truth for Satan’s
synthetics.

On judgment day he will stand before God,
and discover that he has been a religious fraud.
His sad eternal fate will then be revealed,
as he faces a destiny which will be forever sealed.

*** —B. Witherington

*“The fool has said in his heart, ‘There is no God’ They are corrupt, they have done
abominable things, There is none who does good,” Psalm 14:1.*