

Romans 3:4 God forbid: yea, **let God be true**, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged.

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and **the Word was God**.

John 1:14 And **the Word was made flesh**, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

1 Timothy 3:16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: **God was manifest in the flesh**, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

Gods word is a sure foundation to us if we believe it to be true. Even if parts of it seem unreasonable or impossible to follow and obey, it must remain our rock and truth and foundation or we can be lead astray. If things seem unreasonable in the Word, it is because we do not understand why God has made it so. **If we rely on our carnal minds**, rather than to trust Gods word, then **we will reason ourself away(or be persuaded away) from the truth.** Our flesh(carnal mind) will gladly be lead away to an easier path. By vain religion or by the reasonings that go on in our carnal minds and many times these reasonings are inspired by the demonic or the world or even more dangerous, by vain religion. Whether we understand why God says some things, or we do not understand, we still need to agree with it, or we will be deceived. Let God be true and every man a liar. We must always remember that everything in the Word is there to cut between soul and spirit and to divide truth from lies, to cut off the rebellious mind of the flesh. Our soul has been trained by the world to appease and please the flesh and self nature. Self is separate from God. Gods word brings us back to God, it exposes the lies. We now bring death to the power of the flesh over us, through The Word, to raise up our born again spirit to **our spiritual life** in Jesus Christ. To leave this fallen world to enter our heavenly hope. To let go of the world and walk in the Spirit. **The Word brings us to the truth.** **Just as Jesus brought His disciples to the truth.** God was "manifest" in the flesh, Meaning God was made clear or obvious to the eye or mind of the world in Jesus Christ. Jesus is the Word become flesh, He manifested the Word to the world. No part of Jesus life was in disagreement to the Word of God. He was the Word, in the flesh. God does not change, therefore Gods Word does not change. **God wants us to come into His image** and so we also **strive to enter that rest where no part of our life disagrees with Gods word.** **But to do this we must follow the Word(JESUS) and not traditions. Disciples of Jesus.**

Hebrews 4:11 Let us **labour therefore to enter into that rest**, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.

Hebrews 1:3 The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the **exact representation of His nature**, upholding all things by His powerful word. After He had provided purification for sins, **He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.**

Hebrews 1:13 But to which of the angels said he at any time, **Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool?**

Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came to them and spake unto them, saying, **All authority hath been given unto me in heaven and on earth.**

Jesus sat down at the right hand of God, but His reign on Earth did not finish there. He is still ruling and reigning and making His enemies His footstool today, on the Earth. He has not finished making His enemies His footstool. He is going to complete this work in His true church, **in and through His disciples.** He is doing this **in** His disciples. **satan and his kingdom is to be trampled under foot by Jesus IN AND THROUGH His church, HIS DISCIPLES .** The **glory of God** on the Earth, is **CHRIST IN US.** The glory of God on Earth is when **Jesus reigns through US**, and is **manifested in US**, as we **lay down our life for His names sake** and for others. **Jesus rules and reigns on Earth through His disciples** and it is **IN His disciples, His true church,** that God does this. In us who believe and prove we believe **by our faith IN LOVE.** Not just hearing but **walking IN LOVE.** The devils kingdom is trampled through love. Jesus life(Although he died) on Earth continues, through the comforter as we commune with God in the spirit, through the Spirit of God.

Galatians 5:25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

As we lay down our flesh life and follow Him, becoming disciples, He manifests in us and **takes up His life again.** He laid down His life for His sheep, US. He is In His sheep, He is the shepherd and if we follow Him we also lay down our lives for the sheep. We lay down our life so Jesus can take up His life again, through us. We let go of our self life, to take up His life. **He takes His life up again IN US.** He **laid down His life** so that He could **take it up again, in us.**

John 10:17 Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again.

If we die to self, if we crucify the flesh and become a disciple, a learner and follower of Jesus, Jesus is able to take up His life again in Us. It is then Jesus that works through us His love. If we get our self out of the way! He has given us free will, and so we must willingly do this. **Not through law but willingly.** Jesus rules and reigns and makes His enemies(our enemies) a footstool through us. **Had satan and the whole demonic kingdom known this, they never would have crucified Jesus.** Jesus can be all over the world now, in His disciples, trampling satan and his kingdom **through the church.** Jesus is living again in His believers. In His disciples. It is not religion, it is truth. Die to self.

Colossians 1:27 To whom God would make known **what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles**; which **is Christ in you, the hope of glory**:

Philippians 2:13 For it is **God which worketh in you both to will and to do** of *his* good pleasure.

John 10 **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.

1 Corinthians 2 **6** Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought: **7** But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, *even the hidden wisdom*, which God ordained before the world unto our glory: **8** Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

Being a disciple of Jesus Christ is about letting go of this temporary flesh life and the things we hold as so important in this world, so that we can take up our eternal life in heavenly places(in Christ). Self is separation from God. We are all one in Christ, how then can there be self?

Galatians 3:28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for **ye are all one in Christ Jesus.**

Letting go of vain religion, we look to becoming a disciple! If we do not lose our life, we will not gain our life. To gain our life in eternity with God, we must realize that we need to let go of this one(the lust of the eyes , the lust of the flesh and the pride of life) and become a disciple of Jesus. We come to realize our life is IN HIM and it is IN ETERNITY WITH HIM. As we realize this, we are able to see the hope in Him and let go of **what we now see as temporal and by far, secondary and inferior, even worthless.** Our flesh life. Our hope and future and life are all now found in Jesus. There is nothing in the world that holds us to it, if we see our hope and future in another world, an heavenly world. All eternity. If we keep self we keep our self separate from God for all eternity! Self is separate from God. When we see this, we are able to let go and allow our spirit man to rise up and take dominion, to take up our eternal life IN GOD. Our spirit is born of God. Our flesh and self life was born into sin and death(separation from God). We set our faces like flint and take up our discipleship. We see our hope.

Colossians 1:5 For the hope **which is laid up for you in heaven**, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel;

Isaiah 50 6 I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair: I hid not my face from shame and spitting. 7 For the Lord GOD will help me; therefore shall I not be confounded: **therefore have I set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be ashamed.**

Matthew 16:26 For what is a man profited, **if he shall gain the whole world,** and lose his own soul? or **what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?**

Matthew 16:25 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and **whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.**

Matthew 16:24 Then said Jesus **unto his disciples,** If any *man* will come after me, **let him deny himself,** and take up his cross, and **follow me.**

Matthew 16:28 Verily I say unto you, There be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom.

We see Jesus coming in his kingdom(US) as we lay down our self life, or selfish life, and take up our higher life in Him. **Becoming disciples** means walking as Jesus walked, **which means walking in love and humbling ourselves** to the Word of God. **It is walking in love that humbles us** and **allows us to take on Jesus name, His nature character and authority.** We should not take His name in vain. **We are ambassadors** to heaven now, and are representatives of Jesus to the world. We represent His nature character and authority to the world. As we grow in our walk people begin seeing Christ in us. **Humbling our self** nature allows us to enter the heavenly kingdom. **We do not want to represent satans name, nature or character.**

2 Corinthians 5:20 Now then **we are ambassadors for Christ,** as though God did beseech *you* by us: we pray *you* **in Christ's stead,** be ye reconciled to God.

Luke 21:19 In your patience possess ye your souls.

Philippians 3:8 Yea doubtless, and **I count all things *but* loss** for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: **for whom I have suffered the loss of all things,** and **do count them *but* dung,** *that I may win Christ,*

1 Corinthians 2:9 But as it is written, **Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard,** neither have entered into the heart of man, **the things which God hath prepared** for them that love him.

When we have this hope, we are able to let go of our wants and desires here in this world, in our flesh bodies, because we see it as worthless refuse, compared to what God has prepared for us in heaven, in our glorified bodies. Remembering the prince of this world is satan, we do not want to inherit this world, it is fallen, dark and evil. We want to inherit the kingdom of God in Jesus Christ. To do this, we become a disciple, we humble ourselves, and to humble ourselves, we obey the command to love one another with all our heart. Obeying this command guides us into Jesus name. His nature, His character, and His authority. It guides us into Gods kingdom and out of this dark fallen world. Out from under the law, into relationship with God, which leads to love. Obeying Love humbles us. Obeying the Word humbles us. Listening to and obeying the Spirit of God leads us to Love, and Love leads to becoming humble. As we give our life to Jesus, He takes up His life in us, and continues doing what He did with His own life on Earth, IN US and through us. We escape an evil world and enter into heavenly places. As we become humble we are exalted. Our enemy is placed under our feet. Our enemy is not flesh and blood, **but is demonic. Flesh cannot fight this war, but God can, when we abide in him through grace. Showing others grace in all things. Love is our weapon. And it is Gods gift to us, through grace.**

Luke 1:52 He hath **put down the mighty from *their* seats, and exalted them of low degree.**

James 1:9 Let the brother of **low degree** rejoice in that he **is exalted**:

Luke 14:11 For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and **he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.**

Isaiah 29.19 **The meek also shall increase *their* joy in the LORD, and the poor among men shall rejoice in the Holy One of Israel.**

Gods kingdom is entered by faith and not by sight. It is entered by obedience and by the truth. It is entered by taking up our cross daily and following Him, (becoming a disciple). Nothing added and nothing taken away. Laying down our life. It is not entered by religion, but by love. It is entered by loving God and loving our neighbor as our self. As we strive to love God and love our neighbor as ourself, God is able then to guide us(through the Spirit), in relationship, into our spiritual life in Him, and let go of self, this carnal life. Self is like a beast that thinks of itself. In Christ we are all one, we look to each others needs. We are one body, but we are many looking to the needs of the body. We are part of Christ body, the church.

1 Corinthians 12:12 For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also *is* Christ.

It is in the striving to obey the command to love **that we are humbled**, and that **we learn** and **increase our faith**. The old carnal man hates and resists humbling, the flesh rebels. It wants an excuse to escape humbling and vain religion is a great excuse. But it is false comfort because it does not produce Love. It is a very cruel deceit. Many there are that turn to it.

James 1:27 Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, *and* to keep himself unspotted from the world.

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:

There is no avoiding love, concerning Gods way. God is love. It is when we are humbled(brought low in this world) that we can be exalted(brought high in Gods kingdom). Letting go of an evil, dark fallen world to gain Heaven. It is a great trade that God has given us, Heaven instead of hell, but heaven operates in love, and if we **allow our minds to grasp this hope** we have, and **see it in our mind**, our hope becomes firm. Jesus takes away all our anger, hate, jealousy, rejection, hurt, pain, anxiety, addictions, poverty, pride, vanity, ego, self and all the fallen nature that has been passed to us from the curse and the father of lies, and gives us our heavenly hope. We gradually despise this world and the flesh life more and more **as we see our hope**. It is by faith, hope AND LOVE. **Walking in love**(truth), and **not just hearing a lot about love(vain religion)**.
Disciples.

2 Corinthians 5:7 (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)

2 Corinthians 4:18 While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: **for the things which are seen *are* temporal**; but the things which are not seen *are* eternal.

Hebrews 11:1 Now **faith is the substance of things hoped for**, the evidence of things not seen.

Romans 8:24 For **we are saved by hope**; but **hope that is seen is not hope**: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?

Romans 10:10 For with the **heart** man believeth unto righteousness; and **with the mouth confession is made unto salvation**.

Ephesians 1 **1** Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, to the saints which are at Ephesus, and to the faithful in Christ Jesus: **2** Grace *be* to you, and peace, from God our Father, and *from* the Lord Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 1 **3** Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath **blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ**: **4** According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that **we should be holy and without blame before him in love**: **5** Having predestinated us **unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself**, according to the good pleasure of his will, **6** To the praise of the **glory of his grace**, wherein he hath **made us accepted** in the beloved. **7** In whom **we have redemption** through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace; **8** Wherein he hath **abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence**; **9** Having **made known unto us** **““the mystery””** of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself:

Colossians 1:27 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of **““this mystery””** among the Gentiles; **which is** **““Christ in you””**, ***the hope of glory***:

Ephesians 1 **10** That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together **in one** all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; *even* in him: **11** In whom also we **have obtained an inheritance**, being predestinated according **to the purpose of him** who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will: **12** That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first **trusted** in Christ. **13** In whom ye also **trusted**, after that ye heard the **word of truth**, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also **after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise**, **14** Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

15 Wherefore I also, after I heard **of your faith** in the Lord Jesus, **and love unto all the saints**, **16** Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my **prayers**; **17** That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may **give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him**: **18** The eyes of your **understanding being enlightened**; that ye may know what is **the hope of his calling**, and what the **riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints**, **19** And what *is* the **exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe**, according to the **working of his mighty power**, **20** Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set *him* at his own right hand in the heavenly *places*, **21** **Far above all** principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: **22** And hath **put all things under his feet**, and gave him *to be* the head over all *things* to the church, **23** **Which is his body**, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

If we have faith, we see Christ IN US. When we look into the mirror do we see anger, resentment, rejection, defeat, failure, despair, depression? Or do we see Jesus, by faith. Now we see our hope by faith perhaps dimly, but as our faith grows we see it more and more clearly. The more we see it, the more our faith grows. We begin to see Christ in us. We do not see the old man, we take hold of the hope of Christ IN US. We see Jesus in us as we let go of our old nature. As we become disciples, dying daily, learning of and following Jesus.

1 Corinthians 13:12 For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

James 1 23 For if any be a **hearer** of the word, and **not a doer**, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: **24** For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and **straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.**

2 Corinthians 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.

By faith, we wait patiently, with our hope set in God as we wait for Him to finish the work He started in us. The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak, and so becoming a disciple of Jesus is a fight of faith, in things unseen, but in a sure hope, knowing God does not lie. We can enter into the presence of God, the veil was ripped from top to bottom, by faith, through Jesus. Through believing the word and trusting by faith. Always dying to the carnal life, in order to live for our higher life. Our eternal life. This is our hope.

2 Corinthians 4 7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, **and not of us.** **8** *We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair;* **9** *Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;* **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.** **11** *For we which live are alway delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest* in our mortal flesh. **12** So then death worketh in us, but life in you.

Hebrews 6:19 Which *hope* we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil;

1 Corinthians 2:14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

Romans 8:6 For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded *is* life and peace.

Relying on our own reasonings and departing from the Word will lead to death. It is the Holy Spirit that keeps us safe and on track **with the Word of God**, but He can only do this if we are believing and walking by faith using **the Word of God**. Not mans words. If we discard parts of the Word, or add parts because we do not understand some things, we leave ourselves open to deceit by satan and the whole kingdom of darkness, who will be only too glad to use our ignorance against us, to lead us astray. Our carnal mind is taken captive at his will(when we are in the flesh). But if we follow the Spirit, in all grace, through love, we have the mind of the Spirit and He will lead and guide us into all truth. satan has no chance of outsmarting the Spirit of God, so we adhere to the Word, without adding or taking from it. There is dire warning to those that do.

Revelation 22 **18** For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: **19** And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and *from* the things which are written in this book.

2 Timothy 2:26 And *that* they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, **who are taken captive by him at his will.**

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.

1 John 4:6 We are of God: **he that knoweth God heareth us;** he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.

Galatians 1 **6** I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: **7** Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. **8** But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. **9** As we said before, so say I now again, **If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received,** let him be accursed.

10 For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.

Being a servant or disciple of Jesus is to learn of and follow Jesus. What Paul and the apostles preached remains true today. The church has not changed. The church and its operations remain the same. The Word does not change with the times. Those that depart from the Word, and follow other traditions, traditions of men and vain religion, can easily end in the spirit of error. The gospel in The Word has been preached and cannot be changed. To be a disciple we look what it means to be a disciple, in the bible. Another spirit, another jesus, a deceiving spirit, another gospel will lead to separation from God. Following a jesus that does not match The Word is following an evil spirit. Jesus does not change he is the same yesterday today and forever. All of the Word has a purpose, **to bring us into Jesus image. Being a disciple, means to be a learner and follower of Jesus.** We can only be a disciple if we learn from and follow Jesus. We see His life(manifest in the flesh) in the gospels, and we see Him in the Word. As soon as we depart from the Word to follow what man says, we depart from Jesus. Jesus is the truth, so as soon as we depart from the Word we depart from the truth, Jesus and the way and the life. We lay down our life as Jesus laid down His life. **We cannot reject the knowledge of the way Jesus walked and what He did.**

Hosea 4:6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: **because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee,** that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

Hebrews 13:8 Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.

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

1 John 5 **5** Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God? **6** This is he that came by water and blood, *even* Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the **Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth**. **7** For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. **8** And there are three that bear witness in earth, the spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.

The Spirit of God has no regard to mans words and ways. He always testifies and bears witness to The Word. He is in complete agreement with The Word. Not things added and not things taken away, but The Word. So to be a disciple of Jesus Christ we must always also be in agreement with The Word of God, without adding or taking from it. Listening to and following the Holy Spirit. Working out our salvation with fear and trembling. Then the Holy Spirit can work with us **through the Word** because the **truth is in our hearts**. If we accept lies, deceit and vain religion in our heart, another spirit will take advantage of this, and give us another gospel. **We will fail to die to self if we do this!** We will be following evil spirits. It is extremely important to make **The Word of God The Truth** in our heart! Allow God to bring revelation and understanding as we walk with Him. Anything that we do not understand, we must allow to remain the truth and allow God to reveal to us, as we walk with Him, how to apply it. That is relationship with God through the Word. Departing from it leads to deception, traps, nets, snares and pits and can lead to perdition. The Spirit leads us into all truth. Through the Word(the bread).

John 16:13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, **he will guide you into all truth**:

Philippians 2 **12** Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, **work out your own salvation with fear and trembling**. **13** For it is **God which worketh in you both to will and to do** of *his* good pleasure.

Luke 14 **15** And when one of them that sat at meat with him heard these things, he said unto him, Blessed *is* he that shall **eat bread in the kingdom of God**. **16** Then said he unto him, A certain man made a great supper, and bade many: **17** And sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready. **18** And they all **with one consent began to make excuse**. The first said unto him, I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: **I pray thee have me excused**. **19** And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: **I pray thee have me excused**. **20** And another said, I have married a wife, and **therefore I cannot come**. **21** So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind. **22** And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room. **23** And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel *them* to come in, that my house may be filled. **24** For I say unto you, That **none of those men which were bidden shall taste of my supper**.

As we walk with God and our relationship grows and our faith grows. We learn how to follow Jesus, which is **learning to die to the self nature and walk in love, the taking up of our cross.** God asks us to be His body and to follow Him. To walk like Him. Other things cannot be more important than our discipleship, or when He calls us, we may be busy doing those other things. We will miss out! Things that will have no value at all in our eternal life. Making excuses and claiming to be a disciple is hypocrisy. Idolatry. We must count the cost. We let those things go as we see what is really important. It is our hope that gives us strength.

Mark 10 28 Then Peter began to say unto him, Lo, we have left all, and have followed thee. **29** And Jesus answered and said, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the gospel's, **30 But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life.**

Matthew 20 23 And he saith unto them, Ye shall drink indeed of my cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with: but to sit on my right hand, and on my left, is not mine to give, but *it shall be given to them* for whom it is prepared of my Father.

24 And when the ten heard *it*, they were moved with indignation against the two brethren. **25** But Jesus called them *unto him*, and said, Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them. **26** But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; **27** And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant: **28** Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and **to give his life a ransom for many.**

Jesus was crucified for us, and sacrificed his flesh life for us. The Word tells us to **consider ourselves dead to the things in the world** and to set our affection on the things above. He asks us also to **die to this world**, its desires and the things in it. He says this to keep us from idols, to keep us from being snared by the devils with the deceitful lusts of the flesh and the lusts of the world. If we die to this world, we are made safe from its snares. Discipleship.

1 John 2:16 For **all that is in the world**, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is **not of the Father**, but is of the world.

These things are used by our enemies to draw us away from God. Our flesh loves the world but we are told to die to it, it has had us enslaved all our life. We have a born again spirit and we are **free** in the spirit when we are **IN** the Spirit. So are we **IN THE SPIRIT? OR in anger or in hatred or in rejection or in self pity or in addictions or in fornications or in anxiety or in fear or in other works of darkness.** WHAT ARE WE IN ? SPIRITS OF DARKNESS? Darkness has no rule over us when we are in the Spirit. Grace. As disciples, God continually leads us to sacrifice our life, not necessarily our physical life, although that may come, but our self life, the life of the flesh, our fleshly lusts and desires and pride. So that we are not held servant to the world and the things in it, but to be a servant to God. To represent Jesus. To live to God and to do His will, to save souls. Jesus sacrificed His life in order that he could redeem man. Jesus was crucified and did rise

on the third day and went up to the right hand of the Father in Heaven and sent the Comforter to fill and guide men to learn of, and follow Him. To come into His image. **As we become like Him we learn to sacrifice our lives for others as He did for us.** As we are discipled, we disciple others. We sacrifice doing what we want, so that we can do what God wants. Our will is to do Gods will.

Hebrews 10:7 Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God.

Jesus did the Fathers will. He walked in love, to reach out to others who were lost. He wants to reach out to others who are lost still, through His disciples. We make our lives a testimony of Jesus, to witness of Him to the truth, to others. We **find out our part** in the Body of Christ(THE CHURCH) and walk in it. We find our gifts and administrations given through the Spirit and use our talents for His kingdom, which is also our kingdom. **It is Christ working in us,** as we lay down our lives for others as He did for us. The law has passed away, we now lay down our lives **as the Spirit leads**(we don't rush ahead) and we do the will of God. **Jesus in us** wants to do Gods will, as we lay down our lives. **He took away the law(the first covenant)** so that He could **establish His Spirit in us(the new covenant)** to empower us to do this. Relationship and discipleship.

Hebrews 10.9 Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. **He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second.**

Isaiah 28:16 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner *stone*, a sure foundation: **he that believeth shall not make haste.**

Colossians 3 **1** If ye then be risen with Christ, **seek those things which are above**, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. **2** Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. **3** For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. **4** When Christ, *who is* our life, shall appear, then shall **ye also appear with him** in glory.

Jesus is Love and so as we lay down our flesh life we are learning through The Holy Spirit to love. We struggle in our discipleship and relationship with God until we begin to obey and learn to do this. **We will not get far until we forgive everyone!** As we choose to deal with others, so we are dealt with. As we obey to love, we naturally begin to lay down our flesh life(the spirit is willing), but our human nature rebels all the way. Forgiving all things, being patient, kind, enduring all things, keeping no list of wrongs, being not vain or puffed up, suffering all things, not provoking others, and other such things is Love. As we do this we are learning and following Jesus, taking up our cross, and **becoming His disciples.** And becoming humble. Coming alive in The Spirit, dying to the world. Alive to God, dead to evil. Disciples.

Luke 14 25 And there went great multitudes with him: and he turned, and said unto them, **26** If any *man* come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple. **27** And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple. **28** For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have *sufficient* to finish *it*? **29** Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish *it*, all that behold *it* begin to mock him, **30** Saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish. **31** Or what king, going to make war against another king, sitteth not down first, and consulteth whether he be able with ten thousand to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand? **32** Or else, while the other is yet a great way off, he sendeth an ambassage, and desireth conditions of peace. **33** So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple.

34 Salt *is* good: **but if the salt have lost his savour**, wherewith shall it be seasoned? **35 It is neither fit for the land, nor yet for the dunghill; but men cast it out.** He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.

The call to discipleship, is the call to each of us. We must count the cost and set our faces like flint to be able to bear our cross. The devil will use everything and anything and anyone in the world to pull us off course, even our loved ones. Even if they are also believers. We ourselves have weaknesses and those we love have weaknesses. We cannot let those weaknesses allow us to be steered or driven out of THE WAY to keep false peace. The devil roams around as a lion looking for who he can devour. Forsaking what we know God wants us to do, to keep others happy, is a terrible snare and pit. Both parties end up in the ditch. This is why God says "If any *man* come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple." Our own family can be used against us if we love pleasing them more than pleasing God. **Departing from Gods will** to please others(compromise),because they are compromising or don't understand yet because they are a new disciple, not only puts ourself in great danger, but also them. Because if we appease them to keep them happy, they stay under that bondage and we get dragged away by it ourself. If we stay strong in God, pleasing Him, then both ourselves, and they, can be set free. If we do not love God with all our heart and make Him our rock and foundation, then others, in the effort to please them, may pull us out of The Way, from our hope and calling. Because we compromise for them. Bearing the cross of discipleship may alienate us from our own family or friends for a time, in order to stay faithful to God. Count the cost of discipleship. If we put them first, we have made them an idol. God tests us this way. If we cave in to others weaknesses, we are in effect caving in to the evil spirit(idol) working in them, whatever it may be. Compromise is not the way. Compromise will bring us into bondage. If we compromise to please men we will be deceived. Only if we stay strong in **the way**, and The Word, and in The Spirit, can we remain free.

1 Thessalonians 2:4 But as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak; **not as pleasing men, but God**, which **trieth our hearts**.

1 Peter 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, **seeking whom he may devour**:

2 Corinthians 2 9 For to this end also did I write, that I might know the proof of you, **whether ye be obedient in all things. 10** To whom ye forgive any thing, **I forgive also:** for if I forgave any thing, to whom I forgave *it*, for your sakes *forgave I it* in the person of Christ; **11 Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.**

Luke 14:33 So likewise, whosoever he be of you that **forsaketh not all that he hath**, he cannot be my disciple.

Anything we hold in value, being not able to let go of it, in order to follow the Lord and be His disciple, is become an idol. It is hanging on to the world. It is important **to do all things in faith and not under law.** Of **our own free will and not of necessity** but cheerfully. Forsaking all we have is a matter of being lead and being in relationship with the Holy Spirit, and a matter of faith, and of our free will. Not mans manipulation! All giving comes from the heart and not law. God works in us to will and to do His good pleasure. **If we see clearly our hope in heaven**, in Jesus, we will count the things on this Earth as dung, and be able to do it. **As we grow in faith**, and become disciples, our confidence to do these things grows. We should not allow ourselves to be rushed to please men. We follow the Holy Spirit, He is our guide. We should not be hasty, but count the cost of being a disciple.

2 Corinthians 9:7 Every man according as he **purposeth in his heart**, *so let him give: not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.*

Isaiah 28:16 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner *stone*, a sure foundation: **he that believeth shall not make haste.**

Luke 14:33 So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple.

Luke 14:27 And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.

Matthew 10:38 And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me.

1 Samuel 12:20 And Samuel said unto the people, Fear not: ye have done all this wickedness: yet turn not aside from following the LORD, but serve the LORD with all your heart;

Deuteronomy 11:16 **Take heed to yourselves**, that your heart be not deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them;