

Look Inside My Mind & And See My Heart

1 Look Inside My Mind

Why I Must Carry On In The Lord's Work!

Focus Verse: Matthew 9:37 "Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest indeed is plentiful, but the laborers are few."

LET ME TELL YOU A STORY!

The Gut Check Of Faith

If what you are believing in and trusting God for does not scare the tar out of you, then your faith isn't being stretched far enough for spiritual growth! It is only faith when you cannot see the outcome yet, and still trust that God will make it come to pass. When we are called to follow Jesus, we are not given a roadmap with all the highlights and events. No, we are given a Shepherd and all He says is "trust Me!"

Romans 8:24-25 "For we are saved by hope. But hope that is seen is not hope; for what anyone sees, why does he also hope for it? (25) But if we hope for that which we do not see, then we wait for it with patience."

JESUS

Luke 22:39-44 "Then Jesus went out and made his way, as he customarily did, to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed him. (40) When he came to the place, he said to them, "Pray that you will not fall into temptation." (41) He went away from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed, (42) "Father, if you are willing, take this cup away from me. Yet not my will but yours be done." [(43) Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him. (44) And in his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground.]"

Matthew 27:45-46 "Now from noon until three, darkness came over all the land. (46) At about three o'clock Jesus shouted with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

ELIJAH

1 Kings 19:2-4 "Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah with this warning, "May the gods judge me severely if by this time tomorrow I do not take your life as you did theirs!" (3) Elijah was afraid, so he got up and fled for his life to Beer Sheba in Judah. He left his servant there, (4) while he went a day's journey into the wilderness. He went and sat down under a shrub and asked the LORD to take his life: "I've had enough! Now, O LORD, take my life. After all, I'm no better than my ancestors."

1 Kings 19:9-18 “He went into a cave there and spent the night. All of a sudden the LORD’s message came to him, “Why are you here, Elijah?” (10) He answered, “I have been absolutely loyal to the LORD God of Heaven’s Armies, even though the Israelites have abandoned the covenant they made with you, torn down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left and now they want to take my life.” (11) The LORD said, “Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD. Look, the LORD is ready to pass by.” A very powerful wind went before the LORD, digging into the mountain and causing landslides, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the windstorm there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. (12) After the earthquake, there was a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. After the fire, there was a soft whisper. (13) When Elijah heard it, he covered his face with his robe and went out and stood at the entrance to the cave. All of a sudden a voice asked him, “Why are you here, Elijah?” (14) He answered, “I have been absolutely loyal to the LORD God of Heaven’s Armies, even though the Israelites have abandoned the covenant they made with you torn down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left and now they want to take my life.” (15) The LORD said to him, “Go back the way you came and then head for the wilderness of Damascus. Go and anoint Hazael king over Syria. (16) You must anoint Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel, and Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to take your place as prophet. (17) Jehu will kill anyone who escapes Hazael’s sword, and Elisha will kill anyone who escapes Jehu’s sword. (18) I still have left in Israel seven thousand followers who have not bowed their knees to Baal or kissed the images of him.”

MOSES

Exodus 32:31-32 “So Moses returned to the LORD and said, “Alas, this people has committed a very serious sin, and they have made for themselves gods of gold. (32) But now, if you will forgive their sin..., but if not, wipe me out from your book that you have written.”

JOHN THE BAPTIST

Luke 3:19-20 “But when John rebuked Herod the tetrarch because of Herodias, his brother’s wife, and because of all the evil deeds that he had done, (20) Herod added this to them all: He locked up John in prison.”

Luke 7:18-20 “John’s disciples informed him about all these things. So John called two of his disciples (19) and sent them to Jesus to ask, “Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?” (20) When the men came to Jesus, they said, “John the Baptist has sent us to you to ask, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?’”

Now, I tell you that they had the advantage of talking directly to God & Jesus.

Counting The Cost To Serve God

Luke 14:26-33 “If anyone comes to me, and doesn’t disregard his own father, mother, wife, children, brothers, and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he can’t be my disciple. (27) Whoever doesn’t bear his own cross, and come after me, can’t be my disciple. (28) For which of you, desiring to build a tower, doesn’t first sit down and count the cost, to see if he has enough to complete it? (29) Or perhaps, when he has laid a foundation, and is not able to finish, everyone who sees begins to mock him, (30) saying, ‘This man began to build, and wasn’t able to finish.’ (31) Or what king, as he goes to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? (32) Or else, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends an envoy, and asks for conditions of peace. (33) So therefore whoever of you who doesn’t renounce all that he has, he can’t be my disciple.”

How Do I Also Take Care Of My Family?

1 Timothy 5:8 “But if someone does not provide for his own, especially his own family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.”

2 Thessalonians 3:10 “For even when we were with you, we used to give you this command: “If anyone is not willing to work, neither should he eat.”

Now I contrasted those verses with the following verses:

Matthew 10:37 “who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he who loves son or daughter more than me isn’t worthy of me.

Matthew 10:38-39 “He who doesn’t take his cross and follow after me, isn’t worthy of me. (39) He who seeks his life will lose it; and he who loses his life for my sake will find it.”

Matthew 6:25-34 “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Isn’t there more to life than food and more to the body than clothing? (26) Look at the birds in the sky: They do not sow, or reap, or gather into barns, yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Aren’t you more valuable than they are? (27) And which of you by worrying can add even one hour to his life? (28) Why do you worry about clothing? Think about how the flowers of the field grow; they do not work or spin. (29) Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his glory was clothed like one of these! (30) And if this is how God clothes the wild grass, which is here today and tomorrow is tossed into the fire to heat the oven, won’t he clothe you even more, you people of little faith? (31) So then, don’t worry saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ (32) For the unconverted pursue these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. (33) But above all pursue his kingdom and righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. (34) So then, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Today has enough trouble of its own.”

Romans 13:14 “But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, for its lusts.”

Even if I ran to go get regular work and it was done out of fear and lack of trust, I would be in rebellion against God.

Romans 14:23 “But the man who doubts is condemned if he eats, because he does not do so from faith, and whatever is not from faith is sin.”

A paycheck in an illusion that makes us feel like we have some sort of control. We trust in our daily efforts and put our faith in our employers. Without God’s blessing on these efforts, it’s nothing more than a curse upon our lives. Then we run the risk of using God’s name in vain claiming to trust in God. Yet, in reality, most people have their hearts set upon the riches and ways of the world to have their needs meet. We see this with a lack of giving to God, and breaking of the commandments to make their employers happy.

The Bible says: **Luke 16:13** “No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.”

Now for some people, it is God’s will that they work at regular jobs. And if this is God’s will for them, it’s important to do it according to His biblical guidelines. Yet, if God is against it, then to remain in it is nothing more than rebellion for a perceived sense of safety. When in reality you are in greater danger of doing so being outside God’s will.

Parable Of The Seeds & The Cares Of This Life

I did not want to be like this seed in the parable and forsake my calling to take care of the cares of this life in place of God’s work.

Matthew 13:3 “He spoke to them many things in parables, saying, “Behold, a farmer went out to sow. **Mathew 13:7** “Others fell among thorns. The thorns grew up and choked them.” **Matthew 13:22** “What was sown among the thorns, this is he who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful.”

Lack Of Workers In The Harvest Of Souls

It came to mind that there are too few people dedicating their lives to serving God. Then, how would I be willing to sit out of the harvest for which I am uniquely equipped to participate in?

The Harvest Is Great But Laborers Are Few

Matthew 9:37 “Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest indeed is plentiful, but the laborers are few.”

Pray For God To Send Workers Into The Harvest

Matthew 9:38 "Pray therefore that the Lord of the harvest will send out laborers into his harvest."

How Can They Hear If There Is No Preacher?

Romans 10:13-15 "For everyone, "whoever shall call on the name of the Lord will be saved." (14) How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without preaching? (15) And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace and bring glad tidings of good things!"

I Do Feel Called By God & If Told To Go, How Then Do I Turn Back?

Matthew 21:28-31 "What do you think? A man had two sons. He went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' (29) The boy answered, 'I will not.' But later he had a change of heart and went. (30) The father went to the other son and said the same thing. This boy answered, 'I will, sir,' but did not go. (31) Which of the two did his father's will?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "I tell you the truth, tax collectors and prostitutes will go ahead of you into the kingdom of God!"

Romans 12:1-2 "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. (2) And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Burn The Ships: There Is No Going Back

Ask Yourself: If Not You, Then Who?

BOTH HANDS TO THE PLOW

Luke 9:61-62 "Another also said, "I want to follow you, Lord, but first allow me to say good-bye to those who are at my house." (62) But Jesus said to him, "No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for God's Kingdom."

Luke 16:13 "No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."

OUR EXAMPLE: ELISHA

1 Kings 19:19-21 "So he departed from there, and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, who was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen before him, and he with the twelfth. Elijah went over to him, and put his mantle on him. (20) Elisha left the oxen, and ran after Elijah, and said, "Let me please kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you." He

said to him, "Go back again; for what have I done to you?" (21) He returned from following him, and took the yoke of oxen, and killed them, and boiled their meat with the instruments of the oxen, and gave to the people, and they ate. Then he arose, and went after Elijah, and served him."

OUR EXAMPLE: THE DISCIPLES

Matthew 4:18-22 "Walking by the sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers: Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew, his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. (19) He said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers for men." (20) They immediately left their nets and followed him. (21) Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. He called them. (22) They immediately left the boat and their father, and followed him."

Financial Biblical Guidelines To Support The Minister

1 Corinthians 9:14 "In the same way the Lord commanded those who proclaim the gospel to receive their living by the gospel."

2 Timothy 2:6 "The farmer who labors must be the first to get a share of the crops."

The Faithful Servant Remains At His Given Post

1 Corinthians 7:22-23 "For the one who was called in the Lord as a slave is the Lord's freedman. In the same way, the one who was called as a free person is Christ's slave. (23) You were bought with a price. Do not become slaves of men."

Matthew 24:42-47 "Watch therefore, for you don't know in what hour your Lord comes. (43) But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what watch of the night the thief was coming, he would have watched, and would not have allowed his house to be broken into. (44) Therefore also be ready, for in an hour that you don't expect, the Son of Man will come. (45) "Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom his lord has set over his household, to give them their food in due season? (46) Blessed is that servant whom his lord finds doing so when he comes. (47) Most certainly I tell you that he will set him over all that he has."

The Failure Of God's Church

Yet Paul Had To Make Tents To Survive.

Acts 18:2-4 "There he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all the Jews to depart from Rome. Paul approached them, (3) and because he worked at the same trade, he stayed with them and worked with them (for they were tentmakers by trade). (4) He addressed both Jews and Greeks in the synagogue every Sabbath, attempting to persuade them."

But This Was Not God's Will That The Body Of Christ Was Unfaithful.

1 Corinthians 9:8-15 "Do I speak these things according to the ways of men? Or doesn't the law also say the same thing? (9) For it is written in the law of Moses, "You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain." Is it for the oxen that God cares, (10) or does he say it assuredly for our sake? Yes, it was written for our sake, because he who plows ought to plow in hope, and he who threshes in hope should partake of his hope. (11) If we sowed to you spiritual things, is it a great thing if we reap your fleshly things? (12) If others partake of this right over you, don't we yet more? Nevertheless we didn't use this right, but we bear all things, that we may cause no hindrance to the Good News of Christ. (13) Don't you know that those who serve around sacred things eat from the things of the temple, and those who wait on the altar have their portion with the altar? (14) Even so the Lord ordained that those who proclaim the Good News should live from the Good News. (15) But I have used none of these things, and I don't write these things that it may be done so in my case; for I would rather die, than that anyone should make my boasting void."

He had to resort to taking funds from other churches to supply his necessary needs while serving disobedient churches.

2 Corinthians 11:7-9 "Or did I commit a sin in humbling myself that you might be exalted, because I preached to you God's Good News free of charge? (8) I robbed other assemblies, taking wages from them that I might serve you. (9) When I was present with you and was in need, I wasn't a burden on anyone, for the brothers, when they came from Macedonia, supplied the measure of my need. In everything I kept myself from being burdensome to you, and I will continue to do so."

God's Plan To Get Paul To Get The Work Done.

Of the 13 books/letters generally attributed to Paul, we find something striking. Paul's ministry is considered to have started around 34-36 AD at his conversion, and ending in 66 AD with his martyrdom in Rome.

From 34-36 AD to 57 AD Paul Traveled (Roughly 21-23 Years.)

Paul wrote what is called "The 6 Traveling Letters"

Romans, 1 and 2nd Corinthians, Galatians, 1st and 2nd Thesalonians

He wrote these outside of prison as he traveled, establishing the churches.

It seems to me that God put Paul in prison to finish the work that some churches would not fund for him to complete. This is an indictment against the Body!

Acts 21:11 "And when he was come unto us, he took Paul's belt, and bound his own hands and feet, and said, Thus says the Holy Ghost, So will the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man that owns this belt, and will deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles."

Acts 23:11 "The following night, the Lord stood by him, and said, "Cheer up, Paul, for as you have testified about me at Jerusalem, so you must testify also at Rome."

Acts 24:22-23 “And when Felix heard these things, having more perfect knowledge of that way, he deferred them, and said, When Lysias the chief captain shall come down, I will know the uttermost of your matter. (23) **And he commanded a centurion to keep Paul, and to let him have liberty, and that he should forbid none of his acquaintance to minister or come unto him.**”

Acts 24:27 “But after two years Porcius Festus came into Felix' room: and Felix, willing to show the Jews a pleasure, left Paul bound.”

Acts 27:1 “And when it was determined that we should sail into Italy, they delivered Paul and certain other prisoners unto one named Julius, a centurion of Augustus' band.”

Acts 28:8-11 “And it came to pass, that the father of Publius lay sick of a fever and of a bloody flux: to whom **Paul entered in, and prayed, and laid his hands on him, and healed him.** (9) **So when this was done, others also, which had diseases in the island, came, and were healed:** (10) Who also honoured us with many honours; and when we departed, they laded us with such things as were necessary. (11) **And after three months** we departed in a ship of Alexandria, which had wintered in the isle, whose sign was Castor and Pollux.”

Acts 28:16 “And when we came to Rome, the centurion delivered the prisoners to the captain of the guard: but **Paul was suffered to dwell by himself with a soldier that kept him.**”

Acts 28:30-31 “**And Paul dwelt two whole years in his own hired house, and received all that came in unto him, (31) Preaching the kingdom of God, and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ, with all confidence, no man forbidding him.**”

So, as we see here, God- from the failure of the body of Christ, provided another way for him to continue to minister and get the work done that he had to complete.

From 57AD to 66AD Paul Was Imprisoned (9 Years.)

Paul wrote what are called the Captive Letters in prison, which are 7 maybe 8 letters.

Philippians (Believed to be written from an imprisonment before Rome),

Colossians, Philemon, Ephesians, 1st and 2nd Timothy, and **Titus** (Believed to be written

during the period of his Roman imprisonment). **Note: Some assign the book of Hebrews to Paul during his Roman imprisonment, but some deny this point.**

Why do we cover this? Easy. God found a way for Paul to do in 9 years that which he could not do in 21-23 years. He allowed the situation to fulfill his calling and get him the time needed to focus on what we now call the New Testament. While some churches failed in their duty to support him, God used the prisoners of the Jews and Romans to be his church and house of worship. God's work was completed, but what blessings did those churches fail to receive because of their failure to support Paul? Now, consider that almost every Christian believer has read Paul's words for the past almost 2000 years. They could have had a hand in that and be blessed in Heaven for it, but now they will not. Yet, God found a way.

We Find This Profound Truth In The Book Of Acts. This explains God's will concerning ministers and regular work.

Now of the 12 disciples we are never told they left full time ministry to pursue work. We are only given the example of Paul on this matter. Yet 1/13 of the main characters in the NT outside of Jesus do not make a rule on how ministers are supposed to operate. What I see when I read Paul's story is a cautionary tale for the church, not a hard and fast rule for ministers. Now let's look at the hard and fast rule in scripture.

Acts 6:1-4 "And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministrations. (2) Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables. (3) Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business. (4) But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word."

2 Timothy 2:3-4 "You therefore must endure hardship, as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. (4) No soldier on duty entangles himself in the affairs of life, that he may please him who enrolled him as a soldier."

What It's Going To Take

Let me ask you this: what are you doing with your life? Are you just trying to get by and survive? Are you happy with that? Is that enough for you? And will you be happy about this when you stand before God and give an account of your life? Or, are you ready to do more for the Lord? You might not be called to full time ministry, but every believer is called to support God's ministry full time.

1 Timothy 6:7-10 "For we brought nothing into the world, and we certainly can't carry anything out. (8) But having food and clothing, we will be content with that. (9) But those who are determined to be rich fall into a temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful lusts, such as drown men in ruin and destruction. (10) For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some have been led astray from the faith in their greed, and have pierced themselves through with many sorrows."

Acts 2:42-47 "And they were continuing steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine, and in fellowship and in the breaking of the loaves, and in prayers. (43) And fear came on every soul. And many wonders and miracles took place through the apostles. (44) And all who believed were together and had all things common. (45) And they sold their possessions and goods and distributed them to all, according as anyone had need. (46) And continuing with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they shared food with gladness and simplicity of heart, (47) praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved."

Acts 4:32-37 “And the multitude of those who believed were of one heart and one soul. And not one said that any of the things which he possessed was his own. But they had all things common. (33) And the apostles gave witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power. And great grace was on them all. (34) For neither was anyone needy among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the prices of the things that were sold, (35) and they laid them down at the apostles' feet. And distribution was made to every man according as he had need. (36) And Joses, who was surnamed Barnabas by the apostles (which is, being translated, The son of consolation), a Levite, a Cypriot by race, (37) a field being his, selling it, he bore the proceeds and placed them at the apostles' feet.”

Then What Is The Correct Message Of This Ministry?

We must repeat the message given by our Lord Jesus.

Matthew 4:17 “From that time, Jesus began to preach, and to say, “Repent! For the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand.”

We must Reprove the World of Sin and tell them how to be righteous, and of the judgment to come. If you want to be working with the Holy Spirit in this task, you must be preaching the same thing as the Spirit.

John 16:7-8 “Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment.”

What Is Our Goal In Ministry?

To grow and spread the truth of the Bible. To Be faithful in growth. Repentant in failures, unwilling to quit, unyielding in commitment. To remain unsatisfied until our dying day on what has been done for God. Understanding good is not good enough for our Heavenly Father. Take note and enjoy our successes, but never rest in them. To give our all- heart, soul, mind, and spirit. Jesus gave His life, and this is the proper response for us, to give Him our life. Hold nothing back and press forward in this calling to follow Him.

How Will We Do This?

Heal the broken hearted, deliver the captives, help the blind to see the truth, free those who have been harmed, and preach what is acceptable to God.

Luke 4:18-19 “Jesus declares “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.”

How Should It Be Presented?

The Gospel Message should be presented as an opportunity of peace with God!

Romans 10:15 “And how will they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the Good News of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things!”

Romans 14:17-19 “for God’s Kingdom is not eating and drinking, but righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit. (18) For he who serves Christ in these things is acceptable to God and approved by men. (19) So then, let’s follow after things which make for peace, and things by which we may build one another up.”

MY Mentality About This Group

Every child of God is valuable in His sight. Yet, some remain in rebellion and despite Jesus’ attempts to leave the 99 and go after the lost sheep, they won’t return. So Jesus gave us this guideline for those who remain faithful to Him:

Mark 9:43-48 “If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life maimed, rather than having your two hands to go into Hell, into the unquenchable fire, (44) ‘where their worm doesn’t die, and the fire is not quenched.’ (45) If your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life lame, rather than having your two feet to be cast into Hell, into the fire that will never be quenched— (46) ‘where their worm doesn’t die, and the fire is not quenched.’ (47) If your eye causes you to stumble, cast it out. It is better for you to enter into God’s Kingdom with one eye, rather than having two eyes to be cast into the Hell of fire, (48) ‘where their worm doesn’t die, and the fire is not quenched.’”

Let Us Hear The Conclusion Of The Matter!

Isaiah 6:8 “And I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then I said, Here am I; send me!”

Isaiah 50:5-10 “The Lord Yahweh has opened my ear, and **I was not rebellious. I have not turned back.** (6) I gave my back to those who beat me, and my cheeks to those who plucked off the hair. I didn’t hide my face from shame and spitting. (7) For the Lord Yahweh will help me. Therefore I have not been confounded. Therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be disappointed. (8) He who justifies me is near. Who will bring charges against me? Let us stand up together. Who is my adversary? Let him come near to me. (9) Behold, the Lord Yahweh will help me! Who is he who will condemn me? Behold, they will all grow old like a garment. The moths will eat them up. (10) Who among you fears Yahweh, and obeys the voice of his servant? He who walks in darkness, and has no light, let him trust in Yahweh’s name, and rely on his God.”

1 Corinthians 9:16-19 “For if I preach the gospel, I have no reason for boasting, because I am compelled to do this. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! (17) For if I do this voluntarily, I have a reward. But if I do it unwillingly, I am entrusted with a responsibility. (18) What then is my reward? That when I preach the gospel I may offer the gospel free of charge, and so not make full use of my rights in the gospel. (19) For since I am free from all I can make myself a slave to all, in order to gain even more people.”

“Well Done” Is Not What I Seek To Hear

Matthew 25:21 “His master answered, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful in a few things. I will put you in charge of many things. Enter into the joy of your master.’”

When I stand before God and His throne, I seek to hear Him say: “This is my son and he has loved Me, and put his trust in Me.” For if I love Him, I will be faithful in my service. I will be obedient and do what is pleasing in His sight.

I Found A Greater Treasure Here On Earth: ~MY Wife & My Daughter~

You can never know the value of an unseen hidden treasure, unless it is unearthed. In all the sacrifice, I have unearthed the treasure found in my wife and oldest daughter. I would not have found it unless we had decided to give it all up to serve the Lord. Then the Lord revealed the heart of my wife and daughter in a way that can only be proven through experience. I have a wealth only given to a few, and only to those who seek it out. The loyalty and love of my wife and daughter for God and for me is unquestionable at this point. They have given up anything and everything asked of them, without complaint, for the cause of Christ. And giving their all in every way. They have not been a burden to fight against as I run hard after God. Step for step and move for move, they have not left my side. And they both, on their own, decided to continue on in this ministry no matter what happens, they did not want to give up what we have already sacrificed so greatly for. They are a priceless treasure that I will retain on earth as long as the Lord allows and in Heaven forever. In what matters most, I am filthy rich! Praise God!

Proverbs 12:4 “A wife with strength of character (Virtuous) is the crown of her husband,....”

Proverbs 31:10-12 “Who can find a woman of virtue? For her value is far above rubies. (11) The heart of her husband trusts safely in her, so that he shall have no need of plunder. (12) She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life.”