

Chapter Six: Philip – the Bean Counter

Philip answered Him, "Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may have little." – John 6:7

- I. Some general observations about Philip:
 - a. In the four biblical lists of the Twelve, the _____ name on every list is Philip. As we noted in chapter 2, this apparently signifies that Philip was the _____ of the second group of four.
 - b. *Philip* is a _____ name, meaning "lover of horses." He must also have had a Jewish name, but it is never given. Based on this, it is likely that Philip came from a family of Hellenistic Jews.
 - c. Don't confuse him with Philip the _____, the man we meet in Acts 6 who became an evangelist and led the _____ to Christ.
 - d. He, along with Nathanael and Thomas the Twin, was a _____ from _____, just like the first group of four.
 - e. It seems that unlike the first four apostles, Philip was a _____, a _____, and sometimes a _____.
- II. His Call (John 1:43-46)
 - a. He was technically the first apostle that Jesus _____.
 - b. What was the first thing Philip did after Jesus called him to follow Him?

 - c. It is obvious from what he said to Nathanael that he, along with the other five fishermen from Bethsaida who had gone to hear John the Baptist, had been looking for the _____.
 - d. When he found Jesus, he accepted him wholeheartedly and unhesitatingly. This was actually out of _____ for him which goes to show how the Lord had prepared his _____.
- III. The Feeding of the Five Thousand (John 6:1-14)
 - a. At his first encounter with Christ we see Philip's spiritual side; here we see his _____ side.

- b. Why did Jesus ask Philip where they would buy bread for so many? John says it was to _____ him. But why Philip? Because he was apparently the apostolic administrator – the _____ counter.
- c. Although he had seen Jesus work miracles already, when he saw that great crowd, he lapsed into _____ thinking.

IV. The Visit of the Greeks

- a. They probably sought out Philip because of his _____ and family.
- b. Philip, because of his administrative personality, was concerned about policies and protocol.
- c. So Philip took the Greeks to _____.
- d. He had another opportunity to step out in _____ and again he missed it.\

V. The Upper Room (John 14:1-11)

- a. In verse 7, Jesus added an explicit claim about His own deity: “If you had known Me, you would have known My _____ also; and from now on you know Him and have seen Him.”
- b. Philip’s response to Jesus claim here is _____ and sad especially when we remember how eagerly he responded when Jesus first called him.
- c. If we were interviewing Philip for the _____ to which Jesus had called him, we might say, “He’s out. You can’t make him into one of the twelve most important people in the history of the world.”
- d. But we can hear Jesus say, “He’s exactly what I’m looking for. For My _____ is made perfect in _____.”

Tradition tells us that Philip was greatly used in the spread of the early church and was among the first of the apostles to suffer martyrdom. By most accounts he was put to death by stoning at Heliopolis in Asia Minor, eight years after the martyrdom of James. Before his death, multitudes came to Christ under his preaching.

Philip obviously overcame the human tendencies that so often hampered his faith, and he stands with the other apostles as proof that “God chose things the world considers foolish in order to shame those who think they are wise. And he chose things that are powerless to shame those who are powerful. God chose things despised by the world, things counted as nothing at all, and used them to bring to nothing what the world considers important. As a result, no one can ever boast in the presence of God.”