



## PREPARED FOR HIS SOON RETURN SERIES

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### WHAT SERMON ARE YOU PREACHING?

*"With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."*

*(Luke 21:36)*

In Luke 18, Jesus gave the parable of the persistent widow, and the parable of the tax collector; then He took the little children to teach the disciples. At that moment in time, a young rich ruler came to Him asking what He should do to have eternal life. Jesus told Him to sell his belongings, to give the money to the poor, then to come and follow Him. This was quite a challenging situation for

the young rich man. After these events, the Lord Jesus-Christ made the following statement:

- What is not possible to man is possible to God (Luke 18:27).

What is it that is so difficult to man, but possible to God? Man is naturally proud, self-centered, self-seeking. It is so difficult for man to deny self. But to God, self-denial is possible. The four object lessons Jesus gave in Luke 18 were meant to teach disciples this lesson of self-denial.

<b>Some lessons preceding the cross</b>	<b>Lesson to learn</b>
The parable of the persistent widow	Self-denial
The parable of the tax collector	Self-denial
Illustration with the little children	Self-denial
The young rich ruler and the Kingdom	Self-denial

In fact, the Bible said, after all these events, Jesus predicted His death for His disciples for the third time; yet their mind was still not opened to the lesson they were been taught. Then came the day Jesus was arrested; the disciples fled. At the cross, through His self-denial, Jesus-Christ made a public display of God's love to the universe. The cross was meant to first destroy the pride and selfishness of the disciples, so the love of God might finally move

into their humbled and surrendered hearts. Through the death of Christ at Calvary, the disciples understood the word:

- "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. (Matthew 16:24).

The cross of Christ, and the power of the resurrection that followed were the historical events which drastically subdued the ego of the followers of Christ, and prepared them for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost. *"The same work, only in greater degree, must be done (Ellen White -TM- 507)"*, not tomorrow but now.

Dear reader, what sermon are you preaching? Pride, Selfishness? "The most difficult sermon to preach and the hardest to practice is self-denial – (E.G. White". *Advent Review and Sabbath Herald-1907*). If we want to be filled with the Holy Spirit, and work for God effectively, we are to have the Spirit of self-denial Jesus had; and demonstrate the total surrender Jesus showed on the cross. That is the only one condition.

Do you want to be filled with the Holy Spirit? Learn from the Master. He is the Lamb of God. You too can preach the most difficult sermon.

May God help us to be humble, so that when Jesus comes, we might not hide from Him, but behold the face of the Lamb of God in His beauty and righteousness.

*Yours in the blessed hope.*

*To See His Face Ministries Intl - Edem Fabrice Ameyou*