

**This book is first one of two that the Lord had me write and assemble under His anointing to mail to the 400 plus churches in this area in October 2005. It was the Lord's will that the churches were warned so they would not be deceived. Did the churches receive this warning? Just as Israel listened not, the churches followed their example.**

# **Be Not Deceived**

Holy Spirit Guided Ministry

John A. Kropf

A Prophet of Jesus Christ

## **Forward**

What you hold in your hands is the truth of the Word of God as taught by the Holy Ghost from the Word of God being the sword of the Spirit. I by the direction of the Holy Ghost can only send you the seed of truth. You are the one that must plant the seed into your heart and allow the Holy Ghost to water that seed of truth that it may sprout and grow to give you life. Jesus spoke of the old wine being preferred over the new wine for the old wine tastes better. The truth that you hold in your hands may seem bitter. But, if you are hungry for the truth, you will come to love the truth of Jesus Christ and let go of the distorted and twisted truth of the doctrines of man that tickles ears. As you read this truth let it become a sweet fragrance building up your most precious holy faith making you righteous in the site of God to receive your crown of life and all of the rewards laid up in heaven.

I pray that you receive this truth and be set free by obeying the truth. I pray that you partake of this truth as a full course meal savoring each word of the truth and to allow that truth to touch your spirit man giving you life. I pray that you understand that our life on this earth is our proving grounds as to who we will serve in eternity and that all shall be judged for our words and works while we lived on earth. I pray that you remember that we must be ready at all times for the coming of Jesus Christ. I pray that you understand it is our responsibility to work out our own salvation with fear and trembling. I pray that just as you accepted Jesus Christ as you Lord and Savior you continue to live in obedience to him. I pray that you let your roots grow down into him and draw up nourishment from him that you will grow in faith being strong and vigorous in the truth of who is Jesus Christ. I pray that you let your life overflow with thanksgiving for all he has

done. You will be deceived if you treat this truth as a drive-up window for a fast food meal satisfying only the belly of your flesh man forgetting what you ate thirty minutes later.

Please understand, God is judging his children, this nation and the world everyday because of our sins of disobedience against the Word of God. Out of these judgments, Jesus Christ will have his Church made ready to be a light unto the world that has no peace. Only those who continue to live in obedience to Jesus Christ will have peace, love and joy knowing this is not their home being ready as their redemption draws near. Amen.

***1 Peter 4:17-19** **17** For the time has come for judgment, and it must begin first among God's own children. And if even we Christians must be judged, what terrible fate awaits those who have never believed God's Good News? **18** And "If the righteous are barely saved, what chance will the godless and sinners have?" **19** So if you are suffering according to God's will, keep on doing what is right, and trust yourself to the God who made you, for he will never fail you. (NLT)*

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***Matthew 24:24** For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect. (KJV)*

October 2005

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Lord said this day it is time to write to you again to remind you so you will be prepared and not be deceived in these closing days. We must first ask ourselves who are these **elect** that Jesus said **shall** be deceived if it were possible. Strong's usage of elect in this scripture explains the elect as those picked out, chosen by God to obtain salvation through Christ being Christians. Secondly we must know without a doubt what is the definition of deceive. This will give us knowledge that we may come into the understanding of the gift of salvation given to us by Jesus Christ so that we may keep from losing that free gift and not be judged with the

world by being deceived.

Merriam-Webster's dictionary describes 'deceive' as to cause to accept as true or valid what is false or invalid causing ignorance, bewilderment or helplessness. To be ensnared in what is false to be cheated out of something one thought they had. To fully understand the depth of the word deceive let us include its synonyms mislead, delude and beguile. Mislead implies a leading astray that may or may not be intentional—'I was misled by their signs as they preached'. Delude implies deceiving so thoroughly as to obscure the truth—'we were deluded into thinking we had our salvation by their preaching and teaching'. Beguile stresses the use of charm and persuasion in deceiving—'I was beguiled by false promises that all I had to do was to give to his ministry and the Lord would bless me with more finances and my salvation'.

What you are about to read is all from the Word of God which gives witness to itself. Man will argue that the Scriptures of the Word of God can be interpreted to mean something else and not what the Word of God truly says. These men, these theologians, have studied the Word of God and created theories of what the Word of God says and who God is and what God will and will not do and how to worship God according to man. In the world today we have these different prefixes applied to these theologians and their theologies:

—Dogmatic— Something that is held as an established opinion; a definite authoritative tenet, a code of such tenets, a point of view or tenet put forth as authoritative without adequate grounds. A doctrine or body of doctrines concerning faith or morals formally stated and authoritatively proclaimed by a church.

—Liberation—A religious movement especially among Roman Catholic clergy in Latin America that combines political philosophy usually of a Marxist orientation with a theology of salvation as liberation from injustice.

—Natural—theology deriving its knowledge of God from the study of nature independent of special revelation.

—Practical—The study of the institutional activities of religion (as preaching, church administration, pastoral care, and liturgics). Liturgics is the practice or study of formal public worship.

—Systematic—A branch of theology concerned with summarizing the doctrinal traditions of a religion (as Christianity) especially with a view to relating the traditions convincingly to the religion's present-day setting.

—Compromise—A blending together of all religions of the world for the expediency of unity claiming a salvation without acknowledging Jesus Christ being the truth and the way to God. This will be the church of the world acknowledged by the governments of the world.

All of these theologies twist the Word of God to fit a theory or doctrines of man creating denominational churches or a world church without the teacher of the truth being present and deny Christ as their head by their theologies. All things belong to God who gives all things to Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of truth is given to us. **John 16:13-15** **13** *Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.* **14** *He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.* **15** *All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you.* (KJV)

Please understand what the truth is or a better question ‘who is the truth’? Jesus spoke in **John 14:6** *Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, **the truth**, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.* (KJV) John wrote that Jesus was the Word of God in **Revelation 19:13** *And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called **The Word of God**.* (KJV) and Jesus is also the KING OF KINGS AND LORD OR LORDS as stated in Revelation 19:16. Therefore the Word of God is Jesus Christ being his testimony. When the word truth is spoken of in the New Testament it is talking about Jesus Christ or the doctrine of Christ. The Word of God states that the Holy Ghost was sent to teach the truth being the Spirit of truth that is to be given to all Christians. If we as Christians argue about the interpretation the Word of God, do we have the Spirit of truth to teach us what is true and what is false? Or are we like the theologians making doctrines of theory about Jesus and the Father to satisfy our flesh never knowing God or having the Spirit of truth? If we do this, we deceive ourselves.

Let us gain knowledge and wisdom from the Word of God and be not deceived. Let us enter the straight gate and follow the narrow path or way that we many have eternal salvation when Jesus Christ comes for his Church. If try and enter in some other way, we are but a thief and a robber that will be sentenced with the rest of the world on that day. Let us learn how to hear the voice of Jesus Christ that we may follow his commands finding and doing the will of the Father.

The Word of God in the King James New Testament uses the words deceive or deceived 27 times. Jesus warned let no man deceive you for many men will come in the name of Jesus Christ and they shall deceive Christians. Paul warned in **Romans 16:18** *For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple.* (KJV) We must take special care and not be deceived being led into sin again. **2 Peter 2:20-21** **20** *For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the*

beginning. **21** For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. (KJV) Paul warned that if we sin being unrighteous in **I Corinthians 6:9-10** **9** Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate (male prostitutes) nor abusers of themselves with mankind (homosexuals), **10** Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. (KJV) If we are deceived and fall into unrighteous we will reap unrighteous. **Galatians 6:7** Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. (KJV) Do not be deceived, we can only sow the truth in our hearts if we know and obey the truth.

We are bombarded daily with television, radio and the internet with preachers in the name of Christ proclaiming the Word of God, giving ear tickling prophecy that all is well upon the earth and all are going to heaven. They always have the never ending request for contributions to keep this ministry on the air and if you bless this ministry, you will be blessed. Don't be deceived by their good words and fair speeches. Yes, even our friends and the church we attend can deceive us by leading us from the truth. We can even deceive ourselves with our own delusions of our interpretation of the truth. We know the secular world is the great deceiver speaking the lies of their father the devil.

Beware of the headlines we read and see in this day of the homosexuals demanding rights of leadership in churches and some churches are bowing their knees to those requests doing unrighteousness. The homosexuals are even establishing their own churches drawing in those who are not homosexuals. These churches deceive the hearts of the simple that know not the truth, Jesus Christ. I quote this from a newspaper article (by Frank E. Lockwood staff writer for the Herald-Leader in Lexington, Kentucky) so that you may see how sick, evil, condemned and depraved (to be bad, corrupt—especially to corrupt morally) these homosexuals are yet they claim salvation by Jesus Christ. They are as Paul warned in **Romans 1:28-32** **28** When they refused to acknowledge God,(meaning they refuse to obey the doctrine of Christ that is found in the Word of God making God in their image) he abandoned them to their evil minds and let them do things that should never be done. **29** Their lives became full of every kind of wickedness, sin, greed, hate, envy, murder, fighting, deception, malicious behavior, and gossip. **30** They are backstabbers, haters of God, insolent, proud, and boastful. They are forever inventing new ways of sinning and are disobedient to their parents. **31** They refuse to understand, break their promises, and are heartless and unforgiving. **32** They are fully aware of God's death penalty for those who do

*these things, yet they go right ahead and do them anyway. And, worse yet, they encourage others to do them, too. (NLT)*

The statements in the article are from a Rev. Cori Wood (as quoted from the article) a fervent tongues-speaking, Scripture-quoting preacher who is also a lesbian. The article speaks this—“Like many pro-gay theologians Wood says the verses have been misinterpreted or were written by people who didn’t fully understand sexual orientation. At one time, Wood believed the Bible condemned her, too. A believer who has struggled with her sexual orientation since she was 16 years old, she even attempted suicide once. She now believes that the Scriptures, if correctly interpreted, don’t condemn sex between modern, committed, monogamous gay and lesbian couples. If God opposes her lifestyle, Wood says, he hasn’t told her. Wood says God continues to answer my prayers, continues to bless me continues to speak to my heart. She also says, I can have a productive relationship with Jesus Christ as a gay Christian. I’m not a second-class citizen in the kingdom of heaven.”

In January 2007 the Lord opened my mind to a part of the above statement made by Cori Wood. I quote the article “If God opposes her lifestyle, Wood says he hasn’t told her”. Here is what the Lord spoke to me. “I have already told her as it is written in My word but she has not listened.” The Lord again emphasized that His gifts and calling are without repentance. That is, God will not take away what he has given each of us. God does expect that if we use and apply those gifts and callings, we must obey the truth coming into the perfection of Jesus Christ. God is calling to us everyday to walk with Him in holiness. If Cori Wood and others use the gifts given by God while sinning against God, will they not hear what Jesus spoke in *Matthew 7:23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.* (KJV)? Remember what Samuel spoke to King Saul in 1 Samuel 15:22-23. God will not be mocked.

These are the kinds of people Peter wrote about in *2 Peter 3:15-16 15 And remember, the Lord is waiting so that people have time to be saved. This is just as our beloved brother Paul wrote to you with the wisdom God gave him--16 speaking of these things in all of his letters. Some of his comments are hard to understand, and those who are ignorant and unstable have twisted his letters around to mean something quite different from what he meant, just as they do the other parts of Scripture--and the result is disaster for them.* (NLT) These twisted people say the Scripture is misinterpreted. I looked up *1 Corinthians 6:9-10* from above in 15 different translations and they all said homosexuals will not enter into the kingdom of God. Who are these people worshipping? It cannot be the Jesus Christ of the Word of God because their fruits do not line up with the Word of God. Remember what Paul wrote in *2 Corinthians 11:3-4 3 But I fear that*

somehow you will be led away from your pure and simple devotion to Christ, just as Eve was deceived by the serpent. **4** You seem to believe whatever anyone tells you, even if they preach about a different Jesus than the one we preach, or a different Spirit than the one you received, or a different kind of gospel than the one you believed. (NLT) They must be worshipping the counterfeit of God the great deceiver with his false light. Paul warned about these false ministers in **2 Corinthians 11:12-15** **12** But I will continue doing this to cut the ground out from under the feet of those who boast that their work is just like ours. **13** These people are false apostles. They have fooled you by disguising themselves as apostles of Christ. **14** But I am not surprised! Even Satan can disguise himself as an angel of light. **15** So it is no wonder his servants can also do it by pretending to be godly ministers. In the end they will get every bit of punishment their wicked deeds deserve. (NLT) There are those who are deceived with the devil's counterfeit of tongues thinking they have the baptism of the Holy Ghost. I have witnessed this when casting out demons. These people are not citizens of the kingdom of God, they have been deceived by the powers of this world, Satan himself and his demons.

Jesus warned the Jews in his time about the father of lies be their father because the Jews did not believe the truth Jesus spoke. **John 8:44-45** **44** Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it. **45** And because I tell you the truth, ye believe me not. (KJV) These false apostles are deceived by Satan and this will be their conversation with Jesus Christ at judgment and they will be judged and condemned with the world being thrown into the lake of fire. **Matthew 7:21-23** **21** Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. **22** Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? **23** And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity. (KJV) Why will this be so? **Titus 1:16** They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate. (KJV) They bear not the fruit of the Word of God. They deny the truth of the Word of God being deceived and condemned with the world without repentance. And worse yet, they deceive others who don't know the truth condemning them as well.

The question we Christians must ask ourselves is –What must we have done and are to do that we shall not become deceived? We certainly do not want to lose

our crown of life and our heavenly rewards that await those who are faithful unto the end. Let us heed the warning from Jude to keep on reminding ourselves that those who live immoral lives will not enter into the kingdom of God. **Jude 1:3-8** <sup>3</sup> *Dearly loved friends, I had been eagerly planning to write to you about the salvation we all share. But now I find that I must write about something else, urging you to defend the truth of the Good News. **God gave this unchanging truth once for all time to his holy people.*** <sup>4</sup> *I say this because some godless people have wormed their way in among you, saying that God's forgiveness allows us to live immoral lives. The fate of such people was determined long ago, for they have turned against our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.* <sup>5</sup> *I must remind you--and you know it well--that even though the Lord rescued the whole nation of Israel from Egypt, he later destroyed every one of those who did not remain faithful.* <sup>6</sup> *And I remind you of the angels who did not stay within the limits of authority God gave them but left the place where they belonged. God has kept them chained in prisons of darkness, waiting for the day of judgment.* <sup>7</sup> *And don't forget the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah and their neighboring towns, which were filled with sexual immorality and every kind of sexual perversion. Those cities were destroyed by fire and are a warning of the eternal fire that will punish all who are evil.* <sup>8</sup> *Yet these false teachers, who claim authority from their dreams, live immoral lives, defy authority, and scoff at the power of the glorious ones. (NLT) Know this of God that he changes not and he is righteous in his ways and holy in his works. **Psalm 145:17** *The LORD is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works. (KJV)**

We have already established that the “wind of man” comes in many forms and from many places saying they are teaching the truth of the Word of God. What does the Word of God say about who is our teacher? The answer is in **1 John 2:27-29** <sup>27</sup> *But the anointing (the Holy Spirit) which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing (the Holy Spirit) teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.* <sup>28</sup> *And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming.* <sup>29</sup> *If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him. (KJV)* Here John was quoting what Jesus Christ said in **John 16:13-15** <sup>13</sup> *Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.* <sup>14</sup> *He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.* <sup>15</sup> *All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall*

*shew it unto you.* (KJV) Jude warns us about those with “the wind of man” speaking their doctrines of self destruction. **Jude 1:17-19** **17** *But you, my dear friends, must remember what the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ told you, **18** that in the last times there would be scoffers whose purpose in life is to enjoy themselves in every evil way imaginable. **19** Now they are here, and they are the ones who are creating divisions among you. They live by natural instinct because they do not have God's Spirit living in them.* (NLT) Jude also warns us as to what we as Christians are to do. **Jude 1:20-21** **20** *But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, **21** Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.* (KJV) How do we keep ourselves in the love of God? This is what the truth says—**2 John 1:6** *And this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it.* (KJV) **John 14:15** *If ye love me, keep my commandments.* (KJV) If we keep not his commandments, we cannot bear fruit for we abide not in Christ and cannot do the will of the Father. **Matthew 7:15-20** **15** *Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. **16** Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? **17** Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. **18** A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. **19** Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. **20** Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.* (KJV)

We have just read the testimony of the Word of God that our teacher is the Holy Spirit and we are to build up our most holy faith by praying in the Holy Ghost which means praying in tongues as the Spirit gives us utterance. But without obedience, we cannot receive the Holy Ghost. Without the Holy Ghost we cannot pray in tongues building up our most holy faith. **Acts 5:32** *And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.* (KJV) But if we obey and ask, the Holy Ghost shall be given. **Luke 11:13** *If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?* (KJV)

In our Christian walk with Jesus Christ we are to come into his perfection as commanded in the Word of God being the will of the Father. If we become deceived, we can never come into the perfection of Jesus Christ doing the will of the Father. Let us review and remind ourselves what we as Christians must do to keep our present salvation and to be with those who will have eternal salvation

when Christ comes for his Church. To have eternal life with Christ we must obey the commands of Christ just as Christ obeyed the commands of the Father. **Hebrews 5:8-9** <sup>8</sup> *Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;* <sup>9</sup> *And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;* (KJV) The only way we can love Christ is to obey his commands. **John 14:21** *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.* (KJV) Without doing Christ's commandments we have not love for Christ nor will Christ manifest himself to us. If we claim to be the elect, but without the truth we shall be deceived. Who did Jesus say the Jews served when they believed not the truth he spoke?

How do we obtain the commandments of Christ that we may do them to have his love and the love of the Father? Brothers and Sisters, there is only one way and that is to be washed in the Word of God. **Ephesians 5:25-27** <sup>25</sup> *Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;* <sup>26</sup> *That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,* <sup>27</sup> *That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.* (KJV) When we are washed in the Word of God our faith will grow. Without being washed in the Word of God our faith will wilt and die. **Romans 10:17** *So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.* (KJV) We know that the Word of God is the testimony of Jesus Christ being the truth. It is the Word of God that guides us into righteousness because all Scripture in the Word of God is inspired by God. **2 Timothy 3:16-17** <sup>16</sup> *All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It straightens us out and teaches us to do what is right.* <sup>17</sup> *It is God's way of preparing us in every way, fully equipped for every good thing God wants us to do.* (NLT) Then as we are washed in the Word of God, the truth, we will have knowledge of God and find the commands of Jesus Christ. If we by faith obey the Word of God by working out our own salvation with fear and trembling, we will find the will of God in our lives. **Philippians 2:12** *Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.* (KJV) We have no excuse for not reading or hearing the Word of God in this day. There are many Bible translations to help us in our understanding of the Word of God as we read. The Bible is available on CD's in many translations that we may hear. Being washed in the Word of God is a daily personal commitment we must do. If we Christians say we don't have time to read or hear the Word of God, we deceive ourselves and are not walking the narrow path to salvation.

If we refuse to be washed in the Word of God daily loving the Word of God, do we have the love of Christ in us? Have we put off the old man and put on the new man being a new creature in Christ? How can we examine ourselves to see if Christ is in us? How do we know we are no longer still the old corrupt man that has been deceived by what we have heard and believed from the wind of man? If we have not the Word of God in our hearts, then are the works we are doing in the name of Jesus the will of the Father or works of iniquity? Let us not deceive ourselves. **Ephesians 4:22-24** **22** *That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;* **23** *And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;* **24** *And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.* (KJV) **2 Corinthians 5:17** *Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.* (KJV) **2 Corinthians 13:5** *Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?* (KJV)

Let us by the Word of God, our road map to eternal life by Jesus Christ, find the path we must walk to come into the perfection of Jesus Christ to be mature Christians being the Church Jesus is coming for. **John 14:6** *Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.* (KJV) Jesus Christ is the truth, the Word of God, and we can claim Christ but without obeying Christ and walking the path he lays out for us in the his Word, we will be deceived in the days ahead abiding not in Christ. If we are Christians, then we have been born again confessing Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior with our lips and believing in our hearts he was raised from the dead. We now can see the kingdom of God and have entered through the narrow gate not climbing up some other way. **Romans 10:9-10** **9** *That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.* **10** *For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.* (KJV) **John 3:3** **3** *Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.* (KJV) Now if we have been born again, we have a responsibility to fulfill that Paul wrote about. If we refuse that responsibility, we will be deceived by others falling into the ditch with them. We have entered the straight gate but without obedience we cannot maintain our feet upon the narrow path. **2 Corinthians 13:8** **8** *Our responsibility is never to oppose the truth, but to stand for the truth at all times.* (NLT) If we do not stand for the truth at all times (to stand we must obey all of the truth), we are in unrighteousness being against the truth with unbelief in our hearts because we have compromised

the Word of God to satisfy our flesh man. Without standing for the truth, we are walking the broad way that leads to destruction deceiving ourselves.

What did Jesus say about the straight gate and the broad way? To make sure this is very clear these two translations are included. **Matthew 7:13-14** **13** *Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:* **14** *Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.* (KJV) **Matthew 7:13-14** **13** *"You can enter God's Kingdom only through the narrow gate. The highway to hell is broad, and its gate is wide for the many who choose the easy way.* **14** *But the gateway to life is small, and the road is narrow, and only a few ever find it.* (NLT) Look closely to what Jesus spoke in verse 14. The gate to life is small **and** the road is narrow or the way is narrow. Jesus finished with 'and few find it'. We as Christians must be very careful thinking we have Jesus and that is all we need when we confessed him as our Lord and Savior after entering the straight gate. We must also walk the narrow path that few find just as few find the straight gate. What is the definition of few? Not many, only a small amount, a very small percentage of the total, a minority, a small select group describes the word few. Putting this in context of what Jesus spoke, we have the whole world of people and only a few of them find and enter the straight gate. Then out of the number that enter the straight gate, only a few of them find and walk the narrow path to eternal salvation. Who will be deceived and who will not be deceived in the days coming?

The last time I read in Matthew about the straight gate and the narrow path, the Holy Ghost asked me this question? What is the narrow gate and what is the narrow road that leads to life? This is the answer the Holy Ghost gave: "Obeying the commands of Jesus as we walk by faith testing ourselves against the Word of God." Praise the Lord, he has a way to say much with few words and it would do us good to follow his example. After the Lord spoke this by the Holy Ghost, he led me to the Scriptures to prove what he spoke. **2 Timothy 3:16-17** **16** *All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:* **17** *That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.* (KJV) **James 2:21-26** **21** *Don't you remember that our ancestor Abraham was declared right with God because of what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar?* **22** *You see, he was trusting God so much that he was willing to do whatever God told him to do. His faith was made complete by what he did--by his actions.* **23** *And so it happened just as the Scriptures say: "Abraham believed God, so God declared him to be righteous." He was even called "the friend of God."* **24** *So you see, we are made*

right with God by what we do, not by faith alone. **25** *Rahab the prostitute is another example of this. She was made right with God by her actions--when she hid those messengers and sent them safely away by a different road.* **26** *Just as the body is dead without a spirit, so also faith is dead without good deeds.* (NLT) **Hebrews 5:8-9** **8** *Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;* **9** *And being made perfect, **he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;*** (KJV) **Psalms 25:10** *The LORD leads with unfailing love and faithfulness all those **who keep his covenant and obey his decrees.*** (NLT) **Revelation 22:14-15** **14** *Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.* **15** *For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.* (KJV) It is our works by faith obeying the commands of Jesus Christ that we may keep his covenant doing the will of the Father to have eternal salvation.

If we entered the straight gate a year ago, five years ago, 10 years ago or 20 or 30 or 40 or even 50 years ago, without obedience to the commands of Christ how can we be made perfect in Christ as the Word of God commands? If we obey not the Word of God, we know not God in our hearts for the truth is not in us. Without the knowledge of God we will be deceived because we have never walked the narrow path to salvation only to be judged with the world on that day. Remember it is the strait gate (which means strict, rigorous, narrow and limited in space or time) by Jesus Christ that we enter. It is the narrow path or narrow is the way (obey the commands of the doctrine of Christ) we must walk to have eternal salvation when Christ comes for his Church. Man thinks by his theology he can change God's order of things but he only deceives himself becoming a liar. **Revelation 21:8** *But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.* (KJV)

We have seen how to enter the straight gate to see the kingdom of God and the consequences if we disobey the commands of Christ. How do we continue to come into the perfection of Christ and enter into the kingdom of God to have eternal life with Christ being no longer deceived by man and his doctrines and what is coming upon the world? Peter and Paul in their Epistles keep reminding Christians of what the Lord taught and what they taught about Jesus Christ. Again I must remind you as directed by the Holy Ghost how to enter into the kingdom of God by the Word of God, the truth of Jesus Christ, as the Holy Ghost has taught me from the Word of God. **2 Peter 1:12-13** **12** *I plan to keep on reminding you of these things--even though you already know them and are standing firm in the*

truth. **13** Yes, I believe I should keep on reminding you of these things as long as I live. (NLT) **1 Corinthians 4:16-17** **16** So I ask you to follow my example and do as I do. **17** That is the very reason I am sending Timothy--to help you do this. For he is my beloved and trustworthy child in the Lord. He will remind you of what I teach about Christ Jesus in all the churches wherever I go. (NLT) To do as Paul did, we must be washed in the Word of God and have the Spirit of truth teaching us to maintain the narrow way.

Remember what Jesus said happens if we abide not in him? John reminds us of this in **2 John 1:9** *Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.* (KJV) God is a God of order and we will find that order in his Scriptures if we are washed in the Word of God. If we search the Word of God, we will find that the doctrines of man with his theology does not line up with the doctrine of Christ. Only by obeying the Word of God may we enter into the kingdom of God. Follow the doctrines of man and you will become deceived. We must be born of water and Spirit as commanded by Jesus Christ to enter into the kingdom of God. **John 3:5-8** **5** *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.* **6** *That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.* **7** *Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.* **8** *The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.* (KJV) I ask you Brother and Sister in Christ, have you been born of water and of the Spirit? If we are born of water, we have been water baptized for the remission of our sins with earthly witnesses of our brothers and sisters in Christ. We have completed 1 of the 2 steps to enter into the kingdom of God. But can we enter into the kingdom of God by just completing one step without doing the other step? Did not Jesus himself say ‘except man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God’? If we fear God, we will obey him.

Review verse 8 from John 3 as Jesus describes those born of the Spirit. Then how do we know if we are born of the Spirit by God’s order and not man’s teaching? Our answer can be found in the book of Acts proving God’s Word gives witness to itself. See Acts 2:1-5, Acts 2:38-39, Acts 8:14-17, Acts 10:44-48 and Acts 19:2-7. Let us study **Acts 10:44-48** **44** *Even as Peter was saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who had heard the message.* **45** *The Jewish believers who came with Peter were amazed that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out upon the Gentiles, too.* **46** *And there could be no doubt about it, for they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God. Then Peter asked,* **47**

"Can anyone object to their being baptized, now that they have received the Holy Spirit just as we did?" **48** So he gave orders for them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterward Cornelius asked him to stay with them for several days. (NLT)

As Peter was teaching the good news message the Holy Spirit fell upon those being spoken to. How did the Jewish believers know without a doubt that the Holy Spirit had been poured out? They heard them speaking in tongues and praising God. This Brothers and Sisters in Christ is how we know if we have received the Holy Spirit; we will have the evidence of speaking in tongues. This is our heavenly witness for being born of the Spirit just as we have earthly witnesses when we are born of water. If anyone says they have the Holy Spirit or Holy Ghost without that evidence, they are liars for they abide not in the doctrine of Christ nor does their claim line up with the Word of God. When you read Acts 19 you will find that Paul water baptized first and then laid his hands upon them for the Holy Ghost and they spoke in tongues. The Word of God teaches us there are two steps we must do to enter into the kingdom of God. Either of the steps can be first or second but the two steps must be done. God's Word does not lie.

Brothers and Sisters, you who have been Christians for a number of years, have you completed these two steps commanded by Jesus Christ? Have you waited for the Holy Ghost as Jesus commanded in **Luke 24:49** *And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.* (KJV) You may ask, what is this power Jesus was talking about in verse 49? The answer is in the Word of God in **Acts 1:4-8 4** *And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me.* **5** *For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.* **6** *When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?* **7** *And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.* **8** *But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.* (KJV) The power is the Holy Ghost upon us and we will know if we have received that power by our speaking in tongues as the Holy Ghost gives us utterance. If man or the church you attend tells you otherwise and you believe what they say, you are deceived. Only those who abide in the doctrine of Christ have the Father and the Son, **2 John 1:9** *Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.* (KJV)

Remember the narrow path or way and that few find it? Consider this statement and it will be proved by the Word of God. “All who have confessed Christ are Christians, but not all Christians are believers. If Christians have no signs following them, they are in unbelief and sin for they disobey the sayings of Christ the Word of God. They have never been born of the Spirit **and** of water to enter into the kingdom of God to worship God in the spirit and in truth to receive the nine gifts of the Spirit. They know about God, but they don’t know God.” Let us look at the doctrine of Christ in these Scriptures that Jesus spoke. **John 3:15-18** **15** That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. **16** For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. **17** For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. **18** He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. (KJV) Christians must be washed in the Word of God to understand and do all the commands of Jesus Christ. If we just take a Scripture here and there without knowing the complete truth, we will be deceived. Jesus said he that believes and is baptized is saved in **Mark 16:16-18** **16** He that believeth **and** is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. **17** And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; **18** 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. (KJV) By this Scripture we find the whole truth of what Jesus spoke that we must do.

We just proved by the Word of God in Acts that there are two steps or baptisms to enter into the kingdom of God. And if we have completed those two steps, we will have a sign following us by speaking with new tongues. The writer of Hebrews speaks of the ‘doctrine of baptisms’ in Hebrews 6:2. Baptisms is plural meaning more than one and this lines up with the book of Acts that explains the two steps of water and Spirit. This fulfills the commands of Christ that we must be born of water and Spirit to enter into the kingdom of God. We must be born again to believe in Christ seeing the kingdom of God. We must be born of water and Spirit to enter into the kingdom of God to have eternal life with Christ. And Jesus said in **John 3:7** *Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.* (KJV) By the Word of God we have shown how to complete the doctrine of Christ to enter the strait gate and keep to the narrow path or the way that few find. But without being washed in the Word of God and obeying the Word of God, we deceive ourselves about our salvation.

Remember Christians are the temple of the Holy Ghost individually and collectively as the church if they have been born of water and of the Spirit. Those who defile (to make unclean or impure as to corrupt the purity or perfection of. To desecrate meaning to violate the sanctity of, to treat disrespectfully, irreverently, or outrageously) that temple will be destroyed (to ruin the structure, organic existence, or condition of, also to ruin as if by tearing to shreds, to put out of existence). **1 Corinthians 3:16-17** **16** *Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? 17 If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.* (KJV) Please get understanding of the description of the word defile and destroy. That is why we must work out our own salvation with fear and trembling after being born again and of water and Spirit being washed in the Word of God putting off the old man and putting on the new man in the image of Christ. **Philippians 2:12** *Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.* (KJV) We must also be in prayer to God daily as taught by Jesus Christ and follow his example as he prayed to the Father while in his flesh and blood body on earth. If we do these things, we are righteous yet barely saved. If we chose to worship God our own way being in unrighteousness, we have deceived and condemned ourselves without repentance. **Matthew 6:5-7** **5** *And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. 6 But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly. 7 But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.* (KJV) **1 Peter 4:18** *And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?* (KJV)

The heart of God is to be in communion with his children everyday. It is in our prayer closet that we have intimacy with the Father and he reveals the secrets of his covenant (the hidden and deeper revelations of the Word of God) to us. It is in our prayer closet that God reveals the future to us. It is in our prayer closet we make supplications (to make a humble entreaty or to ask humbly and earnestly) to God. It is in our prayer closet we open our hearts to God in all things in our lives. It is in our prayer closet that when we ask the questions that are on our hearts, God will answer. It is in our prayer closet God will direct us and explain his will in our lives and how to do and when to do his will. It is in our prayer closet we will find the face of God and discover his love, grace, mercy and blessings in our lives. It is in our prayer closet God will gently discipline us as he shows us the unknown sins

in our lives or the things God does not want us doing. It is in our prayer closet that we hear God if we have shut our door not letting the world in. Do not be deceived, if we don't have time for God then God will not have time for us. **James 4:8** *8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.* (KJV) As we come to God, he comes to us. As we come to God we must cleanse ourselves of sin to purify our hearts and be no longer double minded thinking we can live in sin and be close to God. We must be holy as God is holy. We can only be holy by obeying the commands of Christ found in the Word of God. It is by the blood of Jesus Christ we are made clean, but only if we abide in his words then he will abide in us. Do not be deceived by false teachings, be washed in the Word of God, be born of water and Spirit and let the Holy Ghost teach you the truth in your prayer closet.

The Word of God teaches us that God does not hear our prayers when Christians are in sin. **Psalms 32:1-6** *1 Oh, what joy for those whose rebellion is forgiven, whose sin is put out of sight! 2 Yes, what joy for those whose record the LORD has cleared of sin, whose lives are lived in complete honesty! 3 When I refused to confess my sin, I was weak and miserable, and I groaned all day long. 4 Day and night your hand of discipline was heavy on me. My strength evaporated like water in the summer heat. Interlude 5 Finally, I confessed all my sins to you and stopped trying to hide them. I said to myself, "I will confess my rebellion to the LORD." And you forgave me! All my guilt is gone. Interlude 6 Therefore, let all the godly confess their rebellion to you while there is time, that they may not drown in the floodwaters of judgment.* (NLT) **John 9:31** *Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth.* (KJV) **Proverbs 15:29** *The LORD is far from the wicked, but he hears the prayers of the righteous.* (NLT) **Proverbs 28:9, 13** *9 He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination. 13 He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.* (KJV) God will not be mocked. If Christians transgress against the doctrine of Christ, that Christian will not have fellowship with God. God hears not their prayers but listens for the confession of their rebellion. Remember the narrow way that few Christians find.

We have deceived ourselves if we think we are on that narrow path yet have never been born again, born of water and Spirit, have put off the old man being a new man in Christ, being washed in the Word of God everyday and seeking God in our pray closet each day. If we Christians have not done or are doing these things we sin against God not doing the will of the Father. And if we have not completed or are doing these steps of seeking God with all our hearts, minds and souls, when

we partake of the eating the bread and drinking the cup we do it unworthily. Why, because we Christians are not honoring the body of Christ, being not in the doctrine of Christ, by choice or by ignorance. But if we Christians are striving to obey the doctrine of Christ seeking and crying out to God to teach us to do his will coming into the perfection of Christ, we sin not being in God's mercy. We are then worthy to eat the bread and drink the cup announcing the Lord's death until he comes again. **1 Corinthians 11:26-32** **26** *For every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are announcing the Lord's death until he comes again.* **27** *So if anyone eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord unworthily, that person is guilty of sinning against the body and the blood of the Lord.* **28** *That is why you should examine yourself before eating the bread and drinking from the cup.* **29** *For if you eat the bread or drink the cup unworthily, not honoring the body of Christ, you are eating and drinking God's judgment upon yourself.* **30** *That is why many of you are weak and sick and some have even died.* **31** *But if we examine ourselves, we will not be examined by God and judged in this way.* (we can only examine ourselves by knowing the Word of God to know if we are on the narrow path that few find.) **32** *But when we are judged and disciplined by the Lord, we will not be condemned with the world.* (NLT)

The Lord looks at the attitude of our hearts and listens to our thoughts as he watches our works by faith coming into the perfection of his Son Jesus Christ which is the will of God. By this we receive blessings or discipline because God wants none of his children to be lost. It is our choices that we make that will be life or death when Christ returns for his Church. How many Christians take the bread and cup daily following the example of the first century believers? Communion may be done individually by believers or corporately when assembled with other believers. **Acts 2:42** *They joined with the other believers and devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, sharing in the Lord's Supper and in prayer.* (NLT) **Acts 2:46-47** **46** *They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity--* **47** *all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their group those who were being saved.* (NLT) Jesus warned the Church in Ephesus that they had left their first love and to repent and do the first works otherwise the church would be removed. If we love Christ, we will obey his commands and follow his examples he did on this earth. To love Christ is to have communion with him daily by the bread and the cup, being washed in the Word of God and time in prayer with Christ obeying the Word of God to come into the perfection of Jesus Christ. This is our first love and our first works. **Revelation 2:4-5** **4** *Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee,*

*because thou hast left thy first love. 5 Remember therefore from whence thou art 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. (KJV)*

Jesus warned us to repent and return to our first love and to do the first works in Revelation. We now know what our first love is. These are the first works (the will of the Father—God’s order of things) we must take to come into the perfection of Christ. After being born again, we must be born of water and of the Spirit. We must put off the old man and put on the new man in the image of Christ. We must be washed in the Word of God and spend time in our prayer closet each day. Three questions must be asked. Is a Christian today having confessed Christ on the narrow path coming into the perfection of Christ? Are Christians today true believers being the Church Jesus Christ is coming for? If we are true Believers being the Church Jesus Christ is coming for, what will these Believers be doing that the world will see and know that God is real and to be feared?

The first question—“Is a Christian today having confessed Christ on the narrow path coming into the perfection of Christ?” can only be answered by each individual Christian. Only you and the Lord know your heart. Only you can examine yourself to see if you abide in Christ and Christ in you. But to examine yourself, you must be washed in the Word of God to know the truth and to see if your fruits (works by faith) are from the root of Christ or a branch that has been severed from the root. If Christians are doing as the Bereans did by searching the Scriptures day by day, they will be deceived not having the truth. **2 Corinthians 13:5** *Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates (to condemn strongly as unworthy, unacceptable, or evil; to foreordain to damnation; to refuse to accept; to reject)? (KJV)* **John 15:5-10** **5** *I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. 6 If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. 7 If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. 8 Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples. 9 As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. 10 If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. (KJV)*

The answer to the second question—“Are Christians today true believers being the Church Jesus Christ is coming for?” can be found in the Word of God. A true believer is a Christian that has signs following him. Christians are only true believers when they receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit according to the book of

Acts because they will speak in tongues being a sign that follows them. Then the Holy Ghost will give the nine gifts of the Spirit and more signs will follow. But without “power”, we cannot do kingdom work. Christian believers today are not the Church Jesus Christ is coming for because we are not doing the things Jesus did and greater things. **John 14:12** *Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.* (KJV) Again we must return to our first love and do the first works coming into the perfection of Christ that we may receive the ability to do what Christ did and greater works. Otherwise we are the elect that is deceived.

Some will say that during the life of Jesus with his apostles there were people using Jesus’ name to cast out devils and that would be a sign. **Mark 9:38-40** **38** *John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw a man using your name to cast out demons, but we told him to stop because he isn't one of our group."* **39** *"Don't stop him!" Jesus said. "No one who performs miracles in my name will soon be able to speak evil of me."* **40** *Anyone who is not against us is for us.* (NLT) But remember, until Jesus was hung on the cross and died as demanded by the Jews and rose the third day from the dead the old covenant was still in effect. Even when the apostles Jesus sent out to cast out demons, to heal the sick and preached the kingdom of God is coming these were signs yet the old covenant was still in effect. They were given authority by Jesus to do these things while he was a live in his flesh and blood body. When Jesus rose from the dead he established the new covenant giving his apostles his additional instructions to wait until “power” has come upon you to go out. **Acts 1:4-5** **4** *And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me.* **5** *For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.* (KJV) This command applies to all Christians to wait until we receive power. Peter preached to repent and to receive the gift of the Holy Ghost which is the promise of God to all that God shall call. **Acts 2:38-39** **38** *Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.* **39** *For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.* (KJV) God changes not and we deceive ourselves if we have not done or are not doing our first love and the first works. Only then can we become Believers with signs following us. Who wants to hear on that day “**Matthew 7:23** *And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.* (KJV)”

The Word of God will show us the answer to the third question—“If we are true Believers being the Church Jesus Christ is coming for, what will these Believers be doing that the world will see and know that God is real and to be feared?”. Let us describe many Christians relationship with Christ today. Many have been Christians for a long time and they should be teaching others but instead must be taught the basic things a beginner must learn about the Scriptures. These Christians are like babies that can drink only milk. They are in this condition because they themselves have never been taught about our first love and first works to come into the perfection of Jesus Christ. They cannot handle the solid food from the Word of God. They cry and scream if the meat of the Word of God is offered to them thinking their milk is better and that is all they need. Their milk being the old wine that Jesus spoke of because the old wine tastes the best. **Hebrews 5:12-14** **12** *You have been Christians a long time now, and you ought to be teaching others. Instead, you need someone to teach you again the basic things a beginner must learn about the Scriptures. You are like babies who drink only milk and cannot eat solid food.* **13** *And a person who is living on milk isn't very far along in the Christian life and doesn't know much about doing what is right.* **14** *Solid food is for those who are mature, who have trained themselves to recognize the difference between right and wrong and then do what is right.* (NLT)

True Christian believers will have obeyed the doctrine of Christ being in love and unity among themselves and with Christ and the Father. Each day brings them closer to the perfection of Christ. True Christian believers being the body of Christ will have these signs following them **Mark 16:17-18** **17** *And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;* **18** *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.* (KJV) True Christian believers will be the Church of Jesus Christ without denominational names. They will be beyond the basics of Christianity of being born again, born of water and Spirit, putting off the old man and putting on the new man in the image of Christ, being washed in the Word of God, seeking God in prayer daily, and doing the first love of the bread and cup in the remembrance of the death of Christ on the cross until he comes again. True Christian believers will not lay again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God. True Christian believers will understand and have done or will be doing the doctrine of baptisms, the laying on of hands and of the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment. True Christian believers will know the will of God in their lives individually and as the body of Christ assembled together coming at all times into the understanding of God's thoughts, ways and plans doing the will of the Father. **Hebrews 6:1-3** **1** *Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us*

*go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, **2** Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. **3** And this will we do, if God permit. (KJV)*

Then lastly true Christian believers will do the works that Jesus did on earth in his flesh and blood body and greater works they will do. What did Jesus do while on earth? This is a small snapshot of the ministry of Jesus— **Matthew 4:23-25** **23** *Jesus traveled throughout Galilee teaching in the synagogues, preaching everywhere the Good News about the Kingdom. And he healed people who had every kind of sickness and disease. **24** News about him spread far beyond the borders of Galilee so that the sick were soon coming to be healed from as far away as Syria. And whatever their illness and pain, or if they were possessed by demons, or were epileptics, or were paralyzed--he healed them all. **25** Large crowds followed him wherever he went--people from Galilee, the Ten Towns, Jerusalem, from all over Judea, and from east of the Jordan River. (NLT)* Don't forget the multitudes he feed with a few fishes and bread, that he calmed the storm of the sea, that he walked on water, and that he had anointing (the Holy Ghost) without measure in communications with the Father at all times. John spoke this in **John 21:25** *And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen. (KJV)*

Brothers and sisters, do you see Christians assembled together being believers doing all of what Jesus did and greater things than he did? Why will God not give his sons and daughters anointing without measure in this day? Why can't we and why are we not being the Church Jesus Christ is coming for? Paul answers these questions in his letter to the Church at Corinth. **1 Corinthians 3:1-9** **1** *Dear brothers and sisters, when I was with you I couldn't talk to you as I would to mature Christians. I had to talk as though you belonged to this world or as though you were infants in the Christian life. **2** I had to feed you with milk and not with solid food, because you couldn't handle anything stronger. And you still aren't ready, **3** for you are still controlled by your own sinful desires. You are jealous of one another and quarrel with each other. Doesn't that prove you are controlled by your own desires? You are acting like people who don't belong to the Lord. **4** When one of you says, "I am a follower of Paul," and another says, "I prefer Apollos," aren't you acting like those who are not Christians? **5** Who is Apollos, and who is Paul, that we should be the cause of such quarrels? Why, we're only servants. Through us God caused you to believe. Each of us did the work the Lord gave us. **6** My job was to plant the seed in your hearts, and Apollos watered it, but*

it was God, not we, who made it grow. <sup>7</sup> The ones who do the planting or watering aren't important, but God is important because he is the one who makes the seed grow. <sup>8</sup> The one who plants and the one who waters work as a team with the same purpose. Yet they will be rewarded individually, according to their own hard work. <sup>9</sup> We work together as partners who belong to God. You are God's field, God's building--not ours. (NLT) Isn't this how Christians are today? Some say I follow the doctrine of this church and another says I follow the doctrine of that church. They quarrel over their doctrines of who is right and who is wrong. And worse yet Christians have not the baptism of the Holy Spirit and some even are not born of water not being able to enter into the kingdom of God. How much worse are we as Christians today than the Church at Corinth? They had gifts of eloquence and every kind of knowledge. They had every gift of the Spirit by being born of water and Spirit for this is what Paul taught being the doctrine of Christ. **1 Corinthians 1:4-9** <sup>4</sup> I thank my God always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ; <sup>5</sup> That in every thing ye are enriched by him, in all utterance, and in all knowledge; <sup>6</sup> Even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you: <sup>7</sup> So that ye come behind in no gift; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ: <sup>8</sup> Who shall also confirm you unto the end, that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup> God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord. (KJV)

Do not be deceived. Jesus Christ will have his Church prepared according to the Word of God before he comes. His Church (his body as confirmed by the Word of God which is not his bride because the Word of God tells us who the bride is) will be mature and fully ripe bearing the fruit of his commands. **Revelation 21:9-10** <sup>9</sup> And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife. <sup>10</sup> And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, (KJV) The Word of God states we are invited to the wedding feast. This Church will stand loving their lives not unto death in these end days receiving all of their rewards laid up in heaven. **Ephesians 5:27** That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. (KJV) A Christian that has entered the strait gate but has not walked the narrow path will lose what he thought he had being a baby Christian. That baby Christian did not obey the commands of Christ but is in unbelief of the Word of God. If the very elect shall be deceived how much more will baby Christians be deceived?

Be prepared in the days ahead and be not deceived. Obey the Word of God doing your first love and the first works coming into the perfection of Christ. Then you will know the Word of God. Then as you see and hear from all the sources of communications proclaiming the Word of God you will know if what you see and hear is the true fruit from the true vine attached to the root. What we as Christians must understand is that we cannot compromise the Word of God for the expediency of religion for all peoples to get along in unity. This type of unity is of the antichrist for deception of the elect that God has called. If Christians become participators in these works of compromise, we will become a partner in these evil works. We will be condemned with them on the Day of Judgment. **2 John 1:8-11** **8 Watch out, so that you do not lose the prize for which we have been working so hard. Be diligent so that you will receive your full reward. 9 For if you wander beyond the teaching of Christ, you will not have fellowship with God. But if you continue in the teaching of Christ, you will have fellowship with both the Father and the Son. 10 If someone comes to your meeting and does not teach the truth about Christ, don't invite him into your house or encourage him in any way. 11 Anyone who encourages him becomes a partner in his evil work.** (NLT)

Run from those churches who promote homosexuality in the church and in church leaders. Run from churches that compromise the Word of God. Run from those churches that have set themselves up as god by their doctrines and traditions making the Word of God invalid. Run from those churches that welcome other religions that do not believe Jesus Christ came to earth in a real body and died on the cross for the sins of the world. Run from those churches who preach the rapture of the church before or during tribulation before Christ comes. **Revelation 6:9-11** **9 And when the Lamb broke the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of all who had been martyred for the word of God and for being faithful in their witness. 10 They called loudly to the Lord and said, "O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long will it be before you judge the people who belong to this world for what they have done to us? When will you avenge our blood against these people?" 11 Then a white robe was given to each of them. And they were told to rest a little longer until the full number of their brothers and sisters--their fellow servants of Jesus--had been martyred.** (NLT) Run from those churches who say the church is the bride of Christ. We are those who are invited to the wedding feast. If we are invited, we cannot be the bride. **Revelation 19:9** **9 And the angel said, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding feast of the Lamb." And he added, "These are true words that come from God."** (NLT) Run from those churches that make images and bow down before and worship to those images. Run from Christians that say we must incorporate and do Jewish festivals and say we must obey the Law of Moses. Run from those who say you must cling to the

hems of the Jew's garments; we have the garment of Jesus Christ, his body and blood as our sacrifice. Run from those Christians who say the Jews are God's chosen people. Those Jews are lost and condemned without Jesus Christ. Run from those Christians who promote their religion worshipping Christ as superior to other Christians. Run from those Christians who say that you must use the Hebrew names only for the Father our God and Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Run from those Christians who say there is only one Bible translation you must use. Run from all these legalists, churches and Christians, that promote what you must eat, drink, wear and what days you must celebrate. **Colossians 2:16-17** **16** *So don't let anyone condemn you for what you eat or drink, or for not celebrating certain holy days or new-moon ceremonies or Sabbaths.* **17** *For these rules were only shadows of the real thing, Christ himself.* (NLT) If you do not run from sin and evil by being washed in the Word of God, then do you serve God with all your body, mind and spirit? We are deceived if we do not run.

Thank God that you have found the truth and are running to Christ. The truth has set you free from these bondages of deception because you have the Spirit of truth (the Holy Ghost) as your teacher. **2 Thessalonians 3:6** *Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, (deviating from the prescribed order of teaching of the gospel by disobeying the Word of God by picking choosing from the Word of God or by the doctrines of man) and not after the tradition which he received of us. (The tradition Paul taught was the doctrine of Christ as Paul received it from Christ.)* (KJV) Paul also added in **2 Thessalonians 3:13-15** **13** *And I say to the rest of you, dear brothers and sisters, never get tired of doing good.* **14** *Take note of those who refuse to obey what we say in this letter. Stay away from them so they will be ashamed.* **15** *Don't think of them as enemies, but speak to them as you would to a Christian who needs to be warned.* (NLT) We must live as Paul said he lived being free from the law. We must set ourselves free from the doctrines of man and his theology. It is by Christ we are set free, if we obey Christ. **Galatians 4:12** *Dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to live as I do in freedom from these things, for I have become like you Gentiles were--free from the law. You did not mistreat me when I first preached to you.* (NLT)

Read and understand these Scriptures and to why you must run and are running so that you will not be condemned by associating with those who are sinning against God. **Ephesians 5:1-20** **1** *Follow God's example in everything you do, because you are his dear children.* **2** *Live a life filled with love for others, following the example of Christ, who loved you and gave himself as a sacrifice to take away your sins. And God was pleased, because that sacrifice was like sweet perfume to him.* **3** *Let there be no sexual immorality, impurity, or greed among*

you. Such sins have no place among God's people. **4** *Obscene stories, foolish talk, and coarse jokes--these are not for you. Instead, let there be thankfulness to God.* **5** *You can be sure that no immoral, impure, or greedy person will inherit the Kingdom of Christ and of God.* *For a greedy person is really an idolater who worships the things of this world.* **6** ***Don't*** be fooled by those who try to excuse these sins, for the terrible anger of God comes upon all those who disobey him. **7** ***Don't*** participate in the things these people do. **8** *For though your hearts were once full of darkness, now you are full of light from the Lord, and your behavior should show it!* **9** *For this light within you produces only what is good and right and true.* **10** ***Try to find*** out what is pleasing to the Lord. **11** ***Take no part*** in the worthless deeds of evil and darkness; instead, rebuke and expose them. **12** ***It is shameful*** even to talk about the things that ungodly people do in secret. **13** *But when the light shines on them, it becomes clear how evil these things are.* **14** *And where your light shines, it will expose their evil deeds. This is why it is said, "Awake, O sleeper, rise up from the dead, and Christ will give you light."* **15** ***So be careful*** how you live, not as fools but as those who are wise. **16** ***Make the most*** of every opportunity for doing good in these evil days. **17** *Don't act thoughtlessly, but try to understand what the Lord wants you to do.* **18** ***Don't be drunk with wine,*** because that will ruin your life. *Instead, let the Holy Spirit fill and control you.* **19** *Then you will sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, making music to the Lord in your hearts.* **20** *And you will always give thanks for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. (NLT)*

**Hebrews 8:1-13** **1** *Here is the main point: Our High Priest sat down in the place of highest honor in heaven, at God's right hand.* **2** *There he ministers in the sacred tent, the true place of worship that was built by the Lord and not by human hands.* **3** *And since every high priest is required to offer gifts and sacrifices, our High Priest must make an offering, too.* **4** *If he were here on earth, he would not even be a priest, since there already are priests who offer the gifts required by the law of Moses.* **5** *They serve in a place of worship that is only a copy, a shadow of the real one in heaven. For when Moses was getting ready to build the Tabernacle, God gave him this warning: "Be sure that you make everything according to the design I have shown you here on the mountain."* **6** *But our High Priest has been given a ministry that is far superior to the ministry of those who serve under the old laws, for he is the one who guarantees for us a better covenant with God, based on better promises.* **7** ***If the first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no need for a second covenant to replace it.*** **8** *But God himself found fault with the old one when he said: "The day will come, says the Lord, when I will make a new*

covenant with the people of Israel and Judah. **9** *This covenant will not be like the one I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand and led them out of the land of Egypt. They did not remain faithful to my covenant, so I turned my back on them, says the Lord.* **10** *But this is the new covenant I will make with the people of Israel on that day, says the Lord: I will put my laws in their minds so they will understand them, and I will write them on their hearts so they will obey them. I will be their God, and they will be my people.* **11** *And they will not need to teach their neighbors, nor will they need to teach their family, saying, 'You should know the Lord.' For everyone, from the least to the greatest, will already know me.* **12** *And I will forgive their wrongdoings, and I will never again remember their sins."* **13** *When God speaks of a new covenant, it means he has made the first one obsolete. It is now out of date and ready to be put aside. (NLT)*

Be warned that if you do these things you will be called a radical, a terrorist, a nonconformist and a troublemaker. You will be told you are of the devil and hearing the wrong spirit and you will hear this phrase 'who made you god'. You will be hated, persecuted, rejected and kicked out of those unholy churches. Your Christian friends will reject you because you serve God with all your heart, mind and soul looking to your rewards in heaven. Praise God that you are now his prized possession a peculiar person seeking and doing God's will in your lives each day as you walk with God in spirit and in truth. You are now living in the light of Jesus Christ who set you free and with the power of the Holy Spirit. It is by the Spirit's power that you have the ability to do the will of the Father as the Spirit guides you. As you do the will of the Father and suffer that means you have quit sinning. You are making yourself ready to be the Church Jesus Christ is coming for. **James 4:8** *Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.* (KJV) By obeying Jesus Christ and separating yourselves from the evil other Christians are doing, you will be as John wrote in **Revelation 1:9** *I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.* (KJV) In tribulation, John suffered for the truth he preached about Jesus Christ. In the kingdom, John was born of water and of the Spirit as commanded by Jesus Christ. John obeyed what Jesus taught to enter into the kingdom to worship God in the spirit and the truth. In patience, John became an overcomer as he endured tribulation because of his loyalty and faith in Jesus Christ. Being holy as God is holy you qualify as one of God's remnant for these closing days and you will do the things Jesus did and greater things will you do. Praise and give the glory to God. Remember, Jesus Christ is the truth and Jesus said in **Matthew 10:34-39** **34** *"Don't imagine that I came to bring peace to the*

earth! No, I came to bring a sword. **35** I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. **36** Your enemies will be right in your own household! **37** If you love your father or mother more than you love me, you are not worthy of being mine; or if you love your son or daughter more than me, you are not worthy of being mine. **38** If you refuse to take up your cross and follow me, you are not worthy of being mine. **39** If you cling to your life, you will lose it; but if you give it up for me, you will find it. (NLT)

By returning to your first love and completing the first works, your faith will become strong by your works because you have read and have heard the Word of God and have done and are doing the commands of Christ in your life. By doing the first works you now keep your faith strong as you pray in the Holy Ghost keeping yourself in the love of God looking for and have found the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life doing the will of the Father each day of your life as you are washed in the Word seeking God in your prayer closet. **Jude 1:17-25**  
**17** But you, my dear friends, must remember what the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ told you, **18** that in the last times there would be scoffers whose purpose in life is to enjoy themselves in every evil way imaginable. **19** Now they are here, and they are the ones who are creating divisions among you. They live by natural instinct because they do not have God's Spirit living in them. **20** But you, dear friends, must continue to build your lives on the foundation of your holy faith. And continue to pray as you are directed by the Holy Spirit. **21** Live in such a way that God's love can bless you as you wait for the eternal life that our Lord Jesus Christ in his mercy is going to give you. **22** Show mercy to those whose faith is wavering. **23** Rescue others by snatching them from the flames of judgment. There are still others to whom you need to show mercy, but be careful that you aren't contaminated by their sins. **24** And now, all glory to God, who is able to keep you from stumbling, and who will bring you into his glorious presence innocent of sin and with great joy. **25** All glory to him, who alone is God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Yes, glory, majesty, power, and authority belong to him, in the beginning, now, and forevermore. Amen. (NLT)

I include these thoughts and Scriptures so that if you have any doubts or are still wanting to just sit inside the strait gate claiming Jesus Christ and salvation that the fear of God may come upon you that you will move on down the narrow path to life. Jesus commanded in **Matthew 28:18-20** **18** And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. **19** Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: **20** Teaching them to observe all things

whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen. (KJV) Jesus was speaking to his apostles in these Scriptures telling them what to teach. On the day of Pentecost these same apostles received that same power. That power was given to them by Jesus. That power is being baptized with the Holy Ghost and fire. These apostles waited and received that power before they began to do what Jesus commanded them. **Matthew 3:11** **11** *I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:* (KJV)

But did all the apostles teach others to observe all things that Jesus' commanded as they went out? The answer to the question is no. One of Jesus' very own apostles disobeyed and even when two of the other apostles went and corrected and completed the commands of Jesus that other apostle continued on in disobedience preaching the Good News. Even in his disobedience God used him mightily. **Acts 8:4-17** **4** *But the believers who had fled Jerusalem went everywhere preaching the Good News about Jesus.* **5** *Philip, for example, went to the city of Samaria and told the people there about the Messiah.* **6** *Crowds listened intently to what he had to say because of the miracles he did.* **7** *Many evil spirits were cast out, screaming as they left their victims. And many who had been paralyzed or lame were healed.* **8** *So there was great joy in that city.* **9** *A man named Simon had been a sorcerer there for many years, claiming to be someone great.* **10** *The Samaritan people, from the least to the greatest, often spoke of him as "the Great One--the Power of God."* **11** *He was very influential because of the magic he performed.* **12** *But now the people believed Philip's message of Good News concerning the Kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ. As a result, many men and women were baptized.* **13** *Then Simon himself believed and was baptized. He began following Philip wherever he went, and he was amazed by the great miracles and signs Philip performed.* **14** *When the apostles back in Jerusalem heard that the people of Samaria had accepted God's message, they sent Peter and John there.* **15** *As soon as they arrived, they prayed for these new Christians to receive the Holy Spirit.* **16** ***The Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any of them, for they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.*** **17** *Then Peter and John laid their hands upon these believers, and they received the Holy Spirit.* (NLT) Remember God is righteous in all his ways and holy in all his works. But we must not forget what Jesus spoke in **Matthew 7:21-23** **21** *Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.* **22** *Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out*

devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? **23** And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity. (KJV) Jesus also warned us in the parable of the wise man and the foolish man in proper building. If we have entered the strait gate, we must walk the narrow path doing the first things being the will of God otherwise our works are incomplete, incompetent and incompatible building on sand being workers of iniquity. What kind of building was Phillip doing according to the teachings of Jesus Christ? **Luke 6:46-49 46** *"So why do you call me 'Lord,' when you won't obey me? 47 I will show you what it's like when someone comes to me, listens to my teaching, and then obeys me. 48 It is like a person who builds a house on a strong foundation laid upon the underlying rock. When the floodwaters rise and break against the house, it stands firm because it is well built. 49 But anyone who listens and doesn't obey is like a person who builds a house without a foundation. When the floods sweep down against that house, it will crumble into a heap of ruins."* (NLT) Do you think that Phillip was deceived into believing he was doing the commands of Jesus Christ because God was using him supernaturally? We must examine ourselves and our works by faith to see if we are doing the commands of Jesus Christ. Or are we just thinking we are doing what Jesus commanded, even though God is doing supernatural things in our lives? Remember God can use even the sinner for the expansion of his kingdom. Do we follow Phillip's example or do we obey the commands of Jesus Christ? We are deceiving ourselves if we follow not the commands of Jesus Christ. Follow the examples of Peter, John and Paul as they served Jesus Christ in the kingdom and not of Phillip's example. Remember Jesus has a purpose for all that follow him, eternal salvation. It is only by doing the will of the father that we may fulfill that purpose. We must keep our eyes upon Jesus Christ the way, the truth and the life. If we look at what others are doing, we can become deceived losing the purpose Christ has for us.

I conclude with these thoughts and Scriptures on the word "obey". Are you a Christian, a believer and a true worshipper of God? Jesus spoke in **John 4:23-24 23** *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. 24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.* (KJV) There is only one way to worship the Father in Spirit and that is to be born of the Spirit according to the commands of Jesus Christ and the teachings in the book of Acts. To worship the Father in truth is to be washed in the Word of God and being born of the Spirit that the Holy Spirit may teach you the truth. You are deceived if you believe otherwise or if your friends say it is not necessary or the church you attend says it is not for this time or if you have read a book and the author says it is not so. I pray don't continue to sit just inside the strait gate but

walk the narrow path that few walk and save yourself from damnation. Heed (to give consideration or attention) to what the following Scriptures say about those who obey and those who don't obey the commands of Christ. If we think we have salvation without obeying, we are deceived being forever separated from God. These Scriptures are the Word of God concise and accurate without adulteration (uncorrupted or twisted to fit the doctrines of man and his flesh).

**2 Thessalonians 1:7-8** <sup>7</sup> *And God will provide rest for you who are being persecuted and also for us when the Lord Jesus appears from heaven. He will come with his mighty angels,* <sup>8</sup> *in flaming fire, bringing judgment on those who don't know God and on those **who refuse to obey the Good News of our Lord Jesus.*** (NLT) Paul was writing about the unsaved those who don't know God and those Christians who entered the strait gate but refuse to obey Jesus Christ.

**1 Timothy 6:13-14** <sup>13</sup> *And I command you before God, who gives life to all, and before Christ Jesus, who gave a good testimony before Pontius Pilate,* <sup>14</sup> ***that you obey his commands with all purity. Then no one can find fault with you from now until our Lord Jesus Christ returns.*** (NLT) Christians must be ready at all times because we know not the day Jesus will return. We deceive ourselves if we think tomorrow I will begin walking the narrow path.

**James 1:22-24** <sup>22</sup> *And remember, **it is a message to obey, not just to listen to.*** *If you don't obey, you are only fooling yourself.* <sup>23</sup> *For if you just listen and don't obey, it is like looking at your face in a mirror but doing nothing to improve your appearance.* <sup>24</sup> *You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like.* (NLT)

And Jesus told those around him to do what the Pharisees taught and not what they did. Sitting in church once a week hearing a twenty minute sermon and then going home forgetting about what you heard will not lead you on the narrow path to eternal salvation. Be not deceived, be washed in the Word of God and obey being the few that find it.

Who enters into the gates of the heavenly Jerusalem and who sits outside the gates? **Revelation 22:14-15** <sup>14</sup> *Blessed are they that do his commandments (obey the Word of God the commands of Jesus Christ), that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.(the heavenly Jerusalem)* <sup>15</sup> *For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.* (KJV) Jesus spoke and John wrote in Revelation these things. **Revelation 22:7-13** <sup>7</sup> *Behold, I come quickly: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book.* <sup>8</sup> *And I John saw these things, and heard them. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which shewed me these things.* <sup>9</sup> *Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am thy fellowservant, and of thy*

*brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God* (we worship God in the spirit and in the truth). **10** *And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand. 11 He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. 12 And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. 13 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. (KJV)* It is faith by our works that we are saved. We have no works if we sit inside the strait gate claiming by faith our salvation because our faith is dead. **James 2:26** *For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also. (KJV)* We must walk the narrow path doing our first love and our first works.

If we confess Jesus Christ today as our Lord and Savior by entering the strait gate and we die this day or the next day or a week from that day, we are saved having eternal salvation. But if we have confessed Jesus Christ a year ago or 5, 10, 20, 30, 40 or even 50 years ago, are we saved if we have left our first love and have never completed or done the first works? If you have read and studied what is in this teaching, in your heart you will know what the answer is. Fear God repent and obey the commands of Jesus Christ to have eternal life when your redemption draws nigh.

In summary, only the righteous that are holy as God is holy by obeying the Word of God and by the blood of Jesus Christ are barely saved. These are the ones who will be the overcomers and by the word of their testimony loving their lives not unto death that will be the church Jesus Christ is coming for. They will receive their crown of life and the rewards laid up in heaven. Compromise not the Word of God and be deceived not. Amen.

**Philippians 4:19-20** **19** *But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus. 20 Now unto God and our Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen. (KJV)*

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