

Study Notes for the Message on 27th December 2020

Only One Hero

Matthew 23 verses 1 to 13

Today's message questioned the concept of super-Christians. We said, 'There are no super-Christians. If you think you've found one, you have demeaned yourself. Not only that, if you consider someone a super-Christian you have caused the teaching of Jesus to be violated. Also, if you make someone into a super-Christian you put them in danger.'

Are there times when we need super-Christians?

We noted two different reactions to biographies of famous Christians: -

1. If they seem wonderful, we become depressed, because we don't think we will match up.
2. If they are shown to have failings, we are encouraged, because we think, 'If God can use that person, then he can use me.'

Have you read a biography of a famous Christian? How did you react? Why?

Read again **Matthew 23 verses 1 to 13**, then note **verse 11**:

'The greatest among you shall be your servant.'

How do you find yourself treating people who appear to be 'lower' than you? Why?

We looked at **verse 13** and suggested that when we lift our heroes as anything other than sinners saved by Christ, we're telling the world that Jesus died only for good, strong people, NOT for the needy.

Do you agree? Why?

How can our churches stop that from happening?

This is the quote from Ian Thomas,

Make sure it's God's trumpet you're blowing. If it's only yours it won't wake the dead, it will simply disturb the neighbours.

For New Testament teaching against believers being arrogant, see e.g. Romans 11:20; and 1st Corinthians 4:18-19. See if you can find any other references.