CHRISTIANITY AS SERVICE TO GOD

Introduction

We all have our individual ideas regarding what being a genuine Christian is. Most of us will answer to the call, whenever the Assembly bell goes for the Lord Jesus' Sheep, in a gathering of those who profess to believe in the Almighty God [Who made all Flesh and is also the Father of spirits] (see, *Numbers 16:15, 27:16; Job 34:14,15; Jeremiah 32:27; John 17:1,2; Hebrews 12:9*).

Today, virtually every Christian considers himself or herself to be more of a child of God than a servant of Christ. The LORD however, has always sought servants as His Sheep and He is the One Who gives them His words and assignment. Children tend to feel and believe that, they have a right to choose what they will do for their parents. This is the trend in the Church today. Servants do only what their Lord has commanded them to do.

If you profess that you are a Christian, How do you see yourself in the current scheme of things? Note that, every one The Lord Jesus called to follow Him during His earthly ministry, were first considered to have been appointed to serve Him. Indeed, they all saw themselves as His servants, even if He sometimes referred to them as friends, or Brethren.

Servants get their marching orders from their Master, whereas children don't. God delivers and restores nations for His servants' sake and not for the children's. In the eternity, faithful servants of His, will be given the same place as the Holy Angels in Heaven:

"The Spirit of God hath made me, and the breath of the Almighty hath given me life." (*Job 33:4*).

"My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord: and let all flesh bless his holy name for ever and ever." (*Psalm 145:21*).

"For unto me the children of Israel are servants; they are my servants whom I brought forth out of the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God." (*Leviticus 25:55*).

"Thus saith the Lord, As the new wine is found in the cluster, and one saith, Destroy it not; for a blessing is in it: so will I do for my servants' sake, that I may not destroy them all." (*Isaiah 65:8*).

"...when I called, ye did not answer; when I spake, ye did not hear; but did evil before mine eyes, and did choose that wherein I delighted not. Therefore thus saith the Lord God, Behold, my servants shall eat, but ye shall be hungry: behold, my servants shall drink, but ye shall be thirsty: behold, my servants shall rejoice, but ye shall be ashamed: behold, my servants shall sing for joy of heart, but ye shall cry for sorrow of heart, and shall howl for vexation of spirit." (*Isaiah 65:12-14*).

"...and whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ." (Colossians 3:23,24).

"But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light: which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy." (*I Peter2:9,10*).

"For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven. But as touching the resurrection of the dead, have ye not read that which was spoken unto you by God, saying, I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living." (*Matthew* 22:30-32).

"Behold, I come quickly. Blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book. And I John saw these things, and heard them. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which showed me these things. Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am thy fellow servant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God. And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand." (*Revelation* 22:7-10).

"...Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again." (*John 3:5-7*).

Moses answers the Call

"Now... behold, the cry of the children of Israel is come unto me: and I have also seen the oppression wherewith the Egyptians oppress them. Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt. And Moses said unto God, Who *am* I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt? And he said, Certainly I will be with thee; and this *shall be* a token unto thee, that I have sent thee: When thou hast brought forth the people out of Egypt, ye shall serve God upon this mountain." (*Exodus* 3:9-12).

"And he called for Moses and Aaron by night, and said, Rise up, and get you forth from among my people, both ye and the children of Israel; and go, serve the Lord, as ye have said." (*Exodus 12:31*).

"And Moses went up unto God, and the Lord called unto him out of the mountain, saying, Thus shalt thou say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel; Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how I bare you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto myself. Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine: and ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and a holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.

And Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and laid before their faces all these words which the Lord commanded him. And all the people answered together, and said, All that the Lord hath spoken we will do. And Moses returned the words of the people unto the Lord." (*Exodus 19:4-8*).

"And ye shall serve the Lord your God, and he shall bless thy bread, and thy water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee. There shall nothing cast their young, nor be barren, in thy land: the number of thy days I will fulfil." (*Exodus 23:25,26*).

"Now therefore fear the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in truth... serve ye the Lord... as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." (*Joshua 24:14,15*).

"Ye shall walk after the Lord your God, and fear him, and keep his commandments, and obey his voice, and ye shall serve him, and cleave unto him." (*Deuteronomy 13:4*).

The Service our Lord Jesus Christ Demands

The Lord Jesus Christ is the One Who calls us as Sheep to follow Him. We can see in the Holy Bible, that when He called His first disciples, He told them the following:

"And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers. And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. And they straightway left their nets, and followed him." (*John 4:18-20*).

Later on during his ministry with them, He reiterated to them the assignment He had been given by God Almighty, His Father, as His fleshly family members and 'all men' were seeking Him, to please them and satisfy their selfish desires:

"And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed. And Simon and they that were with him followed after him. And when they had found him, they said unto him, All men seek for thee.

And he said unto them, Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also: for therefore came I forth. And he preached in their synagogues throughout all Galilee, and cast out devils." (*Mark 1:35-39*).

"There came then his brethren and his mother, and, standing without, sent unto him, calling him. And the multitude sat about him, and they said unto him, Behold, thy mother and thy brethren without seek for thee. And he answered them, saying, Who is my mother, or my brethren? And he looked round about on them which sat about him, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren! For whosoever shall do the will of God, the same is my brother, and my sister, and mother." (*Mark* 3:31-35).

"And when it was day, he departed and went into a desert place: and the people sought him, and came unto him, and stayed him, that he should not depart from them. And he said unto them, I must preach the kingdom of God to other cities also: for therefore am I sent. And he preached in the synagogues of Galilee." (*Luke 4:42-44*).

The Lord Jesus was always extremely focused on the assignments His Father had given to Him and He needed people who would do likewise, such as: be eager to do God's Will, pray with Him, preach the Gospel and cast out devils. (see, *Matthew 26:36-41; Mark 2:17, 6:12,13, 16:15-20; Luke 5:32, 10:1-3, 18:1, 21:36*).

"Also the sons of the stranger, that join themselves to the LORD, to serve him, and to love the name of the LORD, to be his servants, every one that keepeth the sabbath from polluting it, and taketh hold of my covenant; Even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon mine altar; for mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people. The Lord GOD, which gathereth the outcasts of Israel saith, Yet will I gather others to him, beside those that are gathered unto him." (*Isaiah 56:6-8*).

"And he went into the temple, and began to cast out them that sold therein, and them that bought; saying unto them, It is written, My house is the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves. And he taught daily in the temple. But the chief priests and the scribes and the chief of the people sought to destroy him, and could not find what they might do: for all the people were very attentive to hear him." (*Luke 19:45-48*).

"But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end." (*Hebrews 3:6*).

"though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; and being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him; called of God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek." (*Hebrews 5:8-10*).

"...The Lord sware and will not repent, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek:) by so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament. And they truly were many priests, because they were not suffered to continue by reason of death: but this man, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood. Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them." (*Hebrews 7:21-25*).

"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and for ever." (*Hebrews 13:8*).

"And it came to pass, that, as they went in the way, a certain man said unto him, Lord, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest. And Jesus said unto him, Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head. And he said unto another, Follow me. But he said, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father. Jesus said unto him, Let the dead bury their dead: but go thou and preach the kingdom of God.

And another also said, Lord, I will follow thee; but let me first go bid them farewell, which are at home at my house. And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God." (*Luke 9:57-62*).

"And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.

Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest." (Matthew 9:35-38, see also, Matthew 4:23).

"And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease... These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying... go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give." (Matthew 10:1,6-8; see also, Mark 6:7; Luke 9:1,2,6, 10:1-12).

"And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." (*Matthew 24:14*).

Our Primary God-Given Tasks

We can see clearly from the scripture verses and passages we have had a look at up unto this point, that the main lines of activity the Lord Jesus expects every one of His Sheep to be constantly engaged in, are: the preaching of the Gospel; prayers; and intercession. True followers of Jesus Christ who Obey God, will all have received His Spirit and the Holy Ghost to help them carry out these duties.

These true Believers on Jesus Christ, are Vessels that are indwelt by the Spirit of Jesus CHRIST and the Holy Spirit, first and foremost, for the conviction of sin and second, to pray and intercede for God's Will to be done here on Earth:

"But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness." (*Romans* 8:9,10).

"Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God." (*Romans* 8:26,27; see also, Luke 11:1-4).

"He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)" (*John 7:38,39*).

"A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." (*John 13:34,35*).

"If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.

Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also. At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you.

He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him." (*John 14:15-21*).

"But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." (*John 14:26*).

"But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me" (*John 15:26*).

"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. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: of sin, because they believe not on me; of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.

I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. 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 show you things to come.

He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall show it unto you. All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall show it unto you." (*John 16:7-14*).

"Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure." (1 John 3:2,3).

"The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise. Behold, the righteous shall be recompensed in the earth: much more the wicked and the sinner." (*Proverbs* 11:30,31).

"And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin. Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him. Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous. He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother. For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another." (*1 John 3:5-11*).

"Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you. And when he had so said, he shewed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the LORD.

Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you. And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost: Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained." (*John 20:19-23*).

"For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence... But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." (*Acts 1:5,8*).

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." (*Acts 2:1-4*).

"And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father." (*Galatians 4:6*).

"And when they had brought them, they set them before the council: and the high priest asked them, Saying, Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us.

Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men. The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree. Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Savior, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins. And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him." (*Acts* 5:27-32).

"And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ." (*Acts 5:42*).

"So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also. For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith. For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;" (*Romans 1:15-18*).

"But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word." (*Acts* 6:4).

"Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him... And, behold, the angel of the Lord came upon him, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, Arise up quickly. And his chains fell off from his hands. And the angel said unto him, Gird thyself, and bind on thy sandals. And so he did. And he saith unto him, Cast thy garment about thee, and follow me. And he went out, and followed him; and wist not that it was true which was done by the angel; but thought he saw a vision...

And when Peter was come to himself, he said, Now I know of a surety, that the Lord hath sent his angel, and hath delivered me out of the hand of Herod, and from all the expectation of the people of the Jews... And when he had considered the thing, he came to the house of Mary the mother of John, whose surname was Mark; where many were gathered together praying." (*Acts 12:5,7-9,11*).

"Pray without ceasing." (1 Thessalonians 5:17; see also, Acts 4:23-31).

"But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer." (*1 Peter 4:7*).

THE CHRISTIAN TALK

Today, many are proud to call themselves Christian, but have they really measured themselves with the yardstick of those Believers on Christ in Antioch who were first called Christians? Why weren't the Believers in Jerusalem, which was the main centre of Apostle-led Church activity in the world at that time, called Christians before then?

What makes us true Christians, is best measured by how the Lord Jesus Christ responds to our work and endeavours.

The men of Cyprus and Cyrene chose to obey the :Lord's command to preach the Gospel to every creature, with the focus also being on the Lord Jesus. They moved from being just an assembly of religious proselytes with their personal and private faiths, holding daily discussions, comforting and edifying one another in the midst of persecution, to becoming public professers of the doctrine of Godliness and bold publishers of the 'hard sayings' of the Lord Jesus.

The Lord's right hand backed them up, with great numbers believing and turning to the Lord. He then orchestrated the supply of His ordained teachers to fully ground them in the Truth and His ways. These ones also had a better understanding of how he grows His true Church.

"Now they which were scattered abroad upon the persecution that arose about Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, and Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to none but unto the Jews only. And some of them were men of Cyprus and Cyrene, which, when they were come to Antioch, spake unto the Grecians, preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them: and a great number believed, and turned unto the Lord." (*Act* 11:19-21).

"Then tidings of these things came unto the ears of the church which was in Jerusalem: and they sent forth Barnabas, that he should go as far as Antioch. Who, when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord. For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord. Then departed Barnabas to Tarsus, for to seek Saul: and when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch." (*Acts* 11:22-26).

"And I said, Who art thou, Lord? And he said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest. But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee; delivering thee from the people, and from the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee, to open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and

from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, an inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me." (Acts 26:15-18).

"Whereupon, O king Agrippa, I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision: but showed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance. For these causes the Jews caught me in the temple, and went about to kill me.

Having therefore obtained help of God, I continue unto this day, witnessing both to small and great, saying none other things than those which the prophets and Moses did say should come: that Christ should suffer, and that he should be the first that should rise from the dead, and should show light unto the people, and to the Gentiles... Then Agrippa said unto Paul, Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian. And Paul said, I would to God, that not only thou, but also all that hear me this day, were both almost, and altogether such as I am, except these bonds." (*Acts* 26:19-23,28,29).

"And Paul dwelt two whole years in his own hired house, and received all that came in unto him, preaching the kingdom of God, and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ, with all confidence, no man forbidding him." (*Acts 28:30,31*).

"For I know nothing by myself; yet am I not hereby justified: but he that judgeth me is the Lord. Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God. And these things, brethren, I have in a figure transferred to myself and to Apollos for your sakes; that ye might learn in us not to think of men above that which is written, that no one of you be puffed up for one against another.

For who maketh thee to differ from another? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it?" (*I Corinthians 4:4-7*).

"Thou therefore... be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also. Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier... 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" (2 Timothy 2:1-4,19).

Conclusion

The initial aim when this manuscript was being conceived, was more limited than what it has now become. The idea and plan then was, merely to briefly discuss the notion of:

'many are called, but few are chosen'. However, the Spirit of God prompted us to expand it to take on the flavour of more of a 'word journey study', that is compact enough for every Sheep of the Lord Jesus Christ to carry around, read and meditate upon constantly.

With so much falsehood, fake news bombardments and evil distractions in the world today, It reminds us of one of the reasons behind what God said to Joshua after Moses had ended his earthly ministry:

"This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success." (*Joshua 1:8*).

"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness." (2 Timothy 2:15,16).

Anyone who refuses to develop and embrace such habits, is setting himself or herself up for a great fall. Indeed, many Believers do not really know what the Holy Bible has said about the Salvation and the Kingdom Gospels according to the Lord Jesus Christ. Neither do they understand what, Knowing, Walking with and Growing in the LORD mean.

Simply believing what someone else declared, or what one likes and prefers, will not make any person, a True follower of Jesus Christ and give them eternal life. It is only what the Lord Jesus Christ has said, that makes our Hope a genuinely lively one.

A lot of Pulpit preachers in turn, deliver and teach their own visions, opinions, error, Men's tradition, doctrines and commandments, as the Gospel and 'work of the ministry', within God's Church here on Earth. They fail to recognise that a True Follower now has a measure of the Faith of Jesus and that they are supposed to live by this special gift from God, which includes the ability to spiritually discern.

Many others shy away in their sermons, from emphasising the requirement according to the God's Holy Word, for all to repent. How very sad! (see, *Isaiah* 54:13-15; *Matthew* 15:6; *Mark* 7:13; *Luke* 13:3; *John* 6:45; *Ephesians* 2:8-10; *Colossians* 3:22; 1 *Timothy* 4:1; *James* 2:1; 1 *John* 2:26-29; *Revelation* 14:12).

"But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him." (2 Corinthians 11:3,4).

"Therefore my people are gone into captivity, because they have no knowledge: and their honorable men are famished, and their multitude dried up with thirst. Therefore hell hath enlarged herself, and opened her mouth without measure: and their glory, and their multitude, and their pomp, and he that rejoiceth, shall descend into it." (*Isaiah* 5:13,14).

"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." (*Hosea 4:6*).

"I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved. And the Lord answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry. Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith." (*Habakkuk 2:1-4*).

"From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." (*Matthew 4:17*).

"And he called unto him the twelve, and began to send them forth by two and two; and gave them power over unclean spirits;... And they went out, and preached that men should repent. And they cast out many devils, and anointed with oil many that were sick, and healed them." (*Mark* 6:7,12,13).

"Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." (*John 8:31,32*).

We must all be seekers of Truth every day of our lives, whilst we are here on earth, until our Lord Jesus returns for us, or, we go and be with Him in Heaven forever.. Sharing this manuscript with others and our two page 'Salvation piece', will record your name in Heaven as a Preacher of the Gospel and co-labourer with the Holy Ghost. May God's blessings overtake you as join hands with this Last day company of His, in Jesus Christ's Name, Amen.

Copyright © **2020**, by *RescuedandSAVED*, a 'last days' Word of God ministry. Please do not make any alterations whatsoever to its format or contents. Now, kindly bless at least **12 other persons** with *pdf* file copies and/or, photocopies of this piece, for distribution to their friends, family members and within their fellowships and churches. "<u>Freely you have received, freely give</u>". Indeed, all manner of charges for this publication are strictly prohibited and forbidden!