



Some Things Are

“Easier Said Than Done”

“Easier Said Than Done”

Matthew 19:23-26 (NKJV)

²³ Then Jesus said to His disciples, "Assuredly, I say to you that it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. ²⁴ And again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." ²⁵ When His disciples heard it, they were greatly astonished, saying, "Who then can be saved?" ²⁶ But Jesus looked at them and said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

“Easier Said Than Done”

Luke 13:23-24 (NKJV)

²³ Then one said to Him, "Lord, are there few who are saved?" And He said to them,

²⁴ "Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able.

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Matthew 7:21-23 (NKJV)

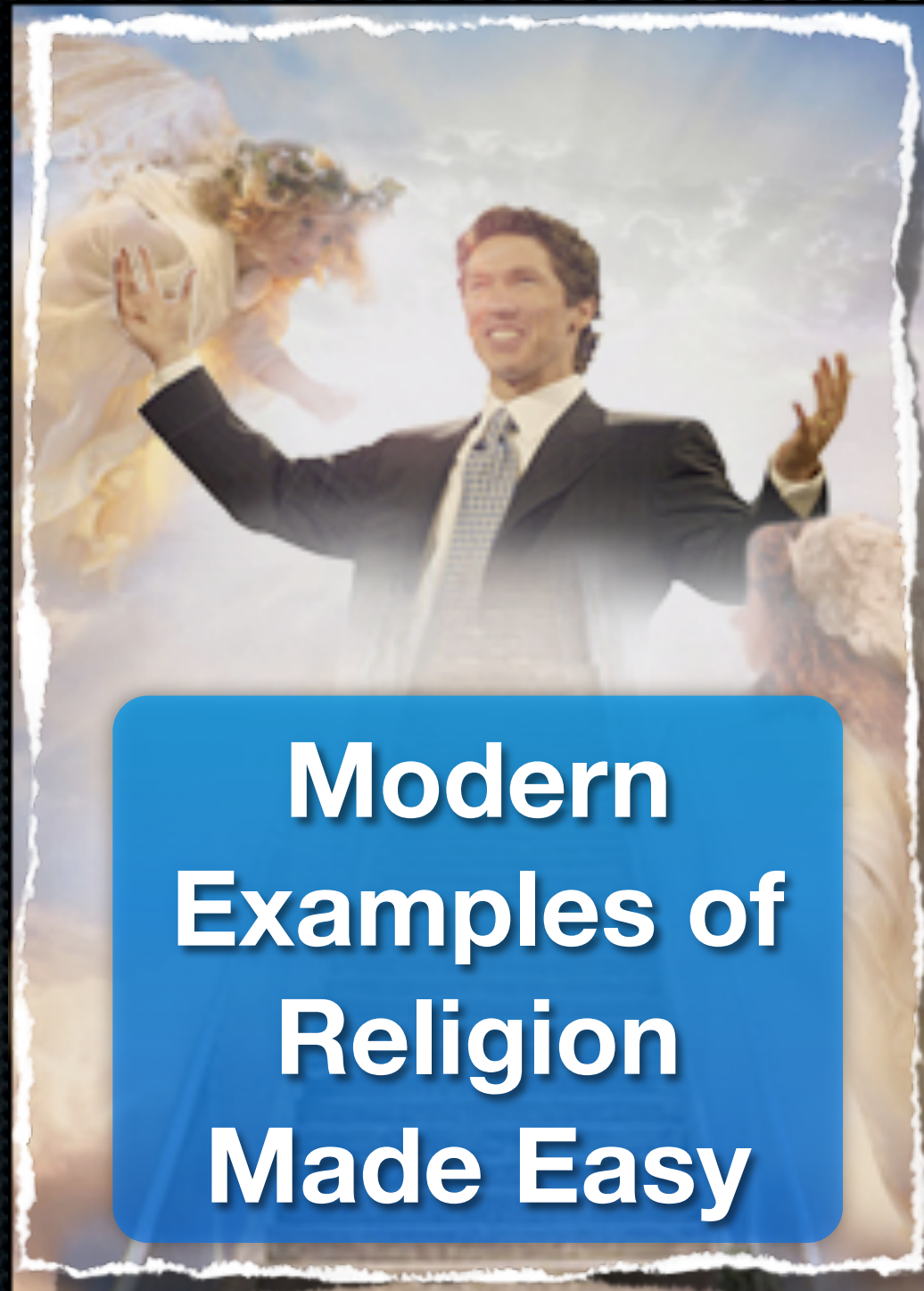
²¹ "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.
²² Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' ²³ And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

“Easier Said Than Done”



- Easy is overrated.
- Easy might appear nice from a distance, but when there's too much ease in life, there aren't very many opportunities for growth, success & fulfillment.
- Many things in striving to live the Christian life are in fact extremely difficult to accomplish but very much worth the effort!
- In fact - the easy way is usually the **WRONG** way! - Mat 7:13,14

“Easier Said Than Done”



- **Salvation by “faith ONLY”** – James 2:24
- **“Once Saved Always Saved”** – 2 Pet 1:5-10
- **No need to search for truth** – Acts 17:11,12
- **Easier to please self - focus on recreation & entertainment rather than doctrine & holiness** – Rom 14:17; 1 Pet 1:13ff
- **2nd Generation Christianity** – Judges 2:7-10; Rom 10:17

“Easier Said Than Done”



■ Examples of Both ♦ ♦ ♦

- ~ **Joseph** – Gen. 39:7-12
- ~ **Moses** – Heb 11:24-28
- ~ **Joshua & Caleb** – Num. 13:30; 14:6-9
- ~ **Nadab & Abihu** – Lev 10:1,2
- ~ **Jeroboam** – 1 Ki 12:25-30
- ~ **Peter** – Mat 26:69-75 . . .
Acts 2:14ff
- ~ **Paul** – Col. 1:29;
- ~ **Felix** – Acts 24:25

“Easier Said Than Done”



- Easier To Preach Than Practice
To Talk The Talk Than Walk The
Walk To Instruct Than To
Receive Instruction
- Easier To Say “I Want The Truth”
Than to Receive It & Apply It!
- Easier To Criticize Than To Help
Find A Solution
- Easier To Say “I Love You” Than To
Love

“Easier Said Than Done”

✦ Everything you can think of to be done that is of great value is “easier said than done.” (Mat. 13:44,45; Luke 9:23,24,57-62)

- “I want to go to heaven”
- “I want to be a godly person”
- “I want to know God’s word”
- “I want to break a bad habit”
- “I want to make better use of my time”
- “I want to help others”
- “I want a great marriage”
- “I want to be a great parent”
- “I want to be great at teaching others the gospel”

None of these things happen automatically - they require much effort!

“Easier Said Than Done”



- Taking consistent, persistent, focused action is easier said than done - (James 2:14-26)
- Disciplining ourselves to rise above the distractions and put forth meaningful effort, is easier said than done - (2 Peter 1:5-11)
- The key is allowing the Lord to change your heart . . .

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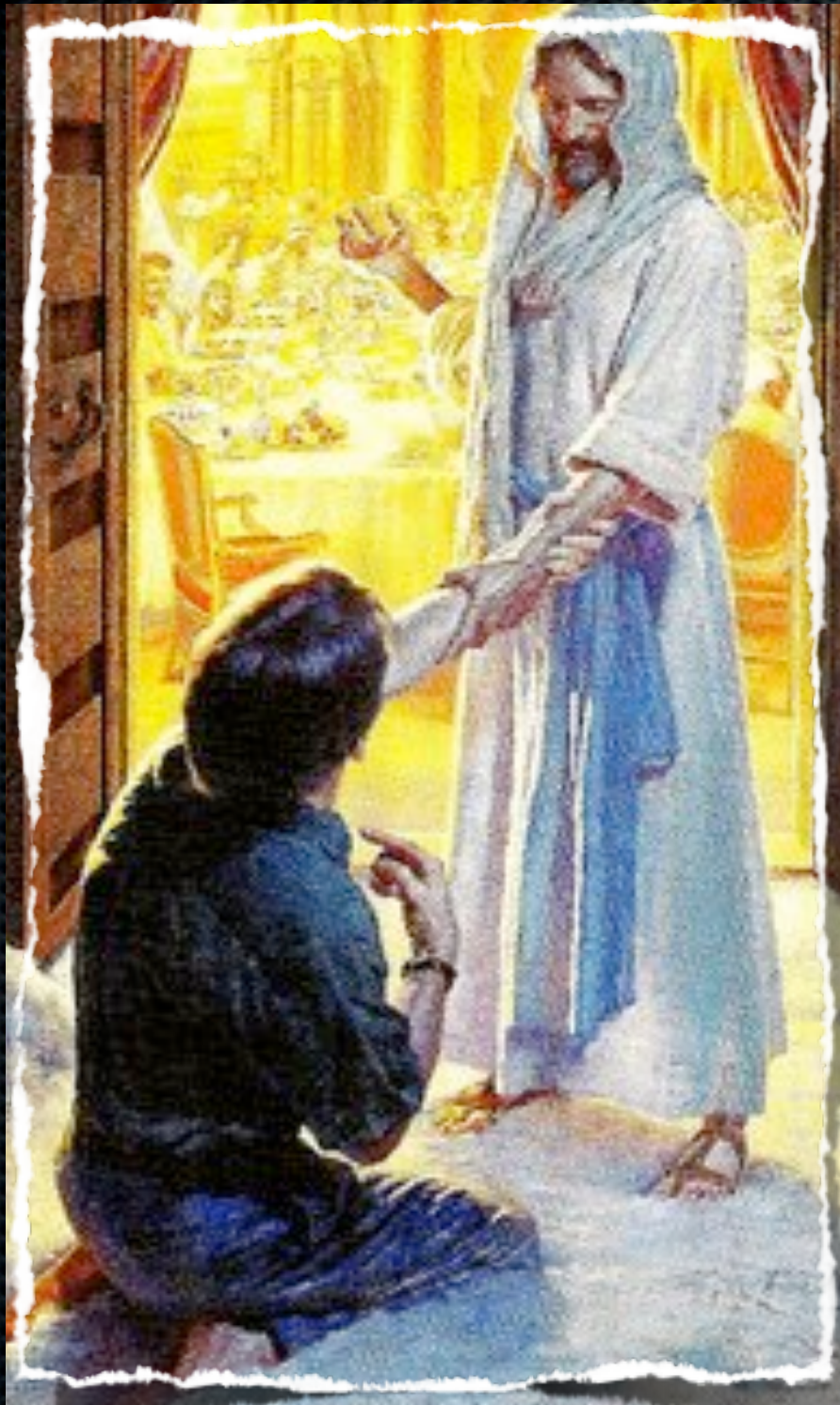
- **Being Honest With Ourselves - 2 Cor 13:5**
- **Changing Our Attitudes & Thought Patterns - Rom 12:1,2**
- **Developing Genuine Humility - 1 Pet 5:6**
- **Developing A Loving Heart - 1 Cor. 13:1-8**
- **Being Patient With Others - 1 Thes 5:14**
- **Forgiving Those Who Bring Us Pain - Luke 17:3,4; Col. 3:12,13**

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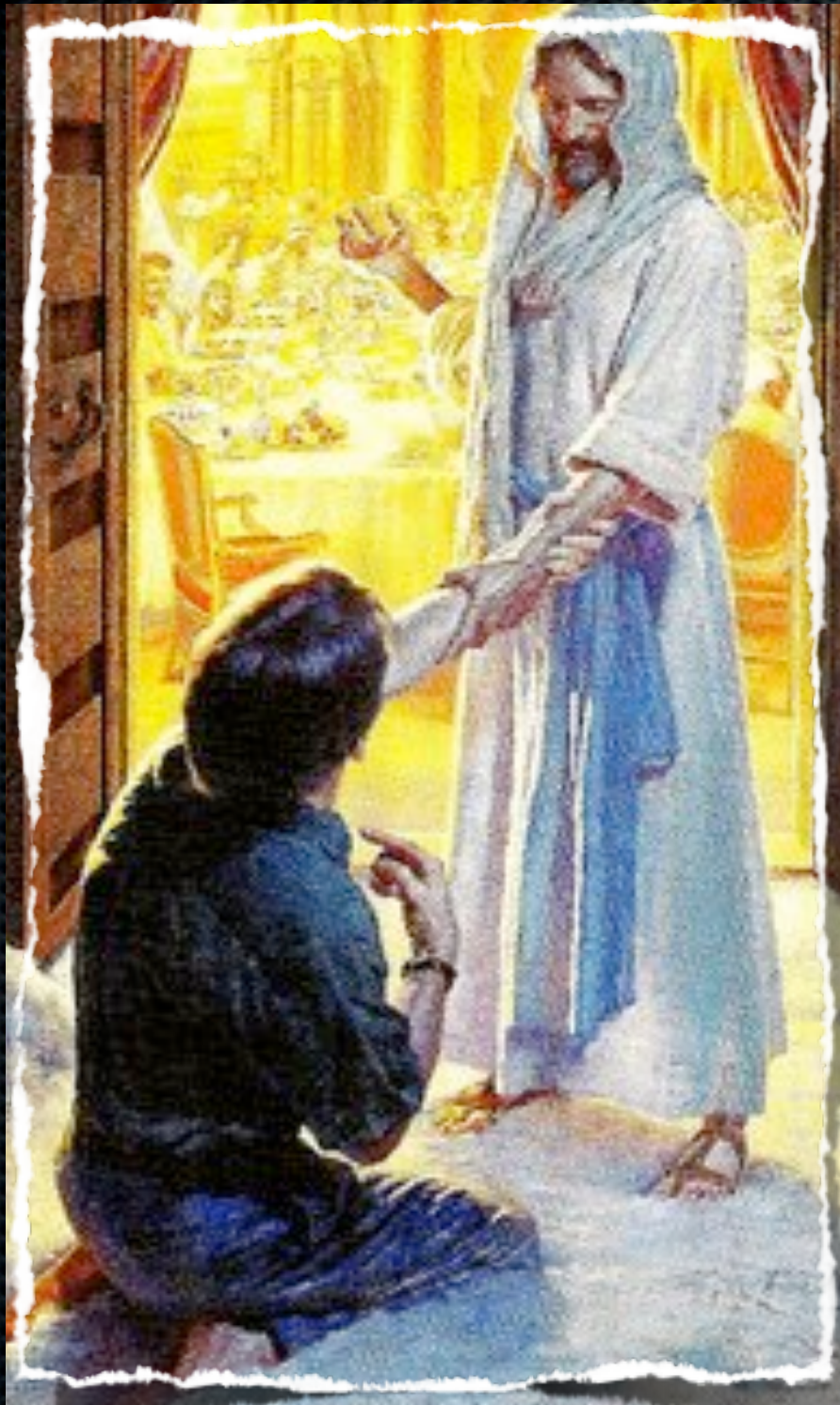
- ✦ **Obedying the gospel** - Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 1 John 1:9
- ✦ **Assembling regularly for worship** - Heb 10:24,25
- ✦ **Serving where capable** - Rom 12:1-8
- ✦ **Faithful living** - Eph 5:1-6:9
- ✦ **Resisting temptation / breaking free from sin** - Eph 6:10-18

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- ✦ **Initial decision** - Commit to serving the Lord - Josh. 24:15; Rom 6:3-19
- ✦ **Complete surrender** - surrendering in totality my will to God's will - Mat 26:39
- ✦ **Perseverance** - Staying the course - 1 Cor. 15:58; 1 John 1:9,10; Heb 10:24,25

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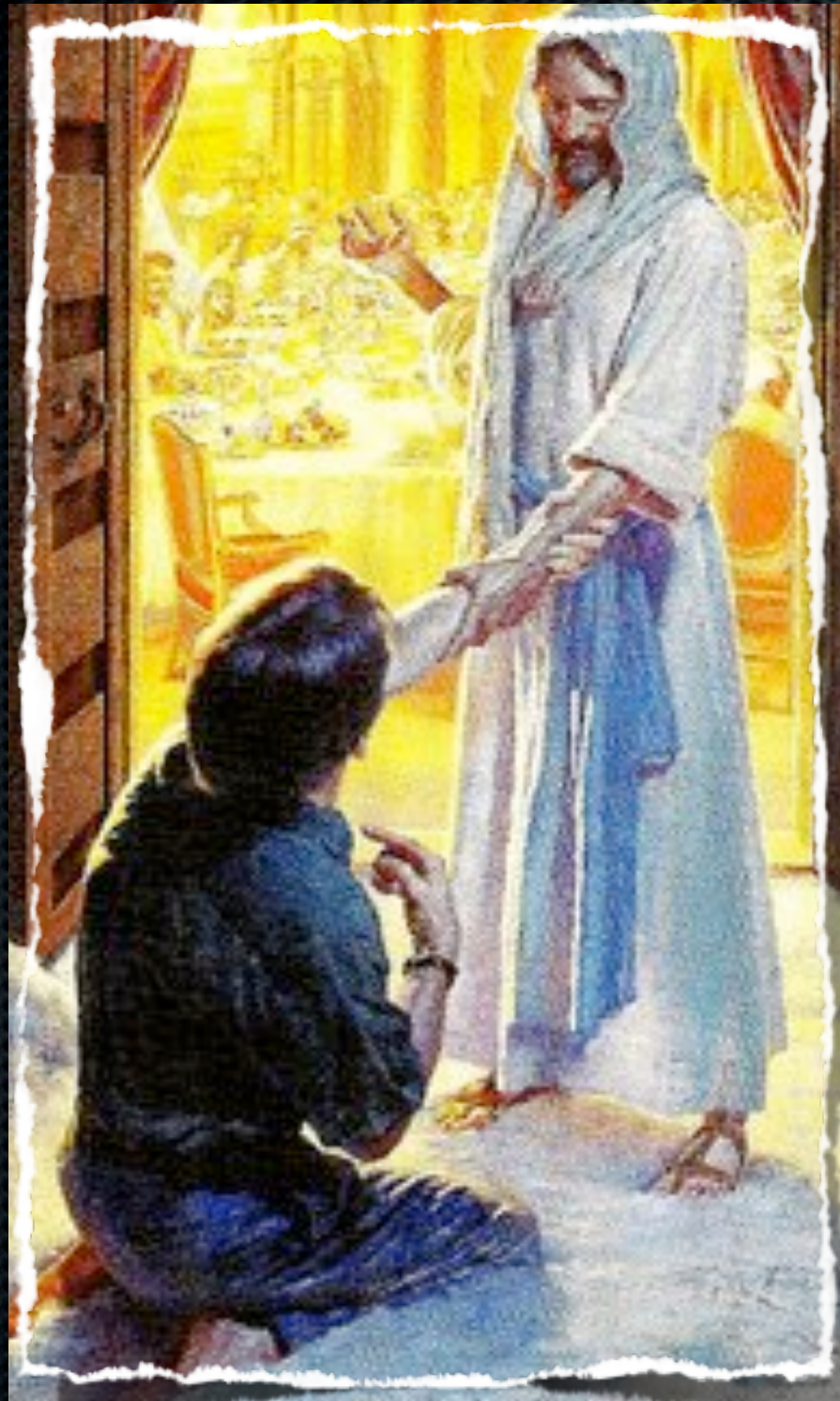


Matthew 11:28-30 (NKJV)

²⁸ Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

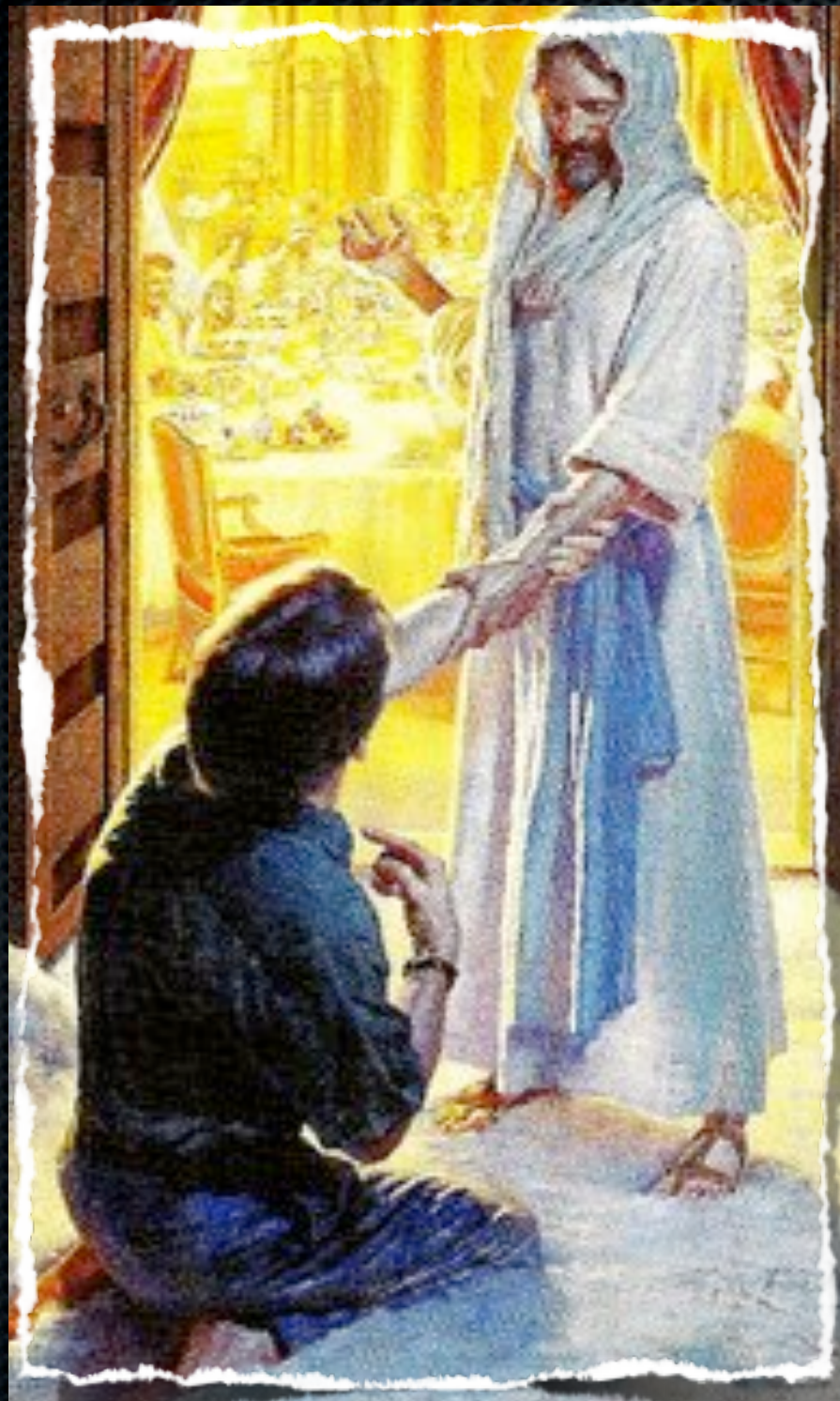
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1 John 5:2-4 (NKJV)



² By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. ³ For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome. ⁴ For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world--our faith.

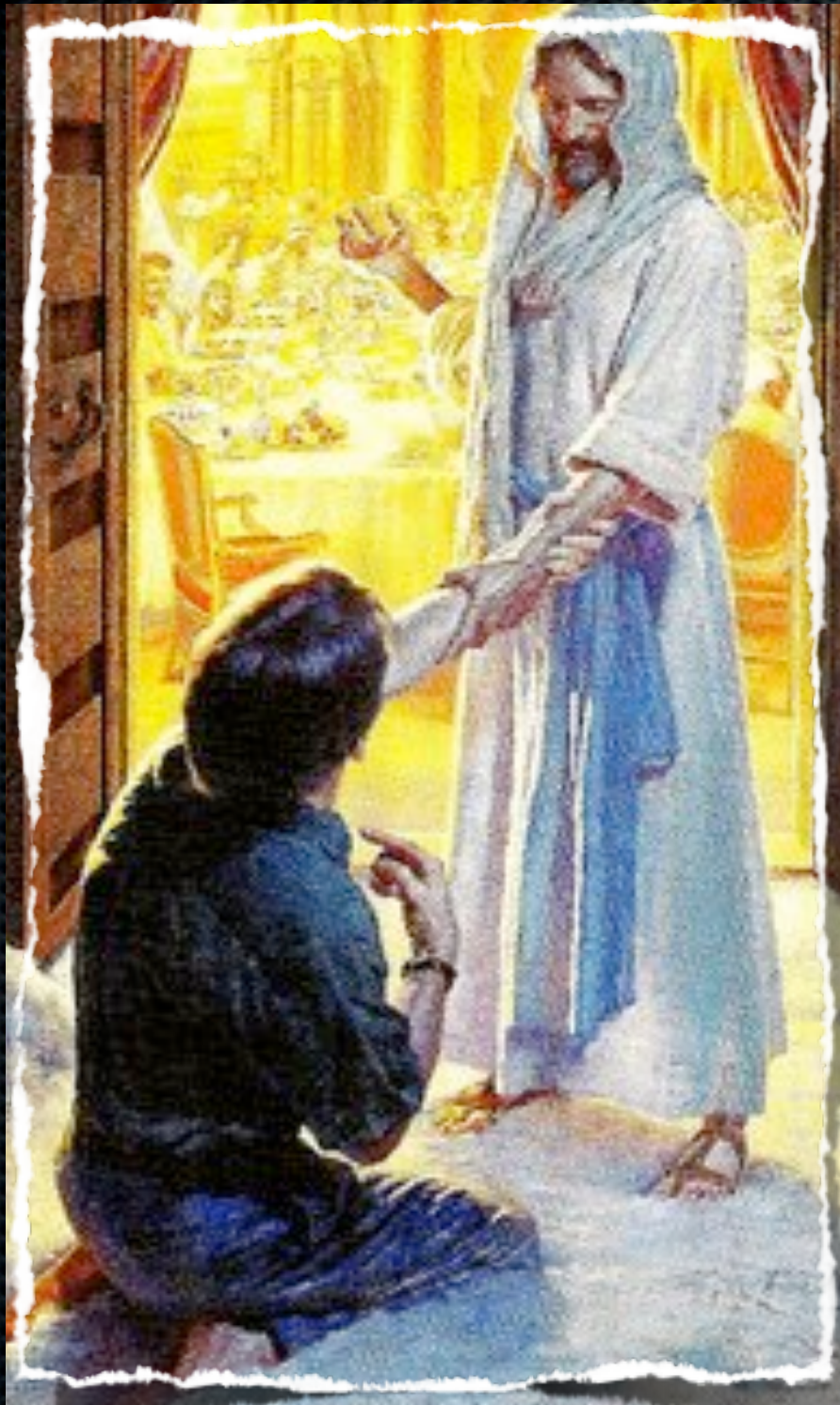
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Philippians 4:13
(NKJV)

I can do all things
through Christ who
strengthens me.

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- ✦ After all is said and done, a lot more will have been said than done.
- ✦ But for those who are faithful to the Lord in word & deed - they will receive the eternal reward of heaven - 1 Cor. 15:58; Mat 25:31-40; Gal 6:9

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2 Peter 1:5-11 (NKJV)

⁵ But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, ⁶ to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, ⁷ to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love.

2 Peter 1:5-11 (NKJV)

⁸ For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins.

2 Peter 1:5-11 (NKJV)

¹⁰ Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; ¹¹ for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.