

No.1 Receiving Jesus

To receive a Christian is to receive Jesus. So that to receive a Christian is to receive Christ at his hand. This is how through the long ages the Lord has communicated Himself -by the witness of believers. The word "receive" *δεχομαι* has the weight of "listening to" and even "worshipping." Thus the love and respect for the saint is often transferred to the Saviour. There is a good example in Acts where the people believed Philip speaking of Jesus. They had come to trust Philip and so they accepted his message and trusted his Saviour.

No.2 Receiving a prophet

Such as receive a prophet and his message will not lose their reward-which is to hear and obey the message of that gospel preacher and benefit eternally. The reward of entertaining is to enjoy the word and witness of those faithful to Christ in the scriptures. The idea of "receive" (*δεχομαι*-to take at the hand of another) is that there is hidden blessing. This blessing is "wages" or more correctly "salary" which is regularly payable. So the one who takes and believes prophecy re Christ is going to benefit week on week from scripture

No.3 Receiving a righteous man

The only name of Righteousness as in the case of prophecy is Christ. All prophecy points to Him and His kingdom. Equally all righteousness stems from His atoning work. Thus to have the reward of entertaining a righteous man is to receive a salary. This "salary" of righteousness is the imputation of such righteousness daily despite our sin. This is a corollary of deep association with believers-the message is "caught" in this case rather than "taught"

No.4 A cup of cold water

Here a special consideration for the young is set alongside consideration for. In this case disciples are to act as Christians especially in the interests of the very young and vulnerable and their obedience in this regard will be noted in heaven. "Cold water" is very necessary -and vital to saving life in hot countries.

*Little deeds of kindness, little acts of love
Please our heavenly Father living up above*



From paper to practice

Did you believe from seeing someone live out the faith in a kind and considerate way?
Even though you do not build a "prophet's chamber" (cf.2Kings 4.10) will you vow to be hospitable to preachers of the gospel where you can?
When a guest yourself remember the lasting value of witness.
Invest in children-reach out to one charity that helps them.