

Sincere Believers Taught By God

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God-taught true believers are learning spiritual lessons from God every day, ..and only by maintaining a humble and teachable attitude in mind and heart, could we learn anything of spiritual value. We are to continually put off the old ways and attitudes, and to "put on the new self" (as Colos.3:10 teaches), (which means we are) "being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator." It is to clothe ourselves, vs.12) "with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience." (or be made into the character and image of our Savior, Jesus Christ).

Every spiritual lesson we learn will come from God, as it is He alone Who can enlighten us to know of His power; enjoy His blessings, gifts, and the healing He wants us to have. God and His Word cannot change; His Promises are irrevocable, and the Blood of Christ will never lose its power; and, the Holy Spirit will always inspire faith within us, when we will humbly kneel before God (realizing and admitting that we know nothing), but that God knows everything. (1 Cor.1:20) "has not God shown the world's wisdom to be utter foolishness."

Many people are not aware of Satan's strategy to hide his identity, but as we are 'taught by God' we will begin to see how the devil can easily deceive us. (1 Peter 5:8) "Be self-controlled [sober] and alert. Your enemy [adversary] 'the devil prowls', looking for someone to devour', if they are not watchful.

A 'believer in Christ' is in a 'spiritual battle' with the devil, who will use anyone, anything, or any wrong doctrine or teaching, to bring our faith down to the level of the world. We are fighting (Ephes.6:12 says) "against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world."

The devil's plan is to deceive and destroy all human souls, through thoughts and

suggestions to one's mind, so the mind becomes (and is) the battlefield! The devil does it in such a way that we think it is sensible reasoning of our own intellect, when actually it is the devil trying (as we are told John 10:10) "to steal, and to kill, and to destroy."

The devil will always oppose anything that is for our best spiritual interest and 'eternal benefit'. He will picture God's Truth in the worst possible light (that he can picture in our mind). Satan can use false teaching to deceive and destroy anyone who is not aware of his wicked ways. With all the religious groups in the world today, very few go to God in prayer for what is needed in this life. They are not even aware they are not trusting God in faith for anything but will have all types of substitutes for replacing God in a life of 'self'.

Satan has deceived and destroyed millions of souls for an eternity through delusions, false teaching, and empty outward religious gestures—that distort God's Truth in some way and are devoid of any real faith and trust on the living God of the Bible. Most Christian churches today are where the first-century religious leaders were then.

(Mark 7:6) "Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written (Isaiah 29:13) 'This people honors Me with their lips, But their heart is far from Me.'" Satan knows that it requires the whole Gospel Truth (exactly as in Bible times), to deliver us from our troubles here, and 'take us to Heaven hereafter', and he knows that, so he offers 'partial truths' to deceive.

Anyone who does not surrender their self-will to God and place themselves under the teaching of His Holy Spirit, will be easy prey for the devil, and an easy victim of the instruments he uses to destroy people. The only protection from deception is to learn the full Truth from God Himself.

Millions of people who say they are believers, never really find out that God is willing to answer prayers today, just as He did in the Bible. This low spiritual condition of the world today, is in stark contrast to that high level of trust on God as those in the Bible had.

A God-taught believer goes to Him in prayer and in faith, and Jesus taught that they are to 'persist in prayer' until they receive answers for deliverance over Satan's

oppressive hand. This day's *lack of faith in God*, is a result of listening to the lies of the devil. When someone is willing to be a God-taught Believer, He will teach them how to receive answers to prayer.

The New Testament teaching has always taught that we are to go to God in prayer and place all our troubles (big and small) before God in prayer; and in faith we are to believe that our prayer will be answered. If the Christian life is followed every day (by the power of His Spirit) God will teach us what we need to know to have every needed thing in life—spiritually, physically, financially, at work, in the home, all the friends and everything else we need, as we await Christ's return.

When we are willing to learn from God, He promised to give us His Spirit, to inspire us and guide us so that we can make Scriptural decisions concerning all things. This *will* bring about death of self, so the Spirit of God can control our life.

We need to and are to grow spiritually, as we meet things and people according to the Word of God. The result is eternal life, if we stay on the path of faith, and maintain our position of trust on the Atonement work of Christ. Jesus told us (Matthew 18:3) ***“Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.”*** (Our attitude toward God is to be as that of a small child's trust toward a parent).

We are to trust God for physical healing, by faith in the Atonement Blood of Christ. No God-taught believer in the Bible went to a doctor, took any drug, or trusted in medication. They received divine healing through faith and trust on the divine healing power of God, Who tested them and said (Exodus 15:26) ***“If you diligently heed the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians.”*** (Exod.15:26) ***“For I am the LORD who heals you.”***

The first healing recorded in the Bible is mentioned (Genesis 20), and the last is mentioned (Acts 28), and it reveals that God alone heals those who trust Him in faith. Physical healing is valuable, but for one to know what God will do for us is more valuable

spiritually. Jesus' body suffered pain on the cross, so that our body might be healed in this life (Isaiah 53:5), and He, Jesus (Matt.8:16) ***“cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick.”*** (Most people of today, believe that God does not heal today.) (But God promised and said that He is the Healer of His people, who will “give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes” (by trusting on Him alone).

The example of Naaman's healing in the Old Testament, and then the man lowered through the roof to be healed in the New Testament, give evidence for everyone, that God will heal today, wherever there is a willing heart to believe in real faith on His Word and Promises. (James 5:15) ***“The prayer of faith will restore the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up to health; and if he has committed sins, they shall be forgiven.”***

Abraham's example of true righteousness came from believing God's promise, and trusting Him for healing. (Rom.4:16) ***“Therefore, it is of faith that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham.”*** ***“Who against hope, believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations. (vs.20-21) He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.”*** (This was written for us so we could also believe, and trust God, and be healed).

That quality of faith makes us righteous before God; (Romans 5:1) ***“Therefore, being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”*** That is the kind of faith that made the woman who ***“suffered many things of many physicians”***, to become a daughter of God, and she was delivered from the power of the devil by faith in ‘the power of God’. (The resulting healing received in her new quality of believing faith, was in real contrast to her previous encounters in unbelief (and of spending all her money and getting no help from man).

The man who just wanted to be given the Word of God for the healing of a servant (Matt.8:5-13), had the kind of faith that would qualify him to join Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in

Heaven; while those who lacked that faith in God, would be cast into outer darkness where there is wailing and grinding of teeth (as Jesus said it would be so).

One needs to take a position of real faith to trust on God for healing (and other things in life). No one can hide behind empty words and speaking outwardly pious phrases. Many false teachers do mock God's people, because (as true believers) God's people reject medical help, so they can trust on God's Word and Promises in faith for healing. Both healing and salvation are gifts of God provided through the shed Blood of Christ. If we will not trust God for the minor issue of healing, then we could not trust Him for eternal life either.

God's financial plan is all about a trusting faith in Him (instead of on laid-up sources of money or other false places of trust and the things and plans of men for one to depend on. It is not about the losing or gaining of money (or the cheapest way out) that is of spiritual value, but it truly is the 'faith lesson' learned from God that is of huge spiritual value (and knowing that He is always by our side to provide whatever we need, (if we will trust Him to supply it for us). (Romans 8:17) assures that we are "heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ."

Money lies very close (extremely close) to the human heart, although few people will admit that. We begin life loving money with all our heart; (instead of loving God with all our heart). God's financial plan as given and portrayed in Bible examples, strikes at the root of that (or our) love for money. No one can follow New Testament teaching on money matters, unless they first get rid of that love for money from their heart (and God can remove and do that for anyone of us who will allow Him).

There is the example of the rich young man (mentioned (Matt.19) (Luke 18), and (Mark 10), who thought he was packed up and ready for Heaven, but 'Jesus' said that his attitude about money would 'keep him out of heaven'. Jesus proved to him (and for us to understand and take heed), that he (the young man) had loved money more than he loved God, when he refused to obey Jesus' financial advice that could put him on a pathway to Heaven. That man's heart was on his 'treasure on earth'.

Jesus taught that our hope for Heaven depended on our attitude toward money (and that we cannot trust on both money and God). We need to (and must) handle our finances according to the will of God, because if we are not scriptural in such a small thing as money, we could never be scriptural with major issues like trusting to be prepared by God to enter Heaven by that narrow gate. (A trust on money would be excess baggage and would not fit through that narrow gate). [By one following God's financial plan in this life, it strikes a lethal blow to 'self', (which wants us to hold on to every cent and save every dime).]

One's Salvation is through faith in Christ and trusting on God in this life. (Matt.7:21) "Not every one who says to me, 'Master, Master,' will enter the Kingdom of the Heavens, but only those who are obedient to my Father who is in Heaven." (Jesus said). The will of God is embedded in the teaching of the New Testament. We must know it, believe it, and obey it under the guidance of His Holy Spirit. It is the only way for anyone to be prepared and made ready for the Kingdom of God!

Jesus told everyone of us (John 12:24) "Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit." He then applied that to us and to our getting rid of self from our heart and all places of self-trust from our life; (John 12:25) "He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life."

If we use our 'power of choice' in a wrong way to hold on to the ways of the world, (like so many proclaimed Christians do), we would lose our life here, eventually, and, spend an eternity in the lake of fire hereafter, ..but if we are willing to be God-taught, ..learning how deadly that sin nature within us really is; we will soon hate it, and by faith and trust on God we will be delivered from it through God's power (1 Peter 1:5) We "are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time."



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