

God's Calling Requirements Part 51

The Parable of the Net and the Parable of the Sower

“47 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind: 48 Which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away. 49 So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, 50 And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. 51 Jesus saith unto them, Have ye understood all these things? They say unto him, Yea, Lord.” (Matthew 13:47-51 KJV)

Those who work in fishing they know that when they will let down the net into the water and when they will pull it up it will contain various kinds of fish and sea creatures. Also they know then after, they need to sit down and start to collect the good fish and put them in certain containers while the bad quality one they need to throw away.

The Kingdom of God is like a net that was let down into the sea and caught many fish. There are many who are called themselves Christians, and they are around one six of the total population of the world. That includes all kind of Christians of different denominations and who have different level of faith and commitment. Among them are people who fully committed to God. As well as among them people who belong to Christian denominations that even worship idols and teaches incorrect doctrine, to people who still live in wickedness and do evil like the rest of the world.

All those different categories of Christians they are inside the net and they are called themselves or are known as Christians because they have some sort of connections and link with Christ or Christ's name. The fish in the net are all called fish but there are those who are good and those who are bad. In the same manner there are among the Christians those who are good and those who are wicked, who do not do good in their lives and who do not walk with God.

In the parable the fishermen who sat down and separated the good fish and put them in baskets, they also threw away the bad quality one. We may ask why did they throw the bad one, they can give it to other animals or they can use it for other purposes because still have meat and other organic materials? The answer for this question is this: the fishermen are interested to catch fish that fit for human use and good for food; so only the good one that fit for sale will be preserved and the rest will be thrown away.

In the same way, when Jesus was speaking in the parable of the net about the kingdom of Heaven, He is interested with people who are willing to live their lives for God and fitted in the way that God ordained for us to live in His kingdom. Even evil doers they can be used for different purposes but they are unfit to be part of His Kingdom if they are unwilling to repent, renounce their sins, and surrender their will and pride unto God. **Therefore, take the message seriously, even if you are doing many good things, but you still have sin, doing wrong things, and non willing to repent, you will not enter the Kingdom of God unless you repent.**

Our salvation is a gift from God, by grace through faith, ***“8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:” (Ephesians 2:8)*** It is not by our own righteousness or because we have done something good we are saved. We are not saved because we serve God or we are doing good work. God called us from darkness and the life of sin into His Kingdom and saved us because He is good. We are saved, ***“9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.” (Ephesians 2:9)*** But after being saved we are called to

comply to what God wants us to be and to do for Him, and to achieve the things that God had prepared for us to do, ***“10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.” (Ephesians 2:10)*** Are you aware of the fact that God after he saved you, He is looking to see real fruit in your lives? The following are fruits that God want to see in you:

A. Fruit of repentance, in turning away from sin

B. Fruit of The Holy Spirit. Let us read so we can see what we need today, ***“22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.” (Galatians 5:22-23 KJV)*** God wants you to express such fruits in your life and in large amount.

C. Fruit of new souls to enter into His Kingdom. **How many of you are working to bring others to come to Christ? I pray that many of you are doing that.**

God is looking for certain standard and good quality He wants to see clearly in our lives after being saved!

So we are accountable to God being His children to live in discipline of His words and commands and to achieve certain things He already prepared in advance for us to do. In the book of Genesis as God was creating things and as He was looking to what He created, it repeatedly mentioned the following statement: ***God saw that it was good.*** And at the end when He created everything, ***it was very good, “31 And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.” (Genesis 1:31 KJV)*** God wants us to do very good things.

So God always want to see us doing good things because for this reason He created us. In ***Titus 3:1*** it mentioned the following: ***“1 Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work,” God wants you to obey the authorities and to obey rules, and to be good testimony to others in such aspect.***

As well as God wants you to be ready to do whatever good that He prepared for us to do, and you should not be ready to do what is bad and use what God had given to you to do what is evil. You should not do the work of the flesh that serve Satan. But to use what God gave you to serve Him.

You have with you lot of things that God had placed in your hand; your life, money, material things, mobiles, internet, people around you, etc. Are you doing bad things or good things with them? Are you using your money to spend on wrong and unnecessary things, buying alcohol, spending on girls, or girls spending on you, etc. How you spend your times? Do you waste your time on the mobile, Facebook, You Tube, Instagram, Tweeter? God needs you to repent of all the ungodly things and the wrong doings in your life.

In ***1 Timothy 6:17-19*** ***“17 Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; 18 That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; 19 Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.” (1 Timothy 6:17-19 KJV)*** **What God commanded here is not to be proud and not to rely and trust the material things that you have and become arrogant, but rather to humble down and trust God who had given you all what you have to enjoy true life in His presence.** The instruction of God's Word is ***“18 That they do good, that they be rich in good***

works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate;” (1 Timothy 6:18 KJV) So you are called to do the good work and to share the good things with others. If you do that then you are laying down for yourself a firm foundation, and will take hold of true life, the Eternal Life.

According to *1 Timothy 1:18 “18 This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on thee, that thou by them mightest war a good warfare;” (1 Timothy 1:18 KJV)* We are called to fight the good fight. The message that we are receiving through His Word are prophetic message that declaring to us the will of God in our lives. As we hold firmly to the message, we are encouraged to stand firm and fight the good fight for God. *As you give your life to God and you are willing to stand firmly on His Word, the devil will try to put obstacles in front of you to hinder you but you have to stand firm and fully submit yourself to God so that you can resist devil and he will flee, “7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.” (James 4:7 KJV)* As you submit yourself to God, then you can resist the devil and he will flee from you. When the devil will see you resisting him for several times, then he will go away from you.

“49 So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, 50 And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.” (Matthew 13:49-50 KJV) In verse 49 it speaks that the angel at the end time will come to sever or to separate the wicked from the just and in verse 50 it mentioned that they will be thrown into the furnace of fire and that is hell. Heaven is real and the hell is real. The bad fish, the wicked will end up in hell, while the good one, will be gathered for eternal life, to live with God forever.

Now we are aware of the wicked and the wicked things as we are reminded with the work of the flesh that we can read in the book of the Galatians, *“19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, 20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, 21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.” (Galatians 5:19-21 KJV)* Therefore refrain and avoid all such sins, adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, because those who live as such will not enter the Kingdom of God. Avoid the work of the flesh so you can enter the Kingdom of God.

“49 So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just.” (Matthew 13:49 KJV) The just here is the righteous man who has principles in life that came from the law of God and the Word of God. We understand about the wicked and we understand about the righteous, that there is a big difference between them. In between the wicked and the righteous there are many who are in between. But according to the Word of Jesus in this parable only the righteous will be saved. The wicked and those who are in between they will not. *Therefore today if you are in between God wants you progress toward the direction of the just to be saved. God does not want you to regress or move toward the wicked side. Jesus is coming soon, and you need to prepare yourself and move forward to be a righteous person in Christ Jesus our Lord, so when He will come you will be with us meeting the Lord in air.*

Salvation is a journey that you need to move from the wicked side until you reach the righteous side, and you cannot stay in the middle or in between because you will be lost. There are things that you need to overcome to move from the wicked side toward the righteous side. In the same chapter of *Matthew 13* there is another parable of Jesus, the parable of the sower: *“3 And he spake many things unto them in parables, saying, Behold, a sower went forth to sow; 4 And when he sowed, some seeds fell by the way side, and the fowls came and devoured them up: 5 Some fell upon stony places, where they had not much earth: and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth: 6 And when the sun was up, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away. 7 And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprung up, and choked them: 8 But other fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold.” (Matthew 13:3-8 KJV)* The sower here is the one who sow the Word of God. The sower placed the seed in four different kinds of ground as we had read, along the way side, stony places, among thorns and good ground. Jesus explained this parable of the sower and the meaning of the four places that the seed had fallen.

1. Along the way side: “4 And when he sowed, some seeds fell by the way side, and the fowls came and devoured them up:” (Matthew 13:4 KJV) The meaning of it, *“19 When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side.” (Matthew 13:19 KJV)* *To move from the wicked side toward the righteous side, you need to put in your mind that you should take seriously the Word of God.* When it said that those who heard the Word of the Kingdom and understand it not, it means they did not understand because they don't want to understand and accept, because they have their own doctrines and way of life, and in such a way they allowed the devil to come and steal the Word of God that can save them. *Don't allow the devil to deceive you, all the Word of God that you receive is the truth and you need to apply them in your life and fulfill them so you can avoid hell and reach to Heaven, for you are called to fulfill the Scriptures and not to break them.*

2. The seed into stony places: “5 Some fell upon stony places, where they had not much earth: and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth: 6 And when the sun was up, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away.” (Matthew 13:5-6 KJV) The meaning of it, *“20 But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that heareth the word, and anon with joy receiveth it; 21 Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended.” (Matthew 13:20-21 KJV)* The reason they fall away from God, because they were offended with the persecution and the troubles that they are facing in their lives because of the Word of God. They did what was right and were treated bad with troubles and persecution. It is like somebody who is studying very well but he did not do well in the exam, sure he will be discouraged and he will be offended. I counsel such a person by telling him that each exam has a purpose and a lesson to learn. ** In each trial and trouble God allow in your life there is a purpose and there is a lesson for you to learn.*

** God allow trials and troubles with persecution will come on you, even on righteous people, but God does not want the righteous, and does not want you to get offended and back out and move from following God when troubles will come; because in such God is testing your faith on Him and He wants you to persevere in following Him even in times of troubles.*

** During trials and persecution you need to go deep with God and start to seek Him and draw nearer to Him. In Christ alone you need to build your trust. During trials and persecution you need*

to extend your roots deep reaching out God and express to him more prayer, more of your love, loyalty and commitment.

* You should not be opportunistic with God, that as long as things are well you are committing yourself and serving God, and while things are getting bad, you move away from God, that is what is God is testing in you and why God allow trials and persecution to take place in the life of the people of God and in your life.

Twice in this parable mention the statement without root, in verse 6 and in verse 21, ***“6 And when the sun was up, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away.” “21 Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended.” (Matthew 13:6, 21 KJV)*** You should behave and act as a person who has roots and principles of God to follow in your life. Like a married husband and wife, suppose the wife get sick, will the husband got offended and leave her? Or if the husband got into troubles will the wife take herself and leave Him? You need to act as a person who has roots of principle from God’s Word, putting in your mind that when God will see you faithful toward Him and standing firm doing His will He will be rewarding you more.

3. The seed among the thorns: “7 And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprung up, and choked them:” (Matthew 13:7 KJV) The meaning of it, ***“22 He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.” (Matthew 13:22 KJV)*** Why they are unfruitful and not yielding the fruit of the good work that God had ordain for them to do, is because of the care of this world and the deceitfulness of riches.

The care of this world, is their attention that they give to the world, they are worried to leave certain things that God want them to leave, they are worried to be odd from the world and the people around them, and they are worried of how their lives will be if they give up certain plans and certain tradition that the people are accustomed on. They have so much worries. ***Be aware that worries bring fear into your heart, and that will choke the Word of God that you receive and will ultimately makes you unfruitful.***

The deceitfulness of riches, is the love of money, is the desire to become rich, it is the desire to collect more. ***To tell you the truth, the more that you are after money, the more it is far away from you, but seek the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these good things shall be added unto you.***

Also the deceitfulness of wealth, is the deception that material things impacting into your life. That deception will put you away from the Word of God and from serving and from doing the good things of God. Many they move away from God and from serving Him because of money.

* God wants you once again to serve Him and put Him first and He will be the one to help you in your life and add to you more of His blessings.

* Many they move away from God because of money. Don’t be among such!

4. The seed into the good ground: “8 But other fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold.” (Matthew 13:8 KJV) The meaning of it, ***“23 But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth it; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.” (Matthew 13:23 KJV)*** This is the good ground that will finally bear fruit and give multiplication. They do that by keeping the Word of God, accepting it, persevering in trials, troubles and persecution, they are not tempted by the worries of the world and they are not tempted by riches or material things or worldly pleasure to move away from God.

My dear and beloved: The vision of our church is multiplication in peace, derived from ***Acts 9:31, “31 Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied.” (Acts 9:31 KJV)*** There are families groups who started family worship and gatherings in their houses and they are attached to the church, and they are happy to obey and walk with God and follow the teaching. They are happy to follow up their children, and they are happy in inviting others. ***What I want to say to you, it is in your hand to obey and persevere in following God through the narrow way. If you want to obey God no one can stop you from doing that.***

We overcome trials and persecution and we live in peace and joy, and multiplied by the comfort of the Holy Spirit. We are troubled and got hurt but we overcome by the comfort of the Holy Spirit.

One time I was asked about this parable of the sower; why God made different kinds of soil? Why He did not make it of one type? ***I answered and said it is up to you to go through and accept the course of life that God ordained for you. It is up to you to change the soil and make it good, fertile and fruitful, and it is in your hand to obey God. If you decided to obey no one can discourage you and deviate you from following the living God and serve Him.***

“17 Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.” (James 4:17 KJV) There are good things you are ought to do. God will call you accountable if you fail to do what you need to do; the Lord will consider that sin if you fail to do the good that you ought to do. Jesus is coming soon, therefore prepare yourself and be ready and be willing to repent and to do the good work that God wants you to do to live the righteous life that He wants you to live.

“51 Jesus saith unto them, Have ye understood all these things? They say unto him, Yea, Lord.” (Matthew 13:51 KJV) Have you understand all these things? If you have understood the message then apply it in your life. Let us pray.

My prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of your Son Jesus Christ who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the dead to give me eternal life.

Confess your sins to the Lord and renounce them. Confess and renounce all wickedness, immoralities, lack of commitment, laziness, complacency, no fear of God, worldliness, the love of money, the fear of man, the worries and the cares for this world and the rest of the traditional and cultural idols that you are holding on. Lord I confess the following sins and idols,

Lord forgive me being opportunistic and without roots and Godly principles.

Lord I commit myself to move away from my ambition and fully surrender my will and plan unto you. Lord I am willing to follow your steps and do the good work that you prepared for me to do. Lord I am willing to be fruitful and to bring new souls in your Kingdom. Lord Give me strength, patience and the provision to achieve that.

Lord I pray for my brethren who committed themselves to serve you. Lord I pray for them to work out with you to reproduce more fruit of repentance, more fruit of the Holy Spirit and bringing more souls to follow Christ. Lord fills them with the Holy Spirit and give them the spiritual gifts that they need in their lives to serve you. Lord makes their lives good testimony to other to know you and follow you.

Lord bless us as a church, protect us and provide all our needs. Lord, increase our faith and our trust in you. Lord enable us to evangelize and to reach new people and nations, new cities and new countries with the gospel of Jesus. Lord enables us to start new Bible studies and to plant new congregation for the church. Lord take this message and spread it. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your heart be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

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