



**CHRISTIAN RACE TO THE END
(QUALIFICATION FOR THE THRONE)**

BY JOHN DANIEL

“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. And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully. The husbandman that laboureth must be first partaker of the fruits” (II Tim. 2:3-6).

**Copyright © Brother John Daniel,
P.O. Box 537,
Satellite Town,
Lagos.**

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced in part or whole, or transmitted in any form or by any means, photocopying, electronic, recording or otherwise without the written permission of the author.

All scripture quotations are from the Authorized Version of the King James Bible.

DEDICATION

I humbly wish to dedicate this book to my precious and darling wife, Mary Blessings Daniel who is the first woman disciple God placed under me after my vigorous training. I thank God also for the submissive children He has given me in the persons of Timothy John (Jnr.), Benjamin Samuel and David Joseph, for their patience and understanding of the moves of God, as they go through the discipleship term, ðabound and abaseö with their parents. I also devote time to thank God for His disciples in this Ministry of Help and Reconciliation, which He has committed into my hands. Finally, I dedicate this book to the Lordø disciples worldwide, who have taken this bold and courageous step to live the life of a disciple. May the grace, power and mercy of God that sustained the early apostles, sustain all of us in this end time, ðAmenö.

INTRODUCTION

By the inspiration of the Spirit of God, I introduce to the Christendom worldwide, a thrilling experience, teaching and lifestyle of a true Christian or a disciple of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, which has long been kept in the cooler after the apostasy that greeted the early Christians when the Roman soldiers attacked Jerusalem between A.D.66 to A.D.70. This experience, the theologians, the philosophers, etc., that dominate the supposedly Christian circle today cannot teach, because the Lord must pass it through the flesh of any who can share it with the would-be disciples, as a great testimony. The theologians and the philosophers do not walk by the leading of the Holy Spirit and therefore know nothing about the life of a disciple. In this book therefore, I have been directed by the Lord, to bring to the team of His disciples worldwide, what His Spirit did with the early disciples, and is still doing this end-time, so that one will have to tighten his/her belt as he/she steps out to answer the call of God as a disciple. Read the book now and see for yourselves whom you can regard as a Christian or disciple, amidst all the confusion in the Christianfold.

Pastor John Daniel

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGES</u>
CHAPTER 1 - COMPARISON BETWEEN RELIGION AND CHRISTIANITY	6-12
CHAPTER 2 - WHO THEN IS A CHRISTIAN?	13-24
CHAPTER 3 - CONDITIONS OF BECOMING A TRUE DISCIPLE OF JESUS	25-36
CHAPTER 4 - QUALITIES OF A TRUE DISCIPLE OF JESUS	37-48
CHAPTER 5 - WHAT A TRUE DISCIPLE MUST GIVE UP FOR CHRIST	49-58
CHAPTER 6 - OBSTACLES TO TRUE DISCIPLESHIP	59-70
CHAPTER 7 - THE REACTION OF A TRUE DISCIPLE TO MARRIAGE	71-82
CHAPTER 8 - QUALIFICATION FOR THE THRONE	83-101
CHAPTER 9 - THE REWARDS OF A TRUE DISCIPLE AT THE END OF HIS CHRISTIAN RACE.	102-116

CHAPTER 1

COMPARISON BETWEEN RELIGION AND CHRISTIANITY

These two words "religion and Christianity" have generated a lot of controversy not only in the body of Christ, but also in the whole world. The world knows nothing about your relationship with God except through your religion. And truly speaking, they are partially correct, because Christianity is termed by the world as a religion, but to be religious can never make you a Christian. Religion is practiced by both unbelievers and many believers who have no, or little knowledge of God, but unbelievers cannot, and will never be able to practice Christianity. Why? Because Christianity can only be practiced through the Lord Jesus Christ and the Word of God. Anybody who does not receive Jesus, has nothing to do with the Word of God and Christianity.

"But unto the wicked (sinner) God saith, what hast thou to do to declare my statutes (law or word), or that thou shouldest take my covenant (Old and New Covenant of the Bible) in thy mouth? Seeing thou hatest instruction, and casteth my words behind thee. When thou sawest a thief, then thou consentedst with him, and hast been partaker with adulterers. Thou givest thy mouth to evil, and thy

tongue frameth deceit. Thou sittest and speakest against thy brother; thou slanderest thine own mother's son. These things hast thou done, and I kept silence; thou thoughtest that I was altogether such an one as thyself, but I will reprove thee, and set them in order before thine eyes. Now consider this, ye that forget God, lest I tear you in pieces, and there be none to deliver.” (Ps. 50: 16-22).

Religion cannot be practiced by an individual alone, it has to go with group which has a common belief that the members are bound to do. Christianity can be practiced by an individual who is staying alone obeying the doctrines of our Lord Jesus through the Word of God, and by the leading of the Holy Spirit. The world believes that there are many ways of practicing religion, but Christianity is practiced through one way, and that is through Jesus Christ who is the only Way to the Father (God).

“Jesus saith unto him, I am the Way the Truth, and the Life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.” (Jn. 14:6).

He is the only Way, the only Truth and the only Life to God the Father. Religion cannot teach or show you the revelation of this, only Christianity can. Religion works from without, that is preoccupies with our external nature. How we keep rules set up by men which goes on to bring out our self righteousness, while Christianity changes your life from within, because the agent of this renewal of our lives from within is the Holy Spirit who has nothing to do

with our external features. He sees right inside the heart and judges first with what is in the heart.

“And he saith unto them, Are ye so without understanding also? Do ye not perceive, that whatsoever thing from without entereth into the man, it cannot defile him; Because it entereth not into his heart, but into the belly, and goeth out into the drouht, purging all meats? And he said, that which cometh out of man, that defileth the man. For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within; and defile the man.” (Mk. 7:18-23).

And because the Holy Spirit judges all things in the heart with the intention of purging the heart and renewing it to be able to obey God, Christianity is therefore of no value without Him (Holy Spirit). Christianity depends on the Holy Spirit as the only way of achieving righteousness while religion depends on man's self effort. What then is religion? According to Oxford dictionary, religion is the belief in the existence of a Supernatural ruling power, the Creator and Controller of the universe, who has given to man a spiritual nature which continues to exist after the death of the body. It also means something that one considers himself or herself bound to do. With the above definition, it is clear that ninety-percent of human beings on earth including the devil and his demon spirits believe in

the existence of the Creator and Controller of the Universe (God).

“Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well, the devils also believe and tremble.” (Jas. 2:19).

Since human beings with the exception of extremely few atheists (persons who believe that there is no God), and devils believe that there is one God, the need to practice religion has to arise. Why is it so ? It is so because the world believes that you cannot believe in God without practicing religion, and that you cannot practice religion without believing in God. Some people may say, what of the pagans? The answer is that Pagans believe in God and they practice religion, and their religion is paganism. The fact that they don't belong to any denomination or any recognized religious group, does not make them atheists. Atheism is clearly different from paganism for they don't believe that there is any Supreme Being called God. Those idols which pagans make, may be, out of wood, gold, silver, bronze, etc., and worship, are regarded as their gods according to their belief. Even though, they do it ignorantly, it is an evidence to show that they believe in a Supreme Being. And the devil quickly sends a demon to disguise himself as God and speak to them through those means, thus giving them laws to keep. There is only one way through which Christianity can be practiced, and that is through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Any other way which anybody believes he or she can practice Christianity except through Jesus Christ is deception, and

the persons or groups concerned are practicing religion. Some of the religious groups who believe that there is God, but do not believe in the only way which God accepts to relate with Him, are Islam, Buddhism, Judaism, Hinduism, some other religious sects set up by some Occult Grand Masters e.g. the Grail Message, the Rosicrucian Order, the Eckankar, etc. These and thousands of other religious groups, even among the supposedly Christendom, practice religion, but they neither believe nor practice the doctrine of Jesus Christ as done by true Christians.

“Neither is there salvation in any other; for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.” (Acts 4:12).

The only name given among men through which salvation could be obtained is the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Devil and his demons know this, and confessed Him to be Lord when Jesus was on earth, but he (devil) has succeeded in deceiving mankind never to believe in that precious name. Interestingly, it is this same God whom the religious groups believe in, that is our Lord Jesus Christ.

“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.” (I Tim. 3:16).

“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.” (Isa. 9:6).

What is more to be proved than these two scriptures from that great Prophet, regarded by the Jews as a mad Prophet because of his obedience to the Lord to go naked for three years. And also from the great Apostle Paul whom Governor Festus told, that much learning is making him mad, when he was addressing king Agrippa and Governor Festus, to clear himself of the allegations leveled against him, by the Jews. Yet billions of people on earth are still being deceived that Jesus Christ is not God. Religion operates with sects and denominations and they are the daughters of Mystery Babylon the Great, the Mother of Harlots and abominations of the Earth which took off from Babel during the time of Nimrod (Gen. 11:1-9), and continued by Semiramis and Tammuz (wife and son of Nimrod respectively) after the scattering of the religious group by God, and the death of Nimrod, and then finally settled in Rome. From where this Mother of Harlots began to give birth to other religious groups that have filled the earth today, and called the daughters of harlot. Religion is recognized by this world system, but it is not recognized in heaven, and in the world to come. They are the bride of Anti-Christ or man of sin or son of perdition, who is their head. Christianity on the other hand, is belief in the teachings of our Lord Jesus as practiced by true Christians, which also took off immediately the Lord Jesus came out of the wilderness and began to teach, having been earlier baptized by John the Baptist in water, and after receiving the Holy Ghost. With the first assemblage as the twelve

Apostles of Jesus Christ. Christianity operates with the Church (people that are holy and separate from the world system unto God) which is the Body of Christ, and not churches, as denominations have christened it. They are not recognized in this world system because they do not belong to the system, but they are recognized in heaven, and in the Kingdom to come. They are the Bride of the Lord Jesus Christ who is their Head. They also have nothing to do with physical structures which many groups have constructed, and thereby diverted the gathering together of true saints into a particular named building called churches. And which the Lord Himself said;

“For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” (Matt. 18:20).

This shows that the gathering together of saints in the name of the Lord should not only be in a particular place or building, but can be done by even husband and wife alone in their house.

CHAPTER 2

WHO THEN IS A CHRISTIAN?

This is a question that will devastate the much professed Christendom when thrown like a bomb in their midst, by one who is so inquisitive to know the truth about the steps to becoming a Christian. Why will this question devastate the Christendom when the scripture in (Rom. 10:3) says, *“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved?”* Truly speaking, the question will really devastate the much professed Christian fold, because, if you show them through the scripture, what it takes to be a Christian, and a true disciple indeed, there will be a great uproar in the Christian circle. Ask any member of the orthodox churches like Roman Catholic, Anglican Communion, Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist, Christ Kingdom Society (Jehova Witness), etc., about his or her religion, the answer will be, *“I am a Christian.”* Then ask members of the spiritual churches like, Celestial Church of Christ, Brotherhood of the Cross and Star, King Sabbath Mission, Cherubim and Seraphim, etc., about their own religion, and they will say, *“We are Christians.”* Go to the Pentecostal churches or ministries like Assemblies of God, Full Gospel, Scripture Union, Deeper Life, Church of God Mission, Zoe Life Ministries, New Bethel Ministries, etc.,

and ask the members about their religion, again the answer will be "we are Christians". To crown it all, ask a staunch member of any occult group, who, may be, attends services in any denomination on Sundays, and the answer will be "I am a Christian". Well, all these groups and many more that are not mentioned, but who identify with the Christendom, are all adjudged as Christians. Yet each of these three branches, the orthodox churches, the spiritual churches, and the Pentecostal churches, have their own doctrine which is different from the other. Even among those groups in each of the three branches, they still have some little doctrines that are different from the others. Why all this confusion? Is the word of God more than one Holy Bible? The answer to this question is no, we have only one Holy Ghost authorized Word of God, and that is King James Version of the Bible published in 1611. The second reason is that true Christians or disciples are now very scarce to see because the Christian family is divided, and they (Christians) are married to the system operating in the world. Devil, then capitalized on this and sent in his own agents, who succeeded in getting the high positions in the Christendom, before neutralizing the Word of God. Please I am not judging any group, church or individual, or calling anybody an agent of Satan, because the person you call the devil or an agent of Satan today, God can change tomorrow and make His servant. Therefore, God forbid me, a sinner who was only saved by God's special grace few years ago from my sinful ways, to stand and judge anybody, group or

church. However, there is only One person who has that right to judge anybody, group or church, and whose name the word "Christian" is derived from, He is our Lord Jesus Christ, the Saviour of mankind. He alone has the right to judge and for those of us His servants, He has given us His word with which to test every spirit. Now the Lord said in this scripture,

"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." (II Tim. 3:19).

What is that foundation of God that will cause you to have this seal mentioned in Timothy? To understand this place well, again we need to catch a glimpse of what Oxford dictionary defined seal as, "It is a piece of wax, lead, etc., stamped with a design, attached to a document or show that it is genuine, or to a letter, packet, box, bottle, door, etc. to guard against it being opened by unauthorized persons. It is also an act, event, etc. regarded as a confirmation or guarantee of something or giving approval of something." To further this explanation, those in or from occult societies, will tell you that there is a signet (private seal used with, or instead of a signature) with which true Christians are recognized in the spirit world. Usually the signet is seen on the forehead of those Christians. And to have this seal, your foundation must be made sure by God, but you will know that you have a solid foundation through

the Word of God. How did this word "Christian" come into the Christendom, and from where?

"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 11:25-26). This scripture has shown that the people of Antioch having closely monitored Barnabas and Saul for one year, as they assemble together with the church to teach the people the word of God and as they do it, they confirmed that they were really following the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ, and gave them the name "Christians". Which means, a disciple of Christ or one who follows the doctrine of Christ.

WHAT THEN IS THE FOUNDATION OF CHRISTIANITY?

To be a Christian, you must be born again, and this means, when you believe the scripture that says, *"for all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."* (Rom. 3:23), and you also acknowledge that you have come short of the glory of God too, by your sinful ways. And that you need a reconciliation back to God, then you seek for the only avenue which God has specified in His word to get back in fellowship with Him, and that is through Jesus.

"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (Jn. 14:6).

“.....And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; And he is the propitiation (what appeases or pacifies) for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.” (I Jn. 2: 1-2).

When this becomes real to you that you need a change then you kneel down, not necessarily in a crusade ground, or in any particular denomination, but it could be in your own private room, and confess your sins to the Lord Jesus. Telling Him that you believe in your heart and confess with your mouth, that His death was in your place in order to carry away your sins, and that you are asking Him to cleanse your sins with His blood and also to write your name in His *“Book of Life”*. That as you continue to, live in the flesh, you are living it for Him, who has paid the price for you. With this done, you are born again, and will begin to experience the lifestyle of the Kingdom of God inside you, but you cannot enter the Kingdom yet, until another two steps are taken.

“.....Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God. Jesus answered, 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.” (Jn. 3:3,5).

“.....Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.” (Mk. 16:15-16).

The next two steps are, to be baptized in water and the Holy Spirit. Baptism is not sprinkling as being propagated by the orthodox denominations, and cannot be done by infants who know nothing about Jesus, or anybody who is not born again by personally confessing his or her sinful ways to the Lord. Baptism is a Greek word called *ōBaptismaō*, and it means to immerse or bury in water. This is an outward show of your identification with the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus, which you have already believed in the heart. If you don't do it, then your belief in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ is not real, because what you believe in the heart, confess with your mouth, could only be proved by your actions in the physical. So if you are born again and fail to go for water baptism, you are not yet saved. Hear it from Peter,

“The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.” (I Pet. 3:21).

See what Apostle Paul said here,

“Therefore we are buried with him by baptism unto death, that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.” (Rom. 6:4).

Again, it has to be done in an open flowing stream or may be, a river because it is an open rejection of Satan and the world. It shouldn't be done in a pool or lake, except in a state or possibly a country that doesn't have a river or

flowing stream. Then the minister conducting the baptism will prayerfully seek the face of the Lord, to know if perhaps the Lord will allow him to do it in a pool. The purpose of doing it in a flowing stream or river is to show the world that is passing away. This means that your old life has passed away in that river or stream, and you now live a new life in Christ Jesus as you resurrect from the stream. The third step is the Holy Ghost baptism which has an outward sign of speaking with new tongues, and that the person has been filled with the Spirit of God, and also sealed with the signet of our Lord Jesus Christ. Many ministers have misinterpreted what the Lord Holy Ghost said through Brother Paul in (I Cor. 12:30) about speaking with tongues, and this has caused so many professed believers to walk in blindness by believing a lie.

“Have all the gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? (I Cor. 12:30).

Brother Paul was talking of the gift of speaking with the tongues of angels which is a kind of prophecy. And whenever this is spoken in the assembly of brethren, it has to go with interpretation, either from the person speaking it or another person, in order to edify the whole church. It is very scarce now in the Christendom, worldwide. I don't really think that up to five percent (5%) of the people that claim they have true gift of tongues of angels and the interpretation, do have it. Just because many people love gifts more than the Giver of the gifts, some ministers then li-aise with those that have the spirit of divination and

deceive people by giving false interpretation of tongues to them. However, when the person who has the true gift of tongues of angels speaks and interprets, it is clearly prophecy because the whole church will be edified (I Cor. 14:5). The other tongues which I had earlier mentioned as an outward sign of the sealing of the person's spirit, is the tongues of men. This is the language of another country being spoken by somebody who is neither a citizen of that country nor did he learn it in school. The person speaking it will not even understand what is being spoken. But if anybody from that country that God has given the speaker their language, hears the tongues, he or she will understand it. (Acts 2:5-11).

“For with stammering lips and another tongue will speak to this people.(Isa. 28:11).

“And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils, they shall speak with new tongues. They shall take up serpents, and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them. They shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.” (Mk. 16:17-18).

Wherefore tongues are for a sign, not to them that believe, but to them that believe not; but prophesying serveth not for them that believe not, but for them which believe.” (I Cor. 14:22).

I believe these quotations from these three witnesses, the Prophet spoken by Isaiah, the Grace which is the Lord Jesus Himself, and from the servants of Grace spoken by great Apostle Paul, will clear anybody who is still in doubt

as to whether speaking with new tongues is for him or her, if the persons concerned are born again. It is a must for anybody that is born again as a sign to unbelievers that you are now sealed. And for those who say that you have to be sanctified before you can receive the baptism of the Holy Ghost, it is another deception. They cite an example of the early Apostles, who received the baptism of the Holy Ghost after three and a half years of sanctification, and working with the Lord. The truth is that they were not even sanctified as you can see in (Jn. 17:17,19), until the Holy Ghost came and sanctified them through the word they heard. Secondly, they had to wait as long as three and a half years because Jesus had to die and be glorified (Jn. 7:38-39) before the Holy Ghost was given. But after that, all that believed in the Lord were baptized in water and Holy Ghost immediately (Acts 2:38-39, ch. 19:2-7).

WHY DID GOD CHOOSE TO SPEAK TO US WITH ANOTHER TONGUE (LANGUAGE)?

God is Omniscient and this shows that He has an infinite knowledge and also knows everything. He is Omnipresent as well as Omnipotent too. His power to be Omnipresent, makes Him to be everywhere at the same time through His Spirit and also to understand all mysteries. This is why He understands whatever language you use to communicate with Him. Satan is also said to understand all the languages of men on earth, but does not understand the language of angels. This does not show that Satan is omnipresent,

never, far from that, rather he copies God. What he does is this, since he has been existing thousands upon thousands of years before the creation of the earth and man, and having succeeded to inject his spirit in man which resulted in the fall of man, he then devised a new method of controlling the affairs of man after God confounded the language of man in Babel (Gen. 11:1-9).

“For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.”
(Rom. 11:29).

Satan took advantage of this scripture and because of the gift of great power, wisdom and knowledge which God gave him (Ezek. 28:12-17), when he was still before the throne of God (but not to be compared with what He gave Jesus which we inherited), he also sent his demon spirits and they followed all the families of men on earth and studied these new languages. And so it was possible for them (demon spirits) to give feedback, using the same old language which he knows man with. He did not stop there, but rather multiplied his evil spirits whom he sent to take possession of the pregnant women and their unborn babies, and inject this rebel nature in the yet unborn babies. This was why king David said,

“Behold, I was shapen in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.” (Ps. 51:5).

The sin and iniquity mentioned there, were as a result of the influence of those evil spirits. Yet after the person is born, the devil will send seven spirits that will influence the life affairs of the person starting from the day he or she is born,

and report to the channel of authority which he set up, until the report gets to the devil himself. These spirits know your language very well because, since they are monitoring you as you grow up, they are learning your language too as you learn it. These spirits are called ðancestral spirits or familiar spiritsö, yes they are familiar with your life. But in the occult kingdoms, they are called, ðangel guardians of fate and circles of lifeö. And so when you become a born again Christian, the Holy Ghost gives you utterance to speak the language of another country which those familiar spirits can never learn, so that your communication with our Lord will not be influenced by those spirits, and they will not know what to report about your dealings with God.

Finally, to be a Christian, you must be born again, and you have to be baptized in water and the Holy Ghost. However, this step is just like laying the foundation of a building. The house has to be built for somebody (the Holy Spirit) to live in it, and to build the house, you must as a disciple, place yourself under the authority channel of God (see my book on Submission, the Authority Channel of God and the only Way to the Kingdom of God), by continuing in the Word of God, and doing it. (Jn. 8:31-32).

CHAPTER 3

CONDITIONS OF BECOMING A TRUE DISCIPLE OF JESUS

In order to treat this chapter very well, it is important to understand the meaning of a disciple. A disciple according to Oxford Dictionary means, follower of any leader of religious thought, art, learning, etc. We have to note that all religious groups in the world have leaders, either dead or alive. And those who follow their teachings, their lifestyles and obey their commandments, are all regarded as disciples of such leaders. But in the Christendom, I do not think that more than ten percent (10%) of believers (born again, baptized in water and Holy Ghost Christians) are following the doctrine of our Leader, the Lord Jesus Christ as clearly outlined in the Holy Bible. Many people are disciples of so many denominational leaders. And these millions of believers worldwide are sincerely following there leaders, but out of ignorance of what the present truth is, they are being led astray by many of those big-wig, who have hardened their hearts to the truth. Brother Paul who was head Apostle of the Gentile nations, saw this coming and warned Timothy and the entire Christendom saying, *“Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season, reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.*

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. And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.” (II Tim. 4:2-4).

It is so disheartening to note that we believers have so much trespassed in the area of legalism, I mean ñreligious legalismö. And this is defined as trying to achieve the righteousness of God by observing a set of rules (law), imposed by man which God Himself has not imposed (or which is contrary to sound doctrine of the word of God). Christianity is not a set of rules imposed by anybody, group, denomination, etc. It is simply a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit, and being judged by the Word of God. As other religious groups have neglected the Lord Jesus as the only Way to God the Father, this is how Christians have neglected the Holy Spirit as the only channel to having an intimate relationship with the Lord Jesus. Joshua would have made the same mistake when he was anointed to take over from Moses in leading the children of Israel to the promised land. Immediately after the second circumcision of the children of Israel who were all born in the wilderness, and were not among those circumcised in Egypt, they approached Jericho as soon as they became healed.

“And it came to pass, when Joshua as by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and , behold, there stood a

man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand; and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, art thou for us, or for our adversaries? And he said, Nay; but as captain of the host of the Lord am I come. And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and did worship, and said unto him, what saith my lord unto his servant? And the captain of the Lord's host said unto Joshua, Loose thy shoe from off thy foot; for the place whereon thou standest is holy. And Joshua did so.” (Josh. 5:13-15).

Joshua, being a brave soldier, and having mapped out his program of what to do, went to this man who was an angel in their time, but He is the Holy Spirit in our time, and asked him, “have you come to join our program or that of our enemies.” The angel of the Lord said, “no way, I am not joining anybody’s program. No matter how good you think your program is, I am not joining it, I have another assignment from the Lord and if you care to join me, you can do so.” Joshua recognized that he has come in the name of the Lord to lead them and worshipped him (we are not to worship Angels). He immediately asked the angel, “what instruction do you want me to obey?” And the angel said, “loose thy shoe from off thy foot”, meaning surrender your authority or will to me, and I will take over. Joshua obeyed him and from that time, the invisible captain of the host of the Lord (because Joshua never saw him again) was fighting and leading the children of Israel into the promised land. Have all of us that call ourselves believers seen it? If we have agreed to drop all our programs individually and

collectively, and follow the leading of the Holy Spirit, He would have been leading us safely, and all these confusions in the Christendom would have been eradicated. The unbelieving world would have recognized us as true disciples of our Lord Jesus and call us Christians. Little wonder the Holy Spirit said through Paul,
For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.” (Rom. 8:14).

HOW DOES ONE QUALIFY TO BE A TRUE DISCIPLE OF JESUS?

If you want to be a true disciple of our Lord Jesus, the first thing that will be in your mind is what the Lord said through David,

“Gather my saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice.” (Ps. 50:5).

It is very important to note this place because, the Lord did not say gather every believer, but His saints. He went further to say that He wants only those who have entered into a covenant with Him by sacrifice. The question now is how does one enter into a covenant, and what kind of sacrifice is the Lord talking about? It is important to note that whenever there is a covenant, there must also be a sacrifice, and in any acceptable sacrifice, there must be the shedding of blood. You cannot enter any relationship with God (sacrificing unto Him) without a covenant, and you cannot enter into any covenant without a sacrifice. And there can be no sacrifice without the shedding of blood

(dropping of all your human will). This is why the Holy Spirit said through Paul,

“For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. For a testament is of force after men are dead; otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth.” (Heb. 9:16-17).

Biblically, a testament is the same thing as covenant, therefore you must be prepared to die by totally denying yourself (surrendering your will to the Lord through His channel of authority, see my book on this topic).

WHAT THE LORD WANTS US TO SACRIFICE

If it is only material things like money, lands, houses, clothes, cars, etc., or spiritual things like prayers, fasting, evangelism, organization of crusades, seminars and conferences, that the Lord wants us to sacrifice unto Him, then I will say that many believers have excelled in these areas. But the Lord wants something that is far greater than all these and this is why He said,

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.” (Rom. 12:1).

“Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me.” (Heb. 10:5).

For us in the new testament era, this place means that when the Holy Spirit cometh into our flesh which is a kind of the

world, He said, He does not want the sacrifice and offering of dead things, or animals whose blood cannot take away sins, but rather the sacrifice of our own bodies. This means a life put on the altar, with no more will or desire than a dead animal, to be consumed in the service of God. It also means a heart attitude of absolute, unqualified surrender to God. This is why any sacrifice that will be acceptable and holy unto God must go with blood which is what can be used to make an atonement for us.

WHERE DOES THE LORD WANT US TO SACRIFICE UNTO HIM?

Do we sacrifice unto the Lord on the mountains, in temples, in caves, in houses, on the valleys, in the wilderness, etc.? Again, our beloved Brother Paul had the answer from what the Holy Spirit spoke through him;

“For the bodies of those beasts, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned without the camp. Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate. Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach.” (Heb. 13:11-13).

This scripture says it all, that as Jesus died outside Jerusalem (a picture of denominations) in order to sanctify us with His own blood, He also wants us to come unto Him without the camp (which is outside both denominations and any organized religious system in the world). Why? So that we can bear His reproach and His blood will be able to

sanctify us. It is outside this camp that you can enter the true Tabernacle of God (the Lord Jesus) who is not interested in any organized religious system in the world, and worship Him in spirit and in truth., This is where the Holy Spirit who is already waiting on anybody who agrees to come out, will take over, after placing you under the anointed men of God whom He has trained in this way, and start leading and teaching you the true way to the Kingdom. He will begin to teach you how to hear Him, how to obey Him and how to suffer persecutions for His sake. He did this same thing in the Old Testament with the children of Israel when He told Moses in Exodus. 33:1-11, that he (Moses) should take the tabernacle, and it was pitched without the camp, so that everyone who sought the Lord will come outside the camp to meet God in the tabernacle. But they refused to go to the tabernacle, and pleaded with God to allow Moses speak to them instead of having a direct and personal relationship with the Lord. Again, when the woman of Samaria wanted to bring the Lord under the law, or human reasoning, He had this to say,

“Jesus saith unto her, woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father. Ye worship ye know not what; we know what we worship; for salvation is of the Jews (true worshippers who worship in Spirit and truth). But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth; for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit,

and they that worship him, must worship him in spirit and in truth.” (Jn. 4:21-24).

With that statement, and now is, worshipping the Lord in a particular place was abolished in the Spirit, but it manifested officially in the natural after His death and resurrection, when the Holy Spirit came to dwell inside man for the first time. Many believers who disobey God by using Heb. 10:25 to justify themselves, are self-deceived, because Jesus said in Matt. 18:20, *“For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.”* This shows that anywhere a minimum of two or three people are truly gathered together in the name of Jesus, He is in their midst. To further clarify this, The Lord said,

“And when thou prayest, thou shall not be as the hypocrites are; for they love to pray standing in the synagogues (denominations) and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, they have their reward. But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to the Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.” (Matt. 6:5-6).

The Lord Jesus Himself said it in Jn. 4:22, that when you go to mountains or Jerusalem, which is a picture of denominations, you will not know what you are worshipping. Why? Because He has moved away His presence there, take it for granted that some miracles still happen in His name. Yes, He goes anywhere His name is

mentioned to manifest the power in that name, but it doesn't mean that He joins anybody's program (see Matt. 7:21-23). He then finalized His statement in Matt. 6:5-6, that if you go to the synagogues or in the corners of the streets like crusade grounds or open spaces in the streets to pray, then you are an hypocrite who wants himself or herself to be seen by men. And there is no reward for you. He said, when you want to pray, go into your private room in order to have a secret and personal relationship with God, and you will be rewarded openly (meaning that people will see when He will bless you).

In conclusion, if you want to be a disciple of the Lord, and a true one indeed, you must meet these three conditions :-

- a) You have to be in covenant relationship with Him, and which you must do outside the camp.
- b) You have to present your body as a living sacrifice, which will be burned through persecutions that you will go through, until you become perfect like Christ. See it further in Psalms :- *"The words of the Lord are pure words; as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times."* (PS. 12:6). The "furnace of earth", where the pure word of God will be tried, is our bodies. "Purified seven times", means that the Lord will keep on trying this pure word in our bodies until the person becomes perfect and glorious as silver. This is because the number seven in God's arithmetic of numbers, is perfection or completeness, and silver stands for redemption. And this shows that God will keep on

burning that word in our flesh until we become perfect and redeemed.

- c) You must shed your blood, which is also a symbol of giving up your own human will to the Lord Jesus through an anointed man of God He will place over you (see my book on Submission, the authority channel of God and the only Way to the Kingdom of God). How does giving up your will and blood relate? *“And almost all things are by the law purged with blood, and without shedding of blood is no remission.”* (Heb. 9:22). The connection between the blood and your will is that the life of the terrestrial flesh is in your own blood, and your human will also is in your blood. If your blood is completely dried up and another flesh given to you (because the one you have must decay), you will be full of flesh and bones which is your soulish or celestial body (see my book on Tabernacles as a Shadow of Christ). In that body, you have no will whether you go to hell or heaven, (i.e.) you cannot exercise any freewill like you do in the terrestrial body. *“For the life of the flesh is in the blood; and I have given it to you upon the altar (Jesus) to make an atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that maketh atonement for the soul.”* (Lev. 17:11). You can see that since Jesus has opened the way for us, every true disciple must shed his or her own blood as a ransom for the soul. If you decide to spare your own, you will perish. If believers understand that discipleship is a

covenant, they will be careful not to commit themselves with their mouths without keeping it. For once you go back after committing yourself in covenant with God, you die spiritually. However, if you can endure till the end, abundant grace will be released to sustain you, and you will reap good fruits in the end. If out of fear and pleasures of life, you decide not to enter this covenant relationship with God, then your covenant with the devil which you have all along been into, will continue and you will pay for it when Antichrist comes, and still perish in hell. However, if you die before his coming, you will gnash your teeth in hell, except you walked in perfect love. And perfect love is perfect obedience to the Word of God, so if you don't obey Him, you can't walk in this love.

CHAPTER 4

QUALITIES OF A TRUE DISCIPLE OF JESUS

If there are no qualities a true disciple is supposed to have, I don't think that our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ would have told us to count the cost of following Him.

“For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it? Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him, saying, this man began to build, and was not able to finish.” (Lk. 14:28-30).

This is necessary because even our Saviour Himself counted the cost of sacrificing His life in order to save mankind. He compared the sufferings with the reward, and found out that the joy is far greater than the sufferings, and that is why the Lord Holy Spirit spoke through Brother Paul;

“Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus; who being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal to God. But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men. And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the

death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name.” (Phil. 2:5-9).

The first thing to note here about the Lord Jesus is that, He made Himself as a servant, He was not forced by anybody. The secret of that achievement was His willingness to come in the form of a servant, and then obeyed till He died.

Therefore the first quality of a disciple, is “Willingness”. Isaiah has the answer when he said, *“If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land.”* (Isa. 1:19). The good of the land is the reward you will get at the end of your discipleship.

The second quality that a disciple has to possess is “Zeal”. Zeal means enthusiasm, and enthusiasm is strong feeling of admiration or interest. The Lord can do without intellectuals, He can do without your wealth (after all He owns everything on earth), He can do without your might, He can even work very well with the disabled ones. But He has nothing to do with anybody who doesn't have great zeal for Him. This is why the world call true disciples fanatics, but have you forgotten that every human being is a fanatic? You are either a fanatic of education, or fashion, or women, or men, or religion, or food, or sports, or rulership, or money, or cigarettes, etc. There is nobody on earth that doesn't have great interest for one thing or the other. If your heart is not filled with great passion for the Saviour, you cannot make it as a disciple. The Lord

Himself was filled with great passion for His Father when He said, *“The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up.”* (Jn. 2:17). What house of God was He zealous to keep in order? It is you and I, as the true temple of God. The scourge of cords He made and used to drive away the business magnets from the temple, shows His zeal for God, and also a symbol of how He is now driving out devils from our vessels as the house of God, where they are doing business. The Lord’s zeal was so much that He was not troubled about what people will say or what His teachings will cause in families, Israel as a nation, and the whole world, when He said;

“I am come to send fire on the earth; and what will I, if it be already kindled? But I have a baptism to be baptized with; and how am I straitened till it be accomplished!” (Lk. 12:49-50). He was sent to bring forth truth on earth and also to free mankind from slavery. To do this, He knew His life must be put at stake, therefore no threatening could stop His zeal to accomplish the assignment given to Him. John the Baptist was also a man who had great zeal for God and the Lord acknowledged his zeal when He said, *“he was a burning and a shining light; and ye were willing for a season to rejoice in his light.”* (Jn. 5:35). This is significant because, in spite of all the mocking you will receive, the world cannot be moved if they don’t see your zeal for the Lord. What other proof do we need to show, on how a true disciple should be zealous for the Lord, than what this great Apostle went through and spoke out, when Prophet Agabus

wanted to dissuade his mind by telling him what he will go through in Jerusalem. Hear Paul's answer;

".....What mean ye to weep and to break mine heart? For I am ready not to be bound only, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus." (Acts 21:13).

Paul was ready to die at Jerusalem, for who? For the name of the Lord Jesus, this is what having zeal for somebody can do.

The third quality of a true disciple is "Faith".

It is not easy to understand this, until you take a look at what Brother Paul, by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit described faith as; *"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."* (Heb. 11:1). This place did not say that faith is tomorrow or later today, but now, which means at once. Faith is not hope, because hope without faith has no substance. Substance means something that can be perceived or contacted by our senses, but the impression is made by our sensory mechanism of our spirit which is faith, in the natural, it is the eyes, ear, nose, etc. Substance is tangible, meaning materiality, not visual but spiritual and it is the realm of God. Then evidence means proof, and proof gives facts to support and makes real the existence of something you don't presently have. Proof takes the place of things it is to prove of, until the things arrive. Faith can therefore be referred to as a spiritual power activator, which releases the power of Almighty God in our lives and circumstances. The Lord's faith does not operate in the realm of possibility with man,

because God cannot take the glory. That realm of faith begins where man's ability has ended. The power of faith begins where possibilities, your sight and your human reasoning have failed you, then your faith will bring God into the scene. The Lord had earlier stated;

".....For verily I say unto you, if ye have faith as a grain of a mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain (problem), remove hence to yonder place, and it shall remove, and nothing shall be impossible unto you." (Matt. 17:20). It is only your faith in the Lord Jesus that can pull down any problem. God is not able to help you once you cannot act upon your faith in Him, but if you have God's kind of faith and act on it, you will move into the realm of God where nothing is impossible.

"But without faith it is impossible to please him; for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." (Heb. 11:6).

God has a realm where He operates and this is a realm of faith, if you cannot walk in that realm, then you cannot be His disciple, because nothing you do, will please Him. If you decide to walk in the realm of faith, you will certainly be tested until you are brought to the end of all your human resources. The temptations to appeal to your fellow men for help will come, but if you trust the Lord, you will look on to Him alone for help. This is why the Lord said that the just shall live by faith. It further shows that for you to live a righteous life here on earth, it is only by acting on the word of God. The Lord said through Jeremy,

“Cursed be the man that trusteth in man and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord.” (Jer. 17:5). If you trust in man, there is no way your heart will not depart from the Lord. If you begin to complain to people about your wants, either directly or indirectly, you are departing from the life of faith and betraying God. It is equal to saying that God has failed you, and that you have to look for help somewhere else. You will face many difficult times, sickness, trials, bereavements (either in finance, material, and immaterial, etc.), stripes and imprisonments where God allows them, perils, watchings, fastings, afflictions, famines, necessities, but all these things and many more, are trials of faith. After all these tests, the gift of wisdom and knowledge will be flowing through your vessel. Paul tested this and said, *“fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.”* (I Tim. 6:12).

“Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised).” (Heb. 10:23).

The only fight that God urges us to fight, which he calls a good fight, is our faith. This is because faith in the Lord Jesus is a profession, it is like an occupation which one is involved in or doing so as to earn a living. In the physical, if you loose your job or business through which you earn a living, you will suffer great loss which may affect your life. So also if you lose your faith, all your sufferings will be in vain, because you will not be rewarded.

The fourth quality of a true disciple is “Love”.

It is good to understand what love is, because all the things the world call love, are not love. Love therefore means, perfect obedience to the word of God without conditions. Condition here means when the going gets good, you obey Him perfectly, but when the going gets tough, your love will wax cold. Which of us can say, *“Father why hast thou forsaken me?”* And still surrender to die, but yet this is what a true disciple is expected to do. Why? Because you have to believe that if you lose your life for His sake, you will still find it in the resurrection. (Jn. 12:25).

“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.” (Jn. 14:21).

He also said, *“If a man love me, he will keep my words; and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.”* (Jn. 14:23).

The only way you can express your love for God is to obey Him and He will reveal Himself to you. If you don't love Him by keeping His words, He will not dwell in you, because only love can attract God to dwell in any vessel. Another way to express your love to God is to love your fellow brethren, and this is to obey the word of God to your brethren.

“This is my commandment, that ye love one another, as I have loved you.” (Jn. 15:12).

“If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar; for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? And this commandment have we from him, that he who loveth God love his brother also.” (I Jn. 4:20-21).

If you know what God has commanded in His word concerning your relationship with your fellow brethren, obey it, this is showing your love to them. And to the unbelieving world, love them, bless them, even those that attack your faith, do good to them that hate you and pray for them. Make sure you are at peace with all men, and this is to show that nobody is your enemy, but don't compromise your faith with anything. When it comes to your disobeying God in order to please them, please don't ever compromise. If you are hated by anybody because of that, it is not you they are hating, but the Lord.

“But this cometh to pass, that the word might be fulfilled that is written in their law, they hated me without a cause.” (Jn. 15:25).

Whosoever is hating you because of your obedience to God, is hating the Lord Jesus and bringing to himself or herself damnation. However, if you ignore their hatred and diligently follow the Lord, He will still bring peace between you and them when your ways please Him.

“When a man's ways please the Lord, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.” (Prov. 16:7).

When God sees that you have cleaved unto Him, leaving behind family ties, etc., He will cause your people and

some good friends to seek you and join your faith like David's brethren did to him in (I Chron. 12:16-18).

There are many other qualities that a true disciple has to possess, **but I will take this fifth one as the last for this book, and that is "Warfare"**. To bring out a better meaning of warfare, let us see what war stands for. War is the science or art of fighting, using weapons, strategy and tactics. Warfare therefore means to make war, condition of being at war, fighting. In war, dangerous weapons are used by both sides, a lot of strategies are mapped out, and tactical experts bring out a lot of methods to carry out their operation. It is time true disciples should realize that we are in warfare, and stop this type of hurdy-gurdy entertainment found in the Christian fold today. Discipleship is not living a luxurious life or seeking for pleasures which is common in Christendom now, but rather a struggle to the death and continuous conflict against the forces of darkness.

"Every Kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and a Kingdom or house that is divided against a house falleth." (Lk. 11:17).

Since a Kingdom or house that is divided against itself shall not stand, it is important to note that true disciples of Christ must be united. And the simple way to this true unity is humility which is submitting one to another (I Pet. 5:5, see my book on Submission, the Authority Channel of God and the only Way to the Kingdom of God). I am not advocating for unity of denominations as being propagated by many ministers now. That one is the unity of mystery babylon

and her daughters which God will destroy as He did to their Tower of Babel. In war, there must be austerity, sufferings, obedience, courage to face danger, skill in the use of weapons, knowledge of your opponent and his tactics, etc. A true disciple's weapon against the enemy is fervent prayers (groaning, travailing, weeping, roaring, howling, wailing, speaking in tongues) with fasting and walking in revelation knowledge of the word of God. If you are constantly throwing bombs into the enemy's camp day and night, he doesn't stand a chance to defeat you. Again, if you are not walking in revelation knowledge of the word of God, (i.e. knowing how to divide the word of God) which is the sword of the spirit, the devil will finish you up. He will bring doubts upon true messages from the Lord, by giving you some contradictory messages. He will oppose you with science, vain philosophy and traditions of men (Col. 2:8, I Tim, 6:20-21), that if you are not flowing in revelation knowledge of the word of God, your faith will drop. A true disciple is supposed to have an in-depth knowledge of his opponent and his tactics. Paul said;
"For the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God." (Eph. 3:10).
God intends the church to know about the kingdom of darkness, and this is why He wants us to enroll as soldiers, because this is revealed only to soldiers of Christ. Again Brother Paul said,

“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.” (Eph. 6:12).

True disciples should be very alert, because the battle is not against flesh and blood as you can see it here, and for this cause, the devil and his agents have entered into the Christendom all in the name of unity. And he is trying to unite the denominations and inter-denominational churches and ministries, so as to deal with true disciples of God who are outside the camp. However, he (devil) will fail.

“For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.” (I Cor. 11:13-15).

I am not referring this scripture to anybody or any group, but suffice it to say that, it is the Pharisees who were the religious leaders of the people at that time, that crucified Jesus because they believed He was teaching and walking against their law. They persecuted and killed many disciples in the early church when they (disciples) were still following the truth. Brother Paul and his company suffered great persecutions from the so called servants of God who refused to allow anybody walk in righteousness. And for true disciples of today, your greatest opposition will come from the professed ministers of God and believers who are

practicing religion, and calling it Christianity. They will oppose you so much that if you are not courageous enough, and also know how to divide the word of God, (by knowing the present truth which is sound doctrine) you will be deceived. But if you resist them, they will cast your name as a deceiver and warn their congregation to keep away from you. A true disciple who has all these qualities, will see that his or her life is wrapped up in God and the Lord has no option than to be jealous of you, and guard you as a pregnant woman guards the body in her womb. Then it will be said of you, *“I am crucified with Christ; nevertheless I live ; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me, and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.”* (Gal. 2:20).

CHAPTER 5

WHAT A TRUE DISCIPLE MUST GIVE UP FOR CHRIST

Love it is said, must cost you something, because the love Jesus Christ has for His church and the entire world, costed Him, His life. It is still the same thing He demanded from man in the beginning so that his marriage to the wife will be effective.

“For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife; and they twain shall be one flesh? Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.” (Matt. 19:5-6).

As a man is supposed to separate from the father and mother in order to be one with the wife, the wife is supposed to have done that, the moment the marriage is consummated. If the marriage is not built upon this foundation, it is bound to collapse. Therefore couples, parents of both parties, relations and even friends, take note so as not to put asunder in what God has joined together. Since discipleship is like marriage, the Lord therefore gave a much harder command that must be obeyed.

“If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple.” (Lk. 14:26).

I have heard many ministers try to bend that word hate, by saying that you shouldn't hate them, but you should love and obey them by observing what is in (Eph. 6:2-3). They go further to say that you shouldn't forsake them, but rather tell them you want to follow God. Well, everybody is entitled to his or her own opinion, after all, God created man with a freewill. Therefore He knows everybody will not do it, and that is why He said, **“IF”**. For true disciples, that word **“hate”**, means having a violent dislike for their religion, which is contrary to the word of God, their traditions which oppose the commandments of God, and their lifestyle which causes them to be self righteous as opposed to the righteousness of God. Again, those ancestral or familiar spirits that cause them to behave in this way, will be after you since you have broken away from their control, and now pose a great danger to their continued domination of your people. Bear in mind that your separation is for good, so as to stand the ground to fight the enemy and liberate your people so that they too, will be saved, because God's intention is for them to be saved, and that is why you are His link. The Lord knew that this will not be easy and said;

“Think not that I am come to send peace on earth, I come not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her

mother in law. And a man's foes (enemies) shall be they of his own household. He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. He that findeth his life shall lose it, and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it.” (Matt. 10:34-39).

“He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that loseth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal.” (Jn. 12:25).

Since love is the same thing with obeying somebody, if you obey your father, or mother, or son, or daughter, or wife, more than the Lord, you are not worthy to be His disciple. If you also listen to the voice of your body which is feeling (see my book on Tabernacles As A Shadow Of Christ) and obey it more than the Lord, you will lose your life.

“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.” (Lk. 9:23).

You must deny yourself (i.e.) giving up your will completely and then take up your cross daily so as to follow Him. Cross means foolishness, weakness, and sufferings which you will go through for the sake of the Lord. You have to do those things that are foolish to the world, but that is where the wisdom of God lies. (I Cor. 1:25-29, II Cor. 12:9). You have to be weak for the sake of Christ so as to allow His power to flow. And you have to suffer for His sake so as to be conformed to His image.

“.....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. 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.”
Mk. 10:29-30).

A true disciple must give up houses, brethren, sisters, father, mother, wife, children, lands, for the sake of the Lord, and in the end you will receive an hundredfold but with persecutions which you will keep on going through until those things manifest. What a true disciple who is a married woman, cannot give up is her husband, this is because a wife is the disciple of her husband. It is a mystery that has caused so many men of God, to give wrong counsels which have torn families apart. If you are a victim of this error, go back to your husband and plead with him to forgive you. Then humble yourself by obeying all his commands, and allow God to do the magic. For further clarification, (see my book on Submission, the Authority Channel of God and the Only Way to the Kingdom of God).

“Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal. For where you treasure is, there will your heart be also. The light of the body is the eye; if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. No man can serve two masters, for either he will hate

the one and love the other, or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.” (Matt. 6:19,21,24).

“Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.” (Jas. 4:4).

People limit treasures to mean only wealth, but it goes beyond that, it also means a highly valued object, thing or person. Therefore your education, your job or business, your friends, your possessions, etc., everything must be given up so as to follow Him. He said it, that your eye has to be single, which means to focus only on the Lord and the business of the Lord which is preaching the gospel. You cannot serve God as a profession and do anything in this world. He is a jealous God and cannot share your love for Him with anything or anybody. Was it not true of our Lord Himself, that He gave up His carpentry work to answer the call of His Father, and never looked back in any direction from the world again. What of the early disciples, the Bible recorded in Lk. 5:11, that they forsook all, and followed Him. The Lord stamped this here,

“So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple.” (Lk. 14:33).

This is a must, if you don't do it, no matter how you pray, or how you work miracles or how you walk in revelation knowledge of the Word of God, you are not His disciple. Again, that word ōforsakethō, is a continual process, and

this is to say that after you have forsaken all as to be a disciple, the Lord in His infinite mercy will give you an hundredfold, but with persecutions. However, He expects you to keep on forsaking , by distributing them to as many as have need. You just take the much that will meet your immediate needs, and distribute the rest to the household of faith, widows, fatherless, the poor, the needy, etc., so as to run away from the snare that is in riches. This is one of the hardest part of discipleship, and it has ruined many disciples who started well by forsaking all. Many whose hearts have been hardened to disobey this command, will quickly quote some scriptures from Brother Paul, to justify that you must work or else you should not eat. Some end up by saying that if you do not work to provide for your own family, you are worse than an infidel (unbeliever).

“Let him that stole steal no more, but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.” (Eph. 4:28).

“For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat. For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies. Now them that are such we command and exhort by our Lord Jesus Christ, that with quietness they work, and eat their bread.” (II Thess. 3:10-12).

If any disciple is really following the Holy Spirit, He will lead him safely, and thoroughly give the person the right interpretation of these places. It is much better to follow

instructions of the Author and Finisher of our faith (the Lord Jesus), until such a time when He gives you the understanding of what His scribes wrote in the Bible, and circumstances surrounding it. In the synoptic gospels, our Lord said that a true disciple must forsake all, but here in epistles, Paul who was a disciple of the Lord said, "if you do not work, do not eat." Why did he (Paul) counteract and also contradict what his Master and Saviour said? To answer this question correctly, it is important to note that the word of God, is the will of God. But everything in the word of God is not God's perfect will, for God has permissive will, which He allows man to do because of man's rebellion and selfishness. And He has perfect will, which He ordained before the foundation of the world, so as to achieve His purpose in anybody's life. Was it not true that God allowed the children of Israel to choose Saul, when it was not His time to give them a king, just because they wanted to be like other nations? The same thing applied to Moses, whom the children of Israel chose to speak to them instead of God, and he (Moses) permitted them to divorce their wives and marry another, contrary to the commandment of God which says, "that only death can part a husband and wife" (Rom. 7:2-3, Mk. 10:11-12). This also was Paul's mistake, but the Lord allowed it then, and even now, for those disciples who will come to Him with the same motive. Paul began to preach with great zeal for the Lord, and having been endowed with great wisdom and knowledge of the world then like Moses, he decided to

make use of it, by studying about times and seasons of the Lord's moment on earth. He quickly got the answer with the wisdom of men, having calculated that from A.D. 30 to A.D. 70, will be forty years, thus equaling a generation which may be what the Lord meant by this parable :-

“Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh. So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors. Verily I say unto you, this generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled.” (Matt. 24:32-34).

Paul then, armed with this quotation, began to teach people how Jerusalem will be destroyed, the coming and reign of Antichrist, and how the Son of man will finally come. Many people forsook all and followed the Lord, not because they wanted to be His disciples, but rather they wanted to escape from the horrible reign of Antichrist, and then be caught up with the Lord in the clouds. The Author of the Bible, the Holy Spirit, then revealed to Paul later, that not only will he die before all these things written in Matthew Chapter 24 will happen, but the generation He meant, will be towards the end of this dispensation of grace. By then, hunger began to torture those who were not truly prepared to be disciples, and many of them began to steal, while some became busybodies and were going from house to house to backbite against their fellow brethren so as to eat. Paul then gave out this command to them presumptuously, amidst all this confusion. But it doesn't

indicate that he is giving a perfect command from the Lord. So for those that cannot truly follow the Lord as His true disciples, except they look for survival some other place, than from Him, remark this place, and do as Paul commanded this people, instead of blaspheming the word of God by being busybodies. However, know that whenever you are doing this thing mentioned here, you are still your own Lord, and are in the permissive will of God until when your faith grows, and you cease from trusting in the arm of the flesh. Then the Lord will bring you out, and establish you by causing you to live by the things of the gospel (I Cor. 9:11-14, Rom. 15:26-27). For some reasons, I will not explain in this book, what the Lord revealed to me as the meaning of that Matt. 24:32-34, but I am ready to share it personally with anybody that cares, and specifically asks for it. A true disciple must give up self love so as to lay down his life for his fellow brethren, and in doing this effectively, he must observe these scriptures,

“Let no man seek his own, but every man another’s wealth.” (I Cor. 10:24).

“We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let everyone us please his neighbour (brother) for his good to edification.” (Rom. 15:1-2).

“Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.” (Phil. 2:3-4).

You must truly hate your life so as to meet up with this hard demand. Or else what can you tell a man who forsook all, for maybe, about seven to ten years, and have gone through a fiery burning of the flesh from what he suffered, then the Lord begins to give him his hundredfold, and another man who has been enjoying the world all these years, but became converted for just three months, and the Lord says, "seek for the person's welfare more than your own?" But this is exactly what He is saying you should do here, and as you do it, your reward will be great in heaven. And you may be opportune to be among those special people that will be at the left and right hand of the Lord in His coming Kingdom.

CHAPTER 6

OBSTACLES TO TRUE DISCIPLESHIP

Whatever has advantages, must have disadvantages, whatever has good qualities must have some bad qualities, likewise whatever has conditions of, must have obstacles. There are three major obstacles to true discipleship, and it is from these major obstacles that every other thing which hinders true discipleship, springs up.

“Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 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. And the world passeth away and the lust thereof; but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever.” (I Jn. 2:15-17).

Having seen this quotation, it is important to note that the three major obstacles are (a) lust of the flesh; (b) lust of the eyes; © pride of life. And it is from them that other hindrances like earthly comforts (love for only dainty foods, living only in well furnished houses, moving with posh cars, etc.), love for your job, business, education, traditions of men, etc., passion of tender family ties, e.g., for the parents, for the brothers and sisters, for the wife, for the children, etc. Then the height you already attained in

the society e.g., dropping your chieftancy titles, dropping your honorary awards, positions held in religious organizations, etc. All these things and many more, spring up from these three things, and they are the things the devil used to pull down Adam and Eve, to tempt the Lord Jesus, and he (Satan) is using them to stop the world from following the Lord Jesus.

HOW THEN DID MAN FALL FROM GOD'S GLORY

“.....And he (Satan) said unto the woman, yea, hath God said, ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, we may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden; But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked (in sin); and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.” (Gen. 3:1-7).

Satan did not know the particular fruit that God told man not to eat, but through his subtil ways, he questioned the Word of God and the woman fell to his subtility, before

finally pulling man down. It was through these three ways that he (Satan) did his first game on man;

“And the woman saw that the tree was good for food (lust of the flesh), and was pleasant to the eyes (lust of the eyes), and a tree to be desired to make one wise (pride of life).”

And that fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, is self will which He (God) never wanted man to start walking in. Therefore because of the lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes and pride of life, man was brought down and he became subject to Satanic manipulations. And each time man finds himself in any of these three, he will become spiritually naked (in sin). With the first man falling, no human being has been able to overcome Satan through his hard ways, until our Lord Jesus who is the Saviour of mankind came. Satan waited for Him to pass through fiery trial in the wilderness before coming to tempt Him with almost an irresistible offers. But the Lord who is full of His Father's will, after crushing His own will in the wilderness, did not waste time in throwing bombshells at the devil and he (devil) departed from the Lord for a season. The Lord had fasted for forty days and forty nights, and was very hungry when the devil confronted Him with :-

(1) **Lust of the flesh** :- *“And the devil said unto him, if thou be the Son of God, command this stone that it be made bread.”* (Lk. 4:3). The devil knew that Jesus is the Son of God, but he wanted Him to be self willed, by listening to the voice of the flesh which is feeling, but Jesus waded off this temptation with, *“It is written, that*

man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.” (Vs.4).

- (2) **Lust of the eyes** :- *“And the devil, taking him up into an high mountain, shewed unto him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. And the devil said unto him, all this power will I give thee, and the glory of them; for that is delivered unto me, and to whomsoever I will I give it. If thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be thine.” (Vs.5-7).*

Satan so much desired worship and through the lust of the eyes, he has caused man to worship what he (man) knows not. Why? Because man so much desires what he can look at and call his God. When he thought he can subject Jesus to the same lust, by showing Him the Kingdoms of this world which he stole from man, the Lord that created him, hit back;

“And Jesus answered and said unto him, Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.” (Vs.8).

- (3) **Pride of life** :- *“And he brought him to Jerusalem, and set him on a pinnacle of the temple, and said unto him, if thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down from hence: For it is written, He shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee: And in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at anytime thou dash thy foot against a stone.” Vs.9-11). This is the area that Satan has not only attacked the world badly, but more than*

that, the Christendom. It is a direct attack on the word of God because, not only did he quote it wrongly by adding and subtracting, (the correct quotation is in Ps. 91:11-12) but he was quoting it to the Word of God Himself so as to pump pride inside Him, and cause Him to walk against God.

“And Jesus answering said unto him, it is said, thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.” (Vs.12).

The Lord had no need to agree with the devil or to reason with him, because He knew that the instructions He should obey, has to come from no other person than His Father. If the devil or people cannot believe whom you are, by what they are seeing manifest through you in terms of your lifestyle and other good fruits, don't go on and start tempting God by doing what He has not asked you to do, as to prove that you are sent by God. If you try it, you will fail because you have moved into pride, but if you succeed, then God does not take glory, and you will eventually be brought down. The secret of the success of our Lord Jesus over these temptations, is that He was full of the will of His Father, and never gave room to any other will, no matter how good it seems to be, He refused to give room to His own will. Again, He refused to meditate for one second, all the thoughts that came into His mind and which were contrary to the instructions He had received while in the wilderness. If we can follow His footsteps, we are bound to make it to the end for no temptation can come to any, except through these three major ways. How do I know?

Again, the answer is this :- *“And when the devil had ended all the temptation, he departed from him for a season.”* (Lk. 4:13).

Brother Luke called it *“all the temptation”*, because any temptation that Satan will bring to man must come through one of those ways. Many have been destroyed and caused to walk in deception, because they go into reasoning with the devil, especially whenever the devil quotes the word of God to them in form of thoughts, or uses some religious devotees who are married to the system of the world and whose heart have been hardened to truth. And once you refuse to cast down those imaginations, bring the thoughts down to the obedience of Christ, and stop those wolves in sheep’s clothing from questioning the move of God in your life, you will move into pride and unnecessary lust. And the devil will finish you up before you realize yourself. In breaking this three major obstacles into many parts, it is important to note that any disciple who has decided to follow the Lord, will be given other opportunities to turn back by many voices which the devil will send his way, but if you refuse, he will engage you in war.

“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 and 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.” (Lk. 9:57-62).

The first disciple here, felt he could follow the Lord wherever He goes. Why did he feel so? He has seen the Lord perform great miracles like using only five loaves of bread and two fishes to feed five thousand people, and he imagined in his heart that if this man could feed this multitude, then to live with Him (Jesus) will be the greatest thing that has happened to him. He believed that the Lord must be very rich and also be living in a gorgeous house, and that those serving Him will never lack anything. He did not ask of the conditions to true discipleship, and therefore did not care if there is any cost. He did not think that there is any cross to bear, since he wants to move out with a supposedly rich man who can feed multitudes without them paying any price. But he got it all wrong because the moment our Lord Jesus said, I am homeless now, and I don't even intend to have a permanent dwelling place like other creatures, that disciple went away. So if you want to be a true disciple of the Lord, forget about having a permanent dwelling place because it will be a great obstacle when the Lord will start moving you around (Ref. I Cor. 4:11). The second and third disciples here were rather very selfish, their desires were more important than

the Lord's. The Lord had requested the second one to follow Him, but other things were important to him than instant obedience. He did not reject following the Lord outright, but his reply was an indirect refusal because the Lord has no time for procrastinations. The Lord made it clear in His reply, "let the dead bury their dead, but go thou and preach the Kingdom of God." He was more interested in the traditions of men than working with God, and so when he got that answer from the Lord, he went away. The first lesson here is that God has no time for the traditions of men that cause his disciples to transgress His commandments. (Ref. Matt. 15:2-3). The second lesson to learn is that true disciples of the Lord, do not attend the burial ceremonies of unbelievers, whether relations or not, except with the specific instruction from the Lord, maybe, to raise up the dead.(Ref. Lev. 10:1-7). The Lord Himself and the early Apostles did not attend the burial of any unbelieving friend or relation, except to raise the dead where necessary (with instruction coming from the Lord for them to attend). The third disciple was also selfish, but his selfishness was hinged upon family ties or attachment. He was so attached to his family, that he needed their endorsement before he could answer the Lord's call. How can a family that will be your greatest enemy when you decide to follow the Lord (Matt. 10:36), endorse your decision? Yet some intending disciples who are tied to their families, and who love to compromise their faith in the Lord with the love of family, will quickly tell you that it

doesn't matter. After all they say, my people cannot stop or decide my faith, yes they may not, but the emotions of the flesh caused by those familiar spirits from both you and them, will lead you into being sympathetic rather than compassionate for them, and you will disobey God. And because this disciple could not detach from family attachment, he went away. Therefore family ties or attachment is another obstacle to true discipleship. This was why Jesus kept on directing His mother, Mary and his brethren to God, because they were outside the will of God and wanted Jesus to leave the Father's will and attend to them (Matt. 12:46-50).

“And the officers shall speak unto the people saying, what man is there that hath built a new house, and hath not dedicated it: Let him go and return to his house, lest he die in the battle, and another man dedicate it. And what man is he that hath planted a vineyard, and hath not yet eaten of it? Let him also go and return unto his house, lest he die in the battle, and another man eat of it. And what man is there that hath betrothed a wife, and hath not taken her? Let him go and return unto his house, lest he die in the battle, and another man take her.” (Deut. 20:5-7)

“.....A certain man made a great supper, and bade many: And sent his servant at supper time to say to them (disciples) that were bidden, come, for all things are now ready. 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. And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them, I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.” (Lk. 14:16-20).

I have quoted these two places from the Law and Grace, to show the principle of double reference, and how these three reasons given out by this set of disciples, have been hindering people from following the Lord. Both Deutronomy and Luke are saying the same thing., the first disciple's hindrance is his estate. He could not give up his estate to follow the Lord. The second person cannot do without his job, or business, or education, etc., because he wanted to be able to receive his gratuity, and be receiving his monthly pension, or to make enough profit from his business, or to graduate and get his certificate, etc. The third disciple cannot do without his new wife, he wanted to stay back, cherish and nourish her, rather than answering the call of the Lord. And the Lord bypassed the three, and called those who have little or nothing to give up.

Another big obstacle is riches :-

“.....But Jesus answereth again, and saith unto them, children, how hard is it for them that trust in riches to enter the Kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.” (Mk. 10:24-25).

“But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.” (I Tim. 6:9).

It is very important to observe these scriptures, because Satan in his bid to deceive believers, is using the word õprosperityö, to camouflage õrichesö. Prosperity is nothing other than having goon success in all ways, but the Lord had earlier made it clear that, in seeking the Kingdom of God and His righteousness first, your soul will prosper, you will be in good health, your financial and material fortune will also prosper, but not to the extent of being a rich disciple. If you become rich, you fall into temptation and a snare, and you are likely going to err from the faith, except you save yourselves by distributing it to the household of faith, widows which are widows indeed, the fatherless, the poor, the needy, etc., so as to lay up your treasure in heaven. The last but not the least of the obstacles that I have written in this book is this :-

“Nevertheless among the chief rulers also many believed on him ; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue, for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.” (Jn. 12:42-43).

This is a group of believers who are holding high positions in their denominations, but for fear of being sent out of their denominations, and thereby lose their positions, they refused to identify with the Lord, as His true disciples. This is true of many people who would have answered the call of the Lord, but for fear of losing their positions both in the Society and the Christendom, they refused to obey God. Having seen the obstacles to true discipleship, I wish that

as many as the Lord has called, or is calling to discipleship life, should avoid the obstacles and obey Him.

CHAPTER 7

THE REACTION OF A TRUE DISCIPLE TO MARRIAGE

Many people who intend to be true disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ, will quickly ask, if a disciple is to meet all these conditions before he can follow the Lord, will he still marry? How can he enjoy the marriage and still follow God, or will he forget about marriage and keep burning or lusting after women? This question needs a careful and thorough answer, so that people will not be misguided.

“Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled.....”
(Heb. 13:4).

Even though Brother Paul did not marry, yet God led him into an in-depth knowledge of marriage. And after the careful study on this institution called marriage, he concluded by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit that, *“marriage is honourable in all...”*. Why is everything about marriage honourable?

(a) It was ordained as a means of procreation so that human beings will fill up the earth, and subdue it, thus having dominion over everything on earth.

“And God blesses them, and God said unto them, be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and

subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every creeping thing that moveth upon the earth.” (Gen. 1:28)

- (b) God wanted to end the loneliness of man by giving him a companion who will assist him to achieve God’s purpose. *“And the Lord God said, it is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.” (Gen. 2:18).*
- (c) It was instituted so that God will have a godly seed (true sons of God) who will throw Satan down from his base in second heaven. *“Yet ye say, wherefore? Because the Lord hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously; yet is she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant. And did not he make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth.” (Mal. 2:14-15)*

- (d) Marriage was permitted so that man can live a life that is void of immorality in this world. “.....*It is good for a man not to touch a woman, Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband.*” (I Cor. 7:1-2).
- (e) It is a great mystery instituted by God, so as to enable the church, to understand her relationship with Christ (the Husband). “*For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church. For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. This is a great mystery; but I speak concerning Christ and the church.*” (Eph. 5:29-32).

And because the Holy Spirit said through Brother Paul that marriage is honourable in all, everybody on earth who has reached the age to marry, including the disciples of our Lord, is rushing into marriage. Very many people have also decided to keep God out of their marriage, not knowing that as they shut their door to God, then the devil comes in through the window. God, out of His compassion for man so as to end his loneliness, had earlier decided to act on the principle of grace and truth. And man in a twinkle of an eye, reaped the fruit of the first supernatural surgery, performed by the Lord, which he did not merit.

“And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept; and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the

flesh instead thereof. And the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. And Adam said, this is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh, she shall be called woman, because she was taken out of man.” (Gen. 2:21-23).

When Adam woke up from sleep and saw a beautiful companion by his side, he was so joyous that he neither asked the Lord any question about the woman, nor thank the Lord for His love towards him. Rather he rushed and held on to the woman, and took her to be his wife. But when the devil deceived the woman and she caused Adam to sin, hear what Adam had to say as God confronted him;

“And the man said, the woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.” (Gen. 3:12).

Adam, instead of acknowledging his sin and repenting, started justifying himself, thereby blaming God for giving him the woman. This was one of the things that God did to man out of His compassion, and which He regretted. For He turned round and now said to man,

“Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the Lord.” (Prov. 18:22).

Man who loves to do his freewill always, started rushing to any kind of woman, all in the name of looking for a wife. But I want to ask, even though God said, whosoever findeth, who on earth can find his suitable or perfect rib? To find a wife, does not mean to live with any woman after you have done the necessary things about marriage, but it

means to find that precious missing rib, that will still fit back into the hole, as we use to fit back into the body of Christ in spirit. And unless you find the missing rib, you cannot obtain favour from the Lord.

HOW CAN ONE FIND HIS MISSING RIB?

To find your perfect rib, God must be brought in, no amount of going to any spiritualist or occultist can solve it. They cannot provide your real husband or wife, because it is not in their power to do it, and the spirits operating through them are against marriage. Why? Because only the unity of a perfect marriage can pull down Satan and his agents, and Satan does not want them (husband and wife) to ever unite.

“But seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.” (Matt. 6:33).

Is marriage included in all these things that will be added unto you? Yes, marriage is included as long as He has not called you to be an eunuch. If you put your life into the hand of the Lord by seeking for His Kingdom and His righteousness first, God will then act on the principle of grace and truth, and lead you to find that suitable rib who will have the same zeal, faith, love and obedience to the Lord, as you have. In spite of all that the scripture says, to prove that marriage is the will of God, even for His disciples in this race, it is not a must for every individual. Why? Because a disciple of the Lord Jesus may decide to

forgo it simply to avoid distraction in working with God. Again the Lord can make somebody an eunuch from the womb, just for the purpose of working with Him. However, there are some people who were made eunuchs by their masters.

“For there are some eunuchs, which were so born from their mother’s womb; and there are some eunuchs, which were made eunuchs of men, and there be eunuchs, which have made themselves eunuchs for the Kingdom of heaven’s sake. He that is able to receive it, let him receive it.” (Matt. 19:12).

Even though there are three different eunuchs mentioned in this place, only two have to do with the Lord. The other one is bondage to the people concerned, and does not give room for purity. For a disciple to make himself an eunuch for the sake of the Kingdom, he must have that inner desire to give himself wholly to the service of the Lord, without adding marital responsibility to that service. And for this purpose, he must seek an added grace for continence, but if after this, he still cannot contain, it is an indication that God wants him to marry.

“I say therefore to the unmarried and widows, it is good for them if they abide even as I. But if they cannot contain, let them marry; for it is better to marry than to burn.” (I Cor. 7:8-9).

Brother Paul, by the inspiration of the Lord gave the answer, that instead of lusting after women, let those intending eunuchs who cannot contain marry, to maintain

purity. However, those eunuchs that were so born from their mother's womb, are those whom God has made eunuchs by Himself so that they may not be distracted by marital life, in working with Him. In any case, people that were so called, will have that divine conviction even before they go into discipleship, and they don't lust after women having received the grace to be so from the womb. To be an eunuch which is not voluntary is completely against God's divine will, and in such cases, purity is scarcely maintained.

"Now the spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their conscience seared with a hot iron; forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth." (I Tim. 4:1-3).

The Lord made it clear through Brother Paul, that those who forbid marriage and command people to abstain from meats, are those who have departed from the faith, and have followed the doctrine of devils. He said further that they have gotten their conscience seared with a hot iron. This is to prove that wherever marriage is forbidden as a law, and not a voluntary vow from the person who wants to remain simple, immorality will heavily abound there. However, a true disciple who is not an eunuch should not marry anyhow, but according to God's principle.

**FROM WHERE SHOULD A TRUE DISCIPLE
MARRY?**

We have seen that to be a disciple, you must be in covenant with God, likewise marriage should also be viewed as a life covenant. One who is in covenant with God, cannot have a successful marriage with another who is not in that kind of covenant relationship with God too. Why? This is because you cannot successfully be in covenant relationship with two people from two opposing camps at the same time, without breaking the terms of that covenant. This is clear, for God cannot allow His people when He has entered into a covenant with, to be in another covenant relationship with the ungodly.

“For thou shalt worship no other god; for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God.” (Exo. 34:14).

When God was about to enter into a covenant relationship with the children of Israel (a type of the Church), He told them all the things that He required them to do, so that He will keep His own part of the covenant, and marriage was included. The Lord thus said;

“.....Thou shalt make no covenant with them,, nor shew mercy unto them; neither shalt thou make marriages ; thy daughter thou shalt not give unto his son, nor his daughter shalt thou take unto thy son, For they will turn away thy son from following me, that they may serve other gods, so will the anger of the Lord be kindled against you, and destroy thee suddenly.” (Deut. 7:2-4).

“Take good heed therefore unto yourselves, that ye love the Lord your God. Else if ye do in any wise go back, and cleave unto the remnant of these nations, even these that remain among you, and shall make marriages with them, and go in unto them, and they to you. Know for a certainty that the Lord your God will no more drive out any of these nations from before you; but they shall be snares and traps unto you, and scourges in your sides, thorns in your eyes, until ye perish from off this good land which the Lord your God hath given you.” (Josh. 23:11-13).

The Lord had warned Israel, which is a picture of the church, not to inter-marry with the heathen nations (unbelievers), since doing so will be the breaking of His covenant with them. And they will turn away the heart of the Israelites (believers) from following the Lord, and the children of Israel will start serving other gods. The Lord said further, that the heathen nations (unbelievers) will be snares and traps unto the children of Israel (believers), and scourges in their sides, thorns in their eyes, until they lose their faith. Disciples should please take note of this, for many have lost their faith because they defied this commandment of God, out of lust which they refer to, as love. Many will say, when I marry her or him, I will convert her or him. It is a lie, you cannot convert anybody because this is the work of the Holy Spirit, and you have to remember that in as much as the race is open for any who wants to enter, salvation is a gift from God. Solomon who was anointed by God as a king, given the gift of great

wisdom and knowledge, blessed with great riches, cleaved unto the daughters of the uncircumcised, all in the name of love, and lost his way and if not for the mercy of God towards his father David, he would have gone to hell. (I Kings 11:1-11). This is true of believers because God does not want them to marry unbelievers, but if any has married before enrolling as a disciple, the person should not put away his wife. For true disciples, they are not expected to marry believers that are in the camp. Why? This is due to the fact that they (believers in the camp) are not yet in covenant relationship with God. Those in covenant with God are found outside the camp, where they are keeping their own part of the covenant by sacrificing their bodies unto the Lord. True disciples who want to obey God's principle in marriage, look at how Abraham sent his servant to find a wife for Isaac as an example.

“And Abraham said unto his eldest servant of his house, that ruled over all that he had, put, I pray thee, thy hand under my thigh; And I will make thee swear by the Lord, the God of heaven, and the God of the earth, that thou shalt not take a wife unto my son of the daughters of the Canaanites (unbelievers), among whom I dwell. But thou shalt go unto my country (a picture of the church or believers), and to my kindred, (a picture of those separated from the camp and are in covenant with the Lord) and take a wife unto my son Isaac.” (Gen. 24:2-4).

Abraham representing God the Father here, sent his servant (Holy Spirit in man) who is in-charge of all that he had, to

find a wife for his son. Here was Abraham acting on the principle of grace and truth, thus providing a perfect rib for his son, and this is what our Father God will do, if we put our lives completely in His hand as true disciples. His Holy Spirit in us will direct you to find a suitable rib among the separated vessels, who is in covenant relationship with God, and also living the life of a true disciple too. And the marriage will be blessed and thus will this scripture be fulfilled.

“Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow; but woe to him that is alone when he falleth, for he hath not another to help him up. Again, if two lie (wait) together, then they have heat; (the anointing) but how can one be warm alone? And if one (the devil) prevail against him, (the husband) two (husband and wife) shall withstand him (the devil); and a threefold (a covenant of three people, i.e., man, wife and God) cord (love) is not quickly broken.” (Eccl. 4:9-12).

CHAPTER 8

QUALIFICATION FOR THE THRONE

Everybody in the Christendom believes he or she is waiting for the second coming of Christ Jesus, everybody believes he or she will be taken away before the horrible reign of Antichrist. Everybody also believes he or she will be on the throne ruling with Jesus Christ in His coming Kingdom. However, majority of the professed believers neither ask, nor are interested in the conditions to meet, so as to qualify for the throne. Those interested in knowing the conditions, when they are told, will quickly say, this is not for us now, but for the early disciples, and nothing you show them through the scripture will convince them. The little remnant who after seeing the conditions, decide to deny themselves the pleasures of life and join this race of rulership, will be termed as deceivers and followers of Antichrist. Brother Paul studied this very well and admonished Timothy :-

“And if a man also strive for masteries(rulership), yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully (i.e. according to the Word of God).” (II Tim. 2:5).

This scripture is a guide, warning believers that if any is striving to be on the throne governing, he or she should go and search the scriptures, to know the conditions of what he/she is seeking for. Interestingly, everybody will like to

be given an opportunity to rule his/her country. Nevertheless, not everybody is eligible to contest, and for those that will contest, all of them cannot rule. As it is in this kingdom, so also it is in the coming Kingdom, though it is a race thrown open for any who wants to run, but not everybody is eligible to run, and among those that are eligible to run the race, not all of them will eventually reach the end to qualify for rulership. Therefore to qualify for the throne, you must overcome the devil and his system operating in this present world. This is a very hard condition to meet, and that is why the scripture said of the company that will do it ;

“And they (overcomers or the man child company) overcame him (Satan) by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.” (Rev. 12:11).

Many people have argued that this place is talking about Michael and his angels who fought the devil and his agents, and that the man child is talking about Jesus. They even cited the interpretation given out about that place, in Dakes Bible to justify their argument. Well, Dakes is not the Holy Spirit and will never be. When John saw this vision, Jesus Christ had already died, resurrection, ascended to heaven, and had even been glorified. He was even the One that brought John to the throne to show him these things. As for the angels, they have no word of testimony because they have been living in their glory since they were created, and they don't use the blood of the Lamb, since the blood is

meant for the redemption of the creatures that lost their former glory. And those angels cannot die physically like men. The "Word of testimony" refers to what they, like Jesus, rejected Satan and his system that is in operation in this world. And because of this, Satan vowed to crush them, and cause them to lose their faith while in the world, and which he never succeeded. Jesus rejected the devil and all the offers that he gave Him; job, education, wealth, fame, kingship, food, everything, and when He dipped His hand in the wine used in place of the blood of the covenant, with His disciples and Judas, the latter (Judas) went out to betray Him. Having known that He was not guilty of anything which the devil may accuse Him, He said,

"Hereafter I will not talk much with you; for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me." (Jn. 14:30).

Satan could not find anything in Him because He was not part of the system which the devil introduced in the world, and He clearly rejected all the offers that came from Satan, in fact, He was guiltless. Little wonder why the Lord told our Brother John, to write this of the overcomers in the book of Revelations :-

"And no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth. These are they which were not defiled with women (religious system set up by the devil, and which is ruling the whole earth); for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb (represented by His Spirit) whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the

firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb. And in their mouth was found no guile; for they are without fault before the throne of God.” (Rev. 14:1-5).

They are those who like the Lord, rejected the devil, his system and all his offers and have passed through fire here on earth, paying a great price with their blood. And truly, the devil found nothing in them because, they did not defile themselves with any religious group in the world. They rejected Satan’s offer for jobs, businesses, education, wealth, food, fame, rulership, etc., and chose to pay the price by suffering with Christ so as to reign with Him. Brother Paul, towards the end of his ministerial work with the Lord, when he learnt the truth about this qualification for the throne, had this to say to Timothy and the church;

“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.” (II Tim. 2:3-4).

Let those that are contesting for the throne in the coming Kingdom note this place, because overcomers are the soldiers of Christ. Once you enroll as a soldier through your discipleship life, the Lord expects you not to entangle yourself with the business of any kind, that has to do with this world (whether education, job, business, rulership, etc.), so as to please the Lord who hath chosen you to be His soldier. If after enrolling as a soldier of Christ, you still entangle yourself in the day to day business of this world, know for sure that you are sabotaging the Lord and His

Kingdom, who has called you to be part of those that will overthrow Satan and this kingdom. Your only business as a soldier, is how to propagate the gospel of the coming Kingdom of our Lord, and it is His duty to feed you, clothe you and house you, where necessary. This is a very difficult condition to meet, but that is what He requires. I am a living witness to this truth, I came out of my job and was led into training as a true disciple for three and a half years. After the training, I continued to follow the Lord as a true disciple for two years, waiting for direction on what next to do. And I, like Paul, justifying myself with the epistles of Paul on how to work with your hands, went into business, working with my hands. You see, I was doing fine but at the same time having attacks, because I was in God's permissive will until after ten months, he had mercy on me, brought me out again to continue living as a true disciple so as to overcome. He also warned me never to go back, and gave me the true interpretation of what Paul wrote and why he wrote it.

For the interest of the world be overcomers in this church age, let me by the leading of the Holy Spirit, try to explain the revelation of Apostle John to the church written in chapters 2 and 3 of the Book of Revelation. These two chapters are specifically written to the church, and in each church age, the Lord Jesus use to raise up some ministers that will have the truth, but there is one of the ministers who will have the major messages, and every other person will be preaching alongside the revelation given to this

messenger, who is referred to as the angel of that church. Whosoever receives anything that does not fall inline with what this messenger is receiving, is in deception. There are also certain characteristics with which the messenger and the rest true ministers will be known, and which the Holy Spirit will manifest through them.

Let me start with the first church age in Ephesus :-

“Unto the angel (messenger) of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks..... Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love. Remember therefore from whence thou are fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.” (Rev. 2:1-5).

Ephesus signifies desirable, (i.e.) they were desiring the truth and at the same time relaxing with their first love (waiting on the Lord). Therefore the Lord Jesus manifested Himself through the messenger of that church age, as, “He that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks.” And this means that the Lord was holding all the ministers firmly, and manifesting His full authority and strength through them, thereby causing them to walk to and fro the whole church to make sure that the deeds of the Nicolaitanes (which is to overthrow the laity by causing them to compromise with the world) were not permitted in the

church. The message that the messenger gave after praising these disciples in Vs.2-3, is in Vs.4-5, and it is that they have left their ðfirst loveö. Their first love was, staying in the presence of the Lord or waiting on the Lord, hearing His word, doing them and refusing to compromise with the world, and to overcome here, they must go back to that first love.

The second church age is the church in Smyrna, and it says, *“And unto the angel of the church in Smyrna write; These things saith the first and the last, which was dead, and is alive.”* (Rev. 2:8).

Smyrna means Myrrh, and it is a bitter ointment used to make perfumes to anoint people for death, and which also the overcomers here were anointed with. The Lord manifested Himself through the messenger in this church age as, ðthe first and the last, which was dead, and is aliveö, meaning that all the overcomers here will be killed en mass, and they will be the first and last group of overcomers in all the church ages, that will face that kind of mass death. However they will live again in the resurrection. They were commended for their faithfulness in Vs.9, but in Vs.10, they were given the message and encouraged to be faithful unto death. Anybody who did not yield himself or herself to be killed in this church age from what they went through, cannot qualify as an overcomer.

The third church age is Pergamos. *“And unto the angel of the church in Pergamos write ; These things saith he which hath the sharp sword with two edges.”* (Rev. 2:12).

Pergamos is represented by marriage and elevation, and it happened when believers in this church age who came out of the tribulation that befell Smyrna church, entered into a marriage union with the state during the reign of Constantine, so as to be protected from further tribulation. While the overcomers became married to Christ in spirit and in truth. The Lord manifested Himself through the messenger in this church age as, *“he which hath the sharp sword with two edges”*, meaning that the message preached in this church age like a sharp sword with two edges. It either build them up to be married with Christ, or it destroys them to be married with Satan. They were commended in Vs.13, but in Vs. 14-16, they were warned to repent for allowing those that have the doctrine of Balaam in their midst, which spiritually means, to believe in idol worship and mix up with the system of the world. And also the doctrine of Nicolaitanes which overthrow the people's faith, and cause them to compromise the word of God with their faith. The overcomers here were told to repent by separating themselves from their brethren who were compromising, and hold firm, their faith unto the end. The fourth church is Thyatira and their message reads: *“And unto the angel of the church in Thyatira write; These things saith the Son of God, who hath his eyes like unto a flame of fire, and his feet are like fine brass.”* (Rev. 2:18). Thyatira is signified by sacrifice, for they were paying a great sacrifice unto the Lord and at the same time sacrificing unto idols. Thyatira is also referred to as a lax or

negligent church, which typified a system of the papal church that introduced all kinds of idol worship. The Lord Jesus manifested Himself through the messenger of that church age as, "the Son of God, who hath his eyes like unto a flame of fire, and his feet are like fine brass, and this means that as true Son of God, the messenger was manifesting the holiness of God, more so as his eyes which are like a flaming fire were deeply searching and bringing out all falsehood. Also his feet were marching down any kind of sin that tries to creep in. They were commended in Vs.19 for their good works, love, faith, patience and sacrifice, but in Vs.20-23, they were reprimanded for allowing the Jezebel spirit to operate in the church, and thereby teaching and seducing the servants of God to compromise with the world system, and believe in idolatry. This began when contrary to I Cor. 14:33-38 and I Tim. 2:11-14 about the position of women in the church, they began to ordain women ministers who were teaching, prophesying and leading in so many activities in the church of the saints, where men are. The Lord therefore warned through this messenger, that if they fail to repent of their evil deeds of allowing women take the position God did not ordain for them, He will "cast them into a bed, meaning casting them into spiritual slumber and all the followers of this doctrine and will kill all, during the great tribulation. To be an overcomer in this church age, they have to repent of this doctrine by stopping the acts of Jezebel spirit and

urging women to go back and start obeying I Cor. 14:33-38 and I Tim. 2:11-14.

The fifth church age is Sardis and He says,

“And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead.” (Rev. 3:1).

Sardis represents remnants and that is talking about those who came out of the lax church. The Lord Jesus manifested Himself through the messenger of that church age as, *“he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars”*, meaning that the messenger and the rest of the ministers, operated with the seven Spirits of God, with which they were able to use in discerning all the lies those people that came out had. The seven Spirits are, the Spirit of the Lord, the Spirit of wisdom, the Spirit of understanding, the Spirit of counsel, the Spirit of might, the Spirit of knowledge and the Spirit of the fear of the Lord (Isa. 11:2). They were commended in Vs.1 for their works, but warned Vs.2-3 to repent of the lies that remain, from what they received in Thyatira. They were also urged to hold fast what this messenger has taught them, and to be seriously waiting on the Lord so as not to be taken unawares, and it is the only condition for them to overcome in that church age.

The sixth church age is Philadelphia, and the message is,

“And unto the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that

hath the Key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth, and shutteth, and no man openeth.” (Rev. 3:7).

Philadelphia signifies brotherly love and this means that they were walking in love towards one another. The Lord Jesus manifested Himself through the messenger of this church age as, *ōhe that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the Key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth, and shutteth, and no man openeth*, meaning that the messenger should walk in holiness, in truth, and should have the same authority which David had. The authority which he (David) had through love, submission and obedience to God, and because of this, the Lord opened the door of God's divine love, gospel and blessings for them which no man can shut, and also shut the door of attacks which the devil has opened against them. They received total commendation from the Lord, and were not rebuked for any error, but rather urged to hold fast that which they have so as not to lose their crown to anybody, this is the condition for their becoming overcomers in that age.

The seventh church age, and the last before the church will be taken away from the horroful reign of Antichrist is Laodicea, and the message the Lord has for them reads;

“And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God.” (Rev. 3:14).

Laodicea represents lukewarmness and self deception: It shows that believers in this church age are looking for their own selfish right and thereby they move into deception and

become lukewarm to the things of God. The Lord Jesus is manifesting Himself through the messenger of this church age as, ðthe man, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of Godö, meaning that the messenger will say ðAmenö to the word of God (i.e. he will let the word of God be as it is), he will be faithful to the Lord that called him, and will be a witness of truth unto the Lord, (and that is, whatever the word of God says about him, he will keep it) like John the Baptist bore the witness of truth unto the Lord. As the beginning of the creation of God which is grace and truth, the messenger will have the characteristics of Adam in the creation. The same way God created Adam, put him in a garden (a picture of a church), created a wife and brought to him, and was feeding and fellowshiping with him, before He (God) will manifest in this messenger first, and in all intending true ministers in this church age. God will act on the principle of grace and truth for the true ministers in this age. They did not receive any commendation from the Lord, but were rebuked (in Vs.15-17) for boasting in their riches, thus saying that they are lacking nothing. But they don't know that they are poor (lacking the truth), blind (spiritual blindness), and naked (sin). The Lord is warning this church age through this messenger from Vs.18-20, ðto buy of me gold through this fire, that thou mayest be richö, meaning to seek for God's kind of faith which is obtained through hard persecutions so as to be rich in the word of God and be clothed with white raiment (righteousness), and that the shame of their

nakedness (sin) do not appear. The Lord further warned us to anoint our eyes with eyesalve (Holy Spirit) that we may see. And the Lord concluded the warning through this messenger, that except we repent from the lukewarmness that has gripped this our church age because of the so called prosperity message which we are hearing, and be zealous for Him, we are likely to be cast into the outer darkness. Since the Lord knows that believers in this church age will not like to change, He is therefore speaking to any person who wants to make it as an overcomer, to open the door of his/her heart and allow the Lord to come in and change him or her. And in obeying this, you must be a true disciple. This is the period of individualism, because believers have gone astray and will keep on going astray, until the liquid fire or later rain falls, for the restoration of the few remnants that remain. God is calling everyone alone now, like He called Abraham alone and blessed him, and increased him when he separated from Lot (Gen. 13:6-17, Isa. 51:1-2). Many ministers will quickly go, and say that their own age that God spoke good of, and say that their own group or denomination is representing that church. If you like, let your own denomination be the best, except you obey what the Lord is telling this seventh and last church age, (which is to repent from our sinful ways, come to Him individually, and be very zealous for the Lord) you cannot make it as an overcomer. Again the Lord warned many, many centuries ago through Prophet Isaiah in chapter 3 of his book, that the people of God are being

oppressed by their children, and women are ruling over them. Which group or denomination has escaped from this great error? Since all the seven church ages, from Ephesus to Laodicea are in one way, or other being manifested by some religious groups in this end time, the Lord then spoke through Isaiah about the whole churches:

“And in that day (this is the days mentioned), seven women (the seven churches in this dispensation of grace, referred to in Rev. chapters 2 and 3) shall take hold of one man (Jesus), saying, we will eat our own bread (believe our own doctrine), and wear our own apparel (walk in our own righteousness, which is dead works); only let us be called by thy name, (only let us use the name of Jesus) to take away our reproach.” (Isa. 4:1).

This is the condition of believers today, because no group or church does not allow women to take position God has not ordained for them in their service. To prove that God is looking for overcomers;

“He that overcometh shall inherit all things, and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.” (Rev. 21:7).

Overcomers will sit on thrones as kings and priests unto God, and they will not be hurt of the second death.

HOW TO BECOME AN OVERCOMER

It has been proved that to qualify for the throne, you must be an overcomer. A fairly good percentage of believers know this and as a matter of fact, they have set up a lot of programs in their denominations urging members, and the

general public to attend them, as that is the way to become an overcomer. This is very funny, because the Lord knew that man wants a short cut to the Kingdom of God, and possibly to the throne. And for this reason, the Lord warned as He was ending His sermon on the mountain;

“Enter ye in at the strait (strictness, exactness) gate; for wide is the gate and broad (prosperity in riches) is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat. Because strait (strictness, exactness) is the gate, and narrow (tribulation, sufferings, affliction) is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.” (Matt. 7:13-14).

I underlined this place to show that in the first place, it is not easy to find that strait gate and narrow way except through the Holy Spirit, and not through programs. Secondly, only very few who believe in allowing the Lord direct their personal lives as true disciples, can find it. Again the Lord revealed this to king David in his Psalms:

“The secret of the Lord is with them that fear him; and he will shew them his covenant.” (Ps. 25:14).

For those who believe they are sincerely fearing the Lord by obeying His commandments so as to be true disciples as written in the Bible, here is the mystery of what to do in order to become an overcomer. To become an overcomer, the seed in you must bruise the head of Satan.

“And I will put enmity between thee (serpent or devil) and the woman (church), and between thy seed (Antichrist) and her seed (Jesus Christ and later the man child or

overcomers); it shall bruise thy head, and thou shall bruise his heel. Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.” (Gen. 3:15-16).

The Lord God sat on His throne and watched the devil as he stole the government of this world, which He committed into the hands of man, from him (man). He quickly came down and after a careful enquiry of how it happened, He cursed Satan and went further to pronounce these words of curse, that later turned out to be a blessing in disguise on the woman, as the only way to overcome the enemy. The Lord God therefore declared a serious war between the woman and the devil, and between her seed and the seed of the devil. Who then is the woman and her seed? The woman in the physical, is the female part of man that is regarded as the weaker vessel and given a commission by God, to bear children. And in the spirit, she is that weaker part of Christ's body regarded as the church, and given a commission to bring forth spiritual seed (man-child) that will bruise the head of Satan. Mary was the first woman in the physical that gave birth to the first seed who overcame the devil, and that seed is the Lord Jesus. And in the spirit, the first seed of the woman (the church) that will bruise the head of Satan or overcame Satan is the man child (overcomers). In Rev. 12:1-6, this has been well explained, the woman gave birth to the man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron, and this child was caught up

unto God, and to his throne.ö But the woman herself was not caught up unto God like the man child, rather she ran into the wilderness (a type of separation) to hide from the reign of Antichrist. Again any true member of the body of Christ, is spiritually a woman because we are His bride, and their seed which will bruise the head of Satan, is the word of God inside them. However the three conditions that will cause the seed (word of God) of any disciple to overcome or bruise Satan's head are in Gen. 3:16.

- (a) The woman will bring forth children in sorrow; spiritually it means that any true member of the body of Christ will be groaning, travailing, weeping, roaring, wailing, howling, so as to bring forth Kingdom children (Ref. Gal. 4:19, Isa. 66:7-8, Rev. 12:1-2).
- (b) The woman's desire shall be to her husband; spiritually it means that any disciple's desire shall be to the Lord Jesus. It shows that for a disciple to live a just or righteous life in this world, he must depend completely, on the Lord Jesus. And that is where this term, "the just shall live by faith comesö. Everything that concerns a disciple's life on earth, must be according to his faith on the resurrection of our Lord Jesus (Ref. Hab. 2:4, Gal. 3:11, Hebrews 10:38).
- (c) He shall rule over thee; spiritually it means that Lord Jesus will have a complete control over you as you surrender your will to Him through His channel of authority. (see my book on Submission, The Authority Channel of God and the Only Way to the Kingdom of

God). The Lord has raised few able ministers who have met these conditions of discipleship, and are striving to overcome, and He is placing His people who want to become true disciples that will eventually overcome, under such ministers. He is also urging these disciples to submit to Him (God) through the ministers and obey them (Ref. Heb. 13:7 and 17, Jas. 4:7, I Pet. 5:5-6). Having explained all this in details, it is important to note that any disciple who is bringing forth spiritual children in sorrow through groaning, travailing, weeping, etc., whose desire is unto the Lord Jesus (which is, *the just shall live by faith*), and who allows the Husband (Lord Jesus) to rule over him (total submission to the Lord Jesus through His channel of authority), will have his seed (the word of God inside him) bruise the head of Satan, and he will finally overcome the enemy. He will also be qualified to rule with Christ in the Kingdom that is coming. Remember that God did not say, you can do the one or two of these three things so as to overcome, but He gave the three conditions as the only way your seed (word of God in you) will overcome the enemy and number 3 in God's arithmetic of numbers, is resurrection. And all overcomers must make the first resurrection. Many will like to choose bringing forth in sorrow, and allowing the Lord to rule over them (Submission to God's authority), but they don't want to hear or believe that *the just shall live by faith*. They cannot wait on the

Lord to provide their needs at His own time, rather they can run upon horses (human strength) to fend for themselves. If you don't want to go through these three processes, forget about overcoming.

CHAPTER 9

THE REWARDS OF A TRUE DISCIPLE AT THE END OF HIS CHRISTIAN RACE

What will a true disciple stand to gain that will cause him to have the courage to forsake his father, mother, brother, sisters, children, wife, and even hate his own life so as to take this great risk? Paul had the answer and in his letter to the Hebrews, he said,

“Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.” (Heb. 12:2).

If there was no joy or reward that was set before the Lord Jesus, which enabled Him to go through what He went through, I do not think He would have agreed to come, in the first place. You have to know what you stand to get in return, before you start taking this bold step. David had this knowledge and before he took the greatest risk of his life by fighting and killing Goliath, he demanded to know what he would get as a reward.

“And David spake to the men that stood by him, saying, what shall be done to the man that killeth this Philistine, and taketh away the reproach from Israel? For who is this

uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?” (I Sam. 17:26)

This is a wise question from David, for he knew what he was going to face, and therefore needed to be told what he will receive as a reward. Paul had to prove to the Corinthians, that his reasons to forgo marriage and also forsake all things, were not in vain as he asked them, “*Who goeth a warfare anytime at his own charges? Who planteth a vineyard, and eateth not of the fruit thereof? Or who feedeth a flock, and eateth not of the milk of the flock? Say I these things as a man? Or saith not the law the same also?*” (I Cor. 9:7-8).

To conclude his statement, he said that what he has just said, was from the Lord and not from him or any man.

The first reward that a true disciple will get at the end of his Christian race is, to resurrect from the death of the carnal flesh and have eternal life.

And for this, the Lord clearly said;

“And this is the will of him that sent me, that everyone which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.” (Jn. 6:40).

God the Father did not send Jesus to this earth in vain, but rather gave Him power to raise up any, who agrees to lose his/her own life in this world so as to follow Him, and this is why the Lord Jesus answered his disciples saying:

“He that loveth his life shall lose it, and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal.” (Jn. 12:25).

If you do not hate your life in this world, you cannot have eternal life. It is good to understand what eternal life is, because man was born with an eternal spirit. However, what is important should be, where will the person's spirit stay forever after he has dropped this corruptible flesh? Is it before God and His holy angels, or with the devil and his demon spirits in the lake of burning fire and brimstone? To have eternal life means to spend your life forever with God, enjoying the heavenly bliss. And as a son, relating with Him as your Father, thereby having access to all that God has, both in heaven and on earth and also having the power of a Creator like God thereby exercising that power when we will be ruling with Him. On the other hand, eternal death means everlasting separation from God, and losing all the heavenly bliss and perfect fellowship with God, and living forever in the lake of burning fire and brimstone with God's enemies (Satan and all his agents).

The second reward of a true disciple at the end of his Christian race is, that he/she will be glorified, and as a wife, she will step out in a great marriage union with the Husband (the Lord Jesus).

“Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him, for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arranged in fine linen, clean and white, for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.” (Rev. 19:7-8).

This is the greatest moment of married couples on earth, and that is when they unite in marriage union, to start living

together as one. Likewise, this will also be the happiest moment of a true disciple, as he/she steps out in a most glorified way, to be joined in marriage union with the Bridegroom. With the marriage being attended by the parents of both parties, their relations and friends. And later the Bride will start to live forever with the Bridegroom in that great city prepared for them, and that is New Jerusalem, the city of foursquare.

“Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me, for thou lovest me before the foundation of the world.” (Jn. 17:24).

“And I looked, and lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father’s name (Word of God) written in their foreheads (minds).” (Rev. 14:1)

The Lord specifically prayed the Father to allow the Bride live with Him wherever He may be, so as to behold His glory. And as the Bride beholds the glory of the Bridegroom, she will also enjoy the fruits of that glory.

The third reward of a true disciple at the end of his Christian race is, to be made a King, and will rule may be, a nation or the cities of those people that were saved, in the Kingdom that is coming.

“And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations; And he shall rule them with a rod of iron (irresistible power of the Holy Spirit), as the vessels of a potter shall they broken to

shivers, even as I received of my Father. And I will give him the morning star.” (Rev. 2:26-28).

A disciple that endures till the end will be rewarded with the mantle of rulership, and he will rule the nation or cities assigned to him, with a strong power of the Holy Spirit. However the nation or cities that will be assigned to him/her, depends on his/her faithfulness to the Lord, regarding what He has invested on him while in this world.

“He said therefore, a certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return. And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, occupy till I come. But his citizens hated him, and sent a message after him, saying, we will not have this man to reign over us. And it came to pass, that when he was returned, having received the kingdom, then he commanded these servants to be called unto him, to whom he had given the money, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading. Then came the first, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained ten pounds. And he said unto him, well thou good servant; because thou hast been faithful in a very little, have thou authority over ten cities. And the second came, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained five pounds. And he said likewise to him, be thou also over five cities.” (Lk. 19:12-19).

This parable clearly answered the question of how many nations or cities that may be assigned to every disciple. And that is how faithful a disciple is, in fulfilling the

ministry office committed into his hand by the Lord. To the servant who was not faithful enough to bring forth true sheep into the Kingdom of God, what he would have got in return, was taken, and given to he who has ten cities, that he may have more.

“And he said in unto them that stood by, take from him the pound, and give it to him that hath ten pounds.” (Vs.24).

The fourth reward a true disciple at the end of his Christian race is, to be made a high priest unto God, thus representing the nation he is governing, before God.

“Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out, and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God, and I will write upon him my new name.” (Rev. 3:12).

A pillar in the temple of God is one who has been made a high priest, and the Lord said, *“he shall go no more out,”* meaning he will be an everlasting high priest even as the Lord Jesus became an everlasting High Priest before the Father after entering the Holiest in Heaven, where He did the final atonement for us, with His blood. This is why we are called priests after the order of Melchisedec (Heb. 7:26).

“And it shall come to pass, that everyone that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts,

and to keep the feast of tabernacles. And it shall be, that whoso will not come up of all the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain. And if the family of Egypt go not up, and come not, that have no rain, there shall be the plague, wherewith the Lord will smite the heathen that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles. This shall be the punishment of Egypt, and the punishment of all nations that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles.” (Zech. 14:16-19).

As a king, the true disciple will gather his subjects and lead them to Jerusalem, and as a high priest, he will lead them to worship the King of kings in the feast tabernacles that will come up yearly in the millennium.

The fifth reward of a true disciple at the end of his Christian race, is that he will be given a mansion by the Lord, and the size will be according to the number of true sheep which he won for the Lord while here on earth. This mansion is where he will be entertaining his converts who were able to make heaven.

“In my Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you.” (Jn. 14:2).

This is the mansions He went to prepare for those who will be faithful unto the end, and He is still building more of the mansions.

The sixth reward of a true disciple at the end of his Christian race, is that he will not be hurt of the second death.

“Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection; on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.” (Rev. 20:6).

Many people who will not die during the great tribulation, and the wrath of God that will follow, and all the unbelievers who have died without reconciling themselves back to God, will still face the second death.

The seventh reward of a true disciple at the end of his Christian race, is that he will sit on the throne performing the role of a judge, judging even the fallen angels.

“Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world? And if the world shall be judged by you, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matters? Know ye not that we shall judge angels? How much more things that pertain to this life?” (I Cor. 6:2-3).

The saints will sit on thrones judging both unbelievers and the fallen angels, in the great White Throne Judgment. The fallen angels are those who left their first estate, came down to this earth and married the daughters of men, and in the cause of procreation, they produced giants on earth. Therefore God has reserved them for everlasting punishment, and they will be judged with the sinful men, by the saints. For now, they are reserved in chains in Tartaros, just as the sinners who have died without receiving Christ, are waiting in hell for the final judgment, and to be cast into the lake of burning fire and brimstone.

THE FIVE CROWNS A TRUE DISCIPLE WILL GET AS A REWARD, AT THE END OF HIS CHRISTIAN RACE.

Just as an athlete who participated in many events in the Olympic Games, will get many gold medals for all those events that he won, this is how a true disciple will be rewarded with five golden crowns which he will win at the end of his Christian race. And the crowns are:-

(a) **INCORRUPTIBLE, or VICTOR'S, or OVERCOMER'S CROWN.**

“Know ye not that they which run a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown, but we an incorruptible.” (I Cor. 9:24-25).

This is the crown meant for any, who will overcome the enemy in this world system. It is called a “Crown of Incorruption”, because the overcomers were truly not defiled with the world system, as you can see in Rev. 14:4-5.

(b) **CROWN OF LIFE, or MARTYR'S CROWN or IMMORTALITY CROWN.**

“Blessed is the man that endureth temptation; for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.” (Jas. 1:12).

“.....Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.” (Rev. 2:10).

It is a crown that will be given to those who died, while suffering for Christ or for the sake of the gospel. It will also be given to those who will endure sufferings till the end, and then are made immortal when they receive the great outpouring of the Holy Spirit, (Indwelling of the Holy Spirit) which will be poured upon the army of the Lord. And therefore they will be changed and walk with resurrected bodies on earth. (I Cor. 15:51-54, Joel 2:1-11).

(c) **CROWN OF GLORY, or ELDER'S CROWN, or CROWN OF A HIGH PRIEST.**

“And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.” (I Pet. 5:4).

This is a crown that will be given to the spiritual elders who met the conditions for the office of a high priest (Heb. 7:3,26).

“And round about the throne were four and twenty seats, and upon the seats I saw four and twenty elders sitting, clothed in white raiment; and they had on their heads crowns of gold.” (Rev. 4:4). This is a great mystery which has been hidden for hundreds of years, and I do know that many people all over the world will seriously argue over this. The twenty four elders are the one hundred and forty-four thousand overcomers (high priests) mentioned in Rev. 14:1. A student of the Bible who carefully studies the visions of those who were privileged to see the throne of God in the old testament, will see that none mentioned anything about the twenty four elders. Moses who came

closer to God, had an insight of the throne of God, and was even commanded to build a tabernacle after the pattern of the one in heaven, did not see or mention them. David (in Acts 2:25:35) did not mention twenty-four elders. Apostle John was the only one who mentioned them, and it should be noted that the Book of Revelation was written to the church, as what must shortly come to pass (Rev. 1:1-2). The number for twenty-four, does not mean that they will be only twenty-four people there, but it came from I Chronicles 24:1-19. And in that chapter, the office of a priest was divided for the sons Aaron who were left after the death of Nadab and Abihu, and they were Eleazar and Ithamar. David the king distributed the office of priesthood to Zadok, the son of Eleazar and Ahimelech, the son of Ithamar. Therefore sixteen priests emerged from Eleazar, while eight came from Ithamar. The sons of Zadok were ministering in the tabernacle of David which was in Zion, according to their order, while the sons of Ahimelech were ministering in the tabernacle of congregation which was in Gibeon. However, when Solomon finished building the temple, he joined both the tabernacle of David and that of the congregation in Gibeon together, and the priests from both places numbering twenty-four, began to minister according to their order. Now it has been proved that twenty-four is the number for priesthood as recorded in Chronicles, and in the Arithmetic of God. The word *öelderö* means that they are older in this office, than the one mentioned in I Chronicles. Again, the one hundred and

forty-four thousand overcomers mentioned in Rev. 7:3-8, are priests from the nation of Israel on earth and who will be ministering in God's tabernacle in the rebuilt Jerusalem on earth, as David will be king over Israel. While the one mentioned in Rev. 14:1-5 are high priests from all the nations on the earth referred to, as twenty-four elders, and sitting round about the throne of God in Heaven.

“And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne. And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials of odours, which are the prayers of saints. And they sung a new song, saying, thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof; for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; and hast made us unto our God kings and priests, and we shall reign on the earth.” (Rev. 5:7-10).

It will be recalled that the four beasts have been staying before the throne, even before the coming of our Lord, and therefore need not be redeemed. At least Ezekiel saw them two times in chapters 1 and 10 of his book. The redemption with the blood mentioned here, is referring to the twenty-four elders, and it from every kindred, tongue, people and nation. However the redemption has not taken place, it will happen when the church is lifted up to the throne of God, and then will this twenty-four elders (high priests) be formed. A true disciple who meets this condition of

priesthood, and endures to the end, will be one of them, and this includes women who are true disciples.

(d) **CROWN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, or CROWN FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIS APPEARING.**

“I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day, and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.” (II Tim. 4:7-8).

To understand what this crown means, it is good to know the meaning of righteousness. Righteousness is the ability to stand before God without feeling or having any guilt, or inferiority complex. You can only stand before Him if you have obeyed the Word of God, and you will love to see Him when He comes. That is why Paul could only say this when he has perfectly executed what the Lord committed into his hands.

(e) **CROWN OF REJOICING, or SOUL WINNER’S CROWN**

“For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming? For ye are our glory and joy.” (I Thess. 2: 19-20).

This is the crown that will be given to a true disciple because of the souls he won for the Lord. Souls won for the Lord are not just those that became born again, but were not able to make it to the end. Rather it means, souls which he is able to shepherd to the end until they make it to the Kingdom of God.

Finally, no right thinking person will see all these handsome rewards which one stands to get without desiring them. And if you so desire them, but you don't want to enroll as a true disciple, I will follow the Lord in asking, *"For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, (things that are in this world system) and lose his own soul?* (all these rewards which will be everlasting). No wonder why Brother Paul said that he counted everything but dung that he may win Christ, and be found in Him. He (Paul) said further that he has forgotten everything which are behind, and that he is pressing forward towards the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. I therefore want to urge the readers of this book that we borrow a leave from that great Apostle of the Gentiles, and count everything that belongs to this world, but dung in order to win Christ, and be found in Him, so that we will get these great rewards in the end. May the good Lord bless us all and be with us in the name of Jesus, ðAmenö.

OTHER BOOKS BY JOHN DANIEL

- (1) **SUBMISSION (THE AUTHORITY CHANNEL OF GOD AND THE ONLY WAY TO THE KINGDOM OF GOD)**
- (2) **TABERNACLES AS A SHADOW OF CHRIST**
- (3) **END-TIME SPIRITUAL WAYS OF PRAYING (COVENANT PRAYERS THAT PRODUCE INSTANT RESULTS)**

**THIS BOOK IS NOT FOR
SALE**

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Called to live as a true disciple of our Lord Jesus Christ, the author was separated from the camp (the world organized religious system), his job, relations and friends in 1989. And the Lord having placed him under His channel of authority (submission), led him into the wilderness type farm settlement, in Akpuoga - Emene in Enugu, Nigeria.

He was made to pass through a rigorous training, as the Lord grinded the unadulterated Word of God in him, by burning his flesh with fire through much tribulations, famines, afflictions, necessities, distresses, stripes, imprisonments, watchings, fastings, perils, etc., which he suffered for the sake of Christ.

He came out of the training in 1992, and as a man anointed with authority to minister end-time truth to the Body of Christ irrespective of your denomination, he still suffers as the Holy Spirit uses him, to bring this truth to the hearts of the holy seekers of the word. He travels to minister this truth to churches, homes, ministries, individuals, etc., as the Lord directs him.

He is happily married to the Lord's precious gift, Mary Blessing, who has really been the source of the great favour he finds with the Lord. And the marriage is blessed with three sons, Timothy John (Jnr.), Benjamin Samuel and David Joseph.