Subject: The Crucified Life...
Posted by james on Tue, 31 Jul 2012 14:23:28 GMT
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"And He said to them ALL, If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross DAILY, and follow Me." Luke 9:23

"And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after Me, is not worthy of Me." Matthew 10:38

I've been reading from The Word and also from a few online books and references concerning The Cross and living the crucified life as it relates to what Jesus told us to do. I have gone over what Bro. Freeman wrote in 'The Deeper Life' book, which is very good and insightful; also I've read parts of A.W.Tozer's books 'The Radical Cross' and 'The Crucified Life', also very good with sound conclusions and scriptural references. The NT also has a lot of teaching on living the crucified life as first Jesus then Paul relates the deeper truths of what daily dying to self means and the differences between flesh and spirit and how we're to 'walk' through this life as followers of Christ. I continue to learn and grow in this area of my Christian walk, (overcoming the flesh and learning to daily seek, willingly, the death of 'self'.)

Then I came across this article or book by David Wilkerson titled, 'I'm Not Mad at God'. Now first let me say I respect David Wilkerson as a godly man and believe he's gone to be with The Lord along with A.W.Tozer and Hobart Freeman. But according to quotes from this article or book David seems to have misunderstood what Jesus clearly said more than once concerning the crucified life, the cross, dying daily, and the deeper life gained by obedience to this teaching.

I quote:

"It is impossible to live a crucified life. It is not scriptural...
It tends only to bondage. We must pass on to the resurrected life of joy, victory, and rest.

1. Crucifixion is not a way of life. It is an act!

2. It is completed when I am comformed to His cross and cry by faith: 'It is finished'.

3. I am buried by faith and reckoning.

4. Then the same Spirit that raised Christ from the dead rushes into my mortal body and quickens me, enabling me to live the resurrected life."

I was disappointed when reading this, though I don't have my confidence in any man, I did expect different from him.

Anyone have any thoughts on this, is he right in his conclusion or are we to continue to daily take up our cross and follow Jesus. I understand some scriptures require more study and understanding than others, but I believe these scriptures are quite clear to those seeking to follow Jesus.