

THE SILENCE OF CHRIST

I. Silent in Supplication.

1. Mt. 15: 23 - "But He answered her not a word."

2. Why is God silent when we pray?
3. Prayer of Gen. Gordon & Confederate army before battle of Sharpsburg.

II. Silent in Questioning.

A. ~~Example~~ Luke 23:9 - Herod "questioned him with many words; but he answered him nothing."

B. Lk. 8: 5, 6 - "This they said, tempting him, that they might have to accuse him. But Jesus stooped down, and with his finger wrote on the ground, as though he heard them not."

2. Silence is usually more effective than argument.

3. Jesus' life was so pure it did not need defending.

III. Silent in Judgment.

1. Mt. 26: 63 - "But Jesus held his peace."
2. They were twisting his words. Jno. 2: 19-22
 - A. Had he answered this charge and explained his real statement, he would have had to announce publicly his resurrection.
 - B. It is a serious thing to twist God's word.
3. Later, however, Jesus did speak out plainly when asked about his messiahship and deity (Lk. 22: 64).
4. "I'll go with him through the judgment."

IV. Silent in Suffering

1. Isa. 53: 7. "He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet He opened not his mouth; He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearer is dumb, so He openeth not his mouth."
2. See Acts 8: 32
3. Christ's suffering was voluntary.
4. " " " weariness.

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