

## *The Israel of God Bible Study Class*

2515 E. 75<sup>th</sup> Street

Chicago, IL 60649

(773) 374-6413 or (800) 96-BIBLE

### **SALVATION: WHAT WOULD YOU TRADE FOR IT?**

**Salvation, what would you trade fore it?** This is a question you should ask yourself. The answer should be nothing. As you read through this lesson you will see people that would not trade their salvation for anything. If you can get to the point where these brothers and sisters were, you are standing on solid ground. In this class there are also brothers and sisters putting "the face of man" on God and they lost their life. Keep in mind, the same God back then is the same God today.

In this set of scriptures the LORD chose the tribe of **Levi to execute the service of the LORD**. Before he did that he had Moses clean them up. This should let you know when you come before the LORD **you must be clean**. Clean your act up first, then go to the LORD. You cannot come to HIM as you are. We are no longer under the laws of sacrifice, Jesus is our sacrifice once and for all, and the water you must be cleansed by is His word. Here in Numbers, actual water was used to cleanse the Levites. The Lord does something physical to let you know later there is a spiritual side also.

**Numbers 8:5** And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Take the Levites from among the children of Israel, **and cleanse them.** **7** And thus shalt thou do unto them, to cleanse them: **Sprinkle water of purifying upon them**, and let them shave all their flesh, and let them wash their clothes, and so make themselves clean. **8** Then let them take a young bullock with his meat offering, even fine flour mingled with oil, and another young bullock shalt thou take for a sin offering.

**9** And thou shalt bring the Levites before the tabernacle of the congregation: and thou shalt gather the whole assembly of the children of Israel together: **10** And thou shalt bring the Levites before the LORD: and the children of Israel shall put their hands upon the Levites:

**11** And Aaron shall offer the Levites before the LORD for an offering of the children of Israel, **that they may execute the service of the LORD.** **12** And the Levites shall lay their hands upon the heads of the bullocks: and thou shalt offer the one for a sin offering, and the other for a burnt offering, unto the LORD, to make an atonement for the Levites.

**13** And thou shalt set the Levites before Aaron, and before his sons, and offer them for an offering unto the LORD. **14 Thus shalt thou separate the Levites from among the children of Israel: and the Levites shall be mine.** **15** And after that shall the Levites go in to do the service of the tabernacle of the congregation: and thou shalt **cleanse them**, and offer them for an offering.

**16 For they are wholly given unto me from among the children of Israel; instead of such as open every womb, even instead of the firstborn of all the children of Israel, have I taken them unto me.** **17** For all the firstborn of the children of Israel are mine, both man and beast: **on the day that I smote every firstborn in the land of Egypt I sanctified them for myself.**

**18** And I have taken the Levites for all the firstborn of the children of Israel.

**19** And I have given the Levites as a gift to Aaron and to his sons from among the children of Israel, **to do the service of the children of Israel in the tabernacle of the congregation, and to**

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**make an atonement for the children of Israel: that there be no plague among the children of Israel, when the children of Israel come nigh unto the sanctuary.**

Here we have two of Aaron's sons, keep in mind that they knew the law, they are sons of the high priest. Look what happened.

**Leviticus 10:1** And Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took either of them his censer, and put fire therein, and put incense thereon, and offered **strange fire before the LORD, which he commanded them not. 2 And there went out fire from the LORD, and devoured them, and they died before the LORD.**

Think about this. You have been given understanding of the scriptures and you know how dangerous the God Of Israel is, and you disobey his commandments anyway. You saw what happened to Nadab and Abihu, this could happen to you, me or anyone that truly understands the word of God.

Let's take a look at the commandment that was given. Keep in mind the LORD is giving the law.

**Leviticus 6:8** And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, **9** Command Aaron and his sons, saying, This is the law of the burnt offering: It is the burnt offering, because of the burning upon the altar all night unto the morning, and the fire of the altar shall be burning in it. **10** And the priest shall put on his linen garment, and his linen breeches shall he put upon his flesh, and take up the ashes which the fire hath consumed with the burnt offering on the altar, and he shall put them beside the altar. **11** And he shall put off his garments, and put on other garments, and carry forth the ashes without the camp unto a clean place. **12 And the fire upon the altar shall be burning in it;** it shall not be put out: and the priest shall burn wood on it every morning, and lay the burnt offering in order upon it; and he shall burn thereon the fat of the peace offerings. **13 The fire shall ever be burning upon the altar; it shall never go out.** Look at verse 12, And the fire upon the altar shall be burning in it; it shall not be put out. The fire on the altar shall never go out. Where did the two sons get the fire? It wasn't from the altar. Verse 13, The fire shall ever be burning upon the altar; it shall never go out. That is real clear.

Check out what Moses tells Aaron.

**Leviticus 10:3** Then Moses said unto Aaron, This is it that the LORD spake, saying, I will be sanctified in them that come nigh me, and before all the people I will be glorified. And Aaron held his peace. **4** And Moses called Mishael and Elzaphan, the sons of Uzziel the uncle of Aaron, and said unto them, Come near, carry your brethren from before the sanctuary out of the camp.

**5** So they went near, and carried them in their coats out of the camp; as Moses had said.

**6** And Moses said unto Aaron, and unto Eleazar and unto Ithamar, his sons, **Uncover not your**

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**heads, neither rend your clothes; lest ye die,** and lest wrath come upon all the people: but let your brethren, the whole house of Israel, bewail the burning which the LORD hath kindled. **7 And ye shall not go out from the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, lest ye die: for the anointing oil of the LORD is upon you.** And they did according to the word of Moses. **16** And Moses diligently sought the goat of the sin offering, and, behold, it was burnt: and he was angry with Eleazar and Ithamar, the sons of Aaron which were left alive, saying, **17 Wherefore have ye not eaten the sin offering in the holy place, seeing it is most holy, and God hath given it you to bear the iniquity of the congregation, to make atonement for them before the LORD?** **18** Behold, the blood of it was not brought in within the holy place: ye should indeed have eaten it in the holy place, as I commanded. **19** And Aaron said unto Moses, **Behold, this day have they offered their sin offering and their burnt offering before the LORD; and such things have befallen me: and if I had eaten the sin offering today, should it have been accepted in the sight of the LORD?** **20** And when Moses heard that, he was content.

Here is a requirement of the ALMIGHTY. Look at verse 3, Then Moses said unto Aaron, This is it that the LORD spake, saying, I will be sanctified in them that come nigh me, and before all the people I will be glorified. And Aaron held his peace. **How is the LORD sanctified in you today? By keeping his word (commandments, laws, statutes).** Notice this in verse 6, And Moses said unto Aaron, and unto Eleazar and unto Ithamar, his sons, Uncover not your heads, neither rend your clothes; lest ye die, and lest wrath come upon all the people: but let your brethren, the whole house of Israel, bewail the burning which the LORD hath kindled. This also goes for us that serve the true and living God. Perhaps you have a family member that breaks GOD'S laws, would you side with a family member or with the one that holds your breath. Moses told Aaron and his sons not to mourn, let your brethren bewail the lost. Can we handle something like that? If not, we are not worthy to attain salvation. Look at verse 19, And Aaron said unto Moses, Behold, this day have they offered their sin offering and their burnt offering before the LORD; and such things have befallen me: and if I had eaten the sin offering today, should it have been accepted in the sight of the LORD? **Aaron did everything he was suppose to do but his mind wasn't right. He just lost 2 sons, but the service of the tabernacle must continue.**

Here in Acts is an example, if you make a vow to GOD you had better keep it. **Acts 5:1** But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession, **2 And kept back part of the price, his wife also being privy to it,** and brought a certain part, and laid it, at the apostles' feet. **3** But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, **and to keep back part of the price of the land?** **4** Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? **thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.** **5 And Ananias hearing these words fell down, and gave up the ghost: and great fear came on all them that heard these things.**

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**6** And the young men arose, wound him up, and carried him out, and buried him. **7** And it was about the space of three hours after, when his wife, not knowing what was done, came in. **8** And Peter answered unto her, Tell me whether ye sold the land for so much? And she said, Yea, for so much. **9** Then Peter said unto her, **How is it that ye have agreed together to tempt the Spirit of the Lord? behold, the feet of them which have buried thy husband are at the door, and shall carry thee out.** **10** Then fell she down straightway at his feet, and yielded up the ghost: and the young men came in, and found her dead, and, carrying her forth, buried her by her husband.

Would you have traded your salvation for a piece of land? Everything that you have in this world, you cannot take it to the next. Have you every seen a Brink's truck follow a rich man to the grave? No. If you know a person is doing something that is contrary to the Law, don't agree with them, tell them they are wrong, or you may find yourself like these two people that put "man's face" on GOD. They thought that they were making a vow to Peter and the rest of the apostles.

Here is another example in Judges were Jephthah made a vow to God and he kept it, but the vow was foolish.

**Judges 11:1** Now Jephthah the Gileadite was a mighty man of valour, and he was the son of an harlot: and Gilead begat Jephthah. **2** And Gilead's wife bare him sons; and his wife's sons grew up, and they thrust out Jephthah, and said unto him, Thou shalt not inherit in our father's house; for thou art the son of a strange woman. **3** Then Jephthah fled from his brethren, and dwelt in the land of Tob: and there were gathered vain men to Jephthah, and went out with him. **4** And it came to pass in process of time, that the children of Ammon made war against Israel. **5** And it was so, that when the children of Ammon made war against Israel, the elders of Gilead went to fetch Jephthah out of the land of Tob: **6** And they said unto Jephthah, Come, and be our captain, that we may fight with the children of Ammon. **7** And Jephthah said unto the elders of Gilead, Did not ye hate me, and expel me out of my father's house? and why are ye come unto me now when ye are in distress? **8** And the elders of Gilead said unto Jephthah, Therefore we turn again to thee now, that thou mayest go with us, and fight against the children of Ammon, and be our head over all the inhabitants of Gilead. **9** And Jephthah said unto the elders of Gilead, If ye bring me home again to fight against the children of Ammon, and the LORD deliver them before me, shall I be your head? **30** And Jephthah vowed a vow unto the LORD, and said, If thou shalt without fail deliver the children of Ammon into mine hands, **31** **Then it shall be, that whatsoever cometh forth of the doors of my house to meet me, when I return in peace from the children of Ammon, shall surely be the LORD'S, and I will offer it up for a burnt offering.** **32** So Jephthah passed over unto the children of Ammon to fight against them; and the LORD delivered them into his hands. **33** And he smote them from Aroer, even till thou come to Minnith, even twenty cities, and unto the plain of the vineyards, with a very great slaughter. Thus the children of Ammon were subdued before the children of Israel.

**34** And Jephthah came to Mizpeh unto his house, and, behold, **his daughter came out to meet**

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**him with timbrels and with dances: and she was his only child; beside her he had neither son nor daughter. 35 And it came to pass, when he saw her, that he rent his clothes, and said, Alas, my daughter! thou hast brought me very low, and thou art one of them that trouble me: for I have opened my mouth unto the LORD, and I cannot go back. 36 And she said unto him, My father, if thou hast opened thy mouth unto the LORD, do to me according to that which hath proceeded out of thy mouth; forasmuch as the LORD hath taken vengeance for thee of thine enemies, even of the children of Ammon. 37 And she said unto her father, Let this thing be done for me: let me alone two months, that I may go up and down upon the mountains, and bewail my virginity, I and my fellows. 38 And he said, Go. And he sent her away for two months: and she went with her companions, and bewailed her virginity upon the mountains. 39 And it came to pass at the end of two months, that she returned unto her father, who did with her according to his vow which he had vowed: and she knew no man. And it was a custom in Israel,**

See what can happen if you make a vow and not think about it before you make it. Notice what his daughter said in verse 36. And she said unto him, My father, if thou hast opened thy mouth unto the LORD, do to me according to that which hath proceeded out of thy mouth; forasmuch as the LORD hath taken vengeance for thee of thine enemies, even of the children of Ammon. His daughter knew what would happen if he did not keep his vow. Look at verse 37 And she said unto her father, Let this thing be done for me: let me alone two months, that I may go up and down upon the mountains, and bewail my virginity, I and my fellows. 39 And it came to pass at the end of two months, that she returned unto her father, who did with her according to his vow which he had vowed: and she knew no man. And it was a custom in Israel. She could have left but she did not. This got Jephthah eternal life, you will see that later.

Listen very carefully to what the Master is saying here.

**Mark 8:34** And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

**35** For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it. **36** For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? **37** Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? **38** Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.

Look at verse 35 in Mark, For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it. What life are you losing? That sinful life. If you pick up his cross and bare it, you put off that old man and put on the new. Verse 36, For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Remember you cannot take anything with you into the next life. What shall you give in exchange for eternal life in the GOD family? Look what JESUS says here. Whosoever therefore shall be

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ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels. So when you are being persecuted for the Word's sake, and you are ashamed instead of standing your ground, HE will be ashamed to mention you when he returns. Do you know what that means? You will hit the Lake Of Fire.

Here are some brothers that stood their ground. Look also who is doing the persecuting. Nothing has changed.

**Acts 5:17** Then the high priest rose up, and all they that were with him, (which is the sect of the Sadducees,) and were filled with indignation, **18** And laid their hands on the apostles, and put them in the common prison. **19** But the angel of the Lord by night opened the prison doors, and brought them forth, and said, **20** Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life. **26** Then went the captain with the officers, and brought them without violence: for they feared the people, lest they should have been stoned. **27** And when they had brought them, they set them before the council: and the high priest asked them, **28** Saying, **Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name?** and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us. **29** Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, **We ought to obey God rather than men.** **30** The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree. **31** Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins. **32** And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him. **33** **When they heard that, they were cut to the heart, and took counsel to slay them.** **34** Then stood there up one in the council, a Pharisee, named Gamaliel, a doctor of the law, had in reputation among all the people, and commanded to put the apostles forth a little space; **40** And to him they agreed: and when they had called the apostles, and **beaten them**, they commanded that they **should not speak in the name of Jesus**, and let them go. **41** And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name.

The high priest had the brothers beaten and wanted to kill them. Why? They preached in the name of JESUS. You also saw how the angel of the LORD saved them out of prison. When they were freed by the angel, what did they do? They went back into the temple and preached JESUS. After they were beaten, what did they do? Verse 41, And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for HIS name. Can you handle that?

Look here in Daniel and see the power of the GOD of Israel and what he will do if you don't deny Him. The king of Babylon made an image and told everyone to bow down to it when they heard music. What did the brothers do? Let's find out.

**Daniel 3:1** Nebuchadnezzar the king **made an image of gold, whose height was threescore cubits, and the breadth thereof six cubits:** he set it up in the plain of Dura, in the province of

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Babylon.

**2** Then Nebuchadnezzar the king sent to gather together the princes, the governors, and the captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counsellors, the sheriffs, and all the rulers of the provinces, to come to the dedication of the image which Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up.

**3** Then the princes, the governors, and captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counsellors, the sheriffs, and all the rulers of the provinces, were gathered together unto the dedication of the image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up; and they stood before the image that Nebuchadnezzar had set up. **4** Then an herald cried aloud, To you it is commanded, O people,

nations, and languages, **5** That at what time ye hear the sound of the **cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, dulcimer, and all kinds of music, ye fall down and worship the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king hath set up: 6** And whoso falleth not down and worshippeth shall the same hour be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.

**8** Wherefore at that time certain Chaldeans came near, and accused the Jews.

**12** There are certain Jews whom thou hast set over the affairs of the province of Babylon, **Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego; these men, O king, have not regarded thee: they serve not thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.**

**14** Nebuchadnezzar spake and said unto them, Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, **do not ye serve my gods, nor worship the golden image which I have set up?**

**15** Now if ye be ready that at what time ye hear the sound of the **cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of music, ye fall down and worship the image which I have made; well: but if ye worship not, ye shall be cast the same hour into the midst of a burning fiery furnace; and who is that God that shall deliver you out of my hands?**

**16** Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, answered and said to the king, O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter. **17** **If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king.**

**18** **But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up. 23** And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and

Abednego, fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace. **24** Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was astonished, and rose up in haste, and spake, and said unto his counsellors, **Did not we cast three men bound into the midst of the fire? They answered and said unto the king, True, O king. 25** He answered and said, **Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.**

**26** Then Nebuchadnezzar came near to the mouth of the burning fiery furnace, and spake, **and said, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, ye servants of the most high God, come forth, and come hither.** Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, came forth of the midst of the fire.

**27** And the princes, governors, and captains, and the king's counsellors, being gathered together, **saw these men, upon whose bodies the fire had no power, nor was an hair of their head singed, neither were their coats changed, nor the smell of fire had passed on them.**

**28** Then Nebuchadnezzar spake, and said, **Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who hath sent his angel, and delivered his servants that trusted in him, and have changed the king's word, and yielded their bodies, that they might not serve nor worship any god, except their own God. 29** Therefore I make a decree, **That every people, nation, and**

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**language, which speak any thing amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made a dunghill: because there is no other God that can deliver after this sort.**

See how they stood they ground. Look what they said in verse 16, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, answered and said to the king, O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter. Look at verse 17 and 18, If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up. They did not care what the king said or what he was going to do, they still did not deny God. Look what the king said after the angel delivered Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. Verses 26, 28, 29. . 26 Then Nebuchadnezzar came near to the mouth of the burning fiery furnace, and spake, and said, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, ye servants of the most high God, come forth, and come hither. Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, came forth of the midst of the fire. 28 Then Nebuchadnezzar spake, and said, Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who hath sent his angel, and delivered his servants that trusted in him, and have changed the king's word, and yielded their bodies, that they might not serve nor worship any god, except their own God. 29 Therefore I make a decree, That every people, nation, and language, which speak any thing amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made a dunghill: because there is **no other God** that can deliver after this sort. Can you handle that?

You now should clearly understand these verses that the Master is saying here.

**Matthew 10:37** He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. **38** And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. **39** He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it.

Will you deny the LORD for your mother or your father or any other family member? Will you turn away from His law for someone in your family? Look and see who the LORD considers family members. Matthew 12:46 While he yet talked to the people, behold, his mother and his brethren stood without, desiring to speak with him. **47** Then one said unto him, Behold, thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to speak with thee. **48** But he answered and said unto him that told him, Who is my mother? and who are my brethren? **49** And he stretched forth his hand toward his disciples, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren! **50** For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother. So I see, if you do the will of the Father in heaven you are a family member.

Look and see here in Exodus who denied the LORD.

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**Exodus 32:1** And when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down out of the mount, the people gathered themselves together unto Aaron, and said unto him, Up, make us gods, which shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him. **2** And Aaron said unto them, Break off the golden earrings, which are in the ears of your wives, of your sons, and of your daughters, and bring them unto me.

**3** And all the people brake off the golden earrings which were in their ears, and brought them unto Aaron. **4** And he received them at their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool, after he had made it a molten calf: and they said, These be thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt. **5** And when Aaron saw it, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation, and said, Tomorrow is a feast to the LORD. **9** And the LORD said unto Moses, I have seen this people, and, behold, it is a stiffnecked people:**10** Now therefore let me alone, that my wrath may wax hot against them, and that I may consume them: and I will make of thee a great nation. **14** And the LORD repented of the evil which he thought to do unto his people. **15** And Moses turned, and went down from the mount, and the two tables of the testimony were in his hand: the tables were written on both their sides; on the one side and on the other were they written. **16** And the tables were the work of God, and the writing was the writing of God, graven upon the tables. **17** And when Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said unto Moses, There is a noise of war in the camp. **18** And he said, It is not the voice of them that shout for mastery, neither is it the voice of them that cry for being overcome: but the noise of them that sing do I hear. **19** And it came to pass, as soon as he came nigh unto the camp, that he saw the calf, and the dancing: and Moses' anger waxed hot, and he cast the tables out of his hands, and brake them beneath the mount. **20** And he took the calf which they had made, and burnt it in the fire, and ground it to powder, and strowed it upon the water, and made the children of Israel drink of it. **21** And Moses said unto Aaron, What did this people unto thee, that thou hast brought so great a sin upon them? **22** And Aaron said, Let not the anger of my lord wax hot: thou knowest the people, that they are set on mischief. **23** For they said unto me, **Make us gods, which shall go before us: for as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him.** **24** And I said unto them, Whosoever hath any gold, let them break it off. So they gave it me: then I cast it into the fire, and there came out this calf.

**25** And when Moses saw that the people were naked; (for Aaron had made them naked unto their shame among their enemies:) **26** Then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, **Who is on the LORD'S side? let him come unto me. And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together unto him.** **27** And he said unto them, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Put every man his sword by his side, and go in and out from gate to gate throughout the camp, and slay every man his brother, and every man his companion, and every man his neighbour.

**28** And the children of Levi did according to the word of Moses: and there fell of the people that day about **three thousand men.** **29** For Moses had said, Consecrate yourselves today to the LORD, even every man upon his son, and upon his brother; that he may bestow upon you a blessing this day. **30** And it came to pass on the morrow, that Moses said unto the people, **Ye**

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**have sinned a great sin: and now I will go up unto the LORD; peradventure I shall make an atonement for your sin.**

Who denied the LORD? Aaron and the people denied the LORD by serving another god. They said the calves brought them out of Egypt. The people were eyewitnesses how the LORD brought them out of Egypt with a mighty hand. Aaron was the high priest he should have stood up and told the people they were wrong. He did not have enough strength to stand in the gap while Moses was gone. Are you strong enough to stand up against the people when they are wrong?

Look at this Proverb very carefully.

**Proverbs 24:10** If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small.  
**11** If thou forbear to deliver them that are drawn unto death, and those that are ready to be slain;  
**12** If thou sayest, Behold, we knew it not; doth not he that pondereth the heart consider it? and he that keepeth thy soul, doth not he know it? and shall not he render to every man according to his works?

Look at verse 10, If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small. So when hard times come for the Word's sake, you brake, and don't lean on GOD you're weak. Look at 11, thou forbear to deliver them that are drawn unto death, and those that are ready to be slain; 12 If thou sayest, Behold, we knew it not; doth not he that pondereth the heart consider it? and he that keepeth thy soul, doth not he know it? and shall not he render to every man according to his works? Remember the LORD knows what's on your mind you can't hide anything from Him. He will give you exactly what you have coming.

In this Psalms you see the people saw all the wondrous works of the LORD and still turned away from him. Moses stood in the gap and pleaded with LORD not to destroy the nation.

**Psalms 106:19** They made a calf in Horeb, and worshipped the molten image.  
**20** Thus they changed their glory into the similitude of an ox that eateth grass.  
**21** They forgat God their saviour, which had done great things in Egypt;  
**22** Wondrous works in the land of Ham, and terrible things by the Red sea.  
**23** Therefore he said that he would destroy them, had not Moses his chosen stood before him in the breach, to turn away his wrath, lest he should destroy them.

Moses is without a doubt, a lover of the brethern. He knew how his people were and he stood up for them.

**Exodus 32:30** And it came to pass on the morrow, that Moses said unto the people, **Ye have sinned a great sin: and now I will go up unto the LORD; peradventure I shall make an atonement for your sin.** **31** And Moses returned unto the LORD, and said, Oh, this people have

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sinned a great sin, and have made them gods of gold. **32** Yet now, if thou wilt forgive their sin--; and if not, **blot me, I pray thee, out of thy book which thou hast written.** **33** And the LORD said unto Moses, **Whosoever hath sinned against me, him will I blot out of my book.**

Moses is truly a tuff guy, look at verse 32, Yet now, if thou wilt forgive their sin--; and if not, blot me, I pray thee, out of thy book which thou hast written. If you are blotted out of the book you are in the lake of fire. The LORD is fair he will only blot out those who have sinned against Him.

The LORD is talking to Baruch the scribe, through Jeremiah listen carefully what's being said.

**Jeremiah 45:1** The word that Jeremiah the prophet spake unto Baruch the son of Neriah, when he had **written these words in a book at the mouth of Jeremiah**, in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, saying, **2** Thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel, unto thee, O Baruch; **3** Thou didst say, Woe is me now! for the LORD hath added grief to my sorrow; I fainted in my sighing, and I find no rest. **4** Thus shalt thou say unto him, The LORD saith thus; Behold, that which I have built will I break down, and that which I have planted I will pluck up, even this whole land. **5** And seekest thou great things for thyself? seek them not: for, behold, I will bring evil upon all flesh, saith the LORD: but thy life will I give unto thee for a prey in all places whither thou goest.

**Baruch was thinking of himself, not as Moses, he though of the people. Look what the LORD put on him. Thy life will I give unto thee for a prey in all places whither thou goest. So wherever Baruch went he was a victim to whoever came along.**

Remember what JESUS did for all of us, don't receive HIS grace in vain.

**John 12:23** And Jesus answered them, saying, The hour is come, that the Son of man should be glorified.

**24** Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.**25** He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal.**26** If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour. **27** Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? **Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour.**

What was HIS cause? To die for all men. Did HE think of HIMSELF? Look at verse 27, Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour. He did the will of the Father.

Here is another true man of GOD.

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**Ezekiel 24:15** Also the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, **16** Son of man, behold, **I take away from thee the desire of thine eyes with a stroke: yet neither shalt thou mourn nor weep, neither shall thy tears run down. 17** Forbear to cry, make no mourning for the dead, bind the tire of thine head upon thee, and put on thy shoes upon thy feet, and cover not thy lips, and eat not the bread of men. **18** So I spake unto the people in the morning: and at **even my wife died; and I did in the morning as I was commanded. 19** And the people said unto me, Wilt thou not tell us what these things are to us, that thou doest so? **20** Then I answered them, The word of the LORD came unto me, saying, **21** Speak unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will profane my sanctuary, the excellency of your strength, the desire of your eyes, and that which your soul pitieth; and your sons and your daughters whom ye have left shall fall by the sword.

You see how Ezekiel even after his wife died he continued to preach the Gospel. The people were confused, they knew his wife had died and he did not mourn for her. They wanted to know why? Look at verses 20 and 21, **20** Then I answered them, The word of the LORD came unto me, saying, **21** Speak unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will profane my sanctuary, the excellency of your strength, the desire of your eyes, and that which your soul pitieth; and your sons and your daughters whom ye have left shall fall by the sword. He told them what will befall them. No matter what happens in your life and you are a true servant of the true and living GOD you must continue. Remember what the LORD said in Matthew. Matthew 10:37 He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. **38** And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me.

Look what Abraham did here. Who does he love more Isaac or the LORD.

**Genesis 22:1** And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am. **2** And he said, **Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of. 3** And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him. **9** And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar upon the wood. **10** **And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son. 11** And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I. **12** And he said, **Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me.**

Abraham had faith in GOD. Why? He did exactly what the LORD told him to do. The LORD told Abraham earlier that Isaac would carry his seed. Abraham knew the LORD would not lie, he knew the LORD could raise his son from the dead if he had sacrificed him. This act got Abraham

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into the kingdom. How do I know that, read the next set of verses in Hebrews and you will see. A few other brothers also in Hebrews 11 are waiting on the promise.

**Hebrews 11:1** Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

**2** For by it the elders obtained a good report. **3** Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

**4** By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.

**5** By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

**23** By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment.

**24** By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;

**25 Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures**

**of sin for a season; 26** Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward. **32** And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David

also, and Samuel, and of the prophets: **33** Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, **34** Quenched the violence of fire,

escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. **35** Women received their dead raised to life again: and others

were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection: **36** And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment:

**37** They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented;

**38** (Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. **39** **And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: 40** **God having provided some better thing for us, that they**

**without us should not be made perfect.**

As you can see these brothers went through some rough times. If you think your walk with the LORD will be easy you are gravely mistaken. If it is easy you had better check which lord you are following. Look at some of the things they had to go through. Some of them had trials of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented; Can you handle this? If you are a true servant of GOD you will experience some type of persecution. We are in the last days. If you don't have enough faith in the LORD to flee into the wilderness when abomination of desolation comes on the scene you will suffer like some of the people here.

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**Romans 8:18** For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. **19** For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. We have no idea what awaits us if we make it to the right side of the gulf. We must keep his commandment in order to make it. Have faith that he will deliver us at the time appointed. If we use the examples of our forefathers in Hebrews 11, we will be alright.

**I Corinthians 2:9** But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

Look what God has created for us now. Look at the stars, moon, sun, trees, and mountains how beautiful they are. They take your breath away. Then you read this here in Corinthians and say it's better than this. The world we live in now can't match up with the kingdom that shall come. There is a catch. It is for those who love HIM. What is the Biblical definition for loving GOD?

**I John 5:2** By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments. **3** For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous. Plain and simple.

Pay close attention here!

**Luke 14:25** And there went great multitudes with him: and he turned, and said unto them, **26** If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple. **27** And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple. **28** For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it? **29** Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him, **30** Saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish. **31** Or what king, going to make war against another king, sitteth not down first, and consulteth whether he be able with ten thousand to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand? **32** Or else, while the other is yet a great way off, he sendeth an ambassage, and desireth conditions of peace. **33** So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple. **34** Salt is good: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be seasoned? **35** It is neither fit for the land, nor yet for the dunghill; but men cast it out. He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.

How do you hate the LORD? By turning away from HIS commandments. Now if a family member tries to turn you from the LORD, what are you going to do? Go with the family member that can care less about the LORD, or will you stand your ground and defend to the end. My family will never turn me away from the LORD, I have enough trying to defend against myself. That is your strongest adversary (yourself). If you can beat your own flesh you've got it made.

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If you confess to others, you are a servant of the MOST HIGH GOD you had better walk right. If you make one mistake the people around you will mock you every chance they get. Look at these verses here. 29 Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him, 30 Saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish. Stay strong in the LORD, walk in HIS power (LAW) and no one will have a change to say anything. Now if you turn from his word, what good are you, you are like salt with no taste. If there is no taste to the salt what good is it? Walk in his law at all cost. Don't trade your salvation for anything in this world. Why? Romans 8:18 For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

**MAY THE LORD ADD A BLESSING TO THE READING OF HIS WORD, IN JESUS NAME AMEN.**