

Tree of Life!

Part 1: "The Price of Values!"

God's Worldview... On mankind: Fallen and can't get up... alone! **Romans 3.9-18, 23** And getting back up only happens thru Jesus, for there is no other name given for salvation! **Acts 4.12** On success: "God set the destination for all who are called; to be transformed into the image of His dear son!" **Romans 8.29** **Philippians 3.13-15** What profit is there if a man gains the world and loses his soul? **Mark 8.36**

God's has a Worldview... On Money, On Marriage, On Family, On Relationships, On Sex, On Retirement, On Attitude, On Endurance, On Everything!

And... seeing everything in life the way He does is the only way to living real life!

Looking to the Tree of Life... "Blessed is the man who doesn't walk in the counsel of the ungodly (NBWV) nor stands with sinners, nor sits with scorners ... Blessed is the one whose delight and meditations are in the words of God (BWV)... He will be like a tree planted by the rivers of living water bearing fruit in his time and whose vitality won't wither... whatever that one does will prosper!" **Psalm 1.1-3** "I am the Vine you are the branches... the one who lives in Me and I in him, the same brings forth much fruit, for aside from Me you cannot do it (BWV)... Herein is My Father glorified, that you bear much fruit, so are you My disciples..." **John 15.5-8** "Everything lives where the river flows..." **Ezekiel 47** "He that believes on Me, out of his innermost being will flow rivers of living water!" **John 7.38 (4.10,14)**

Taking a look at the Tree of Life, to become a tree of life sustained by a river of living water!

What worked for the first disciples will work for us... they looked at Jesus!

Jesus was the Word... the Word from God... the Word made flesh!

Jesus made disciples by sharing and living out His values in front of them!

Jesus' values... drove Him! ...lived out, developed disciples! ...embraced by disciples, has changed the world! Can still be seen, clearly, in the Word! Can turn us into disciples that bear much fruit! Can change the world of minds and hearts all around us!

Jesus value #1: "My meat (fuel, sustenance, motivation) is to do the will of Him that sent Me and to finish His work..." **John 4.34** "I seek not My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me..." **John 5.30** "I came down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me..." **John 6.38**

Doing the will of God... Has many different expressions! **Most immediately think of "obedience!"** "That's the hard part!" "Knowing what He wants and expects and doing it!" **Many think of "endurance!"** "Don't become weary in well doing!" **Let's look at "dis-comfort, un-easiness, not-convenient!"** Getting this fixes a lot of everything else!

Jesus' Value of Dis-comfort! And now, Father, glorify Me with the glory I had with You before the world was! **John 17.5,24** "In the fullness of time God sent forth His Son... to redeem mankind" **Galatians 4.4,5** Jesus gave up His place, comfort, and activity with His Father to come for us!

Even at that level He didn't consider His life to be His own! *And it increased the meaning of His life because it was not a disruption but the definition of His life!*

Definitions of Dis-comfort! "Go... in My name..." "Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness!" "Deny yourself and pick up your cross and follow Me!" "Endure hardness as a good soldier!" "Stand firm in the evil day!" "Don't be afraid!" "Bear one another's burdens!" "Spend and be spent!"

The Value of Dis-comfort! "Leaving what is behind to reach for what is ahead!" "Walking to please Him, fruitful in every good work, increasing in knowledge of God, strengthened with all might, by his glorious power unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness!" "Running with certainty, keeping my body under control!" "Holding fast my confidence, steadfast to the end!"

The Result of Dis-comfort! "I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name, the ones you gave me, I have kept and lost none!" "I have fought a good fight, finished my course, and kept the faith, and now there is a crown laid up for me!" "Well done good and faithful servant, you have been faithful in little I will make you ruler over much, enter into the joy of your Lord!"

The early disciples saw the price He was willing to pay to do God's will...

They received power to run to the end of their lives living out this same value...

And they have transmitted life-changing truth to generations!