

Men Wanted

September 23, 2012

Sir Ernest Shackleton when he was about to set out on one of his expeditions, printed a statement in the papers, to this effect:

Men wanted for hazardous journey to the South Pole. Small wages, bitter cold, long months of complete darkness, constant danger. Safe return doubtful. Honor and recognition in case of success.

In speaking of it afterward he said that so overwhelming was the response to his appeal that it seemed as though all the men of Great Britain were determined to accompany him.

Carl Hopkins Elmore, *Quit You like Men*

New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1944

Last June at the mouth of the Congo there awaited a thousand prospectors, traders, merchants and gold seekers, waiting to rush into these regions as soon as the government opened the door to them, for rumor declared that there is an abundance of gold. If such men hear so loudly the call of gold and obey it, can it be the ears of Christ's soldiers are deaf to the call of God, and the cries of the dying souls of men? Are gamblers for gold so many, and gamblers for God so few?

C.T. Studd, *C.T. Studd: Cricketer and Pioneer*

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The Invitation to the Cave

David therefore departed thence, and escaped to **the cave Adullam**: and when his brethren and all his father's house heard it, they went down thither to him. And every one that was in distress, and every one that was in debt, and every one that was discontented, gathered themselves unto him; and he became a captain over them: and there were with him about four hundred men.

1 Samuel 22:1-2

*Men wanted for hazardous journey to the Cave of Adullam.
They will be hunted, despised, and in constant danger.
There will be no pay, no plumbing, and no pillow.
Guaranteed suffering, tribulation, and persecution. They
will be outmanned, outgunned, and outlawed. Rejection
from society certain. But they will share in the immense
glories of David's Kingdom when he gains his rightful
throne.*

The Invitation to the Cross

*Men wanted for hazardous journey to Calvary's Cross.
Death to self, relinquishment of all control, utter humbling
of the inner man are prerequisites to the journey.
Guaranteed suffering, tribulation, and persecution.
Rejection from society certain. Benefits too great to
calculate.*

Knowing the Cost

If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple. And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, sits not down first, and counts the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it? . . . Or what king, going to make war against another king, sits not down first, and consults whether he be able with ten thousand to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand? . . . So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsakes not all that he has, he cannot be my disciple.

Luke 14:26-28,31,33

Knowing the Benefit

Benefits too great to calculate.

The Invite to the Cross is an Invite IN to Christ

In Christ, In Him, In Whom

66 Reasons to Give up our Lives and to Enter into Christ

1. All our sin **will** be atoned for (Romans 5:11)
2. His Blood **will** prove a propitiation - a just and satisfying offering in our stead (Romans 3:25)
3. We **will** be justified (Romans 5:9)
4. We **will** be forgiven our every sin (Ephesians 1:7, Colossians 1:14, Hebrews 9:7)
5. Our sins **will** be removed from us (Matthew 26:28, Romans 3:25, Hebrews 9:22)
6. We **will** be cleansed and washed from all our sin (1 John 1:7, Revelation 1:5, Revelation 7:14)

7. Our consciences **Will** be purged (Hebrews 9:14)
8. We **will** have peace with God (Colossians 1:20)
9. We **will** be reconciled unto Christ (Colossians 1:20)
10. He **will** be our righteousness (Romans 3:22, 2 Corinthians 5:21, Philippians 3:9)
11. We **will** be saved from the wrath to come (Romans 5:9)
12. The Devil **will** be destroyed and rendered impotent against us (Hebrews 2:14)
13. We **will** overcome the Devil (Revelation 12:11)
14. We **will** be redeemed, eternally redeemed - our very beings purchased by God (Ephesians 1:7, Colossians 1:14, Hebrews 9:12, Revelation 5:9, Acts 20:28)
15. We **will** receive Life within, eternal life (John 6:53,54)
16. We **will** be brought to back to life from the dead (Hebrews 13:20)
17. We **will** be sanctified and made holy (Hebrews 10:29; Hebrews 13:12)
18. We **will** be spiritually and physically healed (Isaiah 53:5; 1 Peter 2:24)
19. We **will** have boldness to enter in to the Holy of Holies, the very presence of God (Hebrews 10:19)
20. We **will** be enabled to make our daily, hourly, minute-by-minute home in Christ Jesus (John 6:56)
21. We **will** bear much fruit (John 15:5)
22. We **will** be made alive to God (Romans 6:11; 1 Corinthians 15:31)
23. There **will** be no more condemnation hanging over our lives (Romans 8:1)
24. We **will** be made free from the law of sin and death (Romans 8:2)

25. **Nothing will** be able to separate us from the love of God (Romans 8:38-39)
26. We **will** have access to the Wisdom, the Righteousness, the Sanctification, and the Redemption of God (1 Corinthians 1:30)
27. All the Promises of God **Will** be “Yes” and “Amen” to us (2 Corinthians 1:20)
28. Our spiritual lives **will** be established and anointed (2 Corinthians 1:21)
29. We **will** be led forth in triumph (2 Corinthians 2:14)
30. He **will** diffuse through our lives the fragrance of His knowledge in every place (2 Corinthians 2:14)
31. The veil that shrouds our spiritual sight **will** be taken away (2 Corinthians 3:14)
32. We **will** become new creations; all things **will** become new (2 Corinthians 5:17)
33. The complexities of life **will** be made simple (2 Corinthians 11:3)
34. We **will** from henceforth live by the power of God (2 Corinthians 13:4, Ephesians 1:19-20)
35. We **will** have an astounding liberty to now do that which is right (Galatians 2:4)
36. We **will** become sons of God (Galatians 3:26)
37. We **will** be blessed with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places (Ephesians 1:3)
38. We **will** be chosen to be holy and without blame (Ephesians 1:4)
39. We **will** obtain an inheritance (Ephesians 1:11)

40. We **will** be made to sit with Him in heavenly places (Ephesians 2:6)
41. We **will** be made to know the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us (Ephesians 2:7)
42. We **will** have works prepared beforehand for us to walk in (Ephesians 2:10)
43. We **will** be brought intimately near into His very presence, and we **will** have boldness and confidence in our approach unto His Throne (Ephesians 2:13; 3:12)
44. We **will** become the very temple of the Lord, the very dwelling place of God (Ephesians 2:21-21)
45. We, the Gentiles, **will** become fellow heirs and partakers of the promises (Ephesians 3:6)
46. We **will** have power to rejoice (Philippians 3:3)
47. We **will** have a prize set before us of the upward call of God (Philippians 3:14)
48. We **will** have access into all the fulness of God (Colossians 1:19; 2:9)
49. We **will** be clothed in His Perfection (Colossians 1:28)
50. All the treasures of wisdom and knowledge **will** made available to us (Colossians 2:3)
51. We **will** abound in thanksgiving (Colossians 2:7)
52. We **will** be made complete (Colossians 2:10)
53. We **will** be circumcised from the sins of the flesh (Colossians 2:11)
54. We **will** have the promise of Life (2 Timothy 1:1)

55. We **will** be given a holy calling (2 Timothy 1:9)
56. We **will** be supplied an empowering grace (2 Timothy 1:9; 2 Timothy 2:1)
57. We **will** have faith and love (2 Timothy 1:13)
58. We **will** have salvation (2 Timothy 2:10)
59. There **will** be no more darkness (1 John 1:5)
60. The Love of God **will** be perfected in us (1 John 2:5)
61. We **will** not be ashamed before Him at His coming (1 John 2:28)
62. We **will** purify ourselves just as He is pure (1 John 3:3)
63. We **will** not sin (1 John 3:6)
64. Anything we ask according to His will, He **will** hears us (1 John 5:14)
65. We **will** know Him (1 John 5:20)
66. We **will** know the Mystery Hidden for ages and generations but now revealed
(Colossians 1:26-27)

What Leads a Man to Live in a Cave?

It's not the cave, it's the Beloved One who lives in the cave.

He is Fairer than the Children of Men (Psalm 45:2), The Chiefest among Ten Thousand (Song of Solomon 5:10), The Bridegroom (Matthew 9:15; Revelation 21:9), The Rose of Sharon (Song of Solomon 2:1), The Lily of

the Valley (Song of Solomon 2:1), A Bundle of Myrrh (Song of Solomon 1:13), A Cluster of Henna Blooms (Song of Solomon 1:14) Yea, He is altogether lovely. He is my beloved and my Friend (Song of Solomon 5:16)

Even if Heaven were a dark cave, if that is where our Fair King lives . . .
then, let us go to the cave.

With Jesus in the Dark Cave

He Gives Songs in the Night

Thou art my hiding place; thou shalt preserve me from trouble; thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance. Selah.

Psalm 32:7

. . . in the night His song shall be with me . . .

Psalm 42:8

Let the saints be joyful in glory: let them sing aloud upon their beds.

Psalm 149:5

And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.

Acts 16:25

Yearning for the Place of the King

How lovely is Your tabernacle, O LORD of hosts! My soul longs, yes, even faints For the courts of the LORD; My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God . . . For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God Than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

Psalm 84:1-3,10

Our Place is His Place

For behold, **the LORD is coming out of His place**; He will come down And tread on the high places of the earth . . . I will yet bring an heir to you, O inhabitant of Mareshah; **The glory of Israel shall come to Adullam.**

Micah 1:3,15

His Place is Our Place

Even when we were dead in sins, [God] hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 2:5-6

Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

Colossians 3:1-3

"O my dove, in the clefts of the rock, In the secret places of the cliff, Let me see your face, Let me hear your voice; For your voice is sweet, And your face is lovely."

Song of Solomon 2:14

His Life is our Life

Reason #66

The Capstone

66. We **will** be given the Spirit, we **will** receive the promise of the Spirit through faith, and **will** be sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise. (1 John 4:13, Galatians 3:14, Ephesians 1:13)

By this we know that we abide **in Him, and He in us,**
because He has given us of His Spirit.

1 John 4:13

Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"), that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles **in Christ Jesus**, that we might receive **the promise of the Spirit** through faith.

Galatians 3:13-14

In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; **in whom** also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise.

Ephesians 1:13

Outmanned, Outgunned, and Outlawed . . . Who's In?

- What would lead a man to gladly leave riches, position, fame, worldly power, and earthly comforts behind?
- What would cause a man to gladly embrace the disdain, mockery, and revilement of the world for the pleasure of his King?
- What could possibly motivate a man to gladly suffer, endure hardship, dangers, tortures, and extreme privations for the expansion of his Ruler's fame and renown?
- What could cause a man to smile at the notion of a painful death if it be for the sake of the Kingdom and the glory of his Master?

The Love Bond

the offering of the ear

And if the servant shall plainly say, I love my master, my wife, and my children; I will not go out free: Then his master shall bring him unto the judges; he shall also bring him to the door, or unto the door post; and his master shall bore his ear through with an aul; and he shall serve him for ever.

Exodus 21:5-6

The Beloved Shepherd who fights for His Sheep

Against any Lion, Bear, or Giant who dares

The Love-Bought Men

They Fight for the King and the King's Body . . .

- No matter the natural odds for victory

- No matter the dangers to life and limb
- No matter the risks to reputation and public esteem
- No matter if you are the only one still standing
- No matter if the battle just doesn't seem to end
- No matter if you are tired, and there is little left to fight with
- No matter if all those around you claim it's no use to keep on swinging
- No matter if you are mocked and ridiculed
- No matter if you must go against the entire world system

So, why do they do this?

The Motive for the Christ-Purchased Man

It's for Love