

The background of the image is a sunset or sunrise over a landscape. The sky is filled with soft, colorful clouds in shades of orange, yellow, and purple. In the foreground, three dark wooden crosses are visible, standing on a dark, silhouetted ground. The central cross is the tallest and most prominent, flanked by two shorter crosses. The overall mood is solemn and reflective.

# Following Jesus

Part Four

# Introduction...



- Our session today will take a different turn and tone to the last few lessons
- The whole point of Salvation is to go back to the original intent of God which was to make us in His Image.
- <sup>26</sup> Then God said, “**Let Us make man in Our image,** according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over <sup>[g]</sup>all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”
- <sup>27</sup> So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Genesis 1

# Introduction..

- Our journey in the New Testament and under the New Covenant is to fulfil the Old agenda:
- *13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; Ephesians 4:13*
- In other words, the whole point of training, teaching, the fivefold ministry and church is pointing in one direction – reaching the measure of the fullness of Christ
- Let us examine some scriptures that point this out....



# Living In Christ...

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- *6 whoever says he lives in Christ [that is, whoever says he has accepted Him as God and Savior] ought [as a moral obligation] to walk and conduct himself just as He walked and conducted Himself. 1 John 2:6 AMP*
- We are to walk like Him
- WE are to conduct ourselves like Him
- We are to be like Him



# WWJD...

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- *Imitate me, just as I imitate Christ...*  
*1Corinthians 11:1*
- Be followers of me even as I am of Christ
- Cut and paste Christ's behaviour
- Do what Jesus does
- WWJD movement of the 90s
- We are called to be like Christ period!







# Commendable...

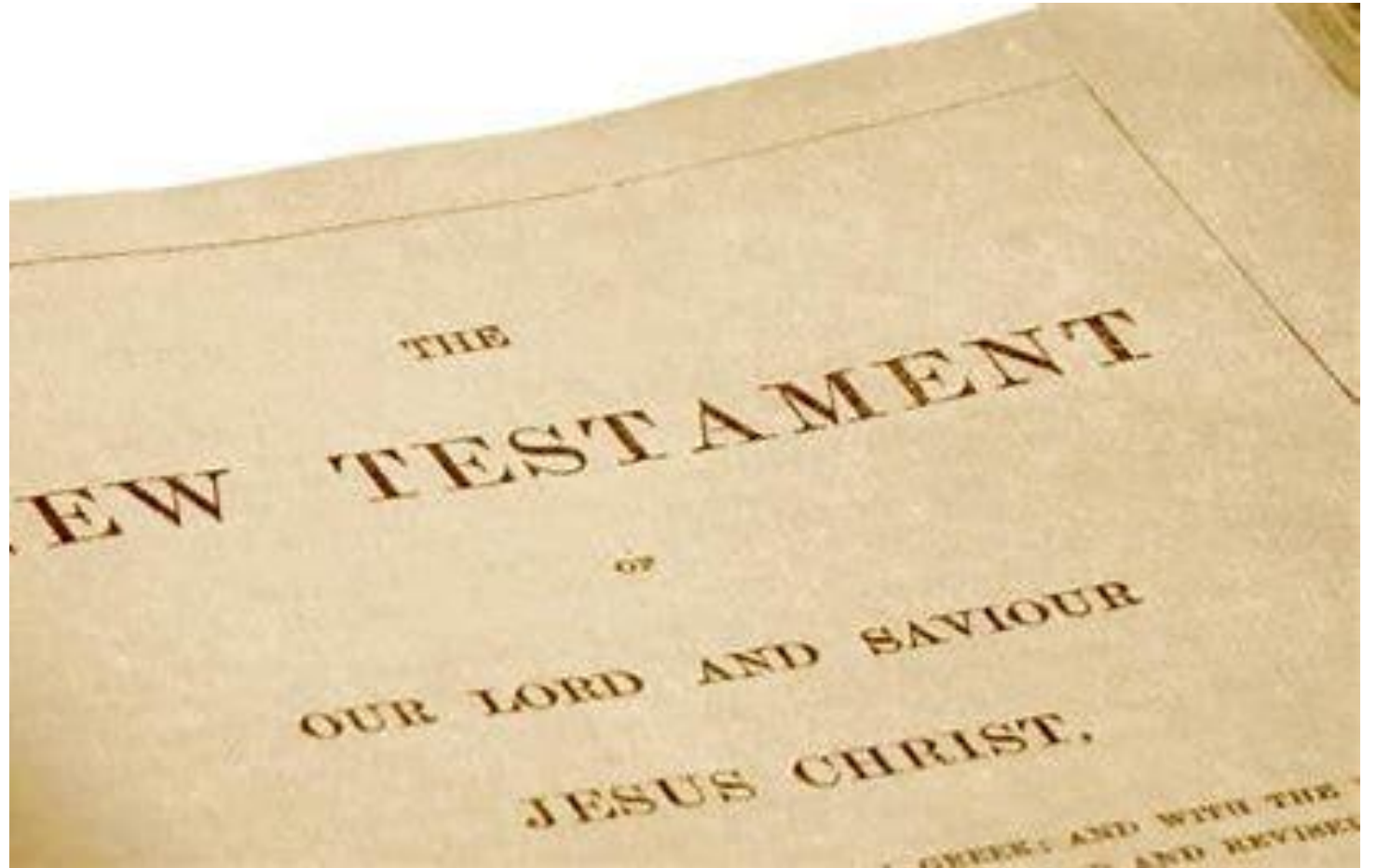
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- *19 For this is commendable, if because of conscience toward God one endures grief, suffering wrongfully.*
- *21 For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: 1 Peter 2:21*
- We are to follow in His footsteps
- He has left us an example
- Christians are to embrace suffering that honours God and points to His character.

# Next...

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- We have established the fact and principle from Scripture that we are to be like Jesus.
- Let us now explore some incidences and situations that point to the nature and character of God
- We will all be invited to reflect on these incidences and come to our own conclusions – together and individually.



# Last minute.com?

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- *<sup>4</sup> Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David,*
- *<sup>5</sup> to be registered with Mary, his betrothed <sup>[a]</sup>wife, who was with child.*
- *<sup>6</sup> So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered.*
- *<sup>7</sup> And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a <sup>[b]</sup>manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. Luke 2:4*
- The great God who meticulously planned the lineage and genealogy of Jesus, could not book 'Premier Inn'?
- God is making a point by choosing such humble settings to arrive in this world!
- If we were as rich as God and traveling to another place, would we copy God and book a tardy bed and breakfast?





# No Phone for years!!

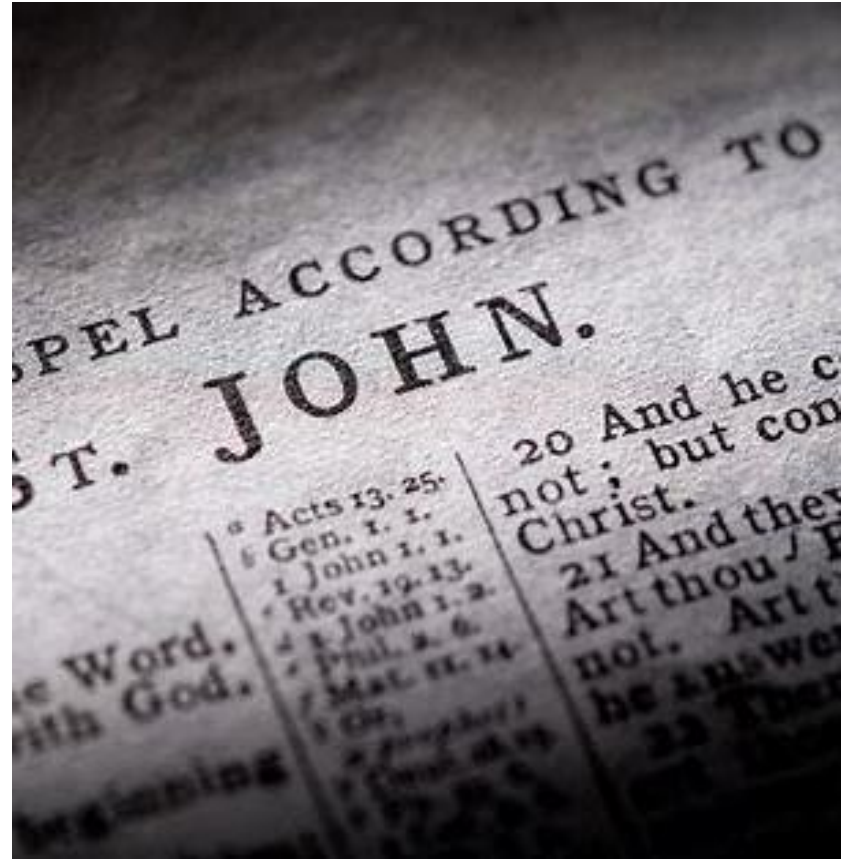
- *<sup>51</sup> Then He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was subject to them, but His mother kept all these things in her heart.*
- *<sup>52</sup> And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.*  
*Luke 2:51*
- Jesus humbled Himself to be parented by people He created.
- We do not hear anything else about Jesus until He is 30yrs old
- He is completely off grid for 18 years!
- The most powerful being on Earth disappears with no Instagram, Facebook, YouTube or X account for years!!
- Can you be silent and inconspicuous for two decades in obedience to the Call of God?



# John 13...

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- *Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had come that He should depart from this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end.*
- *<sup>2</sup> And supper being ended, the devil having already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray Him,*
- *<sup>3</sup> Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God,*
- *<sup>4</sup> rose from supper and laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself. <sup>5</sup> After that, He poured water into a basin*
- *and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded. <sup>6</sup> Then He came to Simon Peter. And Peter said to Him, "Lord, are You washing my feet?"*





# John 13..

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- *<sup>7</sup> Jesus answered and said to him, “What I am doing you do not understand now, but you will know after this.”*
- *<sup>8</sup> Peter said to Him, “You shall never wash my feet!”*
- *Jesus answered him, “If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me.”*
- *<sup>9</sup> Simon Peter said to Him, “Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head!”*
- *<sup>10</sup> Jesus said to him, “He who is bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all of you.”*
- *<sup>11</sup> For He knew who would betray Him; therefore He said, “You are not all clean.*



# John 13...

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- *<sup>2</sup> So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them,*
- *“Do you know what I have done to you? <sup>13</sup> You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am.*
- *<sup>14</sup> If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet.*
- *<sup>15</sup> For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you.*
- *<sup>16</sup> Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him.*
- *<sup>17</sup> If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.*  
*John 13:1-17*





# Lessons...

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- Jesus was always in total awareness of the spiritual and the natural
- He knew His mission and knew what to do at any given time
- He already knew how He was going to die!
- He knew those who were given to Him and He loved them until the very end!
- Despite having all authority in Heaven and on Earth, He took off His suit, fancy wear and wrapped a towel to serve His ignorant, dirty, uneducated, lower-class disciples
- He chose to serve them and show them (us), how to lead and serve those connected to us.



# Copy Me!!

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- **Do you know what I have done to you?**
- <sup>13</sup> You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am.
- <sup>14</sup> If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have **washed your feet**, you **also** ought to wash one another's feet.
- <sup>15</sup> For I have given you **an example**, that you should do as I have done to you.
- <sup>16</sup> Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him.
- <sup>17</sup> If you know these things, blessed are you **if you do them**



# The Goal...

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- For the true believer, CHRIST is the main goal and ultimate aim.
- Becoming like Him is a life long process
- To be Christian is to be dead to self and the old like before Christ.
- In a dark, decaying and decadent world, the light of a selfless, humble, serving Believer is bright and powerful.
- Bearing our Earthly nature, Christ shows us the way to be totally devoted to God and His Will for our lives.
- In Word and in deed, followers of Christ are to be pure and true.
- Christians are to blaze a trail of Love.



# Shine Your Light!

- If we die to self, we will enlarge and show the idea of who Christ is through our lives.
- If we unite with one another in bonds of love, God will work through us mightily.
- What the World needs is more of Jesus- His Love, His Power, His Presence and His Grace.
- May the Lord help us to grow more and more into Christlikeness!!



ARE YOU SUFFERING FROM NORMOSIS?

OMTIMES





Q & As