

2 Peter 1:16 & 19

For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ,

but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty.

And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed,

to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

LOVE IT OR LIST IT!

Interior designer Hilary Farr and real estate agent David Visentin compete for the affections of fed-up homeowners looking to either renovate or sell, as Hilary transforms their worn-out space into a welcoming one while David works to find them a new home. At the end of each hour-long episode, the homeowners decide if the changes designed by Hilary are enough for them to stay in their current home, or if the new property David has found better suits their needs. So, whether they **love it or list it**, the homeowners come out on top.

Hilary, of course, discovers a major problem that has to be fixed, like the foundation is settling or the roof is leaking, and the homeowners refuse to add to the renovation budget. She therefore has to not give them something they asked for.

Meanwhile, David takes the couple on a tour of homes well outside their budget which, in the end, they often have no problem paying.

Someone wrote, “My aunt and uncle were on **Love It or List It**. They had them record both endings and the network chose which one they thought was best. They are still in the house and they love it, but the show says they listed it.”

Homeowners are more likely to **‘love it’**. Staying with the familiar and improved is far less stressful than buying and moving! Which is why they film 2 endings, otherwise, poor David wouldn’t win very often.

All the men Jesus called to be his disciples were Israelites.

Matthew 10:5–6

These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, “Go nowhere among the Gentiles and enter no town of the Samaritans,

but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

When a Canaanite woman asked Jesus to heal her daughter, Jesus said...

Matthew 15:24

“I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”

The Pharisees and the Sadducees were both were looking for a remodel. They were mostly happy with the religion they had:

The Sadducees Loved:

- the temple,
- the priesthood,
- the Torah,
- the Sanhedrin,
- sitting in Moses’ seat,

- the power and respect.

But they were definitely looking for some renovations.

Like:

Autonomy- get rid of the hated Romans.

Exclusivity- get rid of the Pharisees so they, and they only, would be in charge.

The Pharisees Loved:

- The rest of Scripture,
- The oral tradition,
- The synagogues,
- The study and application of the 613 laws in the Mishnah and Talmud.

But they were definitely looking for some renovations:

Like:

Authority – get rid of the hated Romans.

Exclusivity- get rid of the Sadducees so they, and they only, would be in charge of teaching in Israel.

Power over sinners so they could bring about the coming of the Messiah by keeping the laws and traditions perfectly.

When these men came to John and then to Jesus, they were mostly interested in whether either of these men could deliver the remodel they were looking for.

When it became clear that John and Jesus were not there to serve the needs and wants of the Sadducees or Pharisees, they regarded them as enemies and sought to destroy them.

But what about the children of Israel?

What were they looking for?

Did they want a remodel or were they fed up with the old house and wanted something completely new?

Were they interested in a Hilary makeover or a David move?

Mark 1:4–5

John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

Everywhere Jesus went he attracted crowds and multitudes.

- This seems to indicate that the people were hungry for the bread of life, thirsty for the water of life, desperately seeking the salvation that the Messiah would bring.
- They wanted an end to the constant squabbling between their leaders.
- They wanted an end to the self-righteous berating of the Pharisees about the 613 laws.
- They wanted an end to the hypocrisy of following the letter of law instead of the spirit of it.

- They wanted to hear about God's love and mercy not just his displeasure over their sin.
- They were looking for some serious remodeling.
- They wanted some walls knocked down and fresh air and sunlight brought in.
- They wanted some living space and some personal space.

And so, they flocked to Jesus and were astounded at his words and the power he exhibited over all of the forces and authorities that lined up against him.

They wanted Jesus to make the changes and then **they would love it!**

As the appointed day of his suffering drew near,

Matthew 17

Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves.

And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light.

And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him.

That was it for Peter. He loved it!

In fact, he loved it so much he said...

"Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah."

- Yep, Jesus, you nailed it!
- This is perfect!

- This is exactly what we were looking for.
- You gave us everything we wanted.

We love it!

What did they love about it? Well,

- Moses and the Exodus. The power and direct rule of God.
- Elijah the fiery prophet who faced down the enemies of God and was taken to Heaven in a fiery chariot.
- Jesus, shining with the glory of God!

But what was really going on here?

What was Jesus really up to?

Luke tells us that Jesus was speaking to Moses and Elijah about his upcoming Exodus.

Matthew 16:21

From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.

Mark 13:1–2

And as he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, “Look, Teacher, what wonderful stones and what wonderful buildings!” And Jesus said to him,

“Do you see these great buildings? There will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down.”

Matthew 27:51

And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split.

Matthew 23:29–38

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! ...

33 You serpents, you brood of vipers, how are you to escape being sentenced to hell?

37 “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it!

How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!

See, your house is left to you desolate.

It seems that Jesus is telling his disciples to list it!

Luke 5:36–38

He also told them a parable: “No one tears a piece from a new garment and puts it on an old garment. If he does, he will tear the new, and the piece from the new will not match the old.

And no one puts new wine into old wineskins. If he does, the new wine will burst the skins and it will be spilled, and the skins will be destroyed.

But new wine must be put into fresh wineskins.

No Peter. We're not staying here. We're going down to Jerusalem where I will make all things new.

We're going down the mountain and then up to Calvary so I can fulfill my purpose of saving the world.

All that has come before me:

- Abraham,
- Moses and the Exodus,
- The Promised land
- The temple,
- the sacrifices,
- the priesthood,
- the prophets,
- the kingdom,

this was all to prepare my way! Now I have come, the Lamb of God to take away the sins of the world.

Salvation is for all the world! To everyone who believes!

You will leave the old house behind and go out into all the world with this Good News!

I'm not here to make the old better for you...

Revelation 21:5

And he who was seated on the throne said,

"Behold, I am making all things new."

So, don't hang on to the old. Let it go.

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Jesus is telling us to leave behind the false security of religion and tradition and instead embrace him as Savior and Lord.

Follow him, trust in him, tell the world of how he conquered sin and death and wants everyone to know him and be saved.