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Christian Mountain-Movers

Wyatt Sawyer

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Lesson prompted by elder's question: Mineola fishing trip. Apr. 16, 1970. QUESTION: "When Jesus talked of REMOVING MOUNTAINS wasn't He referring to MIRACLES? Thus, this phrase does not apply today?" Audience: What do you think?

Burden: To decide from the scriptures.

I. INSTANCES WHERE MOUNTAIN-MOVING WAS TAUGHT.


C. Mark 11:12-14* Fig tree. Disciples move mts. into sea and whatever asked. Miracle.

D. Luke 17:1-6.* Not a miracle!!! Followers can move sycamore trees into sea. (Fig family

E. *I Cor. 13:1-2. Is such a thing as mountain-moving faith!! Growing faith. Like a seed!!

II. MOUNTAIN-MOVING EXPLAINED IN THEIR CONTEXT.

A. Rabbis, who taught well, said to remove mountains explained hard sayings, removed great spiritual questions. REMOVED GREAT MENTAL DIFFICULTIES or obscure ideas or dim thoughts. "Uprooters of trees & Mts. or pulverizers of Mts. Level them to plains. IDEA: Smoothed out rough spots in life.

B. LITERAL MEANING: Hard problems can be solved, and seemingly difficult tasks can be accomplished. Spiritual Mountains: *Eph. 6:10-13.

III. MOUNTAINS THAT WERE MOVED THEN AND NOW.


B. Miracle. 2. That healing required PRAYER & FASTING. 21

C. Father's Great Faith removed this Mt. of Disease and Illness.

D. Our healing: Providential. Jas. 5:13-16*

1. A Proverbial expression; not literal nor hyper-bolic. Spiritual Tasks!

2. SPIRITUAL MOUNTAIN: Mk. 16:15-16
   a. Think we ought to try it. Do it??
   b. 130 Denom. to try it in U. S. in '73.
   c. Think Church of Christ should try to cover neighborhoods? Possible?? "Evangelism '73". TV, Radio, Newspapers simultaneous-meetings county-wide?
   d. WILLING TO: Pray. Believe. Give extra Volunteer talent? Work hard for souls Mountain of SIN needs moving NOW!!

3. SPIRITUAL MOUNTAIN under consideration. Bussing of hundreds of non-attenders
   Many workers. Foster-parents
   Not impossible!! Prayer-Fasting-Faith!!!

4. KEY to '78: I Cor. 13:2. LOVE OF SOULS.
   "Loving Faith. Infidels Challenge"

C. MILL-STONE OF UNFORGIVENESS: Great Mountain!
   1. Prayer hindered by Unforgiveness.
   2. Faith is weak due to Unforgiveness.
   3. Fasting valueless unless forgive!
   4. Love can lead the heart to forgive. Mt.!!

INV: The GREATEST MOUNTAIN needing removal by some is SIN. Sin makes us enemies of God.
   Sin keeps us out of the church.
   Sin condemns our immortal souls.
   Sin will keep us out of Heaven.

SOLUTION: Faith as grain of mustard seed.

ILL. ASK A FAVOR: Take piece of paper and write on it: Why I am not a Christian
   Fold it neatly. Caress in palm of hand.
   Hold it until the Judgment.
   Give it to God.
   He accept it then???? Ans. NO!!

   Then, why would He accept it now??