

YT Video- Heaven Is For Disciples Only

By Yirmeyah Tan, 9 September 2023

Text [KJV unless otherwise indicated]

Joh 8:31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, **If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;**

Joh 8:32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

Luk 14:25 Now great crowds accompanied him, and he turned and said to them, *Luk 14:26 "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.*

Luk 14:27 Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

Luk 14:28 For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it?

Luk 14:29 Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him,

Luk 14:30 saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.'

Luk 14:31 Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand?

Luk 14:32 And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace.

Luk 14:33 So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

I. **Disciples vs Believers**

- a. Disciples abide in His Word and Walk with Him

G3306: menō

Thayer Definition:

1) to remain, abide

1a) in reference to place

1a1) to sojourn, tarry

1a2) not to depart

1a2a) to continue to be present

1a2b) to be held, kept, continually

1b) in reference to time

1b1) to continue to be, not to perish, to last, endure

1b1a) of persons, to survive, live

1c) in reference to state or condition

1c1) to remain as one, not to become another or different

2) to wait for, await one

1Jn 2:4 He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

1Jn 2:5 *But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.*

1Jn 2:6 **He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.**

- b. Commanded to make disciples, not mere believers.

ESV Mat 28:19 *Go therefore and **make disciples of all nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
Mat 28:20 **teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.** And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*

Note: disciples are to be taught to obey Him

II. **Disciples Are on The Way**

Isa 55:7 **Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts:** and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Isa 55:8 *For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.*

Isa 55:9 *For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.*

Sep [LXX] Pro 14:12 *There is a way which seems to be right with men, **but the ends of it reach to the depths of hell.***

III. **Only Disciples Bear Fruit**

Joh 15:5 *I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.*

Joh 15:6 **If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.**

Note:

1. Only disciples are able to bear fruit because they abide in Him.
2. Mere believers are cast out, wither and burned in the fire.

IV. **Only Disciples Know the Truth.**

Joh 14:6 *Jesus saith unto him, **I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.***

Joh 8:31 *Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, **If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;***

Joh 8:32 *And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*

- a. to know the Truth is to know Yeshua.
- b. Only disciples experience the freedom in Christ.

V. Only Disciples Partake of His Life

Joh 5:38 *And ye have not his word abiding in you: for whom he hath sent, him ye believe not.*

Joh 5:39 **Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.**

Joh 5:40 **And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life.**

Note:

1. Studying scriptures alone will not gain eternal life.
2. We must come to Yeshua in order to have life.

Joh 17:1 *These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee:*

Joh 17:2 **As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.**

Joh 17:3 **And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.**

VI. Refusal To Take Up Own Cross: Not Worthy of Me

Mat 10:38 *And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me.*

Mat 10:39 *He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it.*

- a. Take up your own cross.
- b. A cross is an instrument of death
- c. Follow after Christ
- d. If we choose the self-life, the life of the carnal nature we shall lose eternal life.
- e. If we die to our self-life, we shall gain eternal life.

VII. A Disciple Does His Will

Mat 7:21 **"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.**

Mat 7:22 *On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?'*

Mat 7:23 *And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.'*

- a. Ministry for Him and in His Name will not get us into His Kingdom, unless
- b. We are doing His will.
- c. Those who do His will are His real brethren.

Mat 12:46 *While he yet talked to the people, behold, his mother and his brethren stood without, desiring to speak with him.*

Mat 12:47 Then one said unto him, Behold, thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to speak with thee.

Mat 12:48 But he answered and said unto him that told him, Who is my mother? and who are my brethren?

Mat 12:49 And he stretched forth his hand toward his disciples, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren!

Mat 12:50 For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.

VIII. Hating Father, Mother etc

Luk 14:26 *“If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.*

- a. Yeshua must be first in our lives.
- b. Life in Christ is more important than our own lives.

IX. Counting the Cost

Luk 14:28 *For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and **count the cost**, whether he has enough to complete it?*

Luk 14:29 Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him,

*Luk 14:30 saying, **'This man began to build and was not able to finish.'***

- a. It will be costly.
- b. We must have endurance.

Mat 24:11 *And many false prophets shall rise and shall deceive many.*

Mat 24:12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.

*Mat 24:13 But **he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.***

X. Renouncing All We Have

Luk 14:33 *So therefore, **any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.***

Mar 10:21 Then Jesus beholding him loved him, and said unto him, One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me.

Mar 10:22 And he was sad at that saying and went away grieved: for he had great possessions.

*Mar 10:23 And Jesus looked round about, and saith unto his disciples, **How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God!***

- a. Our relationships, careers and possessions can impede our entrance into His Kingdom

- b. Wealthy people who love money and possessions will not be able to enter His Kingdom

XI. Enduring Suffering & Tribulation

1Pe 2:21 For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:

1Pe 2:22 Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth:

1Pe 2:23 Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously:

Act 14:21 And when they had preached the gospel to that city, and had taught many, they returned again to Lystra, and to Iconium, and Antioch,

*Act 14:22 **Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.***

XII. Enduring Persecution

Joh 15:18 If the world hates you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you.

Joh 15:19 If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.

Joh 15:20 Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also.

XIII. Loving the Brethren

Joh 13:34 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.

*Joh 13:35 **By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.***

IX. Quotes From Dietrich Bonhoeffer

(Dietrich Bonhoeffer was an anti-Nazi theologian and pastor during World War II. Best remembered for authoring the Christian classic **The Cost of Discipleship**)

- Salvation is free but discipleship is costly.
- Being a Christian is less about cautiously avoiding sin than about courageously and actively doing God's will.
- Christianity without discipleship is always Christianity without Christ
- Cheap grace is the preaching of forgiveness without requiring repentance, baptism without church discipline, communion without confession.
- Cheap grace is the idea that 'grace' did it all for me, so I do not need to change my lifestyle.
- The believer who accepts the idea of 'cheap grace' thinks he can continue to live like the rest of the world.