

### From Our Library

#### The Joy of Following Jesus.

By J. Oswald Sanders

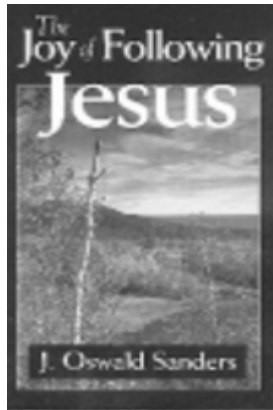
The terms Christian and disciple should be synonymous. But they're not. Today, one may be regarded as a Christian even if he or she demonstrates few, if any, signs of discipleship.

The message Jesus proclaimed was a call to faith with obedience. He doesn't want us to simply believe his teachings - He wants us to live them. If you are a Christian who wants to be a true disciple, The Joy of Following Jesus is for you.

The author outlines the standards and underlying principles of discipleship. Each fast-moving chapter is packed with Scripture references establishing the essential elements of a disciple's life-style. Mr. Sanders spotlights twenty of those elements, including the disciple's partnership with the Holy Spirit, commitment to prayer and spiritual health, relationship to others and disciple's relationship to Christ.

J. Oswald Sanders says, "It is one thing to master the biblical principles of discipleship, but quite another to transfer those principles into show leather." His insights and encouragement will challenge you to do just that.

**For more information ; contact André Camilleri**



### Quote of the Month

**"Holiness not happiness is the chief end of man."**

( Oswald J. Chambers )

### Calendar of Events

*"Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, July 2009  
but let us encourage one another..." Hebrews 10:25*

- Sunday's Church Services — 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th
- Tuesday's Women's Meeting — 7th, 21st
- Wednesday's Bible Study — 1st, 15th, 22th, 29th
- Thursday's Prayer Meeting — 9th, 23rd
- Experience Meeting — Wed. 8th



# "More Than Conquerors"

Issue 11

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*"...in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us" - Romans 8:37.*

### The Pastor's Letter

Dear Brethren,

God has granted us the gift of faith, that looking unto His Son, we may hold him to be our all in all, as regards redemption our right standing before him. However, I think it is wise to remind you that faith is not meant to be a substitute for a holy conduct but rather a means to reach it properly. This will be understood easily if we look at any tree. An apple-tree does not serve instead of apples but as an agent by which the farmer picks actual apples. Similarly, God has it in mind to see us produce fruit. Placing faith in opposition to works (as far as Christian living is concerned) is to make the fruit the enemy of the tree.

John the apostle was favoured with apocalyptic visions of heaven and the end times, and yet he was the most practical of men! He points out the incongruity involved in substituting religious verbiage for action: "Whoever has the world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and does not show compassion to him, how can the love of God dwell in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue, but in deed and in truth." Another apostle puts it this way: faith was operative with Abraham's works, and by works was faith made perfect. If we think it through, the false and artificial either/or will be destroyed. The foundation is faith (which is strictly speaking unseen); the foundation is useless if it is only a foundation and nothing more. A foundation exists so that it will support the building built upon it. So our faith should drive us not to less but to more good works; not less praying but more serving; not fewer words but more holy deeds; not weaker profession but more courageous possession. I point this out at this time because, as you are aware, our Lord has given us open doors to show mercy towards those in need, and also to become participants with the Christian family who visited us late last June and presented their burden to serve the Lord as missionaries in a foreign country. These are opportunities that we shouldn't miss.

Yours in Christ,  
Paul.

### Contact Details

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## Catechism Corner

**Question 45.** What is required in the second commandment?

The second commandment requires the receiving, observing, (Deuteronomy 32:46; Matthew 28:20) and keeping pure and entire all such religious worship and ordinances as God has appointed in his Word. (Deuteronomy 12:32)

**Question 46.** What is forbidden in the second commandment?

The second commandment forbids the worshipping of God by images, (Deuteronomy 4:15,16) or any other way not appointed in his Word. (Colossians 2:18)

**Question 47.** Which is the third commandment?

The third commandment is, "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that takes his name in vain."

**Question 48.** What is required in the third commandment?

The third commandment requires the holy and reverent use of God's names, (Psalms 29:2) titles, attributes, (Revelation 15:3,4) ordinances, (Ecclesiastes 5:1) Word, (Psalms 138:2) and works. (Job 36:24; Deuteronomy 28:58,59)

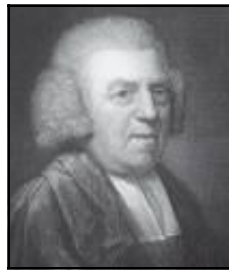
## Remember and Learn

**REMEMBER** Nehustan, the brazen serpent which Moses made and how although at first it was a God ordained thing and the means of salvation for the people (Num. 21:9) yet after many years it became an idol (2 Kgs. 18:4) **and LEARN** firstly that we can foolishly end in the flesh that which was started in the Spirit. (Gal.3:3) And secondly learn that the misuse of something good can and will lead to error and sin.



## Sayings of: John Newton. (1725-1807)

- Although my memory is fading, I remember two things very clearly: I am a great sinner and Christ is a great Saviour! He is well taught who learns these two lessons.
- Many have puzzled themselves about the origin of evil. I am content to observe that there is evil, and that there is a way to escape from it, and with this I begin and end.
- We are empty vessels in ourselves, but we cannot remain empty. Unless Jesus dwells in our hearts, and fills them with His power and presence, they will be filled with folly, vanity, and vexation!
- I am persuaded that love and humility are the highest attainments in the school of Christ and the brightest evidences that He is indeed our Master.



## Experimental Christianity

### Temptation

Dear friend, the world is full of temptations. Men and women tempt each other, too frequently with an energy, a steadfastness and a perseverance which makes resistance, we must not say impossible, but difficult. There are temptations arising from pleasure and business, others meet us in the unsuspecting intercourses of friendship, others are suggested by the media; in short they are so various that to list all their resources would be impossible. Then to crown it all, we are tempted with all the malice and craft of Satan himself. No man, however holy, however largely he may think he enjoys God's favour, however fervent his piety, or however firm his principles is immune from temptation and has any right to say, "I stand on a rock so firm that it is impossible for temptation to reach me." We will never be entirely free from it and so no one should consider himself beyond its reach, remember that even our Lord himself was tempted. Therefore the caution is addressed to everyone of us, "Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall."

Temptation sometimes comes upon us suddenly. If flight is possible let us flee; and if it is impossible, let us, whilst we summon up our own most steadfast resolve, lift up our earnest cry for help to God. Temptations test a man's character, showing what he really is. Rightly met, they strengthen the Christian life, calling into exercise faith and hope and resolute self-denial. Still, God wants us to dread and avoid temptation as much as possible, and to resist it by making prayer a priority and continually pleading with God that we may not be led into it. By doing this, our souls are set against every form of temptation. Every moment of resistance to temptation is a victory!

An Arab fable tells of a man who was startled by seeing a camel's nose thrust in at the window of a room where he was sleeping. 'It is very hot outside,' said the camel, 'I only want to get my nose in.' The nose was allowed in, and then the neck, finally the whole body. Soon the man began to be uncomfortable by the camel in a room not large enough for both. 'If you are inconvenienced,' said the camel, 'you may leave; as for myself I shall stay where I am.' Give but an inch and the devil will take an ell; if he can get but an arm, he will shove his whole body in. How often have men said to themselves, 'I will not yield to this temptation; I am not so foolish as that: but I will just enjoy the pleasure of toying with it.' Let us think, rather, that even to look at it is dangerous. Avoid it; pass not by it; turn from it, and run away. Keep as far away as you can from temptation because exposing yourself to temptation involves great danger and sad consequences. There were two beautiful flowers on a perilous cliff, and a young lady longed to pluck them. There was great risk, but she ventured and plucked them both; and then there was yet another finer than the rest, beyond. Must she proceed? She did. The slope grew more slippery as she went further down. Suddenly there was a great shriek and she was gone over the cliff.

**Let us look not only at the beautiful flowers which temptation presents, but at the slipperiness of the descent and the abyss beyond.**

To be tempted is not to sin. Temptation is the Devil whistling at the keyhole; sinning is opening at the door and letting him in. Remember that the Word does not say, 'He will not let you be tempted,' but, 'He will not let you be tempted beyond your strength, but with the temptation will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.' God commands you to be holy, so set your heart on living a holy life by 'seeking first the kingdom of God.' Unless we have within us that which is above us, we will soon yield to that which is about us. Finally if you want to avoid sin, avoid all the temptations that lead to it.