

TOTAL Surrender to Christ our Lord

Part 2 of 2



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All scriptures are NKJV unless noted otherwise.

KEY WORDS: *surrender to God, submit, God's will, Jesus is Lord and Master.*

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Summary: *Christ is your Savior, but do we live like He is also our Master and Lord of our life? Who owns our life? Who decides what you will go through? Whose will do we seek each day? Learn how Yeshua is your Lord, ruler, king, boss, and master – and how there must be plenty of evidence that is the case in our lives.*

**** [the following notes are not word for word, but close. The audio has more. I recommend printing the notes and so you have it as you listen.]*

Hello again **and welcome to part 2 on “TOTAL Surrender to our LORD and Savior”**. *Yeshua is your Savior – but do we live like He's also our Lord and Master?* Last time I set the stage. I hope you will hear part 1 first as there was considerable detail. It led me to have to repent a lot. I preach at myself too. I realized there are still too many areas where I'm the one in control instead of seeking and following my Lord's leadership and control.

What does total and complete surrender to our Commander, our Lord and Master look like? Joshua, human leader of Israel prior to the battle of Jericho, had to learn who the real leader was. He illustrated surrender very well. The Passover had just been completed. No doubt as military commander, Joshua was mulling over his options. Then a man with a sword suddenly appeared.

Joshua 5:13-15

And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, **a Man stood opposite him with His sword drawn** in His hand. And Joshua went to Him and said to Him, "Are You for us or for our adversaries?"

14 So He said, "No, but as Commander of the army of YHVH I have now come."

And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped, and said to Him, "What does my Lord (*Adon*) say to His servant?"

15 Then the Commander of the Lord's army said to Joshua, "Take your sandal off your foot, for the place where you stand is holy." And Joshua did so.

Joshua submitted and obeyed instantly. His first question was almost exactly what Saul (Paul) also asked in Acts 9. "What is it you would like me to do?"

Surrendering unconditionally is never easy as it means giving up sovereignty of your life. This is actually one of our most important topics we can cover. Now someone else is giving us guidance and direction – though it's still up to us if we will follow. *If we aren't seeking and following God's lead and will for us, we have not unconditionally surrendered yet.* That's why in the "Lord's Prayer" we pray "THY will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."

WARNING: *God will make us go **through as much he has to**, to break our stubborn self-reliance – until we surrender unconditionally and quit relying on ourselves or our own good works and our own righteousness. We must come to the same point – "Lord, what is it you wish me to do?"*

Example: do you go through a day, or even START your day, without first praying for God's will and studying his word for you each day, so you ARE connected and in tune with your Master and Father? If not, can we say we've surrendered?

Seeking God first **must be a daily habit**, or we are still not fully surrendered and obeying his command in **Matthew 6:33**. *So I get up, take the dog out for her business, then come back on my knees first thing before God Most High and Jesus Christ. Before coffee. Before checking my cell phone. DON'T start by checking your cell phone or you'll never pray first.*

Prayer – and making contact with GOD – is more important than your cell phone! And Bible study is our daily manna. Yeshua said he was the bread from heaven that gives life (**John 6:32-35**). We are nourished by bread, which is Christ. So seeking God must be our first priority each day. *God must be kept as first in our life, day in and day out (Matthew 6:33).*

We must never outgrow this "basic" – putting God absolutely first. When the Basics aren't sound, then the whole foundation crumbles.

We are to abide in Messiah, and bear much fruit (John 15:5). **Psalm 1:1-3** says if we meditate on his word, we will be like trees planted by rivers of water, bearing fruit in season. In **Joshua 1:7-9** YHVH told Joshua to meditate on his word and he would prosper Joshua's life. DAILY seeking after God in prayer and study, *first thing, every day* -- as our FIRST priority is the basic that is actually so profound. And it's the foundation that indicates we're surrendering to our Creator.

If we're not seeking God and his kingdom first thing, we haven't surrendered yet! This is what makes us become as one with our Master. I remind you of the spirited horse that has to be broken enough to allow a saddle and rider on his back and become safe to ride. WE must become like that too – til one day we're like well trained horses who let its rider tell it what to do and where to go. We have to give up the self and want our Rider showing us the way. A broken person turns around from his/her old way to now walking in God's way.



My point #1 last time: True surrender starts with brokenness of our heart and spirit in deep repentance.

God will regard and listen to those with a contrite, humble and broken heart – as I showed you before. We turn around and choose God's way. Only a horse that has been broken is safe to ride. ***But a great horse is very receptive to even the slightest signals from the rider, imperceptible to most people watching.*** If you ever get a chance to watch the world famous Lipizzan stallions, do so!

We must become even more 'as one' with our Lord Yeshua, and in-tune to his every signal for us – far more than any Lipizzan horse.

2nd Point covered last time: Romans 10:9-10 last time. We are to unequivocally proclaim our Savior as also our Lord and Master. Every tongue will proclaim him Lord, Philippians 2:11 says. We announce he's risen from the dead and lives and is coming back. He will return. Hear the audio of part 1. So we proclaim him Lord by our every word and deed.

Many sabbath keeping groups do not even use the words "Lord Jesus" – but just "Christ, or Jesus or Messiah" – but often skip "Lord Jesus". We have one LORD (Eph 4:5), who is Yeshua/Yeshua. He set the perfect example of submission to HIS God who is over all (Eph 4:6).

In America we're not used to using the title "Lord" – so use "Master" or Boss, or Sir – if you prefer, but something happens in our heart the more we use and recognize the Yeshua as our Lord and Master. *It tells us He has dominion over us – and so we should use that title a lot more.*

Philippians 2:11

"EVERY tongue shall confess that Jesus is LORD".

So don't wait too long to be part of that number.

There's SO much more in part 1, so I hope you've heard it already. We must be like Christ more and more. He said he spoke *NOTHING but the Father's words and did nothing but what were His Father's works (John 8:28.)* *That's our pattern. Now we seek Father's and Yeshua's will for us.*

Those who will be in the kingdom of heaven, our Lord says, will be those who **"DO the will of my father in heaven"** – **Matthew 7:21**. And those, and ONLY those, are the ones Yeshua calls his siblings (**Matthew 12:50**). So calling him "Lord" must be evidenced by seeking and obeying God's will for us.

Matthew 7:21

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who DOES the will of My Father in heaven.

Are you seeing how important this topic of total unconditional surrender to our LORD is?

Let's pray – asking for anointing of the Holy Spirit on all of us and to learn what it means to totally and unconditionally surrender and submit to our God.

Welcome again to Light on the Rock. I'm Philip Shields, host and founder of this free website. Remember to check out the short reads, the hundreds of blogs, and our Sermons are going to be a **mix of new video sermons** and some are **new just-audio sermons too**. So check both video and audio sermons. And sometimes I'll re-post an audio given before, as the content is usually timeless.

Certainly be checking out the many Pentecost season sermons now.

Have you had your “one-on-one with your Lord” yet? It's coming, if you haven't already. As Thomas exclaimed --“My Lord and my GOD!” (John 20:25-29). **Paul (Saul)** – “Lord, what do you want me to do?” (**Acts 9:6 NKJV**). Another good example was Joshua, as he pondered his battle plans to conquer Jericho, as we've seen.

Do you hear the similarities of total surrender? They embody the attitude of “Not my will – but yours be done. What do You want me to do?”

My wife reminded me too that David often sought God's directions *before* battles. We should do the same (ask what GOD wants for us or for us to do) before we go out to spiritually battle each day.

Whose plans do you want God to bless? Too many of us devise our day's plans and then ask God to bless OUR plans. **If you or if I am well surrendered, - get this – we shouldn't be asking God to bless OUR plans. NO, no, no. That's backwards. That's YOU living your own life again** instead of seeking God's life for you. But that's what we all have done, haven't we?

(There's considerably more on the audio at this point)

We should be asking him to reveal HIS plans for us. We might be asking God if HE wants us to do such-and-such, and if that is HIS will, to please open doors and make it clear, and if it's not your will, slam those doors shut. Do you

see the difference? That's quite different from asking people to pray "that I get that great job" – or whatever your wish is.

So complete surrender means we want what HE wants. We have given up old sins that seem to linger forever.

So what should be happening in our lives if Yeshua is truly our Lord and we have truly surrendered unconditionally?

1. TOTAL BROKENNESS and surrender. (Covered in part 1) and we turn around and go HIS way, for HIS plans.

2. Openly SPEAK and LIVE acknowledgement that Yeshua is Lord and leader of your life from now on – in ALL aspects of your life, proven by our actions. **Romans 10:9-10**

Now let's move on to other points:

3. WE SURRENDER our Do-it-yourself lives to the life acknowledging we need God's GRACE and favor and need Christ to live in us. We know humanly WE will never be perfect by our own actions.

(more on audio here). Speak it – that you acknowledge his grace, need his life to be living in you. *This is much more than just doing your best to imitate him.*

In fact Paul said, "But by the grace of God I am what I am..." – 1 Cor. 15:10.

Unless we're under the full grace of God, we have not experienced total and true repentance. We fail so often to live like Christ and unless we come under his full grace, we'll never experience the joy of his salvation.

This is what happens with true repentance, of course. This is such a difficult point for people who know we have to obey God. They try to come to salvation by themselves. They end up unhappy, without the joy of His Salvation – because we all regularly fall short of the mark. We keep stumbling in sin – unintentionally, but we just can't seem to do things perfectly ourselves.

Actually, as we go grow ever deeper into deep unconditional surrender – you will realize how BADLY we need God's grace to get us to the finish line.

I've given many sermons on God's righteousness that He wants us to have – HIS OWN PERFECT life and HIS perfect righteousness he gives us by faith, through Christ's perfect life covering us.

Christ says, "We shall be PERFECT, as your Father in heaven is perfect". (**Matthew 5:48**). Wow! I must give a full-length sermon on what this means and how this will be accomplished – and it will NOT be by your perfect efforts! Be looking for that sermon, probably after Pentecost this year.

You have NOT surrendered your life if you are still trying to be righteous and perfect and a child of God by your own efforts –even with God's spirit – you'll STILL need to be under grace. Read Philippians 3:9 carefully. Paul did NOT want his own righteousness – but God's very own righteousness by faith instead.

Many of you resist this – to your hurt, to your lack of joy of knowing your salvation. True surrender starts here, as we repent and accept God's grace. You all should be very familiar with ***Ephesians 2:8-10*** that shows we have been saved by grace, not by our own efforts, but we are created FOR good works, even though good works don't and can't save us (verse 10).

Be sure to watch my sermon in a month or so about "you shall therefore be perfect, as you father in heaven is perfect" (Matthew 5:48). I also need a whole sermon on how God's grace "is sufficient" for us (2 Cor. 12:9).

4. To truly surrender we need and ask for and receive God's spirit. Without God's spirit, we are not even his (Romans 8:9).

Pentecost is the anniversary of receiving God's spirit (Acts 2:1-4) and being able to fight sin – and making us begotten children of God (Romans 8:14)

Romans 8:6-10 Holman

"For the mind-set of the flesh is death, but the mind-set of the Spirit is life and peace. 7 For the mind-set of the flesh is hostile to God because it does not submit itself to God's law, for it is unable to do so.

8 Those whose lives are in the flesh are unable to please God.

9 YOU, however, are NOT in the flesh, but in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God lives in you. *But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him."*

Romans 8:13 goes on to say we put to death the deeds of the body **BY** God's spirit. God's spirit allows God to communicate with our spirit, "the Spirit in Man" (I have a sermon on that topic).

We grow to the point where we truly HATE the deeds and sins of our old nature. So Paul was able to say in **Romans 7:15**, "that which I *hate*, I do" – referring to his spiritual stumbles that still happened from time to time. *My point is – I hope we all come to really HATE the sins that still bedevil us, as Paul did.* Surely, we can't still be at the point of enjoying sin, though sin offers a temporary pleasure (Hebrews 11:25). God's spirit in us will lead us to be upset during and after the sin going on in your life.

Our old nature is still there, but now we receive God's nature, His seed, when we receive His Spirit. The battle between the 2 natures is intense (**Galatians 5:16-17**). The one you feed, and the one you heed – becomes the dominant nature in you. Let's feed on God's nature in us in daily prayer and intense Bible study each day, every day.

5. We've rejected the kingdom of Satan (this world) and live for the Kingdom of God. We do not seek to look like, talk like, act like Satan's kingdom. NOW we represent the Kingdom of God in all aspects of our life.

We have God's Spirit – but are we being LED by God's spirit? If we're NOT led by his spirit, we are not his children (**Romans 8:14**).

King Yeshua was very clear. He spoke to Jews who *believed* in him – but weren't willing to go all the way with him. Yeshua said they were of their father the Devil. Imagine that! (John 8:44a)

John 8:44

"You are of your father the devil, and the desires [the will] of your father you want to do...."

You were **bought back, redeemed**, when Messiah gave his very own life for you as a RANSOM and put into the Kingdom of God – awaiting its full reality when the Messiah returns. (Matthew 20:28; Hosea 13:14; 1 Cor. 6:19-20).

Colossians 1:12-14

"... giving thanks to the Father who has QUALIFIED us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light.

13 He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, 14 in

whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.”

LET that process happen. BE delivered from Satan’s kingdom of darkness. We are not a part of Satan’s kingdom any more.

In **Revelation 18:4** we are warned to “come OUT of her (Babylon), my people...”

2 Cor. 6:17-18

“come out from among them and be separate...I will be a Father to you and you shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.”

BE separate. Don’t be part of the evil of the world. Be a light to them, speak of Yeshua, and most of all, show by your LIFE that you’re different. “Come out” means be different. Remember Yeshua sent his disciples INTO the world, but not to be “OF” it. (John 17:18).

So we’re not part of this society, this world’s values, this world’s ways. We simply are not. We don’t need to talk like them, dress like them, act like them. We’re from above. **Full surrender means we – like Rahab at Jericho – have switched** from the enemy to being a part of the Israel of God, under his command. (More on the audio) Ruth did the same thing. “Your God will be my God” she said (Ruth 1:16).

Though we belong to Messiah now – guess what? We still have 2 natures inside us. The old carnal one is still there – until the resurrection, but now we also have God’s nature. The one we feed, the one we LISTEN TO; the one we follow, the one we obey – will become dominant in our daily lives.

Galatians 5:16-17 Holman Bible

“I say then, walk by the Spirit and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.

17 For the flesh desires what is against the Spirit, and the Spirit desires what is against the flesh; these are opposed to each other, so that you don’t do what you want.”

Paul called the old nature – “The old man” inside us. The “carnal nature”, the “flesh”. Still at work, even though we now have God’s Holy Spirit as well.

So have YOU and I come out of Satan’s world?

So what do you watch on TV? You, who would never want a real live person spending hours in your home spewing profanity and damnation and foul F words and drug dealing and prostitution – do we let all that into our homes by the shows we watch?

Look! Watching TV shows that include Walking Dead, demons, zombies, Harry Potter and witchcraft, wizards, mediums who talk to the dead, shows about ghosts – ***is dabbling in Satan's world of demons and is wrong, wrong, wrong.*** You're playing with fire, period. I have several sermons about demons, and we must not let them entertain us!!! WHAT are some of you thinking? Demonic thoughts can come into our minds and lives by what we watch. That's one way foolish Christians open the door to demons!

Watching TV or videos of murder, violence or topless girls – OK, not out and out hard-core porn – but nudity – come on, we've gotta stop it! That's not of our new Kingdom with God. It's of Satan's kingdom. Would Yeshua sit beside you and watch those with you? He's IN you—but he will not stay in us if we make Him watch and hear things of Satan's world.

SURE, it appeals to the flesh and we all have to fight things that appeal to our flesh. I have to fight sins and temptations of the flesh too. But FIGHT we must. All of us. ***This includes going to Las Vegas or Reno or someplace and going to shows you KNOW good and well Jesus wouldn't be going to!*** When we do stuff like that, you're losing some of the Holy Spirit. God won't stay with someone taking him by his spirit to sinful places.

So have we fully surrendered – all areas of weakness for ourselves – over to God? **WHAT are your areas of weakness that you cling to?** That you haven't given up yet? Do you argue with your husband or wife? Do you refuse to pray solidly each day because you put other things before God? ***** That's just plain stupid, frankly, when we go face the day and its wars without our spiritual armor on! And it shows we're not fully surrendered to God yet.***

Where do you spend most of your non-working TIME? Does it reflect surrender to God? What does it tell you – and God? ***Someone chronicling our time and how we spend it – would they see we spend our time on Godly pursuits more than carnal, temporary ones?*** What gets more time: Netflix, Facebook, Instagram, TV – or God's word?

Politics: We are sojourners (1 Peter 2:11; Heb 11:13), like Abraham and our forefathers, traveling through this life and this world. That's first. We are not Republicans or democrats, but children of GOD. *We are not*

committed to the elephant party or the donkey party – but to the Lamb of God.

So I still fight for the oppressed – as God tells us to – and that includes the unborn who are being massacred in abortion. So I still support the party that still is against abortion, still stands more for traditional family values of dad-mom- children, or real men and real women – and that's OK – as God says we should stand for the right! And I think it's fine to support the party that supports law and order, belief in God, freedom of churches to assemble and support police and family. But don't let that support turn to being completely enraptured by a political party. We are sojourners.

Our FOCUS must remain on God and his kingdom and remember we are sojourners.

My wife Carole remarked that it seems so many children of God get so engrossed in political news that we spend too little time in God's word or on our knees!

*So total surrender to our Lord Yeshua says we no longer seek our desires so much – but now seek God's desires. And PT #5 -- we don't keep compromising with Satan's world! We have rejected Satan's world.
Or have we?*

6. Total surrender to Christ's lordship means we bring *EVERY THOUGHT* into total surrender/captivity of obedience to Christ.

2 Corinthians 10:3-5

“For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. 4 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, 5 casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, **bringing EVERY thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ...”**

(More on audio. Mentioned the book by Jennie Allen – “Get out of your Head” – about controlling our thoughts).

Yeshua's example of when Satan was pumping wrong thoughts to him: He quoted back God's word! **See Matthew 4:1-10.** He didn't discuss or dwell on Satan's thoughts. That's another good reason to know God's word so well – so you can powerfully fight off Satan's thoughts and temptations. We have to bring every thought to obedience of Christ, as Christ captured every thought to obedience of HIS master and Father, God Most High.

For example: What if you've been told you or a loved one has cancer, and its stage 4, meaning survival not highly likely. What are you thinking? Have you captured it to the obedience of faith in Christ? (Audio has more).

Remind yourself of scriptures that should help you.

- God knows this already and every single thing that happens to us.
- God will do what's best and will be with us every step of the way – including, if that's GOD'S will, including death itself. Remember “these ALL died, not having received the promises.” (Hebrews 11:25). But it actually says “these all died IN FAITH...” Sooner or later you and I will die as well. That's OK.

Or what if you're feeling sexually motivated... what are your thoughts right now? **You can choose which spirit you will listen to. You can choose** to quote scripture back – “FLEE fornication” and you can study Proverbs 5 and 7 and avoid pouring gasoline on that fire within you by not watching shows that show scantily clad women or sexual affairs. You choose not to flirt or speak in innuendo.

Ladies – we men need your help. It does not help us keep our minds in check – especially the younger guys – if you ladies wear low cut blouses/tops and then you bend down low in front of a man – revealing too much; or wear short skirts, tight skirts. And what do you wear at the beach?

I need a whole sermon just on this point of *capturing* our thoughts to obedience to Christ, but it needed to be included in this Surrender sermon.

So bring EVERY thought into captivity to obedience to Christ to show HE truly is your Master. I've just finished a great book on this topic of thought captivity by Jennie Allen, “Get out of your head”. I recommend it. And I want to bring a whole sermon just on this powerful KEY to total surrender: Capture your thoughts. Bring them to Christ.

7. One who is fully surrendered fully TRUSTS, TRUSTS, TRUSTS HIS LORD – in EVERYTHING and anything that happens to him/her. Everything. Anything. No exceptions. Again, NONE. NO worries, if done perfectly. He owns us and loves us so we trust him.

When we worry, it means we don't understand we belong to him, and our life is his problem, not ours. And he's perfecting us, completing us – by trials and problems. We get stronger as we learn to handle trials and setbacks. **But**

when we worry, it shows we have not fully totally surrendered yet.

We can't lose a single strand of hair without his knowledge. So oh yes, he knows your every struggle and problem.

We belong to him. We're so precious to God that He sent his own innocent son to die for you – so you don't have to. Yeshua loves you so much he offered his life – it was his choice in the end. Father didn't make him do it. He says so in **John 10:17-18**.

(Our audio/video has more personal examples of the 2nd time I was told I had lymphoma and enlarged organs – spleen, liver, heart and what God did.)

When we WORRY, it's a lack of FAITH – and without faith it is impossible to please Him (Hebrews 11:6). Worry means we don't TRUST God with what's going on. We want to figure out solutions ourselves instead of seeking God's answers. Worry means we've forgotten we belong to him and it's up to him what happens to us – and we forgot to trust that he's got our best in mind – yes, even up to and including death.

It's normal to have fears – but if we REMAIN in fear, it's a lack of TRUST that "God's got this" and whatever happens to us when we're surrendered like that, is something HE's very aware of and is handling.

Please hear these sermons:

Being Thankful in and For all Things

When I am Weak, then I am strong.

A great antidote to worry is to surrender what's going on by thanking God even FOR what's going on! -- and TRUST Father and our Lord Yeshua.

There's too much worrying going on among God's children. Worry means we're not submitted in part of our life.

You worry about your children and grandchildren. Or your health. Or your chest pains or illness your spouse is going through. Go back and re-read **Matthew 6:25-34**. Can't change one thing BY WORRY – except make things worse.

Lord Yeshua commands us: "I say to you, 'DON'T worry about your life...' (v.25) *Worrying means you've chosen to disobey Christ's command not to worry. Worrying means you still feel you call the shots of what happens in your life and have not given up your life to Christ, who is now your life (Col. 3:2-4).* Worrying means you don't understand we "are the Lord's, whether we

live or die” (Romans 14:8).

Worrying means you have not surrendered your life to Yeshua and Father in heaven.

Fear is normal. But don't remain in fear. So what should we do? David tells us. Look at the sequence. We start in fear – but find God's grace to step out in faith.

Psalms 56:3-4

“Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You.

In God (I will praise His word), In God I have put my trust;
I will not fear. What can flesh do to me?”

You got Covid19 or cancer and now you're afraid of dying? Fear does not stop death. Fear stops life. And worrying does not take away your troubles. It just takes away today's peace.

Worry and fear means you've taken ownership of your life back. Big bad mistake! “YOU are not your own” – **1 Cor. 6:19.**

Romans 14:7-8

“For none of us lives to himself, and no one dies to himself.
For if we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord.
Therefore, whether we live or DIE, we are the Lord's.”

Paul's SEVERE trials: Look how much Paul was tested and tested and tested. Stoned, left for dead, in shackles often, in jail often, shipwrecked, scourged and beaten with rods, the center of riots, and on and on – but his faith is astounding, as he never quit looking at Christ. Never do we read Paul questioning God “WHY ME”. Never.

A fully surrendered person can thank God IN all things and even FOR all things – for we have died, and our life is now hidden in Christ in God, and Christ is now our life (**Col 3:3-4**). So whatever happens -- we can be thankful, for we're in GOD's Hands! **My brother's wrist band: “God's got this!”**

Instead of worrying and not being able to sleep, --burst into song and praise and prayer as Paul and Silas did in jail (**Acts 16:22-30, especially verse 25**).

Or let's learn **the peace of Peter**, who was to be beheaded, was chained to a Roman soldier on both sides of him—and still fell asleep until an angel woke him up! (**Acts 12:5-10**).

8. FULL SURRENDER also means accepting and OBEYING ALL of God's commands, by and in Christ, including all the hard ones.

At Paul's conversion on the road to Damascus, he asks, "Lord, what is it you would have me to do?" (ACTS 9:6 NKJV and KJV).

I urge you to write that down and *say* that, *pray* that, many times a week. Then when He shows us what we are to do, we obey. We seek *his* will.

But problem is: we have pet sins, just "little ones" that we hate to give up.

We can *call* Lord Yeshua "Lord" – but if we don't DO what he says, his reply to you will be "Depart from me, you workers of iniquity, for I never knew you" (**Matthew 7:21-23**).

Just saying "lord" won't be enough. TOTAL submission and surrender are required, evidenced by our obedient life.

Examples of HARD COMMANDS:

"Hard commands" for you will be the ones you know you struggle with.

- **Love your enemy, bless those who curse you, do good to those who do bad things to you – Matthew 5:43-48.** I will give a whole sermon soon on HOW we can do this. Really? We are to love and bless the bad guys? Our enemies? That's what He says.

And WHY? King Yeshua says it's a sign that you're a true son of GOD, who does good things to good and bad people alike.

See my upcoming sermon on this one.

- **TITHE – or at least be GENEROUS with your funds to help those who are spreading the good news.** Those who preach the gospel should be supported by those being served (**1 Corinthians 9:14**)
- **Loving your wife, regardless. Wives- loving and submitting to your husband, regardless.** Who even preaches that anymore? We are to submit to one another in the fear of God actually (Ephesians 5:21).

- **Rejoicing in trials**, thanking God **in** and **for** all things. ALL things. (Ephesians 5:20; Philippians 4:6-8). Paul rejoiced in his hard times (2 Cor. 12:8-10).
- **No more fretting and worrying**. The key is to understand the things you worry and fret about are now the concern of our Messiah – not yours. If you and I have totally surrendered, we're growing in this area. Worrying means you are taking control of your life back from God!

So as we read the Bible and sit at God's table of spiritual food – it's not a pick-and-choose buffet, where we accept and reject what we want. We totally surrender to his *every* word, every wish, every desire – certainly as revealed to us by scripture.

None of us are totally there yet but surrendering to – and doing – his every desire should be our heart's desire.

And we know that God REWARDS those who give up their own lives for HIS. People who let HIM work in them and do good works to the glory of the Father. The rewards of being in the first resurrection -- well, I should talk on that too. I do have an audio sermon on the Benefits of Being Firstfruits. Just type in "6 Reasons to Cherish Calling as Firstfruits" in the search bar.

So ARE we fully and unconditionally surrendered? Here are the points I discussed today:

- 1. We come to complete brokenness before our Maker and ask him what it is he wants us to do.**
- 2. We gladly and openly proclaim and talk Yeshua as our Savior and Lord (Romans 10:9-10)?**
- 3. Full surrender is not possible until we come under and love God's favor and grace. Ephesians 2:8-10;**
- 4. Ask to be filled with God's Holy Spirit, making us his children (Rom 8:9, 14) and making full surrender possible. We are no longer our own. God owns us, paid for by the blood of his Son.**
- 5. We leave Satan's kingdom and its ways – and now love being a part of the Kingdom of God and HIS family ways. Col. 1:12-14**

- 6. We capture every thought to complete obedience of Jesus Christ (2 Cor. 10:3-5).**
- 7. We JOYFULLY TRUST Yeshua and Father in and FOR all things we have to go through, without worry, for we recognize we belong to him. Phil 4:6-8; Eph 5:20; 2 Cor. 12:8-10**
- 8. Full surrender means Obeying ALL God's commands – even all the hardest ones.**

In the end, God – who looks upon our hearts – will see those who seek him earnestly every single day in prayer and studying his words—and will give us the help and strength we need to surrender totally to HIS life, HIS will, HIS desires for us – and we WILL be there at the Last Trump of God, and the shout of the archangel – and we WILL be changed. **(1 Thess 4:16-17; 1 Cor. 15:50-52)**

We will exchange our corruptible body to an incorruptible one; our mortal to immortal, and our pathetic flesh will change to a glorious spirit body just like Yeshua's! In fact, we will see God the Father for we shall be like him (1 John 3:1-3).

When we learn to surrender, we'll be astounded at what God does in us.

God speed that day! Closing prayer.