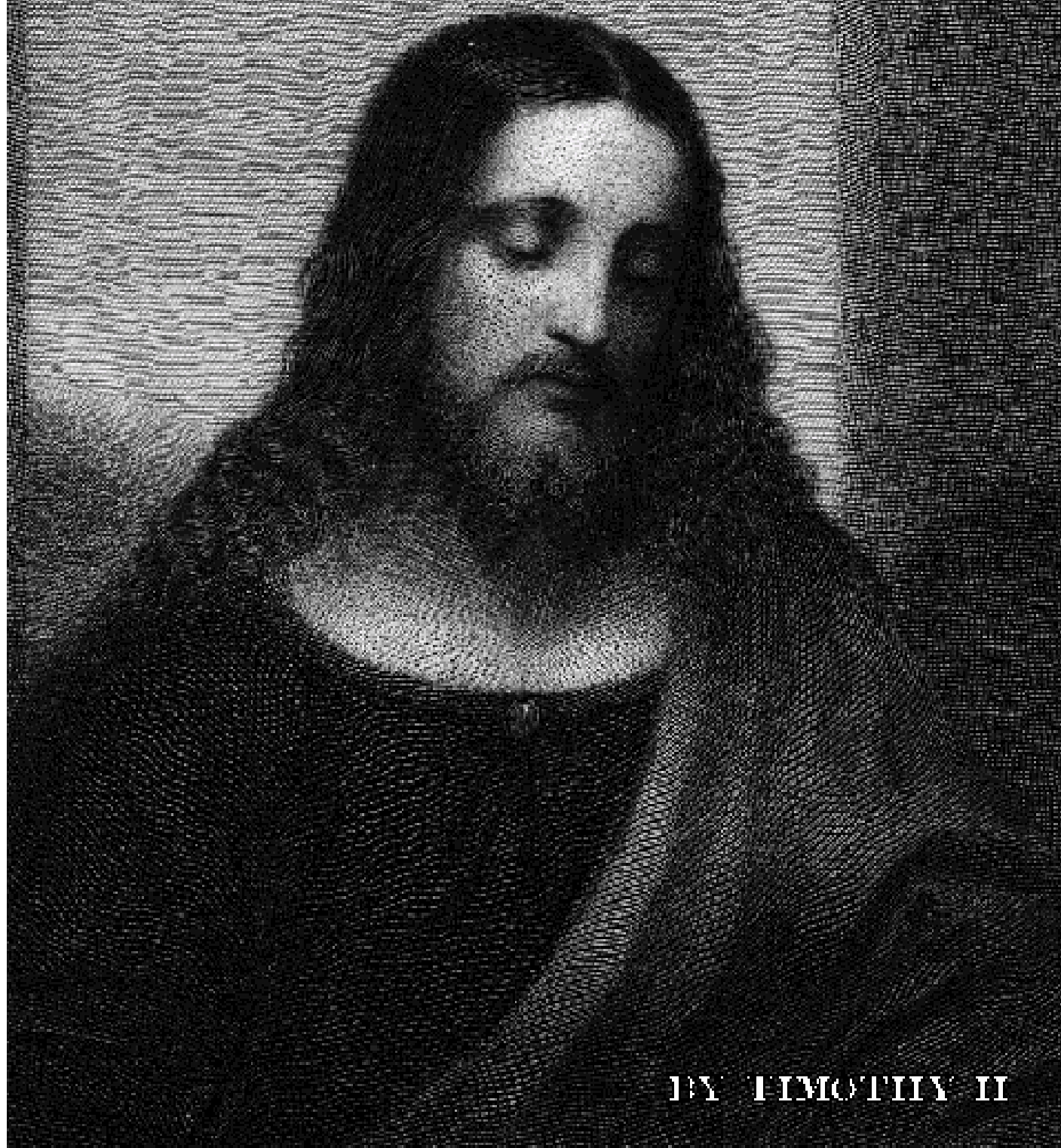


BUILDING A PERSONAL
RELATIONSHIP WITH
JESUS CHRIST



BY TIMOTHY II

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A Study guide for Leaders in the Body of Christ

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INTRODUCTION:

Recently the Lord has impressed upon Timothy II that wherever he goes, he is to begin his Ministry work by teaching about 'Building a Personal Relationship with Jesus Christ'. The reason for this is that regardless of whether we are New Believers, Mature Christians or have been in Ministry for many years, we cannot properly progress in our Christian walk and our work for the Lord without first knowing that our 'Personal Relationship with Jesus' is in order. We need to realize that 'Building a Personal Relationship with Jesus Christ' is not a one-time event and then you are finished, but rather it is an on going process that we must continually work to improve upon.

To become a New Believer, you must first invite Jesus Christ into your heart as your Lord and Savior. (Romans 10:9-10) Then when you are 'born again', you will begin your 'Personal Relationship with Jesus'. (John 3:3, 1 Peter 1:23) As a New Christian, the beginning of your Relationship with Jesus doesn't need to be complicated, but rather may be simple like the thief on the Cross who 'Built a Personal Relationship with Jesus' by merely stating 'Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom.' Even though his Relationship with Jesus was very short, it was sincere, and Jesus responded to him by saying, 'Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in paradise.' (Luke 23:32-43)

For those that are Mature Christians, you need to continually work to improve on 'Building your Personal Relationship with Jesus'. Your Relationship may have once been very exciting but may have since slipped away. Although you might say this will never happen to me, situations that cause us to slip away come upon us very subtly and many times we do not recognize them until it is too late. That is the importance of this Study Guide. As you read it and review it, it may help you to recognize when your 'Relationship with Jesus' is beginning to slip away.

For those of you that are Pastors, even though you may be doing many works, if you lose your 'Personal Relationship with Jesus' (which is described in the Church at Ephesus as having left your first Love), the works that you do are a waste of time. Those works will burn at the Judgment Seat of Christ and you will not receive any rewards. (1 Corinthians 3:11-15) If you continue to ignore this problem, Jesus has threatened to remove your Church. (Revelation 2:1-5)

Another important point that the Lord has impressed upon Timothy II about 'Building a Personal Relationship with Him' is that He is Coming Soon, Sooner than you think! With this in mind, the work that we do **is not** as important as our Relationship with the Lord. This is because we will soon be standing before Him to be judged for the things we have done in this world, both good and bad! (2 Corinthians 5:9-10) Imagine how you would feel if you are standing there in front of Jesus and you hear Him say 'who are you' or 'I never knew you.' (Matthew 7:21-23) What if He asks what happened to the talent I gave you? (Matthew 25:24-30) This is why we need to Repent if necessary and get ourselves right with Jesus. (Jeremiah 31:18-19 Psalms 51:10-13)

Once we 'Build and/or restore our Relationship with Jesus' we will be ready to leave this earth at any time, and be able to say: 'I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith.' (2 Timothy 4:6-8) Then **we will** hear Jesus say: 'Well done thou good and faithful servant'. (Matthew 25:20-23)

AMEN!

1. SEEK GOD FIRST:

In 'Building a Personal Relationship with Jesus Christ', you must first **Seek** God the Father. (John 14:9-10 John 10:30) Then you must Seek the Kingdom of God and **His** righteousness.

Exod 20:3

3 **Thou shalt have no other gods before me.**

Matt 6:25

25 **Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life**, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

Matt 6:33

33 **But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.**

Rom 14:17

17 **For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.**

2. CONFIRM YOUR SALVATION:

After Seeking God First, we need to confirm that we are **truly** Saved. (Romans 10:8, 13)

Because our Salvation is drawing nearer then when we first believed, it is important that we examine ourselves whether Jesus Christ **is in** us.

Heb 2:3

3 **How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation;** which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him;

Rom 13:11

11 **And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed.**

2 Cor 13:5

5 **Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith;** prove your own selves. **Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you**, except ye be reprobates?

1 Pet 4:18

18 **And if the righteous scarcely** (hardly, with difficulty) **be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?**

3. THE HOLY SPIRIT IN YOU:

You need to know that the Holy Spirit **is** dwelling **in** you!

1 Cor 6:19

19 **What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God**, and ye are not your own?

Rom 8:9

9 **But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you.** Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

1 Jn 4:13

13 **Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit.**

Eph 3:16

16 **That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;**

4. THE SEAL OF GOD UPON YOU:

Once you are **sure** that the Holy Spirit **is** in you, you are divinely assured that you **are Sealed** with the Holy Spirit, and your 'Relationship with Jesus' is unbreakable.

Eph 1:13

13 **In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise** (a divine assurance of good),

2 Tim 2:19

19 **Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his.** And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

Eph 4:30

30 **And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.**

5. LOVE GOD:

We need to Love God with **all** our heart, mind and soul, which is the First Commandment in the New Testament. If we have God's Commandments and **keep** them, then we **know** that we Love God! When you Love God, then your 'Relationship with Jesus' will become real because God the Father and His Son Jesus will make their residence with you.

Matt 22:37-38

37 **Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart** (thoughts & feelings), **and with all thy soul** (life), **and with all thy mind** (faculty & understanding).

38 **This is the first and great commandment.**

John 14:21

21 **He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him,** and will manifest myself to him.

John 14:23

23 **Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode** (residence) **with him.**

6. PRAYING TO THE LORD:

Praying to the Lord is the way that we communicate with Jesus. It is important that we continually offer up our prayers to Him. We **know** that He **will** hear our prayers, because He considers us as righteous. (Romans 3:10 5:19)

Prov 15:29

29 **The LORD is far from the wicked: but he heareth the prayer of the righteous.**

1 Pet 3:12

12 **For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.**

James 5:16

16 **...The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.**

7. HOW TO PRAY:

There is great freedom in our 'Relationship with the Lord'. We can pray almost anywhere and anytime. We can pray everywhere lifting up our hands without wrath or doubting. We also need to pray at times in the Holy Ghost. (Romans 8:26-27)

Matt 6:6-8

6 But thou, **when thou prayest, enter into thy closet,**...

Ps 4:4

4 Stand in awe, and sin not: **commune with your own heart upon your bed,** and be still.

Ps 63:6

6 **When I remember thee upon my bed, and meditate on thee in the night watches.**

1 Tim 2:8

8 **I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.**

Jude 1:20

20 But ye, beloved, **building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,**

8. WHAT TO PRAY:

In everything by prayer and petitions with **thanksgiving**, we need to let our requests be made known to God. When we pray, we also need to **forgive** whatsoever we have against anyone.

Phil 4:6

6 Be careful for nothing; but **in every thing by prayer and supplication** (petitions) **with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.**

Mark 11:25

25 **And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.**

Matt 6:9-13

9 **After this manner therefore pray ye:** Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed (Holy) be thy name.

10 Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

11 Give us this day our daily bread.

12 And **forgive** us our debts, as we **forgive** our debtors.

13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

9. COME BOLDLY TO THE THRONE OF GRACE:

When we pray, we are to come **boldly** to the throne of grace so that we may obtain mercy and grace to help us in time of need. (Hebrews 10:19-23) This is because Jesus is our High Priest and our mediator between God and men. (1 Timothy 2:5)

Heb 4:14-16

14 **Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.**

15 **For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.**

16 **Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.**

Eph 2:18

18 **For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.**

10. ASK:

When you are in need of something you must learn to trust God and **ask** for it without wavering. It is important to understand that if you will **ask** anything according to His Will, you **will** receive it. The following is an example of **asking** for wisdom:

James 1:5-7

5 **If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.**

6 **But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering.** For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.

7 For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.

I Jn 5:14-15

14 **And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:**

15 **And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.**

11. HEARING THE VOICE OF GOD:

When we are trying to 'Build our Relationship with Jesus', we sometimes think that we cannot hear His voice. The Bible teaches that everyone that is of the truth hears God's voice and His words. Even our Salvation and Faith comes through hearing the word of God.

John 18:37

37 **...Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.**

John 8:47

47 **He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God.**

Rom 10:17

17 **So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.**

John 5:24-25

24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, **He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life**, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

25 Verily, verily, I say unto you, **The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live.**

12. PUT ON THE NEW MAN:

Once we become a Christian, we need to **put on** the New man, because we have become a New creation. Then we are able to begin 'Building our Relationship with Jesus' because we will seek the things that are above..

2 Cor 5:17

17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature (creation): **old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.**

Col 3:1-10

1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.

4 When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

5 Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:

6 For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience:

7 In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them.

8 But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.

9 Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;

10 And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:

13. PUT ON THE MIND OF CHRIST:

One of the most important points of having a good 'Relationship with Jesus' is that we can actually have the Mind of Christ **in us**. We need to **let** this Mind be **in us**, which was also in Christ Jesus.

Phil 2:5

5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

1 Cor 2:16

16 For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? **But we have the mind of Christ.**

1 Pet 4:1

1 Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin;

14. FOLLOWING JESUS:

The following Scriptures reveal the **advantages** of Following Jesus and the **cost** that you must make in doing so. The question is, is it worth it?

Matt 4:19

19 **And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.**

Matt 8:22

22 **But Jesus said unto him, Follow me; and let the dead bury their dead.**

Matt 19:21

21 **Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me.**

Luke 9:61-62

61 **And another also said, Lord, I will follow thee; but let me first go bid them farewell, which are at home at my house.**

62 **And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.**

1 Pet 2:21

21 **For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:**

Luke 9:23

23 **And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.**

15. SUBMIT:

In order to 'Build our Relationship with Jesus', we must first **Submit** to God. When we do **Submit**, we receive more of God's grace because He gives grace to the humble. We must also **Submit** to God before we can learn how to resist the Devil so that he **will** flee from us. Once we truly 'Fear the Lord', we will learn to **Submit** to one another.

James 4:6

6 **But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.**

James 4:7

7 **Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.**

Eph 5:21

21 **Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.**

16. ABIDING IN GOD:

As Christians, we **have** a built in Anointing of the Holy Spirit. Since the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Truth, He will guide us into all truth. (John 15:26, 16:13, 14:17) If that which we have heard from the beginning **Abides** in us, we will **Abide** in God the Son and God the Father.

I Jn 2:20

20 **But ye have an unction** (anointing)(the special endowment of the Holy Spirit) **from the Holy One, and ye know all things.**

I Jn 2:27

27 **But the anointing** (the special endowment of the Holy Spirit) **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.**

I Jn 2:24

24 **Let that therefore abide in you, which ye have heard from the beginning. If that which ye have heard from the beginning shall remain (abide) in you, ye also shall continue (abide) in the Son, and in the Father.**

17. WORSHIP THE LORD:

When you know that the Holy Spirit **Abides in** you, and you know that **He is** the Spirit of Truth, then you know **how** to Worship God the Father. This is because He **must** be Worshipped in Spirit and in Truth.

John 4:23-24

23 **But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.**

24 **God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.**

18. ENTER INTO GOD'S REST:

In order to keep from becoming depressed, overworked, overwhelmed or burned out from our work for the Lord, we need to learn **to Rest** in Jesus. When we learn **to Rest**, we will cease from doing our own works and we will begin to realize that the yoke and burden of the Lord is actually easy and light. It is with having this **Rest** that we will more thoroughly enjoy our 'Relationship with Jesus'.

Matt 11:28-30

28 **Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.**

29 **Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me;** for I am meek and lowly in heart: **and ye shall find rest unto your souls.**

30 **For my yoke (service) is easy, and my burden (task) is light.**

Heb 4:1-3

1 **Let us therefore fear (the Lord), lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it.**

2 **For unto us was the gospel preached,** as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.

3 **For we which have believed do enter into rest,...**

Heb 4:9-11

9 **There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God.**

10 **For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works,** as God did from his.

11 **Let us labour (be diligent) therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.**

19. WALKING THE WALK:

Once we have 'Built our Relationship with Jesus', we need to learn to Walk the true Christian Walk. In order to do this we need to:

Eph 5:19-20

19 **Speaking to your (own) selves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;**

20 **Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;**

1Thes 5:16-23

16 **Rejoice evermore.**

17 **Pray without ceasing.**

18 **In every thing give thanks:** for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

19 **Quench not the Spirit.**

20 **Despise not prophesyings.**

21 **Prove (test) all things; hold fast (retain) that which is good.**

22 **Abstain from all appearance of evil.**

23 **And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

IN CONCLUSION:

In the Conclusion of 'Building a Personal Relationship with Jesus Christ', my Brethren, **think upon** these things:

Phil 4:8

8 **Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue (excellence), and if there be any praise, think on these things.**

And:

2 Cor 13:11

11 **Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you.**

2 Cor 13:14

14 **The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen.**

TIMOTHY II