Portion:

SCRIPTURES

- Romans 16:1-27
- John 4:1-42
- I & II Timothy

Title:

SPIRIT AND TRUTH

- Banner of Spirit and Truth
- The Spirit Testifies
- The Truth Verifies

SEED:

"But the hour is coming, and now is, when the **true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth**; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. **God is Spirit**, and **those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.**"" John 4:23-24 NKJV

"Now **the Lord is the Spirit**; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty." II Corinthians 3:17 NKJV

"Beloved, **do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits**, whether they are of God; because **many false prophets** have gone out into the world." I John 4:1 NKJV

FRUIT:

"Now I urge you, brethren, **note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine** which you learned, and avoid them." Romans 16:17 NKJV

"Jesus answered them and said, "My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me. If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God or whether I speak on My own authority." John 7:16-17 NKJV

"Now to Him who is **able to establish you** according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to **the revelation of the mystery kept secret since the world began but now made manifest, and by the prophetic Scriptures** made known to all nations, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, for obedience to the faith—" Romans 16:25-26 NKJV

"However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come."

John 16:13 NKJV

"I have **no greater joy** than to hear that my children **walk in truth**." III John 1:4 NKJV

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S MESSAGE:

The banner is Spirit and Truth. The Spirit testifies; by the Spirit the grace of God changed your heart and made it pliable and receptive to the Gospel of Salvation. Then, also by the Spirit God's grace is available

to you, at your disposal, to animate your every choice from that day forward. Might we call those decisions Spirit matters or matters of the Spirit. The Spirit testifies; it moves people and people are what matter most. Relationships matter most. The Spirit testifies to the love of God. May we prefer and love one another and be grateful for one another; may we honor and acknowledge one another. And may we all be open to the truth.

The truth verifies; truth is reality and there is a prophetic reality for which God's people are responsible. As people matter so does truth matter. They go hand-in-hand as the truth protects God's people; it is critical for all, but especially for those who are still in the humble beginnings of their faith. They are young and simple, not mature enough to defend themselves against bad doctrine. And doctrine matters because good doctrine is truth and truth verifies the testimony. The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy. Bad teaching and bad prophecy promote dangerous deceptive doctrines, and the most susceptible among us must be protected.

May this be the banner of Spirit and Truth over your life: in reality there are two overarching gospel messages; one cost Christ everything and cost you nothing; that's the Gospel of Salvation. The Gospel of Salvation establishes your favorable permanent position with God for eternity. The other is not free; it's the Gospel of the Kingdom and it will cost you everything, because that is the gospel of becoming like Christ. The Gospel of the Kingdom establishes your prophetic calling and ability to uncover the mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven and to bring that message to the world. We are commanded to do so! Truth matters because truth is reality. You should know the truth, because it's the truth that sets you free.

BANNER OF SPIRIT AND TRUTH

1. God is Spirit

A. Worship in Spirit and Truth!

- (1) Precedent for Spirit and Truth
 - (a) God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.
 - "But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father
 in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and
 those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."" John 4:23-24 NKJV
 - (b) God is Spirit, and it is only through Him that we have freedom.
 - 1. "Now **the Lord is the Spirit**; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, **there is liberty.**" II Corinthians 3:17 NKJV
 - (c) God is Spirit, but you cannot trust every spirit! You must test and measure. Is this God or is this another spirit?
 - 1. "Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of

- **God.** And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world. **You are of God,** little children, and have overcome them, because **He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.** They are of the world. Therefore they speak as of the world, and the world hears them. We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. **By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.**" I John 4:1-6 NKJV
- (d) This is the spirit of the Antichrist: the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life.
 - 1. "Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever." I John 2:15-17 NKJV
- (2) How will you know the Truth?
 - (a) What is Truth?
 - 1. "Pilate said to Him, "What is truth?" And when he had said this, he went out again to the Jews, and said to them, "I find no fault in Him at all." John 18:38 NKJV
 - 2. "Pilate therefore said to Him, "Are You a king then?" Jesus answered, "You say rightly that I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice."" John 18:37 NKJV
 - "Mercy and truth preserve the king, And by lovingkindness he upholds his throne." Proverbs 20:28 NKIV
 - "Mercy and truth have met together; Righteousness and peace have kissed. Truth shall spring out of the earth, And righteousness shall look down from heaven." Psalms 85:10-11 NKJV
 - (b) Truth comes from the Holy Spirit!
 - 1. "But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things. I have not written to you because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and that no lie is of the truth." I John 2:20-21 NKJV
 - 2. ""But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me. And you also will bear witness, because you have been with Me from the beginning." John 15:26-27 NKJV
 - 3. "However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come." John 16:13 NKJV

- (c) Truth comes from Christ!
 - "For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ."
 John 1:17 NKJV
- (d) Truth comes from the Word!
 - "Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."" John 8:31-32 NKJV
 - 2. "Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, And **Your law is truth.**" Psalms 119:142 NKJV
 - 3. "You are near, O Lord, And all Your commandments are truth." Psalms 119:151 NKJV
 - 4. "The entirety of Your word is truth, And every one of Your righteous judgments endures forever." Psalms 119:160 NKJV
- (e) Truth comes from Obedience!
 - 1. ""If you love Me, keep My commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you." John 14:15-18 NKJV
- (f) Truth comes from Prophecy!
 - "Now to Him who is able to establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret since the world began but now made manifest, and by the prophetic Scriptures made known to all nations, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, for obedience to the faith—" Romans 16:25-26 NKJV
- (g) If you are a Christian, the truth is inside your heart!
 - 1. "Do we begin again to commend ourselves? Or do we need, as some others, epistles of commendation to you or letters of commendation from you? You are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read by all men; clearly you are an epistle of Christ, ministered by us, written not with ink but by the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of flesh, that is, of the heart." Il Corinthians 3:1-3 NKJV
- (3) How do you protect yourself from lies?
 - (a) Identify those who bring bad doctrine! How?
 - "Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them." Romans 16:17 NKJV
 - (b) The doctrine of that is said to be of Christ MUST be consistent with the doctrine of the Father

- "Jesus answered them and said, "My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me. If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God or whether I speak on My own authority." John 7:16-17 NKJV
- (4) There is nothing better than the truth!
 - (a) The battle is against the lust of the flesh.
 - 1. "I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish." Galatians 5:16-17 NKJV
 - (b) Correcting someone who has wandered from the truth!
 - "Brethren, if anyone among you wanders from the truth, and someone turns him back, let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins." James 5:19-20 NKJV
 - (c) No greater joy!
 - 1. "I have **no greater joy** than to hear that my children walk in truth." III John 1:4 NKJV

B. The woman at the well and PEOPLE

- (1) The Spirit Moves People
 - (a) The hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth.
 - 1. "A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink." For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. Then the woman of Samaria said to Him, "How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water." The woman said to Him, "Sir, You have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep. Where then do You get that living water? Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, as well as his sons and his livestock?" Jesus answered and said to her, "Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life." The woman said to Him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." The woman answered and said, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You have well said, 'I have no husband,' for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; in that you spoke truly." The woman said to Him, "Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you Jews say that in Jerusalem is the place where one

ought to worship." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When He comes, He will tell us all things." Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am He."" John 4:7-26 NKJV

- (b) The woman then left her waterpot, went her way into the city to testify to the PEOPLE.
 - 1. "And at this point His disciples came, and they marveled that He talked with a woman; yet no one said, "What do You seek?" or, "Why are You talking with her?" **The woman** then left her waterpot, went her way into the city, and said to the men, "Come, see a Man who told me all things that I ever did. Could this be the Christ?" Then they went out of the city and came to Him." John 4:27-30 NKJV
- (c) Sent to reap where others have labored!
 - 1. "In the meantime His disciples urged Him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." But He said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know." Therefore the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought Him anything to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work. Do you not say, 'There are still four months and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! And he who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. For in this the saying is true: 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors."" John 4:31-38 NKJV
- (d) The harvest!
 - 1. "And many of the Samaritans of that city believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, "He told me all that I ever did." So when the Samaritans had come to Him, they urged Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. And many more believed because of His own word. Then they said to the woman, "Now we believe, not because of what you said, for we ourselves have heard Him and we know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world."" John 4:39-42 NKJV

THE SPIRIT TESTIFIES

2. Testimonies Matter

A. Relationships Matter (Gratitude and Acknowledgment; Give honor where honor is due!)

- (1) Demonstrate your love for God by the way you prefer and love others...
 - (a) As Paul brings his Magnum Opus in theology to a close he takes plenty of space to remember others.
 - "I commend to you Phoebe our sister, who is a servant of the church in Cenchrea [Near Corinth], that you may receive her in the Lord in a manner worthy of the saints, and assist her in whatever business she has need of you; for indeed she has been a helper of many and of myself also." Romans 16:1-2 NKJV
 - 2. "Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God." Romans 5:1-2 NKJV
 - 3. "Owe no one anything except to **love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law**." Romans 13:8 NKJV

B. Priscilla and Aquila

- (1) Risking your life for others...
 - (a) Effective Ministry
 - "Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, who risked their own necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles." Romans 16:3-4 NKJV
 - 2. "Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends." John 15:13 NKJV

C. The Home Church

- (1) A Holy Kiss
 - (a) Beloved Co-laborers
 - 1. "Likewise greet the church that is in their house. Greet my beloved Epaenetus, who is the firstfruits of Achaia to Christ. Greet Mary, who labored much for us. Greet Andronicus and Junia, my countrymen and my fellow prisoners, who are of note among the apostles, who also were in Christ before me. Greet Amplias, my beloved in the Lord. Greet Urbanus, our fellow worker in Christ, and Stachys, my beloved. Greet Apelles, approved in Christ. Greet those who are of the household of Aristobulus. Greet Herodion, my countryman. Greet those who are of the household of Narcissus who are in the Lord. Greet Tryphena and Tryphosa, who have labored in the Lord. Greet the beloved Persis, who labored much in the Lord. Greet Rufus, chosen in the Lord, and his mother and mine. Greet Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermas, Patrobas, Hermes, and the brethren who are with them. Greet Philologus and Julia, Nereus and his sister, and Olympas, and all the saints who are with them. Greet one another with a holy kiss. The churches of Christ greet you." Romans 16:5-16 NKJV

2. "But I know that when I come to you, I shall come in the fullness of the blessing of the gospel of Christ. {32} that I may **come to you with joy** by the will of God, and may **be refreshed together with you**." Romans 15:29, 32 NKJV

THE TRUTH VERIFIES

3. Truth Matters

A. Doctrine Matters

- (1) Watch out!
 - (a) Deceptive Doctrine
 - "Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them. For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple." Romans 16:17-18 NKJV
 - 2. "Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law. Every commandment can be summed up in this word, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law." (Romans 13:8-10)
 - 3. "Embrace those who are weak in the faith, and don't confuse them with controversies over things they don't yet understand. Instead, pursue things which bring peace and which edify others." (Romans 14:1, 19)
 - 4. "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables." Il Timothy 4:3-4 NKJV
 - 5. "But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction. And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed. By covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words; for a long time their judgment has not been idle, and their destruction does not slumber." II Peter 2:1-3 NKJV
 - 6. "For when they speak great swelling words of emptiness, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through lewdness, the ones who have actually escaped from those who live in error. While they promise them liberty, they themselves are slaves of corruption; for by whom a person is overcome, by him also he is brought into bondage." II Peter 2:18-19 NKJV

- 7. "They **zealously court you**, but for no good; yes, they want to exclude you, **that you may be zealous for them**." Galatians 4:17 NKJV
- 8. "Go from the presence of a foolish man, when you do not perceive in him the lips of knowledge." Proverbs 14:7 NKJV
- 9. "Do not be deceived: "Evil company corrupts good habits." (I Corinthians 15:33 NKJV
- 10. "Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?" II Corinthians 6:14 NKJV
- 11. "And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them." Ephesians 5:11 NKJV
- 12. "Am I my brother's keeper?" The famous words of Cain when questioned by Yahweh in Genesis 4:9, "Where is Abel your brother?"
- 13. "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:32 NKJV

B. The Truth Empowers and Protects People

- (1) Grace-Empowered-Faith-Based-Obedience
 - (a) Famous Obedience to the Truth
 - "For your obedience has become known to all. Therefore I am glad on your behalf; but I
 want you to be wise in what is good, and simple concerning evil. And the God of
 peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be
 with you. Amen." Romans 16:19-20 NKJV
 - 2. "You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it." John 8:44 NKJV
 - 3. "But avoid foolish and ignorant disputes, knowing that they generate strife. And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will." II Timothy 2:23-26 NKJV
 - 4. "Through Him we have received grace and apostleship **for obedience to the faith** among all nations for His name," Romans 1:5 NKJV
 - 5. "First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that **your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world**." Romans 1:8 NKJV
 - 6. "For your obedience has become known to all. Therefore I am glad on your behalf; but I want you to be wise in what is good, and simple concerning evil." Romans 16:19 NKJV

- a) "but now made manifest, and by the prophetic Scriptures made known to all nations, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, for obedience to the faith—" Romans 16:26 NKJV
- b) "But **solid food belongs to those who are of full age,** that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised **to discern both good and evil.**" Hebrews 5:14 NKJV

C. More important acknowledgments...

- (1) Focus on Timothy
 - (a) Inclusion: The Truth Includes People
 - "Timothy, my fellow worker, and Lucius, Jason, and Sosipater, my countrymen, greet you. I, Tertius, who wrote this epistle, greet you in the Lord. Gaius, my host and the host of the whole church, greets you. Erastus, the treasurer of the city, greets you, and Quartus, a brother. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen." Romans 16:21-24 NKJV
 - 2. "As I urged you when I went into Macedonia—remain in Ephesus that you may charge some **that they teach no other doctrine**, nor give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which cause disputes rather than godly edification which is in faith. Now the purpose of the commandment is love from a pure heart, from a good conscience, and from sincere faith, from which some, having strayed, have turned aside to idle talk, desiring to be teachers of the law, understanding neither what they say nor the things which they affirm." I Timothy 1:3-7 NKJV
 - 3. "Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, **but what is good for necessary edification**, that it may impart grace to the hearers." Ephesians 4:29 NKJV
 - 4. "desiring to be teachers of the law, understanding neither what they say nor the things which they affirm." I Timothy 1:7 NKJV
 - 5. "Now the Spirit expressly says that **in latter times** some will depart from the faith, **giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons**, **speaking lies in hypocrisy**, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron," I Timothy 4:1-2 NKJV
 - 6. "But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away! For of this sort are those who creep into households and make captives of gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts, always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth." Il Timothy 3:1-7 NKJV

- "If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully followed." I Timothy 4:6 NKJV
- 8. "If anyone teaches otherwise and does not consent to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which accords with godliness, he is proud, knowing nothing, but is obsessed with disputes and arguments over words, from which come envy, strife, reviling, evil suspicions, useless wranglings of men of corrupt minds and destitute of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain. From such withdraw yourself." I Timothy 6:3-5 NKJV
- "O Timothy! Guard what was committed to your trust, avoiding the profane and idle babblings and contradictions of what is falsely called knowledge— by professing it some have strayed concerning the faith. Grace be with you. Amen." I Timothy 6:20-21 NKJV
- 10. "But avoid foolish and ignorant disputes, knowing that they generate strife. And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will." II Timothy 2:23-26 NKJV
- 11. "And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen." **Romans** 16:20 NKJV
- 12. "But you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance, persecutions, afflictions, which happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra—what persecutions I endured. And out of them all the Lord delivered me. Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work." II Timothy 3:10-17 NKJV
- 13. "You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, **commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.**" II Timothy 2:1-2 NKJV

- 14. "I marvel that you are **turning away** so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, **to a different gospel**, which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to **pervert the gospel of Christ**." Galatians 1:6-7 NKJV
- 15. "But now after you have known God, or rather are known by God, how is it that you turn again to the weak and beggarly elements, to which you desire again to be in bondage? {17} They zealously court you, but for no good; yes, they want to exclude you, that you may be zealous for them." Galatians 4:9, 17 NKJV
- 16. "Then Jesus answered and said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, **the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do;** for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner." John 5:19 NKJV
- 17. "Do not think that I shall accuse you to the Father; there is one who accuses you—
 Moses, in whom you trust. For **if you believed Moses**, **you would believe Me**; **for he wrote about Me**. But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My
 words?"" John 5:45-47 NKJV
- 18. "Jesus answered them and said, "My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me. If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God or whether I speak on My own authority. He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of the One who sent Him is true, and no unrighteousness is in Him. Did not Moses give you the law, yet none of you keeps the law? Why do you seek to kill Me?"" John 7:16-19 NKJV

D. Now, go with this commission!

- (1) Do not overlook this critical point seemingly buried in the fine print. "The prophetic Scriptures made known!"
 - (a) It's a commandment!
 - 1. "Now to Him who is able to establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret since the world began but now made manifest, and by the prophetic Scriptures made known to all nations, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, for obedience to the faith— to God, alone wise, be glory through Jesus Christ forever. Amen." Romans 16:25-27 NKIV
 - 2. "And this **gospel of the kingdom** will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come." Matthew 24:14 NKJV
 - "He answered and said to them, "Because it has been given to you to know the
 mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given." Matthew 13:11
 NKJV

- 4. "That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying: "I will open My mouth in parables; I will utter things kept secret from the foundation of the world."" Matthew 13:35 NKJV
- 5. "Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me." Luke 9:23 NKJV
- 6. "For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for **the revealing of the sons of God.**" Romans 8:19 NKJV
- 7. "The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together." Romans 8:16-17 NKJV
- 8. "strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, "We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God."" Acts 14:22 NKIV
- 9. "But blessed are your eyes for they see, and your ears for they hear; for assuredly, I say to you that many prophets and righteous men desired to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it." Matthew 13:16-17 NKJV
- 10. "Let a man so consider us, as servants of Christ and **stewards of the mysteries of God**.

 Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful." I Corinthians 4:1-2 NKJV
- 11. "how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ), which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets:" Ephesians 3:3-5 NKJV
- 12. "And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "See that you do not do that! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."" Revelation 19:10 NKJV
- 13. "Through Him we have received grace and apostleship for **obedience to the faith** among all nations for His name," Romans 1:5 NKJV
- 14. "And so we have **the prophetic word confirmed**, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, **for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.**" II Peter 1:19-21 NKJV
- 15. <u>It's a command!</u> "but now made manifest, and by the prophetic Scriptures made known to all nations, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, for obedience to the faith—" Romans 16:26 NKJV