*Monday, November 7, 2011*

**Vain Repetitions**

Philippians 2:14-16 Do all things without murmurings and disputings: (15) That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world; (16) Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain. (KJV)

This week we will focus on a word that appears throughout the Bible, something that takes place more than we realize, thus the warnings. The word ‘vain’ refers to empty or worthless; devoid of truth was also mentioned. Now church in Christ, you really wouldn’t want to go through this life living what you thought was truth only to find out at the end that it was all in vain would you?

1 Corinthians 15:57-58 But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. (58) Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord. (KJV)

There are many winds of man’s doctrines blowing about this earth, especially in these last days, where we are warned about the deception that will take place with mankind being deceived, then deceiving others as well. Unless one stays grounded and settled in the truth, letting the peace of God rule in their lives, they will end up like a wind vain, pointing people in the direction of the wind instead of the shelter that our Lord provided.

Matthew 15:7-9 Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying, (8) This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. (9) But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. (KJV)

The best way that I could describe the above verses is easily summed up with the term religion; where man puts up an empty outward show in the flesh but is void of truth on the inside. ‘Oh it’s those weird cults, where they dress different and live in communes; it is those who are the vain ones’, thus many think. Whatsoever is not of faith is in the realm of sin; so if it didn’t come from our Lord’s mouth to your ears of hearing, then you are wasting your time.

1 Corinthians 15:12-14 Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead? (13) But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: (14) And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. (KJV)

Christ did arise from the dead some two thousand years ago, and the question that He has for His people today is, how many or should I say how few are allowing Him to resurrect within them today? Many keep the Lord buried and left for dead when they depart from the faith and return to vain, worthless, empty doctrines of man.

Dearly loved be steadfast in the faith and continue in the doctrine of Christ and be not moved from it. God bless.