

Would the Real Disciple Please Stand UP?

Samuel H. Nodal

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, **teaching them to observe all that I commanded you**; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” (Matt. 28:19,20) NASB

We are commanded (not a suggestion) to go into the world and **make disciples**. Then notice, **Teaching them to obey all things**. After someone gets Born Again it is essential that they grow up into Christ. And how are they going to grow up if they don't hear the Word taught by the power of the Holy Spirit? You can also liken it to a baby. Once the baby is born you are responsible for it's well being. You must feed it and take care of it until it grows up into a mature adult. You are responsible for them in the eyes of the Lord.

And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; **For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:**

Eph. (4:11-15)

The purpose of 5 fold ministry is to perfect the saints for the work of the ministry, and to grow them into the fulness of Christ; period, that's it. Not to lord over them like some superior earthly being. (1 Pet. 5:3) They are Christ's sheep Not mens!

A True Disciple is Called “THE CHOSEN”

*True Believers are called (chosen) by the Holy Spirit to a life long commitment of serving Jesus Christ. These chosen ones are hidden from the eyes of the world, and in many cases from the eyes of the false Church. In other words, the false Church cannot tell they are the True Ambassadors from heaven. In the false Church the chosen are set aside and silenced while carnal leaders choose and pick their own ministers to preach and teach a blind congregation. (Matt. 15:14) There are a lot of people who are masquerading as Christians. They claim Christianity but **ARE NOT CHOSEN**! They claim to be Christians but there is no evidence of transformation in their lives.*

For many are called, but few are chosen. (Matt. 22:14)

So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many be called, but few chosen.

(Matt. 20:16)

Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you. (John 15:16)

If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: **but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.**

John 15:19)

Most of today's Christianity is just smoke and mirrors. Their purpose is to get people excited and emotional with no foundation in the Word and the Power of the Holy Spirit! They shout they sing but don't really know what the will of God is, and much less obey it. Many today claim to be a Christian and they support abortion and same sex marriage in the name of love. These people are evil and they are not Christians (chosen).

The Chosen are Sealed from Heaven

This seal (or seed) is invisible to the naked eye to those that do not belong to God. This seal is not given to everyone that claims to be a Christian. Talking like a Christian does not make you a Christian, many want the benefits of being chosen but few are willing to pay the the price. The chosen will not be moved and maintain the Testimony of Jesus no matter what happens.

And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. (Eph. 4:30)

Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible *(The Holy Spirit),*
by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever. (1 Pet. 1:23)

Eight Signs GOD has Chosen You and Sealed you with His Spirit

1. The Chosen Hunger for Truth and Desire Righteousness

*Your hunger for Truth is not satisfied till it abides permanently in your heart.
Your love for the Truth will not compromise the Word of God no matter what happens.
There will be a restlessness, a constant stirring, a strong desire for Righteousness.
A conviction of Right living, a struggle between Right (Spirit) and wrong (flesh).*

God's restlessness is Not Anxiety! Anxiety is of the devil. You will not put riches and comfort over Truth. You will serve God over mammon! Remember, Truth is hidden from the masses and they have no desire to find it! Sin does not sit well with the chosen (you hate it). Your heart breaks every time you sin. You can no longer enjoy the evil pleasures of the world. Conviction is a sure sign of Righteousness, the lost feel no conviction.

Justice and judgment are the habitation of thy throne: mercy and truth shall go before thy face. (Psa. 89:14)

And he shall judge the world in righteousness, he shall minister judgment to the people in uprightness. (Psa. 9:8)

For the righteous LORD loveth righteousness; his countenance doth behold the upright. (Psa. 11:7)

Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people. (Prov. 14:34)

If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him. (1 John 2:29)

Little children, **let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous.** (1 John 3:7)

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. (1 John 3:10)

2. The Chosen Persevere and Endure in Trails and Temptations

God will put such confidence, desire, and strength in you that you will not be able to fail. Even though you'll feel like quitting at times God will encourage you with people He sends your way. God will never give you more than you can handle. He is the perfect Father (1 Cor. 10:13): The chosen are strengthened thru their trial and persecution; not exempted from it. Job is our example. God will give you peace in the mist of trouble (Col. 3:15; Phil. 4:7): Victory will not come easy and will take time! Remember quitters never win! God never anoints without refining and purifies the anointed.

Nay, **in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.**

(Rom. 8:37)

Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ: (Phil. 1:6)

Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him. (Jam. 1:12)

And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. (Gal. 6:9)

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. (Rom. 8:28)

“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, And before you were born I consecrated you; I have appointed you as a prophet to the nations.” Then I said, “Oh, Lord GOD Behold, I do not know how to speak, Because I am a youth.” But the LORD said to me **“Do not say, ‘I am a youth,’ Because everywhere I send you, you shall go, And all that I command you, you shall speak. “Do not be afraid of them, For I am with you to save you,” declares the LORD. (Jer. 1:5-8) NASB**

3. The Chosen have Authority over the Spiritual War Against Satan

There is a war on Earth between the Kingdom of God and the kingdom of satan. There is no doubt as to who the winner will be, but never the less, satan plays for keeps, and he comes to steal, kill, and destroy. If you don't understand who you are in Christ he will destroy you and your family. Satan does not attack someone that is on his side and causes him no trouble. But know this, your authority in Christ will see your victory over every attack of the enemy, and with every attack God will increase your endurance and Trust in Him. We have three great enemies on Earth (World, Flesh, and the Devil): Spiritual attacks from satan are proof that you belong to God. No attack can override God's will for your life. Victory is sure. But you must choose whose side your going to fight for and continue to fight till the very end by faith. You can't just seat on the fence.

And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD. (Josh. 24:15)

You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons. (1 Cor. 10:21) NASB

You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world is hatred toward God? Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God. Or do you think Scripture says without reason that the spirit he caused to live in us envies intensely? (Jam. 4:4,5) NIV

Then he called his twelve disciples together, **and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases.** (Luke 9:1)

Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you. (Luke 10:19)

4. The Chosen Live in Holiness and Prayer

Sanctification means a life that is separated unto Christ for His will and purposes alone. A pure heart and clean hands is what He requires. And of course prayer is simply communion with God. Prayer is longing to be in His presence. Sometimes God has to take you to a private place where no one can distract you so you will listen (like Paul). Those times might feel lonely because God took away family, friends, hobbies, and entertainment... because He wants you to get to know Him better. God is jealous over your relationship, He loves you very deeply. God will sometimes remove people that don't contribute to your plan. He might move you to a new season where it requires different friends. We must humble ourselves and be willing to follow His will, it requires dying to self. In times of loneliness God is preparing you for a promotion. God is removing certain people because they will not contribute to your destiny. Amen.

Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy. (1 Pet. 1:16)

Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:
(Heb. 12:14)

Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. (Jam. 5:16)

Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. (Prov. 3:5-7)

Prayer is the expression of man's dependence upon Jesus for all things. What habitual reverence is to praise, the habitual sense of dependence is to prayer.

Prayer, or communion with God, arises from a deep sense of need, helplessness, and unworthiness, with that there also comes an assurance of divine fullness and love, which enlarges our petitions and brings confidence of answers to our prayers.

God Wants to Cleanse His Temple and Place His Glory and Power In It

In the Old Testament (Jews) the Temple was a building, but in the New Testament we are the Temple of God where the Holy Spirit resides!

Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are. (1 Cor. 3:16,17)

When Solomon finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices, and the glory of the LORD filled the temple. The priests could not enter the temple of the LORD because the glory of the LORD filled it. When all the Israelites saw the fire coming down and the glory of the LORD above the temple, they knelt on the pavement with their faces to the ground, and they worshiped and gave thanks to the LORD, saying, “He is good; his love endures forever.” Then the king and all the people offered sacrifices before the LORD. And King Solomon offered a sacrifice of twenty-two thousand head of cattle and a hundred and twenty thousand sheep and goats. So the king and all the people dedicated the temple of God. (2 Chr. 7:1-5) NIV

Remember in the Old Testament God’s Temple was a Building, but in the New Testament we are the Temple of God. Both Corporately and individually! God does not change, He is the same yesterday, today, and forever (Heb. 13:8)! Whatever He said in the Old Testament must apply to the New. When God said “I have Chosen this Temple and set it apart to be Holy, a place where my name will be honored forever, He is talking about you and me! He also said, “I will always watch over it for it is dear to my heart.” And finally, He said, “but if you abandon me and disobey my decrees and commands, and if you serve and worship other gods, then I will uproot you from the land.” “I will reject the Temple I have made holy to honor my name.” “I will make you an object of mockery and ridicule!” And all who pass by will ask; “Why did the Lord do such terrible things to His Temple?” And the answer will be: “Because the people abandoned the Lord, and they worshipped other gods instead and bowed down to them.”

5. Divine Provision, Protection, and Favor for the Chosen

God will provide everything you need to make it through this evil world. Protection, direction, purpose, favor; he will even remove you from toxic people and situations. Some people you meet may not be good towards your calling. Rejection and closed doors are often used by God to change your direction or provision. God miraculously opens doors you thought were shut permanently, and closes others that could distract you from His plan. Nothing is impossible for God. You will be attacked but with God's protection you cannot be defeated. God refines you with every attack of the enemy.

No, **in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.**
(Rom. 8:37)

Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. (Phil. 1:6)

The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholdeth him with his hand. (Psa. 37:23,24)

I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name. (Rev. 3:8)

I have been young, and now am old; **yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.** (Psa. 37:25)

6. The Chosen Carry a Burden for Others (Love)

Your burden for others is proof that you belong to God. The chosen feel for others hurts, pains, and especially for the lost. Burdens are not ignored or misplaced, it is like a burning fire that cannot be put out. You must fulfill what God has called you to do. We are one body in Christ, can the finger say to the foot "I don't need you"? Or the nose say to the ear "I don't need you"? We work together in Love to Glorify Jesus under the authority of the Holy Spirit!

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them all. There are different kinds of service, but we serve the same Lord. God works in different ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us. A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other.

To one person the Spirit gives the ability to give wise advice; to another the same Spirit gives a message of special knowledge. The same Spirit gives great faith to another, and to someone else the one Spirit gives the gift of healing. He gives one person the power to perform miracles, and another the ability to prophesy. He gives someone else the ability to discern whether a message is from the Spirit of God or from another spirit. Still another person is given the ability to speak in unknown languages, while another is given the ability to interpret what is being said. It is the one and only Spirit who distributes all these gifts. He alone decides which gift each person should have. The human body has many parts, but the many parts make up one whole body. So it is with the body of Christ. Some of us are Jews, some are Gentiles, some are slaves, and some are free. But we have all been baptized into one body by one Spirit, and we all share the same Spirit. Yes, the body has many different parts, not just one part. If the foot says, "I am not a part of the body because I am not a hand," that does not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear says, "I am not part of the body because I am not an eye," would that make it any less a part of the body? If the whole body were an eye, how would you hear? Or if your whole body were an ear, how would you smell anything? But our bodies have many parts, and God has put each part just where he wants it. How strange a body would be if it had only one part! Yes, there are many parts, but only one body. The eye can never say to the hand, "I don't need you." The head can't say to the feet, "I don't need you." In fact, some parts of the body that seem weakest and least important are actually the most necessary. And the parts we regard as less honorable are those we clothe with the greatest care. So we carefully protect those parts that should not be seen, while the more honorable parts do not require this special care. So God has put the body together such that extra honor and care are given to those parts that have less dignity. This makes for harmony among the members, so that all the members care for each other. If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it, and if one part is honored, all the parts are glad. All of you together are Christ's body, and each of you is a part of it. (1 Cor. 12:4-27) NLT

This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.
Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

(John 15:12,13)

7. The Chosen Bear Much Fruit in the SPIRIT

This action or fruit can only be produced by the SPIRIT. Any fruit produced by the flesh and not the Spirit is false and subject to corruption.

And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. (Matt. 3:10)

Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.

(Matt. 7:16-20)

Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. (Gal. 5:19-25) ESV

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. If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples. (John 15:5-8)

And when he saw a fig tree in the way, he came to it, and found nothing thereon, but leaves only, and said unto it, Let no fruit grow on thee henceforward for ever. And presently the fig tree withered away. (Matt. 21:19)

8. Humility and a Desire to Obey Reveal the Chosen

Humility is probably the most important sign of a True Believer. God hates the prideful arrogant and will destroy them like satan. Very important; “Beware of False Humility, God has no hypocrites for children. The Catholic Church is the perfect example!

Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall. (Prov. 16:18)

A man's pride shall bring him low: but honour shall uphold the humble in spirit.

(Prov. 29:23)

For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch. But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall. (Mal. 4:1,2)

The Parable of the Self Righteous Pharisee

And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. 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. I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess. 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. 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. (Luke 18:9-14)

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: (1 Pet. 5:6)

And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king. (1 Sam. 15:22,23)

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. (John 14:21)