Make Your Calling and Election Sure

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THINK on THIS;

Wherefore the rather, brethren, **give diligence** to **make your calling and election sure**: (2 Pet. 1:10)

Enter ye in at the strait gate: <u>for wide is the gate</u>, and <u>broad is the way</u>, <u>that leadeth</u> <u>to destruction</u>, and <u>many there be which go in thereat</u>: Because strait is the gate, and <u>narrow is the way</u>, <u>which leadeth unto life</u>, and <u>few there be that find it</u>.

(Matt. 7:13,14)

Pay Close Attention to What the Cultural Research Center

(Arizona Christian University) said in the American Worldview Inventory (2020).

The study goes on to say;

- * 70% of Americans state they are Christians.
- * 75% of Americans believe they are good and probably going to Heaven.
- * 58% of Americans reject the idea of Absolute Truth.
- * 40% of Americans say they are Born-Again.
- * But only 6% say they have a Biblical World View.
- * And for Adults between the ages of (18-29) that drops to 2%. It's probably much worst now!

Why Is This So Urgent? (Let's Look at God's Future Judgment)
There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death. (Prov. 16:25)

Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven; but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven. Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' "And then I will declare to them, I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.

(Matt. 7:21-23

Believers Live Out Their Lives From a Biblical Worldview (Character, Fruit)
Believers are called Disciples in the Bible. The problem is, not all Christians are disciples. God is looking for Fruit not Gifts! This means we live for God and obey
His Word through the power of the Holy Spirit. Don't be deceived, you cannot willfully disobey God and think everything is okay between you and Him!

We were created to please God. We were created for Him. Jesus must be our First and Last Love. Worship Him nothing else! Peter had to learn his lesson the hard way when he told the Lord he would die for Him but yet denied Him three times (Luke 22:54-62).

Yet for us there is only one God, the Father, from whom are all things, and <u>we exist for Him</u>; and one Lord, Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and <u>we exist through Him</u>.

(1 Cor. 8:6) NASB

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to <u>present your bodies as a living sacrifice</u>, <u>holy and acceptable to God</u>, <u>which is your spiritual worship</u>. Do not be conformed to this world, but <u>be transformed by the renewal of your mind</u>, that by testing <u>you may discern what is the will of God</u>, what is good and acceptable and perfect. (Rom. 12:1,2) ESVS

<u>I am crucified with Christ</u>: nevertheless <u>I live</u>; <u>yet not I</u>, but <u>Christ liveth in me</u>: and the life which I now live in the flesh <u>I live by the faith of the Son of God</u>, <u>who loved me</u>, and <u>gave himself for me</u>. (Gal. 2:20)

In These Last Days God Will Not Tolerate Willful Ignorance

God is extremely angry with <u>those who do not Fear His Name</u>, and are <u>willfully ignorant</u> <u>of His will</u>. He will not tolerate a slothful person who does not heed His Word.

"So <u>having overlooked the times of ignorance</u>, <u>God is now proclaiming to mankind that all people everywhere are to repent</u>, because <u>He has set a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed</u>, having furnished proof to all people by <u>raising Him from the dead</u>." (Acts 17:30,31) NASB

Only Those in the Glorious Church will Experience the Rapture

Do you really think that you can ignore God and live the way you want and still be Blessed to go up in the Rapture? Think and meditate on the scripture below.

That <u>he might present it to himself a glorious church</u>, <u>not having spot</u>, <u>or wrinkle</u>, <u>or any such thing</u>; but <u>that it should be holy and without blemish</u>. (Eph. 5:27)

A Born Again Person is Not Perfect but Must Hate Sin

We are all maturing into the image of Jesus. Anyone who notices that they are not growing daily should also realize there is something terribly wrong. They should humble themselves immediately before God and pray for clarity to find out what's wrong.

And if sin is the problem, we should pray and seek the Lord's face until the problem is defeated. Don't let that sin live another day.

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. **If we say that we have fellowship with him**, and **walk in darkness**, **we lie**, and **do not the truth**: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, **we have fellowship one with another**, and **the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin**. (1 John 1:5-7)

There is a <u>Great Difference</u> Between the Mistake of Sin and the Practice of Sin Christians make mistakes in our earthly bodies because we still live in the flesh and this sinful sick world at times gets the best of us. But, a child of God <u>will never practice sin</u>. He was delivered from it and cannot stay in it.

What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. We who died to sin, how shall we any longer live therein? Or are ye ignorant that all we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him through baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life. For if we have become united with him in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection; knowing this, that our old man was crucified with him, that the body of sin might be done away, that so we should no longer be in bondage to sin: (Rom. 6:1-6) ASV

My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him. He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked. (1 John 2:1-6)

And everyone who thus <u>hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure</u>. Everyone who makes a <u>practice of sinning</u>. also practices lawlessness; <u>sin is lawlessness</u>. You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and <u>in him there is no sin</u>.

No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous. Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him; and he cannot keep on sinning, because he has been born of God. By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother. (1 John 3:3-10) ESV

Love is God's Light in the Believer

He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now. He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him. But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes.

(1 John 2:9-11)

If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, <u>but have not love</u>, <u>I am become</u> <u>sounding brass</u>, or <u>a clanging cymbal</u>. And if I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, <u>but have not love</u>, <u>I am nothing</u>. And if I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and if I give my body 1to be burned, <u>but have not love</u>, <u>it profiteth me nothing</u>. <u>Love suffereth long</u>, and <u>is kind</u>; <u>love envieth not</u>; <u>love vaunteth not itself</u>, <u>is not puffed up</u>, <u>doth not behave itself unseemly</u>, <u>seeketh not its own</u>, <u>is not provoked</u>, <u>taketh not account of evil</u>; <u>rejoiceth not in unrighteousness</u>, but <u>rejoiceth with the truth</u>; <u>beareth all things</u>, <u>believeth all things</u>, <u>hopeth all things</u>, <u>endureth all things</u>. <u>Love never faileth</u>:

(1 Cor. 13:1-8) ASV

Love God - Not the World

<u>of the Father is not in him</u>. For all that is in the world, <u>the lust of the flesh</u> and <u>the lust of the eyes</u> and <u>the boastful pride of life</u>, is not from the Father, but is from the world. The world is passing away and also its lusts; but the one who <u>does the will of God</u> <u>continues to live forever</u>. (1 John 2:15-17) NASB

Some say; God is Love, He doesn't send anyone to Hell. Well, your half right. He doesn't send anyone to Hell, you send yourself by denying His will.

Love Speaks the TRUTH

Instead, **speaking the truth in love**, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, **grows and builds itself up in love**, as each part does its work. (Eph. 4:15,16)

Love without Truth is Hypocrisy, Truth without Love is Brutality:

This Brings Us to Our Next Lesson; (Lesson # 14) "Go and Make Disciples of all the Nations"

We are lively stones in the spiritual house of God. We are alive unto God by His Spirit, made into a holy priesthood. We are not a social gathering, a denomination, a ritual, creed, or dogma, we are God's living stones comprising God's spiritual house. We are living stones connected the LIVING STONE precious in the sight of God.