

FRIEND OF GOD

"And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham, believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the friend of God" (James 2:23).

Abraham was called God's friend; what closeness! How was this possible? It was possible because Abraham believed God. Great! Abraham believed God whatever He told him; he also acted on God's instructions according to the exact will of Him! And I believe that is the real friend.

Look further, when God said to Abraham, "Leave this place," Abraham left the place. When God said, "Give me your only son," Abraham 'gave' God his son. Abraham believed everything God told him; hence he was called God's friend.

Other important thing is that, when we become friend with God by believing Him Alone, He shares His plans, secrets with us. God told His plans about Sodom and Gomorrah to Abraham. I believe that God told Abraham because the two were close friends. Listen what God said, "And the LORD said, shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do?" (Genesis 18:17). By telling this God could confine in Abraham. He could tell His secrets and plans to Abraham.

Further important thing is that, after God told Abraham about His plans, Abraham actually bargained with God; and God never took offence at Abraham for asking almost the same question several times: "What if they are fifty?" then, "What if they are forty-five?" then "What if they are thirty?" then "What if they are twenty?" then "What if they are ten?"

It was indeed so irritating! But our good God is a patient God. He answered all these questions without any hint of impatience; after all, it was close friend who asked God! One thing is most important to notice here that: although every Christian is loved by God, but not all really get into the closeness that God had with Abraham.

Some of us have dedicated to walk on the narrow road. Such of us are true Christians and will never compromise with the system of the world and I do believe those of us are God's friends. They totally decided to obey God at any cost. Those of us who do not fully rely on God cannot get into deeper closeness with God. If we chose to live the Christian life then we need to rely on God totally!

Such a Christians who walk close with God as His friend, build their lives on the foundation called Christ: "Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay stubble; 13. Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. 14. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. 15. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be save; yet so as by fire" (I Corinthians 3:12-15).

May our good Lord continue to bless you and your family! Prema and I love you se dearly and pray for you daily! Write us for we love to hear from you!

Remember, <u>Jesus is Lord</u> and take with you <u>the Word of God and Faith</u>, excellent traveling Companions.(Psalms 119:105; II Corinthians 5:7)



