

LINCOLN COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH
SERMON OUTLINE
March 7th, 2021
Matthew 10:32-33

RECAP: Last week we looked at a warning, and a comfort. God firstly informs us that fear of the world and man is misplaced, and that He will take care of His people.

THESIS: Disciples of Christ should never deny Christ in the face of hostility.

EXEGESIS: Matthew 10:32-33 (see also Luke 12:8-9)

- **Related:** Some make an argument that this passage is the same in **Mark 8:36, and Luke 9:25**, but these are similar statements issued at different times, not the same statement.
- **“Therefore”** here, and that is important in this case. It shows us that what Jesus is about to say is attached to this section on persecution, and how we’re to handle it.
- **“acknowledge.”** This compound Greek word is *“omo-logeo,”* which is from “from here, from this place,” and “word.” In other words, woodenly, it’s “stated here,” or “said in this place.”
- **“deny.”** The Greek word is another compound word, *“arneo-mai,”* which is a negative particle in front of a basic word *“eromai,”* which means, “to speak.” In other words, this is literally to “reverse speak, backwards speak.” To deny, contradict, or disavow.
- **Doctrine:** This ties into this very real doctrine of *reciprocity* in eternity. What we do here absolutely determines our life and reward in eternity. We see this in **Matthew 7:1-2; Gal. 6:7.**
 - We can also assume Jesus is speaking of future, Final Days events.
- This is not a statement about being condemned to Hell or saved to the Kingdom precisely; but rather, about consequences dealt out for sin to real, genuinely saved disciples.
 - Peter betrays Jesus himself in **Matt. 26:69.**
 - **Mark 8:36 and Luke 9:25** both use “ashamed,” implying Jesus will treat disciples as they treated Him, not necessarily condemning to Hell, but reciprocating their actions ironically.
- There’s no broad consensus on the nature of this reward/punishment throughout scholars, other than the obvious statement of Christ’s treatment toward you will depend ironically on your treatment of Him.
- **Christ expects this of us, because we are His.** We belong to Christ. Is He not fully within His rights to expect loyalty from us?

CONCLUSION:

- **We are called to publicly confess Christ when pressed, and He will confess His relationship with us in the final days.**
- **We are warned against denying Him before men here, because we realize He will treat us with the same disloyalty, and disrespect, we show Him here in those situations.**