



Ready To Lose It All Or Have You Already?

He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor. —Jesus, John 12:25-26, nkjv

What are you so tightly holding on to today? Jesus Christ basically encouraged His followers not to cling to their own life, to their own stuff, to their own way, to their own agenda, to their own ingenuity, plans or lifestyle, but He was promising life everlasting to anyone who would follow Him completely.

I'm talking about life during life here and then some ..a lot more, with no end.

In the context of those verses, Jesus was talking about dying so that life could come forth and help others. Man, He was and is our greatest Example of this type of thing.. when He chose to do the Father's will instead of His own even to the point of dying on a cross for our sins. And to prove the validity of those words He said, He is alive today!

Yes, Jesus said, "***where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor.***" Have you been looking for acknowledgement, approval, respect and honor in all the wrong places? Jesus indeed wants the closeness with you and to meet all your needs as He leads you, not visa versa.

He desires to be your Lord and Savior... not just Savior alone as you insist upon living as a bullheaded carnal Christian that refuses to trust. May I ask.. is He either to you? You might have thought that you've been a real Christian for a long time now, but is there evidence to back this up? Sure, maybe you've served in a church, sung in a choir, given to some charity, but all that can be worthless chaff and doesn't save anyone. Maybe many of your friends think you are a real Christian too. Will it all stand up under the fierce light of the soon coming Judgment Seat of Christ?

Is there fruit from a biblically born again experience in Christ? I know those terms have been over used and misused, but Christ used them. Do you even desire the things that a real Christian desires? Do you have your priorities in the proper order today?

Jesus commanded, "***Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness***" ([Matt. 6:33](#)). And a literal rendering of that in the original language means, "***Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness!***"

Hey, got problems plaguing you that are too big for you to handle now ..in your own way as you said you would? Have you been spinning your stories, living in denial—blinded by that.. and been placing blame on everyone but yourself when in reality, you are the main

reason for all the negative things that you've been going through? Have you really been the good example that others need you to be, or have you gotten somewhat good at evading most of the consequences of your stupid decisions ..for years?

It will all eventually catch up to you, **"...be sure your sin will find you out"** (Num. 32:23). Then what will you do.. reach bottom so to speak—the bottom that you've cleverly escaped so many times—four failed marriages (with wounded kids in your wake) from now?

I dare you to examine yourself, Mr Machismo.. Ms Got-it-goin'-on! Has there been a consistent pattern of strife, unrest, rebellion against delegated and direct authority there? Has there been too much yelling of obscenities and accusations when you're not the one at fault? What about the domestic violence? Has there been anger-inducing-job-losses and gross unfairness in your direction.. physical abuse and broken relationships for some time now? Want more of the same ..for a life time?

Is coming down along with the hangovers or withdrawals affecting your status quo? Don't you get tired of the destructive habits that have clamped their nails into your very Adam's apple and won't let go, or how about the other addicts who use, abuse and lose their friends—the countless aids and cover-up artists of this slimy but crafty vain administration? Man, doesn't their smoke-smelling greasy hair and dark sub-rustic-haunts with losers give you the willies?

The exciting kegger parties, the crazy-wild secret substance intake, the friends with skanky benefits, the Jack Daniels.. none of it really gratifies does it. Hey dude, if you drink from this well, you'll only thirst again and it'll usually take more tomorrow to deliver the same level of buzz. Your flesh will demand more, but you know this already! Remember the lady at the well back in the day ([Jn. 4:13](#))?

Jesus said a guy coming after true satisfaction in Him should **"deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me** (Christ). **For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it. For what is a man advantaged, if he gain the whole world, and lose himself, or be cast away?"** ([Lk. 9:23-25](#) or see [Mk. 8:36](#)). Does that mean no trials, temptations, persecutions, mocking or suffering ahead if you deny your flesh and follow Jesus? No, but why be like the majority who only scoff.. who are chucked out and barred from His good Kingdom?

It's time to wake up sleeper and grow up before the repo man drives by?

Have you not yet grown weary of manipulating, controlling, and "training" others like some dogs because they "need it to toughen up"? Aren't you sick of causing your bosses, buds and loved ones so much trouble and heartache? Are you not yet ready to man-up (or woman-up) enough to humble yourself, put off the cold calloused indifferent heart and call your own sin what it really is—SIN? Aren't you ready to do things God's way instead of the worldly way—ya know, the Bible way?

Is it really time for everyone else to permanently turn from wrong-doing except you? How come so many people around you "don't get it?"

You know, there is absolutely nothing that this world has to offer that even comes close to comparing with what Christ offers each one of us today—huge-LOVE, rad-joy, deep-abiding-peace and cool harmony with God's plan, purpose and people! But, none of the fringe benefits of serving Jesus Christ are really all that alluring to me like He Himself is! He is far more beautiful than everything and knowing him truly satisfies!

I can't think of anything in the world that I personally desire more than the presence of Jesus in my life ...where He is ruling me without rival.

There ain't nothin' nowhere! That's bad English, but a good point. Please take heed to His Word!

There aren't houses big enough, accolades, honors, awards ..shiny enough. There ain't techno-widgets or devices cool enough, or any health healthy enough, or fast computers or cars zippy enough, or glamorous careers powerful enough, or bright A-student-children sharp enough, or bundled cash stacks thick enough, or drugs effective enough, or hot smokin' marriages cookin' enough, or ministry fame or a following or 1st world freedom or professional promotion or sexual pleasures or societal positions or muscular strength or success or ability or achievement or even life on earth ..enough to replace or compare with the matchless glory and splendor and beauty-ness ..of simply knowing and worshipping Christ full bore!

Nothing, nowhere at any time!

Have you wondered what it would be like to have Christ in your life? I don't mean for a mere test-drive. I mean for good!

*I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus; never let me fall;
I am trusting Thee forever, and for all. —Havergal*

Got the Bible Jesus Today? You really sure bout that? What would your mother say about it? [Wanna be sure?](#) [You can be!](#)

Man, there's a lot at stake here and it's hell without Him—literally! **Respond now.**

Have a prayer request or some questions about knowing God and how to properly walk in Jesus Christ? At fish4souls.org click "[Contact](#)" and let us know! Perhaps we can help.

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