

August 8, 2021
“Prepared & Guileless: Philip & Bartholomew”
Matthew 10:3a

I. PHILIP

Philip – is a **GREEK** name meaning “lover of horses”.

Philip was the **FIRST** person to whom the Lord expressly said, **“FOLLOW ME”**.

God had already given Philip a **SEEKING** heart.

- ✚ From the perspective of **DIVINE** sovereignty, the Lord found Philip, but
- ✚ From the perspective of **HUMAN** understanding and volition, Philip had found the Lord.

God seeks & finds the hearts of those who genuinely seek Him.

Philip must have been diligently **STUDYING** the Scriptures to learn God’s will and plan.

Using His written **WORD**, God had prepared Philip’s heart.

The genuineness of Philip’s faith is seen in the reality that he also promptly began to **SERVE** Christ.

1. One of the certain marks of genuine conversion is the desire to **TELL OTHERS** of the Savior.
2. We learn from John’s Gospel that Philip had a practical, **ANALYTICAL** mind.

Jesus’ question went far beyond the practical and implied the **IMPOSSIBLE**.

Philip was so engrossed in the material situation that he completely **LOST SIGHT** of God’s power.

The supreme essential of a great leader is a sense of the **POSSIBLE**

Practical common sense can be an **OBSTACLE** to the greater virtue of trusting God for what is impractical.

Facts & figures are a poor substitute for **FAITH**.

3. We learn from John’s Gospel that Philip was not forceful and was inclined to be **INDECISIVE**.
4. We discover from John’s Gospel that Philip lacked **SPIRITUAL** perception.

The Lord used a man of limited **VISION** and **TRUST**.

II. BARTHOLOMEW (NETHANAEL)

John always uses the name **NATHANAEL**.

Philip’s words imply that, like himself, Nathanael was a **STUDENT** of **SCRIPTURE**.

Prejudice is an unwarranted generalization based on feelings of **SUPERIORITY**.

Not deceitful set him far **APART** from most of his countrymen.

Nathanael’s prejudice was not strong, and it quickly withered in the light of **TRUTH**.

Nathanael may have been inclined to doubt Jesus’ judgment because of his genuine **HUMILITY**.

His heart was **DIVINELY** prepared to seek the Messiah.

Nathanael was a man after God’s **OWN HEART**.