SURELY GOD LOVES US WITH HIS WHOLE HEART, SOUL, MIND, AND STRENGTH...

He commands <u>us</u> to "Love Him with our whole Heart, Soul, Mind, and Strength."

He would no ask us to do something He Himself would not be doing.

BUT CAN WE CONFESS

WE ARE
"LOVING GOD

WITH OUR WHOLE

HEART, SOUL, MIND, AND STRENGTH"?

It seems the Church in America cannot make this daily confession...

ETERNITY IS A LONG TIME.

IF WE REALLY WANT TO HELP OTHERS

IF WE REALLY LOVE OTHERS...

WE ARE GOING TO TRY TO MAKE SURE THEY HAVE THEIR TICKET TO HEAVEN THEIR PASSPORT TO HEAVEN.

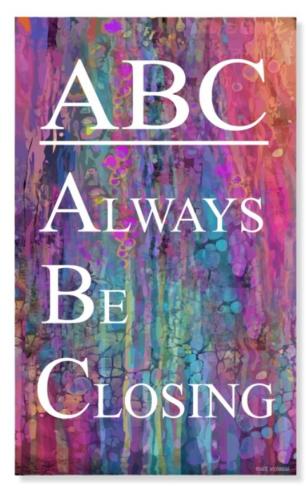
As a top-priority.

Everything else in comparison is a waste.

HOW DOES A PERSON PROCURE
THEIR TICKET TO HEAVEN?

"If you confess with your mouth
Jesus as Lord
And believe in your heart
God raised him from the grave
you will be saved."

Romans 10.9



ARE WE IN THAT GROUP OF CHRISTIANS WHO REALLY DON'T WANT THE LORD?

The Lord *knows* who wants Him and who doesn't.

Churches in America seem full of Christians that really don't want Him.

Their schedules, their priorities – their lifestyles – demonstrate this clearly to God.

OBEYING THIS 1 COMMANDMENT

CAN ALLEVIATE A GREAT PERCENTAGE OF OUR DAILY PAINS AND TROUBLES.

"DO NOT

LET YOUR HEART

BE TROUBLED

NOR LET IT

BE FEARFUL."

- Lord Jesus Christ

Through Seeking Him, Finding Him, and Clinging to Him,

He will help us obtain and maintain a heart free from troubles and fears.

We tend to treat this command as a nice option.

DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR COUNTRY AND WORLD EVENTS?

"YOUR KINGDOM COME
YOUR WILL BE DONE,
ON EARTH
AS IT IS IN HEAVEN."

God can easily override any President or Administration or national mindset.

He says to ask, mixing it with faith and trust,

"<u>YOUR WILL BE DONE !</u>"

"TODAY, LORD ?"
"YES OR NO ?"
WITH ALL YA GOT, LORD ?"

"BUT GOD

DID NOT

RESPECT CAIN

NOR HIS OFFERING."

(Genesis 4)

We don't want to be in this club.

Cain's sacrifice wasn't his best.

Let us continually <u>find</u> our best for God - and then <u>give</u> our best to God.

HOW CAN WE SAY WE ARE SERVING GOD EVERY DAY . . .

IF WE ARE NOT GETTING-UP AND LOVING & SERVING GOD EVERY DAY?

Most Christians seem to not be able to confess that they get-up every day and Love and Serve God.

God wants us to get-up every day and *tell Him* what we are doing that day . . .

God wants us to get-up every day and *tell ourselves* what we are doing that day . . .

JESUS SAID,

THE MOST IMPORTANT ACTIVITY IN ALL OF LIFE WAS:

1. SITTING AT HIS FEET and

2. LISTENING TO HIS WORD

- Luke 10

Can we honestly say this is our Daily-Priority and Practice?

Can we honestly say this is our Life-Priority and Practice?

THERE ARE 2 PARTS TO THIS.

Let us make this our daily and weekly Priority:

Spending private, undistracted times with a posture of Finding Him and Listening to what He has to say to us.

2 GREAT SINS

THAT BROUGHT TERRIBLE, PAINFUL, TRAUMATIC

JUDGEMENTS FROM GOD

UPON THE ISRAELITES,

UPON HIS PEOPLE,

WHILE THEY WERE TRAVELING IN THE DESERT,

ENROUTE TO THE PROMISED LAND:

- 1. COMPLAINING
 - 2. <u>SEXUAL SIN</u>

LET US CONTINUALLY <u>RUN</u> FROM THESE 2 PARTICULARLY GREVIOUS SINS!

THESE 2 SINS

- IN PARTICULAR
GREATLY UPSET THE LORD

AND

CAN BRING GREAT DISCIPLINE AND WRATH

FROM HIM UPON US - HIS OWN CHILDREN & PEOPLE!

(SEXUAL SINS ARE SEXUAL RELATIONS

OUTSIDE OF THE MARRIAGE
BETWEEN ONE MAN AND ONE WOMAN.

THIS IS CLEARLY TAUGHT THROUGHOUT THE BIBLE.)

Those seeking THAT SPECIAL SOMEONE
(a quality marital spouse / mate)
who will forever love us & be devoted to us
- no matter what -

Can be those people who are in-touch with that loneliness that Adam experienced.

Finding that RIGHT PERSON is probably more of a Supernatural Undertaking than we realize.

Full of needing painstaking discernment Full of potential mistake and needless trauma.

WE NEED GOD IN THIS JOURNEY.

WE NEED GOD, PERHAPS MORE THAT WE REALIZE
IN THE JOURNEY
OF FINDING THAT PERSON-

WHOM GOD HIMSELF WANTS TO - HIMSELF -LOVE US THROUGH.

ALL THE MORE
WE SHOULD BE DEPENDING ON GOD
TO SHOW US HIS BEST.

AND AT THE PROPER TIME WHEN WE ARE READY.

MANY TIMES
WE ARE STILL TOO BROKEN & IMMATURE
TO BE LOVING THAT PERSON IN A HEALTHY WAY –
IN THE WAY CHRIST WANTS TO LOVE THEM,
THROUGH US.

WE BEST GET FIXED, FIRST.

BEST WAY TO GET FIXED?

BY KEEPING COMING TO HIM, LISTENING TO HIM, AND DOING WHAT HE SAYS.

This is how we grow-up in God.

They Asked Jesus How to Pray

He said - this way:

- "THE LORD'S PRAYER" -

9 TOPICS

" God, will You actually do these, *Today?*" *"Yes or No?"*"With All Ya Got?" *"Yes or No?"*

This type of questioning to God is really mixing the requests (for these 9 major topics <u>WITH FAITH</u>.

He teaches us to pray WITH FAITH...Actually believing He will DO <u>SOMETHING</u>.

Why no try to get Him to act WITH <u>ALL</u> HIS POWER... WITH <u>ALL</u> HIS MIGHT!??

This can be very powerful, and really change the world.

PRAY THEN IN THIS WAY

Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Lord Jesus Christ

Matt 6

NATURE ITSELF TESTIFIES THAT GOD IS REAL AND ALIVE,

AND THAT NO PERSON WILL HAVE AN EXCUSE ON JUDGEMENT DAY

FOR NOT LOVING GOD,
OBEYING GOD,
& SERVING GOD.

IN ONE SENSE,
GOD DOES NOT NEED RELIGIOUS PEOPLE
OF ANY DENOMINATION OR TYPE,

TO TRY TO CONVINCE OTHERS
TO BELIEVE IN HIM . . .



TRUE CHRISTIANITY

AND A PERSON BEING BORN-AGAIN

IS SUPERIOR TO
ALL OTHER RELIGIONS.

IF A PERSON BELIEVES
IN THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

AS THEIR SAVIOR AND LORD

GOD ACTUALLY COMES AND LIVES INSIDE OF THEM.

THEY NOW HAVE THE POWER OVER ALL SIN.

NO OTHER RELIGION
CAN MAKE THIS BOAST.

NO OTHER RELIGION
GIVES THIS KIND OF POWER
TO RESIST SIN & OVERCOME SIN

AND PROPERLY DO WHAT IS RIGHT

GOD CAME TO EARTH

IN PERSON.

THROUGH THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, HIS ETERNALLY BEGOTTEN SON,

GOD THE FATHER REVEALS <u>WHO HE IS</u> AND WHAT HE LIKES & WHAT HE DISLIKES.

FOR A PERSON TO CHOOSE AND BELIEVE IN ANY OTHER RELIGION

> IS AN INSULT AND A SLAP IN HIS FACE!

ON JUDGEMENT DAY,
THEY WILL HAVE A LOT OF EXPLAINING TO DO...

AS TO WHY THEY CHOSE SOMETHING INFERIOR!

GOD CAME TO EARTH

IN PERSON.

BECOMING A BORN-AGAIN CHRISTIAN

IS TRULY A MIRACLE -

<u>WHERE A PERSON NOW</u> <u>HAS BECOME AN ACTUAL DIFFERENT BEING</u> A PERSON WHO NOW WANTS TO DO WHAT IS RIGHT

24/7

ALL THE TIME.

EVEN WHEN NO ONE IS LOOKING.

THIS TRANSFORMATION –

FOR A PERSON TO CHANGE LIKE THIS

- IS TRULY A MIRACE -

AND SHOULD BE CELEBRATED.

People may think, "Why should I need God so badly?.... Isn't that a sign of personal character weakness - being so weak & needy & co-dependent?

It is commonly thought that needing God so badly and needing to be close to Him is some kind of mental or character deformity.

However, as we go-on in our Christian life, we realize more deeply how we need God in order to be a True:

CHRISTIAN SPOUSE / FRIEND CHRISTIAN PARENT CHRISTIAN NEIGHBOR CHRISTIAN WORKER CHRISTIAN CO-WORKER CHRISTIAN EMPLOYEE CHRISTIAN CITIZEN

We come to the realization of our needing to be absolutely filled with God every day.

Actually get-up every day and attempt to be the best Christian you can imagine to be.

Witness to your Boss, and try to win him or her to Christ. You could very possibly get fired. We need God.

Actually get-up every day and attempt to act like Christ Himself in thought, word, and deed.

We will then get a glimpse of our bankruptcy without Him.

"Be Filled with the Spirit" - Ephesians

WE ALL ARE Weak, Lacking Character, Repugnant, & Despicable WITHOUT GOD.

Through God, and getting Filled with God - We are a beautiful, admirable thing.

STUBBORNESS. OBSTINATE. UNTEACHABLE.

Stubborn. Unteachable: Generally, not believing we can be wrong about anything and everything.

This is an ugly characteristic we can all have.

We need to continually declare war on this.

We are a 1 in a Million Person.

Wait... We are 1 in a Billion.

Wait...We are 1 in Billions of people

We are 1 in Millions OF CHRISTIANS (in Heaven and on Earth)

God has MILLIONS of CHILDREN!

We can feel like such a Nobody.

But, we are built to be Loved and Feel Special.

But God has so many Children.

How can He truly keep track of all of them?

We can feel so Overlooked and Unnoticed and that God Forgot about us.

We are 1 in Millions. Just a Number. Nothing Special.

Wait, We all have a need TO BE HIS FAVORITE...How can this be? (We are all His Favorite. How can this be?)

We subtly start comparing & competing as Christians - comparing ourselves with other Christians...

Having to begin to fight Jealousy.

They are Bigger, Better, Stronger, Faster, Smarter....

Just like on the Playground.

God uses them more.

People like them more.

They have way-more Money.

They have way-more Fame.

They have way-more Fun.

God uses them way-more.

They are way-more Gifted.

We can experience these terrible feelings of bondage and hopelessness. This is potentially depressing subject to consider.

"The very hairs of your head are numbered. [by God]"

Wait...We all lose a lot of hairs everyday... How often does He do a head-count?

This is some serious hair inventory going on everyday concerning our head hair-count...

Where does He stop? Does He count eyebrows and facial hair? Where on the neck does He stop? Does He count inactive, unsprouted hair follicles?

I suspect He cares about us a lot more than we understand...

Fighting for One's Strong Convictions is a good thing.

BUT CONTINUALLY CHECKING OUR CONVICTIONS AND CHANGING THEM WHEN NECESSARY - WHEN WE ARE CHALLENGED WITH TRUTH -

IS SO MORE NOBLE.

So many times - even professing Christians - do not seem interested in being corrected or challenged in their convictions.

Or putting the effort into finding the Truth on a matter.

This is that stubborn unteachableness. Yuck!

This is in part why we have so many Christian denominations!

I once had a person tell me he was thinking about becoming a Christian

- but he couldn't decide which kind to be!

WHAT A SHAME!

OUR DIVIDEDNESS IS A TESTIMONY TO OUR IGNORANCE, FOOLISHNESS, STUBBORNESS, & REBELLION!

WE WERE MADE TO "MAKE HAY" FOR GOD ...

WE WERE MADE TO HELP HIM AND THE KINGDOM WITH OUR WHOLE HEART, SOUL, MIND, & STRENGTH...

WITH ALL OF OUR BEING.

We are built to maximize this drive - to do all we can each day...

It is in our spiritual DNA to hear and feel from the Master,

"WELL DONE, GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT."

If we are not doing this - we will feel terrible about ourselves.

Actually, without Serving God with all our might - on a daily basis - we will internally just want to die.

HOW COULD ANYONE WANT TO LIVE WITHOUT FULFULLING THIS INATE DRIVE?

We can't. But most keep trying to anyway...

That is why there are so many suicides and so much depression...

JUST BECAUSE.

WHY **DOES** GOD LOVE ME?

We might ask ourselves.

HOW <u>CAN</u> GOD LOVE ME?
I SEE NOTHING GOOD IN ME.
I SEE NOTHING LOVABLE ABOUT ME?

We might ask ourselves.

This is true. We all have become corrupted by sin, and become evil. Without God, all people are evil and despicable.

BUT! All Mankind, every person - has at least <u>one thing</u> that is beautiful, lovable, and admirable:

ALL PEOPLE ARE MADE IN GOD'S IMAGE AND LIKENESS!

IF WE SOMEHOW COME TO BELIEVE IN GOD THE FATHER, GOD THE SON, AND GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT - WE BECOME BORN-AGAIN...WE BECOME ONE OF HIS CHILDREN!

CHILDREN JUST HAPPEN. IT IS NO CHOICE OF THEIRS. THEY WERE <u>JUST BORN</u>.

FOR THE MOST PART, THEY COME INTO BEING, INTO THE ARMS OF LOVING PARENTS -

THAT ARE CRAZY-IN-LOVE WITH THEM!

THEY DIDNT DO ANYTHING. THEY WERE JUST BORN, AND THEN WERE PASSIONATELY LOVED.

WE TOO, ARE BORN AS GOD'S CHILDREN, AND WE ARE JUST CRAZY-LOVED BY GOD.

JUST LIKE A HUMAN BABY.

WE DIDN'T CHOOSE TO BE BORN.
WE DIDN'T CHOOSE TO BE ABSOLUTELY LOVED.

WE JUST WERE.

(We do keep choosing somewhere along the line, however.)

WE ARE BORN..AGAIN. BORN-AGAIN. A CHILD OF GOD. LOVED WITH A BURNING PASSIONATE LOVE.

WHY ARE WE LOVED BY GOD?

Just because. Because we were born as one of His kids. We almost didnt do anything. In one respect - it just happened.

Just like a human baby. They didnt ask. It just happened. They then were unconditionally loved and accepted in a supernatural way.

JUST BECAUSE.

What we do with this is our choice.

Some kids continue to be an absolute joy to their parents....Others quit caring.

Some kids grow up and make their parents proud.

Others don't give a rip.

The Parent loves them anyway.

God loves us any way.

BUT WHY WOULD WE WANT TO QUENCH THAT PASSIONATE LOVE OF GOD OR ALLOW GOD TO NOT BE PROUD OF US?

The Bible talks about the mysteriousness of Sin... How powerful Sin is....How it can take-over us without us barely realizing it.

The Bible talks about how even a little Sin can become part of us and corrupt the Whole Person.

Jesus likened Sin to a little yeast added to a bowl of bread dough...It takes over in no time in its transforming power...Totally changing it from its original form.

THIS IS OUR ONGOING FIGHT.

THIS IS OUR ONGOING WAR IN THIS LIFETIME.

SO. . .

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO GET-UP AND DO TOMORROW?

A PERSON MIGHT SAY AND BELIEVE:

"HEY, I'M A GOOD PERSON."

OH YEAH?. . .

GOD GAVE THE 10 COMMANDMENTS and His other Laws

to, in part, show us how evil we naturally are.

AND IN NEED OF A SAVIOR.

J<u>UST GO GET-UP</u>
EVERY DAY AND GO DO THE
10 COMMANDMENTS!

OR HOW GET-UP
EVERY DAY AND GO DO
THE SECOND GREATEST
COMMANDMENT:

"LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR IN THE WAY YOU LOVE YOURSELF." OR HOW GET-UP EVERY DAY AND GO DO THE FIRST GREATEST COMMANDMENT:

"LOVE GOD WITH ALL YOU HEART, SOUL, MIND AND STRENGTH."

IF WE ARE TRULY HONEST WITH OURSELVES, WE WILL DISCOVER HOW LOST AND EVIL WE ARE WITHOUT GOD!

Thank God there is hope.

Through us repenting of our lives and all our sins. And making Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior, God comes inside of us with His Holy Spirt.

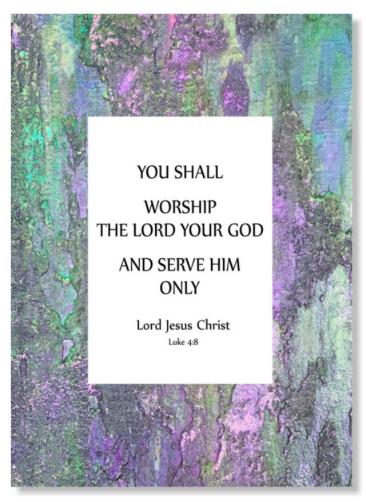
We now have the power & dominion over all evil, addictions, & temptations.

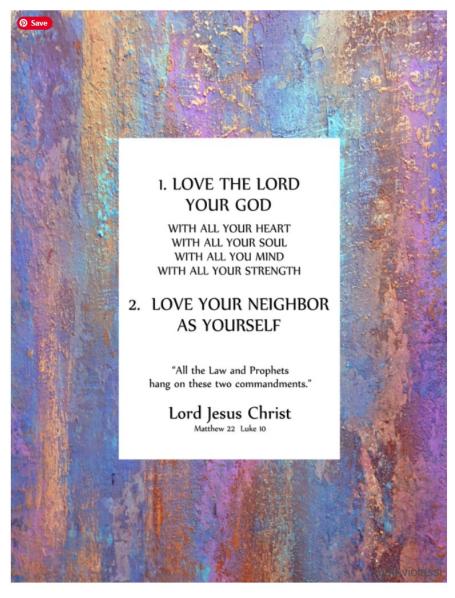
We even get to be one of God's ADOPTED SONS OR DAUGHTERS!

REAL & TRUE FAMILY!

The Ten Commandments

- I am the LORD your God: you shall not have strange Gods before me.
- II. You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain.
- III. Remember to keep holy the LORD'S Day
- IV. Honor your father and your mother.
- V. You shall not kill.
- VI. You shall not commit adultery.
- VII. You shall not steal.
- VIII. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
 - IX. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife.
 - X. You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.





DOING ALL THE "RELIGIOUS" STUFF:

FASTING
PRAYING
GIVING
READING. MEMORIZING. DOING. Scripture.
Spirit-Led GOOD WORKS
WITNESSING
ATTENDING CHURCH MEETINGS
Doing Your BEST DAY FOR GOD...

IS PRETTY DEAD.

Without Making Fulfilling Contact with God.

WE CAN "FIND" THE LORD GOD.

WE CAN "MAKE CONTACT" WITH GOD.

This is an incredible phenomena.

This is an incredible fact.

This is an incredible opportunity.

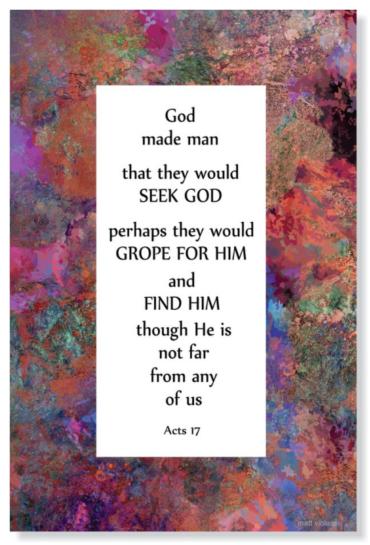
This is an incredible gift.

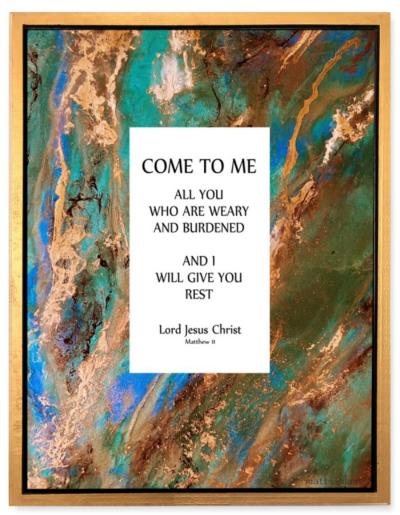
HOW DARE US NOT BE DOING THIS.

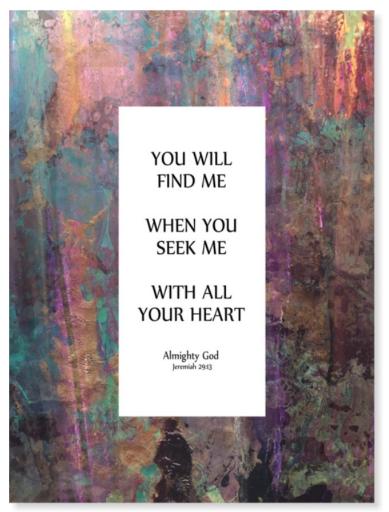
HOW DARE US NOT TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THIS.

Yet, because of our dullness and hard heartedness, and self-deception,

We continue to drudge-through our lives with some other kinds of lifestyles and priorities. . .







ADVANTAGES OF BECOMING A BORN-AGAIN CHRISTIAN:

- 1. WE CAN NOW REGULARLY "MAKE CONTACT" WITH GOD...
 THE MAKER OF THE UNIVERSE! WHAT?
- 2. GOD COMES AND LIVES INSIDE OF US! We now have the power over all Temptations, Addictions, and Sins. <u>WHAT?</u>
- 3. WE NOW HAVE A NEW NATURE. WE ARE A NEW CREATION, WITH THE DESIRE TO DO WHAT IS RIGHT, 24/7.

 THIS IS MIRACULOUS INDEED!
- 4. WE BECAME ONE OF GOD'S ACTUAL CHILDREN. WHAT?
- 5. WE ARE NOW THE RECIPIENT OF GOD'S <u>BURNING</u>, <u>JEALOUS</u>, <u>PARENTAL</u> <u>LOVE</u>.
- WE HAVE NOW SECURED A PLACE IN HEAVEN,
 AND CAN KNOW WE ARE GOING THERE WHEN WE DIE.

THIS IS WHY THEY CALL IT BEING BORN-AGAIN.

WE NEED TO CHECK AND MAKE SURE WE ARE BORN-AGAIN,
AND NOT MERELY DECEIVING OURSELVES
WITH SOME FORM OF UGLY RELIGIOUS COUNTERFEIT!

IF YOU CANNOT TRULY CONFESS YOU ARE
A BORN-AGAIN CHRISTIAN
AND WANT TO BE ONE CRY-OUT TO GOD!