## **DO NOT Redefine God**

It is human nature as well as learned to manipulate others to gain something for themselves. Quoted by Glen Calvin Thomas Fahey: "Who formed you into the 'you' that you are today? Did you allow GOD to mold you according to HIS ways and purpose for you? Or, did you conform, and become formed, by the ways of this world?"

Is the manipulation we do out of fear? Is controlling something or someone bring us peace? Security? Safety? Does it work? Does good come out of it? The Answer is NO.

Lord Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. We do not make Him into something we can manipulate to our belief system.

- Jesus does not change His mind.
- Jesus does not change His way
- Jesus does not change His teachings
- Jesus does not become a different God to a different race or religion nor in a different region or country

Malachi 3:6 <u>New Living Translation</u> "I am the LORD, and I do not change. That is why you descendants of Jacob are not already destroyed.

Romans 11:29 Amplified Bible (AMP) 29 For God's gifts and His call are irrevocable. [He never withdraws them when once they are given, and He does not change His mind about those to whom He gives His grace or to whom He sends His call.]

Hebrews 13:8 New King James Version (NKJV) 8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

James 1:17 New King James Version (NKJV) 17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

Being a Christian, Christ Like, a follower of Jesus Christ will not be easy. It is constant growth, constant changes from within. A dying to self and fully surrendered to Christ and a day by day renewing of your inner spirit.

Ephesians 4:21-32 (NIV) 21 when you heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. 22 You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; 23 to be made new in the attitude of your minds; 24 and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. 25 Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body. 26 "In your anger do not sin" [a]: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, 27 and do not give the devil a foothold. 28 Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need.

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29 Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. 30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. 31 Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. 32 Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Quoted by Glen Calvin Thomas Fahey: "You can gain true independence when you give up being self-willed, fully surrendered to follow GOD's will, and become a faithful bondservant in Christ JESUS."

There is a sacrifice to following Jesus Christ. Living and walking as a Christian means facing persecution. There is a price to pay in this world to be followers of Jesus Christ. Just know that our lives here on Earth are but a breath and we become dust in the wind. It is about eternity.

Psalms 39:5 New Living Translation You have made my life no longer than the width of my hand. My entire lifetime is just a moment to you; at best, each of us is but a breath." Interlude

## **Examples:** ISIS persecuting Christians in Iraq....

Living in America does not make us exempt of these incidences. For it can happen here. We cannot assume it will not happen to us due to geographic, titles (ameri9ca), or the constitution. What we need to realize that no matter what we are to keep our eyes on Jesus and know the victory was done on the cross and Jesus Christ can bring you through the storm(s). How? A peace beyond understanding...

Philippians 4:7 King James Version (KJV) 7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Quoted by Glen Calvin Thomas Fahey: "You see problems in your life and, with the glimpses that GOD has granted me, I see solutions. You see challenges in your life, and I see strength and perseverance. Through your belief and trust in JESUS, and by the Power of the Holy Spirit, Father GOD will lead you to the solutions to conquer any problems, and HE will grant you strength to endure all challenges."

In storms you will stand out like a bright light and become a witness to many that are in darkness. They will want what you have through storms, tragedies and pain.

Romans 5:3-8 (NIV) 3 Not only so, but we[a] also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; 4 perseverance, character; and character, hope. 5 And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

6 You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.
7 Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. 8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

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Quoted by Glen Calvin Thomas Fahey: "A choice to commit to a Christian lifestyle through and through does not change what life throws at you. As a true Christian, you become a partaker in Christ's strength to overcome all obstacles and you become a conqueror of every situation through the way GOD empowers us to see it differently."

You will have love. Love in your heart. Love from God. Love is KEY!

1 John 4:9 (NKJV) 9 In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.

Being a Christian is not boring. There is excitement, adventure, happiness, peace and joy – even in the storms. Quoted by Glen Calvin Thomas Fahey: "LIFE is meaningful and purposeful, that is, full of meaning and full of purpose. In order for one to recognize the fullness of LIFE, their innermost spirit must awake, arise, and have their heart open its' ears and eyes."

Romans 8:18 I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. 28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who[b] have been called according to his purpose. 29 For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. 30 And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

Think upon these things, meditate upon these things. Ponder on these things and make your decision.

2 Corinthians 5:1-8 New King James Version (NKJV) Assurance of the Resurrection

1 For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. 2 For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven, 3 if indeed, having been clothed, we shall not be found naked. 4 For we who are in this tent groan, being burdened, not because we want to be unclothed, but further clothed, that mortality may be swallowed up by life. 5 Now He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. 6 So we are always confident, knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord. 7 For we walk by faith, not by sight. 8 We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.

1 Timothy 4:15 NLT Give your complete attention to these matters. Throw yourself into your tasks so that everyone will see your progress.