

“Because He Died For Us” *John 19:16-18*

Knowing Jesus Christ intimately causes us to avoid selfishness and vain pursuits; *Philippians 2:3-4* Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

There are many grace-oriented heroes of faith in Christianity as noted in Hebrews 11 but there is only ONE TRUE SUPERSTAR.

Everything we have of value and everything we will ever be is directly related to the Lord Jesus Christ.

None of us has truly reached maturity in the Christian life until we function under the concept of our Savior being our SUPERSTAR as this is the position in life where we have learned enough biblical truth and that’s when we have the amazing privilege of vindicating His Word in us!

God vindicates His Word in us when we reach greater-grace capacity which leads to greater-grace blessings in time and in eternity which honor Him.

All of us who have trusted in our Savior are in the house of God right now but how we live in the house depends on whether we maintain our course toward the greater-grace life of spiritual maturity through continued confidence in Him and His authority expressed in His Word.

Our purpose in the house of God is to function to our maximum capacity in God’s Royal priesthood by being stabilized in His Son Jesus Christ and sustained by the Holy Spirit until the end of this life.

Adam NEVER had to be frightened of anything before but why? He had face to face relationship with the Lord God Himself; the most intimate fellowship he could possibly ever dream of but now it’s gone and it’s been replaced by fear.

If we surveyed 100 people and asked them what the opposite of love was, more than likely practically all of them would say Hate!

But what does the Bible say is the opposite of love? FEAR!

***Isaiah 53:9* He was assigned a grave with the wicked and with the rich in His death, though He had done no violence, nor was any deceit in His mouth.**

***Colossians 2:12* having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised with Him through your faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.**

Only in the security of God’s love is the insecurity of our fallen state in Adam overcome!

***1st Corinthians 15:54* When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: “Death has been swallowed up in victory.”**

When the Lord Jesus went to the Cross, there was intense physical suffering, followed by physical death and then physical resurrection because the physical is the consequence of the spiritual.

***1st Corinthians 15:55* “Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?”**

Our Lord’s suffering also demonstrates the power of God the Holy Spirit in sustaining a human being during the most intense of circumstances.

For the person who has made up his mind to be negative, there is never enough evidence but for those who are objectively positive, there is more than enough evidence!