

9-8-2024 Sunday Sermon Message  
Devotional of the Week: Psalm 91:1-16  
Text: John 8:31-32

Title: **Understanding the Truth and Living a Free Life by Continuing to Abide in God's Word**

Jesus told those who believed in him that if they continued in his word, they would become true disciples, and they would come to know the truth and that truth would set them free.

The Lord said that in order to be His disciples, we must deny ourselves, take up our cross, and follow Him, and those who do not take up our cross are unworthy. (Matthew 16:24; 10:38)

It is impossible to believe and follow God's Word, to continue to abide in it, and to live a life of obedience without denying one's own thoughts. Therefore, in order to abide in the word of the Lord, we must deny ourselves completely.

In this regard, the Apostle Paul exhorted God's children:

**"<sup>28</sup> And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.**

**<sup>29</sup> For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren."**(Romans 8; 28-29)

Therefore, in order to be a disciple of the Lord, even though His words at the right time are too difficult to obey and sometimes seem overwhelming, those who deny themselves by forsaking their own thoughts and obeying in faith can become disciples of the Lord. God said that His thoughts are different from those

of men and that they were higher. God says of man's thoughts, "They are vanity.(Psalm 94:11):

**"<sup>8</sup> For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord.**

**<sup>9</sup> For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.**  
**"(Isaiah 55:8-9)**

When we abandon our own thoughts, deny ourselves, and live in complete obedience to God's word, we will finally realize that God's word is the truth. Also, when we realize that only God's word is the truth, we obey any word of God by faith. At this time, you will finally be able to enjoy a free life in the truth.

The apostle Peter gave a vital witness to Christians living in the last days:

**"<sup>7</sup> But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer.**

**<sup>8</sup> And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins.**

**<sup>9</sup> Use hospitality one to another without grudging.**

**<sup>10</sup> As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.**

**<sup>11</sup> If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen."**(1 Peter 4:7-11)

He also foretold the fiery trials that would befall God's children in the last days:

"<sup>12</sup> Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:

<sup>13</sup> But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

<sup>14</sup> If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified."(1 Peter 4:12-14)

The Apostle John and the Apostle Paul warned that the spirit of the Antichrist was already at work in the world:

"<sup>3</sup> And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.

<sup>4</sup> Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

.....<sup>7</sup> For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way.

<sup>8</sup> And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:" (1 John 4:3-4, 2 Thessalonians 2:7-8)

The Apostle Paul testified long ago that God's children should be armed with the Word of God, bearing witness to the principalities, powers, rulers of the darkness of this world, and evil spirits that will now attack God's children under the Antichrist in the last days:

"<sup>10</sup> Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

<sup>11</sup> Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

<sup>12</sup> For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

<sup>13</sup> Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

<sup>14</sup> Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

<sup>15</sup> And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

<sup>16</sup> Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

<sup>17</sup> And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

<sup>18</sup> Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

.(Ephesians 6:10-18)

More than ever, we need to pray in the Spirit, understand the words of truth that the Spirit is guiding, and foresee in the Spirit what is about to happen before us. Christians who are indwelt by the Holy Spirit can clearly see everything that is coming before us. The forces of the antichrist are allied with the forces of the New World Order to deceive the spiritually asleep Christians by preventing them from seeing the coming day of Christ and the millennial kingdom of Christ. When Jesus spoke about the time of the end, he told us to beware of people's deception. Now is the time to come to our senses, arm ourselves spiritually, and win the spiritual war. Amen! Hallelujah!