

John 15:8-21

9-10. As the Father loved Me, **I also have LOVED you**; abide in My love. **If you KEEP My commandments, you will ABIDE in My love**, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love.

- **I John 2:3-6** "Now _____ we know that we _____ Him, if we _____ His _____. He who says, 'I know Him,' and does not keep His commandments, is a _____, and the truth is not in him. But whoever _____ His _____, truly the _____ of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. He who says he _____ in Him ought himself also to _____ just as He walked."
- **I John 1:6-7** "If we say that we have _____ with Him, and walk in _____, we _____ and do not practice the truth. But if we _____ in the _____ as He is in the light, we have _____ with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin."

11. These things I have spoken to you, that **MY JOY may remain in you**, and **that your JOY may be FULL**.

- **Romans 15:13** "Now may the God of hope _____ you with all _____ and _____ in _____, that you may abound in hope by the power of the _____."
- **Galatians 5:22** "But the _____ of the _____ is _____, _____, peace....."

Definition: "MY JOY may REMAIN in YOU" - The kind of JOY that Jesus gives is different than happiness. **Happiness is an emotion and is based on circumstances in one's life.** The **JOY that God gives** to the Believer in Jesus is a **supernatural quality** that does not depend on circumstances or emotions, and can even be experienced in the WORST of outward circumstances. This kind of JOY comes directly from God Himself, and in the Old Testament is called "**the Joy of the LORD**". This JOY is a FRUIT that grows naturally from a person who is in love with Jesus (Galatians 5:22-23), and Jesus says that if we abide in Him, we produce this fruit.

- **Nehemiah 8:10** ".....for this day is holy to our Lord. Do not be _____, for the _____ of the _____ is your _____."
- **Isaiah 51:11** "So the redeemed of the Lord (those ransomed from SIN) will return, and come with _____ shouting to Zion (the heavenly city); and everlasting _____ will be on their heads. They will obtain _____ and _____, and sorrow and sighing will flee away."
- **Psalms 5:11-12** "But let all those _____ who put their trust in _____; let them ever shout for _____, because You defend them; let those also who love Your name be _____ in You."
- **Jude 24-25** "Now to _____ who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding _____, to _____ our _____, who alone is wise, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever. Amen."

12-14. This is My commandment, that you **LOVE ONE ANOTHER as I have loved you**. Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends. You are My friends if you do whatever I command you.

- **I John 2:10-11** "He who _____ his brother _____ in the light, and there is no cause for stumbling in him. But he who _____ his _____ is in _____ and walks in darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes."
- **I John 2:7** "Brethren, I write _____ new _____ to you, but an _____ commandment which you have had from the beginning. The _____ commandment is the _____ which you heard from the beginning."
- **I John 3:11 & 23** "For this is the message that you heard from the _____, that we should _____ one another." "And this is His _____, that we _____ in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and _____ one _____, just as He commanded us."
- **I Timothy 1:5** "But the goal of our _____ is _____ from a pure _____ and a good conscience and a sincere faith."
- **I John 5:2-3** "By this we know that we _____ the _____ of God, when we _____ God and _____ His _____. For this is the _____ of God, that we _____ His _____. And His commandments are not burdensome."

Definition: "His COMMANDMENTS are not BURDENSOME" - This is another way of saying that God never asks us to do something that He doesn't also **equip and empower us to do it**. He never gives us a commandment unless **He also gives us the power to carry it out**. Our problem is that many times **we TRY to love others** and keep God's commandments in our own strength, and that never works. Instead, **be honest and admit to God** that you CANNOT love others or keep His commandments in your own power, and allow Him to do it through you.

- **Romans 5:5** "Now hope does not disappoint, because the _____ of God has been poured out in our _____ by the _____ who was _____ to us."
- **II Timothy 1:7** "For God has not _____ us a _____ of fear, but of _____, and of _____, and of a sound mind."

15-16. No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you. You did not choose Me, but **I CHOSE you and APPOINTED you that you should go and bear FRUIT**, and that your fruit should remain, that **whatever you ask the Father in My name, He may give you**.

- **Ephesians 1:3-6** "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in heavenly places in _____; just as He _____ us in _____ before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love; having _____ us to adoption as sons (children) by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the _____ pleasure of His _____."
- **Ephesians 2:10** "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for _____, which God _____ that we should walk in them."

Definition: "I CHOSE you and APPOINTED you" - Some translations use the word "ordained" instead of "appointed."

Definition: "ORDAIN" - To "establish or order by appointment," and to be "foreordained" is to be "destined" or predestined to something. Ephesians 2:10 says God "prepared beforehand" the good works that He wants you to do, or "fruit" that He wants you to bear. What a wonderful feeling of **assurance and security to know that God CHOSE you and has a PLAN and PURPOSE for your life!** However, just

to keep you humble, and to remind you that God did not choose you for any goodness or special qualities of your own, Paul says in I Corinthians 1:27 that God chose us because we were weak and foolish. How's that for deflating the ego?

- **Read I Corinthians 1:18-31** (Verse 21) "For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through [its] wisdom did _____ know God, it _____ God through the foolishness of the message preached to _____ those who _____." (Verse 27) "For God has _____ the _____ things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has _____ the _____ things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty."

Definition: "WHATEVER you ASK the Father in My name, He may GIVE you" - We all like to take verses like this out of context and say, "Okay, if I tack the words '**In Jesus' name**' onto any prayer I ask of God, He promises to give it to me!" However, in the context here, the promise is that the Father will give us **whatever we ask that is in AGREEMENT with our producing "FRUIT that will remain"**.

- **I John 3:22** "And whatsoever we _____, we _____ of Him, because we _____ His _____, and _____ those things that are _____ in His sight."

17-19. These things **I command you, that you love one another**. If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. If you were **of the world**, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but **I CHOSE you OUT of the WORLD**, therefore the world hates you.

- **II Timothy 1:9** "Who has _____ us and _____ us with a holy calling, _____ according to _____, but according to His own _____ and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began."
- **Ephesians 1:4** "Just as He _____ us in Him _____ the foundation of the _____, that we should be _____ and without blame before Him in love."

Definition: "I CHOSE you OUT of the WORLD" - We, as Believers in Jesus Christ, are the "church." The Greek word for church is "ekklesia", which means literally "**the CALLED out ones**". Jesus has chosen us and called us out from the world to be His own special people.

- **I Peter 2:9** "But you are a _____ generation, a royal priesthood, a _____ nation, His own _____ people, that you may proclaim the _____ of Him who _____ you out of darkness into His marvelous light."
- **Acts 15:14** "Simon has declared how _____ at the first visited the Gentiles to _____ of them a _____ for His _____."
- **Ephesians 5:27** "That He might _____ it to _____ a glorious _____, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that it should be _____ and without blemish."
- **Romans 8:29-30** "For whom He foreknew, him He also predestined to be conformed to the image of _____, that He (Jesus) might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover, whom He predestined, these He also _____, whom He _____, these He also _____, and whom He justified, these He also _____."

20-21. Remember the word that I said to you, "**A SERVANT is not greater than his MASTER**". If they persecuted Me, **they will also PERSECUTE you**. If they kept My word, they will keep yours also. But all these things **they will do to you for My name's sake**, because they do not know Him who sent Me.

- **Luke 6:22-23** "_____ are you when men _____ you, and when they exclude you, and revile you, and cast out your name as evil, for the _____ of Man's _____. _____ in that day and leap for _____!"
- **Matthew 10:21-22** "Now brother will deliver up brother to _____, and a father his child; and children will rise up against parents and cause them to be put to death. And you will be _____ by _____ for My _____ sake....."
- **Matthew 10:24-25** "A _____ is not above his _____, nor a _____ above his _____. It is enough for a disciple that he be like his teacher, and a _____ like his _____. If they have called the _____ of the house Beelzebub, how much more will they call those of his household!"
- **I Corinthians 15:9** "For I am the least of the apostles, who am not _____ to be called an apostle, because I _____ the church of God."
- **Galatians 1:13** "For you have heard of my _____ conduct in Judaism, how I _____ the _____ of _____ beyond measure and tried to _____ it."

Definition: "They have CALLED the MASTER of the house BEELZEBUB" - Those who hate God and are enemies of the Gospel of Jesus Christ often resort to **name-calling**. Jesus is saying that His enemies will call Him "Beelzebub," which is another name or title for Satan. Beelzebub actually means "lord of the flies." Flies always gather on dead and rotting things, so it is **a descriptive title of Satan**, showing us his rottenness and filthiness, and also the flies represent his demons. Later, Jesus was accused by the Pharisees of **doing miracles by the power of Beelzebub**, because they did not want to admit Jesus was the Messiah who had come from God. Be very careful, and **do not assume that ALL miracles** or supernatural phenomena are from God, because Satan does have power to perform certain kinds of miracles. Satan can cause people to hear voices and see false visions, so beware of people who are always saying, "God told me this and that," or "I had a vision." Our faith **MUST** be founded and anchored **on the word of God**, not on miracles!

- **Matthew 12:24-26** "But when the Pharisees heard it they said, 'This fellow does not cast out _____ except by _____, the _____ of the _____.' But Jesus knew their thoughts, and said to them, 'Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or household divided against itself will not stand. And if _____ casts out _____, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand? And if I cast out _____ by _____, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they shall be your judges. But if I cast out _____ by the _____ of God
- **II Thessalonians 2:9** "The coming of the lawless one (the Anti-Christ) is according to the working of _____, with all _____, _____, and _____ wonders (miracles)."