He Chose and Appointed His Disciples that They Should Bear Fruit

Pg 1 <u>List</u>

Jesus said, "This is My commandment: that <u>you love one another</u>, <u>as I have loved you</u>. Greater love has no man than this, <u>that a man lay down his life for his friends</u>. <u>You are My friends if you do whatsoever I command you</u>. Henceforth, I do not call you servants; for the servant does not know what His master is doing; but <u>I have called you friends</u>; for all things that I have heard from My Father I have made known unto you. <u>You have not chosen Me</u>, but <u>I Chose you</u>, <u>and appointed you</u>, that you should <u>go and bear fruit</u>, and that <u>your fruit should remain</u>; so that whatever you shall ask <u>of the Father</u> in My Name, <u>He may give it to you</u>. These things I command you, <u>that you love one another</u>." (John 15:12-17)

I: from the Greek word <u>ego</u> which means: the personal pronoun first person singular: I. Jesus is speaking of Himself as the Master <u>and</u> Friend of of His disciples; and that, with guidance from His Father: God, He has both chosen His disciples, and anointed them, and sent them to bear fruit in their lives and in the world.

Chose: from the Greek word <u>exelexamen</u> a verb which means: to <u>chose</u>; specifically for a purpose, or cause, or mission, or position: the calling of Christ Jesus for each disciple.

You: from the Greek word <u>hymas</u> which means: plural tense for <u>you</u>; Jesus is speaking to His current disciples; and by extension, all future disciples also.

Appointed: from the Greek word <u>etheka</u> which means: <u>to appoint</u> (someone); from *tithemi* meaning: to set, fix, or lay in place; to assign, to appoint, or ordain, someone to a position, task, mission, or purpose according to the desired 'will' of the one, Jesus, who calls, and choses the disciple. Also implies an adherence to the Masters 'way' of fulfilling the task, mission, etc., which is entrusted to a disciple.

Should go: from the Greek word <u>hypagete</u> which means: <u>should-go</u>; implies obedient action to that which a disciple of Christ Jesus has been chosen for and appointed to.

Should Bear Fruit: from the Greek words <u>karpon pherete</u> which mean: <u>should-bear fruit</u>; includes personal inward fruit (of the Holy Spirit); and also tangible multiplication of 'talents' entrusted to His disciples through the spiritual gifts that He has given to them.

Please consider the following affirmations and exhortations addressed to the chosen disciples of Christ Jesus:

"But you are <u>a Chosen Generation</u>, a Royal Priesthood, a Holy Nation, a Purchased People; that you should show forth <u>the praises</u> of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light." (<u>1 Peter 2:9</u>)

"But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because <u>God has from the beginning **chosen you for salvation**</u> through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth. For this <u>He called you</u> through our Gospel (Good-news), to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ." (<u>2 Thessalonians 2:13</u>)

"No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please **Him (Jesus) who has chosen him to be a soldier**." (2 Timothy 2:4)

"Listen, my beloved brethren: Has not **God chosen** the poor of this world to be rich in faith, and heirs of the Kingdom which He has promised **to those who love Him**?" (James 2:5)

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Whom Jesus has chosen God the Father has also chosen:

""But unto those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ (is) the power of God, and the wisdom of God. Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men. For you see **your calling**, brethren: that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. But **God has chosen** the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and **God has chosen** the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; and base things of the world, and things which are despised, **God has chosen**, yes, and things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are" (I Corinthians 1:24-28)

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ; according as He (the Father) has chosen us in Him (in Jesus) before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love; having predestinated us unto the adoption of children through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, wherein He has made us accepted in the Beloved (in Jesus); in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His Grace; ..." (Ephesians 1:3-7 ...)

The disciples of Christ Jesus: all true believers in Jesus, are called to bear fruit. To do so the disciple must abide in Christ Jesus and in His word. Please consider the following:

Jesus said, "Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abides in the vine; neither can you, except you abide in Me. I am the Vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me, and I in him, the same brings forth much fruit: for without Me you can do nothing. ... Herein is My Father glorified, that you bear much fruit; so shall you be My disciples." (John 15:4-5, 8)

Jesus said, "And that (seed: the word of God) which fell amongst thorns are those, who, <u>when</u> they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring <u>no fruit</u> to perfection. But that (the word of God) on the good ground are those, who <u>in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit</u> with patience." (<u>Luke 8:14-15</u> from the parable of the Sower and the Seed)

Just as Jesus died for our salvation, and rose again, and bears much fruit for the Father in souls saved; so also His disciples must die to themselves so as to bear fruit; as He said:

"The hour has come, that the Son of Man (Jesus) should be glorified (through His death on the Cross for our salvation). Truly, truly, I say unto you, 'Except a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it abides alone; but if it dies, it brings forth much fruit. He who loves his life shall lose it; and he who hates his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal. If any man will serve Me, let him (truly) follow Me; and where I am, there shall also My servant be: if any man will serve Me, him will My Father honor." (John 12:23-26)

Some examples of fruit which we must bear forth:

"For you were formerly darkness, but now <u>you are Light in the Lord</u>: <u>walk as children of Light</u>. For the fruit of the Spirit is in **all goodness and righteousness and truth**; proving what is acceptable unto the Lord." (<u>Ephesians 5:8-10</u>)

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with it's affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit." (Galatians 5:22-25)

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There is a danger of thinking oneself as being a chosen disciple of Christ Jesus, when in fact he or she is not a true disciple:

"The Kingdom of Heaven is like unto a certain king, who arranged a marriage-feast for his son, And sent forth his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding. ... And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man who did not have on a wedding garment (the righteousness that only comes through Jesus, see Revelation19:8). And he said unto him, 'Friend, how came you in here not having a wedding garment?' And he was speechless (he was not even aware that he was unrighteous and separated from Christ Jesus). Then said the king to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; where-there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen! " (Matthew 22:2-3, & 11-14)

Those true disciples, who have been chosen by King Jesus will experience the same opposition, hate, and persecution as Jesus did. But be of good cheer for Jesus has and will completely overcome all hate and adversaries in the world. Please consider the following:

"These things I command you, that you love one another. If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love it's own; but because you are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said unto you, 'The servant is not greater than his Lord.' If they have persecuted Me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept My words, they will keep yours also. But all these things will they do unto you for My Name's sake, because they do not know Him (the Father) who sent Me." (John 15:17-21)

"Behold, the hour is coming, yes, and has now come, that you shall be scattered, every man to his own place, and shall leave me alone; and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with Me. These things I have spoken unto you, so that in Me you might have peace. In the world you shall have tribulation, but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." (John 16:32-33)

The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he who wins souls is wise." (Proverbs 11:30)

"Therefore, through Him (Jesus) let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually; that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His Name." (Hebrews 13:15)

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The Fruit that His Chosen disciples bear forth are:
All Goodness and Righteousness and Truth !!
Praises and Thanksgiving to God the Father !!
Souls won for the Kingdom of God !!
Love, Joy, Peace, Long-suffering, Patience,
Gentleness, Goodness, Faith, Meekness, and Self Control ...
... bearing forth from transformed hearts abiding in Jesus, and in the Word of God !!

Thank You Jesus for choosing <u>me</u> and accepting <u>me</u> into Your Kingdom!
Thank You calling, and granting unto <u>me</u> the privileged of serving You!
Please keep me on the straight and narrow path that leads to Everlasting Life!
Always and Always in and through You Lord Jesus!