

The 28 Parables of Jesus
Two Worshipers
“I Need Thee Every Hour”

Bible Sermon Study Notes: Carlene Rodgers, Youth Evangelist

Every Hour: *continually*

Christ Object Lessons Page 150 “Two Worshipers”

Christ Parable

Luke 18:9-14

- 9 And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:
- 10 Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican.
- 11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men *are*, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican.
- 12 I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess.
- 13 And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as *his* eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.
- 14 I tell you, this man went down to his house justified *rather* than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

Who was the parable for?

Luke 18:9 And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:

This parable represents two types of worshipers a Pharisee and a publican.

Luke 18:10 Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican.

What is worship?

Worship: From G4314 and probably a derivative of G2965 (meaning to kiss, like a dog *licking* his master's hand); to *fawn* or *crouch to*, that is, (literally or figuratively) *prostrate* oneself in homage (*do reverence to, adore*): - worship. -*Strong's Definition*

Who's your master? Who are you are obedient to?

Romans 6:16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

Luke 16:13 No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

This parable makes the two different types of worship very clear that are in church today. Every person falls in one category or the other. There are only two choices and you have to chose who you will worship you cannot worship both. Even if they both profess to worship God one worshiper is justified or made righteous and the other remains guilty. Which type of worshiper are you?

How did the Pharisee worship?

Luke 18:11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican.

The Pharisee judged himself by looking at others. He thought he was “good” because he did some good things. To himself and others he seemed “good.” In his eyes he was righteous because he did not think he was as bad as others. Self was his standard of righteousness. He then compared others also with himself leading him to accuse and despise those who were not like him.

Luke 16:14, 15

14 And the Pharisees also, who were covetous, heard all these things: and they derided him.

15 And he said unto them, **Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God.**

1 Samuel 16:7 But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for *the LORD seeth* not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.

"Man's judgment is partial, imperfect; but God estimates all things as they really are. The drunkard is despised and is told that his sin will exclude him from heaven; while pride, selfishness, and covetousness too often go unrebuked. But these are sins that are especially offensive to God; for they are contrary to the benevolence of His character, to that unselfish love which is the very atmosphere of the unfallen universe. He who falls into some of the grosser sins may feel a sense of his shame and poverty and his need of the grace of Christ; but pride feels no need, and so it closes the heart against Christ and the infinite blessings He came to give. {SC 30.1}

The poor publican who prayed, "God be merciful to me a sinner" (Luke 18:13), regarded himself as a very wicked man, and others looked upon him in the same light; but he felt his need, and with his burden of guilt and shame he came before God, asking for His mercy. His heart was open for the Spirit of God to do its gracious work and set him free from the power of sin. The Pharisee's boastful, self-righteous prayer showed that his heart was closed against the influence of the Holy Spirit. **Because of his distance from God, he had no sense of his own defilement, in contrast with the perfection of the divine holiness. He felt no need, and he received nothing.** {SC 30.2}

We are to be like Jesus. Don't look at others, look to Jesus. Looking at others is a big mistake many make. They think they are good just because they think they are not as bad as others. Pointing to their works they say, "I am not an extortioner or an adulterer and I fast and pay my tithe." That was not all of the Ten Commandments, that was just a part of it. We need a Savior. Man's substitute will not lead us to eternal life. We must totally yield ourselves to God. When we yield to God completely ALL that God says to do we will obey—not just what we think is important or not or what others think but ALL that God reveals in His Word.

The Pharisee did not compare his character with the holy character of God but with other men. What is our standard of righteous? Who is to be our example?

Psalms 119:172 My tongue shall speak of thy word: for all thy commandments *are* righteousness.

Romans 7:12 Wherefore the law *is* holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good.

Ecclesiastes 12:13, 14

13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this *is* the whole *duty* of man.

14 For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether *it be* good, or whether *it be* evil.

James 2:10-12

10 For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one *point*, he is guilty of all.

11 For he that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law.

12 So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty.

Matthew 5:48 **Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.**

1 Peter 2:21-23

21 For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:

22 Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth:

23 Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed *himself*

to him that judgeth righteously:

What did the Pharisee say for commendation?

Luke 18:12 I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess.

The Pharisee wanted God and others to think that he was good. The Pharisee believed that he was good not recognize that without God he was not good. He did not think he needed Jesus.

“He proceeds to recount his good deeds: "I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess." The religion of the Pharisee does not touch the soul. He is not seeking Godlikeness of character, a heart filled with love and mercy. He is satisfied with a religion that has to do only with outward life. His righteousness is his own--the fruit of his own works--and judged by a human standard.” {COL 151.1}

“The life in which the fear of the Lord is cherished will not be a life of sadness and gloom. It is the absence of Christ that makes the countenance sad, and the life a pilgrimage of sighs. **Those who are filled with self-esteem and self-love do not feel the need of a living, personal union with Christ.** The heart that has not fallen on the Rock is proud of its wholeness. **Men want a dignified religion. They desire to walk in a path wide enough to take in their own attributes. Their self-love, their love of popularity and love of praise, exclude the Saviour from their hearts, and without Him there is gloom and sadness.** But Christ dwelling in the soul is a wellspring of joy. For all who receive Him, the very keynote of the word of God is rejoicing.” {COL 162.1}

What did God reveal as the real condition of the Pharisees?

Matthew 23:28 Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity.

Laodicea thought they were good, but what did God say? What was their true condition?

Revelation 3:14-22

- 14 And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;
- 15 I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.
- 16 So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.
- 17 Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:
- 18 I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and *that* the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.
- 19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.
- 20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.
- 21 To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.
- 22 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

Example of the Rich young ruler

Matthew 19:16-22

- 16 And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?
- 17 And he said unto him, **Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments.**
- 18 He saith unto him, Which? Jesus said, **Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness,**
- 19 **Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.**
- 20 The young man saith unto him, All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet?
- 21 Jesus said unto him, **If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt**

have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me.

22 But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions.

“This ruler had a high estimate of his own righteousness. He did not really suppose that he was defective in anything, yet he was not altogether satisfied. He felt the want of something that he did not possess. Could not Jesus bless him as He blessed the little children, and satisfy his soul want?” {DA 518.4}

What is Jesus example

2 Corinthians 8:9 For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, **though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.**

Their are only two worshipers (True and False). What is the characteristics of the worshipers?

Cain vs. Abel

Genesis 4:3-8

- 3 And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD.
- 4 And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering:
- 5 But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell.
- 6 And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen?
- 7 If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee *shall be* his desire, and thou shalt rule over him.
- 8 And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.

“The Pharisee and the publican represent two great classes into which those who come to worship God are divided. Their first two representatives are found in the first two children that were born into the world. Cain thought himself righteous, and he came to God with a thank offering only. He made no confession of sin, and acknowledged no need of mercy. But Abel came with the blood that pointed to the Lamb of God. He came as a sinner, confessing himself lost; his only hope was the unmerited love of God. The Lord had respect to his offering, but to Cain and his offering He had not respect. The sense of need, the recognition of our poverty and sin, is the very first condition of acceptance with God. "Blessed are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 5:3. {COL 152.1}

Cain and Abel were both

- *sinners*
- *acknowledged the claims of God to reverence and worship*
- *outwardly their religion was the same up to a certain point {both brought offerings}*

Cain

- *had no sorrow for sin because he thought he was good already*
- *he chose self-dependence what he believed was good or important to do*
- *he was not obedient to all of God's requirements he would not bring the lamb*
- *he came with his own merits*
- *he presented his offering as a favor done to God*
- ***chose unbelief and rebellion***

Abel

- *saw himself a sinner*
- *recognized sin and its penalty, death, standing between his soul and communion with God*
- *he brought the sacrificed lamb acknowledging the claims of the law that had been transgressed.*
- *believed in the future sacrifice of Christ dying on the cross trusting in the atonement that was there to be made*
- ***chose faith and obedience***

“Cain and Abel represent two classes that will exist in the world till the close of time. One class avail themselves of the appointed sacrifice for sin; the other venture to depend upon their own merits; theirs is a sacrifice without the virtue of divine mediation, and thus it is not able to bring man into favor with God. It is only through the merits of Jesus that our transgressions can be pardoned. Those who feel no need of the blood of Christ, who feel that without divine grace they can by their own works secure the approval of God, are making the same mistake as did Cain. If they do not accept the cleansing blood, they are under condemnation. There is no other provision made whereby they can be released from the thralldom of sin.”
 {PP 72.5}

“The class of worshipers who follow the example of Cain includes by far the greater portion of the world; for nearly every false religion has been based on the same principle--that man can depend upon his own efforts for salvation. It is claimed by some that the human race is in need, not of redemption, but of development--that it can refine, elevate, and regenerate itself. As Cain thought to secure the divine favor by an offering that lacked the blood of a sacrifice, so do these expect to exalt humanity to the divine standard, independent of the atonement. The history of Cain shows what must be the results. It shows what man will become apart from Christ. Humanity has no power to regenerate itself. It does not tend upward, toward the divine, but downward, toward the satanic. Christ is our only hope. “There is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.” “Neither is there salvation in any other.” Acts 4:12.” {PP 73.1}

Judas

John 12:3-8

- 3 Then took Mary a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped his feet with her hair: and the house was filled with the odour of the ointment.
- 4 Then saith one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's *son*, which should betray him,
- 5 Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence, and given to the poor?
- 6 This he said, not that he cared for the poor; but because he was a thief, and had the bag, and bare what was put therein.
- 7 Then said Jesus, **Let her alone: against the day of my burying hath she kept this.**
- 8 **For the poor always ye have with you; but me ye have not always.**

Matthew 26:7-16, 21-25

- 7 There came unto him a woman having an alabaster box of very precious ointment, and poured it on his head, as he sat *at meat*.
- 8 But when his disciples saw *it*, they had indignation, saying, To what purpose *is* this waste?
- 9 For this ointment might have been sold for much, and given to the poor.
- 10 When Jesus understood *it*, he said unto them, **Why trouble ye the woman? for she hath wrought a good work upon me.**
- 11 **For ye have the poor always with you; but me ye have not always.**
- 12 **For in that she hath poured this ointment on my body, she did *it* for my burial.**
- 13 **Verily I say unto you, Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached in the whole world, *there* shall also this, that this woman hath done, be told for a memorial of her.**
- 14 Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went unto the chief priests,
- 15 And said *unto them*, What will ye give me, and I will deliver him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver.
- 16 And from that time he sought opportunity to betray him.
- 21 And as they did eat, he said, **Verily I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me.**
- 22 And they were exceeding sorrowful, and began every one of them to say unto him, Lord, is it I?
- 23 And he answered and said, **He that dippeth *his* hand with me in the dish, the same shall betray me.**
- 24 **The Son of man goeth as it is written of him: but woe unto that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed! *it had been good for that man if he had not been born.***
- 25 Then Judas, which betrayed him, answered and said, Master, is it I? He said unto him, **Thou hast said.**

Who are the false worshipers really worshiping? Whose child are they?

Revelation 2:9 I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and *I know* the blasphemy of

them which say they are Jews, and are not, but *are* the synagogue of Satan.

Revelation 3:9 Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee.

1 John 3:8-13

8 He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

9 Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

10 In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.

11 For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.

12 Not as Cain, *who* was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous.

13 Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you.

Judas=John 17:12 While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled.

Perdition: From a presumed derivative of [G622](#); *ruin* or *loss* (physical, spiritual or eternal): - damnable (-nation), destruction, die, perdition, X perish, pernicious ways, waste. ***Strong's Definition***

Who is the father of destruction?

John 10:10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *it* more abundantly.

John 8:44 Ye are of *your* father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

1 John 3:8 He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

Do all false worshipers know they are worshiping Satan?

Revelation 3:17, 18

17 Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:

18 I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and *that* the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.

So did the Pharisee know his real condition? No

What shows us our true condition?

Romans 7:7 What shall we say then? *Is* the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet.

Romans 3:20 Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law *is* the knowledge of sin.

Proverbs 6:23 For the commandment *is* a lamp; and the law *is* light; and reproofs of instruction *are* the way of life:

Psalms 119:105 NUN. Thy word *is* a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

When Light comes it depends of the individual to accept it or not.

John 8:12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, **I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.**

1 John 1:5, 6

5 This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

6 If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:

John 3:19-21

19 **And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.**

20 **For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved.**

21 **But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.**

John 15:22 **If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no cloke for their sin.**

What does Christ reveal?

Matthew 5:17-22, 27, 28

17 **Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.**

18 **For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.**

19 **Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach *them*, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.**

20 **For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed *the righteousness* of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.**

21 **Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment:**

22 **But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.**

27 **Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery:**

28 **But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.**

John 4:24 **God *is* a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship *him* in spirit and in truth.**

True worshipers yield themselves to obey all the truth that God commands in His Word including the truth of the seventh-day Sabbath.

What is the difference between True and False Worship?

James 1:26, 27

26 **“If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridled not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion *is* vain.**

27 **Pure religion [*worshipping – Strong's Definition*] and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, **and to keep himself unspotted from the world.**”**

1 John 2:15, 16

15 **Love not the world, neither the things *that are* in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.**

16 For all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

James 4:4 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

True worship is keeping self unspotted from the world. False worship mixes worldliness in their life.

1 Corinthians 10:21 Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils.

True worshipers don't look and act or eat like the world but do all things to the glory of God, the one they worship.

1 Corinthians 10:31 Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.

Last Days True Worshipers vs. False Worshipers, Worship God or Worship the Beast and Dragon=Satan

Revelation 14:6-12

- 6 And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people,
- 7 Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.
- 8 And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.
- 9 And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive *his* mark in his forehead, or in his hand,
- 10 The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb:
- 11 And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.
- 12 Here is the patience of the saints: here *are* they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.

How does Babylon consider itself?

Revelation 18:7, 8

- 7 How much she hath glorified herself, and lived deliciously, so much torment and sorrow give her: for she saith in her heart, I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow.
- 8 Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong *is* the Lord God who judgeth her.

Who will worship the Beast who is really being worshiped?

Revelation 13:3, 4

- 3 And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast.
- 4 And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who *is* like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?

Who is the dragon?

Revelation 12:9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

What is God's plea to those in Babylon?

Revelation 18:4-6

- 4 And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, **Come out of her, my people**, that ye be not partakers of

her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.

5 For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.

6 Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double.

Who do you worship? You cannot choose both!

The Elijah Message

1 Kings 18:21 And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD *be* God, follow him: but if Baal, *then* follow him. And the people answered him not a word.

Mark of the Beast Crisis

"...If any man worship the beast and his image..." Revelation 14:9

Revelation 13:15-16

15 And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.

16 And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads:

"Whenever, through faith in the Lamb of God, a soul renounces the service of sin, Satan's wrath is kindled. The holy life of Abel testified against Satan's claim that it is impossible for man to keep God's law. When Cain, moved by the spirit of the wicked one, saw that he could not control Abel, he was so enraged that he destroyed his life. And wherever there are any who will stand in vindication of the righteousness of the law of God, the same spirit will be manifested against them. It is the spirit that through all the ages has set up the stake and kindled the burning pile for the disciples of Christ. But the cruelties heaped upon the follower of Jesus are instigated by Satan and his hosts because they cannot force him to submit to their control. It is the rage of a vanquished foe. Every martyr of Jesus has died a conqueror. Says the prophet, "They overcame him ["that old serpent, called the devil, and Satan"] by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death." Revelation 12:11, 9." {PP 77.1}

"The church must again become the conscience of the government. Through its national solemn assembly it should clearly and respectfully call political leadership to God's principles for government..." - thegathering2016.com/about.

Do you remember when the government was the conscience of the people in history and how it resulted in persecution? Freedom of religion is a fundamental right of all human beings given by God. Even in the Declaration of Independence it says that "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

God's appeal

Peter and his conversion

What was God's warning to Peter? What was Peter's response?

Matthew 26:33-46, 69-75

33 Peter answered and said unto him, Though all *men* shall be offended because of thee, *yet* will I never be offended.

34 Jesus said unto him, **Verily I say unto thee, That this night, before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice.**

35 Peter said unto him, Though I should die with thee, yet will I not deny thee. Likewise also said all the disciples.

36 Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, **Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder.**

37 And he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful and very heavy.

38 Then saith he unto them, **My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me.**

- 39 And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, **O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.**
- 40 And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, **What, could ye not watch with me one hour?**
- 41 **Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.**
- 42 He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, **O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done.**
- 43 And he came and found them asleep again: for their eyes were heavy.
- 44 And he left them, and went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words.
- 45 Then cometh he to his disciples, and saith unto them, **Sleep on now, and take your rest: behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.**
- 46 **Rise, let us be going: behold, he is at hand that doth betray me.**
- 69 Now Peter sat without in the palace: and a damsel came unto him, saying, Thou also wast with Jesus of Galilee.
- 70 But he denied before *them* all, saying, I know not what thou sayest.
- 71 And when he was gone out into the porch, another *maid* saw him, and said unto them that were there, This *fellow* was also with Jesus of Nazareth.
- 72 And again he denied with an oath, I do not know the man.
- 73 And after a while came unto *him* they that stood by, and said to Peter, Surely thou also art *one* of them; for thy speech bewrayeth thee.
- 74 Then began he to curse and to swear, *saying*, I know not the man. And immediately the cock crew.
- 75 And Peter remembered the word of Jesus, which said unto him, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. And he went out, and wept bitterly.

“...the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

Romans 7:18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but *how* to perform that which is good I find not.

Romans 8:1-4

- 1 *There is* therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.
- 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.
- 3 For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:
- 4 That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

We need God every hour. We are dependent on Him.

John 15:4, 5

- 4 **Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.**
- 5 **I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.**

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

Hebrews 10:15-23

- 15 *Whereof* the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us: for after that he had said before,
- 16 This *is* the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them;
- 17 And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.
- 18 Now where remission of these *is*, *there is* no more offering for sin.
- 19 Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,
- 20 By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh;
- 21 And *having* an high priest over the house of God;
- 22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil

conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

23 Let us hold fast the profession of *our* faith without wavering; (for he *is* faithful that promised;)

How does the Bible say we are apart from Christ?

Romans 8:8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.

Isaiah 64:6 But we are all as an unclean *thing*, and all our righteousnesses *are* as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

Job 14:4 Who can bring a clean *thing* out of an unclean? not one.

John 3:5-8

5 Jesus answered, *Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.*

6 *That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.*

7 *Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.*

8 *The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.*

We need help!

Luke 18:13-14

13 *And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.*

14 *I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.*

Despite our messed up condition what did God do to clean us up?

Revelation 1:5, 6

5 *And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,*

6 *And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.*

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Ephesians 2:8, 9

8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God:

9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.

John 14:21-24

21 *He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.*

22 *Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world?*

23 *Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.*

24 *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 14:15 *If ye love me, keep my commandments.*

All who yield themselves to God completely and allow God to work in them to will and to do His pleasure will be justified by God as True Worshipers.

Jude 1:24, 25

- 24 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present *you* faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,
 25 To the only wise God our Saviour, *be* glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

Jesus is coming again for True Worshipers to reward them with the gift He promised.

John 14:1-3

- 1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.
 2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if *it were not so*, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.
 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, *there ye may be also*.

Revelation 22:12 And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward *is* with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

Do you want the gift? Are you a True Worshiper? Recognize your need and yield yourself to Him completely and let Him work in you to let go of sin and wordliness obeying ALL His commands, holding on to Him—watching and praying, because we NEED HIM every hour.

I Need Thee Every Hour

I need Thee every hour,
 Most gracious Lord;
 No tender voice like Thine
 Can peace afford.

Refrain:

*I need Thee, oh, I need Thee;
 Every hour I need Thee;
 Oh, bless me now, my Savior!
 I come to Thee.*

**I need Thee every hour,
 Stay Thou near by;
 Temptations lose their power
 When Thou art nigh.**

I need Thee every hour,
 In joy or pain;
 Come quickly and abide,
 Or life is vain.

I need Thee every hour,
 Teach me Thy will;
 And Thy rich promises
 In me fulfill.

I need Thee every hour,
 Most Holy One;
 Oh, make me Thine indeed,
 Thou blessed Son.