

If Any Man Come After Me Let Him Deny Himself – 07 17 05

- Joshua Daniel

Mathew 16:21:- From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day.

Then peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, be it far from you, Lord: this shall not be unto thee

And he turned, and said unto peter, get you behind me, Satan: Fancy calling any person Satan himself. Get you behind me Satan: you are an offence unto me; for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.

Oh yes, we understand a lot of intrigue scientific formulae. You know when some of these fellows these days, I asked them what are you studying at the university, well they mentioned a branch of learning, this is my discipline, this my branch of learning in which I am, I say to them plainly hey I not even heard of it. You know we have all kinds of specialization today and a special surgeon for left toe, big toe, and another specialized surgeon for the right toe, big toe or whatever it is. It seems to go on and on. In the midst of all these savoring of knowledge, it's not mastering knowledge because it is impossible for anybody to say I am a master because every branch of learning and knowledge expanding so rapidly. There are very few branches of knowledge today which are static in their growth. That being a case we are people who savor this and savor this and say I know this, I don't know this and I like this and I don't like this. However folks, here is peter being told by the lord, Thou savourest not the things that be of god but the things of that are of men. You know we are quick to imitate, aren't we? The new hair styles, the new cut in the cloths, the new hem lines, all the time you know. There must be, we have to imitate. Thou savourest the things those things that be of men. We go about by this person suggest, that person advices, that other person opinions, that person views this in this light and so on and so forth. We are always talking about this person, that person the other person, my friend, my relative, my people, my nation; we are all the time talking about these very limited people with very limited knowledge. We are never saying god spoke to me. You go to the bible and you see all the time, thus saith the lord. The Lord said to me in my ears. Today there is no thus saith the lord, I presume, god has ceased to speak or lost his voice or whatever has happened, there is no thus saith the

lord, there is no direction today in people's life. There are so bizarre, so confused. They don't even go to god and say lord what would you say? What is your direction? I certainly want to know your direction. What have you got for me? thou savourest not the things that belong to god. You just don't have, you have not cultivated that faculty to savor the things of god. We just go by what the public says, what everybody things, what the newspapers saying. Is that all depth of our understanding? My dear friends, when you have a bible in your hands and the god of the bible before you, you dare not settle for such ignorance. Thou savourest not the things that be of god, but only the things that be of men. You know we are now in the midst of various currents. One of the currents today is as all of you know, how to get rich quickly? How to land a job which will just keep me floating you know; higher and higher. Even religion today is purely being utilized for self-advancement. I have seen people take up jobs in locations which were very hard from every standpoint. But they took up those jobs for gospel. Not because it was easy, not because of the emoluments, because of their salaries, because they were going to draw much less. They took it up as a challenge for the gospel. But today I see a whole current which is in the opposite direction which is not for the gospel.

Yesterday I met a young man in our open air meeting, I said young man have you been a faithful, have you been helping in god's work? No. well, there is, I go to some place close to my lodging, Yes, people have settled down for comfort. See it's close to me, I can easily in ten minutes I can get there so I warm the seat every Sunday morning, that seat requires warming you know and so on and on it goes. You see it's not a question of I am committed. I will do this for god. I will spend myself for god, nothing of that sort. Have you savoured the new testament? What follows? What is the next verse? Would you look at that please, If any man will come after me let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. Peter, you seem to think I am here on a jolly ride, I am here to enjoy the little bit of fairy land. I must suffer many things; no you shall not. I want to rebuke you, you cannot suffer all these indignities; get you behind me. you are the very personification of Satan, get you behind me. See we don't recognize Satan, we've got so friendly, we've got such friendly terms, he has a lovely face, his words are beautiful, they sound like music in our ears. We like his advice; after all he's been giving a lot of good advice from that day in the garden and so why shouldn't I take his advice. I like to savor the things that belong to men. So the lord Jesus Christ tells us, yeah, if any man will come after me: does Calvary produce drifters or dropouts? Today our society is full of drifters. There are some people who use matrimony purely for physical comfort. They don't have any higher concept of marriage. Then just you know I like to have be a

married person, I like marriage, I like companionship, I like a warm home, I like this , I like that, well, alright, I like a good cook. Don't let me forget that. You see my dear friends, they have no higher concept. I've got to build the kingdom of god. That has got to be a very exclusive person whose heart is set on the kingdom of god. After all I am going to live on this earth for such a short time. What shall I do? No, people don't have that. It is my convenience, it is my craving, it's my flesh, it's my longing, and it's how it should be done anyway. Any man will follow me, let him deny himself, take up his cross daily and follow me. The cross! The cross is become the offense. I don't know why we seem to put the cross, you know I don't believe in the external cross, I want an internal cross. I want a cross that operates all the time in my life. I don't want any ornament or embellishment that externally kind of decorates me or designates me as a Christian. But I want the cross to be operating in my life. Here the Lord Jesus Christ says, to be my disciple you need the cross daily In operation. My dear friends, that is become the real offense today. If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross and follow me. Why? He carries the cross and with the cross goes the resurrection power.