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AS YOUR FAITH IS

Part 2: Prayer, Purpose, Presence

Act Now: While Supplies Last!

WANTED :



JESUS CHRIST

Alias: The Messiah, The Son Of God, King Of Kings Lord Of Lords, Prince Of Peace, Etc.

- Notorious leader of an underground liberation movement
- Wanted for the following charges:
 - Practicing medicine, winemaking and food distribution without a license.
 - Interfering with businessmen in the temple.
 - Associating with known criminals, radicals, subversives, prostitutes and street people.
 - Claiming to have the authority to make people into God's children.

APPEARANCE: Typical hippie type—long hair, beard, robe, sandals.
> Hangs around slum areas, few rich friends, often sneaks out into the desert.
BEWARE: This man is extremely dangerous. His insidiously inflammatory message is particularly dangerous to young people who haven't been taught to ignore him yet. He changes men and claims to set them free.

WARNING: HE IS STILL AT LARGE!

THE FINGERPRINTS OF GOD

(ekzēteō) – To Earnestly Seek

We are to SEEK HIM in Everything!



RECOGNIZE THE TIME, THE SEASON

As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax office, and he said to him, “**Follow me,**” and he got up and followed him.

While he was reclining at the table in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came to eat with Jesus and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?”

Now when he heard this, he said, “It is not those who are well who need a doctor, but those who are sick. **Go and learn what this means: I desire mercy and not sacrifice., For I didn't come to call the righteous, but sinners.**”

Matthew 9:9–13 CSB

RECOGNIZE THE TIME, THE SEASON

Then John's disciples came to him, saying, "Why do we and the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples do not fast?"

Jesus said to them, "Can the wedding guests be sad while the groom is with them? **The time will come when the groom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast.**

No one patches an old garment with unshrunk cloth, because the patch pulls away from the garment and makes the tear worse. And no one puts new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the skins burst, the wine spills out, and the skins are ruined. No, **they put new wine into fresh wineskins, and both are preserved.**"

Matthew 9:14–17 CSB

AS YOUR FAITH IS, SO BE IT UNTO YOU

As he was telling them these things, suddenly one of the leaders came and knelt down before him, saying, “**My daughter just died, but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live.**” So Jesus and his disciples got up and followed him.

Just then, a woman who had suffered from bleeding for twelve years approached from behind and touched the end of his robe, for she said to herself, “**If I can just touch his robe, I’ll be made well.**”

Jesus turned and saw her. “**Have courage, daughter,**” he said. “**Your faith has saved you.**” And the woman was made well from that moment.

When Jesus came to the leader’s house, he saw the flute players and a crowd lamenting loudly. “Leave,” he said, “because the girl is not dead but asleep.” And they laughed at him. **After the crowd had been put outside,** he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. Then news of this spread throughout that whole area.

Matthew 9:18–26 CSB

WHAT DO YOU REALLY BELIEVE?

As Jesus went on from there, two blind men followed him, calling out, “Have mercy on us, Son of David!”

When he entered the house, the blind men approached him, and Jesus said to them, “**Do you believe that I can do this?**”

They said to him, “**Yes, Lord.**”

Then he touched their eyes, saying, “**Let it be done for you according to your faith.**” And their eyes were opened. Then Jesus warned them sternly, “**Be sure that no one finds out.**” But they went out and spread the news about him throughout that whole area.

Matthew 9:27–31 CSB

DEMONS ARE SUBJECT TO JESUS THEN & NOW!

Just as they were going out, a demon-possessed man who was unable to speak **was brought to him.**

When the demon had been driven out, the man who had been mute spoke, and the crowds were amazed, saying, “**Nothing like this has ever been seen in Israel!**”

But the Pharisees said, “He drives out demons by the ruler of the demons.”

Matthew 9:32–34 CSB

PRAY TO THE LORD OF THE HARVEST

Jesus continued going around to all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every sickness.,

When he saw the crowds, he felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd.

Then he said to his disciples, **“The harvest is abundant, but the workers are few. Therefore, pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into his harvest.”**

Matthew 9:35–38 CSB

PRAY UNTIL ENCOUNTER & BREAKTHROUGH

Now He was telling them a parable to show that **at all times** they ought to **pray and not to lose heart**, saying,

“In a certain city there was a judge who did not fear God and did not respect man. Now there was a widow in that city, and she kept coming to him, saying, ‘Give me justice from my opponent.’

“And for a while he was unwilling; but afterward he said to himself, ‘Even though I do not fear God nor respect man, yet because this widow is bothering me, I will give her justice, lest by continually coming she wears me out.’”

And the Lord said, “Hear what the unjust judge said. Now, will God not bring about justice for His elect who cry to Him day and night, and will He delay long over them? “I tell you that He will bring about justice for them quickly. **However, when the Son of Man comes, will He find that faith on the earth?**”

Luke 18:1–8 LSB

SEEK RELENTLESSLY IN CONSTANT HUMILITY

And He also told this parable to some people who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and viewed others with contempt: “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.

“The Pharisee stood and was praying these things to himself: ‘God, I thank You that I am not like other people: swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ‘I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all that I get.’

“But the tax collector, standing some distance away, was even unwilling to lift up his eyes to heaven, but was beating his chest, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, the sinner!’

“I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other, for **everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.**”

Luke 18:9–14 LSB

SEEK RELENTLESSLY IN CONSTANT HUMILITY

And they were bringing even their babies to Him so that He would touch them, but when the disciples saw it, they were rebuking them.

But Jesus called for them, saying, “Permit the children to come to Me, and do not hinder them, for **the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.**

“Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child will never enter it.”

Luke 18:15–17 LSB

RELATIONSHIP

CHRISTIANITY
is not a religion,

RELIGION is HUMANS
trying to work their way to God.

CHRISTIANITY is GOD
coming to men and women through
a relationship with Jesus Christ.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten son, that
whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life
JOHN 3:16

OLD: Come and see that My
people are different, set apart.

NEW: Go and tell what I have
done for them! Reconcile!



THRESHING FLOOR'S ASSIGNMENT

There is an appointed time for everything. And there is a time for every matter under heaven—

Ecclesiastes 3:1 LSB

It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, but the glory of kings is to search out a matter.

Proverbs 25:2 LSB

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who **earnestly seek** him.

Hebrews 11:6 NIV

JUSTIFIED FOR RELATIONSHIP! **BE HIS WITH HIM!**

By entering through faith into what God has always wanted to do for us—**set us right with him, make us fit for him**—we have it all together with God because of our Master Jesus. And that's not all: We throw open our doors to God and discover at the same moment that he has already thrown open his door to us. We find ourselves standing where we always hoped we might stand—out in the wide open spaces of God's grace and glory, standing tall and shouting our praise.

There's more to come: We continue to shout our praise even when we're hemmed in with troubles, because we know how troubles can develop **passionate patience** in us, and how that patience in turn forges the **tempered steel of virtue**, keeping us **alert for whatever God will do next**.

In **alert expectancy** such as this, we're never left feeling shortchanged. Quite the contrary—we can't round up enough containers to hold everything God generously pours into our lives through the Holy Spirit!

Romans 5:1–5 MSG

AS YOUR FAITH IS SO BE IT UNTO YOU



“From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and violent men take it by force.”

Matthew 11:12 NASB

“Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I go to the Father.”

“Whatever you ask in My name, that will I do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it. If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.”

John 14:12–15 NASB