**Man Misidentifies God’s People (1-20-2019)**

**1 Kings 18:17** (this verse was the inspiration for this sermon)

**Acts 7:35-36, 14:8-18, 17:1-9, 17:16-34**

**Matthew 9:32-34, 12:22-30**

Man may falsely accuse and falsely judge our motives. But let us not get off the narrow path of the Lord and let us not get discouraged from sharing His gospel with those around us.

Have you ever had people at work, at school, your neighbors, or even your family, treat you like you are their enemy, simply because you are trying to live as a Christian? That is really sad isn’t it?

Let us see the proper example for us set in **John 1:43-51** – Philip simply says to Nathanael (aka Bartholomew) “come and see”. That is what Christians are all about. Young people; do not be discouraged, you can do much for the Lord’s Kingdom by simply introducing your friends to Jesus! We Christians have been blessed with coming to know Jesus and we want others to be saved like us. We are not the enemy of our friends, neighbors, co-workers, classmates, and family members. But, rather, we could be the best friend they ever had if they would let us lead them to Jesus!

As we have just read, even our Lord was misunderstood (**John 11:48**). Jesus was also misunderstood by His own brethren (**Acts 1:6**). We may also at times be misunderstood by our own brethren.

Young and old: Do not be discouraged. Keep seeking to please God, hold tightly to His Word, and Shine the Light of Jesus to those around you. No matter if misunderstand or mistake your motives.

Would Jesus recognize you as belonging to Him this morning (**John 10:25-30**)? Man may not properly judge our motives, but Jesus always knows who belongs to Him. He knows the hearts of all men and women. He wants to identify you as one of His sheep!

If you are Christian who needs to return to Him, there is no better time to make that right!

If you are not a Christian, this building is full of folks who want to you to become one. Repent of your sins and be baptized to wash them all away (**Acts 2:38, 22:16**). Then no matter what man may say, you will be a child of God; walking on the path that leads to Heaven (**Matthew 7:13-14**).

Whatever your need is, please make it known while we stand and sing.