



THE LIVE C SCROLLS



THE SECRET TO WALKING WITH GOD



YOUR WORD IS A LAMP UNTO MY FEET, AND A LIGHT UNTO MY PATH.

PREFACE

DO YOU WANT TO WALK WITH GOD EACH DAY?

I have been a sincere believer for many years (though admittedly at various levels of spiritual experience and pursuit).

If there is ONE MESSAGE I could share with every person who professes to know or follow CHRIST it is THIS ONE. I have learned from my own experience and from the decades of experience knowing countless professed "Christians" that the reality expressed in this message if actually embraced and pursued has the POWER TO RADICALLY CHANGE YOUR DAILY WALK WITH GOD beyond anything you've ever experienced before. GUARANTEED. Additionally, brethren: NOTHING ELSE CAN. NOTHING.

THE SECRET TO WALKING WITH GOD

It seems odd that we should have to refer to the practice of walking with GOD as being a "secret". Yet apparently it is for so few professed "Christians" are doing it. It is a "secret" yet it's a secret that is clearly revealed in His Holy Word. But if people don't actually read and study His Word how can they discover that "secret"? They are then left at the mercy of false teachers and baby-believers who will offer them a man-made "magic" method of walking with GOD. "Just say this prayer" or "have this mystical experience" and then you'll "walk with GOD".

It's like body-building made easy. How many people develop a fine physique by wishing for it or even praying for it? How many develop that physique by visiting a gym once a week for an hour and sitting there doing nothing? Yet countless "Christians" believe they can become strong in faith and close to GOD by exactly such methods as these.

Body-building requires a great deal of time, effort and exertion...often painful exertion. We're all familiar with the phrase "no pain, no gain". Why do we think it's any different in spiritual things?

"As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the Word, that you may grow thereby" (1 Peter 2.2)

Brethren, one of the first baby steps of a newborn CHRISTian is to establish a daily commitment to reading and studying GOD's Word. Yet over the course of

my walk with the LORD I've been astonished to find that very few who profess to be "followers of CHRIST" have taken this first basic baby-step. That should cause great concern among believers and especially among professed "shepherds" ("pastors") but strangely it does not.

If you had a child who was ten, fifteen, twenty years old and still refused to make the effort to get out of the crib and learn to walk wouldn't that cause you great concern? Wouldn't you feel the need to call in the physicians and determine what's wrong? So how is it that our "churches" are literally filled with people who don't pursue the LORD on a daily basis and yet the supposed "physicians" (their "pastors"), clearly aren't alarmed?

Friends, how can it be that I meet people who have been by their own confession "serious believers" for several years, some even for decades, and yet they've NEVER read GOD's Word through in its entirety? There is no credible excuse for that.

There are 1,189 chapters in GOD's Word. If you commit to reading 4-5 chapters a day, easily accomplished at a leisurely pace of reading and reflecting for about an hour to an hour and a half per day, you can read through the entirety of Scripture in well under a year. EVERY YEAR.

If you profess to be "too busy" to devote one hour to GOD's Word each day please tell me what it is you're so "busy" doing over the course of that 24 hour period? Let's say you sleep 8 hours a day, work and travel time perhaps another 9-10 hours. That's tops 18 hours. Household chores, food prep, food consumption let's say another couple hours. That still leaves 2-4 hours A DAY of free time (most likely more).

It's not a lack of time, brethren, it's a lack of interest. Somehow it's not a "burden" to find time each day to text friends, to view the latest inane videos on BloopTube, to read the current postings on social media, to watch our favorite TV show, movie or sports event. But reading GOD's Word seems a disagreeable "burden" to many who consider themselves "children of GOD".

Brethren, someone who perpetually remains in the crib is either spiritually retarded...or dead. Either something is deeply wrong with your inner spiritual makeup or you don't actually have the HOLY SPIRIT residing within you. PERIOD.

Brethren, listening to someone on the Sinternet telling you what GOD's Word "means" is not the same as you getting alone with GOD in a quiet place each day, opening up GOD's Word and asking the HOLY SPIRIT within you to TEACH you what it means and to feed your needy soul.

"For what man knows the things of a man, except the spirit of man which is in him? Even so no man knows the things of GOD but the SPIRIT of GOD. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the SPIRIT Which is of GOD; that we might know the things that are freely given to us by GOD" (1 Corinthians 2.11-12)

True Christian teachers and godly books are great. But they should always be a SUPPLEMENT to the MAIN FOCUS of you and GOD studying His Word together each day.

The reason so many, many professed believers are being misled and deceived by these countless charlatans and false teachers who have proliferated on the Sinternet is simple: they do not know or possess a good understanding of GOD's WORD IN ITS ENTIRETY.

Anyone can toss a verse or two of Scripture at you to justify their belief-system. satan is great at that. he even tried it with CHRIST (Matthew 4.5-7). How will you know whether a teacher is speaking truly unless you PERSONALLY have been taught by the HOLY SPIRIT through years of reading and studying ALL of GOD's Word (Yep- even the parts we find "boring" or "hard to understand"; remember: the HOLY SPIRIT inspired ALL the Holy Scriptures not just the parts that make for great "devotional" reading; 2 Timothy 3.15-17, 2 Peter 1.21).

Additionally, to argue Scripture or doctrine with someone who has not personally IMMERSED themselves in GOD's Word is essentially a fool's errand. They "know" isolated Scripture verses (so does satan) but they are not familiar with the overall teaching and meaning of GOD's ENTIRE WORD. It's sort of like someone who never learned the basics of addition and subtraction wishing to debate trigonometry with you. They could not even comprehend your logic (actually even a basic understanding of mathematics wouldn't achieve that. How much less a total ignorance?).

The Word of GOD is what causes us to grow, develop and mature as GOD's offspring. It reveals to us the spiritual needs and issues within us. This is how we establish a daily pattern of WALKING WITH GOD.

“Can two walk together, except they are agreed?” (Amos 3.3). If our mind is filled with the principles and philosophies of this world and not with the pure truth and wisdom of GOD's Word- we CANNOT walk with GOD for we are not two beings in agreement.

Someone once said, “This Book will keep you from sin, or sin will keep you from this Book”. This is very true. It's hard to live in or remain in sin, in a sinful lifestyle, when GOD's Word is DAILY firing your mind. In fact, it's IMPOSSIBLE.

Yes, we can (and DO!) fall into sin but when we have this daily “washing and refreshing” in GOD's Holy Word “recovery” time is far quicker. When we fall, GOD's Word and the HOLY SPIRIT convicting us through GOD's Word motivates us to GET BACK UP and KEEP GOING in the right direction. Without the impetus of GOD's Word we might fall and remain there for months or years at a time (as many do).

Whenever I encounter someone who has fallen away from their passion for CHRIST, fallen into a sinful pattern of behavior, become lukewarm, worldly, or backslidden, or has been misled by a false teacher or false prophet one thing is ALWAYS certain: the DAILY reading, studying and meditation in GOD's Word has vanished (if it ever existed at all).

If this describes you, there is GREAT NEWS (and I speak here from experience): RETURN to a DAILY COMMITMENT to GOD's Word and GOD WILL RESTORE YOUR SOUL. GUARANTEED. (P.S.: Also ELIMINATE from your life the BAD and spiritually NEGATIVE INFLUENCES you had previously permitted).

Sometimes professed “Christians” avoid GOD's Word because they know that something they're involved in is condemned by Scripture. This is why as sin and wickedness in general increase in society there is more and more effort to suppress and silence the voice of GOD's Word. It's called GUILT. People feel that if they can only silence GOD's Word and the voice of the FEW true messengers of GOD still remaining then they won't feel so bad about their sin.

Some others who have “creeped in among us” so to speak, and who profess to be “devoted Christians”, show a disdain for this type of daily commitment because they don’t really believe the Holy Bible, in its entirety, is GOD’S HOLY WORD. It’s sad to realize that many such people helm ostensibly “Christian” denominations, organizations, ministries, churches, websites, music companies and even Bible “translation” boards. They don’t read or study GOD’s Word because they don’t believe it IS GOD’s Word. There is another term for such people: UNBELIEVERS. They may be “religious” folk but they don’t, in most cases, have the HOLY SPIRIT truly residing in them or He would call them to His HOLY Word, and to a DEEP RESPECT for it.

Tragically, instead of humbling themselves and submitting to the judgment of GOD’s WORD, GOD’s TRUTH, many, in their intellectual pride, seat themselves in judgment upon GOD’s Word, deciding which parts they like and explaining away the rest by subtle, devious means. These are not our “brethren”, regardless of their title, position, authority or popularity. They are LOST, DECEIVED SOULS.

Lastly, there’s another reason many professed “Christians” don’t have a natural love and desire for GOD’s Word and I believe this is far more common than we’d like to admit: the overwhelming majority of professed “Christians” in this country have never been truly, profoundly CONVERTED; i.e., spiritually TRANSFORMED within.

When I was a teenager I was greatly blessed to be under the discipleship of one of the VERY FEW “religious professionals” I’ve known in life whom I’d actually refer to as a “man of GOD”. He told me something at that time which rang strange upon my acolyte’s inexperienced ears: “90% of the people in Bible-believing churches have never really been converted”. But over the years how true I’ve found this beloved brother’s statement!

Yes, it seems to be the reality- only a small remnant, a tithe if you will, of professed “believers” have actually, truly been regenerated. Oh yes, many have jogged down an aisle, signed their names in the back of a tract, recited a ten-second prayer after some TV “preacher” or “asked JESUS into their heart” (all activities found nowhere taught in GOD’s Word) but how few have ever seen themselves as they REALLY ARE- doers of evil, people who sin because they themselves are EVIL. How few have fled to CHRIST in spiritual desperation

seeking a redemption they know themselves INCAPABLE OF. How many have truly had that profound change of heart and mind known as “repentance” and truly realized, believed and embraced CHRIST as THE TRUTH and their ONLY HOPE OF SALVATION?

Such a conversion produces a NEW CREATION, a new person (2 Corinthians 5.17). Not a perfect, sinless person but a person who now has an INNER DRIVE to holiness and godliness (not one artificially manufactured by being beat into submission by guilt-stimuli). The new person WANTS to be like CHRIST, WANTS to be near to and follow CHRIST. You don't have to “twist their arm” to do spiritual things as seems necessary with the majority of sleepy, disinterested, passionless “Christians” who populate our modern false “churches”.

“Guilt” and “conscience” must often be appealed to but if the WILLINGNESS and SPIRITUAL DESIRE is not also present, it's all in vain. “Except YAHWEH build the house, they labor in vain that build it” (Psalm 127.1a).

True conversion and true commitment to CHRIST have to take place FIRST or you're just wasting your time.

A personal word:

Several years ago GOD was kind enough to send me a spiritual wake-up call. I saw myself as I really was: a person who still maintained good moral and spiritual convictions but someone who had greatly BACKSLIDDEN in his spiritual commitment to serving CHRIST and studying HIS WORD on a daily basis. I was NOT “walking with GOD”. But I CHANGED. AND SO CAN YOU. The shame is not in being wrong; the real shame is in realizing you are wrong and refusing to make the spiritual effort to CHANGE.

My personal situation of life at that time was very difficult, filled with stress and responsibility. I had plenty of excuses for not making that daily spiritual commitment. But instead of making EXCUSES I made PROVISIONS.

I decided that the only way for me to have a quiet, undisturbed quality time alone with the LORD and His Word was to cut some time out of my pillow-hugging schedule. I began getting up at 4:30-5:00 in the morning while everyone else in the house was still asleep. And I got into GOD's WORD and PRAYER.

EVERY DAY. Even when I didn't "feel like it". And I'm SO GLAD I made that decision. YOU WILL BE TOO.

And you KEEP THAT COMMITMENT no matter how you feel, what issues you are facing, whatever tasks lay before you that day. You do this because it is a matter of SPIRITUAL LIFE OR SPIRITUAL DEATH. And whatever you are facing, from inner depression or discouragement to external troubles, you WILL face it better with a mind filled with GOD's WORD and with PRAYER that He will walk with you through it.

...NOW, WHAT ABOUT...YOU?

You who have actually taken the time to read this message can now have only two possible responses:

1. YES, I'M GOING TO DO THIS or
2. NO, I'm NOT going to do this (and then follows the list of lame "excuses").

I ask you through the HOLY SPIRIT this day:

Which choice will be YOURS?

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WHICH VOICE ARE YOU LISTENING TO THE MOST:



THE VOICE OF THE WORLD...
OR THE VOICE OF THE WORD??