

“Saving faith and real converting grace will always produce some conformity to the image of Jesus.” J.C. Ryle

JESUS... THE WAY



” Jesus said to him,
“I am the way, the truth,
and the life. No one comes to
the Father except through Me.”

John 14:6

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(Message 1 of 3)

The contemporary easy flowing Christian message tells us to simply accept Jesus as Savior, as Jesus desires to be our friend. However, what did Jesus mean when He said, “I am the way”?

Jesus told Nicodemus in John 3:3: “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.” And we know how Jesus further explained that it represents to be born of the Spirit, in essence starting a new life, with an ardent desire within us to learn to live according to Christ’s teachings.

Then in Mat 7:13-14, Jesus added; “Enter by the narrow gate; for wide *is* the gate and broad *is* the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow *is* the gate and difficult *is* the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.”

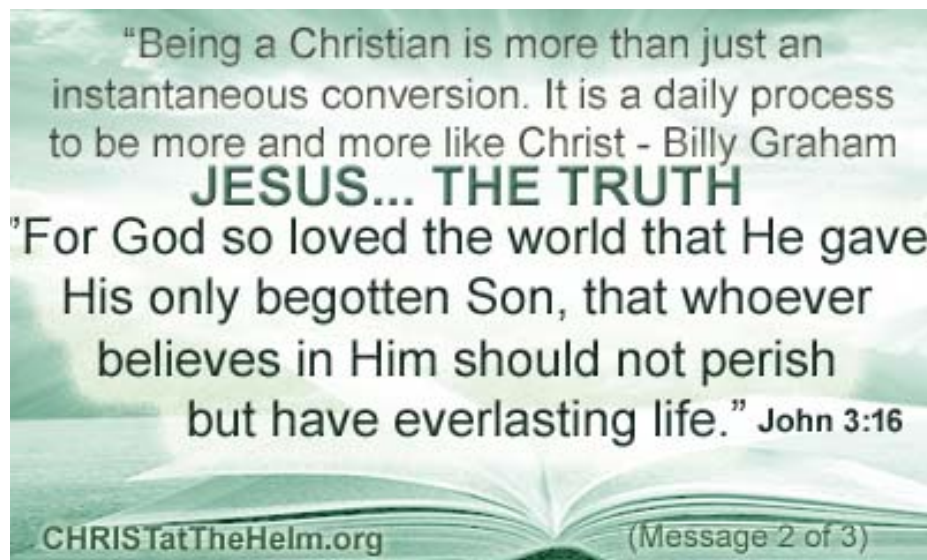
In other words, to enter the narrow gate means to abandon our old sinful life in crossing over from the kingdom of darkness to the Kingdom of Light in Christ. It is a serious issue, as there is but one narrow gate to enter into the Kingdom of God; through Christ Jesus alone.

The reason Acts 4:12 clearly state, “Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

Are we still lingering at the door, or are we truly in?

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What did Jesus mean when He said to Nicodemus, "Whoever Believes"? What does believing really imply?

Is it simply an intellectual acknowledgment of the mind, an agreement of facts about who Jesus is? If that was true, then even the demons would be saved as they definitely know who Jesus is, yet they also know and fear of what's in store for them.

In Mat 7:21, Jesus specified, "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven." In essence, the confession of faith in Christ incorporates to believe in what Christ came to reveal to us and teach us, which should translate into a commitment for obedience and sanctification.

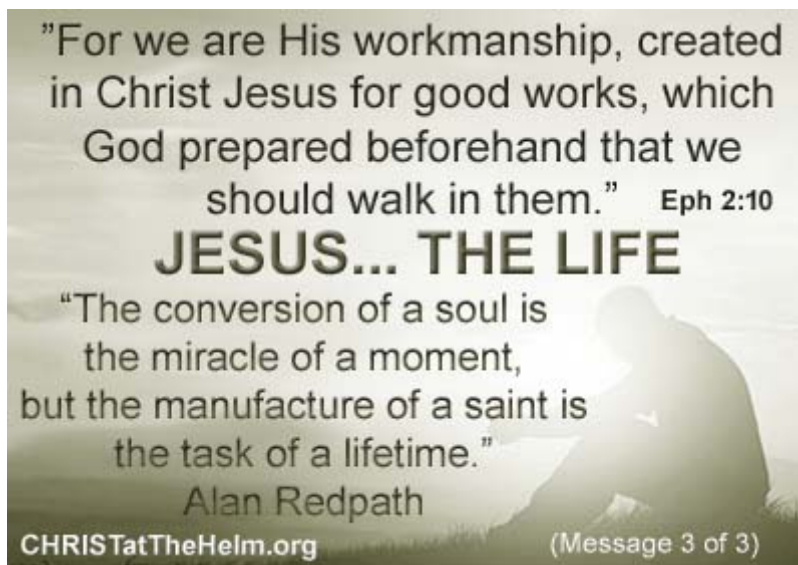
The reason He said in John 15:1-2, "I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every *branch* that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit."

In other words, true belief demands that we strive to know God through His Word so as to apply His Will to our lives.

Eph 2:8 add "For by grace you have been saved through faith," faith implying to believe in what Jesus taught us, and to commit to follow Him each day accordingly.

How strong and true is our belief in Christ right now?

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Jesus being the way, the truth and the life, what does being "The Life" imply?

2Cor 5:17 gives us a clear description of what the life of a true believer in Christ translates into: "Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."

While we aren't saved by works, as Eph 2:8-9 says, we however become a new creation in emerging from the kingdom of darkness to the Kingdom of God, thereby entering a new life in Christ.

Paul warned us in Rom 6:12, "Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts."

James 1:21 add: "Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted Word."

What therefore should this new life translate into?

In John 8:31-32 Jesus said, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." Thus a true believer becomes a disciple of Christ.

Then in Mat 28:19, He said: "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations."

Clearly, the new life in Christ implies that not only do we become disciples and learn from Christ, but as well we are to His witnesses in sharing the message of salvation to the world around us.

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