

Our Conditional Love of Jesus

Part 3

by Vic Zarley

Joh 14:11 Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me; or else believe Me for the sake of the [very] works themselves. [If you cannot trust Me, at least let these works that I do in My Father's name convince you.]

Joh 14:12 I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, if anyone steadfastly believes in Me, he will himself be able to do the things that I do; and he will do even greater things than these, because I go to the Father.

Scripturally, we have established quite a lot of amazing information in the previous two Pass Around Pages. We have seen that God's word does not come back void. It DOES accomplish what God sent His word to accomplish. We have next, seen that Jesus Christ is, indeed, God's Word made manifest. He, too, does accomplish what God sent Him to accomplish. He draws all men unto Him! He gave His life for us on the cross. He paid for our sins. This has been accomplished, we need only accept it—and, in doing so, accept Him into our hearts. Now we must ask, since Jesus says, "If you love me, follow my commands," if it is okay to try to change our thinking and think another way. Is it okay to assert our will IF GOD HAS INSTRUCTED US AND WE KNOW OUR WILL IS IN LINE WITH HIS? It is time now that the Church understands that those who are called by Christ's name must also accomplish what God has called us to accomplish.

Both God's word and His son, Christ Jesus accomplish that which God sent them to accomplish. Now, it is time for the Church and those who are called by His name, to complete that which God has sent them to accomplish.

We know it is possible to assert our will and do whatever we please, ignoring God's will. However, mature saints want to walk in the attitude, "Not my will, but God's will be done." Determined, they must promptly deny their will, asking only that God's will be done in their lives. However, many feel uncertain of their ability to know God's will. God proclaimed what His will was in the Word. He told us what He wanted us to do, now we must do it. And we must be very assertive in knowing and doing God's will. Why? Because this world would snatch God's will away from us and tell us, instead, to cower before its false power of the carnal world, totally ignoring the power of love and the power of our Almighty God, Himself.

Are we to be assertive in our pursuit for the kingdom of Heaven?

Yes! Read the parable of the dishonest manager which follows.

The Parable of the dishonest manager

Luk 16:1 Jesus said to his disciples: A rich man once had a manager to take care of his business. But he was told that his manager was wasting money.

Luk 16:2 So the rich man called him in and said, "What is this I hear about you? Tell me what you have done! You are no longer going to work for me."

Luk 16:3 The manager said to himself, "What shall I do now that my master is going to fire me? I can't dig ditches, and I'm ashamed to beg.

Luk 16:4 I know what I'll do, so that people will welcome me into their homes after I've lost my job."

Luk 16:5 Then one by one he called in the people who were in debt to his master. He asked the first one, "How much do you owe my master?"

Luk 16:6 "A hundred barrels of olive oil," the man answered. So the manager said, "Take your bill and sit down and quickly write 'fifty'."

Luk 16:7 The manager asked someone else who was in debt to his master, "How much do you owe?" "A thousand bushels of wheat," the man replied. The manager said, "Take your bill and write 'eight hundred'."

Luk 16:8 The master praised his dishonest manager for looking out for himself so well. That's how it is! The people of this world look out for themselves better than the people who belong to the light.

Luk 16:9 My disciples, I tell you to use wicked wealth to make friends for yourselves. Then when it is gone, you will be welcomed into an eternal home.

Why is it that so few Christians take aggressive action to seize the things of God? If we would strive to take hold of Christ's character in the same manner as the world aspires to attain carnal goals, we would likely see a powerful and effective Church, like nothing we've experienced in the modern world. This determination to take hold of the character and nature of Christ and follow His commands is vital to the final harvest of souls prior to the end of the age. As it is, there are far too many professing Christians who do not appear to live or act any differently than the rest of the world.

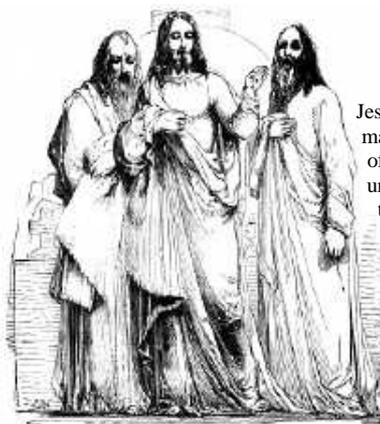
The people of this world look out for themselves better than the people who belong to the light. We need to be smart in the same way as the worldly minded, but for what is right—using every trial and adversity to stimulate us to creative [spiritual] survival.

From the Message:

Luk 16:9 I want you to be smart in the same way—but for what is right—using every adversity to stimulate you to creative survival, to concentrate your attention on the bare essentials, so you'll live, really live, and not complacently just get by on good behavior.

Often we Christians are wimps when it comes to changing our thinking and doing things in a different way. We simply do not want to rock the boat or make waves. But God rocks boats and makes waves. The world has been doing things the same old way for eons and look what it has gotten us. Pain and misery, as we bow to its god, mammon, only to achieve death. God does not promise the end of pain, because it is painful to shift gears. And it is painful when the Lord dislodges false foundations within that do not belong to God's kingdom. Yes, it is painful, but it is a different kind of pain—a pain much like the surgical procedure that repairs a worse and unendurable pain. It is worth it because it is the beginning of the healing and then the pain will be gone. It is a temporary pain that is leading to relief and delivery, resulting in immense joy, eternal joy, a not-of-this-world joy.

To sum these three pamphlets up, then, we must remember that God's ways are not our ways and His thoughts are not our thoughts (but, through Christ, they are). When God's word goes out, it goes out with



a purpose and it accomplishes that purpose. His word never comes back void.

Jesus is the Word made manifest. He is the Bread of Life. No one comes unto the Father except through Him. We must accept that He paid for our sins through the blood He shed on the cross for us. He also told us that if we loved Him, we must follow His commands. In addition, He also said that if we

didn't love Him, we wouldn't follow His commands. Therefore, we love Him because He gave His life for us and, in order to show Him we love Him, we must follow His commands. What are those commands?

We must feed His sheep. We do this by doing good to them when they do evil to us. We must pray for those who persecute us. Other commands that Jesus gave us are that we should offer up the other side of our faces, if someone hits us on the one side. Walk two miles with someone, if they ask us to walk a mile with them. Do not worry about getting back your money, if you loaned some to someone. These are pretty hard commands to follow. Is this something we should spend our time on?

Indeed it is. Jesus said that the only way we can show Him we love Him is by following these commands. It seems we ought to step out of the comfort zone for Him, that we ought to be willing to "be different" and accept that, more than likely, people won't understand why we are acting so differently and they may come down on us as well.

Let's go after the things of God, seizing the character and nature of Christ for ourselves, letting nothing stand in our way.

Is it okay to assert our will and make ourselves think and act differently? Does God approve us taking such control of our thinking and actions? It is more than okay. He condemns the children of the Light for being too wimpy in the parable of the dishonest manager, and not asserting their will for Him. He wants us to take care of the eternal matters (like loving His Son, Jesus as He asked us to love Him), and not be so wrapped up in the temporal things, like getting the approval of man.



If you have been lacking in zeal and passion for our walk with Christ, or if you have been indifferent to your spiritual goals, according to scriptures and the teachings of Jesus, please pray this prayer: "Lord, I repent of being a lazy and lukewarm Christian. I understand now that it takes strength and determination to go after the things Jesus commands us to do. Let me not take my calling lightly. Let me accomplish that which You have appointed me to accomplish. Let me go after Your teachings and commands with the same gusto that the people of the world go after the things they desire. Let me exhaust every avenue in my quest to do Your will. Give me a passion for others that is equal to Your passion

for them. Fill my heart and soul with genuine love, the kind that comes from You. In Jesus' name, Amen."



The Final Harvest Ministries seeks to prepare the Church of our Lord Jesus Christ for what we believe will be her last and greatest hour on this earth. At Final Harvest, we believe the Bride of Christ needs to be unified and purified, cleansed of all worldliness, selfishness, division, and a host of other ills which afflict and hinder her, especially in the west, so that the final harvest of souls can take place before the soon return of our Lord. To this end, we post the website: www.TheFinalHarvest.org.

We want to encourage those of the Christian faith to be sure their lamps are filled with oil and pray that God will prepare their hearts, minds and souls for the trials and tribulations that must come to make us ready. The Church in the east and other persecuted areas of the globe is already walking in this fire, and we believe the western Church will also walk in this, in the very near future.

If this Pass-Around-Page has blessed you, please write us through our website above. Also, we invite you to read other Pass-Around-Pages on our site. Furthermore, feel free to print as many copies as you like of any of our Pass-Around-Pages and circulate them, or email them to others. It is our hope to be able to distribute God's messages to the body of Christ at minimal expense. That way, the funds of the Church can be better utilized, leaving more to help with the needs of individuals who are serving the Lord, as well as the poor and needy. This is how we believe the Church should operate.

Thank you, and God bless you.
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