

Foundational Keys to the Christian Life

God in His eternal wisdom and purpose, planned a safe haven for man. But due to disobedience on the part of man, the covenant of trust and faithfulness to God was broken by man through the deception of that old serpent who due to pride was cast down unto the earth. Though man sinned and was impure before God, the guilt of sin was upon man so he can no longer commune with God and had fallen from the height of sweet tranquility and haven, God did not forsake man but had a redemptive plan to rescue the fallen man back to his dominion mandate. Man could only be restored to his original state by an intermediary through which God sent His only begotten Son to pass through agony, die and atone and propitiate for our sins, and guilt and to raise fallen men. Jesus, the Christ did come and die to raise us up out from the entanglement of sin.

Although Christ has done this once and for all, any man born of a woman must **repent** from his old ways, **confess** and **believe** in the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. Without these, there is no way the sinner and the fallen man can have a relationship with God. So, God due to His unmeasurable mercies and love has made a way for man to run back to Him as the prodigal son did for his original position should be given unto him. Christianity is not about confessing to be part of them yet possessing not Christ and attending the gathering of Christians. The community is made up of those who have forsaken the world and run back to God with all humility to have part in the kingdom of God. So, God made salvation free to all but all must seek and work it out to have eternal life in God. The real Christian keys is not the emphasis laid on healing, deliverance, wealth, and prosperity preached in our churches today. The real and foundational keys to a wholesome and tranquil Christian life is as follows.

a. True Salvation

Salvation is a key that opens the door to the kingdom of God. True salvation affects your taste and it changes your appetite. You will now hate the things you used to love in the world. The love of the world in your heart will be replaced by the love of the word in your spirit which will then seep into your soul and heart. The flesh is nailed to the cross and the spirit is quickened through the word and the communion of the Holy Ghost. You will love God supremely above all things including money and material things. You could see that your life and heart have turned around to a new light which is giving you a new life altogether. This is true salvation. No man has received true salvation and still has an affiliation with the world. The appetite of the world must quench for the appetite of God and His word to be ignited daily. That's why you need not stop working on your salvation. The more you work on your salvation the more the appetite of the world leaves you for the appetite of God to seep into your spirit and soul.

You must know the difference between the “*Christ in you*” concept and the “*Chris in you*” concept. Don't be deceived by the stratagem of the enemy and be ignorant of his devices. There is no way Christ will be in your heart and you will be comfortable in doing certain things - sin, NEVER! If so, then, **it is not Christ in you but Chris in you!** The Spirit will guide you into all truth; He won't lead you into errors or sin. “*But the anointing which ye have received of him*

abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.” 1 John 2:27

b. True Repentance

Repentance is key to Divine transformation. **Your attitudinal, mental, and spiritual positions must change in order to experience situational change.** Bear in mind that not all situations respond to prayer. Some situations only respond to your repentance from certain attitudes and mental and spiritual dispositions. Until that is done, change or divine transformation will be elusive like a mirage.

True repentance brings true deliverance. Without true repentance, there is no true deliverance. You will not return to sin, habit, character, thought or an evil word you have truly repented of. **Responding to an altar call is not repentance but turning completely away from the sin and returning no more to it that actually represents true repentance.** Sin is a snare that has entrapped many souls and destroyed them. Beloved **God has not lowered His holy standard to accommodate your sinfulness.** You must come up and come out from it and return to it no more.

c. Sanctification

Redemption is likened to a man who goes to the market to buy some fish. When the fish are bought, the new owner is now the buyer and not the seller. Christ came to buy us 'human fishes' from Satan with His own blood, precious and inestimable. Now the seller does not have power anymore over the goods he has sold. It is now in the power of the buyer to do with the goods bought as seems right to Him. However, the purchased fish must be dressed and processed by the buyer in order to be fittingly and wholesomely consumable which is SANCTIFICATION. Jesus the buyer now dresses and processes the soul (heart) and spirit of the saved man to be holy, wholesome, and fit for consumption (The Master's Use).

In sanctification, Jesus by the Spirit, the blood, and the word removes the traces, taints, and taproot of sin out of our hearts and spirits, making us wholly of what He desires from us. In sanctification, we are shaped into the image of Christ reflecting Him wholly as He was and is! Sin loses its power and control over you. The prince of this world will come but he shall have nothing in you. Within your soul and spirit, he will not have any connection point in you. You now wholly are Christ's.

Our salvation is truly complete when we are truly sanctified by the Lord Jesus Christ, that's why we must work it out with fear and trembling! As you work it out, Christ will be removing the taints and traces of sin in you. So, every born-again man or woman must genuinely and earnestly

seek this blessing called Sanctification of the heart and spirit. We can fully and wholeheartedly love the Lord, His word, His people, and His work when we are truly sanctified in the heart and in the spirit by the Lord. Spend time in prayer asking for this glorious blessing in your life and when it comes you will truly enjoy your walk with the Lord and His people.

PROPHETIC PRAYER: *May the coals of the fire taken from the altars of heaven used by the Lord to sanctify the Prophet Isaiah in Isaiah 6 be released into your spirits and hearts right now in the name of the Lord Jesus.*

d. Holiness - The Only Platform

We may have power with God but cannot be equal in power to Him. We may be exalted and lifted in honor and blessings but cannot be Most High as God. However, we can have equality and be on the same pedestal with God without fear when it comes to Holiness. *“Be ye holy as your Father which is in heaven is holy.”* Holiness is the only platform on which man and God can be equal and the same without any thread of dishonor and disdain.

Holiness through purity is the divine frequency man must tune to in order to have full access to the unsearchable riches and depth in God that enables and emboldens a man to live like God on earth. What is scripturally wrong is earthly unacceptable. Men have a mentality when it comes to holiness. They see it as an obligation and a heavy load and duty placed on their neck. Holiness is to set yourself apart for God in the place and position of unholy men. **It is not everything that is awarded on earth is applauded in heaven. Earthly recognition does not mean heavenly endorsement.** What is savored by man might not be favored by God. God's acceptable standards are unmistakably and lucidly written in HIS WORD. The world around us can object and protest against it. However, not being favored by their depraved perversions and distortions does not obliterate into oblivion and irrelevance the incontestable holy standards of God. We cannot sell the truth cheaply on the platter of worldly fame and acceptance. What is scripturally wrong is earthly unacceptable. You must know the holy standards of God and walk in them that is the basis of our Christian walk.

What Holds the Christian to Continue Holding the Keys?

1. Grace

In life sometimes your best effort does not give you the best result but it is still worth trying in the best possible way you can. That is why people of educational enlightenment must not brush aside the message and the mystery of grace. God will make a way where there seems to be no way. He works in ways we cannot see. I believe in the grace of God because I am a product of His grace. I am what I am by the grace of God.

PROPHETIC PRAYER: *I prophesy over your life; may you experience a dimension of His grace that will alter the course of your life for good!*

Associating With Grace

“Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marveled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.”

Acts 4:13. It is grace association and not race association that makes a man defy the odd and stands tall among Giants. It is grace association and not age association that makes a man an epitome of uncommon wisdom the sages of ancient and modern times can only dream about. It is grace association and not a class association that makes a man ebulliently excellent among and above his peers though he might not have an education certificate to certify that. It is grace association that makes the knowledge of professors looks paltry and sultry in the sight of an incisively precise understanding of the issues of life from an unlearned prophet. They were amazed and surprised for they perceived the Apostles to be unlearned and ignorant men according to their standard and status quo but the GRACE association of the apostles defied their status quo and standard.

PROPHETIC PRAYER: *I prophesy over you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, let your association with GRACE defies every satanic order in your life and family. Let the odds against you become the log that will catapult you into your lot without a plug-in in Jesus' mighty name. Let your GRACE association bring you divine exemptions from disgrace and pain. May your GRACE association cause you to grace occasions of the GREATS in the mighty name of Jesus Christ. May the proud and pompous world around you be humbled because of your GRACE association in Jesus' precious Name. Receive grace through your GRACE association in Jesus' mighty name. AMEN*

2. Mercy Of God

“When I said, my foot slippeth; thy mercy, O LORD, held me up.” Psalm 94:18. What keeps a man from falling both into sin and snares is not the strength of his might nor the Excellency of his power but by the mercy of God. The moment you assume the thought of ‘I am capable of holding my grounds against any situation of life by my doings and righteousness,’ bear in mind that you are already gone. For by strength shall no man prevail. It is by the mercies of God that we are not consumed. God always shows us His mercy so we can hold on to our salvation, work it out to be sanctified by Him and live a holy life till He comes and takes us safely home. Your pomposity will deny you of the mercies of God. Do you know the imaginations of the wicked before by the mercies of God you are not consumed? Don't brag, it is God that has shown you mercy. *May you continue to receive the mercy of God in your life now. Amen.*

3. Bread Of Life

There are a lot of people who are content only with the *breath of life*, meaning - they do not press beyond what will put food on their dining tables, clothes in their wardrobes, money in their bank accounts, earthly satisfactions in their carnal pleasures, investments in their portfolios, security in their marriages, fulfillment in their exactions and the list unending. The perimeter of the reach of

their periscope is at the periphery of things that matters most in eternity. They invest their very life, which was meant to be the platform for reaching out to their Maker and Creator, into things that have no eternal value. The necessity and urgency of reaching out to the very heart of God have nothing to do with their dying and insensitive conscience. They count the holiest things of God as disdain but senselessly display the mundane with all alacrity and ignominy.

They never take time off to evaluate with all clarity the eternal weight of the things they have fought for and acquired because their thoughts have been corrupted by the virus of materialism and sensualism. They might have had an unprocessed knowledge of eternity but the persistency and consistency of their unexamined life deny any connection to the acceptance of its reality. They make no effort to seek beyond the realm of the mundane thinking that gain is godliness. They barely get on with the Savior but have made unimaginable provisions for the flesh. They have a thousand and one reasons why they do what they do but not a quarter reason why they must reconsider what they do.

But thou, precious one, be not like them for Jesus said in John 6:27 that *"Labor not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed."* Jesus is the accredited dealer of the "Bread of Life". Earnestly contend, with the spirit of 'agonaizomai', for this uncommon bread which cannot be bought from the shelves of supermarkets and shopping malls. On that day what will matter will not be the breath of life you had but the "Bread of life" in you. This bread is JESUS!

The apostle Paul said in Colossians 1:27b that *"...which is Christ in you, the hope of glory"*. Do you want a future without fear or fret, then let Christ in, earnestly contend for Him, grip and grab Him, and don't let Him slip off your hands. If a touch of the hem of His garment brought such a great deliverance and transformation to a dying bleeding helpless woman, how much more the full possession of His nature and being in your life? Beloved, don't be content with the breath of life but move on further and deeper to lay hold on the "Bread of Life"!

Before any other thing in Christendom, these are the basis and keys that hold the Christian firm to contend for the faith.