

# ALAMO

## Christian Ministries WORLD NEWSLETTER

Pastor Tony Alamo

World Reformation

Volume 04300

### Do I Offend You? Are You Ashamed of Me?

By Tony Alamo



Pastor Alamo  
Photo 1986

The Lord said, "Blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in Me [offended with His teachings on how to enter Heaven]" (Luke 7:23). "Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of Me and of My words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall

the Son of Man be ashamed, when He cometh in the glory of His Father with the holy angels" (Mark 8:38).

In all four gospels, Jesus commands His disciples to deny their old life of sinful self and sinful human thinking, deliver it to the final death of the cross, then take up their cross,

which is the same as denying themselves to follow Him.<sup>1</sup> This means no more self-pity over denying ourselves if we want to spend eternity in Heaven. Does this offend you? The new life means a life of obedience to God.<sup>2</sup>

The Lord speaks of the evil of self-life in a variety of ways because self-life expresses itself in a variety of ways. Anyone who wants to be a disciple of Jesus must be very careful to pay strict attention to everything He has said. He calls everyone to give up their sinful, former, natural life to the cross.<sup>3</sup> "He that taketh not his cross, and followeth after Me, is not worthy of Me. He that findeth his [self] life shall lose it: and he that loseth his [self] life [self-will, self-emotion] for My sake shall find it [eternal life]" (Matt. 10:38-39).

Jesus warns us to deny ourselves.<sup>4</sup> This means we are to turn everything of our self-

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1 Matt. 6:25-26, 10:37-39, 13:44-46, 16:24, 19:21, 22:36-40, Mark 8:34, 10:21, Luke 5:11, 27-28, 9:23, 14:26-27, 21:12-19, John 12:25-26 2 Matt. 19:17, 29, Mark 3:35, John 14:15, 23, 15:14, Acts 5:29, Eph. 2:10, 4:1, 17, 1 Thes. 1:9, 1 Tim. 6:14, Jas. 1:22-25, 1 Pet. 1:3, 14-16, 1 John 2:3-6, 17, 5:2-3, Rev. 22:7 3 Matt. 6:24-26, 10:37-39, 13:44-46, 16:24-26, 19:21, Luke 5:11, 27-28, 18:28-30, John 12:24-26, Rom. 8:1-14, 35-37, 12:1, 1 Cor. 9:26-27, 15:30-31, Gal. 2:20, 5:16-17, 24, Philp. 2:3-8, Col. 3:5-17, 23-25, Titus 2:12, Jas. 4:5-15, 1 Pet. 4:1-2 4 Matt. 16:24, 26:41, Luke 9:23, Rom. 8:1, 12-13, Col. 3:1-3, 5-6, Titus 2:11-12

### Texas

Pastor and friend Tony,

My brother, I want to get out of prison, but through you I am being freed of a worse prison, a spiritual prison. When you were here with us, some of us that were looking for God observed your ways. When you were criticized, slandered, ridiculed, you never snapped back.

I would walk with you on the track, or be in the music room, or even in your own cell, and all I ever heard from you was praise and love for God and our Lord Jesus Christ.

Thanks for the Bible and the literature. I hope one day to be part of your ministry. Knowing you as my friend has been a real blessing. I pray that the Lord continues to bless you and your ministry.

Your friend always,  
M.R.

Texarkana, Texas

### Ghana

Dear Pastor Alamo,

I read your booklet entitled, *The Fighters*, and I was sorry for my sins, so I decided to prepare my soul to meet Jesus, so I prayed and confessed my sins and asked for forgiveness. After the prayer, I felt that now I am a new creation, and I need to have a strong faith in God. So please, Pastor Alamo, I would like you to kindly help me with a Holy Bible to read, and pray to build a strong faith in God. Please, I would like you to send me your booklet entitled, *The Messiah*. Please, if possible, also send me some of your preaching cassettes. I hope by the grace of God my favor will be fulfilled. Thank you, Pastor Alamo, for having time to read my letter. Reply soon.

Your brother in Christ,

G.A.

Accra, Ghana

This is the eighth in a series of excerpts from Pastor Alamo's book, *The Messiah*, to be continued each month until the book is complete.

### The Greatest Miracle in Print: the Record of "The Messiah" According to Bible Prophecy

"To HIM give all the prophets witness" (Acts 10:43).

"In the volume of the Book it is written of Me" (Psalm 40:7, Hebrews 10:7).

#### The Drama of Fulfilled Prophecy

Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea (Matt. 2:1) in a manner altogether marvelous. Until shortly before the time of Jesus' birth, Mary was living at the wrong place—that is, if her coming baby was the Messiah. Note now the intricacies of God's providences in fulfilling His Word. In 1923, at Ankara, Turkey, was found a Roman temple inscription (reported by Sir William Ramsay, noted British chemist and archeologist) which, when deciphered, related that in the reign of Caesar Augustus there were three great tax collections. The second was ordered four years

before the birth of Christ. The third, several years after His birth. The second one is the one we are concerned with.

The proud Jews resented the idea of a special tax, so they sent a commission to Rome to protest it. Quirinius, the local governor of Syria, had not the authority to settle the problem. Those were days of slow communications and slower travel. The commission finally failed and the Jews had to submit to the enrollment and taxing. But by the time the official tax collectors had worked their way eastward, town by town, and province by province, and after the time-consuming

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life over to the cross and begin living the life of the cross, which is the same as the new life, the spiritual life, the overcoming life.<sup>5</sup> He says that everyone who obeys this command will see that a man's spiritual enemies or "foes shall be they of his own household" (Matt. 10:36). Does this offend you? I pray that it doesn't offend you, because this is the truth! So in order to do the will of God, we see that godly sons will be torn away from their carnal, ungodly fathers, godly daughters will be torn away from their carnal, ungodly mothers, and godly daughters-in-law will be torn away from their carnal, ungodly mothers-in-law.<sup>6</sup>

Self-denial is the cross that crucifies our self-life so that we have the power to separate ourselves from anyone and everything, including relatives or friends, who oppose Christ, who oppose God's work of redeeming souls, who oppose Heaven in favor of Hell, who oppose our right to choose God over Satan, Heaven over Hell, and good and godly people over those who are evil and demonic, and who would oppose the new life that we receive from God, which happens to be the most important thing that has ever happened to us or ever will happen to us.<sup>7</sup> Does this offend you? Again, I pray that it doesn't, because it too is the truth. Most everyone in the natural life wants to please those who are close to them by doing what they ask or giving them what they want, even if they know they are very evil. However, Jesus warns us not to rebelliously deny God in favor of those close to us, especially if they oppose God and those of us who are of God. Are you ashamed to preach this truth? I pray that you are not, because if you are, Jesus is ashamed of you.<sup>8</sup>

When the will of God and the will of man conflict, we are commanded for the sake of both God and man (which includes our ungodly loved ones) to take up the cross by turning our self-love and desire to the cross, even if there is an ungodly person whom we love very much that we would have wanted to please in our natural self-life, like a mother, father, son, daughter, wife, or husband, someone whose feelings we would never want to

hurt.<sup>9</sup> The Lord demands this type of obedience so that we might be purified from our natural affections or love to a supernatural love and affection for Christ, for our ungodly loved ones, and for ungodly lost souls.<sup>10</sup> This is why He warns us that anyone who "loveth father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me" (Matt. 10:37). "If any man come to Me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple. And whosoever doth not bear his [own] cross [which is self-denial], and come after Me, cannot be My disciple" (Luke 14:26-27). Does this offend you? Are you ashamed to teach this truth? This is radically different thinking than the thinking of lost, spiritually blind people who say, "Our family right or wrong," "our country right or wrong." If our family or the leaders of our country are wrong, God wants us, for the sake of their souls, to rebuke and reprove them of the things they are doing wrong so that they might have an opportunity to repent, to serve God, and to finally spend eternity in Heaven.<sup>11</sup> "How shall they hear without a preacher?" (Rom. 10:14). "We ought to obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29). "Let God be true, but every man a liar" (Rom. 3:4). "Choose you this day whom ye will serve... as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15). Jesus said, "Who is My mother? and who are My brethren?" (Matt. 12:48). He answers His question by saying, "For whosoever shall do the will of My Father which is in Heaven, the same is My brother, and sister, and mother" (Matt. 12:50).

The book of Matthew tells us that Christians must choose to love the Lord their God with ALL their heart, soul, mind and strength, before their families, before their friends, and even before themselves.<sup>12</sup> If we show more respect to God than to everyone else in the world, even to our families and ourselves, people will see we have more respect for God than for all the world, including our families and ourselves. By the world witnessing our love, admiration, and obedience to God, they

too will learn to love, admire, obey, and respect God and be saved. It is true love to lay down our self-life for the sake of the Lord and the salvation of souls.<sup>13</sup> This means we are to hate anything that could destroy our soul or keep the souls of others from entering Heaven.<sup>14</sup> Anyone or anything that could do this, even family or ourselves, is strictly forbidden to us. Human blood is not thicker than the Divine Holy Spirit, the Triune Godhead.<sup>15</sup> If we really love those who are close to us and our neighbors (which is everyone in the world), we will obey every command of Christ, because when we do His will, our household and our neighbors will respect God and see how they too may enter Heaven.<sup>16</sup> True love is the keeping of God's commandments.<sup>17</sup> Human, natural love, which is not love at all but is carnal, flows from our wicked self-life, loves only what it desires, and demands carnal love in return. This kind of love must be delivered to death, to the death of the cross.<sup>18</sup>

The Lord wants us to love Him, the Word, for our own good, for our own benefit.<sup>19</sup> We must learn to see, know, and understand God through His Word.<sup>20</sup> Jesus wants us to forsake our natural self-love.<sup>21</sup> Jesus wants us to love others, even our enemies, but not with our old, sinful, self-centered, natural love.<sup>22</sup> He wants us to love with the supernatural love of Christ, which again is the life of self-denial, the cross-life, or the life of Christ.<sup>23</sup> We show the love of Christ for His Body, His Church, His Bride, for the sake of Christ and the souls of all.<sup>24</sup> Our new relationship to Him is not love for the world or for any other love but for Him and for the salvation of souls.<sup>25</sup> Our lives must be governed by the Lord so that we can love others with a godly love. God commands for the sake of our souls that our hearts not be united to anyone else but Christ. He wants us to freely serve Him so that we can enter Heaven.<sup>26</sup>

Chapter ten of Matthew emphasizes that we must give up the affections of that which our natural soul loves so much if we are going to be disciples of Christ.<sup>27</sup> Worldly religions and governments call Jesus the devil. This is because He denied the world because it was the will of God that He do so.<sup>28</sup> Jesus also

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5 John 3:3, 5-7, Rom. 8:1, 4-13, 37, I Cor. 15:10, II Cor. 5:17, Gal. 2:19-20, Eph. 4:22-24, Phlp. 4:13, Col. 3:1-3, 5-6, 9-10 6 Matt. 10:35-38, 12:47-50, Luke 9:59-62 7 Amos 3:3, Matt. 10:34-39, 26:41, Mark 8:33, Luke 14:26-27, II Cor. 6:14-18, Eph. 5:3-12, Jas. 4:4, I John 1:5-6 8 Matt. 10:32-33, Luke 9:26, Rom. 1:15-16, Phlp. 1:20, II Tim. 1:8-12, II Tim. 2:8-13, I John 2:27-28, 9 Deut. 26:16-19, I Chron. 28:9, Ezra 10:11, Psa. 97:10, Amos 3:3, Matt. 6:24, 10:32-39, 12:46-50, Mark 10:28-30, Luke 9:59-62, 12:51-53, 14:26-27, John 15:14, 17:6-11, Rom. 8:5-9, 35-39, 12:9, I Cor. 10:21, II Cor. 6:14-18, Eph. 4:27, 5:11-12, Titus 2:12-14, Jas. 4:4, 7-8, I Pet. 1:15-16, 3:10, I John 1:5-6 10 Deut. 5:32-33, Ch. 28, Psa. 19:7-11, 61:1-5, 119:140, Prov. 3:13-18, 8:10-11, 18:10, 30:5, Eccl. 12:13, Isa. 26:3, 41:10, Jer. 13:13-15, Ezek. 34:16, Zech. 4:6, Matt. 7:7-8, 11:29-30, 22:37-40, 25:14-23, Mark 1:15, Luke 12:28-31, 13:3, John 3:30, 10:1-5, 14:12-26, 15:13-14, 17:21, Acts 1:8, 2:38, 6:4, 17:30, Rom. 8:1-17, 12:1-2, I Cor. 6:9-11, 10:13, Gal. 4:9, 5:24, Eph. 2:1-9, 4:27, 5:2-11, 25-27, 6:10-18, Phlp. 2:8-13, Heb. 10:22, 11:6, Jas. 4:8, I John 2:12-14, 5:3-5, Rev. 1:5-6 11 Gen. 4:7, Lev. 19:17, Psa. 141:5, Prov. 9:8-9, 24:24-25, 27:5-6, Eccl. 7:5, Ezek. 3:17-21, Jon. Ch. 3, Matt. 10:7-8, 13:3-9, 18-23, 24:14, Mark 16:15-16, Luke 14:16-24, Acts 5:42, 6:4, Rom. 1:14-16, 10:13-15, 17, I Cor. 1:17-21, 9:16-17, 27, II Cor. 5:18-20, Gal. 4:16, 6:1, Eph. 5:11-14, Col. 1:25, 28-29, I Thes. 2:4-12, I Tim. 5:20, II Tim. 4:1-5, Titus 1:9, Eph. 5:11-14, Jas. 5:14-16, 19-20, Rev. 3:19, 14:6-7 12 Matt. 10:37-39, 12:47-50 13 John 15:12-13, Rom. 12:10, 17, 14:19, 15:1-3, Eph. 2:3-10 14 Psa. 26:5, 45:7, 97:10, 101:3-8, 119:104, 128, 163, 139:21-22, Prov. 1:29, 6:16-19, 8:13, Amos 5:15, Matt. 6:22-24, Rom. 12:9, Rev. 2:6, 15, 17:16 15 Zech. 4:6, Matt. 13:57, Mark 5:7, John 15:5, Rom. 8:1, 11, 31, I Cor. 1:25, 15:50 16 Prov. 25:21-22, Matt. 5:44-48, Luke 10:29-37, Acts 16:31, Rom. 12:20-21, Eph. 4:29, I Pet. 3:1-4, 5:2-4 17 John 14:15, 21, 23-24, 15:9-10, 17:26, 21:15-18, I John 5:3, II John 6, 9 18 Matt. 13:22, Mark 8:34-35, Luke 9:23-25, 14:26-27, John 3:6, 12:24-25, Rom. 6:6, 8:13, Gal. 5:19-21, 24, 6:8, Col. 3:5-10, Jas. 4:4, 7, I John 2:15-17, 5:2-3 19 Psa. 68:19, 103:1-5, 116:7-9, Mark 12:30, Luke 12:24, 27-32, John 7:37-38, 10:9-11, 14-15, 14:16-21, 15:9-11, 14, Acts 2:38-39, Rom. 5:5-11, 15-19, 6:22-23, Eph. 1:3-11, 2:4-8, Heb. 12:9-11, I John 3:1 20 Matt. 7:7-8, John 5:38-39, 14:23-24, 15:3-8, Rom. 10:17, Col. 3:16, II Tim. 2:15-17, 3:15-17, Heb. 11:6 21 Lev. 19:17-18, Matt. 4:1-11, 13:44-46, 16:24-26, 22:36-40, Luke 14:26-27, Rom. 8:1, 12-14, 35-39, 12:1, I Cor. 9:27, Phlp. 2:3-8, 3:7-8, Titus 2:12, Heb. 11:8-10, 13-16, 24-26, 35-38 22 Matt. 5:43-48, Luke 6:27-36 23 Ezek. 3:18-21, Matt. 5:43-48, 10:7-8, 27-28, 28:19-30, Luke 6:27-36, 10:1-3, 9-16, John 15:9-14, 17-27, 21:15-18, Acts 20:16-18, Rom. 10:11-15, II Cor. 5:10-11, 14-15, 17-21, Jas. 5:19-20, I John 3:1, 10, 13-18, 22-24, 4:4-13, 16-17, 19-21, 5:1-4 24 Prov. 22:6, Isa. 52:7, John 3:16, 10:11, 15, 14:15, 21, 23, 15:1-17, 21:15-17, Acts 20:28, Rom. 10:14-15, 12:10, 12, I Cor. 12:1, 27-28, Gal. 6:10, Eph. 4:32, Heb. 6:10, 10:24-25, Jas. 5:16, I Pet. 2:1, 17, 3:8-9, I John 2:3, 5, 9-11, 3:16 25 Matt. 4:10, 16:24-26, 22:37-39, Luke 4:8, 14:26-27, 33, John 15:12-14, Rom. 12:9-10, I John 2:15-17, 3:13-14, 16, 4:7-12, 5:3, II John 6 26 I Sam. 12:24, Matt. 4:8-11, 10:37-38, 13:44-46, Mark 12:30, Luke 4:5-8, John 6:35, 47-48, 10:2-11, 14-15, 15:13-14, Rom. 12:1-2, Col. 3:15, 23, Heb. 11:5, I John 2:15-17, 5:1-4 27 Matt. 10:6-29, 32-42 28 Zech. 9:9, Matt. 11:29, Mark 1:9-13, 6:19-21, John 8:29, 10:17, 18:36, Jas. 2:5, I John 2:15-17



## El Salvador

Beloved Pastor Tony Alamo,

Greetings. I hope when you receive this letter that you will be found rejoicing from God's abundant and rich blessings. It is a great joy for me to write you these words. I enjoy reading and studying the World Newsletter. I have received all the correspondence that you sent me, and I also received six cassettes that have inspired my prayers. The testimonies that are printed in the newsletters have had an impact on me, and I know other Christian people from Africa, Ghana, Malawi, Andhra Pradesh and Uganda. May God continue to bless you in your ministry and may His Kingdom keep expanding throughout the earth. Glory to Jesus!

I am a Christian evangelical pastor of a church here in my country, and I wish to participate in the distribution of your literature. A friend of mine also wants to write you, and I have been encouraging him to do so. Please send me your book, *The Messiah*, and others that I can study. I want to send greetings to all our brothers and sisters that are in other countries, nations, towns and continents throughout the world. And if there is a chain of correspondence amongst the brethren, I would like to participate and write them.

To all the brethren that work in the Alamo Ministries, I send special greetings, and may God continue to strengthen and guide you in your work. The time will come for us to rest, but in the meantime, let us work while we can for Jesus. God bless you! My friend would like to receive *Dry Bones*. He is not saved yet, but



*Prison inmates at Pecos, Texas, with Pastor Alamo's soul-winning literature and newsletters.*

Dear Pastor Alamo,

Receive salutations in the name of Jesus Christ. First of all, I want to apologize for not writing to you when I got the *Messiah* book. I want to let you know it is beautiful, and it has helped me to grow spiritually. I am new in God's ways, but with God's help, I am learning more, and I know that what I do learn is not from men, but from above. To

## Texas

God be all the glory and praise. Thank you so much for this beautiful Bible. It's just how I requested it. Here is a photo of a few brothers here. We support the Tony Alamo Ministries. Please keep sending us your newsletters. Please don't forget us here in Pecos, Texas. We support Tony Alamo.

E.C.

Pecos, Texas

enjoys your literature. I will forward any literature to him so he may learn more of God and get saved.

Thank you.

C.C.

Santa Ana, El Salvador

Dear Sir,

## Solomon Islands

Reading through a copy of your literature, possibly a very old issue, I was struck by the sickening revelation of the mighty Roman Catholic religion. This is an information that is rarely revealed publicly. Only through the holy anointing of God's Holy Spirit could a human being release such secrets to the public. "Oh God, you are the Almighty One who can do daring things. I worship You, I praise You." I'm hungry for more such reading, and if you place my name on your mailing list, I would be most

grateful. I thank our God for raising such braves to warn and advise of the fearful truths that are concealed from the children of their Creator, God Himself. I also want to know a little more about your church, so please contact me at the above address. I am a Christian serving my Master in my local church. Also, I'm a school teacher, currently a headmaster of my school. May our loving Lord richly bless us.

Sincerely yours,

S.L. Malaita Province, Solomon Islands

Dear Pastor Tony Alamo,

## Mexico

I want to take this opportunity to write to you and greet you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, believing that you will be found in the best of health, and rejoicing in God's richest blessings.

Pastor Alamo, I want to inform you that I have received your literature. The way the literature is written is so direct, and has

helped the members of the church, as well as all those that I have passed it out to. I appreciate your effort to spread the gospel through your literature. May God continue to bless your ministry and all your co-workers.

Sincerely your brother in Christ,

F.A.

Oaxaca, Mexico

## Nepal

Dear World Pastor,

I am sure that Lord Jesus Christ blessed me, so I'm able to write this letter from Himalayan kingdom of Nepal. We are working since eight years as the true followers of the Lord in Nepal. It is true that Nepal is only a Hindu country of the world, but we have friends who are following the words of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In my little knowledge, it is also a kind of blessing of Lord Christ to have the opportunity to know Pastor Tony Alamo. I got this chance while I was in New York with the work of my organization. While I was on my way to Nepal on July 21<sup>st</sup> on a New York street, I was able to get World Newsletter Volume 04000 from a follower of God and I enjoyed the good news. I have a very good impression of Pastor Alamo. My friends of organization are also encouraged with God's divine news. Our friends decided to put our request to you hoping to get a branch from you and they are committed to work as the servants of Lord Christ in our home country.

We like to have opportunity to meet you. We also like you to provide us training opportunity to obey the words of God. We like to hear good news as early as possible from you. Amen!

Obediently yours,

I. B. B.

Kathmandu, Nepal

Dear Sir,

Good wishes to you and your work. About me—I am from an orthodox Hindu family and always in idolatry worship. Few days back I have seen your newsletter in my friend's home who is a Christian and he gave me your newsletter. I was very much pleased to know more about you and the Gospel that you are spreading. I want to know more about Christ.

Actually there are many restrictions in my home if I follow Christianity, but my heart is seeking to know who is the real God. Please strengthen me with all your aids and literature.

I am living in a village where almost all

here are uneducated. I have many friends here but all are Hindus. If they know I am following Christianity they will surely leave me. Hence I request you please send me your valuable words. Are there any books, cassettes, magazines, etc. to know God perfectly? I am mailing this from a very far town as there is no facility of computers in our undeveloped village. I am giving my address here. I hope you will surely help me in this regard.

Thank you,

S.T., East Godavari, Andhra Pradesh, India



*Alamo Christian Ministries Associate Pastor Y.V. with some of his congregation. – Vadisaleru, India*



*Alamo Christian Ministries Associate Pastor C.L. baptizing at a village near Hyderabad, India*

Dear Pastor Tony Alamo,

I'm almost through in translating your newsletter vol.03400. Here are the titles of the portion of your newsletter which I've translated into the Bisaya language: *We Captured and Killed a Believer*, *The Evidence of God's Blessing is not Worldly Prosperity*, *The Code*, and *Pennsylvania* by A.H. of Houtzdale, Pennsylvania. They were handwritten only due to the fact that I do not own a typewriter. If it would be OK for you that I should send to you the translated material in the form of a handwritten format, then that will I do.

By the way, may I take this opportunity

to ask some important question that has been stored in my mind a bit longer now. Can I and my family be welcomed into the Church membership in the Alamo Christian Church though we are Filipino and are living in the Philippines? I like your way of expounding God's Word, it is very clear to be understood as the pure Word of God, guided by the Holy Spirit, and can quicken human spirits. Truly, I've been reformed and revived by His Word and by His Spirit.

Thank you so much Pastor Tony for allowing yourself to be used of God in this literature ministry. Because of you, I have

regained spiritual vigor in serving the King of kings and the Lord of lords. May God abundantly bless you. Praise the Lord I'm ALIVE again for Him!

Yours in Christ,  
Brother Johnny

Philippines

## "The Messiah"

*(Continued from page 1)*

delays caused by the Jewish protests, exactly enough delay was caused, and all in the natural course of events, so that when the enrollment was put in force in Judea the exact time had come to Mary for the birth of the baby Jesus!

Neither Mary nor Caesar nor the Roman tax collectors did the timing, nor were they in charge of affairs; but the God who rules the world behind the scenes had His hand on the wheel, and He literally "moved the peoples of the world" and timed everything to the very day, so that Mary and Joseph got to Bethlehem in the nick of time, that Jesus, the chosen Messiah, might be born in the right place, the place designated by the infallible finger of prophecy!

Blind indeed is the man who can't see or who won't see the Mind of the Infinite planning these details and the Hand of the Almighty executing His perfect plan!

(12) Finally, to pinpoint the Messiah, the TIME of His coming, as well as the place, is given. Of all generations of earth's history, the Messiah had to come when Jesus was

born! All before Jesus' time are eliminated; all after His time are disqualified; and since Jesus of Nazareth had no consequential "competitor" in His generation, the finger of prophecy points infallibly to HIM.

There are three general predictions as to the time of the Messiah's coming, and one specific.

(A) The Messiah must come **before the tribe of Judah lost its tribal identity.**

"The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto Him shall the gathering of the people be" (Gen. 49:10).<sup>1</sup>

The tribal identity of Judah shall not pass away—as did that of the other ten tribes of Israel—until Shiloh come.

For ages both Jewish and Christian commentators have taken "Shiloh" to be a name of the Messiah. It means "Peace" or "One sent."

Even though Judah, during the seventy-year period of their captivity at Babylon, had been deprived of national sovereignty, they

<sup>1</sup> The word "shevet," which is translated "sceptre" in the King James Version signifies a rod or staff, particularly the rod or staff which belonged to each tribe as an ensign of their authority. Each tribe was in possession of its own peculiar "rod" or "staff" with its name inscribed thereon. Hence, the "sceptre" signifies their identity as a tribe.

never lost their "tribal staff," their national identity; and they always had their own "lawgivers" (judges) even in captivity (Ezra 1:5, 8).

At the time of Christ, though the Romans were overlords of the Jews, the Jews had a king in their own land; moreover, they were to a large extent governed by their own laws, and the Sanhedrin of the nation still exercised its authority. But in the space of a few years, during the year when Jesus was twelve years of age, when He appeared publicly in the temple (Luke 2:41-52), Archelaus, the king of the Jews, was dethroned and banished. Coponius was appointed Roman Procurator, and the kingdom of Judah, the last remnant of the former greatness of the nation of Israel, was formally debased into a part of the province of Syria. For almost another half century the Jews retained the semblance of a provincial governmental structure; but in 70 A.D. both their city and their temple were destroyed by the armies of the Roman general Titus, and all semblance of Jewish national sovereignty disappeared. But the remarkable thing is this: the Messiah (Shiloh) came before Judah lost its tribal identity, exactly as stated in Genesis 49:10!

*To be continued in the November newsletter.*



## Africa

### Ivory Coast

Dear Pastor,

I'm a pastor in the ministry for seven years. I would like if you allow me to represent Alamo Christian Ministries in Ivory Coast, situated in West Africa. It is a French speaking country.

Dear Pastor, waiting for a favourable answer, please accept my sincere feelings. With my prayers,  
Pastor G.A. Ivory Coast, West Africa

### Malawi

Dear Pastor Alamo,

Thank you for sending me two Bibles, a book entitled, *The Messiah*, plus twelve newsletters. These materials are all building up my spirit, and not only myself, but for the church as a whole. Indeed, beside that, they have come at the right time. However, may I ask you also to remember me in the future because I have several church elders who are very much in need of these Bibles. The church that I am pastoring has a total of about sixty members. At the moment, may I also ask you to send us

## Pastor Alamo "Sent for Fear"

A pastor from Liberia, Africa, presently staying in Pennsylvania called. He wants to establish Alamo Christian Churches in Liberia. He came across an Alamo Ministries newsletter in his country. He said the way Pastor Alamo teaches the Bible is quite unlike the teachings he has been taught, as well as in many other churches in Liberia.

Our publication that he received was the first official contact he'd had, and everybody wanted to read from the one pamphlet and passed it on hand to hand. He said he wants more literature to go into Liberia so people's eyes can be opened and so they can see the truth from the Word of God. He would like to receive any kind of materials from our ministry because he wants to be filled with Pastor Alamo's scriptural teachings and would be very appreciative.

He says he really is dumbfounded after reading Pastor Alamo's literature, that there is just no way he can explain it. During the war in Liberia, he lost his wife and his son. He is now taking care of about four hundred orphan children in makeshift shelters. The Bible and Pastor Alamo's literature is being taught to these children so that they can become Christian even at an early age, and so they can know what a true pastor is. They teach them the Word of God and can expound from Pastor Alamo's literature. He said the Word of God must be planted as a seed, the right seed, into their hearts. He will appreciate us sending anything that will help them grow in their Christian lives.

He said when he read in the literature that Pastor Alamo went to prison for the Word of God, He made a judgment. He said, "Pastor Alamo is a prophet sent for fear."

literature in English, although the majority here can well speak Chichewa. May I encourage you to send any materials you see can be of great help to me, as well as to the church? I am planning to send you my picture in the near future. May God bless you.

Yours in His service,  
E.N.

Lilongwe, Malawi

### Kenya

Dear Pastor Alamo,

I have come across your literatures and they have ministered to me. I kindly request that I may get my own copies and some Bibles to share with friends. Currently I am involved in evangelism ministry. Bibles are essentials to my converts and your literatures are also of great help.

God bless you as I wait to hear from you.

Yours in Christ,

T. N. Nairobi, Kenya, East Africa

### Uganda

Dear Pastor Tony,

Praise the living God. How are you? How is the work of the Lord going on? Let me hope fine, because with God, there is nothing impossible. I thank God for your ministry, whereby it has reached many of us here in Uganda, and it has led many to Christ. I am a Ugandan by nationality, age twenty-four, and best of all, a Christian and an evangelist by ministry, according to Ephesians 4:11. So we were informed that you are offering Bibles and Christian literature for those who are in need of it, so I wanted also to be remembered as you are making this offer. May the Almighty bless you, who touched you to offer such to the local people. You have made the Word of God more dear to us. Thank you! Let the Lord continue being your Rock, Fortress, and your Comforter in times of persecutions. Stay a strong man of Christ. Greet that good lady of Christ, plus the children and all the brothers and sisters in your ministry. Stay blessed.

From,  
Sister S.N.

Kampala, Uganda

## Idaho

A gentleman called from Boise, Idaho. He received *Accepting the Discipline of the Holy Spirit*. He had just read part of the literature when he called. He was Catholic and he had several questions about Catholicism. I witnessed to him and he got saved over the phone. He said that he has really been trying to make it right with the Lord, so he thought by joining the Catholic church and the Mormon church, this would help him, but he still felt no peace. He has really been searching and then he received our literature at his door. He read part of it and that was when he called and said how really wonderful it was. He said now that he said the sinner's prayer and is born again, he feels so different. He has so much peace.

He requested more literature, a Bible, *50 Years in the Church of Rome*, and taped messages. He was very thankful that we could send them to him. The mail department was given these requests to send out right away.



Brother Ben Edwards distributing Pastor Alamo's World Newsletters in Boise, Idaho.

### Washington, D.C.

Dear Reverend Alamo,

My name is M.B. Last year I found one of your newsletters on the street at 20<sup>th</sup> & Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, D.C. (four blocks from the White House and four blocks from my apartment). I have been wandering in the wilderness for thirty years, and I am trying to find my way back to Christ. Christ, through you and your work, has really helped me, especially your tapes. Satan has really come against me, but I continue on. Your tapes have been a real blessing. It is of God, and please continue your efforts. I am a "P.K." (preacher's kid), and I know how hard a preacher's life is. Your ministry is bearing fruit, so stay the course and fight the good fight. Please pray for me and I will continue to pray for you and your ministry. It was not an accident that I found your newsletter four blocks from the White House. Our nation's capital is in desperate need of prayer.

In Jesus' name,

M.B.

Washington, D.C.



(Continued from page 2)

said that worldly religion and government would call those of us who are Christians the devil because we do the things Christ did, which is also the will of God. In Matthew 10:25, Jesus tells it like this: "If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall they call them of His household [true Christians]?" Jesus tells us not to fear them because the entire Triune God sees and hears everything they do to us and everything they say about us.<sup>29</sup> We will see plainly how the evil, human, weak life is brought into our view if we pay attention to the conversation between Peter and Jesus.

When Jesus told His disciples of the death He must suffer on the cross, Peter cried out, "Be it far from Thee, Lord: this shall not be unto Thee [feel sorry for yourself, have pity on yourself! let it not be so, live the self-life]" (Matt. 16:22). This was because Peter thought he loved Jesus intensely. But Peter was more concerned for the human body of Jesus than the will of God, especially when the will of God meant Jesus' death on the cross. Jesus was faithful to the will of God, even to His death on the cross.<sup>30</sup> "And being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross" (Phlp. 2:8). We are to be like Jesus, more concerned about God's will than about our self-will and more concerned about our ecclesiastical body than about our flesh and blood human body.<sup>31</sup> "Flesh and blood cannot inherit the Kingdom of God" (I Cor. 15:50). Jesus said, "The flesh profiteth nothing" (John 6:63). He also said, "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life" (Rev. 2:10).

Peter could not see how concern for God's will should far exceed the concern for self. This is how the majority of the Christians in the world feel and think today. Their attitude is, "It's fine to do God's will for His purpose, but shouldn't we be mindful of ourselves?" Peter was the same as asking if Jesus should not be concerned about the pain and the humiliation He would suffer while doing God's will, which was suffering and dying on the cross for the benefit of all mankind. The Lord rebuked Peter for his carnal way of thinking which was tempting Him to live a carnal, worthless, satanic, self-life. There is absolutely no value in

self. Peter's statement could have only been given to him by Satan. Jesus rebuked him by saying, "Get thee behind Me, Satan: thou art an offence unto Me" (Matt. 16:23). Satan was offended because Christ was giving His life for us so that we could be saved.<sup>32</sup> Are you ashamed and offended as Satan that Christ did this for you? Are you like the devil? Or are you happy, and do you praise the Lord for what He did for us? If you are offended with Christ and these Words of Christ, and if you are ashamed of Christ and His Words, Christ will be ashamed of you before His Father and the holy angels on Judgment Day.<sup>33</sup>

Jesus began telling His disciples that not only would He go to the cross, but so would everyone who would be His disciple, since they must take up their own crosses of self-denial and follow Him.<sup>34</sup> As it was for Jesus, so will it be for every disciple, both then and now.<sup>35</sup> Jesus does not want us to think that He alone was called to do God's will.<sup>36</sup> There is no other truth than God's Word.<sup>37</sup> Peter told Jesus, "Feel sorry for Yourself." Jesus told Peter, "You must deny yourself."

The Bible tells us there is a price to pay in following God's will.<sup>38</sup> The flesh is offended at such a thought, while self-life reigns as a king or queen. The Almighty God is offended at this. Our self-life is not able to follow God's commands because self wants to follow self or anyone else self chooses to follow instead of Christ. When Jesus calls us to deny ourselves by taking up our cross, following Him, and renouncing all for His sake, our natural self-life automatically responds with self-pity. This causes us to be unwilling to pay any price for God. When we choose the strait and narrow way of the cross, and endure all things for Christ's sake, our self-life will suffer loss, but our eternal life will gain the eternal treasures of Heaven.<sup>39</sup> This is the only way we will positively lose our old man, our old self-life. Only in this way can the spiritual life of Christ in us become pure and reign as king, undertaking in us whatsoever is well pleasing to God and beneficial to mankind.<sup>40</sup>

If we consider the conversation between Peter and the Lord, we can easily perceive the wickedness of the operation of the self-life. First, Peter uttered those satanic, carnal words immediately after hearing the supernatural

revelation from God regarding the mystery never before known to man, that Jesus was the very Christ of the living God.<sup>41</sup> Immediately after this incredible revelation, Peter was held captive by his self-life by Satan. This is seen in his attempt to convert the Lord from a life of selflessness to a life of self-will—asking Christ to pity Himself, to feel sorry for Himself. This should show everyone that revelations from God, no matter how powerful and supernatural, cannot deliver Christians from the utter power of the self-life. It is the exact opposite. The greater our knowledge and more profound our experience, the more hidden from us shall our self-life be, and the harder it will be for us to detect it and reject it. This is because it is offensive for those that have the knowledge but not the Spirit, as the Pharisees and hypocrites, to deny themselves so the Lord can work in them. They only pretend to be Christians.<sup>42</sup> Unless our natural worldly realm is poisoned or treated drastically by the cross, its wickedness shall continue to live within us.

Another lesson we can learn from Peter is the utter uselessness of the natural self-life.<sup>43</sup> Peter's self-life came to life, not for himself, but for the Lord. Peter thought he loved Jesus. He thought he was desiring the best for Him; he wanted Him to be safe, secure, and happy. He did not want Him to suffer or to die for us. All this thinking and false emotion emanating from Peter's soul was based on mere human desire, which comes from the flesh, the self-will, the mortal, natural self-life, the devil. All such human desire will be rejected by the Lord.<sup>44</sup> The Lord will never entertain such desire, because it is evil and of the flesh. Because the Lord denied His self-life in the service of God, it is obvious that He wants us to be as He was and still is.<sup>45</sup> Jesus is calling believers to commit their natural soulish self-life to death on the cross, not only because it loves the world, but because if we love the world, we will not serve Him nor enter Heaven.<sup>46</sup>

Peter, in expressing his carnal affection towards the Lord, was not conscious that he was expressing and revealing his attitude towards his carnal self. Here Peter's full carnal personality is unveiled. How true it is that the carnal, worldly self always operates independently of the will of God.<sup>47</sup> It loves to serve

29 Psa. 94:9-11, Amos 9:2-4, Matt. 10:29-32, 12:35-37, Rom. 2:5-11, 16, Acts 5:17-29, 12:1-11, I Cor. 2:10, I Pet. 4:3-5, Rev. 2:10 30 Matt. 3:17, 26:39, John 4:34, 6:38-40, 8:28-29, 12:49-50, 15:19-23, 17:1-6, 12, 19, Heb. 2:16-18, 5:8-9, I Pet. 1:18-19, 2:6, 21, Rev. 1:5 31 Matt. 4:1-11, 10:37-39, 16:23-25, 18:3-4, 23:12, 26:39, John 4:34, 6:38, 17:1, 4, 6-11, 15-23, Rom. 6:2-14, 8:1, 10-11, I Cor. 11:1, Gal. 2:20, 5:24, 6:14, Phlp. 2:2-8, 3:10-11, Col. 2:10-15, 3:1-3, Heb. 5:8-9, I Pet. 2:21, 4:1-2 32 Matt. 4:1-4, 16:22-23, 18:7-9, 21:44, 27:40-42, Mark 8:31-33, 15:29-32, Luke 17:1-2, 20:17-18, John 9:4, 15:5, 18-20, Rom. 4:23-25, 5:14-18, 9:28, 33, 16:17-18, I Cor. Ch. 13, II Cor. 6:3, 11:7, Gal. 5:10-11, Phlp. 1:10, II Tim. 3:12, 4:2, I Pet. 2:6-9, 4:1-5, Rev. 2:10-11, 12:12, 20:4 33 Matt. 10:32, Mark 8:38, Luke 9:23-26, 21:33-36, II Tim. 1:8, 2:12, I Pet. 4:16, I John 2:28 34 Matt. 10:38, Luke 9:23-25, Rom. 6:3-6, 13:14, I Cor. 1:17-18, Phlp. 3:7-9, I Pet. 4:1 35 Matt. 10:38, Luke 14:26-27, 33 36 Matt. 10:22, 32, 37, 12:50, Luke 14:26-27, 33, John 8:31-32, 15:7-8, Rom. 12:2, Col. 1:22-23, Heb. 3:14, 6:11-12, I John 5:5, Rev. 2:10 37 Psa. 33:4, 100:5, 117:2, Jer. 10:10, John 1:1-2, 14, 8:31-32, 14:6, 17:17, Rom. 3:4, I Thes. 2:13, Jas. 1:18 38 Matt. 16:24, Mark 8:34, Luke 9:23, 14:28, 18:22, Acts 4:34-35, Rom. 6:4, I Cor. 10:4-5, 12:10, Phlp. 4:12-13, I Thes. 5:22, II Tim. 3:12, I John 2:15, Rev. 2:10, 6:10 39 Matt. 13:44-46, 18:3-4, 19:27, 29, John 3:30, 12:24-26, 15:1-8, 11, Rom. 12:1-2, I Cor. 3:1-3, Eph. 4:11-24, Phlp. 3:7-11, I Pet. 5:6-7 40 Mark 16:20, I Cor. 12:4-14, Eph. 1:17-19, 3:6-9 41 Isa. 9:6-7, Matt. 16:16, John 6:69, 10:30, 14:6-11, Heb. 1:2-3, I John 5:6-7, 20 42 Isa. 47:10, Rom. 1:18-32, Prov. 26:11, II Pet. 2:19-22, Prov. 1:23-32, Eccl. 8:8, Isa. 30:22, 64:6, Dan. 4:37, Matt. 6:1-2, 5, 10:34-39, 15:14, 19:21, 21:28-32, Matt. 6:5-6, 7:21-27, 19:16-24, 22:1-13, Ch 23, 25:1-12, 31-46, Mark 7:5-9, 12:38-40, Luke 9:23, 18:1, 9-14, 21:36, John 3:3, 5-7, 5:39-40, 6:53, 63, 66, 7:19-20, 10:1, 27, 14:30, 15:4-5, Rom. 8:3-9, 11-13, 14:17, I Cor. 6:1-10, 8:1, 9:27, Ch. 13, II Cor. 3:5-6, Gal. 6:7-8, Eph. 3:16-19, Phlp. 1:18, 2:9-11, I Thes. 5:17, II Tim. 3:1-9, 13, Heb. 10:38, Jas. 1:21-25, 2:26, 4:17, I John 2:10, 14, 19, 23-24, 27-28, 3:24 43 Luke 9:23, John 1:12-13, Rom. 8:1, Phlp. 3:7-11, II Pet. 1:3-4, I John 4:4 44 Matt. 10:37-39, 16:24-26, Luke 14:26-27, 33, John 12:24-26, Rom. 8:5-9, 12-13, I Cor. 9:27, 15:31, Gal. 5:16-17, Eph. 4:22-24, 27, Phlp. 3:7-9, Col. 3:5-9, 25, II Tim. 2:4, Titus 2:12 45 Matt. 16:24, Rom. 6:2-14, Gal. 2:20, 5:24, 6:14, 16-17, Col. 2:10-15, 3:1-3, Heb. 13:8, I Pet. 4:1-2 46 Matt. 6:24, Luke 12:29-34, Rom. 8:6-8, 13-14, I Cor. 2:11-14, 9:27, 15:31, Gal. 2:20, Jas. 1:27, 4:4, II Pet. 2:20, I John 2:15-17 47 Matt. 6:24, Rom. 7:14-20, 8:5-13, 12:1-2, I Cor. 2:12-14, 3:3-7, 18-20, 15:44-48, 50, Gal. 6:8, Eph. 2:2-3, Jas. 4:4-5

God according to what it deems to be good in its carnal, fleshly, sinful self. Following God's desires means stripping away the self, the carnal, soulful life.<sup>48</sup> Whenever God's mind is obeyed, the soul's or self's ideas are crushed.<sup>49</sup> Because Peter, in chapter ten of Matthew, spoke to Jesus from his soul, the Lord called His disciples to forsake the natural self-life. The Lord added that the words Peter had uttered were from Satan.<sup>50</sup>

Satan employs man's natural, sinful, selfish life as long as sinful people don't think Satan will deliver them to death. In other words, you will let Satan employ you as long as you don't think he'll kill you. When people respond more favorably to Satan than to the Lord, it means they are more fearful of Satan than of the Lord. "Fear God, and keep HIS commandments: for this is the whole duty of man" (Eccl. 12:13).

Satan continues his operation today, which is the deceptive destruction of the human soul.<sup>51</sup> The humans that Satan employs are his instruments.<sup>52</sup> Peter said those wicked things because he ignorantly thought he was cherishing the Lord. However, the Holy Spirit reveals to us all that he was being manipulated by Satan. Peter prays that Jesus will listen to his carnal advice, stating that Jesus should be concerned about His human body, the temple where the Triune God was living and working.<sup>53</sup> However, his prayer was from the bowels of Hell. Satan doesn't mind if we pray to God with our natural energy, but he doesn't want us to pray in the Holy Spirit.<sup>54</sup> If we continue in self-life, Satan's business prospers. May God show us all how dangerous this self-life is, because believers may too quickly think they are spiritual merely because they think they love the Lord or admire heavenly things.<sup>55</sup> God's purpose cannot be accomplished as long as Satan continues to find opportunity to work through that soulful self-life which remains uncommitted to the death of the cross.

Self-pity, self-love, a fear of suffering, and a fear of the cross-life is sinful.<sup>56</sup> These are some of the manifestations of self-life or wicked soulful life, for its prime motivation is self-preservation. It is exceedingly reluctant to endure any loss. This is the very reason the Lord calls us to deny ourselves and take up our cross daily. It is to crush or snuff out our natural self-indulgent life.<sup>57</sup>

Every cross that passes before us calls us to forsake ourselves.<sup>58</sup> We must not harbor any

self-love, but instead lay down our lives by the power of God living both in and through us.<sup>59</sup> The Lord tells us that this is our cross. Every one of us receives our own particular cross from God. This is the particular cross we must bear. Even though it is our cross, it is directly connected to the cross of the Lord. If we are willing to carry our cross in the same way Christ carried His cross, we will find the power of His cross abiding in us, and it will enable us to lose our natural self-life.<sup>60</sup> Each time we take up our cross, our carnal self, our fleshly, mortal, worthless life will suffer loss.<sup>61</sup> Each time we don't, our self-life is fed and made stronger.<sup>62</sup>

Dealing with our self-life is not a one-time or a part-time matter. It's a full time job, twenty-four hours a day, seven days of every week, and three hundred sixty-five days of every year.<sup>63</sup> Does this offend you? Again, the Lord is the One who teaches us this truth for our eternal benefit, our eternal life. Most people will lose their own lives for such things as their father, mother, wife, son, daughter, brothers, sisters, friends, careers, or a multitude of other things. Jesus tells us that sacrificing ourselves for anyone or anything other than FOR HIS SAKE will not be of any value in attaining eternal life, immortality in Heaven (Matt. 10:39).<sup>64</sup>

Again, the cross, which we have been called to bear, is closely related to the cross that Christ bore. The cross that we have been called to bear is like a poisonous serpent, able to bring death to our fleshly, sinful, self-life.<sup>65</sup> Like a serpent, our cross, which again is self-denial, is full of death-dealing venom, ready to kill every fleshly lust and worldly desire which would raise its ugly head to destroy us if we were foolish enough not to pay attention to its rising. This truth is greatly symbolized several times in the Old Testament. One of these times is when Moses, during a war with Amalek, lifted up the rod of God, which was symbolic of Christ, who is the Word of God, and His cross. If he did, the enemy of Israel would lose the battle, but if he became weary and lowered the rod of God, which was symbolic of Christ and His cross, the enemy would begin winning the battle over Israel.<sup>66</sup>

In Numbers 21:4-9, when the children of Israel sinned by murmuring against God, God instructed Moses to make a fiery brass serpent and set it upon a pole. This pole with the brass serpent on it is symbolic of Christ

and the killing power of the cross against the natural, sinful life. God sent fiery, poisonous serpents to kill the children of Israel for their murmuring against Him, but if they kept their eyes upon the brass serpent on the pole, the venom from the poisonous, fiery serpents did not harm them. This shows us that if we keep our eyes and minds on Christ, the Word of God, so that we can serve Him by keeping His commandments through His living in us and working through us, nothing of the devil can obstruct our ability to enter Heaven. This is because by doing this, we are fully armed and armored with "the whole armour of God [which destroys, poisons, and kills our fleshly self-life]" (Eph. 6:11). If we take up our cross and deny our desires for the things of the world, every fleshly lust and worldly desire, that is, our old life will be mortified or deadened, and they will have no more power over us. Then we will be immune from Satan's ability to kill our eternal soul by tempting or deceiving us back into the world of sin.<sup>67</sup>

Again, in another place, the rod of God, which is also symbolic of Christ and His cross,<sup>68</sup> was given to Moses as a sign to Pharaoh that God had sent Moses to deliver the children of Israel from Egypt.<sup>69</sup> When Aaron, Moses' brother, threw down the rod symbolizing Christ, His cross, and its serpentine power over the natural, sinful life, the rod of God turned into that symbol, the serpent. The magicians threw their rods down, and these too became serpents. However, the serpent representing God's venomous power over the satanic, natural, sinful life swallowed up the satanic, natural, sinful, humanistic lives of the magicians' serpents.<sup>70</sup> God shows us by the symbol of the serpent, which deceived Eve, that God outmaneuvered the devil by making the serpent, which ordinarily symbolizes the devil,<sup>71</sup> to swallow up himself, which is all the evil of the serpent, which is the self-life. Jesus and His cross "led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men [by His blood and His cross]" (Eph. 4:8). He tricked that old serpent, the devil, into crucifying Him on the cross as a sacrifice for everyone's former sins so that everyone could be set free from the devil and from the penalty of an eternal Hell.<sup>72</sup> Because Christ never sinned, the Father resurrected Him from the dead to again reign over the entire universe.<sup>73</sup>

Without the cross of Christ, there is no eternal life,<sup>74</sup> and without our cross, which

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48 Matt. 10:38-39, 13:44-46, Mark 10:21, Luke 9:23-25, 14:26-27, 18:28-30, John 12:25-26, Rom. 6:5-13, 8:13-14, Gal. 6:14 49 Gen. 3:15, II Chron. 7:14, Isa. 26:3, Rom. 6:6, 8:5-13, 31, 33, 37-39, 12:1-2, 16:20, I Cor. 1:18-20, 2:12-14, 16, 3:18-20, 9:27, 15:31, 44-48, 53-54, II Cor. 4:16, 10:4-6, Gal. 6:8, Eph. 4:22-25, Philp. 2:5, Col. 2:11-15, 3:3-6, 9-10, II Tim. 1:7, Jas. 4:4, I Pet. 4:1-4, I John 3:8-9 50 Matt. 16:23, Mark 8:33 51 Gen. 3:1-19, Dan. 8:24-25, Matt. 13:18-30, 38-42, 24:4, 11, 24, John 8:44, 10:10, II Cor. 4:4, Eph. 6:11-18, II Thes. 2:3-4, 7-10, I Pet. 5:8, Rev. 12:3-4, 7-11, 20:2, 7-8 52 Rom. 6:13 53 Isa. 7:14-15, 9:6-7, Matt. 8:24-27, 9:2-8, 35, 12:18, 28, 14:14-33, 15:30-31, Mark 8:33, Luke 4:1, John 5:19, 26, 8:19, 28-29, 10:30, Acts 10:38, II Cor. 5:17-21 54 Jer. 11:10-11, Rom. 7:14-20, 8:1-2, 5-13, 31, 33, 37-39, I Cor. 2:12-14, 3:3, II Cor. 3:5-6, Gal. 6:8, I Thes. 2:18, Jas. 4:4 55 Matt. 5:46-48, 6:24, 7:19-23, 26-27, 15:7-9, 25:3, 41-46, Luke 6:46, 13:24-28, II Tim. 3:5, Titus 1:16, Jas. 2:14-26, I John 1:6, 2:4, 9, 4:20 56 Deut. 29:19-20, Prov. 14:12, 29:25, 30:12, Luke 12:16-21, 18:10-14, 18-24, Philp. 3:18-19, II Thes. 2:8-12, Jas. 4:13-17, II Pet. 3:3-7, Rev. 3:17-19, 21:8 57 Matt. 10:38-39, Luke 9:23-26, 14:27, Rom. 6:6, I Cor. 1:17-18, Gal. 2:20, 5:24-25, 6:14 58 Matt. 7:21, 16:24, Mark 8:34-36, 10:21, Luke 9:23, Rom. 6:6-7, 8:12-14, 18, 12:1-2, 9-21, 13:11-14, II Cor. 5:15, 6:4-10, Gal. 5:24, 6:14, 16-18 59 Matt. 12:47-50, Mark 12:30, John 15:9-11, Acts 20:18-24, I Cor. 15:30-31, 57-58, I John 2:15-16, Rev. 12:10-11 60 John 1:12-13, Philp. 3:7-11, II Pet. 1:3-4, I John 4:4 61 Psa. 34:18, Eccl. 11:1, Matt. 13:44-46, 19:29, John 3:30, Rom. 12:1-2, I Cor. 3:6-7, 13:11, Eph. 4:13-15, Heb. 5:12-14, I Pet. 5:7-9 62 Ex. 22:18, I Sam. 15:22-23, II Chron. 15:2, Prov. 19:16, John 5:14 63 Matt. 10:16-22, 24:8-13, Luke 9:23-27, 12:35-40, 43-46, John 8:31-32, 15:8-14, Acts 5:40-43, 14:19-26, Rom. 2:6-7, 8:35-39, I Cor. 15:30-31, II Cor. 4:1, 16-18, 11:23-33, 12:9-10, Col. 1:21-25, Heb. 3:12-14, 4:1, 9-11, 6:10-15, 10:32-39, 12:1-4, 13:1-3, Jas. 2:8-10, 12-18, I John 2:24-26, II John 6, 8-9, Rev. 22:11-12 64 Ex. 20:5, Deut. 4:23-24, Matt. 10:37-39, 16:24-26, Luke 14:26-27, 33, 18:28-30, Col. 2:18-19 65 Matt. 10:38-39, Rom. 6:3-6, 8:12-13, 13:13-14, Gal. 2:20, 5:24-26, Titus 2:12, I Pet. 4:1-2 66 Ex. 17:8-13 67 Isa. 26:3-4, Luke 9:23, 10:19, John 10:35-5, 27, 14:23, 15:7-11, 14, 16:33, Rom. 8:1-14, 31, 37, 15:13, I Cor. 15:10, 57-58, Gal. 5:24-25, Philp. 4:13, Heb. 13:5 68 John 3:14 69 Ex. 4:1-5, 17, 20 70 Ex. 7:8-12 71 Gen. 3:1-15, Ex. 7:10-12, Isa. 27:1, II Cor. 11:3, Rev. 12:9, 20:1-3 72 Matt. 20:28, 26:28, Luke 24:46-47, Rom. 3:24-26, 5:6-11, 8:3, 32, 34, Gal. 1:4, 2:20, Eph. 2:13-18, Col. 1:20-23, 2:13-15, Titus 2:14, I John 2:2, Rev. 1:5 73 Matt. 20:18-19, Mark 8:31, 9:31, 16:19, Luke 24:50-51, John 14:15-21, 23, 15:7-8, Acts 1:9-11, Rom. 4:25, 14:9, II Cor. 5:21, Eph. 1:20-23, I Thes. 1:10, Heb. 2:16-17, 4:15, 5:8-9, I Pet. 2:21-25, I John 4:4, Rev. 1:8 74 Matt. 10:38-39, John 6:53, 10:10, 27-28, 12:25-26, Rom. 6:6-13, 8:12-13, I Cor. 1:18



## DO I OFFEND YOU? ARE YOU ASHAMED OF ME?

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again is closely connected with the cross of Christ, there is no power of the cross to preserve our eternal life, the gift given to us by God through Christ.<sup>75</sup> When the Lord observes our living the cross-life, defending our gift of eternal life, the strength of His cross living in us gives us the strength to bear our cross.<sup>76</sup> As we turn our backs on every temptation to sin, and as we flee from the very appearance of evil, we are the same as lifting up the cross of Christ and taking up our cross, just as Moses lifted up the rod of God so that Israel could continue winning the battle against the enemies of Israel.<sup>77</sup> Every moment we continue taking up our cross to follow Christ, we remind Satan of Christ's victory over him on the cross at Calvary, where Jesus shed His precious blood so that our **FORMER SINS** could all be washed away and we might live the sinless, selfless cross-life required to enter Heaven.<sup>78</sup>

Our cross, the cross we must carry, is the cross which gives daily doses of poisonous treatments to our old, sinful, carnal self or soul-life.<sup>79</sup> Our cross must be applied to every attempt of Satan to tempt or deceive us back into the world of sin, where the old,

75 Deut. 8:2-3, John 3:16, 12:24-26, I Cor. 9:26-27, Gal. 2:20, 5:16-17, 24, Philp. 3:7-11, Col. 3:5-10, Rev. 12:11 76 I Cor. 10:13, Philp. 4:13, Col. 3:23-25, I John 4:4 77 Luke 21:12-19, Rom. 8:12-14, 37, I Cor. 15:57-58, Col. 3:5-6, I Thes. 5:22-24, II Tim. 2:4-5, 4:7-8, 18 78 Rom. 3:24-26, 5:9, Gal. 2:20, 5:24-25, Eph. 2:13-16, Col. 1:20-23, I John 1:7, Rev. 1:5, 5:9-10, 7:14, 12:11 79 Luke 9:23, 14:27, John 6:53-56, Rom. 6:6, 11, I Cor. 9:27, 15:30, Gal. 6:14

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former, worthless self-life waits.<sup>80</sup> "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world [with all its wealth and lusts], and lose his own soul?" (Mark 8:36).

Self-denial is not something that can be finished; it is what we must experience daily to the end if we desire an eternity in Heaven.<sup>81</sup> The self-life must be overcome step-by-step. The more the Holy Spirit unites Himself with our spirits, the more we will be united with Jesus and the selfless cross-life of Jesus. How can believers deny the self if the self is unknown to them? They must first begin denying the things they recognize as worldly in themselves. The life of the cross will cut and penetrate our spirits ever more deeply each day. Through self-denial and bearing the cross daily we can know more of God's will, and knowing more of ourselves will give the cross an increased power to

poison and destroy more of our self-life each day so that the life of Christ may attain more growth within us each day.

God's Word tells us that our own good deeds, which we have done, shall be "as filthy rags" at the Judgment Bar of God if we expect them to merit our going to Heaven (Isa. 64:6). Nothing but what Christ has done and commands us to do after we have received the gift of eternal life can give us entry into Heaven. So if it is your will to deny every instruction other than the instructions of Christ to enter Heaven, which is a **MUST**,<sup>82</sup> simply because there are no other means, and if it is your will to deny the world, Satan, and everything in the world, including yourself, so that you, the ones you love, and others may enter the Kingdom of Heaven, then begin your life of following Christ and the life of self-denial by saying this prayer:

80 II Cor. 10:3-6, Gal. 5:16-17, 24, Eph. 6:10-17, II Tim. 4:3-4, Jas. 4:7, I Pet. 5:8-10 81 Matt. 10:22, 16:24-26, Mark 10:21, Luke 9:23, Rom. 8:13-17, Col. 3:5-10 82 John 3:3-7

### Prayer

My Lord and my God, have mercy upon my soul, a sinner.<sup>1</sup> I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of the Living God.<sup>2</sup> I believe that He died on the cross and shed His precious blood for the forgiveness of all my sins.<sup>3</sup> I believe that God raised Jesus from the dead by the power of the Holy Spirit<sup>4</sup> and that He sits on the right hand of God at this moment, hearing my confession of sin and this prayer.<sup>5</sup> I open up the door of my heart and I invite You into my heart, Lord Jesus.<sup>6</sup> Wash all of my filthy sins away in the precious blood that You shed in my place on the cross at Calvary.<sup>7</sup> You will not turn me away, Lord Jesus, You will forgive my sins and save my soul. I know because Your Word, the Bible says so.<sup>8</sup> Your Word says that You will turn no one away, and that includes me.<sup>9</sup> Therefore, I know that You have heard me, and I know that You have answered me, and I know that I am saved.<sup>10</sup> And I thank You, Lord Jesus, for saving my soul, and I will show my thankfulness by doing as You command and sin no more.<sup>11</sup>

1. Psa. 51:5, Rom. 3:10-12, 23 2. Matt. 26:63-64, 27:54, Luke 1:30-33, John 9:35-37, Rom. 1:3-4 3. Acts 4:12, 20:28, Rom. 3:25, I John 1:7, Rev. 5:9 4. Psa. 16:9-10, Matt. 28:5-7, Mark 16:9, John 2:19, 21, 10:17-18, 11:25, Acts 2:24, 3:15, Rom. 8:11, I Cor. 15:3-6 5. Luke 22:69, Acts 2:25-36, Heb. 10:12-13 6. Rom. 8:11, I Cor. 3:16, Rev. 3:20 7. Eph. 7:13-22, Heb. 9:22, 13:12, 20-21, I John 1:7, Rev. 1:5, 7:14 8. Matt. 26:28, Acts 2:21, 4:12, Eph. 1:7, Col. 1:14 9. Rom. 10:13, Jas. 4:2-3 10. Heb. 11:6 11. John 8:11, I Cor. 15:10, Rev. 7:14, 22:14

You've just completed the first step in a series of five steps which are necessary to receive salvation. Your second step is to deny yourself and take up the cross daily for the purpose of mortifying yourself, that is, for putting to death your own will, your soulful self, and the world with all of its lusts. All these must be baptized into the death of Christ.

Step three is your resurrection from the satanic life of Adam unto the sinless life of Christ. Step four is your ascension into a position of

authority to reign for God on earth, and the fifth step is to reign for God on earth to the end for the purpose of bringing about the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. You must learn the Word of God, then submit yourself and do what the Word says, so that the Church and the world may see evidence of your submission to God's Word, His order, and His authority in and by you.

Praise the Lord. May God reward you abundantly.

World Pastor Tony Alamo

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