

Dying to Self **(February 16, 2020 by Rev. Anthony Menzel)**

I felt from the Lord Jesus that I should share a message entitled “Dying to Self”

Scripture 1: Ephesians 2:8-10

⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, ⁹ not of works, lest anyone should boast. ¹⁰ For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

It is great to know that salvation is free...

It is a gift from God...

We cannot earn it...

All we have to do to obtain it is to accept the Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior...

However, in order for us to be blessed as much as the Lord Jesus wants to bless us, we have to die to self. We have to be selfless (abnegado) instead of selfish. When there is a conflict between our own desires and what Christ wants for us, we have to give up what we want in favor of what the Lord Jesus wants...

Scripture 2: Galatians 2:20

²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

Scripture 3: 1 Corinthians 6:18-20

¹⁸ Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. ¹⁹ Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? ²⁰ For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body ^[g]and in your spirit, which are God's.

As followers of Christ, we belong to Christ...

Our first priority should not be about making ourselves happy in the moment...

Our first priority should be to make the Lord Jesus happy...

Scripture 4: Galatians 5:24

²⁴ And those *who are* Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

<<Must Jesus bear the cross alone and all the world go free?

No, there's a cross for everyone, and there's a cross for me...

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me...

I once was lost, but now am found, was blind but now I see...

¿Sólo Cristo va a cargar la Cruz, dejando a todos libre?

No hay una cruz para todos, y hay una cruz para mí...

Gracia asombrosa, cuan dulce el sonido que salvó a un infeliz como yo...

Era perdido, pero ahora soy hallado, era ciego, pero ahora veo...>>

Each one of us has a cross to bear...

Scripture 5: Luke 9:23-26

²³ Then He said to *them* all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross ^[b]daily, and follow Me. ²⁴ For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it. ²⁵ For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and is himself destroyed or lost? ²⁶ For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words, of him the Son of Man will be ashamed when He comes in His *own* glory, and *in His* Father's, and of the holy angels.

Sometimes part of that cross includes giving up part or all of our dreams to

replace them with Christ's dreams for us...

Scripture 6: Matthew 7:21-23

²¹ "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. ²² Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out

demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ ²³ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’

Scripture 7: 1 Timothy 5:8

⁸ But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

Scripture 8: Mark 7:9-13

⁹ He said to them, “*All too well* you ^[e]reject the commandment of God, that you may keep your tradition. ¹⁰ For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and your mother’; and, ‘He who curses father or mother, let him be put to death.’ ¹¹ But you say, ‘If a man says to his father or mother, “Whatever profit you might have received from me *is Corban*”—’ (that is, a gift *to God*), ¹² then you no longer let him do anything for his father or his mother, ¹³ making the word of God of no effect through your tradition which you have handed down. And many such things you do.”

We should ask the Lord Jesus to show us what He wants us to do with this

relatively short time on earth, instead of wasting our lives on things that will have no eternal impact, instead of looking back on our lives with regret at the end of our lives, thinking about all the good we could have done but didn’t do...

Scripture 9: James 4:17

¹⁷ Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do *it*, to him it is sin.

Scripture 10: James 2:14-26

¹⁴ What *does it* profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? ¹⁵ If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, ¹⁶ and one of you says to them, “Depart in peace, be warmed and filled,” but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what *does it* profit? ¹⁷ Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

¹⁸ But someone will say, “You have faith, and I have works.” Show me your faith without ^[f]your works, and I will show ^[g]you my faith by ^[g]my works. ¹⁹ You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and

tremble! ²⁰ But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is ^[h]dead? ²¹ Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar? ²² Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made ^[i]perfect? ²³ And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "Abraham ^[i]believed God, and it was ^[i]accounted to him for righteousness." And he was called the friend of God. ²⁴ You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only.

²⁵ Likewise, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent *them* out another way?

²⁶ For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

Being a true Christian is not just about going to church or celebrating certain

holidays or following a list of rules or saying a confession of faith...

It is about doing God's Will to the best of our ability

Scripture 11: Matthew 12:46-50

⁴⁶ While He was still talking to the multitudes, behold, His mother and brothers stood outside, seeking to speak with Him. ⁴⁷ Then one said to Him, "Look, Your mother and Your brothers are standing outside, seeking to speak with You."

⁴⁸ But He answered and said to the one who told Him, "Who is My mother and who are My brothers?" ⁴⁹ And He stretched out His hand toward His disciples and said, "Here are My mother and My brothers! ⁵⁰ For whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is My brother and sister and mother."

Scripture 12: Matthew 28:18-20

¹⁸ And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Go ^[c]therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age." ^[d]Amen.

Prayer...That God would bless us to be selfless (abnegado) instead of selfish...That He would reveal to us His dreams for our lives...

His Will for each day...And that we would follow His Will the best that we can...