

August 21, 1994      Boston  
To Follow Him

Matt 16:24 — Come after me ... and follow me. To be worthy of Him and to walk worthily of Him are what Col 1:10 and Matt 10:38 are talking of. A disciple will be rewarded according to his works — Matt 16:27. (Mal 3:3; Rev 19:7,8; Rev 3:1-5; Eph 2:10; 4:12; 2 Cor 5:10; Matt 25:14-30; Titus 2:14 and 1 Cor 4:5)

To walk in a manner worthy of Messiah and fully pleasing to Him — Col 1:10 — one must do as Matt 16:24,25 commands in order for one's works to be a benefit to His kingdom. (1 Cor 3:10-15,16,17; Matt 12:30) We build or tear down by our works — Rev 3:1,2 (in the NKJV). Our works must be perfect before God and not done with defiled garments, verse 4, in order for us to be worthy to walk with Him in white. Col 1:10 is how we must walk in this life. (2 Cor 5:10; 1 Cor 4:5)

Rev 3:4,5 — We will not be worthy of the Kingdom unless we walk worthy of Messiah. (Mark 8:34-38 and 10:28-31) Rev 2:26 says those who overcome will keep His works until the end (Matt 24:13). The works given to us to do are His works that have been allotted to us to do for Him. We do them in His place and on His behalf. We were saved for these works.

1 Thess 2:12 (2 Thess 1:5, 11; Eph 4:1) — We are to walk and behave in a manner worthy of God, like John 3:6 says. We are to send brothers on as if God Himself were sending them on their way; or as if it was God Himself. Any less is sin, the sin of, "not discerning the Body." These messengers in 3 John 6 are God's representatives — we send them on as sharers in their work. (3 John 8; Mal 3:3; Col 1:22,28)

So Matt 16:24-25 is absolutely the only way possible to do the works prepared for us to do. It is the only way to walk worthily of Him, fully pleasing Him. Colossians 1:10,11,12,13 — We are to be strengthened by Him — 1 Pet 4:11 — giving thanks to the Father. If we do as Col 1:10-12 tells us to, and if He has done Col 1:13 by verse 14, and if we see Him as verse 15 speaks of, then we have obeyed Matt 16:24-25, and we must continue to abide in Him throughout our lives, walking in a manner worthy of Him.

To follow Him is doing as He did, and what we see Him do, we do too. We, who have come after Him today, 2,000 years later, must follow Him in the only manner worthy of Him — if we are to fully please Him, Col 1:10. We must be strengthened with all might according to His glorious power for the attaining of all patience and long suffering with joy and the giving of thanks. (Ps 116:1,12; 2 Pet 1:10) But one must see Him first — see His worth and glory — in order to obey Matt 16:24 and Mark 8:35 and not ever be ashamed of Him as in Mark 8:38. (2 Cor 4:3)

Rom 10:14-17 — So, have you heard and obeyed the gospel? (Verse 16 in the Greek) Has His glory been revealed to you so you can obey by faith? Has His grace reached your heart so you can reach His blood? Did you, by the Holy Spirit given to you, make the good confession of Rom 10:9? Are you saved and sealed by the Son's Spirit (Eph 1:13,14) by whom you made your good confession unto salvation?

Remember Col 1:10. Remember Col 1:11. Unless we have made that good confession by the Spirit upon us; having seen His worth — which was revealed to our heart — and we believed in our heart that God raised Him up from the dead, Col 1:11 is going to be hard to fake. Matt 24:13 is going to be hard to do.

Col 1:11 — Strengthened (1412 in the Greek) means "to be able," and "to be mighty," as Yahshua was. We must walk worthily of Him, in a manner worthy of Him and comparable to Him. We begin to walk as Matt 16:24 says, by Matt 10:38 and Mark 10:25, and we continue by doing Luke 9:23 daily. Luke 9:23 is a daily walk worthy of our Master. We do so by being strengthened — enabled, improved — by the strength of His might (Eph 3:16). This is how we as priests are going to give thanks to Him as Heb 13:15 tells us to.

Eph 3:16 — We are strengthened according to the riches of His glory, Messiah dwelling in our hearts through faith (Rom 5:5; 1 John 2:15; 3:17). To know the love of Messiah is to have had His glory and worth revealed to you by the gospel you heard. It is to have His Spirit poured out into your heart — to your inner man (Eph 3:16) — to know the love of God which surpasses mere knowledge that we may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Eph 3:20 — Do you know Him who is able to do this? Are you in the Church after all? For it is His glory that is revealed in the Church (Eph 3:21). He is the One who has the glory in the Church — 2 Cor 4:2-5.