

# MATTHEW

- I follow Jesus.
- God's will is done in me as it is done in heaven.
- I ask; I receive.
- I am a good man. I bring good things out of the good treasure of my heart.
  - I understand the Secrets of heaven.
  - I am a good and faithful servant.
- I am the one Jesus is with; Jesus is with me.
  - I do what Jesus tells me to do.
- I give food to the hungry; I give drink to the thirsty.
  - I love my enemies.
- The kingdom of heaven grows in me and fills all of my being.

## I Follow Jesus

**I follow Jesus.** I am a fisher of men.

I am blessed because I am poor in spirit; heaven's kingdom is mine.

I am blessed because I mourn (with those who mourn); I am comforted.

I am blessed because I am meek; the earth is my inheritance.

I am blessed because I hunger and thirst for righteousness; I am filled.

**I am blessed because I am merciful; I receive mercy.** I am blessed because my heart is pure; I see God.

I am blessed because I am a peacemaker; I am a son of God.

I am blessed when my enemies assault me; heaven's kingdom is mine.

I am blessed when people say terrible and false things about me and persecute me; I rejoice and am thrilled. I possess an incredibly great reward in heaven as a result.

I am the salt of the earth. My neighbors are blessed by God and kept

from evil because of me.

I am the light of the world; I set my light where all can see it; I give light to all around me. People see my good works and give glory to my Father.

I do what Jesus commands; I teach others to do what Jesus commands. I am great in the kingdom.

I cast aside everything hindering the fulfillment of God's kingdom in me.

I don't resist violent people. If someone strikes me, I do not strike back.

If someone makes me serve them, I serve them more than expected.

**I give to everyone who asks me.** My possessions are available to anyone who wants to borrow them.

I love my enemies; I bless those who curse me; I do good to those who hate me; I pray for those who misuse me. I am a son of my heavenly Father.

I am perfect in the same way my Father in heaven is perfect.

### The Jesus Secret

Follow Me, My dear one. Follow Me, and My light shines through you.

Every tear, every surrender, every longing, every kindness, every mercy, every heartache, every rejection -- through each of these my light always shines through you.

And I remember and hold every circumstance of your life. They are treasures in my hand, waiting for you.

## I Follow Jesus

### Webster's 1926 "follow"

I come after Jesus. I move behind in the same path Jesus walked. I accompany Jesus on the path He walks. I am the result of Jesus: He is the cause; I am the effect. I walk in, I proceed along the same course Jesus walked. I go in pursuit of Jesus. I endeavor to overtake (arrive with) Jesus. I strive after; I seek to attain

to the same as Jesus attained. I accept Jesus as my authority; I take Him as my Master and Leader. I yield allegiance to Jesus. I adopt the opinions of Jesus. I obey Jesus. I take Jesus as my rule of action; I follow His advice. I copy Jesus; He is my example. I watch; I keep my eyes fixed upon Jesus. **I follow Jesus.**

I follow Jesus. I take up my cross; I follow after Him. I follow Jesus; I sit enthroned in heaven. I follow Jesus; He has made me a fisher, a gatherer, of men. I deny myself; I take up my cross; I follow Him. I follow Jesus; I do not look back. I follow Him; I know His voice. I flee from strangers because I do not recognize their voices. I hear His voice; I follow Him. I have eternal life, and I will never perish. I serve Him and follow Him; I will be with Him wherever He is. He draws me to Himself.

I imitate Christ. I go forth to Jesus outside the acceptable places of this world, bearing His reproach. I follow His steps. I follow the One who committed no sin, nor was deceit found in His mouth. I follow the One who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return, when He suffered, He did not threaten. I follow the One who committed Himself to God who judges righteously. I follow the Lamb wherever He goes. I am with Jesus.



I can do nothing better; I can aspire to no higher goal; I can seek no greater path than that found in these three simple words:

### **I follow Jesus.**

All the words of the New Testament, all the impact of the gospel, all the salvation of Almighty God can be summed up in these three small words:

### **I follow Jesus.**

This is me. This is what I do. My entire life and hope and purpose can be found here.

**I follow Jesus.**

## God's Will Is Done In Me As It Is Done In Heaven

I don't let everyone know when I do good things for people. God rewards me openly.

I pray a lot, in secret. God rewards me openly.

God knows what I need before I ask Him.

**God's will is done in me in the exact same way it is done in heaven.** God's will is done around me and towards me the same as it happens in heaven. I do God's will in the same way that heaven does God's will.

I forgive others; God forgives me.

God keeps me from temptation. He delivers me from evil.

I fast, but I don't tell people; God rewards me openly.

I accumulate treasure in heaven; I have a vast treasure in heaven. **My heart is with my treasure.**

**I see light; my whole being is filled with light.**

I serve one Master only: Jesus. I give allegiance to no other.

I do not worry about my needs. God provides my food, my shelter, my clothing – everything I need.

I seek the kingdom of God above everything else; everything I need comes to me.

I do not worry about the future.

I do not judge others; I am not judged myself.

I measure what I give without limit. I measure God's power in my life without limit. God measures all things back to me without limit.

I first see Jesus clearly before I help my brother see.

I keep what is holy pure.

### The Jesus Secret

You are My very own. Do not worry. Cast every care upon me, every need, every hidden hope.

Every moment of your future is with Me right now. Everything that you have need of is in My hand right now. I carefully watch over every step you take. I weigh every circumstance coming towards you, and I allow only those things that I will work to your great good. Believe in Me.

You are My treasure and I am yours. What is important to you is far more important to Me than it is to you.

## God's Will Is Done In Me As It Is Done In Heaven

This phrase is very familiar to me; but of course, I have known it differently: “Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven.”

But what does this mean? What is God's will for heaven and how is it accomplished? Before I can know God's will for earth, I must know His will for heaven. And when I speak of heaven in this context, I speak of the dwelling place, the throne room, of God.

God is the dominant person in the room. No one sees anything else. What God says, rules; no one contradicts Him. Death and sin are not present. Pain and sickness are not known. A river of life flows from the throne and all things live in that river. The supernatural is the normal. The present immediacy of divinity is the normal.

Yet, there is heavenly suffering. God is love and love suffers long. But this suffering is pure and holy; it has no relationship with the pain and sickness brought by the curse of death. Believers know the suffering of love.

I do not suffer to make me good; the sacrifice of Jesus made me good. I suffer because I am good. I suffer for the sake of others; I suffer for the sake of Christ. I bear with all things because I love. Heavenly suffering is the longsuffering of love.

In heaven God is without limit. No one puts a measurement on God. No one says, “Thus far is God and no more.” No one says, “God can do this here, but He cannot do that there,” or, “My weakness limits God.”

No one in heaven responds to God out of duty or obeys Him because they must. Every heavenly being responds to God in the delight of its own nature. Angels joyfully serve Him. Instantly responding to the voice of God is as natural to a heavenly being as sitting down to a wonderful dinner is to a hungry man. Is it a duty to eat? Must a hungry man make a hard choice between eating (doing God's will) or staying hungry (refusing God's will)?

Jesus said, “My ‘meat’ is to do the will of My Father.”

In other words, the will of heaven is the source of my energy, my strength, and my sustenance. It is what I do. **The supernatural is my life.**

**My heart is in heaven.**

## I Ask; I Receive

**I ask; I receive. I seek; I find. I knock; doors open to me.**

Because I am always asking, I am always receiving. Because I am always seeking, I am always finding. Because I am always knocking, the doors of God are always opening to me.

I ask God for bread; He gives me bread. I ask God for fish; He gives me fish.

When I ask God to fill me, when I seek Him for more of Himself, when I knock on the doors of heaven, I am never afraid of receiving something evil, I am never afraid of being deceived.

**God gives me good things because I ask Him for them.**

I do to others what I want others to do to me.

I enter the narrow gate; I walk in the confined way that leads to life.

I am wary of men; I look carefully at their fruit.

**I myself am a good tree; I bear good fruit.**

Because I do the will of my Father, I enter the kingdom of heaven.

I hear Jesus speak; I do what He says.

I am a wise man; I build my house on the rock. I hear what Jesus says and I do it.

I ask Him and He responds to me. He touches me and I am clean.

I pray for my friend; Jesus heals him.

I believe. What I have asked is done for me.

I follow Jesus. I have no place in this world.

I come to Jesus; He delivers me from all evil.

I arise; I take up my bed; I walk.

### The Jesus Secret

This is My secret: Ask! Seek! Knock!

Ask with expectation. Seek with purpose. Knock with determination.

Yes, there are obstacles and hindrances and wait times. But these prevent the half-hearted only. Those who want Me never stop.

My son, My daughter, I want you. Please, I ask you, 'Ask, Seek, Knock.' And don't stop.

## I Ask; I Receive

**I ask; I receive. I seek; I find.  
I knock; doors are opened to me.**

Many Christians are afraid to approach God. Many people look at others who are seeking “more of God,” who are seeking a “deeper experience,” and claim that they want something unlawful or separate from the gospel. They fear that when people ask God for power, He allows pride and demons to take them, that when they ask God for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, they get an outpouring of devils, that when they ask God for wisdom and revelation, they get only deception. Because of this fear, many of God’s people stay huddled in the safety of their church structures, and never really ask, never really seek, never really knock, never go beyond the boundaries of the “acceptable.”

I am not one of those. I know that when I ask God for bread, He gives me bread, not stones. When I ask God for fish, He gives me fish, not serpents. When I ask God for the fullness of the Holy Spirit, He gives me the fullness of the Holy Spirit, not anything else.

I am persistent. I ask for all the fullness of God, for the stature of the fullness of Christ. I ask for rivers of living water to flow out of my heart. **And I receive.** I seek God for the full revelation of His will. I find it. I know His will and purpose in me. I knock. I knock at the doors of heaven, and all eternity opens to me. I knock at every heavenly door on earth. All those that are God’s for me, He Himself opens.

I never dishonor God by treating Him like the trickster god of human mythology who tricks people and then condemns them. I come to God; **I believe that He is; He rewards me as I diligently seek Him.**

I also know that not asking, not seeking, not knocking is a sad, sad choice to remain in the mixed up mess that satisfies so much of Christianity. Until I arise from the dead, just like Jesus, I am not satisfied.

**I ask. I seek. I knock. And I never stop.**

**God gives me good things  
because I ask Him for them.**

## I Am A Good Man (Woman); I Bring Good Things Out Of The Good Treasure Of My Heart

I follow Jesus.

I reach out and touch Him; power flows through me and I am healed. He takes my hand; I rise from the dead.

I believe Jesus is able to do all things.  
**I believe; therefore, I receive.**

I preach. I heal the sick, cleanse lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons.

Because I have freely received from God, I freely give.

I do not fear anything in this world.  
**I do not fear anything in this world.**  
I do not fear anything in this world.

I confess Jesus before men; He declares my name to the Father.

I bear my cross; I follow after Him.

I give to others the things that they need. I do not lose my reward.

I am meek and lowly of heart.

The Son reveals the Father to me. Jesus gives my soul rest; His light and easy yoke is upon me.

I cast out demons by the Spirit of God.

**I am a good man and I bring good things out of the good treasure of my heart.** I am a good man with a heart filled with good things.

I do the will of my Father; I am the brother/sister/mother of Jesus.

### The Jesus Secret

You can give only what you have received. You can receive only what you ask for. You can ask only for what you believe. Do not be afraid. Believe - believe in Me.

When you believe, you ask. When you ask, you receive. When you receive, you give. When you give, I touch others through you. My touch is your good treasure.

It is I whom you give. When you touch, I touch!

You are My dwelling place. I live in your heart. Do I live in a pig pen? Is my home evil? Of course not! You are more beautiful than you know.

I AM the good treasure in your heart. Give Me to everyone you meet.

## I Am A Good Man/Woman

### Webster's 1926 "good"

I am a good man. I am fit, adapted, and sufficient for the end for which I was designed. I am fully capable of being made just like Jesus. I am slated for a good end. I am favorable, beneficial, and fortunate. I convey what is favorable and fortunate. I give pleasure; I am agreeable and pleasant. I am characterized by pleasure and jollity. I approach the standard (Christ); I am capable, efficient, skillful; I am

marked by approval, highly commendable, excellent, and admirable. I am characterized by moral goodness and virtue. I am kind, gracious, and friendly. I am well behaved, stouthearted, and courageous. I am socially in good repute, honorable, and untainted. I am of a sound and reliable character, having real and full value. I am excess, rather than lacking, ample, full, and thorough. I am considerable, not small or inefficient. **I am a good man/woman.**

There are few of the kindnesses of God towards me greater than the precious and holy ability to look in the mirror each morning, to look at myself, in spite of myself, and to say in all honesty and truthfulness, "I am a good man/woman." This kindness is especially meaningful for those who have labored for years under the old covenant injunction "the heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked;"\*\*\* who have been told, "You are bad; you are proud; watch out because the evil in you will lead you astray." Now that I can look in the mirror and before God say, "I am a good man/woman," tears spring to my eyes in all humility. Such a precious, precious gift from God.



### **I bring good things out of the good treasure of my heart.**

I bear fruit because I abide in Him. I have gifts by the grace God has given me. I use His grace to minister my gift to the body of Christ. I distribute to the needs of the saints. I bless. The Spirit has given me a particular gift to give for the profit of all. In my earthen vessel is this incredible treasure.

I walk in the good works God has prepared for me. I am established in every good word and work. I nourish the gift that is in me. I do good. I am prepared; I am thoroughly equipped for every good work. I acknowledge every good thing that is in me in Christ Jesus.

**I bring good things  
out of the good treasure of my heart.**

## I Understand The Secrets Of Heaven

**I understand the Secrets (mysteries) of heaven's kingdom.**

My eyes are blessed; I see. My ears are blessed; I hear.

I am the one who has received the seed on good ground. I bring forth fruit a hundred times more.

**The kingdom of heaven grows in me and fills all of my being.** I shine as the sun in my Father's kingdom.

**I am the pearl of great price;** Jesus sold His very life so that He would have the price needed to buy me for Himself.

I give what is in my hand; it multiplies. When everyone is full, I have far more left over.

I am always cheerful; I am never afraid.

I come to Jesus when He calls. I hear; I understand. Because my faith is great, I have whatever I desire.

I give the little I have; God multiplies it, and everyone is full.

I say that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God.

The gates of Hades, the place of the dead, cannot stand against my assault. I possess the keys of heaven's kingdom. I have authority to bind and loose on earth as it is in heaven.

I follow Jesus. I deny myself. I carry my cross. I follow Jesus. I desire to save my life; I lose it. I lose my life; I keep it.

I will be rewarded greatly for my good works. **Because of my faith, nothing is impossible to me.**

### The Jesus Secret

What are you worth to Me? I saw you long ago. I must admit, at first glance you were a mess. But then I saw your heart. In that instant I fell in love. I could not rest. I sold My Life for you; I wanted your heart so much. I traded My Life for My Blood so I could buy you for Myself.

You are mine, all of you, even the field that still has weeds and stones in it. But your heart, My dearest Friend, your beautiful heart -- that, especially, is Mine.

I know this is hard to believe, hard to understand. But this is, after all, the great Secret of heaven. That I, the King of Glory, should trade My very Life for your heart!

## I Understand The Secrets Of Heaven

Webster's 1926 "mystery"

I understand the profound secrets of heaven. I understand the things wholly unknown, things kept cautiously concealed, the enigmas of

heaven. I understand the things that have not been and cannot be explained, the truths of heaven beyond human comprehension.

The Son reveals the Father to me. My eyes are blessed; I see. I know the Father; I have seen the Father, because I know and have seen Jesus. The Holy Spirit teaches me everything. I set my mind on the things of the Spirit; my mind is in the Spirit. God has shown me the things He has prepared for me. The Spirit from God is in me: I know the things freely given to me by God.

I am a steward of the Secrets of God. God has made known to me the secret of His will. I have a spirit of wisdom and revelation from God. I know Him. I know that which is beyond knowing – the love of Christ. The word of Christ dwells in me, richly filling me with wisdom. I have heard, I have seen, I have handled the Word of Life. I have an anointing from the Holy One; I know all things. I know the truth. God abides in me. The truth is in me.

### I know God's will.



When a movie maker records a movie, he uses a recording system to turn the sights and sounds of the movie into a digital format. The recording system then "writes" the digital format onto a DVD disc. If I want to watch the movie, I buy the disc. But having the disc really does nothing for me. I cannot "see" the movie by studying the disk. No amount of mental penetration can force that disc to give up its secrets. It is, entirely, a mystery. Rather, I place the DVD into a machine that is designed in the exact same format as the original recording device. That machine translates the "mystery" in the DVD into a movie I can watch and enjoy.

In the same way, I do not "know" the Secrets of heaven by studying the Bible any more than I "see" a movie by studying the disc. The original "recording equipment" who recorded those words in the Bible is the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit knows God. I am filled with the Holy Spirit; I am filled with the truth. The word of God as recorded in the Bible "plays" through the Holy Spirit in me, and I see and hear and understand all the Secrets of God.

## I Am A Good And Faithful Servant

Because I humble myself as a little child, I am the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. I receive Christ as I receive even the least in His love.

I am sent to seek and to save that which is lost. I win my brother back whenever we are separated.

Whatever I bind or loose on earth is bound or loosed in heaven.

Whenever I get together with a brother or sister in Christ, Jesus shows up!

**I forgive, always.**

I am with God; all things are possible to me.

I follow Jesus; I sit enthroned, judging all who come before God.

I have left everything pertaining to life in this world; I receive back from God 100 times more in this world.

I embrace all whom Jesus blesses.

I desire to be great in God's kingdom, that's why I serve others. In fact, I

want to be number one in heaven, that's why I love to meet other people's needs, all the time.

Mountains disappear when I speak.

I ask; I believe; I receive. **I fall on Jesus, and I am broken.**

I love the Lord my God with all my heart, soul, and mind. I love my neighbor as much as I love myself.

Because I always watch, I am ready for my Master's coming. Jesus blesses me as I give others what they need.

I am wise; I keep my lamp full.

I take everything God gives me, I risk it all in the marketplaces of this world – wisely, as He teaches me – and I bring back to Him a great increase from what He has invested in me.

**I am the good and faithful servant; I enter into the unspeakable joy of Jesus.**

I give away what I have been given; I have more in abundance.

### The Jesus Secret

I AM the Good and Faithful One. This is not up to you, My dear Heart. You don't have to be great; you don't have to "make it"; you don't have to be a "giant of faith." Bless you, no! I am all of that already.

But here is My Secret: I, the Good and Faithful One - I live in you. Simply believe, and in believing, reach out your hand and touch someone else. And in that touch, everything I AM, you are. Everything I AM leaps from you.

## I Am A Good And Faithful Servant

I take everything God gives me, I risk it all in the marketplaces of this world – wisely, as He teaches me – and I bring back to Him a great increase from what He has invested in me.



Glory, simply defined, is receiving praise for a job well done. This parable of the talent is the most practical description of glory I am given. Jesus receives the adoration of the universe for conquering sin and death and for securing salvation. Jesus tells me in this parable that, as I am faithful, I share in His glory; I enter into His joy.

Is this what I do? Is it the joy and passion, the drive of my life, to faithfully “invest” every good thing God has imparted to me into the triumph of His kingdom? If I look at my own lack, my own shortcoming, my own weariness, my own fears, then I know that I will never “make it.”

### **I cannot look at myself.**

God’s word is power. I speak His word to myself. I am the good and faithful servant. I invest His kingdom in the marketplaces of this world, as He teaches me. I invest into my family, my friends, my job; into my school, my church, my neighbors; into anyone I happen to meet. I invest the human things He has given me, my abilities, my talents, my strengths, my time, my money. I invest the anointing and the grace He has given me, His power upon me, and His spiritual gifts. I pray for others. I give a cup of cold water; I do the simple, little things that meet their needs.

As I speak this, I become what I speak. I do what I see myself doing. I live what I see; it is who I am.

However, if I speak what I am not yet always doing, am I lying? or, **am I prophesying?** Because Jesus fills my heart, I become what I speak.

When I hear these words of Jesus, “Well done,” when they count, I will not be hearing them for the first time. They are no surprise to me. I have heard them in my own heart many times before.

**I am faithful in a few things; I am made ruler over much.  
I enter into the joy of Jesus.**

## I Am The One Jesus Is With; Jesus Is With Me

I take everything God gives me, I risk it all in the marketplaces of this world – wisely, as He teaches me – and I bring back to Him a great increase from what He has invested in me.

**I am the good and faithful servant; I enter into the unspeakable joy of Jesus.**

Because I give away what I have been given, I have more in abundance.

I give food to the hungry; I give drink to the thirsty; I take strangers into my house; I clothe those who are naked; I visit the sick; I visit those who are in prison, **My Father blesses me.** I possess the kingdom that God prepared just for me from the very

beginning.

I take; I eat of His body. I drink of His blood of the new covenant.

I stay; I watch. I watch and pray, therefore God keeps me from temptation.

I drink of the cup You give me, my Father.

I rejoice. I am not afraid.

I am sent in the authority God gave to Jesus. I go, making disciples of people everywhere. I immerse them in the name of God; I teach them to observe everything Jesus commanded.

**I am the one Jesus is with. Jesus is with me!**

### The Jesus Secret

I AM with you! I AM with you! I AM with you! I live at all times in your heart. I fill every part of you. My Mind is your mind; My Thoughts are your thoughts. My Love is your love; My Joy is your joy. My Glory is your glory. Oh, My precious Heart, believe that I AM with you.

I send you -- Go!

And always, always, always, I AM with you.

Give, visit, clothe, feed, comfort.

As you share with others My Secret, My Glory fills the entire world. There is no stopping us.

What unspeakable joy I share with you! You cannot ever be alone; it is impossible. I AM always with you.

## I Am The One Jesus Is With; Jesus Is With Me

For forty years, the weight and grief of the slavery of his people in Egypt rode heavily upon Moses' shoulders as he trudged the back wasteland of the Sinai peninsula, following his father-in-law's sheep. Equal to his concern for the Israelite people, however, was the gnawing voice of condemnation. "You are a failure. You tried to help and look at what happened." Then one day, the fire of God inserted itself into Moses' life. God said to Moses: "I send you." Moses' immediate response, drawn from forty years of the same thoughts going round and round in his mind was: "Who am I?"

God's answer, also immediate: "I will certainly be with you." Moses, you are the man whose God goes with him. Moses, the living God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob is with you. That's who you are, Moses, you are the man whom God is with."

Jesus is with me. Who am I? I am the man/woman Jesus is with. Everywhere I go, the thought is ever present at the forefront of my mind, "Jesus is with me. I am the one Jesus is with." That is my identity; that is who I am. When I face accusation, Jesus is with me. When I face suffering and loss, Jesus is with me. When obstacles stand in my way, Jesus is with me. Always, always, always, Jesus is with me.

This confession of faith, this boldness by which I enter into the very throne room of God, does not come from me. Never, never, never, do I allow the thought to enter my heart that any of this comes from me, that I have some sufficiency in myself whereby I am what I proclaim.

**No. I am what I am because Jesus is with me. Apart from Him, I am nothing.** I am who I am in spite of myself, not because of myself. I am who I am because He is with me. I am valuable, not because of anything in myself. I am valuable because of the price He paid for me. His payment determines my value. His presence determines my mission.

**I live; yet it is not I,  
but Christ who lives in me.**

**Jesus is with me!**

## I Do What Jesus Tells Me To Do

From the very beginning, God determined that I would be just like Jesus. He sees exactly what I am in my final state. That **IS** who I am.

The best way to see myself as I really am is to look at all the things Jesus and the Apostles command me to do. When I am who I really am, I will be doing those things effortlessly, as my nature, almost without thought. **I declare right now who I am.**

Jesus commanded me to love God.

- I love God.

Jesus commanded me to love my brothers and sisters.

- I love my brothers and sisters.

Jesus commanded me not to be afraid.

- I am not afraid of anything in this world.

Jesus commanded me to watch.

- I watch and pray; God keeps me from temptation.

Jesus commanded me to let my light shine.

- My good works testify of the goodness and glory of God.

Transformation begins with the commandment of God. When I hear God's command, I am an observer. I can think about it; I can do it, or not. But somehow, God's command is outside of me, still not **a definition of me**. However, when I see myself as I am, and more than that, when I confess who God says I am, **when I speak it out loud**, it becomes mine. It becomes me.

Then the fight begins. As I confess who I am, I get a taste of being like Jesus. I taste love filling my heart, a tender delight for other people, the overflowing joy that Jesus said is mine all the time. Now, do I want that permanently?

When I confess with my mouth that I do what Jesus commands me to do, I am confronted with reality. This is who I am. **Now do it.** But as I do it, I am only being myself. **I am doing what I am.** I am not trying to obey some command that is outside of myself. And other people can tell the difference. As I do what I am, everyone, myself included, enjoys the reality of Christ.

No one wants to be around people who try really hard to be good Christians. Their sincerity is admirable, but their effect is prickly and uncomfortable. Everyone likes to be with those who love effortlessly, who laugh because joy fills their heart, who give because other people delight them.

**The commandment is written in my heart; it is who I am.**

## **I Give Food To The Hungry; I Give Drink To The Thirsty**

I give food to the hungry; I give drink to the thirsty; I take strangers into my house; I clothe those who are naked; I visit the sick; I visit those who are in prison.

There are many ways to be hungry and thirsty. There are many lonely and exposed paths. There are many kinds of sickness. There are many types of prison cells.

Taking this exercise, this confession of faith, this declaration of who God determined me to be from the beginning, through the entire New Testament, I am struck by this one recurring theme. The essence of being like Christ is constantly to be meeting people's needs. First come the needs of the body of Christ, my brothers and sisters in the Lord, and then come the needs of everyone else.

There are two ways in which I meet people's needs. First, I meet them through the gift God has given me. I do not judge myself by the gift God has given someone else. I do not worry when my gift does not meet a particular need. I am a member of a body. There are others who do have the gift for those particular needs I am not equipped to meet.

Second, I meet the real and practical needs of all those who cross my path. My mind is set on what other people need. If I am a teacher, I teach with God's ability. If I am a helper, I help with God's ability. If I am a builder, I give what I have. Whether in large things or small things, I give what God has given me to give.

### **I meet other people's needs; God meets my needs.**

As I see myself as I really am – one who meets people's needs – my life is radically altered. I become a servant. I think about other people's concerns ahead of my own.

I desire to be great in the kingdom of God, that's why I serve others. In fact, I want to be number one in heaven, that's why I love to meet other people's needs, all the time.

**I am great. I meet other people's  
needs all the time.**

## I Love My Enemies

### Webster's 1926 "enemy"

I love the person who is hostile to me, who seeks my failure, who seeks to overthrow me. I love those persons who try to injure me. I love those persons who are members of the armed forces of hostile nations. I love them; I pray for them; I seek to do them good, not harm.

I do not resist violent people. If someone strikes me; I do not strike back. If someone makes me serve them, I serve them more than expected. I give to everyone who asks me. I love my enemies, I bless those who curse me; I do good to those who hate me; I pray for those who misuse me. I am a son of my heavenly Father. I am just like God.



I love my personal enemies. I love the man who honks at me in traffic. I love the lady at the checkout counter who makes me stand and wait in line. I love the ones who misuse me, who make bad decisions that destroy my hopes and do so without concern. I love those who criticize me to my face and tell me I am a loser. I love them.

I love those whom my nation or culture decries as enemies. I refuse to join the madness in this world of hating and fearing other peoples. I refuse to join the present hatred of Muslims. I refuse to give my assent to murdering people. I refuse to give voice to the demons calling the peoples of this world to war. I refuse to call any man "evil" or to place any people outside the power of a peacemaker.

My allegiance is to Jesus, alone. I do not follow a crowd to do evil. I do not follow one of the kingdoms of Satan to do evil. I am no friend of this world or of any nation of this world. I have no communion with the values and ambitions of this world. I do not love the things of this world. I do not pledge allegiance to any kingdom of Satan, any nation of men.

Jesus gives life; I am here to give life. Satan comes to steal, to kill, and to destroy. He sits enthroned on both sides of every battlefield of this world. He loves to destroy. I refuse allegiance to the constitutions and the philosophies of this world. I refuse to join myself to the worldly men who form the armed forces of this world for the purposes of killing and destroying.

I am just like Jesus. I insist on giving aid and comfort to my "enemies." I insist on laying down my life for others' sake. **I refuse to fight for the beast.**

## The Kingdom Of Heaven Grows In Me And Fills All Of My Being

**God's kingdom is within me.**

I am the one who has received the seed on good ground. I bring forth fruit thirty, sixty, a hundred times more. I shine as the sun in the kingdom of my Father. I am the pearl of great price. I possess the keys of the kingdom of heaven. I have the authority to bind and to loose on earth as it is in heaven. I speak to mountains; they disappear. Because of my faith, nothing is impossible to me. I possess the kingdom that God prepared just for me from the very beginning. I possess authority to destroy everything that Satan or his demons try to do. Nothing can hurt me. I am not afraid. I know that God is pleased and thrilled to give me His kingdom.

**I am a citizen of heaven.**

**I serve one Master only: Jesus.**

**I am a sojourner and a pilgrim in this world.**

**My kingdom is not of this world.**

**I seek for a city that is to come.**

I am an agent of another country. I work in secret to spread the power and influence of my country throughout the worldly country in which I live. My country is at war with the kingdoms of this world. I do not betray my country by giving my allegiance to the government under which I sojourn. I am not a dual citizen; I have only one Master. When my Master overthrows the government under which I live, I will not be ashamed; I am with Him.



I am not here to destroy or to ruin people's lives, but to save them. I take care of the needs of any passing stranger, no matter what his race or standing, as if he were my beloved neighbor. I have left family and home for the sake of the kingdom of God, **I am here to seek and to save what was lost.** I take heed that I am not deceived by anyone that would get my eyes off Jesus.

**Another country, another kingdom, another King grows inside of me and fills all of my being.**

**I am a peacemaker.**

## References:

Day 11: Matt. 16:4; 19:8; Mark 1:17; Luke 9:57-62; John 10:4,5,27,28; 12:26-32; Heb. 13:13; 1 Peter 2:21-23 Rev. 14:4

Day 13: 1 Cor. 13:4; John 4:34

Day 15: Matt. 7:9-11; Luke 11:11-13; Eph. 3:19; John 7:37-39; Eph. 1:9; Heb. 11:6

Day 17: Rom. 12:6,13,14; 1 Cor. 12:7,11; 2 Cor. 4:7; 2 Tim. 3:17; Phil. 6

\*\*\* Let me be blunt: The Old Covenant does not describe me, neither does it define my relationship with God. Inasmuch as the Old Covenant supports and helps us to understand the New Covenant, it is God speaking to us. But never do we take a verse from the Old Covenant and use it to define and regulate or even dispose of New Testament truth.

The man described by the Old Covenant died upon the cross of Christ. I - all of me - I live in the resurrection of Jesus Christ in me. The New Covenant states without equivocation that the old heart I once knew is gone forever and that my present heart is the dwelling place of Christ, with the law of God written upon it.

The Old Covenant is God speaking to us so long as we read it by the Holy Spirit and so long as it never counteracts any part of the New Covenant.

Paul fought his whole life against those who insisted on imposing the Old Covenant unlawfully upon the New Covenant church. He suggested at one point that they go castrate themselves.

Paul lost the battle in church history.

Day 19: John 14:7-11; 16:13; 1 Cor. 2:10-16; Eph 1:9,17; 3:19; Col. 3:16; 1 John 1:1; 2:20; 5:20.

Day 23: Exodus 3:11-14

Day 24: Rom. 8:29

Day 25: Matt. 25:34-36; Eph 4:7; 1 Cor 12:4,11,27; Matt. 20:26-28.

Day 26: Matt. 5:38-45; Luke 6:24; Exodus 23:2; 1 John 2:15-17; John 10:10; Rev. 13:4,7.

Day 27: Matt. 13:31-33; 13:23, 43, 46; 16:19; 17:20; 25:34; Luke 10:19; 12:32; Eph 2:19; Phil. 3:20; Matt. 6:24; Heb. 11:13-16; John 18:36; 2 Cor. 5:20; Rev. 13:7; 14:14; Mark 6:29; Rev. 11:14; Luke 9:56; 10:33-37; Matt. 29:30; Luke 9:10; 2:8; Matt. 5:9.