

We are Truly Disciples of Jesus

Pg 1

List

"Then said Jesus unto them, 'When you have lifted up **the Son of Man**, then you shall know that **I am (Him)**, and that I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father has taught me, I speak these things. And **He who sent Me is with Me**; for the Father has not left me alone; for I always do those things that please Him.' As He spoke these words, many believed on Him. Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, '**If you continue in My Word, then you are Truly My Disciples;** And you shall know the truth, and **the truth shall make you free.**' " (John 8:28-32)

Disciple: from the Greek word ***mathetai*** a noun which means: a disciple, a learner, a pupil; from ***manthano*** a verb which means: to learn, to be disciplined, to receive instruction: by someone: by a teacher or an instructor. In context: Jesus is the disciple maker; He is our teacher; He is our instructor in all things pertaining to salvation, godliness, righteousness, lovingkindness, and many other attributes of abiding in Christ Jesus. As a disciple of Christ Jesus, we who believe follow in His footsteps in obedience to His word, His teachings, and His way of life; and we do so in gracious respect and love for Jesus, who is our Lord, and Master, and King, and Savior!

Truly: from the Greek word ***alethos*** which means: truly, certainly, surely, indeed; in the sense of disciples being genuinely true followers of Jesus; truly bound to Jesus in obedience in all things pertaining to His word, His will, and His intentions and desires for His disciples: no matter what the costs are: sufferings, persecutions, etc. Disciples of Jesus truly submit to His Lordship over their lives.

In one way or another all disciples are called by Jesus to be His disciples. Some choose to follow, and some do not! Please consider these examples:

"Again the next day after, John (the Baptist) stood with two of his disciples; and looking upon Jesus as He walked, he said, 'Behold **the Lamb of God!**' And the two disciples heard him speak, **and they followed Jesus.** Then Jesus turned, and saw them following, and said unto them, 'What do you seek?' They said unto Him, **Rabbi**, which is to say, being interpreted, **Master**, where do you dwell?' He (Jesus) said unto them, '**Come and see.**' They came and saw where He dwelt, and abode **with Him** that day; for it was about the tenth hour. One of the two which heard John speak, and **followed Him**, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his own brother Simon, and said unto him, 'We have found **the Messiah**, who is, being interpreted, **the Christ.**' And he brought him to Jesus. And when Jesus beheld him, he said, 'You are Simon the son of Jonah; you shall be called Cephas,' which is by interpretation, **a stone.** The day following Jesus went forth into Galilee, and found Philip, and said unto him, '**Follow me.**' Now Philip was of Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. And Philip found Nathanael, and said unto him, 'We have found Him, of whom Moses in the Law, and the prophets, did write, **Jesus of Nazareth**, the **Son of Joseph.**' " (John 1:35-39)

"And as Jesus passed forth from there, **He saw a man, named Matthew**, sitting at the receipt of custom; and He said unto him, '**Follow Me.**' And he arose, **and followed Him.**" (Matthew 9:9)

"And when **He (Jesus)** had gone forth into the way, there came someone running, and kneeled to him, and asked Him, 'Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit Eternal Life?' And Jesus said unto him, ... 'You know the commandments: do not commit adultery, do not kill, do not steal, do not bear false witness, defraud not, honor your father and mother.' And he answered and said unto Him, 'Master, all these have I observed from my youth.' Then Jesus beholding him **loved him**, and said unto him, 'One thing you lack: go your way, sell whatever you have, and give to the poor, and you shall have treasure in Heaven; and come, take up the cross, and follow Me.' And he was sad at that saying, and went away grieved; for he had great possessions. And Jesus looked round about, and said unto **His disciples**, 'How hard it shall be for those who have riches to enter into the Kingdom of God!' " (Mark 10:17-23)

We are Truly Disciples of Jesus

Pg 2

Jesus said again, “**He who loves his life shall lose it**; and he who hates his life in this world shall keep it unto Eternal Life. If any man will-serve Me, **let him follow Me**; and where I am, there shall also my servant (and disciple) be; if any man serves Me, My Father will honor him.” (John 12:25-26)

The disciples of Jesus are not above their Master! Like Jesus they will suffer hatred, persecution, and death for His Names sake. Please consider the following exhortation of Jesus unto His disciples:

Jesus said, “Behold, I send you (His 12 disciples) forth as sheep in the midst of wolves; be you therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves. But beware of men; for they will deliver you up to the councils, and they will scourge you in their synagogues; and you shall be brought before governors and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them and the Gentiles. But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what you shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what you shall speak; for it is not you who speaks, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you. And brother shall deliver up the brother to death, and the father the child; and children shall rise up against their parents, and cause them to be put to death. And you shall be hated by all men for My Name's sake; but he who endures to the end shall be saved. But when they persecute you in this city, flee you into another; for truly I say unto you: you shall not have gone through the cities of Israel, until **the Son of Man** has come. **The disciple is not above his Master**, nor the servant above his Lord. It is enough for the disciple that he be as his Master, and the servant as his Lord. If they have called **the Master (Jesus)** of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall they call those of His household?” (Matthew 10:16-25)

“For what glory is it, if, when you are buffeted for your faults, you shall take it patiently? But if, when you do well, and suffer for it, and you take it patiently, this is acceptable with God. For even hereunto were you called; because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that **you should follow His steps!**” (1 Peter 2:20-21)

Love for one another is the attribute of a believer that truly proves that a person is a true Disciple of Christ Jesus! Please consider the following:

Jesus said, “**If you abide in Me**, and **My words abide in you**, you shall ask what you will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is My Father glorified, **that you bear much fruit; so shall you be My disciples**. As the Father has loved Me, so have **I loved you: continue you in My love**. If you keep **My commandments**, you shall abide in My love; even as I have kept My Father's commandments, and abide in His love. These things I have spoken unto you, that **My joy** might remain in you, and that your joy might be full. This is **My commandment: that you Love one another, as I have loved you**. Greater love has no man than this: **that a man lay down his life for his friends**. You are **My friends**, if you do whatever I command you. Henceforth, I call you not servants; for the servant knows not what his lord does; but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard from My Father I have made known unto you. You have not chosen me, **but I have chosen you, and ordained you (as disciples)**, that you should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain; so that whatever you shall ask of the Father in My Name, **He** may give it to you. These things I command you, that you love one another. If the world hates you, you know that **it hated Me** before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love it's own; but because you are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said unto you, ‘The servant is not greater than his Lord.’ If they have persecuted Me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept **My word**, they will keep yours also. But all these things will they do unto you for **My Name's sake**, because they do not know Him (God the Father) who sent Me.” (John 15:7-21)

We are Truly Disciples of Jesus

Pg 3

In Love, and in persecutions, Jesus calls His disciples to follow Him; please consider the following exhortation of Jesus:

“And when **He (Jesus)** had called the people unto Himself, **with His disciples also**, He said unto them, '**Whoever will come after Me**, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, **and Follow Me**. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life **for My sake and the Gospel's**, the same shall save it. For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, **and lose his own soul**? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? Therefore, whoever shall be ashamed of Me and of My words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of Man be ashamed, when He comes in the Glory of His Father with the holy angels.” (Mark 8:34-38) (see also: Matthew 16:24-27; Luke 9:23-26)

Therefore, it in wisdom that a person counts the cost of following Jesus as a true disciple of Christ Jesus! Please consider this exhortation of Jesus:

“And there went great multitudes **with Him (Jesus)**; and He turned, and said unto them, 'If any man comes (and follows) to Me, and hates (by comparison) not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yes, and his own life also, **he cannot be My disciple**. And whoever does not bear his cross, and come after Me, cannot be My disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, sits not down first, and **counts the cost**, whether he has enough to finish it? Lest after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, everyone who observe it begins to mock him, Saying, 'This man began to build, and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going to make war against another king, sits not down first, and consults whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? Or else, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation, and desires conditions of peace. So likewise, whoever he is of you who does not forsake all that he has, **he cannot be My disciple**.” (Luke 14:25-33)

Please also consider the Great Commission of Jesus in which He commanded His disciples to do; (Jesus calls more disciples through His disciples!):

“And Jesus came and spoke unto them, saying, '**All Authority (power) is given unto Me in Heaven and in earth**. Go **you** therefore, and teach (making disciples of) all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the age. Amen.” (Matthew 28:18-20)

We are Truly Disciples of Jesus

And we are Commissioned By Him to make disciples of all Nations !

**In this sacred trust the Love of the Father and Son is working in and through us !
Whoever will follow Jesus must deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Jesus !**

**If we continue in His Word, then we are Truly His Disciples !
And we shall know the Truth, and the Truth shall make us free !**

**Lord Jesus, we have decided to follow You – with no turning back !
Be there persecutions, hatred, prisons, or even death – we will follow you !**

**Thank You Jesus for calling us to be disciples in Your Forever Kingdom !
Guide us and strengthen us so as to always follow You in Your steps !**

Truly Truly ! Always and Always ! Amen and Amen !