

## Mark 8:34-38 - The Cost of Discipleship

### DENY YOURSELF, TAKE UP YOUR CROSS & FOLLOW ME

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>(v.34)</p> <p><b>“Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.”</b></p>   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Deny Self</b> *(be humble, poor in spirit &amp; contrite in heart)– selfishness, pride, jealousy, etc. is sin, therefore we need to overcome sin (9:35 <b>“first shall be last”</b>). Defilement comes from within.</li> <li>2. <b>Take up Cross</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Face opposition, shame, suffering, death, separation from world (2 Cor. 6:17)</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. <b>Follow Me</b> - obey, change lifestyle, pray, worship, read the Word, surrender, proclaim the gospel. Jesus wants 100% of us &amp; our attention.</li> </ol> |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. (v.35) <b>“For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel’s will save it.”</b></li> </ol>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Save Earthly Life -----Lose Eternal Life *</b> (saving earthly life means avoiding self denial and not taking up your cross to have the approval of man and comforts of this life)</li> <li>○ <b>Lose Earthly Life ---- Save Your Soul *</b></li> <li>○ John 12:25 <b>“He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.”</b></li> <li>○ To win we must <b>surrender</b>. To live we must die. To receive we must give.</li> </ul>  |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. (v.36-37) <b>“For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will he exchange for his soul?”</b></li> </ol>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Rhetorical question – the answer is obvious to make a point.</li> <li>○ The pleasures of the world (“saving earthly life”, or selfish ambitions) will cost you your soul.</li> <li>○ You cannot buy your soul for any earthly price.</li> </ul>   |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. (v38) <b>“For whoever is ashamed of Me and My Words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.”</b></li> </ol> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ To be ashamed of Jesus means we don’t want to be identified with Him for fear of looking foolish.</li> <li>○ It means we are concerned with SELF, and the approval of the world (adulterous &amp; sinful)</li> <li>○ Matt. 10: 32<b>“Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven.” (Great Commission)</b></li> </ul>   |

**\*Romans 6:12-14 (Deny Yourself)**

“Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.

Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but **yield** yourselves unto God... For sin shall not have dominion over you...”

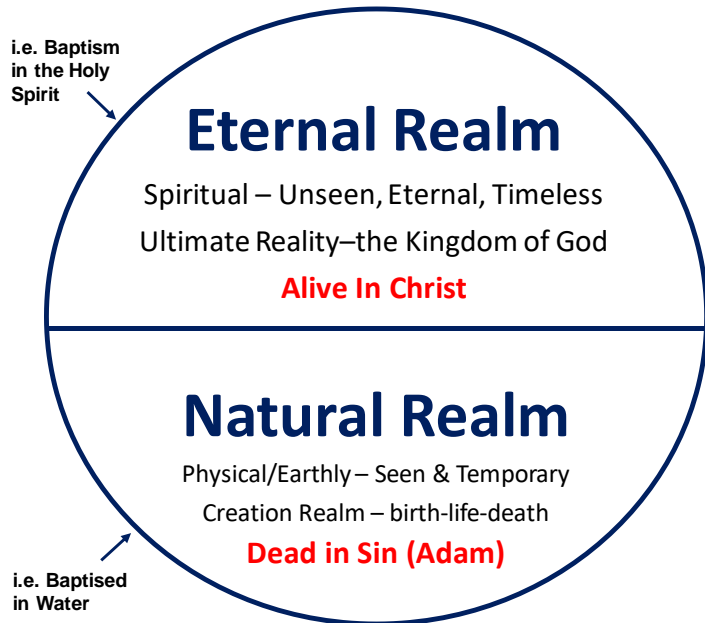
**\*Romans 12:1-3 (Deny Yourself)**

“present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service. <sup>2</sup>And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good - and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

**\*\*Romans 6:3-8 (Lose Earthly Life, Save your Soul)**

“Or do you not know that...we were baptised into His death...our old man in the was crucified with Him...Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him.” (Note: the “old man” is our old sinful Adam nature before salvation – positionally in the Eternal realm we dead to Adam and alive “in Christ”)

## Mark 8:34-38 - The Cost of Discipleship

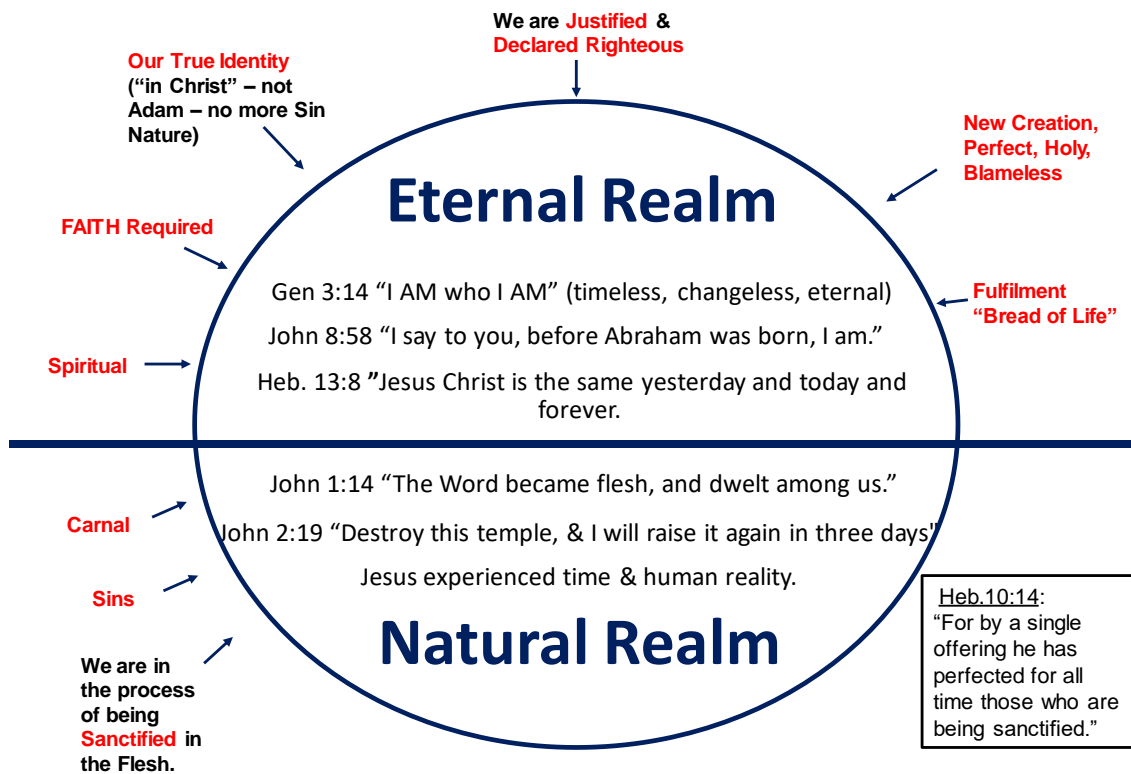


- **Rom. 6:1-14** is talking about the Eternal Realm
- Through faith in Christ's sacrifice on the Cross, we are made Holy (imputed)
- **Positionally Sanctified**
- God views you as Forgiven, Righteous and Perfect "in Christ".

- **Romans 6:15-23** is talking about the Natural Realm
- We are still in the process of becoming Christ-like
- **Possessional Sanctification**
- Your life will reflect who you serve

**2 Cor. 4:18:** "while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen *are* temporary, but the things which are not seen *are* eternal."

96



We Live in Both Realms, but Col. 3:2 "Set you mind on things above, not on earthly things."

98