Week 1: January 8th, 2023

Topic: Consider all things as liabilities – Part 1

Bible Reading: Philippians 3:2-11

Introduction

Liability is something that you owe. It can also be described as pecuniary obligation or debt. So, humans are responsible to heed the voice of God and keep His statutes. Hence, it is inevitable for the Believers to be obedient; else they will be held accountable by their Creator.

Everything in this world is liabilities, and care must be taken so that Satan will not use them to make you unworthy to enter the kingdom of heaven. If your goal is to be admitted into the Glorious Home; then you need to count your gains in this world as loss; for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ who will reward you with eternal life.

Whatever you have in this world is a liability and you will be held accountable for it. If you have a child or children; you must teach and train them in the way of the Lord; else you will be penalized. If you acquire wealth, it must be utilized in manners that are acceptable to the Lord; else you will face the consequences. If you occupy an exalted position in your community/State, it must be used judiciously; else you will be judged; because "to whom much is given, much is required." So, 'in a nutshell' you must consider all things in this world as liabilities and utilize them in accordance with the commands of the Lord; in order to escape punishment and judgment.

Therefore, let God be first in all your ways and make His perpetual kingdom your priority. Let God take preeminence in all your deeds and make Him paramount in your heart. Inasmuch as the Lord is the First and Last; make the Alpha and the Omega your determinant factor in all your actions, reactions and decisions; because you will be culpable

for everything that you have/own in this world together with those things that are committed into your care.

Do not be afraid to consider everything that you earn as liabilities; because we brought nothing into this world and we cannot take anything out of it. Consider all the things that you gained or inherited in this world as worthless; in order for Satan not to use them to cause your downfall, but for God to be delighted in you. Anyone who intends to be glorified will look upon everything he/she has amassed as loss compared with the gain of knowing Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hence, consider whatever you have obtained in this world as insignificant, but utilize them in a judicious way to please God; because you cannot take them out of this world; according to the scripture which says, "For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out." 1 Timothy 6:7. If you want to excel in the knowledge of God, and grow spiritually; then consider everything in this sinful world as valueless. Inasmuch as all the things in the world except death is certain; consider everything that belongs to you as liabilities for Christ's sake.

Satan is using worthless things to mislead mankind: Do not love the way of the world; do not value the goods or the materialistic things of this world; instead, consider them as valueless, so that the love of the worldly things will not squeeze out your love for your heavenly Father and obedience of His divine commands. Since everything in this world is desire to please our sinful selves, and wanting the sinful things we see; Satan is using these desires to tempt and cause the downfall of people in droves.

Do not forget that you are liable for your possessions in the world; so, you must count the things in the world as liabilities and worthless before you can overcome the temptation that had put many Beloved in a spiritual bondage. The best way to resist Lucifer is to consider the glitterings of this world as valueless, and be steadfast so that you will

not be influenced by others.

It must be noted that the craving of sensual gratification, the greedy longings of the mind, together with assurance in your uncertain resources, and confidence in the stability of your earthly things, do not come from God. So, count everything as loss; in order to overcome these sinful desires and be glorified. The Bible attested to this fact by saying, "For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world." 1 John 2:16. Unless you count everything that you gained or inherited as liabilities; they will create an avenue for Satan to tempt you, and it will be difficult for you to please God.

Topic: Consider all things as liabilities – Part 2

Bible Reading: Philippians 3:2-11

Do not worry about liabilities

Nowadays humans are always thinking of how to survive in this world rather than committing their ways into the hands of God. Throughout the world, people are always thinking about the unpleasant things that might happen to them. Mankind is so restless concerning the uncertainty that may occur. You must not permit your problems to make you feel unhappy and frightened; instead obey God, and your problems will be resolved.

Do not forget that worrying will not change your situation, but counting on God and obedience is what will achieve your goals. Jesus mentioned this statement in the Bible by saying; "Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature?" **Matthew 6:27.** Therefore, quit worrying and rely on God to get things done for you. Since, everything in this world is a liability; why worry about the basic necessities of life; your life, and your future?

Necessity must not hinder you: Nowadays, people are busy pursuing indispensable things to survive in this world in a dubious way; while others are conducting themselves to get their essentials in a manner that makes them have little or no time for their Creator. It must be noted that your survival in this lustful world depends on pleasing God rather than your efforts. It is your zeal for the work of your heavenly Father that will make your story on this terrestrial ball to be peaceful and prosperous.

Inasmuch as feeding and clothing your body is a liability, you must conduct yourself in an acceptable way to get your necessities; so that Lucifer will not use them to lure you away from the presence of God. Jesus Christ our Lord cautioned about this scenario in the Bible by saying, "Therefore, I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and body more than clothing?......." Matthew 6:25-30.

You are priceless to the Lord; if and only if you do not allow the Devil to use these essentials to make you unworthy before the Lord. Since you are

precious more than all other creations of God, then pursue and utilize these necessities with a conscientious mind; else you will be judged.

Inasmuch as God is providing the necessities for lesser creatures, He will cater for your needs; if you believe and obey His commands <u>Matthew</u> <u>6:33.</u> It is written that God provides food for the raven, when they wander about in hunger; and their young ones cry to Him. <u>Job 38:41.</u> If God provides food for the ravens, don't you think that He will give you all your good heart desires?

The Bible stated that God gives food to every living creature; Psalm
136:25.
So, if you are zealous for the work of God and you are faithful to Him, don't you think the Giver of food to all living creatures will feed and satisfy you? Don't you think God will remember you when you are down? Don't you believe that Your Maker will take care of you in time of need, if you are obedient? Do not doubt, but believe and do the will of God.

<u>Use your life judiciously to have a brighter future:</u> You need to know that you will give account of your stewardship on earth. You will relate before the Lord how you spend your life before the Judgment Seat. Equipped with this knowledge, it is important to realize that, if your first concern is to look after yourself, you will never find yourself. But if you forget about yourself because of Christ and you look to Him; then you will be given life that lasts forever.

Whoever values his/her life more than the work of God, and tries to preserve it will lose it through death; but whoever loses his/her life in this world for Christ's sake will find it and live eternally. The Bible attested to this fact by saying, "He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it." **Matthew 10:39.** For this reason, do not cling to your life, but be ready to give it up for Christ's sake; in order to inherit the kingdom of heaven.

Hence, do not worry about your future; instead, commit it into the hands of God who will give you a brighter and fulfilling future. Stop worrying about your future; instead, be obedient and God will make your dreams become a reality. You need to focus on God and pay attention to what He is doing presently in your life; instead of getting worked up about your future.

The scripture corroborated this fact by saying, "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble." **Matthew 6:34.** Beware; so that Satan will not use your earthly possessions to disqualify you before God. We pray that you will not regret coming to this world, and you will be absolved (free from guilt) in the Presence of God, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Topic: Consider all things as liabilities – Part 3

Bible Reading: Philippians 3:2-11

Oppose Satan not the Holy Spirit

Many people in the world are stubborn, and they are actively opposing the Holy Spirit by their acts and conduct. Countless people are hard-headed people, who are always fighting against the Holy Spirit indirectly by their utterances and teachings; in a manner that will prompt Satan to cause their downfall. Numerous people have dull hearts and they have turned a deaf ear to the messages of God that can/will make them survive in this world. The majority of people are bullheaded; with calluses on their hearts and flaps on their ears, in a way that is making them deliberately ignore the Holy Spirit like their ancestors.

The Bible corroborated this fact by saying, "You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers did, so do you." **Acts 7:51.** Are you one of the obstinate people who are heathen in their thinking? Are you so stubborn that you have not given your heart to God or listen to Him? Do you always act against what the Holy Spirit is trying to tell you? You must resist the Devil and not the Holy Spirit.

It is inevitable for you not to resist the Holy Spirit: If you want the Holy Spirit to defend and fight for you during your duration on earth; you must not resist the Spirit of God. The Holy Spirit can only comfort and help you, if and only if you do not oppose Him; else Lucifer will use your earthly possessions against you. You must submit yourself to God before the Holy Spirit can strengthen you and make you overcome the agents of Satan that are making your life unbearable. Holy Spirit alone can teach you how to survive in this world; so that your endowments will not make you miss the kingdom of heaven.

You must never withstand the Holy Spirit if you want Him to be your advocate and make intercession on your behalf; according to the scripture which says, "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you." **John 14:26.** Inasmuch as you need the Holy

Spirit to stand by you throughout your existence do not resist Him; else you will be guilty in the presence of God.

Seek to please the Holy Spirit: It is your duty not to grieve the Holy Spirit, but to do things that will make the Holy Spirit to abide in your life forever. For this reason, do not offend, but seek to please the Holy Spirit by whom you are branded as God's own and you are secured for the day of redemption. Do not resist the Holy Spirit but Satan; because the Holy Spirit is God's proof that you belong to Him, in order to make you free when the final day comes. Remember that the Holy Spirit is God's mark of ownership on you and a guarantee that the Day will come when God will set you free from sin; therefore, do not oppose the Holy Spirit. The only way for you to be acceptable before God and reign eternally in heaven is to withstand Satan and not the Holy Spirit.

The Bible attested to this fact by saying, "And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption." **Ephesians 4:30.** You must not bring sorrow to the Holy Spirit by the way you live; if your goal is to be admitted into the Glorious Home, rather than being culpable before God. Do not forget that the Holy Spirit has identified you as His own, with guarantee that you will be saved on the day of redemption; so, resist the Devil and not the Holy Spirit.

Topic: Consider all things as liabilities – Part 4

Bible Reading: Philippians 3:2-11

Stop defying your Creator

It is time for humans to cease refusing to obey the Almighty God their Maker. You must not resist God either openly or secretly; instead, be obedient, by taking into account that everything in this world is liabilities. You must never defy God because of your uncertain wealth, and make sure that your earthly possessions do not make you oppose your Creator; if you intend to inherit the heavenly kingdom.

The perception of many people in this world is that serving God is useless, and nothing is gained by keeping His obligations. Countless people think it is foolish to serve the Lord God, and no benefit can be derived from it. The majority of mankind believe so much in their prowess, and they believe that without obeying the commands of God, they can achieve their goals. Numerous people who believe that serving the Lord and keeping His statutes are a waste of time; also believe that their earthly possessions are assets instead of liabilities; but they are wrong.

This faithless and perverse generation believe it is worthless to worship God and obey Him; according to the scripture which says, "You have said, 'it is useless to serve God; what profit is it that we have kept His ordinance, and that we have walked as mourners before the Lord of hosts?" **Malachi 3:14.** Do you know that it is for your own well-being in this world and acceptance in heaven to count everything as liabilities? Do you realize that you have a lot of gain physically and spiritually; if you repent and obey the commands of God? Many benefits will accrue to you, that will make a difference in your journey; if you count everything in this world as liabilities.

Therefore, stop insulting the reputation of the Lord. You must never turn the glory of God to shame by your actions, reactions and

utterances. Do not love the worthless things of this world, but see them as liabilities; else Satan will use them to cause your downfall. If you don't want the Devil to use you indirectly to disrespect Your Creator; you must not love vanity, and you must not seek or pursue falsehood; according to the Book of Psalms which says, "How long, O you sons of men, will you turn my glory into shame? How long will you love worthlessness and seek falsehood? Selah." Psalm 4:2. Cease making groundless accusations against your Maker. Make sure that your acts are not ruining the reputation of God among mankind. You must stop your lies and illusive lifestyle, if you want to inherit the eternal kingdom of God.

For this reason, be obedient to Almighty God who has the might to reduce dignitaries to nothing. God alone has the power to make or break; only Him can ridicule and useless, any ruler in this world who misbehaves. Inasmuch as God alone can take away power of the rulers, and make the disobedient world leaders completely worthless; why not obey His commands by counting everything as liabilities.

The scripture corroborated this fact by saying, "He brings the princes to nothing; He makes the judges of the earth useless." **Isaiah 40:23.** Remember that God is the Judge of the judges; who can bring down erring rulers/judges and turn them to nothing. If you do not want to be unimportant and insignificant during your lifetime, count everything in this world as liabilities.

Be prepared to resist the Devil: Whatever you are passing through, it is your duty to withstand the Devil, and be firm in faith against the wiles of Satan. Be sure that your challenges do not make you falter; so, strive to establish your faith, and be immovable. You need to realize that your suffering is not unique, but it is identical to what brethren throughout the world are suffering; so, endure; else Satan will use it to derail your faith. Do not be deceived, Lucifer will like to give you a false relief by offering you the glittering of this world in order to spiritually collect your Bible and glory.

Inasmuch as all that glitters are not gold; resist the Devil by taking into consideration that everything on earth are liabilities. Remember that you are not the only one plunged into these hard times; however, obedience and perseverance will make you resist the Devil and overcome your temptations/challenges. The Bible attested to this fact by saying, "....Resist him, steadfast in faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world." 1 Peter 5:8-9.

So, give yourself completely to God; stand against the Devil and he will run away from you. It is inevitable for you to surrender to God and resist Satan, if you want to be successful on earth; according to the Bible passage which says, "Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you." <u>James 4:7.</u> The easiest way to view your earthly possessions as liabilities is to resist the Devil.

Topic: Consider all things as liabilities – Part 5

Bible Reading: Philippians 3:2-11

The world and everything will pass away

This world will pass away whether you like it or not; so, turn aside from dishonest gain that can make you unworthy in the presence of God. You must neither give bribes nor receive any bribe, and beware of 'get rich quick syndrome' because everything in this world is liabilities. Stop distorting justice and making unfair decisions; because whatever that you attain from such deals/transactions will become liabilities that will make you guilty before your Creator.

You will be culpable if you are interested in making money dishonestly and accept money secretly to deny people justice. Inasmuch as whatever that you honestly obtained is liabilities; don't you think that everything that your corruptive ambition made you to achieve will lead you to perdition? Stop seeking unlawful gain and your greed for money that is making you be after what you can get for yourself.

Either you like or not, the world with its shameful pursuits and ungodly longings will fade away. The forbidden cravings, the passionate and the lust of this world will pass away; only the people who obey God by counting everything as liabilities will live forever; according to the Book of John which says, "And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever." 1 John 2:17.

Therefore, make keeping the statutes of God your source of joy and your reason to live. Make a resolution that you will live your life for Christ, and you will serve Him throughout your existence; so that you will gain the glory of eternity when you die. Let obedience of the teachings of Jesus Christ means everything to you in this life, and make it your only important thing about living; so that you will live and reign eternally with your Maker.

What will it profit anyone to gain wealth, fame, and success; but forfeits his/her soul? Since everything in this world is liabilities, do you want to gain liabilities and forfeit a blessed life in the kingdom of God? What will you gain, if you own the whole world, but end your journey in hell? Don't you think it is worthless to gain the whole world and destroy yourself? The Bible corroborated this fact by saying, "For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?" Matthew 16:26. Do you think it is good for you to gain everything in the world at the price of your soul? If not, be obedient and count everything in this world as liabilities.

Count your gain as loss for Christ's sake: Count everything that you are regarding as advancements in merit as loss for the sake of Christ; in order to be admitted into the kingdom of heaven. Now that you have been informed; you must reckon as worthless those things that you thought were valuable. It is inevitable for you to consider as liabilities, those things that were important to you for Christ's sake. If you want to live in Paradise, then imitate Apostle Paul by counting your assets as loss; because of what Christ has done for you, and what He is presently doing in your life, together with what He will do for you in future. The Bible attested to this fact by saying, "But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ."

Philippians 3:7. If your goal is to be present at the Wedding of the Lamb; consider everything that are advantages to you as a disadvantage; so that you will be glorified.

Whatever you are passing through is incomparable to the glory that will be conferred on you; if you are obedient and endure. Have assurance that your present suffering cannot be compared with the glory that God will reveal in you; if you persevere. Whatever challenges/problems that you have is less than nothing compared with the magnificent future God has planned for you. There is no comparison between your present hard times, and the good times that will manifest in your journey, together with the rest of mind that God will give you.

The Book of Romans affirmed this fact by saying, "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us." **Romans 8:18.** Be obedient and continue to endure your situation; because you will be rewarded in this world and the world to come.

<u>The Seal: Philippians 3:8:</u> "Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ."