

Father, in the name of Jesus I pray that all who hear this message are able to see the narrow way which leads to life. And avoid the traps of tradition and deception. I pray for your Holy Spirit to guide each heart and mind to the truth and to strengthen each of us to be able to walk as Jesus walked and to produce much fruit. May we walk in love as Jesus walked in love. May we each see the more excellent way. I pray you keep each of us from the broad way which leads to destruction.

amen

1Corinthians11

23 For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the *same* night in which he was betrayed took bread: **24** And when he had given thanks, he brake *it*, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. **25** After the same manner also *he took* the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink *it*, in remembrance of me. **26** For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.

The night Jesus was betrayed, he took bread and GAVE THANKS! Notice how Jesus walked. He has just been betrayed by Judas ----- by the world ----- and he is giving thanks to the Father. Jesus is Love, ----- and he is **showing his love right here**. Judas has just betrayed him, and he is thanking the Father. Love is sacrificial, he had no sin, he had done no evil, yet he was betrayed and was still able to give thanks and forgive Judas. Of course Jesus knew that satan had entered Judas, through Judas's lust for money and greed. Judas had not repented of these things and so was easy pray for the kingdom of darkness. He had left the door wide open for the devil to enter him and control him. His sin had caught him out and he was snared by the devil.

John 13 **27** And after the sop Satan entered into him. Then said Jesus unto him, That thou doest, do quickly.

Judas betrayed Jesus. Jesus rose again and sat at the right hand of God.

Acts 1 **9** And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

Judas was not the only one to betray Jesus at that time. His own people failed to recognize him! The religious leaders of the time had their own doctrine and their own teachings -----teachings and doctrines of men and man made rules and ordinances. They failed to recognize their own messiah! They were busy in their rebellion to Gods word, and the living word! who was right there in front of them, Jesus! They wanted to stay in their pride and rebellion and teach and believe things that were not of God at all, but their own traditions. They were comfortable with the way things were. Jesus was teaching things that they did not want to hear. They were

expecting a conquering King, not a sacrificial lamb. They betrayed Jesus. They wanted him to be crucified, because they did not want to hear the truth. They did not want to obey the truth. He came as a sacrificial lamb. They could not accept him because of their pride. Jesus was teaching his disciples to behave the same as him and follow His teachings. All of which were found in the word of God.

SACRIFICIAL LOVE

THEY WANTED TO MAKE THEIR OWN WAY TO HEAVEN ----- BY FOLLOWING THEIR OWN WAY ----- BY OBEYING THEIR OWN LAWS AND ORDINANCES AND LEAVING OUT LOVE ALL TOGETHER. THEY DID NOT WANT TO HEAR THE GOSPEL. THEY DID NOT WANT TO HEAR JESUS. THEY DID NOT WANT TO RECOGNIZE HIM. THEY DID NOT WANT TO FOLLOW HIM.

Matthew 23 **10** Neither be ye called masters: for one is your Master, *even* Christ. **11** But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant. **12** And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted.

Those priests, pastors, pharisees, sadducees ----- the overseers of the flock who had position and were the leadership in their time failed to recognize their own God when he was right before their eyes. They had no intention of humbling themselves for the sake of the flock, They refused to hear the truth, ----- they hated the truth. And Jesus whilst forgiving all repentant sinners had this to say.

Matthew 23

13 But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye **neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in.** **14** Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye devour widows' houses, and for a pretence make long prayer: therefore ye shall receive the greater damnation.

15 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves.

16 Woe unto you, *ye* blind guides, which say, Whosoever shall swear by the temple, it is nothing; but whosoever shall swear by the gold of the temple, he is a debtor! **17** *Ye* fools and blind: for whether is greater, the gold, or the temple that sanctifieth the gold? **18** And, Whosoever shall swear by the altar, it is nothing; but whosoever sweareth by the gift that is upon it, he is guilty. **19** *Ye* fools and blind: for whether *is* greater, the gift, or the altar that sanctifieth the gift? **20** Whoso therefore shall swear by the altar, sweareth by it, and by all things thereon. **21** And whoso shall swear by the temple, sweareth by it, and by him that dwelleth therein. **22** And he that shall swear by heaven, sweareth by the throne of God, and by him that sitteth thereon.

23 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have **omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith**: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone. **24** *Ye* blind guides, which strain at a gnat, and swallow a camel.

25 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye make clean the outside of the cup and of the platter, but within they are full of extortion and excess. **26** *Thou* blind Pharisee, cleanse first that *which is* within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also.

27 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead *men's* bones, and of all uncleanness. **28** Even so ye also outwardly **appear righteous unto men**, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity.

29 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! because ye build the tombs of the prophets, and garnish the sepulchres of the righteous, **30** And say, If we had been in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets. **31** Wherefore ye be witnesses unto yourselves, that ye are the children of them which killed the prophets. **32** Fill ye up then the measure of your fathers. **33** ***Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?***

34 Wherefore, behold, I send unto you prophets, and wise men, and scribes: and *some* of them ye shall kill and crucify; and *some* of them shall ye scourge in your synagogues, and persecute *them* from city to city: **35** That upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel unto the blood of Zacharias son of Barachias, whom ye slew between the temple and the altar. **36** Verily I say unto you, All these things shall come upon this generation.

These men ignored the Word of God and thought that they knew a better way. Their own way! Another way! Following rules and ordinance but ignoring Love. Knowing their God was a God of Love. But there is no other way. Mans traditions and doctrine and beliefs have no weight at all in the kingdom of God. Anything contrary to the Word of God is not truth. Doctrines of demons and traditions of men are not the narrow way. They are the broad way to destruction as Jesus clearly explained.

John 14:16 **6** Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: **no man** cometh unto the Father, **but by me**.

Well how does this relate to us today? Jesus died and is now at the right hand of God. Can the same thing happen again? Can Jesus come again and not be recognized? Can we miss him again? Can the flock still be lead astray? Can we be lead astray by being a stiff necked Pharisee who refuses to see the truth?

Ecclesiastes 1 **9** The thing that hath been, it *is that* which shall be; and that which is done *is* that which shall be done: and *there is* no new *thing* under the sun.

Matthew 27 **39** And they that passed by reviled him, wagging their heads, **40** And saying, Thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest *it* in three days, save thyself. If thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross. **41** Likewise also the chief priests mocking *him*, with the scribes and elders, said, **42** He saved others; himself he cannot save. If he be the King of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him.

Luke 16:14 And the Pharisees also, who were covetous, heard all these things: and they derided him.

John 10 **7** Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep. **8** All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them. **9** I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. **10** The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *it* more abundantly.

They follow their own way. They followed their own doctrines and rules they had made themselves. And it is still happening today. They departed from the truth. And so they did not recognize Jesus.

2Timothy 2 **18** Who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already; and overthrow the faith of some. **19** Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

John 16 **7** Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.

2Corinthians 4:10 Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body.

Jesus is still walking on the Earth today. But modern day Pharisees fail to recognize him once again! Just as they failed to recognize him in Jesus day. Jesus sacrificed HIS life for his Body/ THE CHURCH/ In whom the Holy Spirit resides from that time till now! The Holy Spirit still operates ----- through Gods children and his voice / Jesus / can still be heard, and is heard by his sheep. The wolves of course don't listen to the Holy Spirit who leads and guides the body of Christ. Jesus is still walking amidst us in his church which is his body. This is why he had to die and rise again. So the comforter could come. This is the power of the cross. The Holy Spirit is transforming the children of God/the church into His image!

2Corinthians 3:18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, *even* as **by the Spirit of the Lord**.

Jesus is the only way. His body is the church. The head of the church is Jesus. The Holy Spirit is our comforter and helper and will guide us into all truth. No man can do this work. It is a work of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit can work through the children of God. He uses each of us to edify the whole body. To edify each other and to lift each other up. We all have different gifts and talents and skills which are given by God, but it is the Holy Spirit who guides ALL of it. Always in agreement with the Word of God. Which is the revelation of Jesus.

Let us not harden our hearts through disobedience and stiffen our necks and shut our ears and close our eyes. Let us not be or become a Pharisee. Let us always be hearing what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

2Corinthians 3 **17** Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord *is*, there *is* liberty

There is no liberty in the traditions and doctrines of men. Where the SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS THERE IS LIBERTY.

John 16:13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, *that* shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

The bible, the Word of God shows us what is the truth. And the Holy Spirit guides us in how to apply the truth to each of our own lives. No man can do this. It is a work of the Holy Spirit.

John10 11 I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep. **12** But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep. **13** The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep. **14** I am the good shepherd, and know my *sheep*, and am known of mine. **15** As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep. **16** And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, *and* one shepherd. **17** Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. **18** No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.

19 There was a division therefore again among the Jews for these sayings. **20** And many of them said, He hath a devil, and is mad; why hear ye him? **21** Others said, These are not the words of him that hath a devil. Can a devil open the eyes of the blind?

If we know and read Gods word, we know the voice of the Holy Spirit, because the Holy Spirit will always agree with Gods word and reveal the truth. If we don't read or know what God says in his Word we are open to the deception of the devil and of men, and of traditions and lies and deceptions from other sources in the world that may appear good, but are not the Word of God.

If we don't learn to discern the Lords voice we will be lead astray to listen to prideful men, or even being prideful ourselves be lead by our own doctrines which suit the way we want to live! If we choose to, we will listen to things that are pleasing to our flesh --- our earthly bodies, things that require little or no change in our lives. Things that are easy. We will choose the way that suits us ----- the broad way to destruction.

2Timothy4 **3** For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; **4** And they shall turn away *their* ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

Pharisees don't want to follow Jesus, they don't want to take up their cross,

----- they want another Jesus. They want another gospel. They won't listen to the Holy Spirit or what the Holy Spirit speaks through his church/body. They refuse to choose the narrow way, the sacrificial way, the way Jesus showed us. They refuse to repent. They refuse to walk in love. God is love!

Matthew 7 **13** Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide *is* the gate, and broad *is* the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: **14** Because strait *is* the gate, and narrow *is* the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it

15 Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. **16** Ye shall **know them by their fruits**. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? **17** Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. **18** A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither *can* a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. **19** Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. **20** **Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.**

21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. **22** Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? **23** And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

Why did the Lord say, I never knew you: Depart from me. ?

Is it because these forgot to Love? They forgot to follow the way that Jesus showed us? The way that the Holy Spirit leads us into? The narrow way? Even though they did many wonderful things!

Luke 9:23 And he said to *them* all, If any *man* will come after me, **let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.**

The Holy Spirit desires to lead us into relationship with God and to transform us into Jesus likeness. We can use Jesus name to cast out demons, heal the sick, raise the dead, prophesy, and do wonders and miracles, but forget about a relationship with God through the Holy Spirit, and forget to take up our cross and follow HIM. Those other things are good works, even mighty works. But those things do not transform us into the image of Jesus. Jesus is Love.

1 Corinthians 12 **28** And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues. **29** *Are* all apostles? *are* all prophets? *are* all teachers? *are* all workers of miracles? **30** Have all the gifts of healing? do all speak with tongues? do all interpret? **31** But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way.

These are gifts and offices with which to serve the body. We are to desire and pray for these things, ----- for the purpose of edifying the body/believers/brethren/church. The Holy Spirit uses these gifts as we each walk in what he has given us, as he directs us to use them. Not as we choose to use them, but as he guides us. He is the mind of Christ. If we operate and do everything by our own carnal thinking and desire ----- apart from the Spirit of God we will have division and strife. Every part of the body should be lead by the Spirit. One mind/ the mind of Christ.

31 But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way

1Corinthians 13 **1** Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, **I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.** **2** And though I have *the gift of prophecy*, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, **I am nothing.** **3** And though I bestow all my goods to feed *the poor*, and though I give my body to be burned, **and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.**

These wonderful things profit NOTHING if there is not the fruit of Love. So what is the fruit of Love? what does the bible say Love is?

4 Charity **suffereth long**, and is **kind**; charity **envieth not**; charity **vaunteth not itself**, is **not puffed up**, **5** **Doth not behave itself unseemly**, **seeketh not her own**, is **not easily provoked**, **thinketh no evil**; **6** **Rejoiceth not in iniquity**, but **rejoiceth in the truth**; **7** **Beareth all things**, **believeth all things**, **hopeth all things**, **endureth all things.**

Love is not great works or signs and wonders and miracles. Love is sacrificial. Love requires Forgiveness, self control, kindness, forbearance, it requires humility and leaves NO ROOM FOR PRIDE. Love demands we stop putting ourselves above others, love suffers long. Love is a hard thing. The way of Love is narrow. This is truly taking up your cross and following Jesus. Other things are part of our ministry, and they are good. But without Love, we are nothing. Gods Word says this is so. Do not be deceived by another gospel.

John15 **1** I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. **2** Every branch in me that **beareth not fruit** he taketh away: and every *branch* that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. **3** Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. **4** Abide in me, and I in you. As the **branch cannot bear fruit of itself**, except it **abide in the vine**; no more can ye, **except ye abide in me.** **5** I am the vine, ye *are* the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: **for without me ye can do nothing.** **6** **If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.**

If we don't listen to the comforter, if we decide we know a better way, then we have been deceived. We cannot bear fruit apart from the Holy Spirit and if we don't bear fruit, if we think we know better than the Holy Spirit about how to follow the narrow way, we are deceived. There is no other way

Matthew 7 **20** Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.

1Corinthians 13 **4** Charity **suffereth long**, and is **kind**; charity **envieth not**; charity **vaunteth**

not itself, is not puffed up, **5** Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; **6** Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; **7** Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

This is the more excellent way. This is how Jesus walked. This is what the Holy Spirit leads us do do. It is a narrow way because it is a hard way. It is easier to do nice things and to smile and to do wonders and signs and miracles and other good things. But without this type of fruit IT PROFITS US NOTHING. The Love of Jesus is in his humility and in these qualities. The voice of the Holy Spirit is always asking us to take on these qualities. The Holy Spirit is refining us into the likeness of our Lord Jesus. We can hear the Holy Spirit because he is the voice asking us to do these things. To die to our self. Sacrificial Love.

Romans 8 **12** Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, **not to the flesh, to live after the flesh.** **13** For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do **mortify the deeds of the body**, ye shall live. **14** For **as many as are led by the Spirit of God**, they are the sons of God.

Galatians 5 **16** *This* I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. **17** For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. **18** But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law. **19** Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are *these*; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, **20** Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, **21** Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told *you* in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. **22** But the **fruit of the Spirit** is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, **23** Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. **24** And they that are Christ's have **crucified the flesh** with the affections and lusts.

Let none of us think we can find our own way or follow mans way or mans tradition. Let us all hear the Holy Spirit and follow Him down the narrow way which leads to life.

Father, in the name of Jesus I pray that all who hear this message are able to see the narrow way which leads to life. And avoid the traps of tradition and deception. I pray for your Holy Spirit to guide each heart and mind to the truth and to strengthen each of us to be able to walk as Jesus walked and to produce much fruit. May we walk in love as Jesus walked in love. May we each see the more excellent way. I pray you keep each of us from the broad way which leads to destruction.

amen