*Friday, April 8, 2011*

**Just Off Broadway**

Matthew 7:13-14 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: (14) Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it. (KJV)

In conclusion this week, in order to stay on the straight and narrow path one needs to become narrow minded concerning the things of God, and cast out anything or thought that would come against the knowledge of God and get them off the path of life.

Proverbs 16:11 A just weight and balance are the LORD's: all the weights of the bag are his work. (KJV)

You know, our new found life in Christ has now become a balancing act, learning to get rid of the old way of thinking so that it can be replaced with something new that will get us new results from above. Many get out of balance because rather than discard the old they try to mix and match the two, which just doesn’t work with the Lord.

1Timothy 6:6-9 But godliness with contentment is great gain. (7) For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. (8) And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. (9) But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. (KJV

Well Church, nothing gets people out of balance quicker than a love for something carnal, something other than our Lord and His plan of salvation. Can you really say today that you are content with what our Lord has provided, having food and raiment? Or are you like the many, who are out and about chasing an imagination that they think will bring peace? Many a Christian has been diverted off the path of life and back on to one of strife, because they desired the riches of this world more than those of God. Case in point, one of the biggest criticisms of so called Christians is all their money pitches, making it seem that God’s path of life is one of carnal wealth, and not the Spiritual one that He desires for His people.

Proverbs 30:8-9 Remove far from me vanity and lies: give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me: (9) Lest I be full, and deny thee, and say, Who is the LORD? or lest I be poor, and steal, and take the name of my God in vain. (KJV)

Well here is another way of describing contentment, the just weight and balance that keeps us in good standing with our Father. I don’t desire to be rich; however, I am not foolish enough that I want to be poor either, because I do have needs here. So we see where our Lord would have us to be and what mindset works concerning His kingdom so that we won’t get so out of balance or bent out of shape.

Luke 11:1-3 And it came to pass, that, as he was praying in a certain place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples. (2) And he said unto them, When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth. (3) Give us day by day our daily bread. (KJV)

Do you remember what happened in the Old Testament when the children of Israel went out and tried to gather more manna than what was required for the day? Yeah it bred worms, and really began to stink. Well the same premise holds true with many of God’s people who begin their walk in the Spirit and then try to perfect it by the flesh and its limited carnal way of thinking. Do you desire today to stay on the right path and not veer left of right? Then learning to deal with what is on your plate for today will go a long way in keeping you there.

Matthew 6:31-34 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (32) (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. (33) But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. (34) Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof. (KJV)

Sound simple? It really is; and yet as simple as it is, it’s amazing to see not only how much of the world is on the wrong path but how many of God’s own people get misled when they get thinking beyond today. Godliness with contentment is great gain, and will keep you on the only path that will lead you to eternal life.