



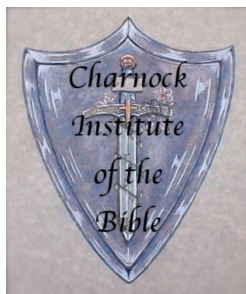
Walking and Following

Jesus said "Follow Me," and some did. Matthew left a lucrative business (tax collecting); some left their fishing businesses. Others would not follow when they found out Jesus had no place to lay his head; no permanent location or base of operations (he ran a traveling school); others found that He would not wait for them to bury their parents (to obtain the inheritance); others were told that they could not plow with one hand while looking behind them (it takes both hands to plow straight!). No inheritance, hot and focussed plowing and no soft pillow at the end of the day. Better be sure one wants to be there. "Count the cost," Jesus said. Then they walked and walked, mile after dusty mile. Little town after little town (Jesus tended to avoid places like Jerusalem). Walking and talking, questions and answers, and parables all along the way. "Follow Me!" In the end, He would tell them, "Go!" Their following would end but not their journey. Many more dusty roads, little cities, and challenging others to "Come and follow Jesus," were to come. The roads are still traveled. The cost is still being counted. The plowing is not yet finished. Both hands on the plow are needed.

I often talk with young men who do not know that they are to "Follow!" Their incomes, insurance, financial security, etc. are too important to them. When I was in my early twenties I was challenged by . . . (continued)

THINGS NEW . . . THINGS OLD . . .

Graduation has arrived and we again congratulate and say farewell to those we have been working with for so long a time. TIME DOES NOT PASS, BUT WE DO! Graduates from CIB know what this means. "Things old and things new" is an expression of Jesus used in Matthew 13 for a trained Disciple. In his treasure chest are treasures old and treasures new. What are the treasures of a Disciple?



"Disciple" simply means "student." The treasures of a

student are the realities he has been taught. In Matthew 13 it is the ability of trained students to get the treasures spoken of in the Parables. Eventually Students leave their Masters. What should matter to the Masters is that Students themselves are now Masters and understand what real and true treasures are; and how to obtain them. Students brought a treasure chest to fill when they came to the Masters to learn. Things old and things new are now theirs.

White Stone Missions

whitestonemissions.com

The last 12 months have been incredible. Participation in Bible Translations, College Classes in a Jungle Bible College, Financing a publication project of LEADING LITTLE ONES TO GOD into the Burmese language (almost completed), and more.

Only God matters in the end. Everything else passes. The opportunity and privilege of giving one's life away for things that really matter in eternity is something to be thankful for.

God has met all the financial needs for White Stone Missions since it began. We look to Him for all that we do, so that the strength for all we do might be that which is provided by Him. This insures that the glory will be His and not ours.

If God is calling you to Biblical Ministries Training, we would love to participate with you in getting ready and in going.

Where will you be in 5 years? Not, WHERE DO YOU WISH YOU WOULD BE, but where will you actually be with the plans you now have?



an old preacher about going to a Bible College if I was ever to go into full time Pastoral ministry. I remember saying that I would one day go when I had the resources. He promptly informed me that I would probably never go. How rude! He then said, "The next time I see you, I want you to tell me when you are going and where you are going!" This was at the end of summer and a week later I was enrolled in a Bible College studying Greek, Theology, Church History, and everything else that you would expect. I had no idea such a thing was even possible at the time. I counted the cost and I remember telling those in the College office that I had no resources. Still, there I was in class learning to plow with both hands. To my shame I have looked back a time or two. The jagged row behind me shows it all to well. When God set the priests apart in Leviticus the Hebrew text literally says He, "filled their hands." They had both hands full with serving Him and ministering to others. They were too busy to look back.

Its been said that those beginning a full Bible College education have a pattern.

Year 1 - They don't know that they don't know.

year 2 - They do know that they don't know.

Year 3 - They don't know that they do know.

year 4 - They do know that they do know.

God said that He is a rewarder of those that diligently seek Him. He rewards THEM with FINDING HIM. He Himself is the greatest gift of all.

CHANGES

The Library

Much has changed at the library. Today a library is on one's laptop and so tens of thousands of books and texts no longer need to be housed in a physical location. Online and Virtual Libraries along with CD Collections are incredible. We have actually shrunk the CIB Library and are moving to those collections which are not available for study in the online format. Only selective items will be housed.

The Scriptorium

The Scriptorium and its Antiquities Collection continue to grow. In fact we are in need of expansion. Options are to either Build or to Relocate. Your Prayers and Financial Gifts are important. Thank You!

New Classes

CIB's core curriculum remains the same. However, once completing the Basic Programs there is more to offer.

- Syriac will soon be on the menu. This is actually the first full Translation of the Bible after the Apostles passed from the seen. This first translation offers insights into how the earliest Christian Jews read the Old and New Testaments.

- Coptic was the upgrading from Egyptian Hieroglyphics. The Greek alphabet in capitals, along with 6 other letters added, became the new format for Egypt. Again, one of the earliest Translations of the Bible into the tongue of the Egyptians.

"Love God with all your heart (character), soul (passions), mind (spirit), and strength (physically)." This is the FIRST and GREATEST command; which makes it the first and greatest sin! If we do not love God passionately, it is sin; for we do not see Him as important or needed. Other things are more important to us and this makes us idolaters!

Earthly treasures and experiences will soon pass. Store your treasures and your life in a place that yields eternal returns. Seek the treasures of God! He offers them to us instead of the trivial things of the this earth. Cotton Candy Christianity leaves with the Carnival!

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