

A GODLY MAN AND THE CROSS II

MATTHEW 16:24

24 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

MARK 8:34

34 And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

LUKE 9:23

23 And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.

THE. INVASION. OF. THE. UNITED. STATES_ JEFF. IN V-26 N-1 SUNDAY_ 54-0509
70. We're always telling of the beauty and the attraction of the church.

But we fail to tell them, "He that will follow Me, let him deny himself, take up his cross and follow Me. " I wonder if we haven't made the beauty of the church too pretty for the fellow that comes in.

THE. INVASION. OF. THE. UNITED. STATES_ JEFF. IN V-26 N-1 SUNDAY_ 54-0509
71. taking in members by the thousands, and the tens of thousands, unconverted, just people who walk in and join the church.

And it's an indebtiment to the Church of Jesus Christ, to take such members in. They still drink. They still smoke. They still gamble. They still lie.

They come to the church, expecting to be entertained by a bunch of Hollywood evangelists that gets up, put on a lot of glamour, and a lot of big instruments setting up-and-down on the platform, when, they ought to have an old fashion, God-first, crying out, altar call down there;

where men and women don't come to glamorize, or to run up and act a clown, but to get down to the altar and realize that the death of Jesus Christ there, that died for them, that they're getting back sincere with God again.

THE. INVASION. OF. THE. UNITED. STATES_ JEFF. IN V-26 N-1 SUNDAY_ 54-0509
74 I wonder if we're not living in that kind of a time, when we take great evangelists, like many that's crossing the lands today, of great, known evangelists who has studied psychology and attract the people to the church.

But after you once get them into the church, then what you going to do to them? What--what are they going to happen after they get into the church? Just join the church, and go back with the same sin and the same desire that they come into the church with. They go back the same way.

And that's the reason today the world looks on, said, "Well, if that man got religion, if this person got religion. . . "
I'm afraid we've made it too easy. It's. . . I love--I think, joy, certainly, I believe that all joys lays in Jesus Christ. That's right. I believe it's joyful and happy.

But remember, brother, it's the way of agony and suffering and the cross. You must realize that too. That's right. I wonder if we haven't painted a little too--a little too smooth like.

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83 I tell you, we got, "Raise up your hands, who wants to accept Christ," all like that. That's all right, brother, but that don't--that don't expel sin.

You've got to repent first, get right, get down there and really cry out....."He that will follow Me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and die daily. " Stay dead there on the cross. That's right. Agony. . . "The way, I'll take the way," you sing, "with the Lord's despised few. "

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115. Jesus said, "Except a man be born of water and Spirit, he will in no wise enter into the Kingdom. He that will for. . . will follow after Me, let him deny himself and his own worldly pleasure, take up His cross and follow after Me. "

Cross is a symbol of death, agony. "He that will be a Christian, let him strip himself of his own thoughts. Let him strip himself of his own works.

Let him strip himself of everything, denying himself, and take up that consecrated cross, and follow Me daily. He that will come after Me, let him do that. " That's what Jesus said.

CHRIST_ PHOENIX. AZ MONDAY_ 55-0221

E-17 Did you notice? Abel, when he offered the more excellent sacrifice (in which God testified that he was righteous), Abel slew his lamb on the rock, and Abel died on the same rock with his lamb.

And every believer that comes to Christ must come to the same cross of self-denial, and die there with the Lamb, with his Lamb. Die out to own thoughts; die out to your own mental thinking. Just take what the Holy Spirit says in your heart, then live for Christ.

GREATER. THAN. SOLOMON. IS. HERE_ TUCSON. AZ WEDNESDAY_ 63-0605

38 The church needs, tonight, not a soft hybrid something, soft and flabby like the church is, just make a confession, be baptized, and you're--you're a Christian. To be a Christian is self-denial. "Deny yourself.

Take up your cross. Follow Me daily. " Today it's so soft, and people call themselves Christians. When, it used to mean death, to confess Christ, and you had to depend on Him daily for everything you had need of.

BE. NOT. AFRAID_ TUCSON. AZ FRIDAY_ 63-0607

105. Christianity is one of the softest things. "All they do is put their name on a book, and have somebody to sprinkle them, or something another,

and give the minister the right hand of fellowship. And that's all there is to it. Go on out. " That's not Christianity.

106 Christianity is self-denial. "Take up your cross daily. Follow Him. " Die out, to the things of the world.

INVESTMENTS_ CHICAGO. IL V-21 N-5 SATURDAY_ 63-0803B

120. Jesus told him, "And come, follow Me, take up your cross. "

121 Not take up your popularity, where everybody saying, "Certainly, doctor, come right in. It's such a great thing to have you here. Oh, the deacon, you fine. . . "

122 See, it's a cross. And you, they might call you "crazy, heresy. " And as Paul, you could testify, "In the way that's called 'heresy,' that's the way I worship the God of our Fathers. " See? We've had other men before us, who had to make these decisions.

I CORINTHIANS 1:22

22 For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom:

I CORINTHIANS 1:23

23 But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness;

I CORINTHIANS 1:24

24 But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.

GALATIANS 5:11

11 And I, brethren, if I yet preach circumcision, why do I yet suffer persecution? then is the offence of the cross ceased.

GALATIANS 6:12

12 As many as desire to make a fair shew in the flesh, they constrain you to be circumcised; only lest they should suffer persecution for the cross of Christ.

GALATIANS 6:13

13 For neither they themselves who are circumcised keep the law; but desire to have you circumcised, that they may glory in your flesh.

GALATIANS 6:14

14 But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world.

LUTHER SAID:

By the Cross of Christ is not to be understood here the two pieces of wood to which He was nailed, but all the afflictions of the believers whose sufferings are Christ's sufferings.

Elsewhere Paul writes: "Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church. " (Col 1:24.)

GALATIANS 6:14

14 But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is *CRUCIFIED unto me, and I unto the world.

CRUCIFIED: stauroo {stow-ro'-o}

to stake, drive down stakes,
metaph. to crucify the flesh, destroy its power utterly (the nature of the figure implying that the destruction is attended with intense pain).

GALATIANS 2:20

20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

GALATIANS 5:24

24 And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

PHILIPPIANS 2:5

5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

PHILIPPIANS 2:6

6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

PHILIPPIANS 2:7

7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

PHILIPPIANS 2:8

8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

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