The Few. The Faithful. The Free.

Top of the morning Seekers! This morning we are going to explore the third, and final lesson, in a mini-series the Lord has led me to share with you, in which every one of us in this sanctuary should be endeavoring to get to the bottom of this age-old series of questions, that every human being should be wise enough to be asking themselves…

**[Q]** Am I REALLY saved? **[Q]** Do I truly possess a personal relationship with the King of Kings? **[Q]** Has my name been written in the Lamb’s Book of Life? **[Q]** Do I have what it takes to be 100% positive that I am one of the “**FEW**” that Jesus Christ, the One, and Only Savior of all mankind, stated would find eternal life?

We are, redundantly, going to start with the same set of verses that we have examined over the past two lessons. These were the poignant words of our Savior, to those cherished **FEW**, that He had chosen to follow, and closely associate with Him during His very short visit to Planet Earth.

These were the **FEW** who walked mile, after dusty mile, with …the **REAL** Jesus Christ. These were the **FEW** who gave up everything they had on this Earth, including their families, to be belittled, beaten, and die for His cause. These were the **FEW** who slept beside him around campfires, or in someone’s home every evening. These were the **FEW** who listened to His stories; witnessed His miracles; and heard Him weeping for lost mankind, and conversing with His Father, when no one else was around. These were the cherished **FEW** who endured a final fateful evening with Him, sitting around a table in an Upper Room, partaking of a final meal, prior to Him being beaten beyond human recognition, by a Roman war-machine, who was urged on, and enabled, by a greedy spy within His own ranks, and who **SAID** he was part of the **FEW**, but turned out not to be.

**[Q]** How many have heard the term…”**Semper Fi**”? **[Q]** What does it mean?

**Semper Fidelis** distinguishes the Marine Corps bond from any other. It goes beyond teamwork—it is a brotherhood that can always be counted on. Latin for "always faithful," Semper Fidelis became the Marine Corps motto in 1883. It guides Marines to remain faithful to the mission at hand, to each other, to the Corps and to country, no matter what. Becoming a Marine is a transformation that cannot be undone, and Semper Fidelis is a permanent reminder of that. Once made, a Marine will forever live by the ethics and values of the Corps. In addition to Semper Fidelis, Marine Corps Officers also embrace the phrase **Ductos Exemplo**, "to lead by example," the motto of Officer Candidates School (OCS). Instructors look for candidates who display self-reliance, discipline and responsibility. Desire and motivation to lead Marines are deciding factors in an officer's success. **[Q]** What is their motto? (The Few. The Faithful. The Marines)

This is a bond that, in relationship to the world population, very few can relate to. Only those who have been brave enough, and tenacious enough, to finish the course, can relate. As with those who understand fully, and have sacrificed completely for the cause of Jesus Christ, it is an exclusive club, which requires sacrifice, up to, and possibly including, losing one’s life. I have coined a phrase which is fitting for those who would be considered part of Jesus’ FEW, even 2000 years after His return to Heaven.

**The FEW…the Faithful…the Fre**e**.** This is an exclusive group that was begun 2000 years ago, and has passed the torch of faithfulness, one to another, in one of the longest relay races of all time. It has NOTHING to do with the timidity of religion. It has nothing to do with weak, disingenuous, and coerced professions of faith; which do not radically change lives.

We have all known, at some point, and are confused by, those peculiar individuals, who love to talk Army, dress Army, own an M16, drive a camouflaged Jeep, watch Army shows, and have all the matching tattoos; but yet do not have the intestinal fortitude to “sign on the dotted line”, and actually enter the Army. **[Q]** Why? (Because, for some strange reason, they want the applause of those around them, and the respect of the few they may fool, as opposed to giving up their current life to actually join the Army; realizing that, at that magic moment the pen finishes the last stroke of their signature, they no longer belong to themselves; and can no longer do as they please)

Jesus said something to Peter, one of the original FEW, which spoke to this point…

**John 21**

15When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?”

“Yes, Lord,” he said, “you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “Feed my lambs.”[**16**](http://biblehub.com/john/21-16.htm)Again Jesus said, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He answered, “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.” Jesus said, “Take care of my sheep.”

[**17**](http://biblehub.com/john/21-17.htm)The third time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, “Do you love me?” He said, “Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.” Jesus said, “Feed my sheep. [**18**](http://biblehub.com/john/21-18.htm)Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go.” [**19**](http://biblehub.com/john/21-19.htm)Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, “Follow me!”

[**20**](http://biblehub.com/john/21-20.htm)Peter turned and saw that the disciple whom Jesus loved was following them. (This was the one who had leaned back against Jesus at the supper and had said, “Lord, who is going to betray you?”) [**21**](http://biblehub.com/john/21-21.htm)When Peter saw him, he asked, “Lord, what about him?”

[**22**](http://biblehub.com/john/21-22.htm)Jesus answered, “If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? You must follow me.” [**23**](http://biblehub.com/john/21-23.htm)Because of this, the rumor spread among the believers that this disciple would not die. But Jesus did not say that he would not die; he only said, “If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you?”

[**24**](http://biblehub.com/john/21-24.htm)This is the disciple who testifies to these things and who wrote them down. We know that his testimony is true.

**Verse 15 & 16**: In Jesus’ first two questions to Peter, the Greek word for “love” was {**agapao**} ag-ap-ah’-o… I wish well to; long for; esteem; denotes the love of reason. Properly… to prefer to love, and to “love through Christ”, embracing God’s will (choosing His choices); preeminently refers to what God prefers; a discriminating affection which involves “choice” and “selection”.

In both of Peter’s first two answers, he chose a different Greek word for love… {**phileo**} fil-eh’-o… I regard with affection (friendship); to show warm affection in intimate friendship, characterized by tender, heartfelt consideration, and kinship.

**Verse 17:** In Jesus’ 3rd question to Peter, He switched Greek words, on Peter… and dropped back to {**phileo**}. So, He said basically…”OK Peter, let’s just be good friends then”. **[Q]** What was Peter’s response?

Peter was **Grieved** {**lupeo**} loo-peh’-o… I pain; I am vexed; to experience deep, emotional pain (sadness), i.e.-severe sorrow and grief; this is the same base word that is used for “pain in childbirth”. In other words, Peter grasped the depths of Jesus’ point, and it broke him. He was crushed when he heard this.

This was a very intimate conversation between Jesus, the ONE and ONLY Jesus, and a man who desperately wanted to please Him, and knew within himself, that this was the Jewish Messiah, whom God had sent to save the world. This was a heart-to-heart talk in which Jesus drove home a critically crucial point; and asked Peter an eternally important question, which He is asking every one of us here this morning…

**[Q]** Do you love Me, not just as a friend, or now-and-then associate, but do you REALLY love Me, and are you willing to sacrifice the rest of your life to follow Me? **[Q]** Have you personally answered that question for yourself? **[Q]** Are you just playing at this thing called Christianity, and going through the motions, or are you fully vested in Jesus cause? (Only the latter will enter your name into the hallowed halls of The FEW, The Faithful, and the Free).

Thus that gripping Scripture that we have used In both prior messages…

**Matthew 7**

13“Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. [**14**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/7-14.htm)But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a **few** find it.

**Few** {**oligos**} ol-ee’-gos… small; slight; little (of quantity; number, multitude, size)

Let’s retrace our steps in the past two sermons, and understand the point to which we have now arrived together. Our first message looked at the masses of religion (9900 of them worldwide, with 2 being added every day). The Bible stated that every one of them exhibited a Different Jesus (person or group acceptable to follow), a Different Gospel (means of being saved), or a Different spirit (supernatural driving force within).

**1 Timothy 2**

5For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, [**6**](http://biblehub.com/1_timothy/2-6.htm)who gave himself as a ransom for all people.

By far, the greatest majority of the religious human race, are heading headlong toward a final Great White Throne of Judgment scene, where each of them will be shown that their alternate means of salvation was not acceptable, and will earn them an eternal place in the Burning Lake of Fire.

Universalism has become the acceptable philosophy of the day, especially in America. Tolerance, and a belief that “All Roads Lead to Heaven”, is the politically, and socially, acceptable mindset. Being all-inclusive, as opposed to profoundly exclusive, and offering Jesus, and a total surrender to Him, is the ONLY way you can stay out of controversy, and being labeled a trouble-maker.

This brings me to a point that I wanted to make this morning. **PLEASE…DO NOT** waste your time, or money, on either purchasing “The Shack” in written form, or attending the new movie entitled “The Shack”, which just came out this weekend.

This movie embodies, and glorifies, the Universalist religious agenda, and is being touted by many as “better than the Bible” in helping them to understand religion, and what is acceptable to God. The Shack has been produced by those who profess Christianity, and are tools of Satan himself.

They have denigrated the Holiness of the Trinity, and have attempted to pull them down to a human level, and to make them understandable. A large black lady portrays God; an Eastern descent man wearing a tool belt, portrays Jesus; and a tiny Asian lady portrays the Holy Spirit. The whole movie, and book, drive home the point that one religion is as good as the next, and all are acceptable. It is anathema. It is stomach-turning, and It is an abomination, dragging further millions, who watch it, and accept it’s message, toward a future date with Hell.

I believe we are in the final years of End Times Prophesy, and as prophesied, the whole world will wander after a ONE WORLD religion, which has compromised the Truth of the Gospel, and created it’s own man-made substitute, in which all religions can find common ground, and “worship” God as one.

Satan knows the time for Christ’s return for His true church…the FEW, is getting extremely close; and I believe this movie may be one of final pushes toward deceiving hundreds of millions worldwide.

If you would like to listen to a masterful teaching, showing 13 major Biblical heresies portrayed in this movie, and book, please pull up Michael Youssef on You Tube, and type in The Shack: Uncovered. It is an amazing 40 minute message which you must listen to, before you ever consider wasting your money.

Pope Francis is currently leading this charge, bringing all religions together, and unfortunately, many who you would recognize as famous, and supposed Christian leaders, who commandeer our television screens, and radio shows, have been deceived, and are following right along, like hypnotized sheep to the slaughter.

So…our first message titled “Religious…but Lost” covered these false religions. Our second message was titled “Radically Transformed”, and dealt with the next dilemma; those who attend Gospel-preaching churches periodically, have made professions of faith, by repeating the Sinners Prayer, and have convinced themselves that they are saved; when in fact, they have never been supernaturally transformed, and born again.

These are the ones who will stand before the Great White Throne of Judgment, and offer their flimsy religious acts as proof they were saved, but will be shown that they were only religious, and were not part of the “FEW”.

Since we have thoroughly covered these two areas, which will encompass an estimated 97% of worldwide humanity, and fall short of what is necessary to miss this final judgment by Jesus Christ; I would like to take just a bit to address those who ARE part of the FEW.

First of all, let me say “Thank You”. I personally know very few men, women, and children who I am quite confident are part of this elite group; and am very thankful that some of you attend week, after week, here with us at Seekers. Our goal here is quite simple: to SEEK, SAVE, and DISCIPLE those who have joined.

The Bible uses a few different terms to refer to these who are part of the FEW. Let’s look at another teaching venue by Jesus, in which he refers to them…

**Mark 13**

1As Jesus was leaving the temple, one of his disciples said to him, “Look, Teacher! What massive stones! What magnificent buildings!”

[**2**](http://biblehub.com/mark/13-2.htm)“Do you see all these great buildings?” replied Jesus. “Not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down.”

[**3**](http://biblehub.com/mark/13-3.htm)As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John and Andrew asked him privately, [**4**](http://biblehub.com/mark/13-4.htm)“Tell us, when will these things happen? And what will be the sign that they are all about to be fulfilled?”

[**5**](http://biblehub.com/mark/13-5.htm)Jesus said to them: “Watch out that no one deceives you. [**6**](http://biblehub.com/mark/13-6.htm)Many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am he,’ and will deceive many. [**7**](http://biblehub.com/mark/13-7.htm)When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. [**8**](http://biblehub.com/mark/13-8.htm)Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places, and famines. These are the beginning of birth pains.

[**9**](http://biblehub.com/mark/13-9.htm)“**You must be on your guard**. You will be handed over to the local councils and flogged in the synagogues. On account of me you will stand before governors and kings as witnesses to them. [**10**](http://biblehub.com/mark/13-10.htm)And the gospel must first be preached to all nations. [**11**](http://biblehub.com/mark/13-11.htm)Whenever you are arrested and brought to trial, do not worry beforehand about what to say. Just say whatever is given you at the time, for it is not you speaking, but the Holy Spirit.

[**12**](http://biblehub.com/mark/13-12.htm)“Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child. Children will rebel against their parents and have them put to death. [**13**](http://biblehub.com/mark/13-13.htm)Everyone will hate you because of me, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved.

[**14**](http://biblehub.com/mark/13-14.htm)“When you see ‘the abomination that causes desolation’***a*** standing where it***b*** does not belong—let the reader understand—then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. [**15**](http://biblehub.com/mark/13-15.htm)Let no one on the housetop go down or enter the house to take anything out. [**16**](http://biblehub.com/mark/13-16.htm)Let no one in the field go back to get their cloak. [**17**](http://biblehub.com/mark/13-17.htm)How dreadful it will be in those days for pregnant women and nursing mothers! [**18**](http://biblehub.com/mark/13-18.htm)Pray that this will not take place in winter, [**19**](http://biblehub.com/mark/13-19.htm)because those will be days of distress unequaled from the beginning, when God created the world, until now—and never to be equaled again.

[**20**](http://biblehub.com/mark/13-20.htm)“If the Lord had not cut short those days, no one would survive. **But for the sake of the elect**, whom he has chosen, he has shortened them. [**21**](http://biblehub.com/mark/13-21.htm)At that time if anyone says to you, ‘Look, here is the Messiah!’ or, ‘Look, there he is!’ do not believe it. [**22**](http://biblehub.com/mark/13-22.htm)For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and perform signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. [**23**](http://biblehub.com/mark/13-23.htm)So be on your guard; I have told you everything ahead of time.

This is powerful teaching. Jesus is giving a high-alert warning to those who are part of the FEW; and alerting them to the danger, and cunning of the Enemy of our faith, and how even the FEW, which He refers to here as the Elect, could be fooled.

**Verse 22:** The beautiful thing is that He mentions that, these deceptions will be so well done, that “IF IT WERE POSSIBLE”, even the elect would be fooled.

What we are listening to is Mark’s description of this conversation with His inner FEW. Let’s turn to a set of Scripture that we are more familiar with, and how Matthew describes this same conversation, where the elect are referred to…

**Matthew 24**

21For then there will be great distress, unequaled from the beginning of the world until now—and never to be equaled again.

[**22**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/24-22.htm)“If those days had not been cut short, no one would survive, but **for the sake of the elect** those days will be shortened. [**23**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/24-23.htm)At that time if anyone says to you, ‘Look, here is the Messiah!’ or, ‘There he is!’ do not believe it. [**24**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/24-24.htm)For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. [**25**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/24-25.htm)See, I have told you ahead of time.

[**26**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/24-26.htm)“So if anyone tells you, ‘There he is, out in the wilderness,’ do not go out; or, ‘Here he is, in the inner rooms,’ do not believe it. [**27**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/24-27.htm)For as lightning that comes from the east is visible even in the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.

**Verse 24**: In the King James, it reads a bit more plainly…

For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if *it were* possible, they shall deceive the very elect.

Here is the beauty of being part of the **FEW**… It is not possible, that once we have truly become one of His children, we can be deceived…it is not possible. He will alert us, and give us the wisdom, through the Holy Spirit, which is within us, as to all of the tricks, and deceptions of the great Enemy of the faith.

Listen to Paul, when speaking to the Roman believers…

**Romans 16**

17I urge you, brothers and sisters, to watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way that are contrary to the teaching you have learned. Keep away from them. [**18**](http://biblehub.com/romans/16-18.htm)For such people are not serving our Lord Christ, but their own appetites. By smooth talk and flattery **they deceive the minds of naive people**. [**19**](http://biblehub.com/romans/16-19.htm)Everyone has heard about your obedience, so I rejoice because of you; but I want you to be wise about what is good, and innocent about what is evil.

[**20**](http://biblehub.com/romans/16-20.htm)The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.

Here is the main difference between the strictly religious man, and the FEW, or Elect…

The Elect are not **naïve** {**akakos**} ak’-ak-os… simple; innocent; guileless; Webster’s definition of a person who is naïve is this…”deficient in worldly wisdom or informed judgment; marked by unaffected simplicity; showing or characterized by a lack of sophistication, and critical judgment.

A different dictionary states it this way… Generally speaking, to be naive means you do not think enough. People who are "naive" tend to believe in whatever they are told, without questioning whether it is right or wrong.

We, as the Elect, or FEW, must remember what Jesus warned His original FEW of, when sending them out into the world on their own…Nothing has changed; and possibly it has gotten even more complicated in this day and age.

**Matthew 10**

16“I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. **Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves**. [**17**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/10-17.htm)Be on your guard; you will be handed over to the local councils and be flogged in the synagogues. [**18**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/10-18.htm)On my account you will be brought before governors and kings as witnesses to them and to the Gentiles. [**19**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/10-19.htm)But when they arrest you, do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say, [**20**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/10-20.htm)for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.

[**21**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/10-21.htm)“Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; children will rebel against their parents and have them put to death. [**22**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/10-22.htm)You will be hated by everyone because of me, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved. [**23**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/10-23.htm)When you are persecuted in one place, flee to another. Truly I tell you, you will not finish going through the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

[**24**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/10-24.htm)“The student is not above the teacher, nor a servant above his master. [**25**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/10-25.htm)It is enough for students to be like their teachers, and servants like their masters. If the head of the house has been called Beelzebul, how much more the members of his household!

[**26**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/10-26.htm)“So do not be afraid of them, for there is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known. [**27**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/10-27.htm)What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs. [**28**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/10-28.htm)Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. [**29**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/10-29.htm)Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father’s care.***b*** [**30**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/10-30.htm)And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. [**31**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/10-31.htm)So don’t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

[**32**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/10-32.htm)“Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. [**33**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/10-33.htm)But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven.

[**34**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/10-34.htm)“Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. [**35**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/10-35.htm)For I have come to turn

“ ‘a man against his father,

a daughter against her mother,

a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law—

[**36**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/10-36.htm)a man’s enemies will be the members of his own household.’***c***

[**37**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/10-37.htm)“Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. [**38**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/10-38.htm)Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me. [**39**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/10-39.htm)Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.

[**40**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/10-40.htm)“Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. [**41**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/10-41.htm)Whoever welcomes a prophet as a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person as a righteous person will receive a righteous person’s reward. [**42**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/10-42.htm)And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward.”

These were critical words, spoken to those He loved dearly. He was preparing them, and giving them comforting, encouraging words, and assuring them that they have all that they need to weather the Satanic storm…just as He is for you and I.

We are the Elect…the FEW. We belong to Him, and have a special place in His heart. No one else has this amazing luxury, and privilege. The religious are taken in, and follow after whatever is placed before them. They are hood-winked.

Let’s look at one final beautiful section of Scripture as we close, which He was speaking to the evil religious leaders of His day. It is an intimate rendition of how He watches over His elect, and their relationship with Him…the FEW.

**John 10**

1Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. [**2**](http://biblehub.com/john/10-2.htm)The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. [**3**](http://biblehub.com/john/10-3.htm)The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. [**4**](http://biblehub.com/john/10-4.htm)When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. [**5**](http://biblehub.com/john/10-5.htm)But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger’s voice.” [**6**](http://biblehub.com/john/10-6.htm)Jesus used this figure of speech, but the Pharisees did not understand what he was telling them.

[**7**](http://biblehub.com/john/10-7.htm)Therefore Jesus said again, “Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. [**8**](http://biblehub.com/john/10-8.htm)All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. [**9**](http://biblehub.com/john/10-9.htm)I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved.***a*** They will come in and go out, and find pasture. [**10**](http://biblehub.com/john/10-10.htm)The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

[**11**](http://biblehub.com/john/10-11.htm)“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. [**12**](http://biblehub.com/john/10-12.htm)The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. [**13**](http://biblehub.com/john/10-13.htm)The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

[**14**](http://biblehub.com/john/10-14.htm)“I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— [**15**](http://biblehub.com/john/10-15.htm)just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. [**16**](http://biblehub.com/john/10-16.htm)I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. [**17**](http://biblehub.com/john/10-17.htm)The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. [**18**](http://biblehub.com/john/10-18.htm)No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.”

Those of you who KNOW you are part of His FEW in the midst of this wicked generation…**WE ARE BLESSED** beyond measure!!! Please realize how privileged we are; and how protected we are by our Great Shepherd of the Faith…Jesus the Christ.

**Romans 8**

31What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? [**32**](http://biblehub.com/romans/8-32.htm)He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? [**33**](http://biblehub.com/romans/8-33.htm)Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. **[34](http://biblehub.com/romans/8-34.htm)**Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. [**35**](http://biblehub.com/romans/8-35.htm)Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? [**36**](http://biblehub.com/romans/8-36.htm)As it is written:

“For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”***j***

[**37**](http://biblehub.com/romans/8-37.htm)No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. [**38**](http://biblehub.com/romans/8-38.htm)For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons,***k*** neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, [**39**](http://biblehub.com/romans/8-39.htm)neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

If you are not one of the FEW, and you know it…TODAY is the day. Please don’t wait.