

THE "HOW" OF SELF SURRENDER

Matt. 5:3

- I. The first preliminary step in self-surrender to God is to be poor enough to receive, to be receptive.
-1st. Beatitudes. "know that they are poor" - "rating themselves insignificant"

- II. The second preliminary step in self-surrender is to remember that we are not only surrendering to God who demands self-surrender, but one who has given us ability to surrender, who has also shown us by example.
 - A. We see this by His unwillingness to seek unearthly fortune and fame. Perhaps at Athens to become a great teacher and philosopher. Jn. 7:35; 12:20-33.
 - B. Also we see by steps of successive humility, how Jesus Christ became flesh {self-losing} and then by successive steps of reclaiming glory {self-finding}, Jesus achieved a name unexcelled. Phil. 2:6-11

- III. The third preliminary step in self-surrender is to realize you are fulfilling at least one purpose of Christ's death. 2 Cor. 5:15
 - A. When you are surrendering to God you are fulfilling this purpose.

- IV. The fourth preliminary step in self-surrender is to observe carefully the {at least} five stages you will go through in evaluating a personal relationship with our god and Savior, Jesus the Christ.
 1. The stage of drawing near. Jn. 4:8; 12:32
 2. The stage of mental decision. Change of mind, emotion, will. 2 Cor. 7:9-10
 3. The stage of action or doing it or obedience. He. 5:9 Rom. 6:17
1 Pet. 1:22
 4. The stage of inner unity. Gal. 3:27; Acts 2:28; Jn. 17:21
 5. The stage of continuous adjustments of mind to mind, of will to will and of being to being. 2 Cor. 3:12-ff