

Not who Says; Those who Do!



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Jesus clearly said Matthew 7:21 “*Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.*” He also told us who would be His true followers Matthew 12:50 “*For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.*”

The *life of Christ* reveals the *will of God*—which is opposite to the *will of self* or *way of the world*. The apostle said Romans 12:2 “*Be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*”

There are two *hidden* and *deadly* opponents that control every human heart from birth—*self* and *Satan*—and *both* of these enemies can influence us to think things about God that are *opposite* to what He really is—that is why we must learn directly from God Himself. Only He can *correct* the wrong view we may have had of Him and to *know* God as He is—*loving* and *compassionate*.

The *will of God* is most valuable *knowledge*, and it includes *blessings* from God *now* as well as eternal life *later*. Matthew 7:21 “*Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of*

my Father which is in heaven.” We have to know the *will of God*, before we could *do the will of God*—and enter Heaven. John 17:3 “*And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.*”

If we really do not *know* God, we would really have no hope for this life or the next—because we must *know* Him in order to *trust* Him. Knowing God’s will comes from reading the Bible—which is the only explanation of the Bible needed. The Holy Spirit opens our minds to the meaning of the Scriptures.

Bible *instruction* also includes Bible *examples* that explain just how the principle of trust on God is *applied*; what it *means*, and what the *results* should be. All too many proclaimed Christians disregard Bible examples—valuable as these illustrations are. Not referring to Bible examples is like not referring to compass readings when piloting a boat—we would be uncertain of our course.

Bible examples are *valid* and in full force today. God’s plan for the Christian life; the way He *taught* and *guided* people in the Bible, is how we are to be *taught* and *guided* today in the 21st century. The *experiences* they had; the *temptations* they faced; the *trials* they endured; and the *reality* of God’s power in dealing with them is necessary for us *today* to give the same *results*.

Being ready for eternal life means being *taught* and *trained* the way Bible believers were *taught* and *trained*. We have to walk the same *pathway* they did; we have to produce the same *spiritual fruit* they did—and God has to use the same methods with *us* as He used with *them*.

The devil constantly tries to influence a believer *away* from the Word—he wants them to forget what the Scriptures say about what they are going through. Satan will use any *means* or *method* to accomplish his evil scheme—which is

to get us *outside* the will of God—*somewhere*; on some *issue*; or with some *attitude*.

The devil can approach as an angel of light and can deceive us by getting us to think that his suggestion is in line with Bible teaching. Satan first gets our *attention*; then he *suggests* something that is *close* to the Scriptures—but it *is* a distortion of the truth. Satan will do *anything*, or he will use any *person* to distort the meaning of God’s Word—as that could eventually *take* them to the flames.

We must be careful *whom* we listen to or *whose* advice we accept as correct. We must be *sure* that we are following God’s *plan* for our life—which must be according to His Word. Satan will suggest things to our mind that are *close* to the Scriptures, but not be the full Truth—then, after he has convinced us that it *is* spiritual light, he gets us further and further away from the Bible.

The *Word of God* is the only safe revelation of the *will of God*. We are most *fortunate* to have God’s plan printed out in a Book. We should thank God every day for showing us that His *Word* and principles of *trust* are valid today. God’s plan for teaching us and bringing us to where we are scriptural in every aspect of life, is the same *today* as it was *then*.

Bible *examples* reveal God’s *will*! What happened to Israel *then* instructs us *today*! The way God dealt with *them*, is the way He deals with *us*.

1 Corinthians 10:1 “*Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; 2 And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; 3 And did all eat the same spiritual meat; 4 And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ. 5 But with many of them God was*

not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness.”

We know that Hebrews 11:6 “Without faith it is impossible to please [God]: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.” Israel was not living by faith in God, so they could not please God.

1 Corinthians 10:6-9 “Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should **not** lust after evil things, as they also lusted. **Neither** be ye idolaters, as were some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play. **Neither** let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand. **Neither** let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents.”

Anything could get between us and God, because anything we love more than God or trust more than God, can become an idol. We are warned 1 Corinthians 10:10 “**Neither** murmur [complain] ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer. ¹¹ Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come. ¹² Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.”

Too many Christians today consider the Old and New Testament Bible only as history. They think it was true then, but it does not apply today. We must be careful *not* to get off track, and due to lack of faith in God, and with that wrong attitude to His Word, lose the advantage of God’s presence.

Psalms 103:1 “Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. ² Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: ³ Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; ⁴ Who redeemeth thy life

from destruction; who crowneth thee with loving-kindness and tender mercies.”

To be sure of the will of God, we just read the Word of God. The Holy Spirit guides us through the Bible and inspires us to put the Scriptures ahead of everything—knowing what they said and **doing** what they instruct. God’s Spirit enables us to detect Satan’s lies. Psalm 103:6-7 “The LORD executeth righteousness and judgment for all that are oppressed. He made known his ways unto Moses, his acts unto the children of Israel.”

The devil is always trying to convince people that the world’s way is the best way. He wants us to be unscriptural on some issue or with some attitude. He then gets us further away from what the Scriptures actually say. 1 Peter 5:8 “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil,”—as a wild beast is always, “seeking whom he may devour,”—those unaware of his evil schemes.

When the devil suggests things to us and tries to convince us that the wrong way is the right way, we have to counter-defend 1 Peter 5:9 “Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.” Everyone has to go through the same teaching, trials, and tests to grow spiritually.

1 Peter 5:10 “But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you. ¹¹ To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.”

The life of Christ and teaching from God is the only safe plan of life because it includes our residing in Heaven forever. Philippians 2:12 “Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. ¹³ For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.”

When we are under God’s teaching, we will know where to draw a scriptural line with anything and everything. It means that whatever we say, **do**, or decide, it will all be done in the Name of the Lord Jesus as He has all authority and power in Heaven and on earth.

We are to Philippians 2:14-15 “**Do** all things without complaining and disputing, that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world.” Those who are **doing** the will of God, may be the only shining light of Truth the world will ever see.

The *Sermon on the Mount* by Jesus Matthew 5,6,7 is a full volume of God’s plan of the Christian life. Far too many today do not obey any of that Sermon, but that teaching is for the true child of God. Jesus said that anyone who steals something from us, we are to let them take it. Everyone has to obey that and to obey many other instructions if they want to be a true disciple of Christ.

Most people would rather give something away, than have it stolen; but the Word says that if anyone Matthew 5:40 would “Take away thy coat, let him have thy cloke also.” We have to **do** what the Word says. We are not to say one thing to get the item or the money back. It brings about the death of self, and is all part of entering Matthew 7:21 “Into the kingdom of heaven!”



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*Be on our free mailing list—contact:

PO Box 24283

Philadelphia, PA 19120

info@fcgchurch.org

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