

# The Plumbline

Scriptures to use for Searching your Soul

Edifying the Body of Christ (Eph. 4.10-16)

July, 2012

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Amo 7:7 Thus he shewed me: and, behold, the Lord stood upon a wall [made] by a plumbline, with a plumbline in his hand.

## How is it with your soul?

**H**ow many times do we live by the law instead of grace! The law was given to bring us to grace. When Jesus Christ, the only Begotten Son of God, came and dwelt among us on this earth, grace was given that we might obey the laws of God with love, that we might love His law – as King David spoke of so often. The sad part is that when we believe we have been dealt some hard things in life from those who *claim to know* Jesus, we want punishment from the law to be administered to them. BUT, we want grace for ourselves. No. No. No. We must not only be recipients of the Lord's grace, but vessels through which His grace flows to others for His glory.

### The Plumbline: Matthew 5.43, 44

Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.

But I say unto you, **Love your enemies, bless them** that curse you, **do good to them** that hate you, and **pray for them** which despitefully use you, and persecute you .

Perhaps there needs to be some soul searching as King David prayed:

Psa 139:23 Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts:

Psa 139:24 And see if [there be any] wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

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**Co-laborers together for Jesus Christ**

*Come apart and rest (Mark 6.31)*

# Walking in the Light

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Rom 10:17 So then faith [cometh] by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

It is a hard word, but the Lord makes it clear that there is not a choice but to walk in obedience to His commands. In “*The Message*,” it is stated that this command in Matthew 5.44 is most difficult. If one is honest, one will say, “Yes, it is most difficult; but I love my Lord, and I want to walk in obedience to Him.” It seems to me there is a song that has words to it something like, “When He was on the cross, I was on His mind.” The Lord knew us before we were born – not just us, but all. The Lord called those whom He would such as Jeremiah before he was born. The Lord knows our sinfulness, and, yet, He loves us. He loves you. He loves me.

This is a love that calls us to walk in obedience to His command in Matthew 5.44. This love is not a love that says whatever you want to do is alright; God understands. This love is the deep love of a parent, of a Father, of the Lord Jesus Christ who says, “No, you cannot play in the traffic.” You cannot walk with the world and participate in the sins of the world and be part of the body of Christ Jesus. You cannot dress and act and think like the world, like Satan – and walk with the Lord.

There is a choice that must be made. Joshua said,

And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that [were] on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD (Jos 24.15).

Loving one's enemies is **not** to walk with them; it is **not** to think like they do; it is **not** to bless their ways, their works. It is a love that comes from going to the reverse side of the cross and seeing the brokenness in their lives and weeping for them – for their soul's salvation in Jesus Christ. It is to see with the heart of God in Christ Jesus as He saw each one while He was on the cross laying down His life because of His great love for those who were walking with the world and knew HIM not.

This is a love that we must have for Jesus that causes us to want to share His love with them that they might know His joy, His peace, His salvation.

Psa 119:11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.