

How To Climb The LORD's Ladder To Spiritual Success

by B. R. Hicks



How To Climb The LORD's Ladder To Spiritual Success

(A Lesson on How "To Be" and How "To Do")

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Introduction

Written as an introduction to explain just *how* to achieve success in what the Christian hopes “to be” in Christ and what he hopes “to do” for Christ, this booklet precedes the author’s subsequent books on *How To Keep Your Spiritual Garments*; *How To Walk In The Way Of The Cross*; *How To Overcome The Basic Fears Of Man*; and *How To Overcome Pride*.

If a person were told how “to be” or how “to do” something without first understanding *how* to accomplish what he wants “to be” or “to do,” it would do him little good to be told “how to.”

Success in the natural world or in the spiritual world depends on three major requisites, all of which are centered around the word *how*. First, we must *learn* the skills and knowledge of *how*; second, we must *choose* to use the *how* after it has been learned; and, third, we must *practice* the passive and active obedience necessary to implement the *how*.

If we separate between our two worlds, we can say that success in our natural world depends, first, on our acquiring the requisite knowledge and skills in our chosen field; then, we must choose to use what we have learned, and, finally we must work effectively to implement the skills we have learned.

In our spiritual world, the first requisite for success is our *learning how to be like Christ Jesus* in our hearts, in our wills, and in our lives. The second requisite lies in *choosing to allow Christ Jesus*, as our Owner and Master, *to implement the how’s we have learned*. The third requisite is *our waiting on the LORD Jesus Christ* for Him *to put His righteous Passive and Active Obedience within our wills* so that we can be “doers” of His Will and of His Word, not deceiving our own selves.

But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves (James 1:22).

In order to be a *doer* of God’s Word, we must be a *hearer*. Although we may be most attentive in hearing the Word, just hearing will not avail us anything unless we become *doers* of the Word. Practicing what we hear is absolutely necessary. First, we practice by inwardly meditating on the Truth we hear and being passively obedient to it; then, we must outwardly practice active obedience to the Truth, according to the Father’s and the Son’s Purposive Will and Master Plan. It is essential not only to remember the Truth we hear; we must repeat it, testify to it, write it, commend it, and preserve it. Yet after we have done all these obligatory things, we must be *doers* of the Truth we hear by practicing it. If we inwardly lay hold of Jesus Christ’s Passive and Active Obedience from His Heavenly Father, we will be faithful *doers* of the Father’s Word, just as Jesus was. The works of faithful *doers* of God’s Word bear fruit from the Eternal Tree of Life, Christ Jesus.

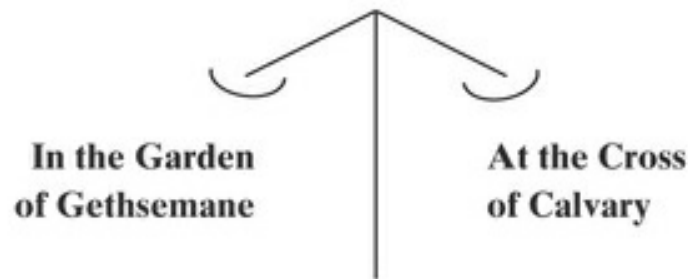
There is only one way for us to implement the *how* of “being” like Christ and “doing” like Christ and that is to lay hold of Jesus Christ’s Righteous Obedience.

Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; (Hebrews 5:8).

Jesus Christ was, is, and will always be the Only Begotten Son of God. Since He knew only the *pleasant side* of Passive and Active Obedience to the Father’s Will, Word, and Works in Eternity-Past, in Present Time, God sent Him to earth to display His Passive and Active Obedience in the midst of *suffering* for man’s sin.

Jesus proved His Humility Dependence on His Father by remaining true to His Father’s Will and retaining His Passive and Active Obedience in extreme suffering, both in the Garden of Gethsemane and at the Cross of Calvary!

Jesus Christ's Passive and Active Obedience



Jesus Christ's Passive and Active Obedience to His Father's Will led Him to the Cross. We must understand that when we have been born into the Kingdom of God, we are not exempt from suffering. Jesus' sufferings manifested His divine Love, Life, and Light. Our sufferings, however, always display new realms of our Hate, Death, and Darkness that are initiated by the body of sin that we have inherited from the first Adam.

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

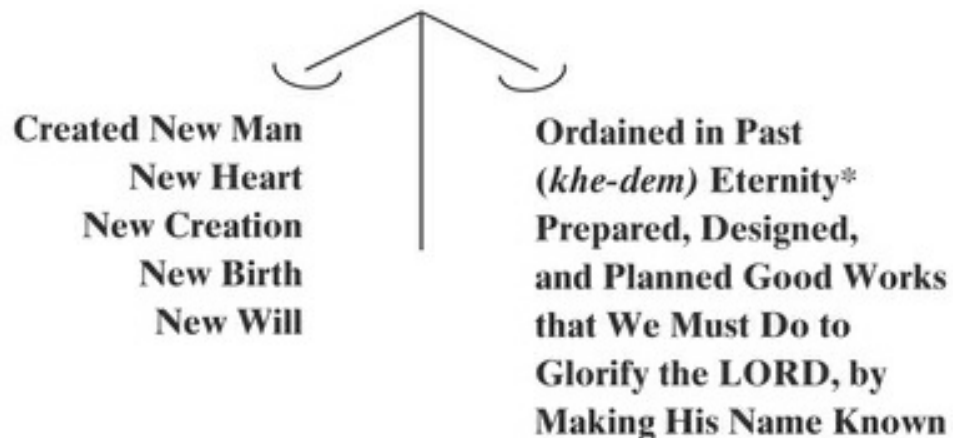
God, working through Jesus Christ, is the One Who sanctifies and empowers the human will, inclining it to inward passive obedience and empowering it to perform active obedience through works done outwardly before people.

The Prophet Isaiah gave God the proper recognition for being the One Who has done all good works; he said, "[F]or thou hast wrought all our works in us" (Isaiah 26:12).

The Apostle Paul corroborated the Prophet's statement; he said, "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works..." (Ephesians 2:10).

Our whole existence is *from* the Father and His Son and *for* the Father and His Son.

God Through His Love in Christ Jesus:



In one of God's Eternities, His *khe-dem** Eternity, He designed and planned the good works that we are to do in making His Holy Name known. Then, in Present Time, He created us unto these good works. He created within us

our New Man, New Heart, New Birth, and New Will, all of which made our New Creation perfect. Thus, we can perform Jesus Christ's Passive and Active Obedience as we wait on the LORD for Him to bring His Purpose and Plan to pass in our lives.

May the eyes of your souls be enlightened as you study the following chapters of this book so that you will be able to understand that you have been created by God's *divine* Works for the Purpose of your working His *good* Works that have been Purposed and Planned for making His worthy Name known.

— The Author

* In addition to the *khe-dem* Eternity, there are two more Eternities: God's Witness Eternity and His Blood Eternity. For further studies on this subject, see: Sermon Studies 1845–1849 and 2156 by B.R. Hicks (Jeffersonville, IN: Christ Gospel Churches Int'l., Inc., 2001).

Chapter One

The First Requisite For Spiritual Success Is Learning How “To Be” Like Jesus Christ

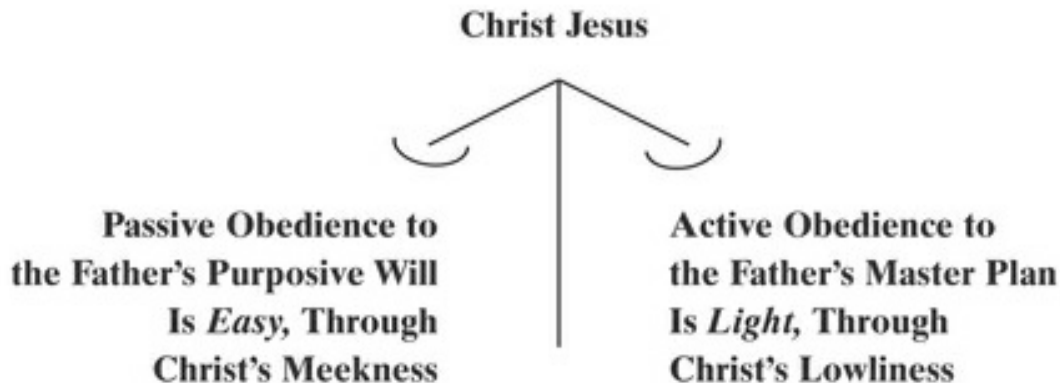
In both the natural world and the spiritual world, we must become knowledgeable about our subject. By learning all we can about the Person of Jesus Christ, we will learn how “to be” like Him, and, by our increased understanding, we will be able to portray Him in our thoughts, feelings, and deeds.

Spiritual *learning* means to gain or acquire knowledge, skill, or necessary information so that one can: (1) discover the Truth; (2) ascertain by inquiry; and (3) receive instruction.

Jesus Christ admonished believers to *learn* of Him.

Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. **Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me;** for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light (Matthew 11:28-30).

Jesus invited all who were labouring and heavy laden, weighted down under their own purposes and plans, to let Him give them rest. He showed them that His yoke of Passive and Active Obedience is both easy and light.



The Father's Passive Will in Christ Jesus is *easy* because it is without pain, without discomfort, without effort, and without difficulty since He freely gives us His Submissive Will for the asking. All our pain, discomfort, and difficulty arise from our human will's resistance and struggle against God's divine Purposive Will. When we ask for Christ's Meekness or His tame, gentle, patient, and kind Submissive Will to come into our will, He will answer our prayer and give us His Meekness. He faithfully will save us from our inherent sinful anger and resentment that strive against the Father's Holy Will. After Christ works His Meekness in our will, we discover the true pleasure of joyful comfort, refreshing ease, and pacifying willingness of being joined to the Father's Will.

The Father's Master Plan in Christ Jesus is *Light* when we have His Lowliness in our will. When Christ's Humble Submissiveness to the Father's Master Plan comes into our human will, He saves us from our prideful assertiveness that always seeks the high place and the last authoritative word. Our soul and spirit carry a heavy burden when our human will strives against God's Master Plan for our life. We strive against God's Master Plan with our impatience if we are presented a lower position or rank in God's Master Plan than we desire. But when our human will has joined Christ's Active Obedience to His Father's Master Plan, our heart and spirit are made buoyant and happy

because our will is freed from its own sinful, burdensome weight of its own strife against Gods' Master Plan for our life.

The Purpose and Plan of the LORD is *Light*, but "[T]he way of transgressors is hard" (Proverbs 13:15).

In order to learn Christ's Passive and Active Obedience, we must be willing to become *yoked* to Him in our will. To excel in our journey with Christ Jesus, we must be *yoked* to Him because of our desire to be like Him. For example, if we want to learn *how* to grow up in Christ's Spiritual Stature and become like Him so that we can enjoy the happiness, comfort, and pacifying willingness found in His Nature of Lowliness and Meekness, we must become *yoked* to Jesus Christ's Person.

We must take seven distinct steps in our spiritual education in order to learn *how* to become knowledgeable in how "to be" in our will, and how "to do" from our will, both spiritually and naturally.

I. Step One in Learning How "To Be" Is Discovering in What Manner We Need to Love God and Our Neighbor.

To learn "in what manner" is to learn the most effective method, mode, or way of performing or doing something according to God's Purposive Will. We cannot perform *experientially*, in the natural realm, until we have *theoretically* learned some measure of *how to* in the spiritual realm. It is important to learn *how to read properly* what God has said in His Word if we are to understand the theories of His Truth.

For example, Jesus dealt with a certain lawyer about the proper way to read God's Word or Law. The proper way to read the Word of Truth is to study it with the right motive, which should be only for the purpose of being a *doer* of the Truth, yet what was the young lawyer's motive when he asked Jesus what he should *do* to inherit Eternal Life?

And, behold, a certain lawyer stood up, and tempted him, saying, Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life? He said unto him, What is written in the law? how readest thou? And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself. And he said unto him, Thou hast answered right: this do, and thou shalt live (Luke 10:25-28).

When the lawyer questioned Jesus, his motive for having read the Word of God had neither been right nor holy because he based his questions on the hatred he had in his heart for Jesus Christ. By his questioning, he desired to expose Jesus as an imposter. If this lawyer had read the Written Word with the right motive, he would have studied the Word with love for the Promised Messiah; thus, he would have recognized Jesus and loved Him when He appeared in Flesh. He would have been a ready *doer* of the Written *Torah*-Law by accepting the *Torah*-Truth in Flesh. Mercifully, Christ faithfully exposed this lawyer's unholy, hateful motive by asking him, "How readest thou?" In so many words, Jesus asked him, "In what *manner* and with what *motive* have you studied the Law?" Did the young man want to be a *doer* of the Law? Had he really read the Law with the purpose or motive of understanding how to love its holy theories of Truth so that he could go forth doing works of Love?

Obviously, the lawyer had not studied God's *Torah*-Law for the purpose of understanding how to love it and to be a *doer* of it, which is to love God with all of one's heart, soul, strength, and mind.

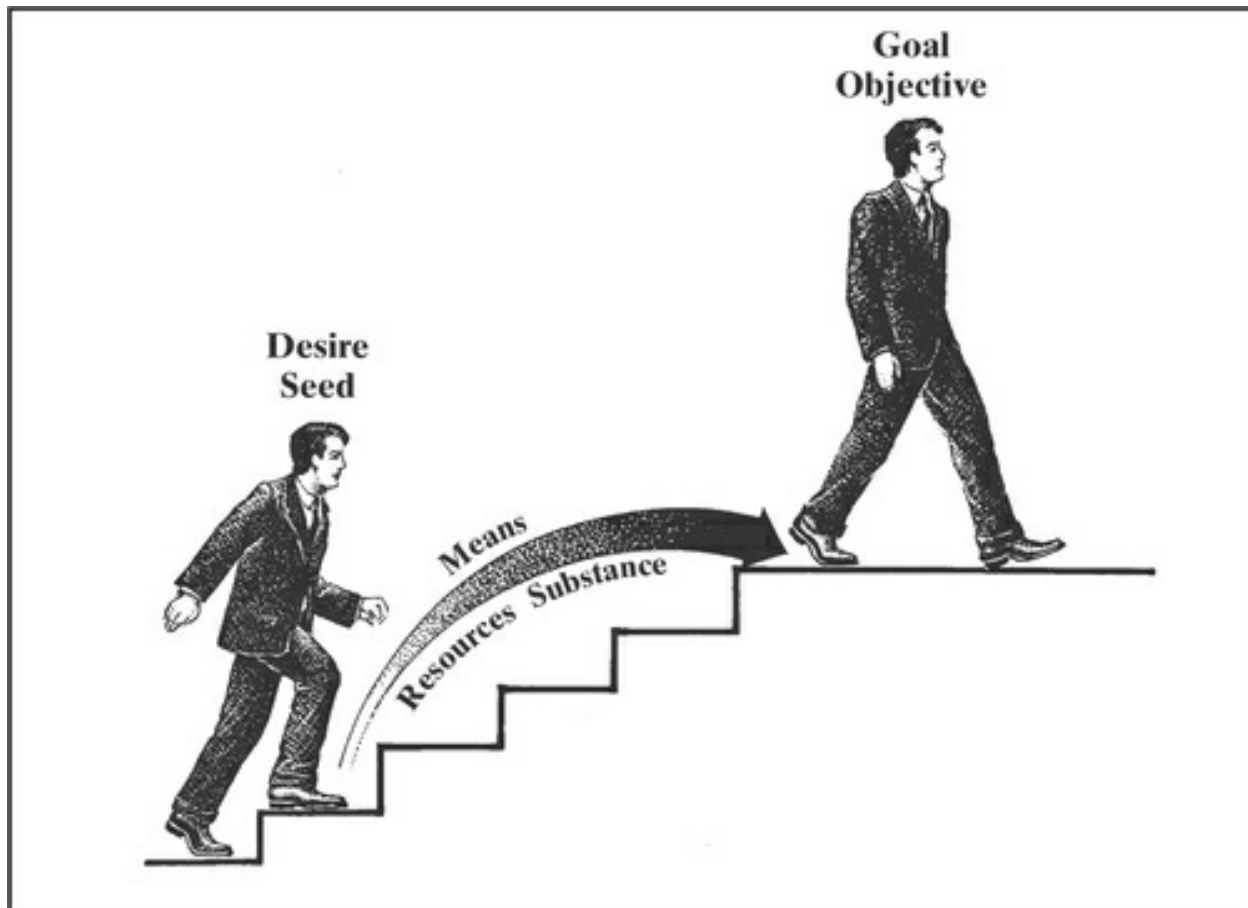
Jesus forced the lawyer to admit that Eternal Life consisted of love for God and for his neighbour. The lawyer, however, simply ignored his failure to love God; then, he tried to plead ignorance concerning his failure to love his neighbour by claiming that he did not know who his neighbour was.

How we read or the manner in which we read reveals whether, in our heart, we really love to learn the Truth for the purpose of being a *doer* of it. When our motive for learning is right, we are more than satisfied with what we learn. When we have a sincere desire to perform what we have learned, we constantly wait on the LORD for an opportunity to practice it. *Learning the how of anything must begin in the right manner and with the right motive, which is to become a "doer" of what we have learned.*

The first step in our spiritual journey up Jesus Christ's Ladder to maturity in His Spiritual Stature is to love God with all our heart, soul, strength, and mind, and our neighbour as ourself.

II. Step Two in Learning How "To Be" Is Discovering What Means We Must Use In God's Master Plan in Order to Carry out His Purposive Will for Our Lives.

We must discover what means, measure, or medium we are to employ in carrying out the learning process of God's Purposive Will. The *means* of carrying out God's Purposive Will are found in the *resources* and *substances* of His Master Plan that will take us from the seed stage of our desire to "learn *how*," on up to our accomplished goal and objective at the top of Christ's Spiritual Ladder.



An incident in King David's life illustrates this Principle of discovering the proper means of carrying out Gods' Purposive Will in order to fulfill His Master Plan. Because the Ark of God had been stolen, David's goal or objective was to bring the Ark up to Jerusalem to its permanent home. He knew God's Purposive Will was for His Ark to reside in Jerusalem, yet David's desire was just a seed, not a fully developed plan with God's approval of how to implement his desire. So David failed in his first endeavour to bring the Ark to its home because he was ignorant of *how or by what means* his task should be accomplished in God's Master Plan. David's first attempt to bring the Ark to Jerusalem was a failure. His ignorance of God's means of transporting the Ark resulted in Uzzah's death, which sorely displeased David. When Uzzah had thought the Ark was falling off the cart on which it was being transported, he touched God's Holy Ark, and the LORD smote him.

Thus, before learning the right means of transporting God's Holy Ark, according to His Master Plan, David had tried to bring the Ark up to Jerusalem on a cart that was drawn by an animal. Yet God's Word and Master Plan had explicitly stipulated the *exact* means to be used in moving His Ark, which David had neglected to find out. So David's wrong *resources* and *substances* produced Death instead of Life.

For a period of time, David, in his fear of God, left the Ark of God in the house of Obed-Edom. But when David heard about God's blessings on Obed-Edom's house, he finally sought God about how to bring the Ark up to His House in Jerusalem.

And David was afraid of God that day, saying, **How shall I bring the ark of God home to me?** (1 Chronicles 13:12).

Once David had learned *how to* bring the Ark of God up to Jerusalem, he followed God's approved *method* for

moving the Ark, which was to have the Levites carry it upon their shoulders. This was the *right means* or the *right resources* in God's Master Plan. Since he was careful to be strict in conforming to the regulation of the *Torah-Truth*, David hoped that no tragedy of death would recur. Finally, with great joy and rejoicing, David brought the Ark up to Jerusalem.

And it was so, that **when they that bare the ark of the LORD had gone six paces, he sacrificed oxen and fatlings. And David danced before the LORD with all his might;** and David was girded with a linen ephod (II Samuel 6:13,14).

David's work in bringing the Ark home succeeded once he had learned to use God's approved *method*. His own plan had miscarried, but David rectified his former error and successfully completed his desired goal. As the Ark was being carried by the Priests to its proper resting place, David displayed his highest expressions of joy before the LORD by leaping and dancing with all of his might. On this occasion, the requirements of the Law were being performed, which brought great life, joyful thanksgivings, and grateful praise to David's heart. So he laid aside his imperial, purple robe and clothed himself with the Ephod, like the one the High Priest wore, which signified that his most important ministry was to worship and praise the LORD.

King David learned that the right means to perform God's Purposive Will is always found in His Master Plan

We see this same basic Principle at work in our everyday lives. For example, when we send our children to school for the first time, we do not furnish them with college textbooks. Instead, we furnish them with the proper texts for their level of understanding. Children start their process of education with books designed for their primary development. Neither does a student of music bypass his foundational studies of learning to read notes, practicing scales, and building harmony and still hope to be an accomplished musician. The Master Plan for learning how "to do" a right thing in a right way is by laying hold of the proper building blocks and using these right *resources* in order to accomplish a desired goal.

III. Step Three in Learning How "To Be" Is Discovering the Degree or Extent in God's Master Plan that We Must Achieve in Order to Carry out His Purposive Will.

Learning to what degree, by what measure of quality, proportion, or amount, or which step or movement is necessary in God's Master Plan in order to press onward toward our goal of obeying His Purposive Will is vitally important since it determines the amount of success we achieve in moving up Christ's Spiritual Ladder to maturity in Him.

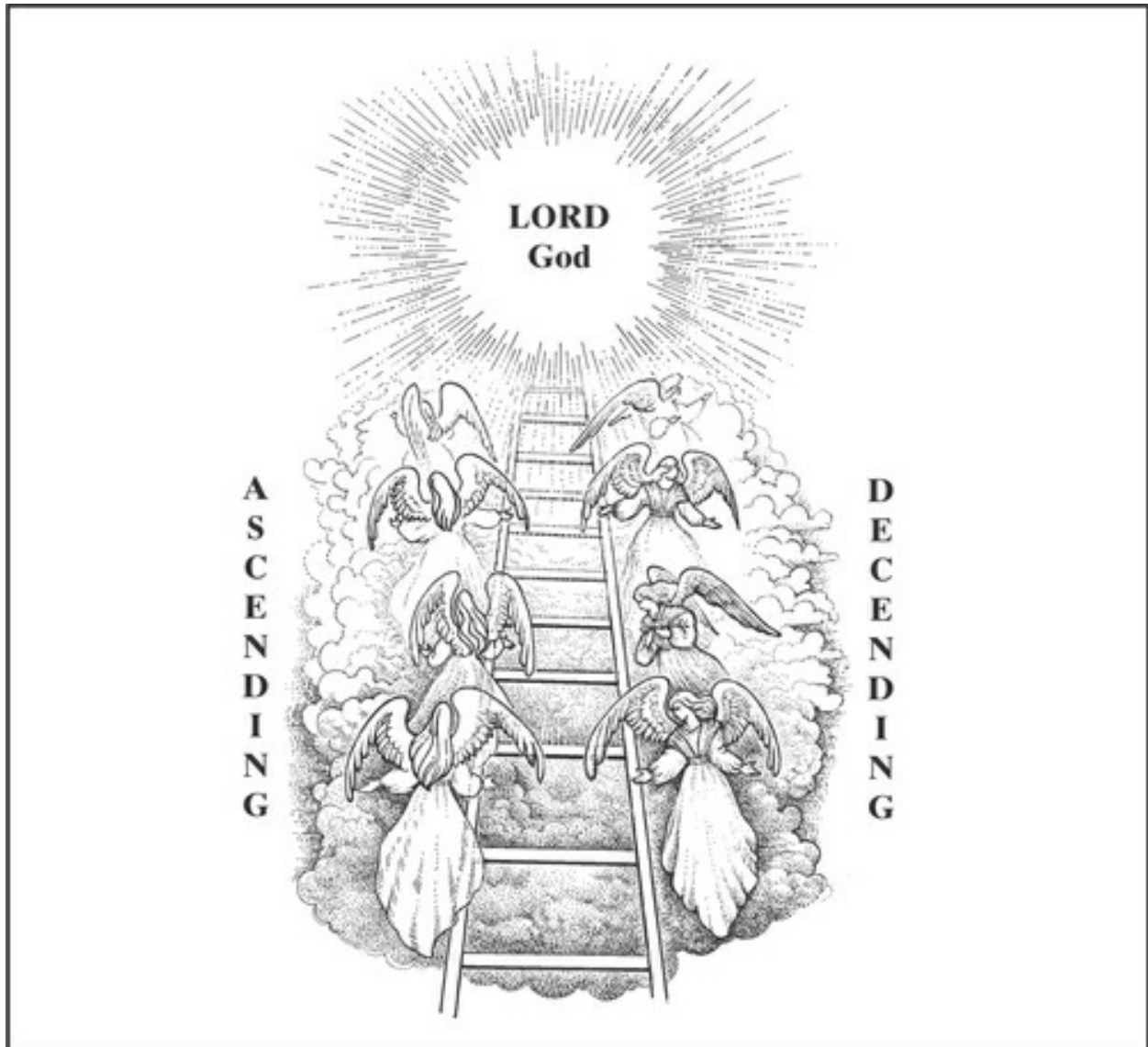
The LORD has an orderly arrangement of steps that we must discover in ascending His Spiritual Ladder. Step five in Christ cannot be substituted for step one. His orderly steps cannot be interchanged. God has established different degrees of learning in Christ Jesus, and He has a correct order in which to learn each degree of Truth in His Son. In School, for example, we did not count to a hundred until we had learned to count to ten.

In a dream sent from the LORD, Jacob saw this same Principle revealed in the spiritual realm.

And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven: and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it. And, behold, the LORD stood above it, and said, I am the LORD God of Abraham thy father, and the God of Isaac: the land whereon thou liest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed; And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: and in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed. And, behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all *places* whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for I will not leave thee, until I have done *that* which I have spoken to thee of. And Jacob awaked out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is in this place; and I knew *it* not. And he was afraid, and said, How dreadful is this place this is none other but the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven (Genesis 28:12-17).

Jacob slept at a place called Bethel, and in his dream, he saw a ladder or a stairway let down from Heaven to earth. Angels ascended and descended on it, and at the top of the ladder was the LORD God.

The Hebrew word for *ladder* is *sool-lawm*, which means an exalted staircase.



In Jacob's dream, Jesus Christ, the great Mediator between Heaven and earth, appeared as a great stairway in which were many steps. When Jacob awoke, he said, in so many words, "This is God's House, and *how* dreadful or how fearful is this place." When the ladder was let down from Heaven, the fear of God gripped Jacob's heart as he beheld its many spiritual steps, with their many degrees of revelation in Christ.

Through the situations in which the LORD God placed Jacob, he patiently and faithfully climbed the spiritual steps on the Spiritual Ladder the LORD had shown him in his dream. As a result of his abiding by his dream and successfully climbing up Christ's Spiritual Ladder, Jacob died as a spiritually mature one who, through God's Master Plan, performed God's Purposive Will in begetting the twelve sons who later produced the twelve tribes that made up the Nation of Israel.

In Jacob's first experience at Bethel, he received only the *vision* of God's Master Plan, which consisted of the following things:

- God's Promise to give him the land on which he lay;
- God's Promise to give him Seed (the twelve tribes) who would inherit the land;
- God's Promise to give him Seed that would be as the dust to populate the land from the west to the east and from

the north to the south;

- God's Promise to bless all nations of the earth through him and his Seed, the Christ, Who would come through the Tribe of Judah;
- God's Promise to be with him in all places to which he went and to bring him again to the Promised Land;
- Gods' Promise not to leave Jacob until He had performed all that He had promised him.

Jacob had heard about God's infinite Purposive Will for him, yet he had received only a small degree and extent of His Master Plan as to how this would transpire. As Jacob acted upon the small degree of God's Master Plan that he had first received — which was to journey to the land of Mesopotamia to obtain a wife — most of the rest of God's Master Plan was left to be unveiled to him, later, in Mesopotamia.

At Bethel, Jacob's eyes were opened to see a glorious vision and his ears were opened to hear God's majestic Voice. On awakening in the morning, Jacob made a vow to serve the LORD and to give him a tenth of all that God would give to him, if the LORD would protect and prosper him.

In Mesopotamia, Jacob found refuge in his Uncle Laban's home, where he met Rachel. Because he loved Rachel so much, Jacob promised to work seven years for her, but Laban deceived Jacob and fraudulently gave his elder daughter to him in marriage. Still, Jacob lovingly and willingly worked seven more years for his beloved Rachel. Then, Jacob worked another six years for his flocks and herds. The LORD God blessed, protected, and prospered Jacob, in spite of his Uncle Laban's treachery. In His infinite, divine Wisdom, God had withheld the painful part of His Master Plan from Jacob, so Jacob did not know what his sufferings would be before he reached Mesopotamia.

After twenty years of both joy and suffering, sorrow, and sadness, Jacob returned with eleven sons (who would beget eleven of the tribes of Israel), one daughter, and much wealth and substance. Once God had fulfilled more of His Master Plan for Jacob's life, He directed him to return home for his next step on His Spiritual Ladder in His Master Plan.

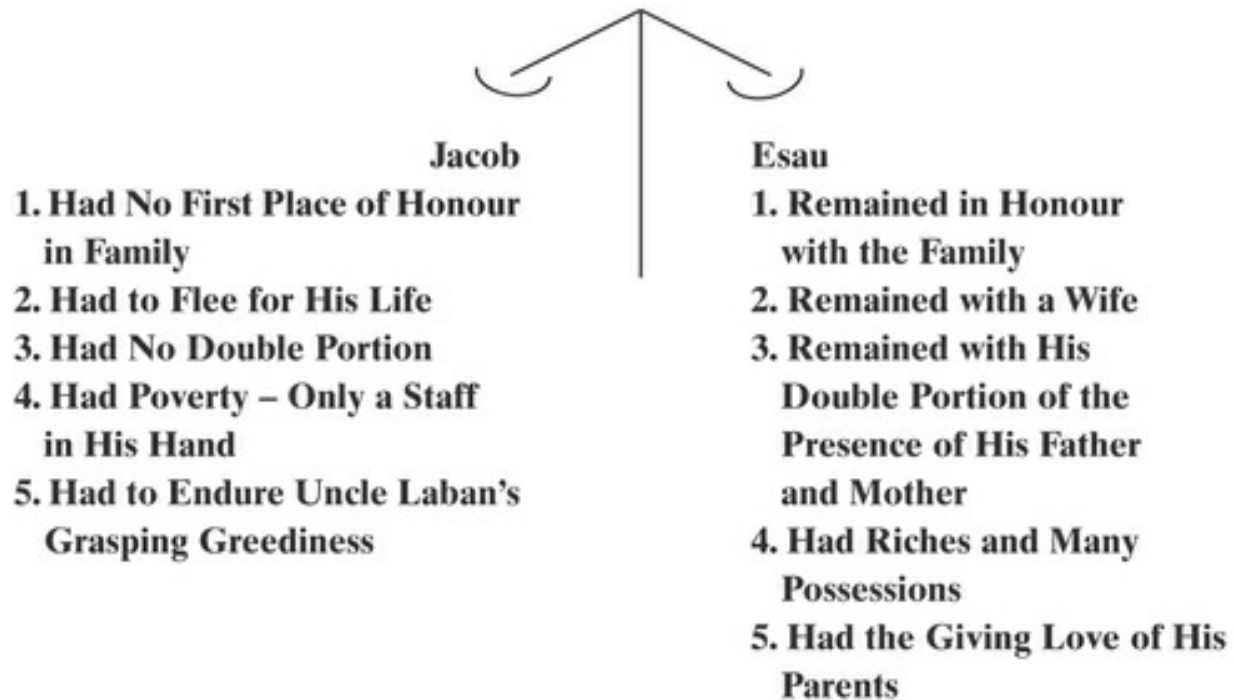
We must follow Jacob's example in learning *how* "to be" in the spiritual realm. We must walk reverently and fearfully before the LORD God and allow Him, as the Owner and Master, to place before us the right steps or degrees of the revelation of His Master Plan that unveils His Purposive Will for our lives. We must be willing to begin our journey up Christ's Spiritual Ladder by fulfilling the first small degree of His Master Plan for our lives so that we will be led to the next step. The right, humble steps in learning *how to proceed* in God's Master Plan must not be scorned as useless; they must not be cast aside as though unneeded, nor bypassed as though they were holding us back or down. If Jacob had despised his humble beginning as a servant to his Uncle Laban, he never would have begotten the twelve tribes of Israel nor gained his wealth and possessions.

Jacob never despised the day of small things; he never put exaltation before humility. With *only his staff* in his hand, Jacob had proceeded in his Father's Master Plan for his life.

Jacob loved and cherished the birthright, regardless of its price tag. But Esau willingly gave it up for a little temporal satisfaction of his fleshly appetite.

This world has fewer Jacobs, with their eyes on eternal blessings, than Esaus, who would rather appease their carnal desires than work toward an eternal reward in future Eternity. Heroes who are willing to fight for the right are few. How little thought today's generation gives to the eternal consequences of their daily choices. Let us look to the great heroes of the Bible and the price they were willing to pay because they esteemed the price tag of the suffering encountered in climbing up Christ's Spiritual Ladder in His Purposive Will of little consequence when weighed against the eternal worth of successfully reaching the top of the Ladder of maturity in Christ's Spiritual Stature.

Birthright Price at Present Moment

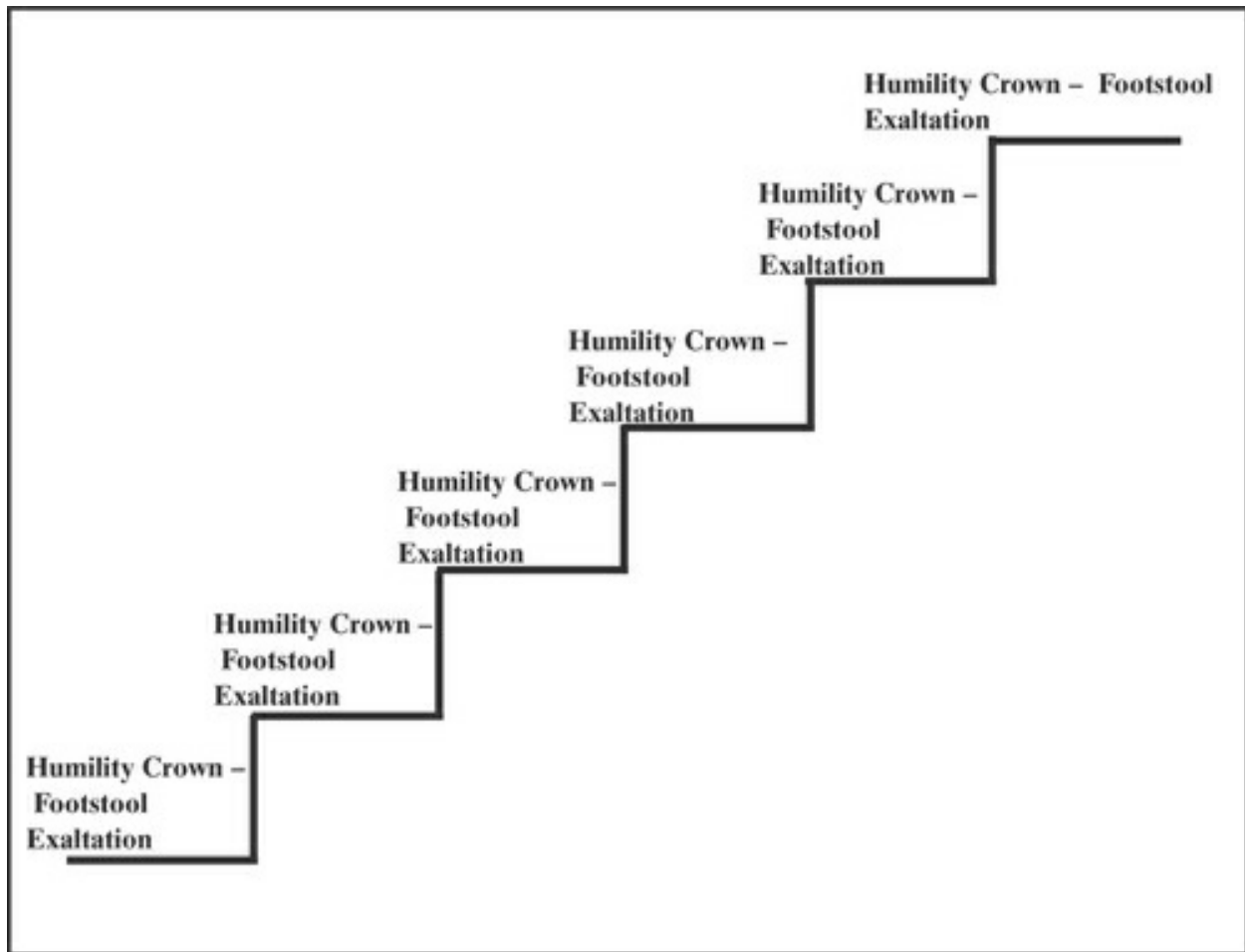


Jacob was willing to walk in the humility and poverty of the Father’s Master Plan in order to climb up Jesus Christ’s Spiritual Ladder, in a right way, in Mesopotamia, so that he could return to Canaan’s Land with much wealth and with the tribal Seeds that would produce the Nation of Israel.

Likewise, we must be willing to lay hold of our portion of humility in the Father’s Master Plan that will prepare us to return to Heavenly Canaan’s Land with much exaltation, wealth, and riches in Christ Jesus.

We must remember that every step or degree of revelation and growth in Christ Jesus is both a crown for the step we have completed and a foundation for the next step up.

Before proceeding in our lessons in learning *how* “to be,” the degree or the next step must be taken from the humility crown on the last step because the foundation for all exaltations is humility. We will not be exalted to the next step on our climb to maturity in the Spiritual Stature of the LORD Jesus Christ unless our steps upward are crowned with humility.



Unless we crown Christ's steps with His Crown of Humility, we will inflate ourselves and use our next exalted step to make our names known instead of the LORD's Name. We must never forget that pride changed the beautiful Lucifer into a Satan, Devil, Serpent, and Dragon, and it turned Judas from Christ's Disciple into a devil and betrayer of His Master. Christ's Crown of Humility on our exalted steps in Him empowers us to make the right estimate of ourselves, which is this: we are nothing; we have nothing; we can do nothing; and we know nothing apart from Jesus Christ. We need to remember that Christ is the Ladder; Christ is the Step on the Ladder; Christ is the Exaltation on the Step; and Christ is the Crown of Humility on the Exaltation. Hence, He deserves all the Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory. Christ's Humility reveals the Light of the Son and the Father.

Christ's Crown of Humility is also the Footstool for the next step up. Although the Name of the LORD Jesus Christ wears a Crown of Exaltation and has been exalted above every name, He also uses His Crown as a Footstool for His Father.

And when all things shall be subdued unto him, **then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all** (1 Corinthians 15:28).

The Book of Revelation notes that, in Eternity, the four and twenty elders will cast their crowns down at Christ's Feet for a humility footstool, as they give Him all Glory and all Honour.

Under the Rulership or Headship of the LORD God and the LORD Jesus Christ, we must wait patiently before Him for His Exaltation since His Exaltation becomes the foundation for our next step upward in His Master Plan for our lives.

IV. Step Four in Learning How "To Be" Is Discovering the Proportion or Quantity of God's Master Plan that Fulfills His Purposive Will in Our Lives.

After Jacob had worked seven years to obtain his beloved Rachel for his wife, he was surprised to find that God's Master Plan included his first receiving the humble, lowly Leah for a wife. Leah produced six sons with Jacob, and her handmaid had two sons by him, making the initial eight of the future twelve tribes of Israel. Later, Rachel and her two handmaids produced the other four tribes that made up the Nation of Israel. God's Master Plan continually unveils His Purposive Will not only for today but for the future.

The next lesson in learning *how* "to be" or "to do" is to learn *how* according to the proportion or quantity. The proportion of a thing determines its beauty or ugliness, its usefulness or worthlessness, the life or death of it. Too much medicine can kill, while the proper portion can heal, thereby giving life.

A cook learns the truth of this principle quickly. Too little baking powder makes biscuits flat, for instance, while too much baking powder not only can cause biscuits to rise but to explode. Too much salt ruins the soup, while too little salt leaves the soup tasteless. Proportion or quantity is vital in successfully learning *how* "to be" and *how* "to do."

Another instance of this principle is seen in what makes one artist more successful than another. A lot of an artist's success depends on proportion. All artists have the same colours at their disposal, but the use of proportion will distinguish one artist's painting from another and will determine which one is successful.

Likewise, when things in our lives are adjusted harmoniously, according to God's Master Plan and Purposive Will, they become valuable, useful, and beautiful. Proper proportion creates adjustments of parts, forming them into a whole.

On the spiritual side of God's Scales, He uses the Principle of Proportion in teaching us how to be grateful for suffering in His Master Plan so that His Purposive Will can be revealed. If Jacob had never suffered the disappointment of having a lowly Leah in his life, the world never would have had a Saviour since, according to His Humanity, Jesus came from the tribe of Judah, and Judah was Leah's son.

If God did not measure out exactly what we need in all things in order to fulfill His Purposive Will and Master Plan, we would get too little or too much suffering, for instance. Unless God puts things in proportion in our lives, we can never reach our goal at the top of Jesus Christ's Spiritual Ladder. But God is faithful to measure out the proportionate amount of suffering in His Master Plan that we need in order for us to learn gratitude for His unveiled Purposive Will.

God taught David valuable lessons through the sufferings He measured out to him in His Master Plan so that, later, His Purposive Will could be unveiled in David when he became Israel's shepherd-king. David had not yet learned about God's righteous measurements of suffering in His Master Plan when he projected his groanings in Psalm Thirteen. David's moans and groans exhibited themselves when he asked the Lord the following questions:

How long wilt thou forget me, O Lord? for ever? **how long** wilt thou hide thy face from me? **How long** shall I take counsel in my soul, *having* sorrow in my heart daily? **how long** shall mine enemy be exalted over me? (Psalm 13:1,2).

David lamented over the length or the proportion of his suffering in God's Purposive Will and in fulfilling God's Master Plan for his life. His groanings were prefaced with the question "How Long?" Although Psalm Thirteen covers four special periods of David's life, in which he suffered under Saul's hand, it is also a prophetic Psalm about Israel's suffering during her four great exiles. It also carries a message to us in our times of suffering. The Psalmist began his lament with four great *how*'s.

The desire of a true spiritual man is to learn *how* to give thanks and praise to God for the proportion of suffering that He metes out to him. The degree of praise and thanksgiving from the heart reveals where a person is on Christ's Spiritual Ladder. If we fulfill the LORD's commands to us, we will give thanks in *all* things, regardless of our measure of suffering.

In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you (1 Thessalonians 5:18).

The LORD meticulously measures out our portion of suffering, sorrow, and sadness in this present, evil world. The list of man's suffering is long; for example:

- Man suffers pain to be born;
- Man suffers when he loses what he loves;
- Man suffers pain when he must endure what is obnoxious to him;

- Man suffers pain over his individuality because it separates him from other people;
- Man suffers pain when he has to endure spiritual, emotional, and physical afflictions in his body, soul, and spirit;
- Man suffers pain when he has to endure adversities;
- Man suffers pain in growing old;
- Man has to suffer the pain of dying.

In all these things, God commands us, as Christians, to give thanks! We are to give thanks because suffering, sorrow, and sadness are the rich soils in which Christ's valuable Virtue, tolerating Patience, sweet Humility, and calm Fortitude take root downward and bear fruit upward in the grateful and thankful heart. Suffering, sorrow, and sadness are the holy God's great chastening tools that separate Truth from error; the clay from grit; the gold and silver from the dross; spiritual vision from the obscure vision of the flesh; and the eternal goal of the New City from temporal, earthly goals. Suffering, sorrow, and sadness wash our eyes with painful tears until we can behold the King, the LORD Jesus Christ, as He stands revealed in all His Beauty and Splendour — first of all, as our Saviour — then, as our Heavenly Bridegroom, our Big Brother, and our Melchizedec High Priest. As we grow in Him, we become acquainted with more and more of His Person.

Suffering, sorrow, and sadness are God's diamond cutters that circumcise, from around our hearts, the hard shell of our flesh that would prevent us from receiving Christ's Light of Truth. The entrance of Christ's Light of Truth makes our hearts bright and sparkling with His Love, Life, and Light. Until we pass through God's furnace of suffering, sorrow, and sadness, we are completely unaware of the quantity of dross we have in our fleshly nature. All our painful experiences become sanctified afflictions from God's Hands of Love, which make Christ's Life and Light more brilliant and splendourous in us and in the labours and works that we do for Him.

We have every reason to be thankful and grateful in all things, and we have every need to fill our hearts with great homage to the LORD for all things, including suffering, sorrow, and sadness. Giving thanks for all conditions, both in prosperity and in adversity, is God's just due, for He means both conditions for our very best. However, before we really and truly learn this lesson of God's blessing of proportioning out what we need in the way of suffering, we ask, as David did, the following questions.

A. How Long Wilt Thou Forget Me?

In Psalm Thirteen, David poured out the suffering, sorrow, and sadness of his soul to the LORD, which is the lawful thing to do. We must pour out our rights and wrongs to the LORD. However, David wrongfully imagined that God was unkind and that He had forgotten him. In David's suffering, sorrow, and sadness, he thought God did not remember His Promises to him or His Covenant with him or His Garments of Love and Mercy that were upon him. Out of his prevailing fear, David peevishly complained against God's Omniscience, Omnipresence, and Omnipotence — His All-Knowledge, All-Presence, and All-Power. But, since God is All-Knowledgeable and is All-Present, we commit a culpable error when we accuse Him of forgetting anything about us. The reason for our suffering, sorrow, and sadness is for God to prove either the right (gratitude) in our hearts or the wrong (accusing ingratitude) in our hearts. The problem is not God's forgetting us but our ungrateful hearts' forgetting Him, both in pleasure and pain.

Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, *bless* his holy name. **Bless the LORD, O my soul,** and forget not all his benefits: (Psalm 103:1,2).

The need to praise the LORD's Name remains the same both in pleasure and pain. The benefits, awards, and proofs of God's infinite Love, Mercy, and Grace are found in the Truth that, once and for all, He has removed the guilt, judgment, and punishment for our iniquities, transgressions, and sins.

When we pray to God for our daily Bread, and He answers by sending us the Bread of suffering, sorrow, and sadness to chasten and purge our hearts and souls, then our accusing ingratitude for our daily Bread charges God with being forgetful of us. Because we are completely blind to the Truth that God has indeed answered our prayer, we fill our silent, solitary nights and our trafficking, talkative days with more thoughts and feelings of doubts and

fears concerning God's forgetfulness of us. We must remember, however, that our Owner and Master, Jesus Christ, was a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief, yet He never accused His Heavenly Father of being careless about His plight.

Remember, our fleshly hopes turn to despair when they are sent to God's chastening, purging fire of suffering, sorrow, and sadness. But in the midst of fleshly despair, the Spiritual Man within us still hopes in God's eternal Promises and Covenants. Let us not despair, then, or be downcast at the delay in the coming of salvation from our present suffering, sorrow, and sadness. Rather, let us repent of our load of fears and anxieties that burst from our lips in times of pain. Let us replace our questioning ingratitude toward God with trustful, joyful gratitude for His appointed time of salvation from our painful condition. With despair and ingratitude gone, after we have repented, hope will surge up in our hearts and overflow us with its billows and waves of trustful confidence and joyful anticipation that will wait for God's appointed salvation.

B. How Long Wilt Thou Hide Thy Face?

Here are other ways the Psalmist could have asked the same question: "How long will You remain in a secret hiding place from me? How long before You unveil the glorious Light of Your Face and dispel the shrouding cloud of darkness over me? How long before the Sun of Righteousness shall arise in my darkened circumstances?"

After we learn that the All-Knowing, All-Present God is the Head over all things, we can praise and thank Him in all pleasure and pain. However, before we learn this, our question is this: "How long will this go on? How long will You hide Your Face of Love, Life, and Light from the darkened condition of my soul and not manifest Your salvation in my situation?" Long periods of painful darkness and affliction try the soul's patience. Human patience tires very quickly in the midst of pain. Our frail, feeble, finite nature usually begets an idolatrous thought that the situation or condition will go on forever. Thus, we start a chain reaction by begetting despondency; despondency begets despair; despair begets Death; Death begets Darkness; and Darkness begets desperation, which leads to reckless, dangerous thoughts, feelings, and deeds.

The answer to this painful, dark situation is the same as the answer to the first question: We must repent for our ingratitude for God's appointed suffering and give grateful appreciation to Him for the appointed time and the length of time that it takes for His Purposive Will and Master Plan to be done in all things, both pleasurable and painful.

God was not careless about David's length of time in his suffering under King Saul's hands, regardless of how it seemed to David. Yet the common cry of human souls is that God is unmindful of their suffering. Our souls should never complain to God about the temporal suffering caused by His chastening and purging because they work in us a far greater weight of Christ's eternal Glory and a deeper, higher, longer, and broader dimension of His Love, Life, and Light.

The Merciful and Gracious LORD's Love, Life, and Light works to strengthen our eyes of faith in our spirit so that we can see His Purposive Love and Life in all things. Our faith looks beyond our present chastening with its suffering, sorrow, and sadness, unto the pleasant Fruits* that will be produced in our hearts. Faith looks about us, helping us to avoid Lucifers' pitfalls *without* and Leviathan's snares *within*. Faith fills our souls with the refreshing, prophetic joy of salvation. Faith enlightens the eyes of our understanding in our *lover* hearts,** thus reviving our drooping spirits. Faith scatters the melancholy clouds that would shroud our hearts with Leviathan's Hate, Death, and Darkness. When we see Christ's Fruitfulness that is produced in suffering, sorrow, and sadness, we discover the LORD's great storehouse of Love, with His eternal, precious Treasures of Truth.

C. How Long Shall I Take Counsel in My Soul?

How long, David wondered, would he have to suffer in his soul, plotting and planning methods of escape from King Saul? The weight of horrifying anxieties was crushing David's soul and causing him long sleepless nights and weary days. David spent this particular period in his life trying to escape Saul's murderous hands from *without*, while he tried to escape the despair and melancholy that lurked *within* his own heart and spirit. The enemies *within* and *without* were casting their gloomy, deathly shadows over David's spirit and soul, which left him feeling that God had forsaken him. In spite of the fact that, in the inward circumstances of his life, David was a fugitive, fleeing from Saul, yet within his *heart*, he fled to the LORD's refuge and understanding.

Although David was in darkness as to how long his suffering, sorrow, and sadness would continue and as to how long he must counsel with his own soul over the daily sorrow in his heart, still he trusted in the LORD's

Lovingkindness and rested in His omnipotent Salvation in the midst of his most intense gloom and deadliest depression.

Finally, David purposed to sing praises and thanks unto the LORD while he was waiting for His salvation. On one side of the scales, David's soul cried out in pain about how long he would have to devise plans of how to survive under Saul's destructive oppression and persecution. However, on the other side of the scales, David grew in his Spiritual Stature, for, during this time, he wrote seventy-four Psalms that have been left for people, now, and in all the past millenniums, to read and to learn from them how to repent, to praise, and to thank the blessed LORD in the midst of both pleasant and painful conditions. David's cry was this: "How long must I suffer under the crushing weight of anxieties, tormenting fears, sleepless nights, and weary days, as I try to learn how to survive under Lucifer's pressure from *without* and Leviathan's pressure from *within*?"

D. How Long Shall My Enemy Be Exalted Over Me?

How long was David to suffer being trodden underfoot and oppressed in bondage under Saul's cruel heel, while Saul was exalted in fame, power, and glory? David, as the future King of Israel, and armed with only the LORD's sacred oil and Goliath's sword, was forced to flee for his life. He was forced to seek a home among the Philistines, in the cave of Adullam, in the wildernesses and mountains, where he roamed and rambled, with no certain dwelling place.

While David was cast out and cast down, Saul, in his exaltation, seemingly continued to triumph over David. Through it all, by his magnanimous refusal to lay his hands on Saul, the LORD's anointed, David proved the spiritual kingly qualities that lay within his heart and soul. David endured Saul's vicious persecutions until God appointed a time of deliverance, although, at this particular time, he cried out to God about how long his suffering would continue.

In His great Mercy, *El Shadday*, the Almighty God, measured out, according to His Master Plan and Purposive Will, the exact portion of suffering, sorrow, and sadness that David needed to chasten, to purge, and to prepare him to be the future victorious, shepherd-king over Israel. God adjusted each part of David's suffering according to the harmony of His whole Master Plan for him, as He prepared David to be the shepherd and king over Israel.

The greater the suffering that God has for us in His Purposive Will, the greater the exaltation He has for us in His Master Plan; they are in complete harmonious balance. This is a vital lesson for us to learn in the natural realm, regardless of the vocation we choose to pursue. For example, if a person chooses to become a doctor, he cannot choose the exact proportion of sacrifice and suffering that he must endure in pursuing his studies and work, if he is to accomplish his goal of becoming a doctor. His kind of medical degree will decide the depth and height of the sacrificial suffering that he must make in order to achieve his goal.

Likewise, if we choose to climb up the Ladder of Christ Jesus' Spiritual Stature, we cannot scorn, bypass, nor cast aside the fourth step up the ladder, which is learning *how* to accept the exact proportion or quantity of sacrifice and suffering that the LORD God, as our Owner and Master, appoints to us. God's Purposive Will and Master Plan are always perfectly and divinely congruent. As finite creatures, we must understand that Almighty God, *El Shadday*, is the Owner and Master, and that He is the One (and the only One) to judge when our sacrifice and suffering are sufficiently balanced to the proportion of our spiritual success in His Master Plan. Only when our sacrifice and sufferings are completely balanced on any spiritual step and only when they have become a harmonious part of God's whole Master Plan are we permitted to continue onward and upward on the Ladder of Christ Jesus' Spiritual Stature.

V. Step Five in Learning How "To Be" Is Discovering in What State or Condition We Must Be in Order to Accomplish Our Goal.

We always must remember that the state and condition of God's Master Plan is full of Love; that it is eternal; that it is infinite; and that it is immutable.

God is Love, and His Purposive Will and Master Plan are formed out of His Love.

He that loveth not knoweth not God; for **God is love** (1 John 4:8).

God's Love is a true witness of His holy, divine Nature that is present in His Purposive Will and Master Plan.

Since God is Love, all His Will and Works are conceived and begotten out of His Love. We find this Love, Life, and Light in Jesus Christ for ourselves.

God is also eternal, so His Purposive Will and Master Plan are eternal.

The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath *are* the everlasting arms: and he shall thrust out the enemy from before thee; and shall say, Destroy *them* (Deuteronomy 33:27).

Because God is eternal, then from the past and on into all the future Eternities, with His everlasting Arms of Love, He bears up the world and everything in the world, including us. The diversified needs of earthly matters require an infinite variety of arms to support their existence, which only the LORD has the ability to accomplish with His All-Present, All-Knowing, and All-powerful Arms.

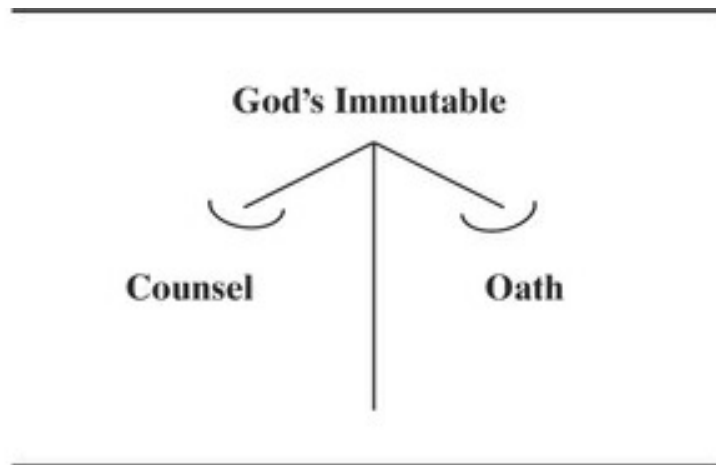
God is infinite in His Understanding.

Great is our Lord, and of great power: **his understanding is infinite** (Psalm 147:5).

God's Understanding of His Purposive Will and Master Plan, as well as our place in His Purpose and Plan, cannot be calculated nor confined to a specific number of things or ways in which His Understanding can function because His Understanding encompasses All-Knowledge of all things. His Infinity discerns our every need and supplies our every need, according to His Purpose and Plan. God is immutable, never changing nor varying in His Purpose and Plan to make His holy Name known.

Wherein **God**, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of promise **the immutability of his counsel**, confirmed *it* by an oath: That by two immutable things, in which *it was* impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us: (Hebrews 6:17,18).

All of God's Promises are founded on His Oath from the immutable Counsel within His own Purposive Will from *keh-dem* Eternity, where He confirmed His immutable Counsel by His own Oath to Himself. There are two things that we can safely and utterly depend upon: God's immutable Counsel and His Oath that make it impossible for Him to lie.



Because the state and condition of God's Purpose and Plan is immutable, we never need to fear Lucifer's and other creatures' lies that come to us from without, nor do we need ever to fear Leviathan's lies that come from within our hearts.

We must know the state, condition, or what Jesus Christ's Strength is if we are to be successful in reaching our goal at the top of the Spiritual Ladder in His Spiritual Stature. As believers, if we are to reach the top of His Spiritual Stature, the Head-realm of the Cross, as pictured by the Ark of the Covenant in the Mosaic Tabernacle, we must become acquainted with Christ Jesus' Strength at the Foot of the Cross, as pictured by the Brazen Altar in the Mosaic Tabernacle. As we look at our finite weakness, we ask: "How can I reach the top?" But when we look at Christ's divine Strength, we say: "How can I miss the top?" For God's Word says, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Philippians 4:13).

By laying hold of Christ's Strength, we can be strong to overcome our discouragement and be content, whether we are abased or whether we abound. We can be strong, by the Power of Christ's Might, to engage in the spiritual warfare that is necessary when we encounter opposition from the Devil and our flesh. We can be filled with Christ's Grace or Gratitude and offer praise and thanksgiving in both pleasure and pain, when we have His Strength that made Him grateful for the Father's Purpose and Plan that reached from Eternity to the Cross. By Christ's Riches and Glory, He strengthens us from within, in our Spiritual Man.

In addition to learning how "to be," by being obedient to give thanks in all conditions, we also must learn how "to do" so that we maintain righteous moral characteristics and practice righteous deeds in the external circumstances of our lives. The LORD Jesus Christ is our perfect example. Before Jesus displayed His Strength in external circumstances, He displayed His internal, moral Character before His Father and fallen Lucifer on the Mount of Temptation.

By asking Jesus to turn the stones to bread; to jump from the pinnacle of the Temple; and to take the kingdoms of this world and bow down to him, Lucifer, in the form of Satan, tried to tempt Jesus to display His Strength, outwardly, before He had displayed the Strength of His inward moral Character. However, the Strength of Jesus' moral Character chose to feed on the Bread of God's Word. Neither did He choose to tempt the LORD His God, nor to worship Lucifer as the LORD His God.

After Jesus had displayed His inward, moral Character, He went, by faith in the Power of the Holy Ghost, to display His Strength in external circumstances.

Once, when Jesus and His Disciples had departed into a desert place to rest for awhile, they were met by a great multitude of people. When Jesus saw the many people, He was moved with compassion because He saw them as sheep without a shepherd, so He immediately began to teach them many things and to heal them.

As He surveyed the multitude's hungry spiritual condition and their external, poverty-stricken condition, He knew that He would have to go to His Father and learn *how* the Father would choose to meet their needs. Christ Jesus never spoke nor worked apart from what He heard His Father saying and what He saw Him doing.

Then answered **Jesus and said unto them**, Verily, verily, I say unto you, **The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do:** for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise (John 5:19).

He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and **the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me** (John 14:24).

When the day was far spent, His Disciples besought Jesus to send the people away hungry, but Jesus commanded them "Give ye them to eat."

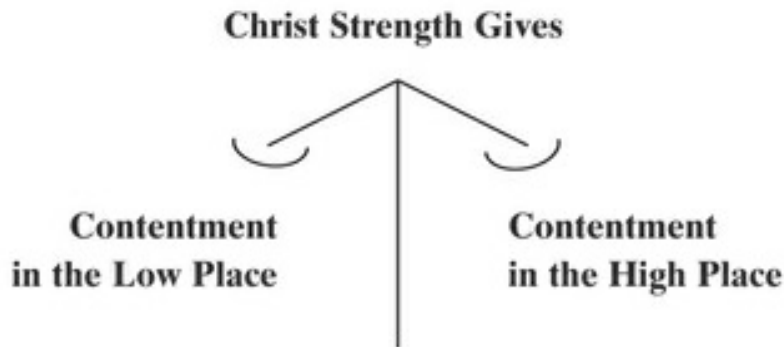
After Jesus had learned His Father's Purpose and Plan for the multitude, He inquired about how much natural food was available.

He saith unto them, How many loaves have ye? go and see. And **when they knew, they say, Five, and two fishes** (Mark 6:38).

On this occasion, Christ commanded His Disciples to investigate the circumstances and report on what provisions they could find so that He could see *how* to accomplish feeding the multitude, according to His Father's Purpose and Plan. Jesus wished to see if His Disciples would be submissive to His command to "Give ye them to eat." He wanted them to trust in His divine Power and be willing to suffer hunger so that others might be satisfied. After Jesus had received His Disciples' report on the people's condition of poverty, and the fact that the Disciples had only five loaves of bread and two fishes for Jesus and themselves, He took the circumstances and condition to His Father for His All-Knowing, All-Presence, and All-Powerful Blessing. So Jesus blessed His Father in Heaven, and when He did, His Heavenly Father blessed the meager loaves and fishes, increasing them so that the great multitude of over 5,000 people, as well as Jesus and His Disciples, were amply fed. The Father's blessing left the Disciples twelve baskets of bread and fish as a reward for their giving to satisfy others.

In order to gain a true picture in any situation, we must look at both the natural side and the spiritual side of the Scales.

The poverty of the Disciples and the multitude was great enough for Jesus and His Father to perform a miracle for them. The Disciples looked into the natural circumstances and found five loaves and two fishes, which the Disciples, in their diseased perception of reality, declared totally insufficient for satisfying the multitude's hunger. They failed to consider Christ's internal, divine, moral Strength and His outward, divine Strength to perform a miracle. At that point, the Disciples were unlearned about Christ's being the LORD, the Almighty God, the Creator, and His being



VI. Step Six in Learning How “To Be” Is Discovering What Name or Title to Work Through in Accomplishing Our Goal.

Among the lessons in learning *how* “to be” and *how* “to do,” none is more important than learning what Name we are to use in order “to be” and “to do” His Work.

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

There is no name other than the Name of Jesus whereby sinful souls must be saved from the *penalty* of Hell and Death. We can destroy ourselves, but we cannot save ourselves. God has freely given the Name of Jesus so that we can be freely saved from the penalty of sin, which is Hell and Death, and be reconciled to Him. We also must be saved from our *sins*.

And she shall bring forth a son, and **thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins** (Matthew 1:21).

Jesus’ Name saves His people from their sins! By Jesus’ Death, He saves penitent souls from the guilt and penalty of sin. By Jesus’ Resurrected Life, He saves His people from their sins. Jesus purchased His people with His own precious Blood, and He gives them liberty — not *to* sin — but liberty *from* sin. So, while we must be saved from the *penalty* of sin, we must also be saved from the *power* of sin in our wills.

Jesus’ Name not only saves us from Hell, Death, and our sins, but Jesus promised His Disciples that they should *do great works* in His Name.

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

After Jesus had risen from the dead and had ascended back to His Father, Peter and John experienced the miracle-working Power of Jesus’ Name in their ministry.

Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: **In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.... And he leaping up stood, and walked,** and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God (Acts 3:6,8)

Peter spoke, commanding the lame man to rise up and walk in Jesus’ Name, and the lame man sprang up, walking, leaping, and praising God. Peter and John learned *how* “to be” and *how* “to do” truly successful works. The works they did brought all the Glory and Honour to God. The healed man did not praise Peter and John, he praised God Who had sent His Only Begotten Son with such a powerful Name.

Then, too, Philip introduced the Name of Jesus to the Ethiopian eunuch who desired to understand what he was reading in the Scriptures. Without a teacher, the Ethiopian eunuch did not know *how to* understand what he was reading.

And he said, **How can I, except some man should guide me?** And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him (Acts 8:31).

Because of the eunuch's desire for God, the LORD sent Philip the Evangelist into the desert to find him so that the eunuch could learn about the Name of Jesus Christ. Philip found the eunuch, who was reading the fifty-third chapter of Isaiah as he sat in his chariot. When Philip asked him if he understood what he was reading, the eunuch answered him with another question: "*How can I, except some man should guide me?*" Philip showed him the Name of the LORD Jesus Christ, and God saved the eunuch for Jesus' Name's sake. Immediately, Philip baptized him in the Name of the LORD Jesus Christ.

In learning *how* "to be" and *how* "to do," it is very important to understand that, from the *beginning* of one's climb up God's Spiritual Ladder, Jesus Christ works *for His Holy Name's Sake*. God saves sinners, not because they have a need, but for Jesus' Name's sake. The LORD Jesus Christ's children climb the Ladder of His Spiritual Stature when they desire to do so, in spite of their weaknesses and failures, not because they deserve to climb, but for the sake of Jesus' Name.

When, for instance, God called Israel to be His chosen people, He took into account and consideration her many shortcomings; still, He called her for His Name's sake. Therefore, despite her faults and failures, He will continue working with her, for His Name's sake, until she becomes the Holy Nation that He has chosen her to become.

Nevertheless he saved them for his name's sake, that he might make his mighty power to be known (Psalm 106:8).

God wrought salvation and deliverance for Israel, not because of her merits nor because the people deserved it nor because they needed it, but only for His Name's sake.

Even to this very day, God continues to bless and lead people up His Spiritual Ladder of Jesus Christ's Stature, not because they deserve it nor because of their need, but for His Holy Name's sake and to demonstrate His Almighty Power.

The LORD restores the sick soul, not because it is sick, but to lead it in paths of righteousness for His Name's sake.

He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake (Psalm 23:3).

The LORD restores the soul and leads it so that He may make His Holy Name known unto that soul.

All of God's Ways are for the purpose of making provision for man's physical well-being and for his moral, spiritual welfare so that He can make His Name known to man. The LORD gives man all His blessings from above and from below to prove that the Mercy and Goodness of His Holy Name circumvent all aspects of human merit.

God leads His people into paths or circles of righteousness, not because they deserve to be led, but for His Holy Name's sake. Many times, on their way to their goal, God's children have climbed as far as step six on Jesus' Spiritual Ladder; however, at this point, if they allow spiritual pride to arise and fill their hearts with a diseased perception of reality, they begin to believe that God owes it to them — for *their* sake — to work with His omnipotent Power on their behalf. They think either their needs or their desires deserve a blessing from God because they have laboured so diligently to climb His Spiritual Ladder. But God teaches us *how* "to be" and *how* "to do" only for His great Name's sake and for *no other reason*.

The LORD is the same yesterday, today, and forever! When we first come to Jesus Christ, He saves us for His Name's sake. He hears our sinner's prayer, not because of our need as a sinner, but He hears us because of the Name of the LORD Jesus Christ, His Only Begotten Son, Who holds the titles of Saviour and Mediator.

For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved (Romans 10:13).

Calling on the LORD is simply an act of prayer that God hears for His Name's sake.

This Principle also works for us as believers, just as it did for us as sinners. On step six, we must learn that God hears us, not because of our name or title but because of *His* Name and Title of Jesus Christ and Saviour.

We cannot scorn, bypass, nor cast aside step six and continue on our journey to the top of Christ's Spiritual Ladder. Step six is for helping us learn *how* "to be" humble in the midst of exaltation and to call on the Name of the LORD, as we ask Him to save us from spiritual pride. We must remember, always, that we all are sinners saved by Grace. We are always to keep learning *how* "to do" deeds of humility and to work in humble gratitude because we are sinners saved by Grace.

VII. Step Seven in Learning How “To Be” Is Discovering What Dear Price Jesus Paid for Us to Reach Our Goal.

This seventh step is of vital importance in our spiritual education and moral development. If we are to keep moving onward and upward in our spiritual journey toward the top of Christ’s Spiritual Ladder, we must learn about the *dear price* that Jesus Christ paid for us on the Cross.

For God’s sake, Jesus Christ, with His own precious Blood, purchased our bodies, souls, and spirits on the Cross.

For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s (I Corinthians 6:20).

Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men (I Corinthians 7:23).

The liquid, fluid Life of Christ’s Blood was extracted from His Body by the most cruel method known to sinful man — crucifixion. Jesus was stripped and fastened to a post, then scourged with a whip made of leather strips, which were armed with bits of metal. In Jesus’ scourging, He suffered forty stripes. The whip’s metal tips chewed out the flesh of His back so that His precious lungs could be seen moving as He inhaled each breath. He was then compelled to place His Cross on the bleeding, broken flesh of His Back and to carry it to Calvary’s Hill, the place of His execution. When He could walk no further up the hill, He fell under the weight of the wood of His Cross. Then, they took Simon, the Cyrene, and made him carry Jesus’ Cross the rest of the way. At Calvary, they used iron spikes to nail His precious Hands and Feet to the extremities of the Cross. Thus, His Hands and Feet were pierced with cruel nails.

After nailing Him to the Cross, Jesus’ executioners raised up the Cross and slid it into a prepared, gaping hole on Calvary’s Hill. The sound of its dull thud echoed as the Cross entered the hole. As Jesus lunged forward, His precious Body was thrust down, which put the weight of His Body on just the nails in His Hands and Feet.

The extension of Jesus’ limbs, after such a severe a scourging, made His slightest movement create still greater suffering. The piercing of His Hands and Feet, the parts of the body most susceptible to acute, agonizing pain; His wounded, lacerated flesh, exposed to the action of the sun and air, hour after hour; His loss of Blood; and His endurance of the indignity and contempt heaped on him were the most bitter, malicious, and unsparing circumstances known to man. It was beyond what any human mind can conceive. What unspeakable shame and unparalleled suffering He endured to pay the indescribable, dear price for the salvation of mankind. How do we, as believers, dare to think that we may have paid some dear price to serve Him!

We must learn and always remember that Jesus has paid a much dearer price for us than we will ever realize. Man has an obligation to be a servant for Christ since He paid such a dear price for us all so that we may be subjects in His Kingdom of Love, Life, and Light.

The dear price Jesus paid is another essential learning step on the Ladder to Spiritual Success. We will be further along on our way to the top, once we learn more about the dear price that Jesus paid for us. This seventh step is for the exposure of our spiritual pride in our human heart that is always imagining and declaring what a dear price we have paid through our sacrifices and sufferings in order to climb the LORD’s Ladder in spiritual growth and in our service for the LORD.

This class of spiritual pride always accuses and complains and is sad and unhappy because it feels that it never is rewarded enough, exalted enough, nor blessed enough for its great sacrifice and suffering for Christ and His Kingdom. However, when we begin to learn from the LORD God, our Owner and Master, *how* “to be” grateful for the dear price that Jesus, His Only Begotten Son, has paid in sacrifice and suffering for us, in exchange for our souls, we are filled with feelings of unworthiness and great gratitude and realize that whatever rewards, exaltations, and blessing we receive are far more than we deserve.

Although we deserve Hell and Death, we have been saved and translated into Christ’s Kingdom of Love, Life, and Light, so anything we receive in His Kingdom (pleasure and pain) is a bonus and is more than we deserve. When we behold the worth, value, and excellence of Christ’s priceless Blood, He becomes the most valuable and precious Treasure in our lives, both now and forevermore.

For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, **how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;** (I Corinthians 15:3).

Behold *how* Christ died for our sins. On the Cross, He poured out His Body’s Blood-Life, and His Soul-Life, then

Jesus' Soul continued on as a sacrifice in Hell and Death. One can give no more than his life *before* Death, *during* Death, and *after* Death. We must learn *how* "to be" a living sacrifice *before* Death, in this life, and *after* Death, in the next world. If we do not learn *how* "to be" and *how* "to do" in this life, *before* Death, we will not know how *after* Death.

* For further studies on faith and how it is produced from the roots of believing and the branches of trust, read B. R. Hicks, [*Tree of Confidence*](#) (Jeffersonville, Indiana: Christ Gospel Churches Int'l., Inc., 1977).

** The subject of man's minds is covered in the following Sermon Study by B.R. Hicks – [*The Sixteen Minds of Man*](#); (Jeffersonville, IN: Christ Gospel Churches Int'l., Inc., 1996).

Chapter Two

The Second Requisite For Spiritual Success Is Choosing To Allow Christ To Implement The *How's* We Have Learned

After we have learned certain skills and obtained particular degrees of Theoretical Knowledge of God's Word, we have the privilege of choosing to implement them in our everyday lives. This means that the Theoretical Knowledge we have learned by studying God's Word must be joined to Empirical Knowledge or to practical experience; in other words, we must use what we learn for it to become part of us. If we do not experience what we have learned, our heads and hearts will become filled with just "learning lumber". The depth of our choice for Experiential Knowledge depends on whether we really love the Theoretical Truth we have learned and whether the Truth has been satisfying to us.

The LORD teaches us how to learn about the Spiritual Stature of His Son, Jesus Christ. Then, He gives us the privilege of choosing to allow Christ to implement it in our works for the purpose of making the LORD's Name known. Christ Jesus can only teach us the "how to" in joining His Theoretical Knowledge to His Empirical Knowledge in our practical experiences in our daily lives. This eternal union of the two depends on whether we have loved Christ's Theories of Truth that He has given us and whether we have found satisfaction in learning about Christ. It is one thing to know *about* Christ Jesus versus knowing Him and His Love *in* our daily experiences, which causes us to love and forgive all day long, as He does.

Often, in the natural realm, people study to learn many things; later, they discover that they neither like what they have learned, nor do they find pleasurable satisfaction in what they have learned. Left with no desire nor determination to use the theoretical knowledge they have learned, they esteem what they have learned too inferior to be a useful part of their lives.

Unfortunately, this also is true of believers. I have seen people study and learn Christ's Theoretical Principles of Truth about His Spiritual Stature; then, I have seen these same people refuse to learn Christ Jesus' Love, Humility, and submissive Truths in their hearts and in their daily lives. Although they may have spent a lot of time, very carefully and discriminately collecting Christ's Truth about His Love, Humility, and Forgiveness, they kept their Knowledge in their heads and notebooks. Obviously they did not want the reality of these Truths to control their lives.

A classic illustration of this Principle was the rich young ruler who ran to Jesus and knelt before Him to ask Him how to inherit Eternal Life. He had heard about Jesus in theory, so he bowed to Him as a good Master. At first, he seemed like a good candidate for accepting Christ's Love and Submissiveness to God the Father. However, when he heard the Truth that Christ presented him for his daily experience (which was giving up the idol of his riches), he refused the Truth and went away sorrowful.

I have seen other precious souls diligently study the Treasures of Truth in the Spiritual Stature of Christ and, with a loving, dauntless spirit, make solid, brave choices in their wills for Christ to fulfill these Theoretical Truths in their hearts and in their lives. Their choice, then, made these Theories of Truth in God's Word a reality in their daily lives because they loved the Truth and were satisfied with the Truth that they had found in Christ Jesus.

I have watched some believers stand steadfast and true to their choices as Christ led them on a rough, rocky road (the way to the Cross), as He made His loving Name known in their lives. Their love for the Truth and their satisfaction with the Truth prevented them from altering or changing their choice, even though they suffered crucifixion of their flesh. Christ joins His Theoretical Truth to His Experiential Truth so that we can see the practical usefulness of it in our lives.

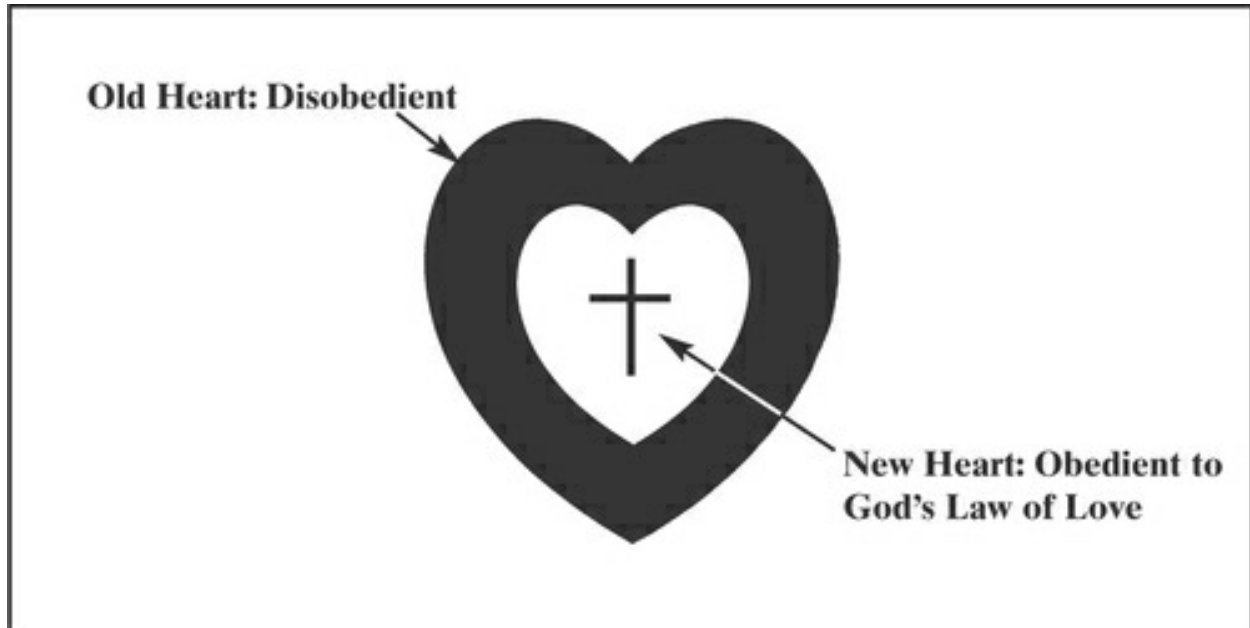
Unless we have this unified Truth of Christ's righteous Obedience in our hearts and wills, we will not be a *doer* of righteous deeds in behalf of our brethren and neighbours. When we serve others in Christ's Love, we are being a *doer* of the Word. If we choose to become a *doer* of the Word of God, Jesus, the Resurrected Christ, will take His Theoretical Stature of Truth and join it to His Experiential Truth that we have learned so that we can be a *doer* of the Law of Love. After we have learned *how* "to be" like Christ, we, too, must choose to fulfill the Law of Love in

righteous deeds, by worshipping the LORD and serving our neighbour. Thus, we demonstrate that we love the LORD our God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength and love our neighbour as ourself (Mark 12:30,31).

The Apostle Paul confirmed this Spiritual Principle in the letter he wrote to the saints at Rome.

That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit (Romans 8:4).

The harmless, undefiled and holy Christ, Who appeared in the likeness of man's sinful flesh, condemned sin in the flesh by His Death on the Cross. Thus, on the Cross, Jesus Christ broke the damning, domineering power of sin. On the Cross, Jesus Christ disarmed Death and destroyed the Devil's power of Death by His victorious condemnation of sin. Furthermore, the Resurrected, Living Christ comes into the penitent heart and creates a New Heart so that He can dwell in that Heart.



As He overtakes the old heart, the victorious Christ's triumphs over all unChristlike disobedience from within the penitent heart.

Many people learn Spiritual Truths, yet they never *choose* to allow the LORD Jesus Christ to be the victorious Conqueror over their sinful disobedience in their hearts and lives. For example, Esau, Jacob's firstborn, received the spiritual birthright of the family, which, at his father's death, would make him a prophet, king, and priest. Esau also was taught the Eternal Truth about the blessing, the privilege, and the power of his birthright. This was evidenced by his sorrow over the loss of his blessing after he had sold the birthright to Jacob for a mess of red pottage. The Scriptures describe his regret: "[H]e cried with a great and exceeding bitter cry" (Genesis 27:34).

Esau refused to allow God to fill his heart with the Truth of the birthright's eternal value. Instead, he chose to follow his sensual, selfwilled, untamed nature, even to the point of sacrificing the Eternal Truth and value of his birthright. His recklessness and lawlessness concerning his spiritual privileges, both present and future, forced him to choose the indulgence of fleshly satisfaction, rather than his choosing to learn and appreciate the eternal value of his birthright. The impatient lust of his flesh for food and the lust of his eye for Jacob's red pottage caused him to choose to gratify his appetite at that very moment. The present and future value of the eternal birthright seemed worthless and useless to him, when what he really wanted was instant gratification of his lusts. So Esau sold his birthright to Jacob in exchange for the red pottage he had made. Esau loved the red pottage and felt more satisfied with it than with the pleasurable Truth of his birthright. Looking at something that had most of its value somewhere in the future, Esau disdained his birthright and counted it worthless. He asked, "What profit shall this birthright bring to me?" Esau despised the immutable Truth of his eternal birthright, so he sold it for a measly, temporal morsel of food.

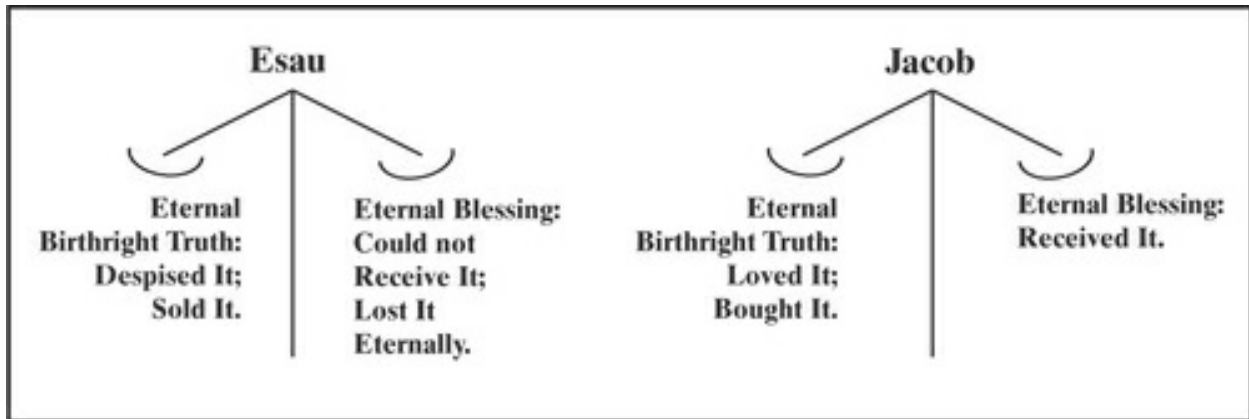
In contrast, Jacob loved and cherished the Truth and valued the eternal birthright that he had learned about from his Father Isaac and his Grandfather Abraham. Jacob willingly chose to give up his bowl of red pottage, the

momentary satisfaction of his flesh, for the spiritual pleasure of obtaining the LORD's eternal birthright in his life.

Jacob and Esau were equally versed in the Theoretical Truth concerning the birthright, yet Esau, who was Jacob's twin brother, refused to know, experientially, the value of its working in his life. He did not love the Truth he had learned, nor did he find satisfaction in that Truth. On the other hand, his twin, Jacob, loved the Truth he had learned about the LORD's birthright, and he found great satisfaction in its Truth. Wisely, Jacob chose to make any necessary sacrifice in order to obtain God's birthright in his life.

Afterward, when Esau should have inherited the blessing of the LORD's birthright, he was rejected because he was unworthy. His unworthiness was the result of his failure to choose to allow God to activate the birthright and its Truth in his life. Although Esau readily rejected the birthright, afterward, he sought the blessing of it carefully, with tears. Esau did not want the birthright itself; he wanted only its attendant blessing. In the beginning, Esau and Jacob were not taught about the *blessing* of the birthright, yet Jacob loved the birthright without any knowledge of its blessings and chose it as a priceless, precious thing. Esau hated and despised the birthright, esteeming it a worthless, useless thing.

Esau's and Jacob's choices were diametrically different, as this diagram illustrates:



When Esau learned that there was an eternal blessing attached to the birthright, he desperately wanted its blessing, even though he still disesteemed the birthright.

Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled; Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright. For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears (Hebrews 12:15-17).

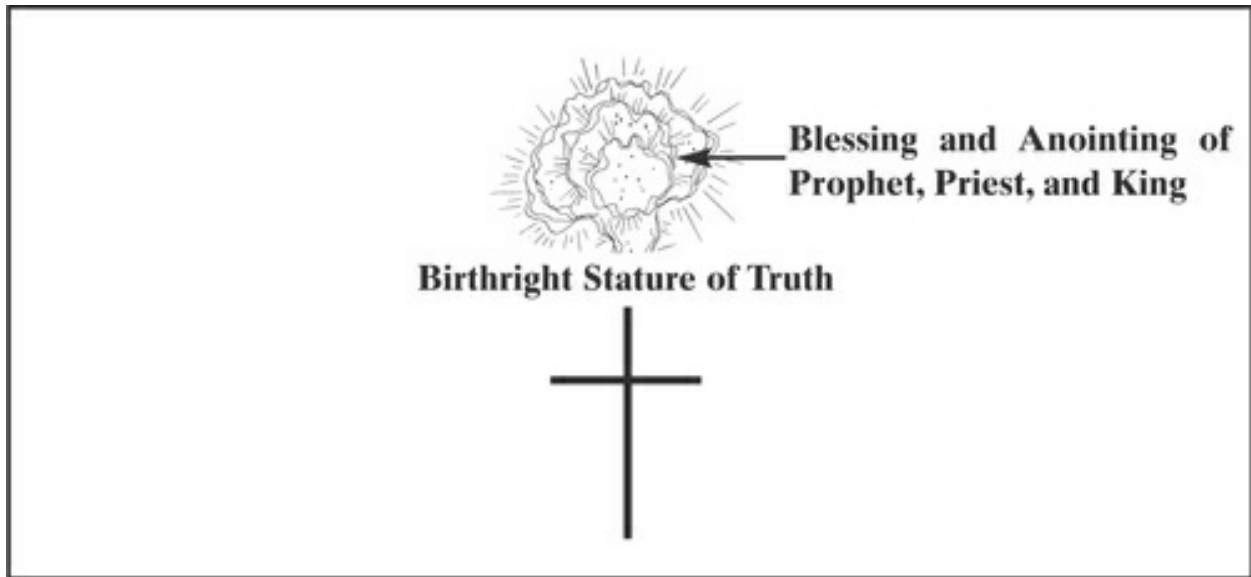
All apostasy of men occurs when they fail to be earnest in seeking God's Mercy and Grace that would be sufficient to lay the Spiritual Foundation for their Spiritual Building. Because of their lack of diligence and care that they should give to the LORD's Eternal Truth, they defect from God's Way. When this occurs, a root of bitterness springs up within their hearts that produces bitter fruits of anger, hatred, and strife toward God, oneself, and others.

Esau was a classic example of this type of character. He was the eldest son in one way; hence, he was entitled to the privilege of being the prophet, priest, and king over the family, and of having the accompanying anointing and blessing of each office. But Esau, who had not diligently sought God's Mercy and Grace, profanely despised his eternal birthright and sold it. The birthright had carried an eternal blessing, and when Esau finally became aware of the eternal blessing that he had missed by rejecting the birthright, it was too late! Too late, Esau was convicted in his heart of his sinful folly; he was condemned by his own conscience. He, at last, saw the worth of the birthright that he had scorned, but he found no place of repentance, although he diligently sought it with tears. In the end, he discovered that God's blessing was to be given to Jacob because he had the birthright.

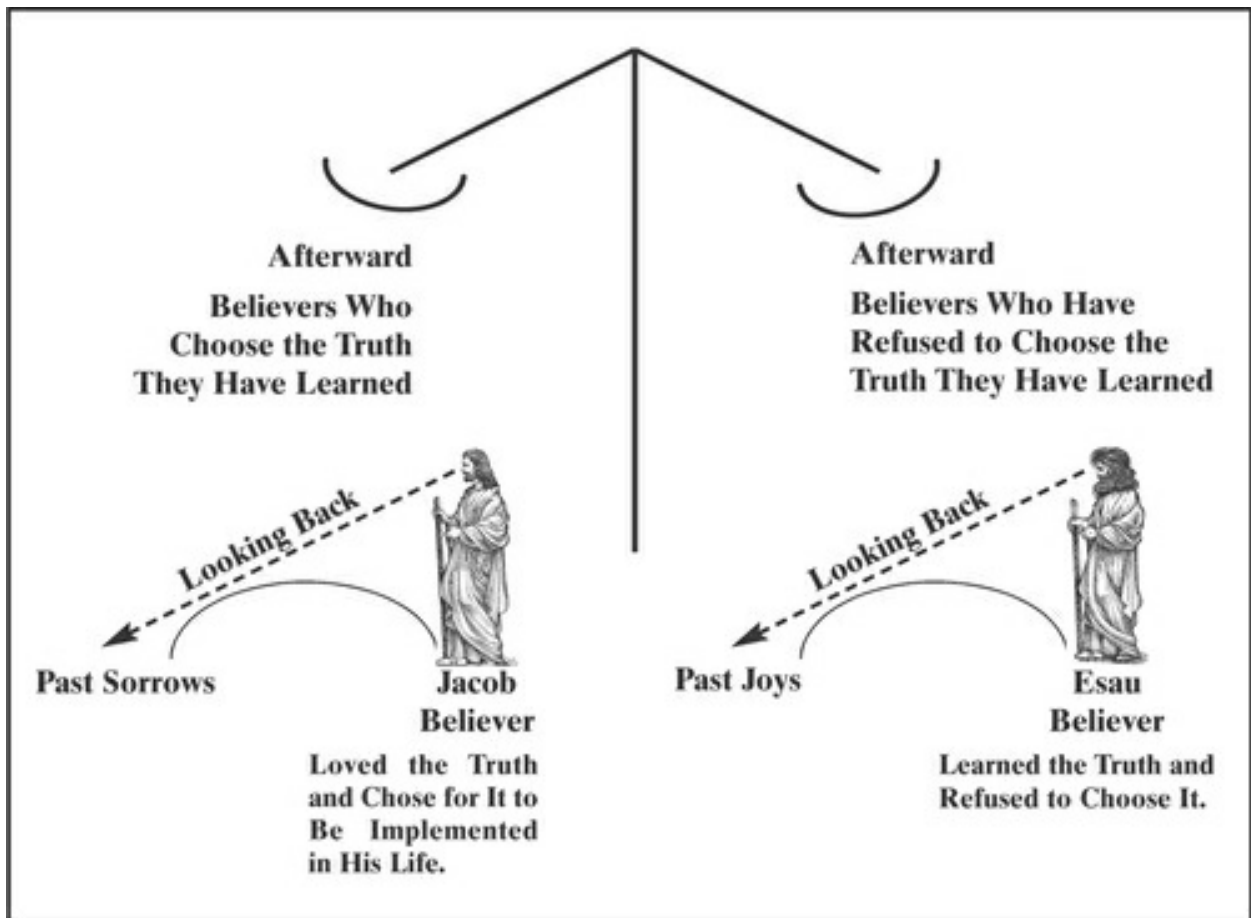
Esau willingly had made the bargain with Jacob, so God ratified and confirmed it. When Isaac would have blessed Esau, God, in His Just Judgment, refused him the privilege of reversing Esau's choice. So Esau reaped the result of his apostasy, and a bitter root of hate and murder sprang up in his heart against Jacob, whom Esau blamed for his own apostasy. Jacob had not driven Esau from God in order to usurp the birthright; rather, Jacob had loved the birthright and had had a desire to do God's Will.

Repentance never came to Esau because he waited too late to choose the eternal birthright-Truth, so he had no

foundation upon which the birthright blessing could rest.



Let us take heed to Esau's example and learn not to sell our eternal Heavenly Inheritance in the New City for a mess of red pottage — a temporal gratification of the flesh. We must remember that there also is going to be an *afterward* for every believer.

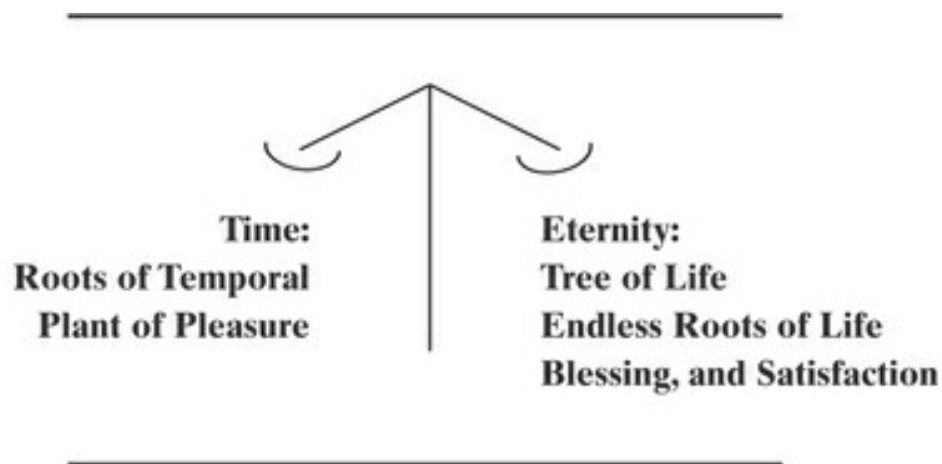


Since an *afterward* comes to *every* believer, some, like Esau, will look back and view their *past joys* of the *flesh* in a very different light. With opened eyes, they will see the undesirability of fleshly joys versus the eternal value of the spiritual birthright, along with its everlasting blessing. If we, too, choose sensual pleasures in preference to having the eternal Empirical Truth in our lives, then we, too, will weep and mourn for our loss, but it will be too late. Instead of being like Esau, let us be like the Apostle Paul who looked back on the sorrows and sufferings that he had endured for Christ's sake and counted them so unworthy to be compared to the glory of the eternal Birthright and its everlasting Blessing. If we, too, choose to follow the Crucified Christ and allow Him to implant His eternal Empirical Truth in our hearts and lives, we will view our tests, trials, torments, and temptations as nothing, when compared to the weight of Christ's eternal Glory and Truth that we have discovered in the midst of all our afflictions and troubling circumstances. Afterward, we will enjoy Christ and His Eternal Truth, forevermore, in the New Jerusalem, the New City.

Tears are not necessarily a sign of true repentance. Esau *wept not* over the *nature* of his sin, but over the penalty of his sin and his lost blessing. Clearly, Esau did not repent over the sin itself, which he evidenced by his immediate desire to murder Jacob. If he had repented for his own sin, a root of bitterness toward God and Jacob would not have sprung up. When he discovered that God had rejected him and had prevented Isaac from giving him the blessing of the birthright, he wished to kill his brother. Before he sinned by his evil choice, he could have had the eternal birthright and its everlasting blessing without tears. However, tears joined to his evil choice could not buy back the eternal birthright nor its everlasting blessing.

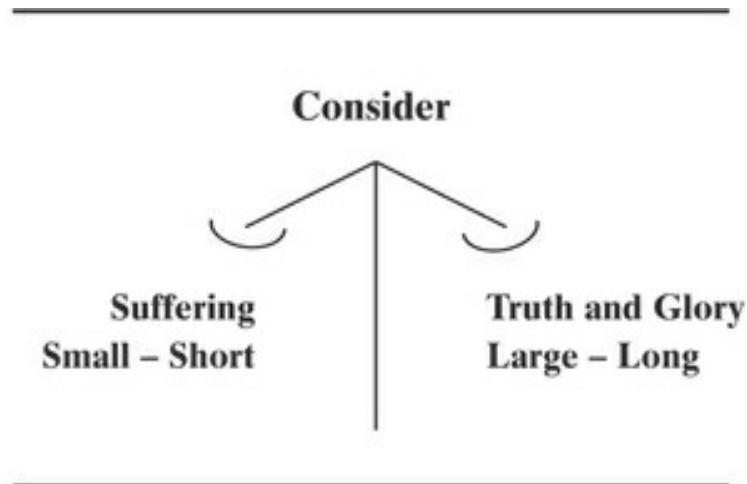
How serious and how *eternal* is our power of choice,* now, in Time, whether for good or for evil! Therefore, it behooves us to *choose* wisely to allow Christ to join His Theoretical Truth to His Empirical Truth in our hearts and wills so that we may be obedient "doers" of His Holy Law of Love. We must not allow the present lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life to govern our present choices. Otherwise, *afterward*, when our lust has been satisfied and has died, we will look back retrospectively, as Esau did, to the fleeting joys of temporal satisfaction and weep tears of sorrow over our loss of Christ's Eternal Truth, with its everlasting blessing of the New City. What a contrast there is when we look back, after we have gone on for the LORD in our spiritual journey, and see our past in the light of Eternity! Instead of repentant tears of sorrow, we view it with tears of grateful gratitude that we have been able to see the precious Footprints of the Crucified Christ through all our trials, troubles, and temptations. When we have rejected temporal satisfactions of the flesh and have replaced them with Christ's Spiritual Stature of Truth, with His everlasting Blessing, we will be eternally, joyfully, grateful. Choosing wisely, now, is so eternally important, while we have the opportunity to walk in the steps of Truth, in both the Crucified Christ and the Resurrected Christ.

The Apostle Paul compared his present sufferings for Christ with the rich rewards he received from Him and found that they are not to be compared. The present suffering is but a small bitter plant with shallow roots in the period called Time, while Christ's Stature is an Everlasting Tree of Life Whose roots are long and ceaseless throughout Eternity!



Our trials, troubles, and temptations are but for a moment in Time, while Christ's eternal weight of Glory is unceasing and everlasting. Christ's Truth is revealed to us now, but the complete blessing of His eternal Glory will not be revealed in us until the Rapture.* So let us truly and seriously consider the end of all temporal things, and

after our consideration, let us eternize or immortalize our choice for Spiritual Truths, thus solidifying and making wise our choice for the LORD's Name and its immutability. Hence, we will unceasingly make the LORD's Name known throughout all Eternity. In this way, we *eternize* our choice for the LORD's immutable Truth! For our own everlasting pleasure and satisfaction, let us serve the LORD Jesus Christ, both now and forevermore, for God has put all His Treasures of Truth in His Son.



How great is the LORD Jesus Christ Who suffered for us. He also suffers long with us through our sufferings; moreover, He rewards us for embracing His Truth and Glory and for suffering for His Name's Sake.

To enlightened eyes, the reproaches of Christ are true riches because opened eyes see the recompense of reward. When referring to Moses' choices, the writer of the Book of Hebrews said this:

Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward
(Hebrews 11:26)

Moses' respect unto Christ's recompense of reward supported him and strengthened him, thus he was able to refuse the king's court and to choose God's Suffering Way with His people. Moses forsook the way of Egypt for God's Way to Canaan's Land.

The White-Robed believers in the New Heavens will weep when they see the eternal rewards of the Treasures of Truth that the White-Linen-clad Bride laid hold of in Christ's Full Stature, with its accompanying, everlasting blessing of Glory, which they, too, could have had.

For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and **God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes** (Revelation 7:17).

Tears of repentance are unacceptable in Heaven since they are our allotted treasures for this earthly life that help us to walk in the Crucified Christ's obedient Footsteps that were left on earth for us to follow. So the gentle, tender, gracious Hand of the Shepherd, the Lamb of God, shall wipe away all tears from the eyes of those who did not grow to spiritual maturity, and He will lead them to Living Fountains of Water that will refresh their spirits and satisfy their hungry souls, according to their Spiritual Stature.

Saul is another classic example of one who learned the Theories of Truth and, yet, did not make a wise choice for God to implant the Humility Truth and the Glory of His Truth in his heart and life so that he could be a *doer* of the Law of Love.

God chose Saul and exalted him to be king of Israel, although he was from the small, humble tribe of Benjamin. In the beginning, when Saul was humble and obedient to the LORD and His Truth, God used him mightily. But, afterward, he became proudly arrogant and disobedient because of his exalted power, privilege, and prosperity.

In the beginning, God gave Saul the Spirit of Prophecy, which turned him into another man. The Prophet Samuel taught Saul the Eternal Truth of God's Word, God's Power, and God's Purposive Will and Master Plan. At that point in his life, Saul was so humble and modest that he hid himself among the baggage when he was to be anointed and exalted as Israel's king. At first, in his pious humility, he rightly breathed out Glory and Honour unto the LORD

God for Israel's deliverance from her enemies. He did not take the credit unto himself for his victories over his enemies.

Saul, as an Israelite, knew the Theories of Truth of how the LORD God governed Israel and her leaders through the *Urim* and *Thummim* in the Breastplate of His High Priest and through Samuel, His Prophet. As king of Israel, Saul had access to God's *Urim* and *Thummim* for governance and guidance. He could have chosen to walk by God's given forms of governmental Truth in his heart, his life, and on his throne, but he did not. Rather, he exchanged his spirit of modesty and humility for a spirit of proud arrogance, which gave him the false impression that he could go about under the governance and guidance of his own will instead of the LORD's Purposive Will and Master Plan. For instance, Saul impudently disobeyed Gods' command to destroy all the Amalekites and their "best" possessions. In his disobedience, Saul spared Agag, the Amalekite king, and their "best" possessions. His self-will chose what part of God's Will to obey and what part to disobey. He placed his corrupt will above God's Holy Purposive Will. In His self-complacent blindness and lack of conviction of wrong, he even lied to Samuel, God's Prophet, about what he had done.

Saul's self-will continued to display its *choice* of insubordination by his refusing to submit to the authority of God's Purposive Will. So he brazenly and boldly intruded into the holy office of the Priesthood and offered sacrifices out of his own self-will; furthermore, he strode forth to bless the Prophet Samuel.

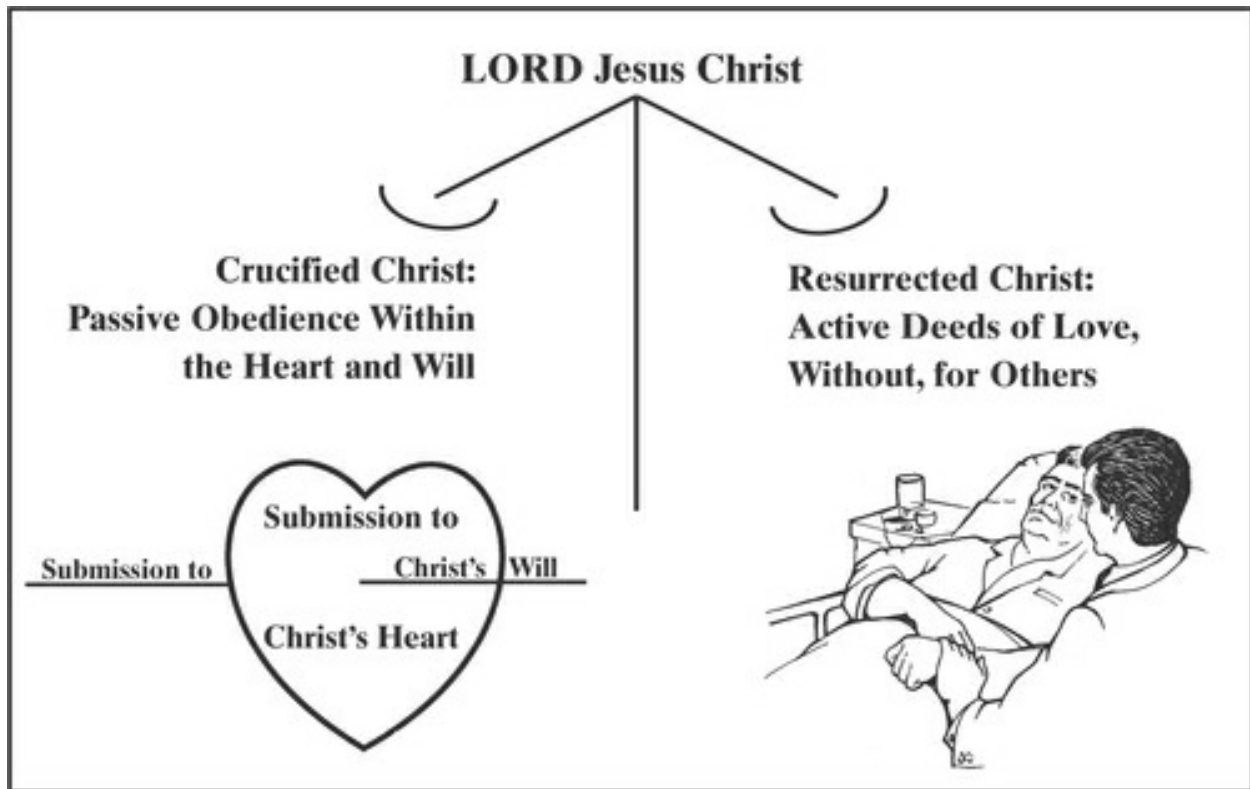
When Saul continued to refuse to follow God's Authority in his heart and in his rule and reign over Israel, God *rejected* him as Israel's king. King Saul chose to reverence man's favour more than God's *disfavour* and *displeasure*. He ultimately chose to ask counsel from the witch of Endor about his future because God refused to answer Saul by dreams, by the *Urim* and *Thummim*, or by the Prophet Samuel. Saul's gross impudence in seeking guidance from someone other than God, caused God to rend the kingdom from him and give it to David. At last, Saul died in a battle with the Philistines on Mount Gilboa, the very place in which he had sought the witch of Endor's counsel.

In the place in which one seeks the creature for guidance instead of the Creator, one dies as a disobedient, disgraceful failure. Since, in his heart and in his kingdom, King Saul refused to submit to God and His Authority, God led him to total defeat and an untimely death.

We can use our self-will to choose the pleasure of our own way *for a season*, but we must understand that the penalty and the sorrow of our wrong choice is *everlasting* Death.

How much better to choose wisely and to submit to Jesus Christ in our hearts and wills so that He can be the victorious Conqueror from within and overcome our opposing carnal nature. Then, the Eternal Truth that we have learned will produce righteous passive and active obedience to God's Will.

Before we can fulfill God's Law of Love, we must learn how to be obedient to Christ, both passively and actively. Passive obedience consists of submissive obedience to Christ's Will in our hearts and wills. Christ proved His submissive Obedience to His Father's Will through His crucifixion on the Cross. Now, through the Cross of Cavalry, His Obedience can be our obedience, for He died to give us complete victory over all the rebellion of our flesh. Our active obedience consists of deeds of love that we perform through Christ's Resurrection Power. Through our passive and active obedience, the LORD Jesus Christ's Name is made known, both *within* our hearts and *without*, in our deeds for others.



These same Spiritual Principles also work in the natural realm. When people continually fail in the world, it is because they refuse to be submissive to their superior's authority. If they continue to refuse these principles of discipline, they are forced to move from one job to another. Others find only failure in the world because they refuse to submit to the knowledge and skills they have learned that would allow their learning to become a useful, helpful tool in their everyday lives.

For example, there once was a girl whose parents spent a considerable amount of money on her musical education. The young lady learned to play the violin, beautifully and skillfully, and even performed in concerts. But as soon as she graduated from college, she laid aside her music. She did not choose to submit to the Truth that she possessed God-given talents for her to use in her life for the LORD's Glory and Honour of making His Name known. For one thing, she could have used her music as a source of comfort and consolation in the sorrowful circumstances of her own life, as well as in others' lives.

Many people take this same path. They graduate from college, yet never use, in the natural world, the skills they have learned, so they miss the opportunity to share the benefits they have been afforded.

How regretful to see people waste the time they have spent learning by refusing to use what they have learned. Obviously, they never liked what they learned nor found satisfaction in sharing it.

The LORD has given us a free choice in this present life. He will not force us to practice passive submission to Him and His Truth in our hearts and lives, nor will he force us to share with others the Truth that we have learned about Him and His Spiritual Stature. Nevertheless, if we are grateful and joyful about the Truth of Christ's Stature, we are grateful and joyful when we find a hungry heart with whom we can actively share the Truth.

The first requisite is *to learn of Him*. The second requisite is *to choose to allow Christ to implant, in our hearts and lives, the Truth that we have learned* because we love it and are satisfied with it.

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- * An additional study on eternal choices is: B.R. Hicks – [*Making Eternal Choices*](#); (Jeffersonville, IN: Christ Gospel Churches Int'l., Inc., 1996).
 - * An additional study on the Rapture is: B.R. Hicks – [*The Rapture*](#); (Jeffersonville, IN: Christ Gospel Churches Int'l., Inc., 1983).

Chapter Three

The Third Requisite For Spiritual Success Is To Wait On The LORD Jesus Christ To Put His Active Obedience Within Our Wills

God's Word reveals that two kinds of righteous Obedience proceeded forth from Jesus Christ's Divine Will: His Passive Obedience and His Active Obedience.

of Life is God's Master Plan. It is Christ's Active Obedience that takes delight (*khaw-fates*), pleasure, and love in doing His Father's Purposive Will in His Master Plan.

3. The Frozen Icy Street in the New City represents Jesus Christ's Passive Obedience or God's *raw-tson*e Purposive Will to make the LORD's Name known. So Jesus Christ's Passive Obedience is surrounded by the flowing River of Life or His Father's Master Plan.
4. The Vine Tree of Life that grows on each side of the flowing River of Life and in the midst of the Icy Street produces the twelve governmental Fruits of the Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace, Long-suffering, Gentleness, Goodness, Faith, Meekness, Temperance, Mercy, Sincerity, and Surrender (Galatians 5:22,23; 2:13; Song of Solomon 4:12-14; 6:11).

In the midst of the frozen Icy Street grew one Branch-Bough of the Tree of Life, while the other two Branch-Boughs extended on both sides of the Flowing River of Life.

In the Vision He gave to the Apostle John, the Father personified His Purposive Will for making His Name known in the form of an Icy Street. One can walk and skate on water when it is frozen. The frozen face of the Icy River covers and, hence, conceals the Nature of the Water beneath it. However, the Unbegotten Father reveals the Nature of the Flowing River of Water through His Only Begotten Son, the Lamb of God, Who is the Father's Master Plan for making His Holy Name Known.

The Father makes His Holy Name known through the Flowing River of Life and through the long Boughs, the Branches, of the Tree of Life. As John saw in his vision, on the Tree of Life in the midst of the Icy Street, and on either side of the River of Life, grew twelve kinds of Fruit. These Fruits display the sweetness of the LORD's Natures or His twelve Governmental Names, which are as follows: LORD, God, Merciful, Gracious, Longsuffering, Abundant in Goodness, Abundant in Truth, Preserver of Bountifulness, Forgiver of Iniquities, Forgiver of Transgressions, Forgiver of Sins, and Just Judge.

The complete Unified Existence between the Unbegotten Father's Icy Street and the Flowing River of Life and the Only Begotten Son's Branches from the Vine Tree of Life makes an eternal display of the Father's and Son's harmonious, infinite Oneness of Purpose in making the LORD's Name of Truth known.

As the living Father hath sent me, and **I live by the Father**: so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me (John 6:57).

As Jesus lives by His Father's frozen Purposive Will that the Father put inside of Him, so we, too, are to live by that same Purposive Will in Jesus, which is to make the LORD's Name known.

The Father's Frozen Street of His Purposive Will reveals His Passive Willingness to remain in the unknown in order to make His Name known through His Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ.

The Eternal Father is Meek, Enduring without Resistance, Submissive to His own Purpose, and Passively Obedient to His own Purpose to make His Holy Name known.

The Heavenly Father begot His Only Begotten Son with this same Passive Obedience in His Purposive Will to make His Father's Name known.

This same frozen Passive Obedience to make the LORD's Name known is what God wants to form in our wills so that we, too, can become immutable and remain changeless in our aim and intention in life to make the LORD's Name known.

First, we make the LORD's Name known within our own hearts and wills by loving, praising, and thanking God for the unspeakable Gift of His Son, the LORD Jesus Christ, and His eternal Mercy and Grace. Second, we make His Name known without, in our daily lives, by doing deeds of kindness for others.

The reason for the *Father's Living Purposive Will* being personified as a *Street of Ice* in the midst of the Flowing River of Life is because His Purposive Will is immutable, changeless, and undeviating from His *intention and aim* of making His Name known. The Father's *Master Plan* is personified as a *foursquare Flowing River* in the midst of the New City. The Flowing River of Life produces twelve Governmental Fruits that reveal *how* the LORD's Name is to be made known. It is the Father's revealed *how* in the Flowing River, with its Governmental Fruits, that brings into our wills His Active Obedience to His Master Plan.

God's Icy Purposive Will and the Flowing River of His Master Plan are the most fruitful places in all Creation. They are what made the Garden of Eden a paradise on earth, and they shall make the New City an eternal paradise in the midst of all Creation. The New City shall be the center of the LORD's infinite, divine, Love, Joy, Pleasure, and

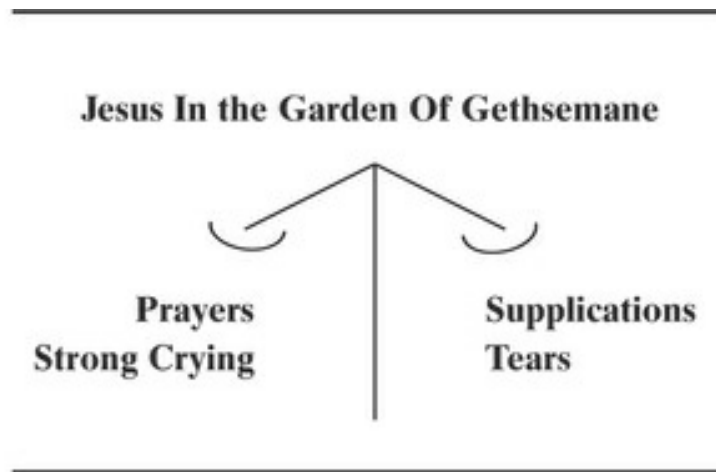
Delight in the midst of all His present Creation and His future Creation (Psalm 102:18).

The River of Life, flowing with Christ's Blood that He shed on the Cross, unveiled God's Master Plan for all Creation on the pain side of the Scales. Jesus Christ clearly demonstrated this Truth on Calvary's Cross when He cried "My God, My God, for this cause (Purpose) was I spared" (Matthew 27:46).*

Before the Cross, Jesus' Passive Obedience to His Father's Purposive Will was demonstrated clearly when He was dying in the Garden of Gethsemane. Jesus was willing to make the LORD's Name known only in the garden and never go to the Cross, if that was what His Father wished. If the Father had changed His Mind about Jesus' going to the Cross, that was what Jesus also wanted. If His Father wanted Jesus to die in the garden, that was what Jesus also wanted. The Apostle Paul confirmed Jesus' Oneness of Purpose with His Father.

Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared; (Hebrews 5:7).

When Jesus offered up prayers with strong crying and supplications with tears, He was heard by His Father.



Jesus' experience was not one of someone cringing in fear, lest He had to go the Cross or lest He had to die in the garden. (The old Hebrew reads so beautifully here.) First, Jesus prayed with strong prayings, which means that He cried for help out of quiet, rest, and acquiescence, with a sweetly pleased and willing delight to do His Heavenly Father's Will. Jesus' crying out for help was founded in His rest in His Father's Will, regardless of which way the Father chose for Jesus to take — Death on the Cross or Death in the garden.

Second, Jesus made supplication with tears of restful, quiet gratitude for being a Model or Pattern of His Father's *Torah*-Truth in Flesh. What unspeakable Love and what unparalleled humility Jesus displayed to His Father and before His Father, as He prayed in Gethsemane. The Father heard Him and spared Him from Death in the garden, so He went to the Cross, thus fulfilling His Father's Purposive Will and Master Plan.

The Father saved Jesus from Death in the garden because Jesus feared or respected and revered His Holy Father's choice. Jesus knew that He would receive the best because He left the choice of Life and Death in His Father's Hands. After the garden and after the Father had sent an Angel to strengthen His Son, He sent His Son to the Cross, where Jesus Christ's Flowing River of Blood and Water of His Master Plan streamed down from His broken Body.

The Icy Street of God's Purposive Will in our wills also assures us of the appearance of the Flowing River of His Master Plan in every situation of our lives. Christ's Master Plan, inseparable from His Purposive Will, revives active obedience in our hearts to make the LORD's Holy Name known, even in our sufferings on the minute "crosses" in our lives. When the LORD's Frozen Purposive Will lives in our wills, we also will delight, as Jesus did, to make the Father's Name of Love and Kindness known through our finite, feeble Gethsemanes and crosses.

The Unbegotten Father also begot His Wisdom Word (the Gold Street) to be the home or dwelling place for His Purposive Will (the Icy Street), and His Master Plan (the Flowing River).

In Eternity-Past, God begot His Wisdom Word, the Christ, (the Gold Street), the Way of Truth and Life.

The LORD possessed me in the beginning of his way, **before his works of old. I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the**

earth was. When *there were* no depths, I was brought forth; when *there were* no fountains abounding with water. Before the mountains were settled, before the hills **was I brought forth:** (Proverbs 8:22-25).

The Book of John confirms that in the beginning of God's Way, He begot and brought forth the Christ, His Wisdom Word, His Only Begotten Son.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God (John 1:1,2).

God's Wisdom-Word is the Way or Golden Street that provides a House for the Icy Street of the Father's Purposive Will, the *rawtsone* or Passive Obedience to make His Name known. And since the River of Delight-Life of His Master Plan or Active Obedience is One with the Icy Street (the Father's Purposive Will) and the Son's Passive Obedience; then, God's Wisdom-Word also provides a House for the Flowing River of the LORD's Truth. God's and the Son's Ways or Street of Gold and Ice are *Morally Upright and Just*.

The Psalmist declared that all of God's Ways are *Righteous and Holy*.

The LORD is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works (Psalm 145:17).

The Ways of the LORD's Word, His Gold Street, His Exalted Way, and the Icy Street of His Humility Way are always Right, Holy, and Just. These Ways are the source of His All-Power.

The Prophet Habakkuk declared that "[H]is Ways are *everlasting*" (Habakkuk 3:6). The Ways of the Father's Icy Street and the Son's Flowing River are Everlasting, Immutable, and Changeless.

According to the Apostle Paul, the Unbegotten Father's Ways are past finding out:

O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! **how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!** (Romans 11:33).

God leaves no footprints nor footsteps behind Him; He does not leave a shining path behind Him because He has hidden His secret Ways and Paths in Christ Jesus, His Wisdom-Word. It is Christ Jesus, the Wisdom-Word, Who reveals His Unbegotten Father to believers.

The reward for all faithful believers who follow Jesus Christ up the Ladder of His Spiritual Stature is the eternal New City, the New Jerusalem, where the Father will unveil the mystery of His foursquare Gold Street that contains the Icy Street of His Purposive Will (Passive Obedience) and the Flowing River of His Master Plan (Active Obedience). Christ's eternal, glorified Bride will be richly rewarded for all Christ's Jesus' Passive and Active Obedience that she has laid hold of in her earthly journey.

As Christ's Bride drinks freely of the Flowing River of the Father's and Son's Master Plan, she will understand how to minister to the souls and spirits in the New Heavens, the New Earth, and in the Lake of Fire, until every knee bows and every tongue confesses that Jesus is LORD (Master), to the Glory of God the Father.

That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth; **And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father** (Philippians 2:10-11).

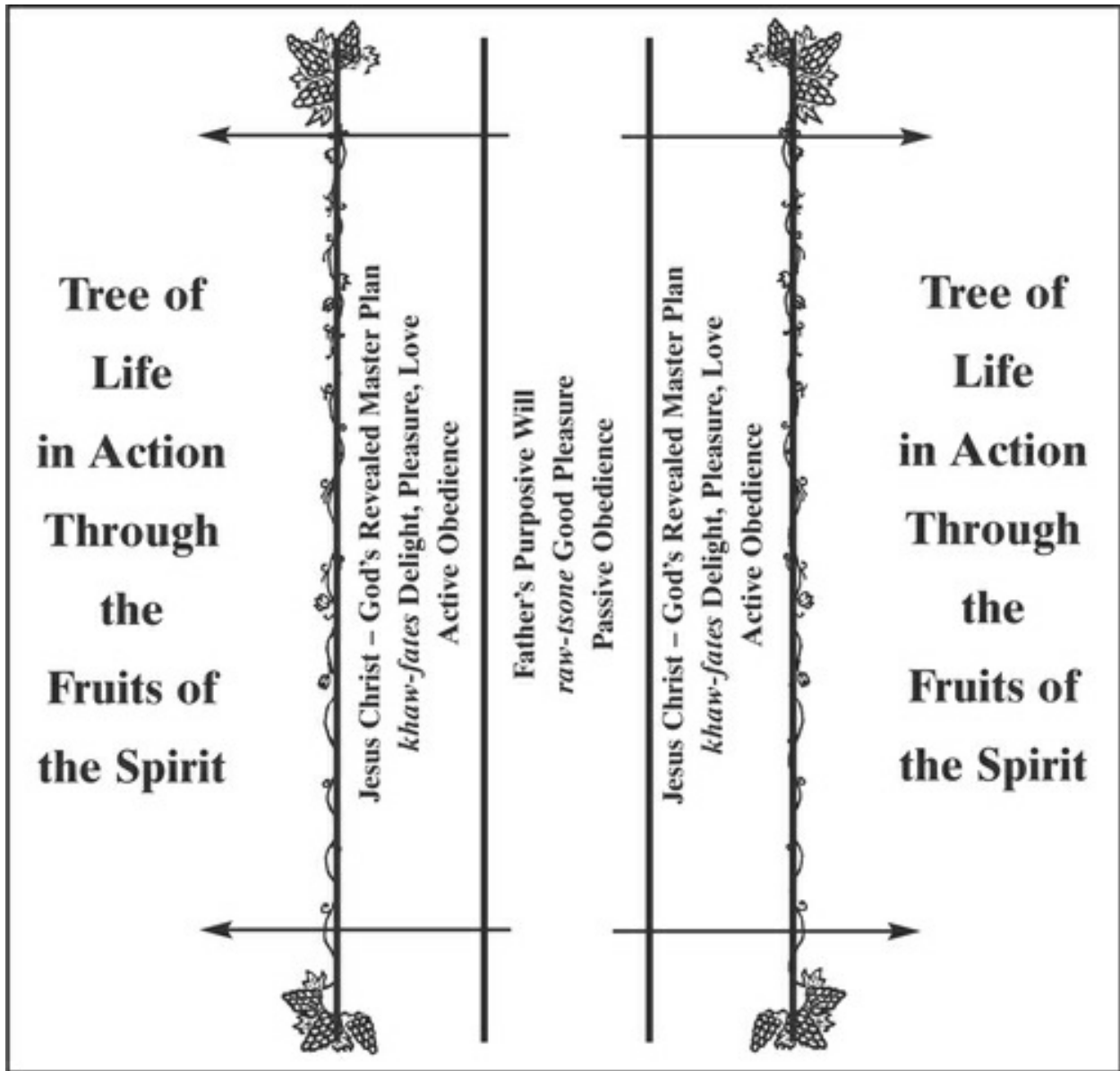
How infinitely great is the LORD's Purposive Will and Master Plan in Christ Jesus!

The LORD Jesus Christ's righteous Passive Obedience in His Purposive Will consists of a unified aim and intent to make the LORD's Name known, and His righteous Active Obedience is a delightful willingness to obey the LORD God's Good Pleasure in His Master Plan to make His Name known through His Works. Christ's Passive and Active Obedience is eternally joined to the Passive and Active Obedience of His Unbegotten Father. Christ's Passive and Active Obedience also must be worked in each individual believer's heart, will, and head, in order for the believer to keep climbing up the Spiritual Ladder of Success in Christ's Spiritual Stature. The LORD Jesus Christ's righteous Active Obedience in good deeds was an outer expression of His moral Passive Obedience within His Will. Each of us must have this in our heart, will, and head, if we are to continue onward and upward in spiritual growth in Christ Jesus.

The Apostle Paul established this Moral Principle when writing to the Philippian Church.

For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure. Do all things without murmurings and disputings: (Philippians 2:13,14).

The following diagram will help in understanding what these verses are saying:



God intended that all Works be done by Christ and through Christ, the Tree of Life, as a result of His nourishment from the Father's Good Pleasure. The Hebrew word for *good*, here, is *paw-aw*, meaning to blow, to breathe. Hence, the Good Pleasure of the LORD's Purposive Will is His infinite, eternal Breath or Holy Spirit of Life. For this reason, the Psalmist commanded everything with breath to praise the LORD.

Let every thing that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD (Psalm 150:6).

All breath comes from the Unbegotten Father's Breath from His foursquare Mouth for the Purpose of using it to make His Name of *LORD* known. Therefore, all works or "doing" should be done by the Father's foursquare Breath from His Purposive Will for making His Name known, not from using our breath to magnify and glorify our old names that will be discarded in Eternity-Future.

God has given His Son Jesus Christ the Ministry of working His righteous Passive Obedience within our hearts and wills. Christ's *Passive Obedience* that is in His Purposive Will brings to birth, in our wills, His righteous *Active Obedience* of delight to obey the precious Word of God; therefore, we *delight to do* the Father's Will, just as Jesus

did.

The Psalmist prophesied of Jesus Christ's Active Obedience of Delight.

Then said I, Lo, I come: in the volume of the book *it is written of me, I delight to do thy will, O my God*: yea, thy law is within my heart (Psalm 40:7,8).

Jesus' Obedience was not prompted by dread of His Father's displeasure nor by an expectation of reward. He obeyed because it is a delightful joy to do God's precious Will.

When the sacrifices and offerings under the Old Testament order could no longer cover sin, Jesus Christ came to war against sin and Darkness with His own Blood that He gave as a Sacrifice and Offering to take away sin and to advance God's Glory and Kingdom and to make His Name known.

Jesus Christ delighted in His Father's Will (that was fed by the Father's Unbegotten Breath), in coming to take away sin, Hell, and Death that were the speedy punishments for man's sin of disobedience.

In the Old Testament scrolls of God's Divine Decree, He revealed His Covenant of Redemption. The Counsel of Peace between the Father and the Son is recorded there. Christ delighted to come forth as the visible Tree of Life so that He could share His Fruits of Love, Joy, and Peace with sinful men. It was Christ's Delight to go forth with His Works of Love from His Tree of Life.

Jesus saith unto them, **My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work** (John 4:34).

The Eternal Word is in Jesus Christ; therefore, He delighted *to do* His Works of Love!

King David also delighted in God's Word, as recorded in Psalm 119; therefore, as the king of Israel, he performed mighty, victorious works.

The following verses prove that David delighted in:

- **The LORD's Statutes:**

I will delight myself in thy statutes: I will not forget thy word (Psalm 119:16).

- **The LORD's Testimonies:**

Thy testimonies also are my delight and my counsellors (Psalm 119:24).

- **The LORD's Commandments:**

Make me to go in the path of thy commandments; for therein do I delight (Psalm 119:35).

- **The LORD's Law:**

Their heart is as fat as grease; *but I delight in thy law* (Psalm 119:70).

Let thy tender mercies come unto me, that I may live: **for thy law is my delight** (Psalm 119:77).

Unless thy law had been my delights, I should then have perished in mine affliction (Psalm 119:92).

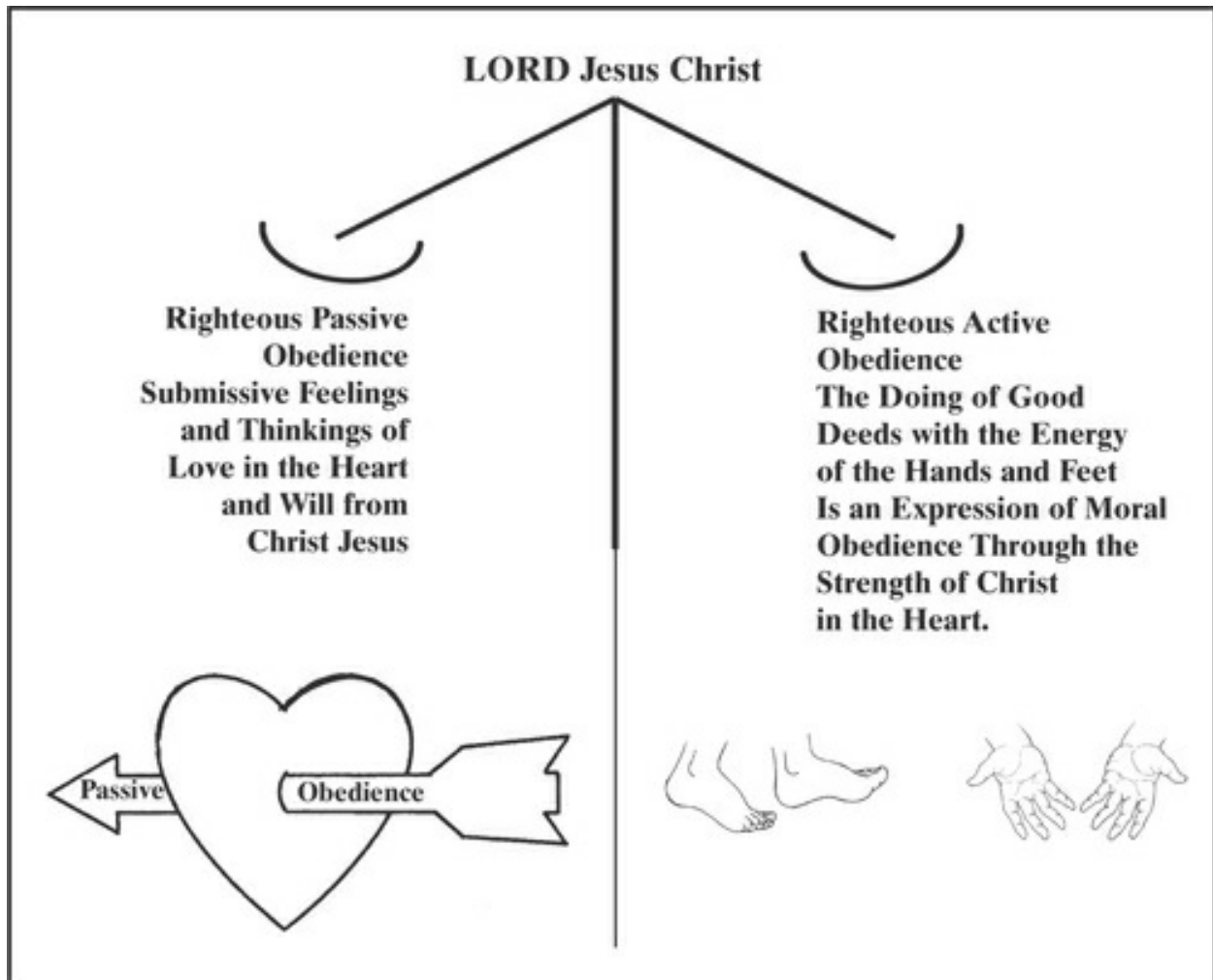
I have longed for thy salvation, O LORD; and **thy law is my delight** (Psalm 119:174).

Others in David's kingdom took delight in material things, but David took delight in the eternal Spiritual Statutes of God's Word.

When David's oppressors made his life bitter, he sought consolation and solace in God's Testimonies. They were his Counsellors to help him defeat their schemes and devices against him. David took delight in performing the works of God's Commandments. He loved them. David delighted in God's Law of Love, although other hearts that dwelled around him had become fat with hate.

Because David loved God's Law, God sent His tender Mercies upon him. Because David loved God's Law, he longed for God's Salvation from every unholy thought, feeling, and deed. Christ Jesus works this same delight in us, today, when we love the Full Stature of His Holy Word.

The LORD Jesus Christ works through our wills, hearts, spirits, souls, hands and feet, empowering us to do good deeds, when we love the Full Stature of His Word. This is an expression of Christ's Moral Active Obedience to His Father, the LORD God, so to Him be all the Glory!



When Christ's righteous Passive Obedience and righteous Active Obedience fill our will, it is evidenced by our thoughts and feelings of love that make us willing to suffer in any way that is necessary in order to obey the LORD in Works of Love, Life, and Light.

Christ's righteous Passive Obedience and Active Obedience of Delight in our will gives us His strong Love that refuses the evil and chooses the good in all things. Passive Obedience rejects all evil, external impressions and waits for the internal Breath of Christ's guiding impressions that come from His Father's Unbegotten Breath.

Jesus Christ's righteous Passive Obedience to His Father, the LORD God, is an armory of strong thoughts and feelings within our will that resists all opposing Luciferic and Leviathanic evil, yet our thoughts and feelings never oppose the Will of the LORD God, our true Owner and Master.

Christ's righteous Passive Obedience never resents His Father's Purposive Will. The Son endures whatever suffering it takes in His Will, while He does God's Will in order to please the Father.

Christ's righteous Passive Obedience is filled with loving, dutiful submission to His Father's divine, infinite Authority and to the restraint of His *El Shadday* Fence. To will what God doth will is the activity that brings divine rest and peace. For this reason, Jesus Christ invited *all* to come to Him and find rest for their souls. The submissive will that is resigned and melted is poured into the Father's Will and frozen or solidified with the Father's Aim and Purpose to make His Holy Name known. Then, this kind of will enters into the eternal, sabbatical rest that God has promised as a heritage for God's people.

When Christ's righteous Passive Obedience is manifested in our will, there is a readiness in our thoughts and feelings to obey God because we know that His Love gives us His right, wisest, and best choice that will work for our highest good and for His eternal Glory. The requirements in God's Word are for us to obey the Authority of God's Spirit in His Christ and also the authority that He sends through His true servants.

Christ's righteous Passive Obedience that is in Union with His Father's Purposive Will is manifested through holy, loving words and holy actions that exhibit spiritual respect and reverence for God's Word and Will.

When Christ's righteous Passive Obedience dwells in our will, we have a loving desire to be submissive to Him in all things, according to the written Commands in God's Holy, Righteous Word, so that His Name might be made known.

When Christ's righteous Passive Obedience dwells in our will, we have a longing, motivated by love, to please our Righteous Master and Owner in all things.

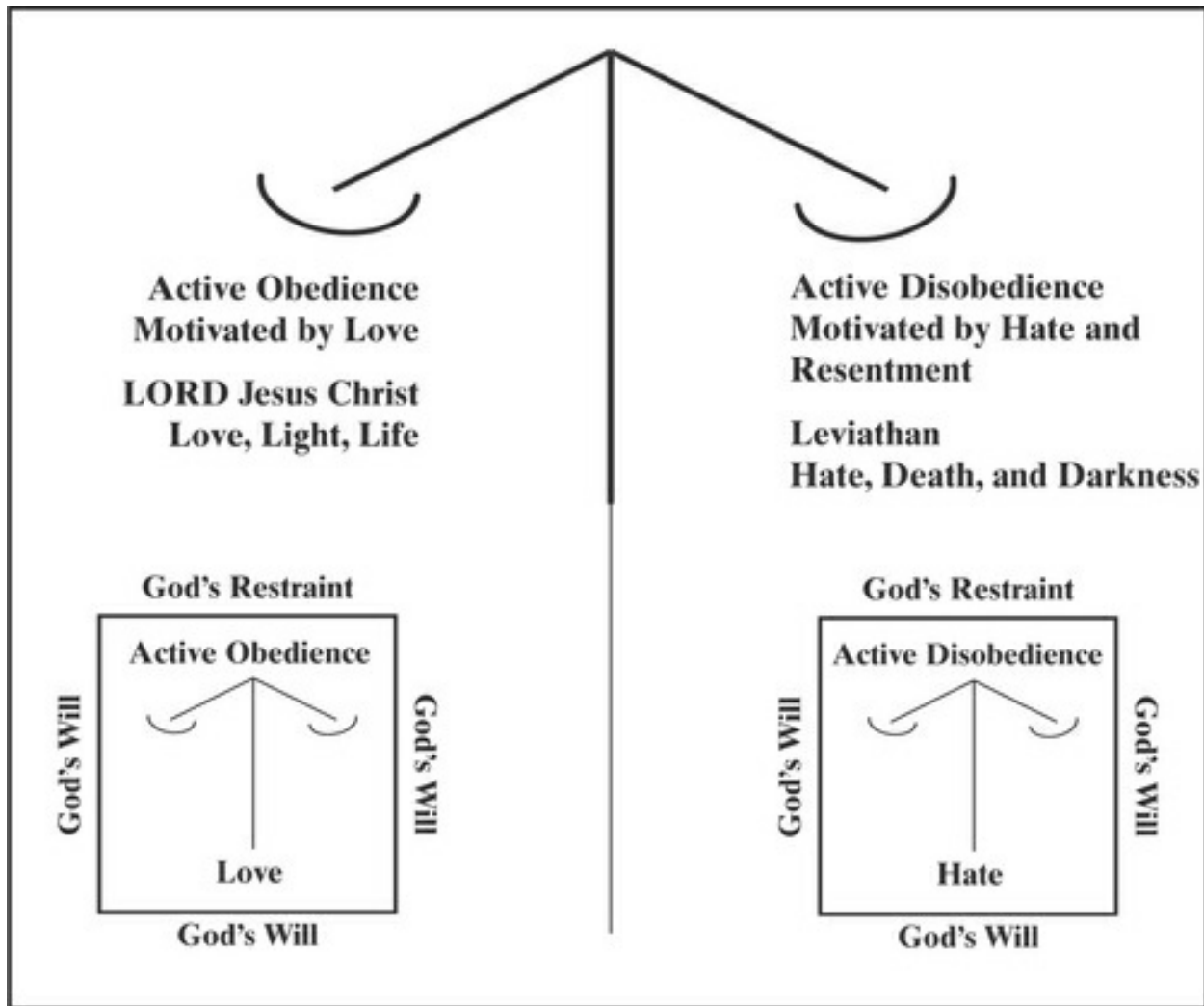
Christ's righteous Passive Obedience has no other desire but to please the LORD, His Father.

Christ's righteous, loving Passive Obedience also causes us to submit willingly to the Rule and Government of God's Spirit and Word.

Christ's righteous, loving Passive Obedience also converts our will and heart so that we can willingly follow His powerful movement, impulses, and holy influences, at all times and in all things.

Christ's righteous Active Obedience in His Father's Master Plan works the "do" in us so that we can perform good deeds with our hands and feet that will make His great Name of Love and Forgiveness known. Christ's loving Submissiveness in our heart and will, from His Father's *raw-tson*e Will, begets the Father's *khaw-fates* Delight of His Master Plan in our heart and will. Then our delight "to do" good deeds or good works is manifested before all creatures by our love and delight to do good deeds.

Christ's loving Active Obedience in our heart and will fills us with the love, joy, peace, and delight from the Father and the Son, which is the delight and satisfaction that we always wish for and long for from the creature, but never find. If we never allow the LORD Jesus Christ to work His Righteous Passive and Active Obedience in our heart and will, then our thoughts, feelings and deeds will be motivated by a strange owner and master — the flesh.



There are many strange, worldly wants and foreign, dirty desires of the flesh that motivate God's people, apart from His Word and Spirit. Consequently, God's servants need to lay hold of Christ's Passive and Active Obedience so that they can be true shepherds in His Kingdom of Light and lead His sheep away from the pastures of this world of flesh, to green, living pastures of Truth so that His Name may be made known through His Word and Spirit.

For example, when Leviathan is allowed to move in one's spirit and mind, a strange active disobedience enters one's will, creating an agonizing fear of being punished by God if one does not rush out to do deeds that appear good. Some people, affected by this type of active disobedience, serve God out of a slavish fear that drives them to work continually in God's service, apart from God's Purposive Will. This class of fear tyrannizes the imagination and creates phantoms of horror in the mind. Such evil fear drives one's soul to work continually. It begets guilt, depression, and deeds of darkness that neither fill nor satisfy the soul. When Leviathan's evil fear motivates the human will, apart from God, it begets an aggravatingly painful rash on the soul that makes a person angry and sensitive so that, at all times, the person's disposition is abrasive and intolerable.

Other people react to Leviathanic fear in terror that prevents them from finding God's Will since they apprehend that He will make them miserable. What unspeakable darkness and blindness one's disobedient will can cause!

If one's fleshly disobedience, motivated by Leviathan's fear, is not sanctified by joining it to Christ's loving Submissive Obedience, sooner or later, the zeal of this fear will engulf one's mind and leave the soul disheartened, disillusioned, and disgusted with serving God. Then, that person's poor blind mind will choose to brave God's punishments in the future, rather than serve Him in miserable, torturous fear. This kind of fearful, strange service is without Christ's Love, Joy, Rest, and grateful Delight that is found in His loving Passive, Submissive Obedience and His Active Obedience.

There is an active disobedience also in God's work that stems from the pressure of the needs of people and the situations created by their needs. If a person's service to God consists of what appears to be doing good deeds in meeting the needs of people and their situations because they are expecting a reward of a kind word or gratitude, they will later become angry and resentful. Few people expressed gratitude to Jesus. Only one leper out of the ten lepers whom Jesus healed returned to give Him thanks for his healing. Jesus' Disciples never returned to thank Him for the power and privilege of using His Holy Name to heal and cast out devils. Instead, they returned with joy and gladness because the devils were subject to them. How unspeakably sad! The Truth is that the devils were subject to Jesus' *Name*. When this *form* of active disobedience motivates one, apart from God's Purposive Will, to respond to the multitude of needs that exist in God's Kingdom, it sooner or later begets great resentment, indignation, and an offended spirit against God and others because no joy of the LORD exists in it — only fleshly zeal that burns for a short time.

Fleshly, spiritual pride deceives people into idolatrously thinking that they can be the "saving redeemer" of suffering humanity; that they can meet the lasting needs of people, apart from God's Will; that they can do seemingly good deeds, apart from God's Purposive Will and Master Plan; or that they can be a benefactor that everyone will appreciate.

However, when they discover the true nature of fallen humanity, with people's lack of appreciation, they become disappointed and ready to quit.

Fallen humanity, apart from God's Will, never is satisfied with the services of its benefactor, whether it be God the Creator or the creature. So when a person tries to help others in need, but he is not acting in God's Will, then strong resentment fills his heart, will, and soul, which generates bitterness and hate at the very thought of seeing another human being in need. This kind of human redeemer and benefactor is a short-lived servant, who displays brilliant, colorful flashes that quickly pass away, as fireworks that explode in the night sky. But the Glory of the LORD that accompanies one's passive and active obedience is forever. Joy, delight, and satisfaction are *not* found in the people whom we serve, but in Christ Jesus, in the Passive and Active Obedience of His Purposive Will. When people are grateful, or if they are ungrateful after we serve them, does not make any difference to us if we are in Christ's Purposive Will, doing good deeds according to His Master Plan. In Jesus' Name, we press on and praise on, thanking the LORD Jesus Christ for both the grateful and the ungrateful. To God be all the Glory for both!

I discovered this kind of "motivation by needs" when I was ministering on skidrow and in a charity hospital in the city in which I lived. I often worked around the clock, but found that I was discouraged and resentful because I could not meet more of the needs of the human beings I encountered. I also found myself being resentful because no one seemed to appreciate what I was doing. In general, the people I ministered to were most ungrateful.

Then, my precious LORD taught me that I was not on earth to meet the needs of humanity nor to be upset because of their ingratitude; I was alive to do His Purposive Will and to fulfill His Master Plan, through passive and active obedience. I was to work only at His appointed times and serve those to whom He sent me. I repented before the LORD for allowing the needs of people to govern me instead of being governed by His Purpose and Plan. Consequently, His Love, Joy, Rest, and Delight came into my heart to restore my soul.

This kind of active disobedience that responds to the needs of people must be sanctified if we expect to be joined to Christ's loving Submissive and Active Obedience in our heart and will. We must remember that our fleshly zeal will soon burn out in trying to meet all the needs of suffering humanity. Our frustration will fill our soul with bitterness, ill will, and a grudge that will blame others for our unhealthy spiritual condition, when we have been driven by fleshly zeal.

The espoused Bride, in the Song of Solomon, confessed that she had kept the vineyards of others, but she had neglected her own vineyard. When we allow our deeds and works to be done according to God's Purposive Will and Master Plan, our Shepherd will make us to lie down in green pastures; lead us by still waters; and restore our souls. Then, He will lead us forth, again, to make His Name known in His appointed paths of righteousness, as we serve the needs of humanity. The Father and His Son, the LORD Jesus Christ, our Creator, truly love all humanity, or the Father would not have sent His Son nor would the Son have been willing to die for us. When Christ's Purpose and Plan are our Governor and Guide, we accomplish more. Certainly, all the good works we do through Christ are eternal, and they will abide Christ's Judgment Fire because they are Gold, Silver, and Precious Stones.

After Christ has worked His righteous Active Obedience *without*, in our hands and feet, and His Passive Obedience *within*, in our heart and will, we will praise and thank God for the opportunity that we have had to serve Him; to suffer for Him; and to serve His Creation. However, if Christ has not worked His Passive Submissiveness in our heart and will and His Active Obedience in our hands and feet, we will murmur and constantly complain through our words and actions because we have to be a *doer* of some good deed in order to meet the needs of others

whom we esteem unworthy of our precious, priceless works.

However, if we even perform good moral deeds for others with our hands and feet, according to God's Purposive Will, but apart from Christ's Passive Obedience, our heart will still resentfully inquire, "Why did this person have to get sick at this particular time? It is so inconvenient for me to have to take care of him. I do not even have time to go see him." Or we will complain, "Why do these people have to come to see me, now, and take up my valuable time?" Or, resentful-ly, we will cry, "Why are these people so ungrateful when I have done so much for them?"

Our carnal human heart resents serving others when, according to *our* purposive will, it is inconvenient, inappropriate, and inconsiderate. If Christ's Passive Obedience has not been wrought in our heart and will, there is no convenient, appropriate, and considerate time, according to *our* plan and purpose. Christ's Purposive Will makes us willing to serve lovingly and joyfully at all times, whether in season or out of season. Christ's Passive Obedience served His Father, the LORD God, with humility gratitude and great joy for the privilege that He had to make His Father's Name known at whatever time and in whichever way the Father desired.

There is another kind of active disobedience that produces seemingly good deeds, but that does not originate from Christ's Passive Obedience in our hearts and wills. This is an active disobedience that is begotten when God's Holy Spirit convicts us of wrongful things, which generates *painful conviction* in our consciences. Then, instead of repenting of the offense and clearing our conscience and waiting for God to work His "will" and "do" in us, we try to overcome the painful conviction by rushing out "to do" the right thing in order to cover our pain. Hence, we try to right a wrong, but we fail because we have tried to cover the first wrong with a garment of wrong, and two wrongs *never* equal one right. When we wait on the LORD Jesus Christ to work His Passive Obedience in our hearts and wills, after we have been convicted by the LORD's Holy Spirit, then He can work true repentance in us for our wrong.

We must watch carefully for the "fleshly redeemer" that wants to rise up and immediately try to make us feel better through some seemingly good deed. We must not be anxious to relieve our painful condition in our conscience the wrong way. We must seek relief the right way — through strong crying and confession to Jesus for our wrong. If there is no true repentance, our hands and feet will be controlled by our carnal, fleshly active disobedience.

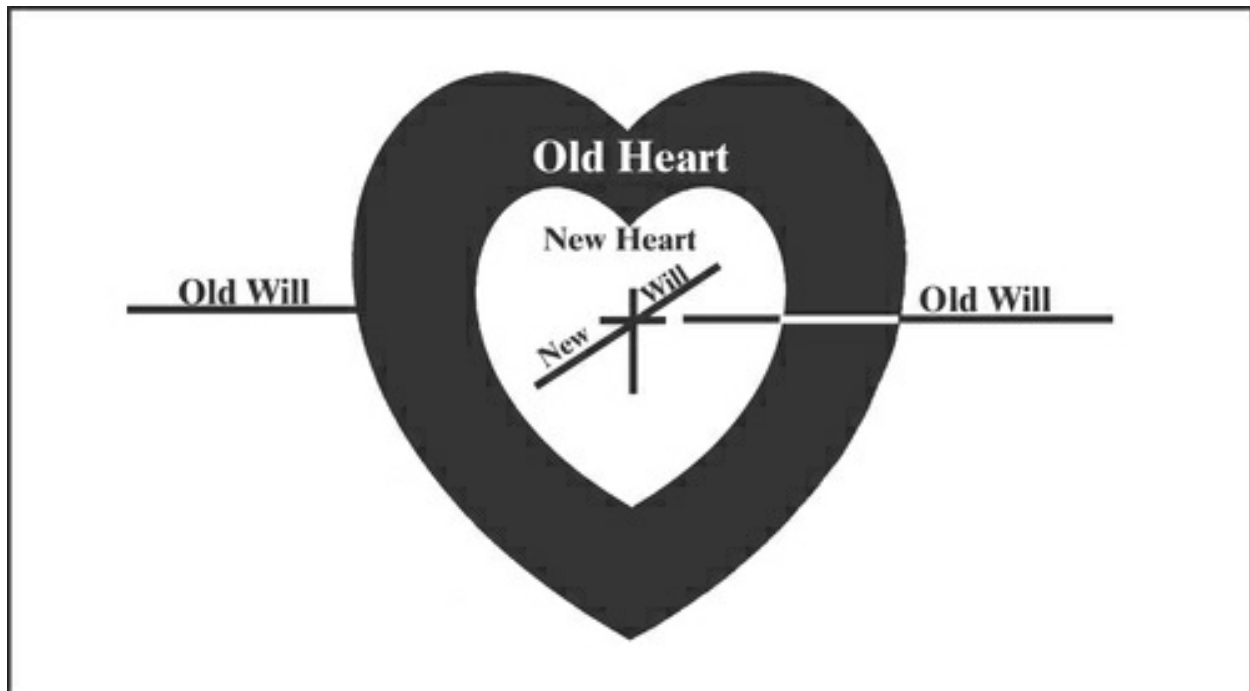
Remember, we must not try to rid ourselves, in the wrong way, of the evil wrong about which our conscience has painfully convicted us. We will fail in our efforts without Christ's Purpose and Plan of true repentance. If we allow it, fleshly active disobedience will restrain us from waiting on the LORD for Him to work in us the "will" (*khaw-fates*, delight) and the "do" (good deeds) in His appointed time. The human will always is ready to rush ahead to perform its own kind of so-called good deeds, as it tries to relieve itself of the spirit's painful conviction in the heart and soul. Nevertheless, the LORD is ever present to deliver us from this great enemy.

The Apostle Paul had this same experience until he grew big enough spiritually to know to wait for Christ Jesus to give him the victory.

For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I.... O wretched man that I am! **who shall deliver me from the body of this death?** I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then **with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin** (Romans 7:15,24,25).

Paul described the conflict between Christ and His Holy Law in his New Man, New Heart, and New Will, and the corruption in the old man, the old heart, and the old will, which is governed by the law of sin.

When penitent souls come to the LORD Jesus Christ, He comes into their hearts and places within them a newly created Heart, a newly created Spiritual Man, and a newly created Will.



God sent the Written Law to reveal sin in our old heart (the old man) and our old will. But the Written Law could not write and work the “will” and the “do” in our old heart and our old will. But in God’s time, Jesus Christ, the Living Law, came in Holy Flesh to destroy sin, with its penalty of Hell and Death, in our old heart and old will. Jesus Christ, the Crucified One, took our place *without*, on the Cross, and in Hell and Death. Then, He arose from the dead as the Resurrected One, Who is now at the Right Hand of God with All-Knowledge, All-Power, and All-Presence to make intercession for repentant sinners. He comes into the penitent soul, cleansing, forgiving and bringing a new Holy Heart and a new Holy Will so that He can continue His warfare against the law of sin from within. When we daily seek after Him, Christ daily reduces the size of our old heart and old will, while increasing our new holy Heart and new holy Will. The Apostle Paul experienced dying daily to his old man and the consequent daily growth of his New Man.

I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, **I die daily** (I Corinthians 15:31).

As the Apostle Paul died daily to his old heart and old will, he rose up with greater growth in his inward New Man. This Scripture is applicable both to natural death and to spiritual Death. As we die spiritually in the old man, under Christ’s Sword of Truth, the more our New Man grows in Spiritual Stature. The Book of Philippians reveals this Principle.

For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain (Philippians 1:21).

When we die spiritually to the flesh of our old man, we gain more of Christ’s Spiritual Stature. Likewise, when we die naturally, we will gain the personal Presence of Jesus and a far greater degree of His Resurrected Glory.

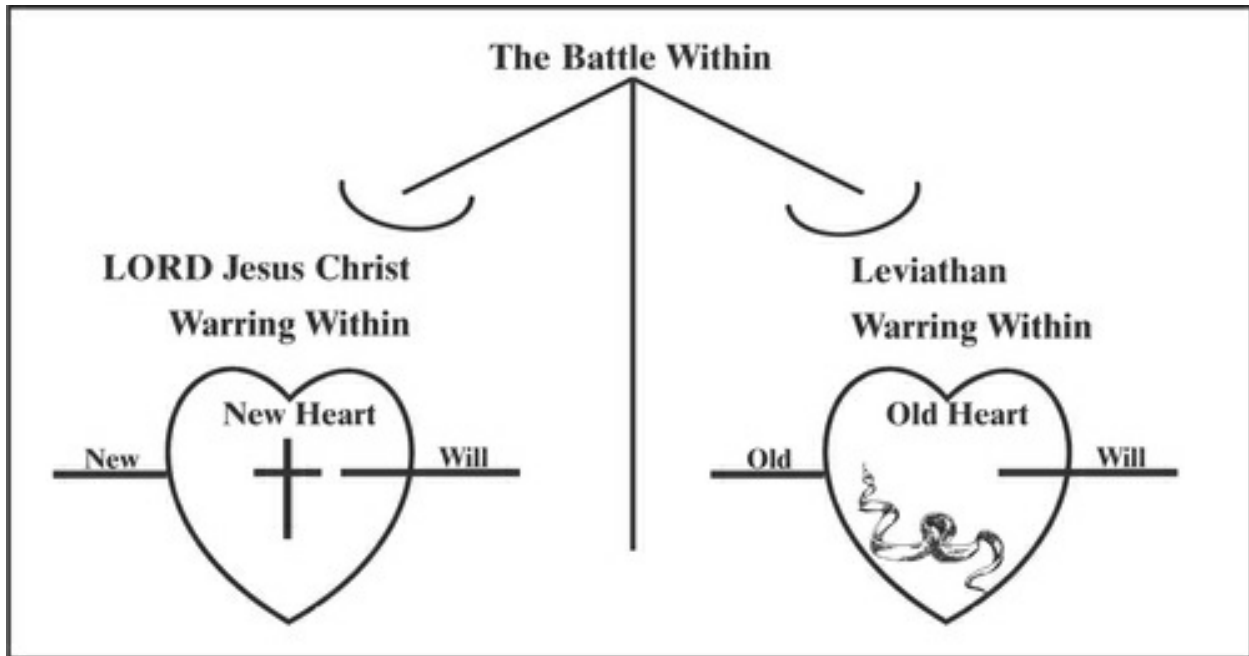
Paul confirmed this Principle of dying and living also to the saints at Corinth.

For which cause we faint not; but **though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day** (II Corinthians 4:16).

We experience joy and happiness when we see our outer old man perishing day by day because this contributes to the daily renewing of our Spiritual Man. Renewing of our inner Spiritual Man brings an increase of Strength, Spiritual Stature, and Spirit that roots us more deeply in the humility of Christ’s Cross, while producing more fruit upward in the Resurrected Christ.

A great day arrives when we discover that Jesus Christ, our LORD, our Owner and Master, is a victorious Warrior Who wages His warfare from within, against all unChristlike things, called the law of sin. Christ is on God’s side, and the law of sin is on Lucifer’s and Leviathan’s side. But the LORD Jesus triumphed over ALL at

Calvary's Cross and in Hell, Death, and the Bottomless Pit. Therefore, it is a small thing for Him to take victory over the law of sin from without since the battle already has been won.



The discovery that Christ's All-Power works from *within* to defeat the old crooked Serpent, within the old human will, generates a new praise and a new gratitude for victory in Jesus! Although we die daily at Jesus' Cross, He also raises us up daily, by His Resurrection Power, to share with Him all spiritual blessings in Heavenly Places.

Thus, we can see how our old man and our old will can generate active disobedience that desires to relieve ourself, quickly, of our painful conviction, lest we find true repentance and a new union with Christ's Passive and Active Obedience. When our motive is purified and sanctified so that all we want is to please the LORD, our doing good deeds will be generated solely by His Purposive Will, in His Master Plan, and at His appointed time.

Active disobedience, generated by the flesh, never has a pure motive to work for the LORD's Pleasure. Our flesh makes us interested in our immediate satisfaction and relief from suffering the pains of conviction, or else it makes us concerned with the fleshly joy of making our own name or nature known. The deeds of our flesh do not share Christ's Delight (*khaw-fates*). Christ never accompanies so-called good deeds that are not performed in union with His Father's Passive and Active Obedience. When a convicted conscience tries to relieve itself, apart from Christ's Cross, it generates active disobedience that is hard and cruel. Fleshly disobedience constantly works to do seemingly good deeds to make one's conscience feel better, yet, at the same time, it resents the time and energy expended in doing them. As a result, the recipients of such seemingly good deeds feel the underlying resentment of the old man and his old human will. These cannot be deeds of Christ's holy Love and divine Delight since they are generated by one's carnal nature. It is so simple to wait on the LORD to work His "Will" of Delight and His "Do" of Loving Pleasure in our wills. This birth of Christ's divine, infinite Love fills us with His Delight and Pleasure to do His Father's Will in all things.

The "doing" from our own carnal wills turns our souls into demanding, merciless despots that require others to be grateful and thankful to us for our great services that we have rendered because we were trying to relieve our painful conviction in the wrong way. These seemingly "good" actions are based on our hope of receiving some form of appreciation and gratitude for our works that will bring us joy and satisfaction, without our finding true joy and satisfaction through true repentance and waiting on the LORD to work His "Will" and His "Do" in us. We wrongfully assume that these kinds of "good works" will join others to us. But, since God is a Just, Righteous Judge, He allows people to bite us instead of bless us. The only works that are acceptable to God are those done in His Purpose and Plan through His Only Begotten Son. Such works will cause us to be grateful and to offer back to God all Glory for the privilege and pleasure that we have had to serve Him.

We see this same Principle at work in the Parable of the Virgins. On their journey to meet the Bridegroom, the wise virgins took extra oil with them. The foolish virgins were also journeying to meet the Bridegroom, but they

took no extra oil. When the midnight cry was made, announcing the arrival of the Bridegroom, the wise and the foolish virgins arose from their sleep and trimmed their lamps. However, the foolish virgins' lamps began to go out because they had not brought extra oil. In their need, the foolish virgins asked the wise virgins to share their oil, but the wise ones could not, lest their lamps would also go out.

The wise virgins did not share their oil just because the foolish virgins *needed* oil. They did not let themselves be governed by the foolish virgins' needs. So the foolish virgins went to buy oil, but while they were gone, the Bridegroom came and took the wise virgins into the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. The wise virgins had properly prepared for their journey and were ready to leave with the Bridegroom. Later, when the foolish virgins returned, they found that the door to the Marriage Feast was shut, and they could not enter.

Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us. But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not
(Matthew 25:11,12).

When the foolish virgins asked for admission, the LORD said, "I do not know you. I do not know your purpose and plan to come to the Marriage Supper of the Lamb." When the foolish virgins had gone to get extra oil, it seemed a good deed, but upon their return, they found that the LORD had shut the door. It was too late for them to enter because they had ignored the LORD's Purposive Will and Master Plan to bring along extra oil on their journey. Although the door to the Marriage Supper was shut, according to *God's* Master Plan and Purposive Will, they demanded that it be opened according to *their* plan and purpose.

The foolish virgins had rejected the LORD's "Will" and "Do," both in laying hold of extra oil and in demanding that the door to the Marriage Supper be opened to them. What impudent, brazen boldness issues forth out of fallen man's own purposes and plans! The foolish virgins reaped what they had sown. They had sown rejection of the LORD's Purposive Will and Master Plan, so they reaped the LORD's rejection and found the door closed against them.

Jesus foretold that, in the day of His Judgment, many will say that they have done many wonderful works in His Name, but He will say, "I never knew your purpose and plan; they were not joined to *My* Purpose and Plan; they never originated with *My* Father. I never knew you; depart from me."

Jesus said, in the Book of Matthew, that only those who do the Father's Will will enter into the Kingdom of Heaven.

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. **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?** And **then will I profess unto them, I never knew you:** depart from me, ye that work iniquity (Matthew 7:21-23).

In the Heavenly Kingdom, there is One Father and One Son, and They have One Purposive Will and Master Plan. Hence, no one is allowed to use his *own* name over his works in an attempt to make himself known. Rather, believers must perform works that are generated by the Father's and Son's Purposive Will and Master Plan and make His Name known.

In these verses, Jesus showed the absolute necessity of practicing Passive and Active Obedience to His Father's Purposive Will and Master Plan. Although believers may seem to do great and wonderful works, whatever they do will be unacceptable, apart from the Father's Icy Purposive Will.

The people in Jesus' Prophecy boasted that they had prophesied in the LORD's Name, but so did Baalam. Still, the Prophet joined the Midianites against Israel, in spite of the fact that God had blessed His people through Baalam's own mouth. Later, when the LORD avenged the children of Israel of the Midianites, all the kings of Midian were slain, and in the battle, Balaam was killed with the sword. He had wanted earthly honour, but he reaped Death.

Caiphas had prophesied about Christ, yet he delivered him as a sinful criminal to be crucified.

King Saul had prophesied under God's anointing, yet he disobeyed God's Purposive Will and was slain in battle.

The people in Jesus' Prophecy likewise boasted of having cast out devils. So did Judas, yet he betrayed the Son of God; then, he hung himself. In addition, the people of whom Jesus spoke professed that they had done many wonderful marvelous and excellent works, yet Jesus said, "I knew not your proud wills that motivated all these works. Depart from Me, ye workers of iniquity. I never knew your proud wills." These Words of the LORD Jesus Christ should make an eternal imprint and impression in our hearts of the indispensable necessity of *learning how to*

wait on the LORD for His Will and Do to come into our wills. In order to perform the Father's Good Pleasure (*raw-tstone*) of making His Name known, we must wait on the LORD.

There is yet another kind of active disobedience that performs seemingly good deeds, but these deeds are motivated by a desire for the reward of being known before men. The prideful desire for reward motivates many believers to strive to obtain the highest position in the highest place of this world so that they can receive honour and glory from men, thereby making their own names known instead of the LORD's.

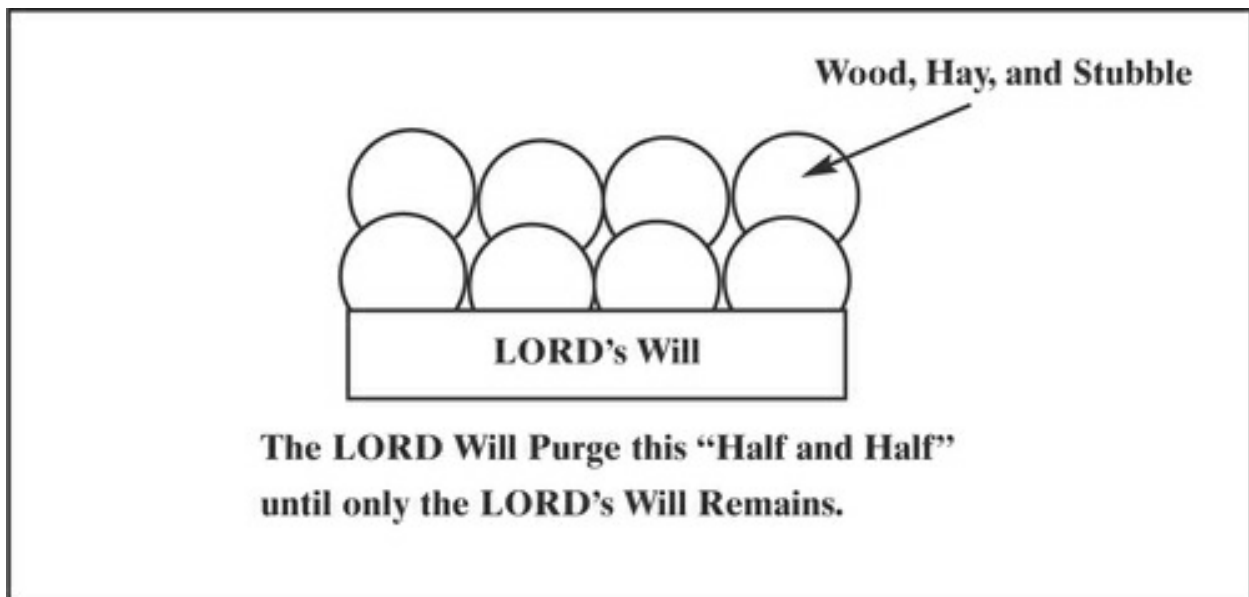
This prideful desire for reward is so great in the human heart that it prevents some souls from doing good and pleasant things for the LORD's work and for His spiritual family because they are too busy making their own names known in this present world. These people can force themselves to work untold hours and make any kind of sacrifice in order to obtain fleshly satisfaction and earthly rewards before men.

When our motive is fed with the idolatrous desire to receive earthly rewards, our human will becomes more strong in its resistance to Jesus Christ's Submissive, Passive Obedience to the Father's Will. Consequently, if we do not repent over the independence of our human will, it will become our governor and guide and lead us in the way of Saul, Baalam, Ciaphus, and Judas. If we continue on in our own prideful wills, we will ultimately consider that the vainglorious sacrifices we have made for the LORD are so valuable that no earthly reward or temporal honour is great enough to repay us. Consequently, we will scorn all the benefits and blessings that God and His people bestow upon us. However, when our hearts and wills have been sanctified and made grateful through our surrender to Jesus Christ, we look on the smallest gift with great gratitude because we know that, although we deserve Hell and Death, we have, instead, received a bonus for serving God. When we have received Salvation and are climbing the Ladder of Christ's Stature, with the New City in view, then, if we receive a small present from some precious soul, it is a bonus for which we feel humbled and unworthy.

However, if our souls have remained unrepentant and dissatisfied over earthly rewards, we will begin to generate cruel criticisms and miserable murmurings against the bonus that we have received. In our souls' vain imagination, we believe that if God and others just understood how great we really were, they would definitely exalt us.

If we are performing this kind of active disobedience, apart from Christ's Passive Obedience, we will live a miserable, wretched, and worthless life. When we try to glorify, magnify, and please ourselves instead of glorifying, magnifying, and pleasing the LORD, our lives will be unhappy, melancholy, and pitiful.

Still another class of active disobedience that does not have its origin in Jesus Christ's loving Passive Obedience is the independent will that desires to work joyfully in the LORD's Work if there are no fences of restraint, no accountability to anyone, no supervision, or no joining to the brotherhood. Many people can work joyfully and willingly in trying to carry out the LORD's Purpose and Plan if they can rule over everything according to their own wills. If they can perform according to their own purposive wills, they are happy. This is called "half and half."



The LORD promised to shake everything that is shakable so that only that which is unshakable might remain.

See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more *shall not we escape*, if we turn away from him that *speaketh* from heaven: **Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven. And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain.** Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: For our God is a consuming fire (Hebrews 12:25-28).

When Christ came down on Mount Sinai to speak His Law, He shook the earth and the people so that His unshakable *Torah-Truth* might find lodging in the earth and in their minds. Now, the Living, Resurrected *Torah-Truth* speaks from Heaven, with excellent Words of Power, shaking everything in the spiritual world so that His unshakable *Torah-Truth* might find lodging in hearts and minds.

The *fleshly* active disobedience that tries to attach to the LORD's Purposive Will must be shaken off because it is a strange plan that is unattachable. Since fleshly disobedience is full of Hate, Death, and Darkness, it cannot blend with Christ's Love, Life, and Light in the Father's Purposive Will. Although a union of this kind can be enjoyed with Christ's Love, Life, and Light for a season, while one is working in God's Kingdom, it will ultimately be visited with God's shaking. We can permanently find joy in doing good deeds only if we are governed by *El Shadday*, the True Owner and Master. If we add or delete from God's Will, according to our own will, we will be shaken. Working without the restraint of God's Purposive Will is spiritual suicide; it brings strife, discord, and confusion in the Brotherhood of Christ. God *will* shake our wills so that only His Will remains and, thus, union will be restored in the Brotherhood.

The Psalmist wrote about how good it is when brethren dwell together in unity.

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! (Psalm 133:1).

The unity of the Brotherhood is only maintained through the Father's and Son's Purposive Will and Master Plan, as the LORD Jesus Christ gives His Mind to the brethren.

Apart from its being Christ's righteous Passive and Active Obedience, any kind of active disobedience that works *outside* the Fence of God's Purposive Will generates spiritual Death in the Brotherhood and leads to spiritual suicide, which was the path Judas took. When Judas was inside the restraining Fence of God's Purposive Will with Jesus, he cast out devils. But when he left God's Fence, he became a devil and committed suicide. Judas' life was a classic example of what *not* to do.

What is the point of doing good moral deeds, if, in our hearts, we hate and resent the Father's Purposive Will that is the infinite, divine Governor? Without God, we would not have the time, the place, the persons, or the energy that we need in order to do good deeds. What good is found in trying to work joyfully *outside* the Fence of God's Will, while at the same time, we resent His Control or Authority from within? We cannot work in Hate, Death, and Darkness, inwardly, and still expect to feel Love, Life, and Light within our hearts and wills.

Remember, the LORD God weighs the actions of His people. Our works are found weighty if Christ's Purposive Will and Master Plan are in the Scales along with our actions. If Christ is not in the Scales, our actions are worthless because Christ does not know them. If our actions are not begotten out of Christ's Righteous Obedience, both Passive and Active, they are worthless. God weighs our actions in His Scales to discover their worth or their worthlessness.

There is none holy as the LORD: for there is none beside thee: neither is there any rock like our God. Talk no more so exceeding proudly; let not arrogancy come out of your mouth: for the LORD is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed (1 Samuel 2:2,3).

God's unerring Justice constrains Him to weigh the actions of men. In His eternal Counsels of His Holy Will, He weighs the actions of men in the balances of His Judgments so that He may render to every man a Just Verdict, whether favourable or unfavourable. Every man's reward is rendered according to his works. Men should never arrogantly argue against God's Judgments because of these things: the eternity and reliability of God's Rock Nature, His All-Knowing Truth, and His All-Discerning Eyes.

God will not allow us to weigh our own actions by our own distorted and diseased perception of reality. God the Father weighs our actions by measuring their worth and weight in His Just Scales as to the presence or absence of the LORD Jesus Christ's Righteous Passive and Active Obedience. All works and actions that have **not** been begotten out of Christ's Righteous Obedience will be considered worthless and weightless; therefore, they will be cast out as wood, hay, and stubble, into God's Judgment Fire, and they will be burned up (1 Corinthians 3:13-15).

Jesus Christ is the Chief Cornerstone, the only Foundation that is acceptable to the Father for all Spiritual

Building. All labours, works, and actions must be built upon Him. God will weigh all believers' labours, works, and actions and try them in the Fire in order to prove their worth. The worth or worthlessness of every man's work will be made manifest to himself, and it will be made manifest to others. All labours, works, and actions that are not begotten out of Christ's Obedient Will will be destroyed, regardless of how good one's works may have appeared or how weighty they may have felt. Outside of being done through Christ's Passive and Active Obedience, God considers all of man's labours, works, and actions to be wood, hay, and stubble. Therefore, though they may feel weighty, they will not endure the Judgment Fire at Christ's Judgment Seat, but will have their weight reduced to ashes.

What a privilege we have to be enrolled in Jesus Christ's school and to learn *how* "to be" and *how* "to do" in a way that is wholly acceptable to the Heavenly Father. If we *desire to learn*, and if we *choose to allow Christ to be our Shepherd, Governor and Guide*. He will use what we have learned of His Spiritual Stature, and He will lead us into His Passive Obedience and His Active Obedience.

Learning *how* "to be" and *how* "to do" enables us to walk in a way that pleases Jesus and His Heavenly Father, the LORD God.

Learning *how* enables us to advance by alternate steps, as we set one foot before the other (without running) so that one foot is set down before the other foot is taken up.

Learning *how* helps us to step along and push along, with eternal joy and delight, in God's Purposive Will and Master Plan, as we make the LORD's precious Name known along our journey.

Learning *how* empowers us to live, act, and behave in the holy manner of Jesus Christ, both inwardly in our hearts and outwardly in our deeds.

Learning *how* motivates us to conduct ourselves so that we please the LORD and His Spirit, instead of pleasing ourselves.

Learning *how* governs us in pursuing the particular course for our lives that God has mapped out according to His great, eternal Master Plan.

Learning *how* helps us to move and to walk according to God's Holy Will.

Learning *how* assures our success in "being" and "doing" all that God intends for us "to be" and "to do."

Learning *how* in this life prepares us to function on God's precious, revolving *tiphereth* Wheel of Unity and Harmony, both now and in Eternity in the New City.

May the LORD Jesus Christ bless to each person's heart who reads this book all its Living Words of Truth, and may these Living Seeds of Truth find lodging in each heart so that God's Eternal Truth can take root downward and bear much fruit upward in lives.



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