

# Abiding In Jesus

Scripture reading - John 15:4-10

## I. WHAT DID JESUS MEAN WHEN HE SAID - "ABIDE IN ME?"

- A. "Abide" defined: Thayer: "not to depart, not to leave, to continue, to be present . . . to maintain unbroken fellowship with one."
  - 1. Implies that we may choose between abiding and leaving, or never choosing to enter.
  - 2. Spoken to the disciples, as one of the 12 sought opportunity to betray Jesus--choosing not to abide. That being Judas.
- B. In the context, Jesus teaches by analogy. 15:1-3;
  - 1. Analogy meaning = "a ground of comparison in some respect; without actual or complete resemblance."
  - 2. Jesus introduces the image of a vine and its branches.
  - 3. Just as the branches cannot live and thrive except they partake of the nourishment that flow from the vine, so the branches (being men v. 6) must take in of the vine's spiritual nectar in order to flourish.
- C. John, who heard these words of Jesus and wrote them down some years later, understood these words, and through the Holy Spirit, wrote an inspired commentary on them in 1 John 2:3-6...
- F. In light of these verses, what does it mean to abide in Christ? When we abide in Him, we share with Him many things: note some....
  - 1. We share His Joy. 15:11
  - 2. We share His Love. 15:12
  - 3. We share His friendship 15:14
  - 4. We share His knowledge. 15:15b
  - 5. We share His fruitfulness. 15:16b
  - 6. We share His persecution. 15:20b
  - 7. We share His work. 15:20c
  - 8. We share His glory. 17:22
- G. Jesus is saying--"Think as I think, feel as I feel; will as I will; choose as I choose, In return I give you my wisdom, my blessing, my strength: I even will give you eternal life.

## II. WHY SHOULD WE ABIDE IN CHRIST?

- A. Because of Jesus' love. 15:9.... " Even as the Father hath loved me, I also have loved you: abide ye in my love."
  - 1. He's the One who died to make it possible. 15:13
  - 2. His joy is dependent upon us. 15:11
  - 3. Indeed all of heaven rejoices when a sinner repents. Luke 15:7...
  - 4. Do we not rejoice at our own salvation? Ephesians 1:7....
  - 5. We are his friends. 15:13-15....

## III. ABIDE IN JESUS NO MATTER WHAT!

- A. Keep the meaning of "abide" in mind = "not to depart, not to leave, to continue, to be present . . . to maintain unbroken fellowship with one."
- B. Abide in Jesus in times of hatred John 15:18-19
- C. In times of persecution--abide in Christ.
  - 1. Jesus said to His apostles 15:20 - "....If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you."
  - 2. We know from the book of Acts that Peter, John, Paul, Barnabas was thrown into jail.
  - 3. James, John's brother, was the first of the apostles to die. Acts 12.

### Conclusion:

The apostle Paul pretty much sums up all things that has been said, concerning our abiding in Christ, to never, ever leave, or get away from Him, to stick like glue, to Him and His ways. (cf Romans 8:31-39; Matthew 5:10-12)