



18 February 2024

Are You IN CHRIST?

What's the Evidence?

Jude 1

John 10:22-31; Hebrews 2:1-13

Disciples of Christ

- D for DELIGHT

God's Eternal Plan

A Serious Letter

- Warning against false teachers.
- Warning against being deceived. (2 Timothy 3:13)
- Warning to test everything. (Isaiah 8:20; 1 Thess 5:21)
- A "Call to Arms". (Jude 3)
- **Warning against an ENEMY WITHIN!**
 - WOLVES IN SHEEP CLOTHING. (Matthew 7:15; Acts 20:29)

The Times

- 1st Century!
- 21st Century (2 Timothy 3:13)

The Author(s) (Jude 1)

- **GOD** (2 Timothy 3:16-17)
 - **Do we TREMBLE at His Word?** (Isaiah 66:2, 5)
- Jude, brother of James, half-brother of Jesus.
 - ★ Doubter to Bond-Servant
- Who are bondservants? (Exodus 21:1-11)
 - A person who voluntarily gives **himself** to His Master out of **love**. (Exodus 21:1-6)
 - A person who knows that he is **not** his own. (1 Corinthians 6:19)
 - A person who has been **bought** with a price. (1 Corinthians 6:20)
 - A person who is **committed** to **doing** the will of the Master. (Matt. 7:21)
 - A person who **lives** for the Master and not himself – denies self. (Luke 9:23)

- **ALL DISCIPLES ARE BOND SERVANTS!**
- **ONLY BOND SERVANTS OF CHRIST GO TO HEAVEN!**

The Readers (Jude 1)

★ Saved by a **TRIUNE GOD**. (See 1 Peter 1:1-2)

Called by God

- Called **BY GOD** according to His purpose. (Romans 8:28-29)
- This is NOT the call of pastors, parents, evangelists, or friends.
- This is the **EFFECTUAL** call of GOD Himself. (1 Thess 2:13; Philip 1:6; John 3:8)
- God's call is NOT an **invitation**. God's call is a **command**. (John 11:43)
- This is a **supernatural** call that has the same power as when God called, "Let there be light!" (Genesis 1:3) or when Christ called, "Lazarus, come forth!" (John 11:43) Or when Christ called the young man from Nain, "Young man, I say to you, arise." (Luke 7:14)
 - It is a call to those who are "**dead in their trespasses**" (Eph 2:1) to life – **eternal life**. (Ephesians 2:1-3, 4-5; John 11:25-26)
 - It is a call **out of darkness, into marvelous and surprising light**. 1 Peter 2:9; Ephesians 5:8; John 3:2.
 - It is a call **out of bondage, into liberty**. (Galatians 5:13)
 - It is a call out of the bondage of sin (unrighteousness) into the freedom (liberty) of righteousness. (Romans 6:20,22)
 - It is a call **out of the fellowship with men of the world, into fellowship (union) with Christ**. (1 Corinthians 1:9)
 - It is a call out of the world and into the kingdom of the King!
 - It is a call **out of the enmity with God, into peace with God**. (1 Corinthians 7:15; Romans 5:1; Colossians 3:15)
 - It is a call **out of unholiness and sinfulness, into a state of holiness and righteousness**. (1 Thessalonians 4:7; 1 Peter 1:15)
 - It is a call **into the GRACE of Christ**. (Galatians 1:6)
 - It is a call **into SAINTHOOD**. Romans 1:6-7; 1 Corinthians 1:2)
 - It is an **IRRESISTIBLE** call. It is a call of GRACE which is the **POWER** of God.
 - What God desires He does and no one can stop Him. (Job 23:13; 9:12; 12:14; Ecclesiastes 3:14; 7:13; Lam 3:37)
 - Lazarus in the tomb for four days could not resist the call of Christ. (John 11:43)
 - It is a **HOLY** calling. (2 Timothy 1:9; 1 Thess 4:7; 1 Peter 1:15)
 - It is a **HIGH** calling. Philippians 3:14 – He who calls is the HIGH and LOFTY One who dwells in the high and holy place. (Isaiah 57:15)
 - **It takes us to the throne of God Himself**. (Ephesians 2:6)

- It is a **HEAVENLY** calling. Hebrews 3:1. It is a CALL out of the WORLD to a citizenship that is in Heaven. (Philippians 3:20; 1 John 2:15-17; John 15:18-20; 17:14, 16)
- It is an **IRREVERSIBLE, IRREVOCABLE; UNCHANGING** call. (Romans 11:29; 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24)
- It is a call that one must make certain! (2 Peter 1:10)
- ★ The Church (ἐκκλησία ekklesia {ek-klay-see'-ah}) – literally means “**called-out-ones**” – “**separated ones**”.
- ★ ALL THOSE CALLED OBEY and FOLLOW CHRIST? (Mark 1:16-20; 2:14)

Sanctified by God

- The Father sanctifies those whom He has chosen!
- Christians who have been **sanctified** by God have been **set apart** for His **purpose**. (Romans 8:28)
- When God sets something or someone or armies apart (*sanctifies them*) He does so because He has a **purpose** and **work** for him/it to do. (“holy” utensils in the Tabernacle [1 Kings 8:4]; the armies of Medes in Isaiah 13; the seventh day [Genesis 2:3], etc.)
- Christians who have been **sanctified** by God have **works** “prepared beforehand” for them to do. (Ephesians 2:10)
- Therefore, disciples are **zealous** for the good works. (Titus 2:14)
- Those whom He *sanctifies* He **equips** to accomplish the works He foreordained for them to do. (Examples: Jeremiah 1:5ff; army of the Medes (Isaiah 13 with Jeremiah 51:20-23); the army of Nebuchadnezzar (Ezekiel 30:20-26))
- As **sanctified ones** we are to be **separated ones**. (2 Cor 6:14-18)
- As **sanctified ones** we are pilgrims, sojourners, strangers, and foreigners in this world. (Heb 11:13-16; 2 Pet 2:11; 1 John 2:15-17; James 4:4)
- ★ Christ IS our sanctification. (1 Corinthians 10:30)
 - We are ALREADY sanctified - those who are in Christ.

BUT . . .

- ★ SANCTIFIED but BEING SANCTIFIED (Hebrews 2:11; 10:14)
 - ALL disciples are **BEING SANCTIFIED CONTINUALLY**. (Heb 2:11; 10:14)
 - ALL disciples are **BEING TRANSFORMED**. (2 Corinthians 3:18)
 - ALL disciples are **BEING CONFORMED** into the image of Christ because God **PREDESTINED** it! Everything that God predestines happens because God does it. (Philippians 1:6; 2:12-13; Eph 4:16)
 - ALL disciples are **CONTINUALLY RENEWED DAY by DAY** by the Holy Spirit. (Titus 3:5; 2 Corinthians 4:16)
- ★ ALL disciples **PURSUE HOLINESS**. (Hebrews 12:14)
- ★ ALL disciples **PURIFY** themselves JUST as He is pure. (1 John 3:3)
- ★ ALL disciples **CLEANSE themselves** from the filthiness of their spirit and flesh **PERFECTING HOLINESS** in the **fear of God**. (2 Cor 7:2)

BEING SANCTIFIED - BECOMING MORE AND MORE HOLY - IS THE ONLY EVIDENCE THAT ONE HAS BEEN SANCTIFIED BY THE FATHER.

Preserved in Christ Jesus (John 10:27-30; 1 Peter 1:5)

- (John 10:27) Christ's sheep - contrast that with John 10:26.
- (John 10:27-30) Christ's Promise:
 - ① "I give **them** eternal life." Eternal life **never** ends. (John 11:25-26)
 - ② "**They** shall never perish." (Romans 8:1 [only those who are *in* Christ Jesus])
 - ③ "**NO ONE** can snatch **them** out of My hand."
 - ④ "**NO ONE** is able to snatch **them** out of My Father's hand."
- Who are **they** and **them**?
 - ① (v. 28) "**They** are the ones that the Father gave Me." (See John 6:37-40; 17:2, 24)
 - ② (v. 27) "**They** hear My voice" because the sovereign Lord gave them ears to hear. (Prov 20:12; Isaiah 6:9-10; Matt 13:13-16)
➤ **THIS IS A RADICAL CALL.**
 - ③ (v. 27) "I know **them**" in contrast to "I never knew you." (Matthew 7:23; John 10:3; **2 Timothy 2:19**)
 - ④ (v. 27) "**They ALL follow** Me." (Luke 9:23; Philippians 2:5; 3:17; 1 John 2:6; 1 Thess 1:6; 2 Thess 3:9; Hebrews 6:12)
➤ **MEDITATE: Matthew 4:18-20; 8:22; 9:9; 16:24; 19:21**
→ **They** follow My example. (1 Peter 2:21)
★ **They** say, "Imitate me, just as I imitate Christ." (1 Cor 11:1)
→ **They** follow My commandments. (John 14:15, 21, 23-24; 15:10)
- (Colossians 3:1-4) **IF** you were raised with Christ. **IF** you were raised from the dead of your transgressions (Eph 2:1-4). **IF** you died to sin and are now alive to God (Romans 6:2-11) . . . (change the "if" to "since") **THEN . . .**
★ Your life is **hidden with** Christ **in** GOD! (John 14:20; 1 Cor 1:30)
WHEN CHRIST RETURNS THEN YOU WILL APPEAR WITH HIM!
★ **ALL those who have this hope purify themselves just as He is pure.**
(1 John 3:3)

Though Called, Sanctified and Preserved - YET WARNED!

Are You in Christ? What Is Your Evidence?

- Are you delighting in the Lord? Do you delight in His Law, doing His will, His Sabbath, etc.?
- Have you been called by God? Are you obeying and following Christ?
- Have you been sanctified by God? Are you **being** sanctified? Are you growing more and more holy day by day?
- Are you preserved in Christ? Are you following/obeying Christ?