*Friday, April 11, 2014*

**Living Sacrifice**

Romans 12:1-2 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. (KJV)

Not only is our Lord requiring His people to confess Him, but as we see in verse 2 He requires us to prove it. The best way to do that is by letting Him increase, which takes place when we decrease. Haven’t you wasted enough time trying to do things your own way?

Matthew 12:47-50 Then one said unto him, Behold, thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to speak with thee. 48 But he answered and said unto him that told him, who is my mother? And who are my brethren? 49 And he stretched forth his hand toward his disciples, and said, behold my mother and my brethren! 50 For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother. (KJV)

As you can see our Lord has a totally different viewpoint when it comes to who His real family is. Which one has the most influence on you today; is it people on the outside, or are you more familiar with those on the inside? It may not seem like a big deal to you, but if you are hanging onto old dead things, you eventually will end up dead as well.

1 Corinthians 1:17-18 For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect. 18 For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. (KJV)

The Lord wouldn’t have me do that, it sounds so foolish! For those that are in the flesh the things of God and the cross of Christ is foolishness; but notice it’s only foolish to those that are perishing. For those that take up their own cross and die to the things of this life, they find it opens up a new life where we are now able to unleash the power of God within.

1 Corinthians 2:14-16 But the natural man receives not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. 15 But he that is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. 16 For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ. (KJV)

Given the fact that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, our Lord requires His people go beyond the realm of the natural into the spiritual. How many times has the Lord tried to get through to you only to find your response was foolish? You have access to the mind of Christ, but only when you are willing to let go of yours.

Romans 8:5-8 For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. 6 For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. 7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. 8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. (KJV)

Do your truly desire to be used by God so that He can work in and through you? Then get the enmity out of the way so that you can present yourselves a living sacrifice; someone holy and acceptable to God.

God bless and have a prosperous day in Christ Jesus our Lord dearly loved.