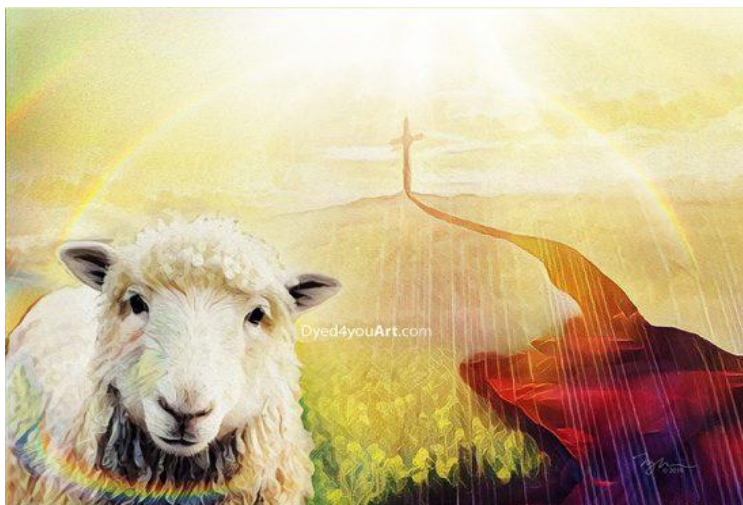


# ***LED BY THE LAMB***



Lamb of God Meghan Williams

***Then one of the elders addressed me saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and whence have they come?" I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night within the temple; and he who sits upon the throne will shelter them with his presence. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."***

***Revelation 7:13-17***

***And passing along by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net in the sea; for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you become fishers of men." And immediately they left their nets and followed him.***

***Mark 1:16-18***

There are two things we can be absolutely confident of if we allow ourselves to be led by the Lamb of God:

**The first is that ultimately we will be following Jesus in a world beyond this one –**

...on the other side of death. Call it "pie-in-the-sky by-and-by" if you like, but one day quite soon, unless the Lamb's return comes first, we're going to die. And it's not at all impractical to find out from the One who has the keys of death and Hades what waits for us on the other side of death.

People who have no vision beyond the grave are living in a narrow world. They're living in a cave as if the cave were the entire universe. They never take the trouble to climb to the mouth of the cave and look beyond those iron bars to the sky and the mountains and the rivers and the sun

and the stars. Everything you do in the cave has an influence on the life you will live when those bars open, and you pass into the world beyond. "If you follow me here you will follow me there. You will see the God of all glory. You will serve him day and night in his temple.



Invitation to Love Meghan Williams

You will never again know hunger or thirst or scorching heat for I will be your Shepherd and I will guide you to springs of living water. And the Father will wipe away every tear from your eyes."

### **The second thing we will follow Jesus into tribulation**

We can be absolutely confident of, if we allow ourselves to be led by the Lamb of God now, is that on our way to that glorious day ***we will pass through tribulation.***

***"...In the world you have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."***

***John 16:33***

***"If they persecuted me, they will persecute you..."***

***John 15:20***

***"They will put you out of the synagogue; indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God."***

***John 16:2***

Just as surely as

...we have to have a vision of the life that waits for us beyond the grave and on into the resurrection of the dead....

... we also have to have a grasp of the hour of trial which, one way or another, comes to every saint of God who walks this earth.

When it is to come, how it is to come, is God's business. But we need to know that it is coming.

***"I have said all this to you to keep you from falling away. They will put you out of the synagogues; indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God. And they***

***will do this because they have not known the Father, nor me. But I have said these things to you, that when their hour comes you may remember that I told you of them..."***

***John 16:1-4***

We are going to get our opportunity to know Jesus in the fellowship of his sufferings, to wash our robes and make them white in the blood of the Lamb. And when this hour comes, we can look the fire in the eye and say, "I knew you were on your way. At last you've come, so let's get on with it." And we will find that the same Lamb of God, who leads us now will lead us through the fire. He will guide us, direct us, preserve us, flood our hearts with glory. We will have a clearer sense of Jesus' presence as we walk through those flames than we had in all our life.

But what are we to do in the meantime?

The baptism of fire hasn't fallen yet. Nor has the hour of glory begun.

So what do we do now? Sit around and wait?

We are to do in this season of our lives exactly what Jesus called Peter and Andrew to do: "Follow me and I will make you become fishers of men."

### **Follow Me and I will Make You Fishers of Men**

One day we will follow Jesus through flames.

And one day we will follow Jesus to springs of living water –  
–no more flames, no more scorching heat.

***But now*** we follow Jesus out into that world of anguish and strife and catch men in the net of God's mercy. We draw them into God's kingdom. "I will make you become fishers of men."



**The Great Harvest Rik Berry**

None of us was born a fisher of men. None of us can learn how to do it as a skill or a technique. We are made effective as fishers of men by the burning presence of Jesus within us. We may be tongue-tied, shy, slow of mind, unattractive to look at, but Jesus makes us become fishers of men if we follow him.

Most of us still find it hard to believe that Jesus of Nazareth intends to put us into this kind of service. “Lord, I’m just not cut out for that sort of thing. I’ll gladly support a missionary. I’ll pray for others to be effective. I’ll try to live a decent life. But don’t expect me to bring people into your kingdom.”

And yet, that’s exactly what we’re going to do – all of us. In the most natural down-to-earth ways, without any spotlights or trumpet fanfares, every single believer is going to see friends, acquaintances and even enemies respond to our invitation to enter the Kingdom of God.

It might happen on the telephone, or on a lunch break, a word spoken on an elevator, or a street corner, or in a 747, a letter, a hospital visit, a bowl of soup given to a sick neighbor, or a prayer prayed with a troubled soul after a Bible study.

***“Follow me and I will make you become Fishers of men”***

**“Follow him where?”**

**Follow Jesus first into the presence of God.**



**The Prayer Rik Berry**

Surely that’s where Jesus took Peter and Andrew: into the presence of the Father. He made God real to them. He taught them to pray. “When you pray say, ‘Our Father who art in heaven...’”

***Ask, and it shall be given you,  
Seek and you shall find....***

Find what?

God's presence.

God's living Spirit.

God's reality.

The only one who can bring you into the presence of God is Jesus.

There have been magnificent teachers. There have been religious giants, awesome prophets. But there is only one Lamb whose shed blood tears away the veil.

Each day that breaks you can follow Jesus into the presence of the living God. "Lord, I don't know how to pray, take me on into the presence of the Father." He will!

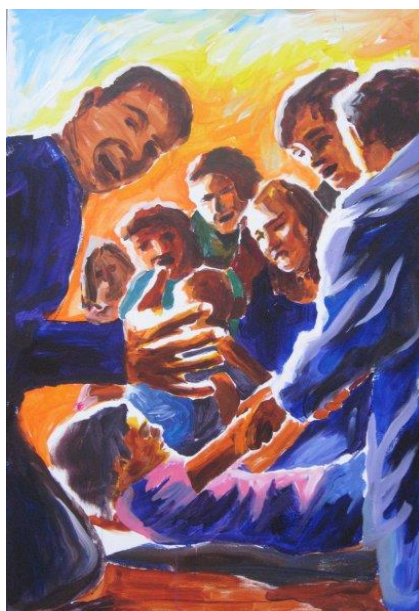
***Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.***

***Hebrews 4:14-16***

There in the presence of God....

we learn to deny ourselves – to present our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God.

**Follow Jesus into the temple and the synagogue, the gathered assembly.**



**The Dead Raised Rik Berry**

The temple was corrupt and the synagogue was loaded with hypocrites. But Jesus was there with his disciples. He took his disciples to the place where people who loved God and people whose religion was only a pretense were all mixed together. That's where Jesus began his teaching. That's where Paul went every time he entered a city. Don't make the mistake so many are making these days of saying, "Those people in that church are all hypocrites.", "That fellowship is a bunch of phonies." If there are two people gathered there in his name ---- amid two hundred phonies --- Jesus is there. And you may find that among the two hundred "phonies" are people who, on the last day, will turn out to be holy men and women of God.

Don't presume to be separating the wheat from the tares, that's God's business. Be satisfied that if Jesus worshipped his Father in that mixed company of the synagogue we join him in that mixed company of wheat and tares he calls his church. It's in the fellowship, mixed as it is with human error and sinful pride, that the Spirit of God refines and strengthens us for the work he has given us to do.

***...not neglecting to meet together... (Hebrews 10:25)***

***"For where two or three are gathered in my name,  
there am I in the midst of them."***

***Matthew 18:20***

It's in the fellowship that Jesus teaches us how to deny ourselves – to lay down our lives for one another.

**Follow Jesus out into the midst of the masses, out to the people for whom he died.**



The Touch Rik Berry

***"The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few."***

***Matthew 9:37***

***"Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves;  
so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves."***

***Matthew 10:16***

***"I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor..."***

**John 4:38**

Never has the Spirit of God more explicitly commanded the saints to go out than he is commanding believers today. Because that's where the Lord is.

Surely every one of our lives takes us out among people who haven't heard and don't know the goodness of the Lord.

**All we have to do is be there as followers of the Lamb.**

Allow him to direct us as we mingle with people. There Jesus will make us fishers of men as we learn how to pour ourselves out in his name, even as Jesus poured himself out for us while we were still dead in our sins.

One day we shall follow Jesus in another world to springs of living water.

One day soon we shall follow Jesus through flames.

But now we follow him out among the multitudes of this world knowing that as we do, Jesus himself will teach us how to deny ourselves for the salvation of others ... how to catch men and women into the Kingdom of God.

***And passing along by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net in the sea; for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you become fishers of men." And immediately they left their nets and followed him.***

**Mark 1:16-18**

*Prayer-*  
*Holy Lord, dearest Lamb of God, despite our shortcomings and reservations lead us to be fishers of men now. Help us to follow you to the very throne of God so we have something real to draw people. Be in our midst as we fish together with other believers, as we learn to love, to forgive, and to draw strength from our fellowship with each other and with you, to rejoice in your goodness, in the miracles that happen when we are united. Lead us into the world where our touch is your touch. Where hearts are caught into your beautiful Kingdom.*

*Original: REB...Unknown date ... Also found in the booklet- Guidance (available for the asking)  
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