

# **The Cost Of Love SOS 3/21/15**

## **Sacrifice Offering Service**

Christ Has Set Us Free

**5** For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

**7** You were running well. **Who hindered you** from obeying the truth? **8** This persuasion is not from him who calls you. **9 A little leaven leavens the whole lump.**

**13** For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only **do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh**, but **through love serve one another**. **14** For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." **15 But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.**

Keep in Step with the Spirit

**16** But I say, **walk by the Spirit**, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. **17** For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. **18** But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. **19** Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality,

**20 idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, 21 envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. 22** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, **23** gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. **24** And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

**25** If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. **26** Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

Bear One Another's Burdens

**6** Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. **2** Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. **3** For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. **4** But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. **5** For each will have to bear his own load.

**6** Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches. **7** Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. **8** For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. **9** And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. **10** So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

**When push comes to shove, when we are presented with the testing of our faith,  
How will we respond? Which road will we take?**

**Flesh man: Hiding-Blaming-Denying-Attacking-Self Protecting**

**The Wide Road that leads to perdition, traveling in a drunken stupor recklessly steered  
by the flesh seeking self enlargement (pride)**

**Cannot result in restoration only remorse and regret**

**OR God's Option the Narrow Way**

**1. Sacrifice: our sinful pride and crucify (put to death) our flesh  
Deny our selfish flesh love**

**In the Garden of Eden**

**2. Offer: our humble and contrite heart choosing to live by the Spirit  
Loving our Lord by the Power of the Spirit**

**In a Fallen World**

**3. Service: through love serving and doing good to all and especially those of the  
household of faith**

**In the Body of Christ**

**Matthew 5:22-24**

**Results: repentance, reconciliation, restoration, renewal**

**Accomplished by God through Community-Communion**