*Wednesday, August 17, 2011*

**Staying Alive**

Luke 9:59-62 And he said unto another, Follow me. But he said, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father. (60) Jesus said unto him, Let the dead bury their dead: but go thou and preach the kingdom of God. (61) And another also said, Lord, I will follow thee; but let me first go bid them farewell, which are at home at my house. (62) And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God. (KJV)

Your new life in Christ is now in front of you and not behind anymore. In fact our Lord said that His people would be the head and not the tail, which is why He doesn’t desire to see His people chasing their tail anymore. Are you willing to do whatever it takes to stay alive Spiritually, even if it means leaving the dead behind?

Matthew 12:46-50 While he yet talked to the people, behold, his mother and his brethren stood without, desiring to speak with him. (47) 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)

Given the fact that we serve a God who cannot lie it would be safe to say that He would not send us a Son that would lie either. Many times we see these verses but don’t take them serious, instead thinking that they refer to someone else all the time. I can assure you that if there is anyone else that has more of an influence on you than the Lord, well it can kill your relationship with Him in a hurry because you will spend more time trying to please man than God.

John 7:3-6 His brethren therefore said unto him, Depart hence, and go into Judaea, that thy disciples also may see the works that thou doest. (4) For there is no man that doeth any thing in secret, and he himself seeketh to be known openly. If thou do these things, shew thyself to the world. (5) For neither did his brethren believe in him. (6) Then Jesus said unto them, My time is not yet come: but your time is alway ready. (KJV)

John 7:5

[Neither did his brethren believe in him.] They did not receive him as the promised Messiah; but, having seen so many of his miracles; they could not but consider him as an eminent prophet. They supposed that, if he were the Messiah, he would wish to manifest himself as such to the world; and, because he did not do so, they did not believe that he was the salvation of Israel. (from Adam Clarke Commentary)

You know, as effective a man that Jesus of Nazareth was, his own physical family was not on board with what he was doing; yet despite that fact he still went to the cross for mankind. How will you respond if others you have been close to in the past are not on board with your walk, and consider what you are doing as foolish? Will you stay alive in the Spirit by walking away from those in the flesh?

Mark 10:28-30 Then Peter began to say unto him, Lo, we have left all, and have followed thee. (29) And Jesus answered and said, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the gospel's, (30) But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life. (KJV)

Survival of the fittest Church; are you in this thing for the duration, or are you just another casual observer? Sometimes the reason that we don’t walk in the fullness of the Spirit and receive a hundredfold or be pleasing to our Father in heaven, is because we are still hanging onto dead people from our past. Please, in closing today, do note that hundredfold has nothing to do with money, but rather receiving all the Spiritual blessings that we have been blessed with in Christ.