

*"Who Is There Among You Of All His People? His God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem, which is in Judah, and build the House of the LORD God of Israel, (He is the God,) which is in Jerusalem." Ezra 1:3 KJV*

There's no power in today's Church, because of no interest in the study and meditation of God's Word! You can't receive Christ without receiving God's Word! *"In the beginning was the Word...and the WORD WAS GOD! As many as RECEIVED HIM, to them Gave He Power..."* Believers read mountains of "spiritual" books and page-a-day devotionals, but spend little time reading, meditating on, and obeying God's Word. The faithful are commanded, *"STUDY to show thyself approved unto God; a workman that needeth not to be ashamed; rightly dividing the Word of Truth. PRAY without ceasing."* These are not suggestions! What was last week's sermon? Most (self-proclaimed) believers spend an hour or two a week in church, then go right back to their worldly habits feeling they've done God a fine service or at the very least done their whole duty. They sit and laugh at immoral TV shows, strive to acquire the same earthly possessions, and have the same fears as their



ungodly neighbors. They leave their faith in the small dust of the church auditorium, because it just gets in the way and makes worldly acquaintances and fellow workers uncomfortable! It matters little that men are sick and dying in sin; headed straight for a devil's hell! It's more important that folks like them, that they cause no discomfort for any one, and that no one has cause to persecute them, but *"Those that live Godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution."* If there's no persecution, there's no Godliness or personal relationship with God! Their mind is more on the temporal than the eternal. Their helplessness to aid dying souls prevails, because the infinite Power of God hasn't been obtained through study of and obedience to His Word. Obedience and love are the Cords that bind us to and draw us nigh to Our Lord Jesus Christ where Satan is fought and resisted. The Trowel of Truth must be used to apply the mortar of obedience if we would cement our relationship with God! *"If we walk in the Light... we have fellowship."* Are you one of the "few" that have found the *"narrow Way which leadeth unto Life?"* Narrow paths only accommodate one-way traffic! If you're going both ways, you're walking the broad way of destruction!

Will you fight faith's goodly fight?  
Will you shine in sin's dark night?  
Will you walk the path of right?  
And give to all the Gospel's Light? –CGP

Are you calling yourself a "Christian," but are not? You are taking God's name in vain. *"Thou shalt not take the Name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh His Name in vain."* If you don't have a desire to obey Christ, He does not know you! *"Many will say to me in that Day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy Name? And in Thy Name have cast out devils? And in Thy Name done many wonderful works?' And then will I profess unto them, 'I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.'" Are these Words destined for your ears or will your life merit a "Well done, thou good and faithful servant!"* God's not interested in your efforts, but in your heart! *"He that is not with Me is against Me; and he that gathereth not with Me scattereth abroad."* Are you scattering with Satan or gathering with God? It's easy to tell which – What is it you are doing and with whom? Birds of a feather flock together. *"As he thinketh in his heart, so is he."*

*"And what agreement hath the Temple of God with idols? For ye are the Temple of the Living God; as God hath Said, 'I will Dwell in them, and Walk in them; and I Will be their God, and they shall be My People. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate,' Saith the Lord, 'and touch not the unclean thing; and I Will Receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be My sons and daughters', saith the Lord Almighty."*  
2 Corinthians 6:16-18 KJV