



To  
**DIE**  
is to  
**LIVE**

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**Minister LaMont Pittman**



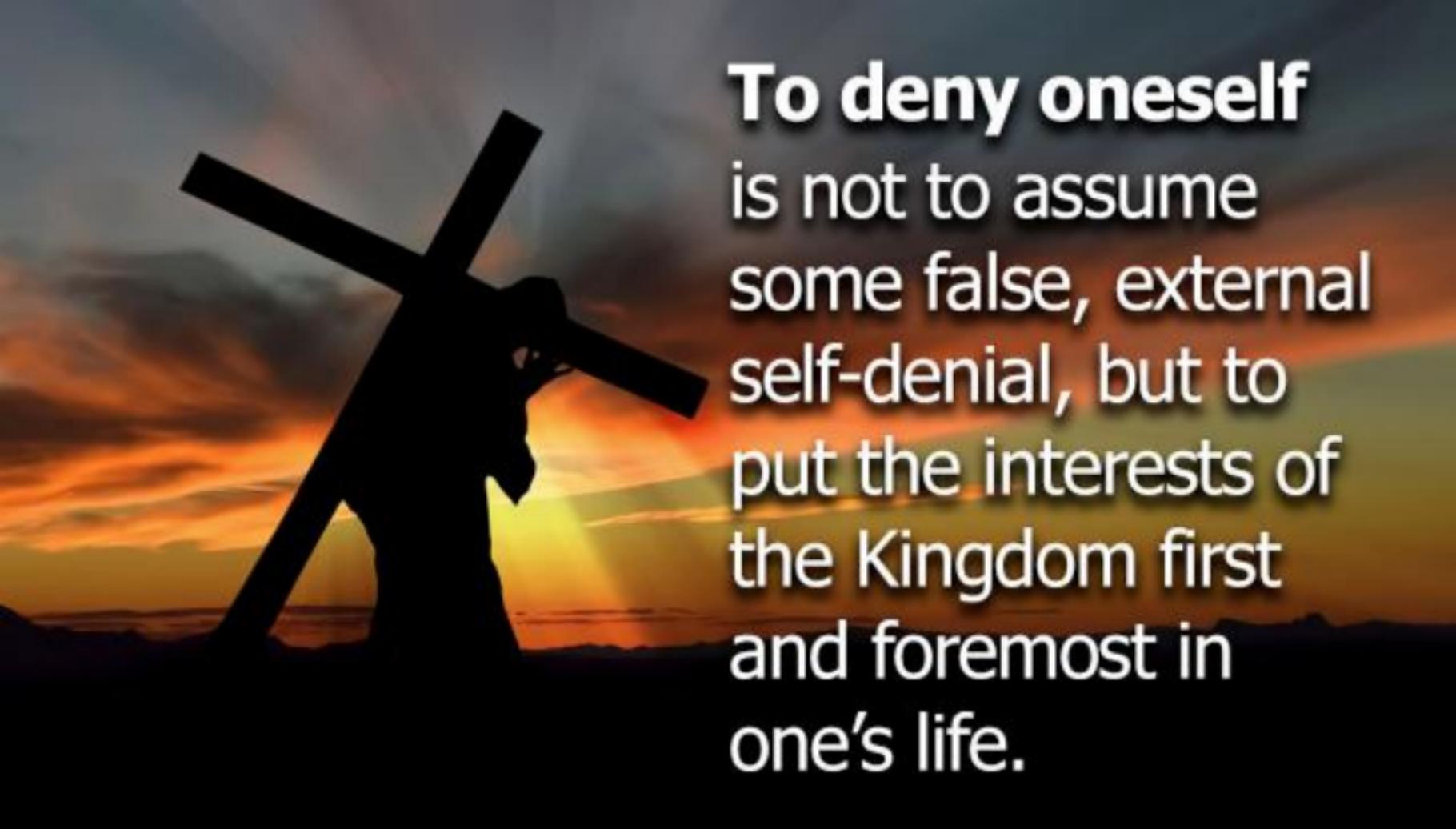
**deny:**

Greek: *aparmeomai*  
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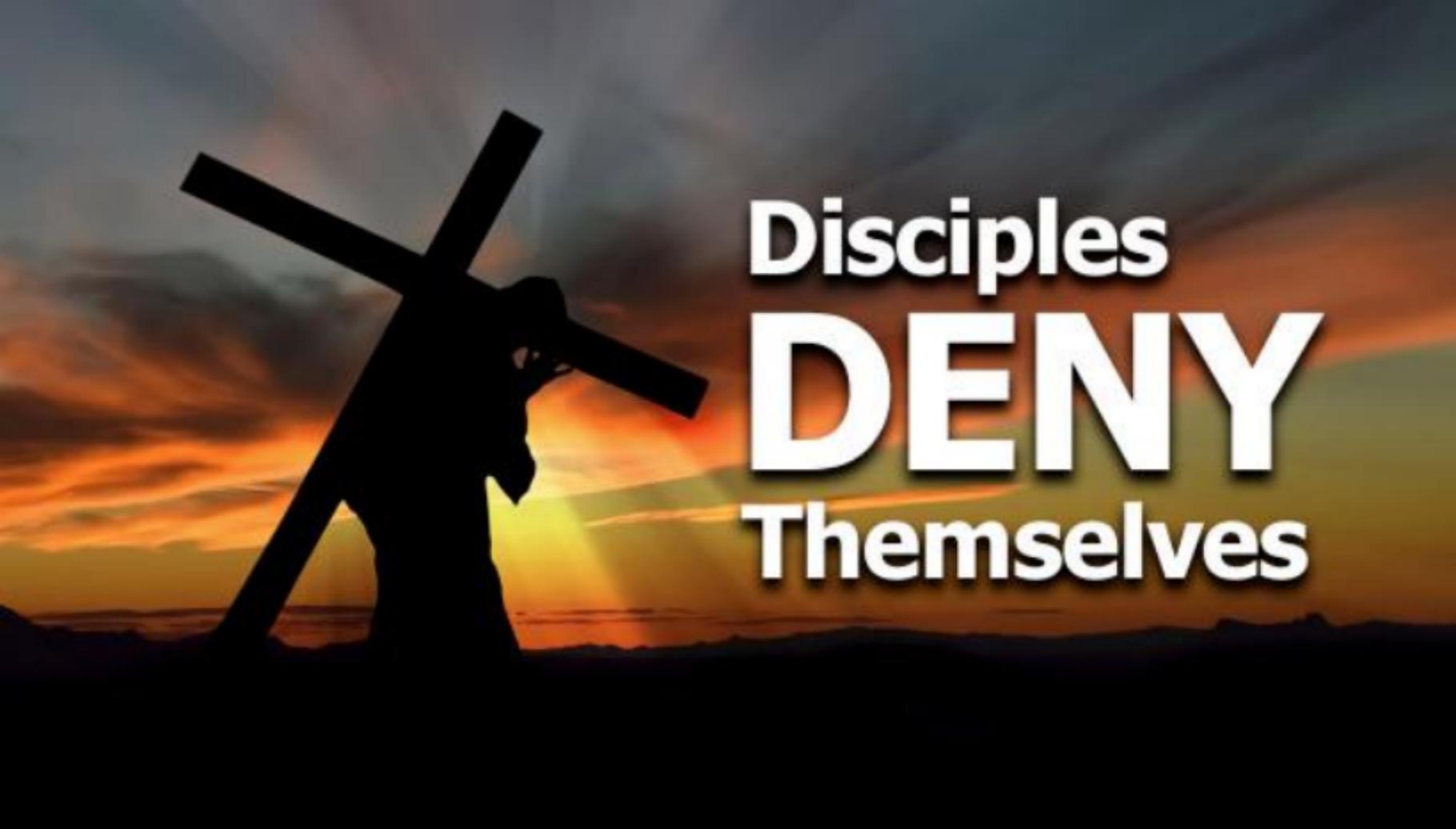


**deny:**

to forget one's self,  
lose sight of one's  
self and one's own  
interests.

A silhouette of a person carrying a large wooden cross on their back, walking across a landscape. The background is a dramatic sunset or sunrise with a bright sun low on the horizon, casting a golden glow and long shadows. The sky is filled with soft, colorful clouds in shades of orange, yellow, and grey.

**To deny oneself**  
is not to assume  
some false, external  
self-denial, but to  
put the interests of  
the Kingdom first  
and foremost in  
one's life.

A silhouette of a person carrying a cross is shown against a dramatic sunset sky with orange and yellow hues. The person is on the left side of the frame, walking towards the right. The cross is made of two dark wooden beams. The background features a horizon line with some distant land or hills.

Disciples

**DENY**

Themselves



## “To DIE is too LIVE”

#3 DISCIPLES DENIES THEMSELVES.

### **Matthew 16:24-28 NKJV**

(24) Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. [25] For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. (26) 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? [27] For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works. [28] "Assuredly, I say to you, there are some standing here who shall not taste death till they see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom."

# Deny

Greek: aparneomai (ap-ar-neh'-om-ahee)

to affirm that one has no acquaintance or connection with someone

to forget one's self, lose sight of one's self and one's own interests

**verses 24–27:** Jesus explains the paradox of discipleship....

\*\*\* To lose life is to find it; to die is to live.

**To deny oneself:** is not to assume some false, external self-denial, but to put the interests of the kingdom first and foremost in one's life.

**To take up the cross:** does not mean to endure some irritating burden, but to renounce self-centered ambitions.

Such sacrifice results in eternal life and the fullest experience of kingdom life now.

**(it's a Kingdom Lifestyle)**

## Mark 10:21-31 NKJV

(21) Then Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "One thing you lack: Go your way, sell whatever you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, take up the cross, and follow Me." [22]

But he was sad at this word, and went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions. [23]

Then Jesus looked around and said to His disciples, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!" [24] And the disciples were astonished at His words. But

Jesus answered again and said to them, "Children, how hard it is for those who trust in riches to enter the kingdom of God! [25] It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." [26] And they were greatly astonished, saying among themselves, "Who then can be saved?" [27] But Jesus looked at them and said, "With men it is impossible, but not with God; for with God all things are

possible." [28] Then Peter began to say to Him, "See, we have left all and followed You." [29] So Jesus answered and said, "Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My sake and the gospel's, [30] who shall not receive a hundredfold now in this time-houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions-and in the age to come, eternal life. [31] But many who are first will be last, and the last first."

**Verse 21: Loved-** Jesus' love for the man is expressed in a challenge, both stern and gracious. The one thing the rich man lacked was a wholehearted allegiance to God. So Jesus gave him a stern test to reveal the fact that he had made an **idol of wealth**, thus breaking the first Commandment. (**Exodus 20:3** You shall have no other gods before Me.)

**Treasure in heaven-** This is a common Jewish expression, but, for Jesus, it contains no idea of merit. Jesus looks beyond specific requirements to **single-hearted devotion** to God, that is, in taking up the cross of discipleship.

**Verse 29–31:** Jesus will be a debtor to no one. The blessings He gives will far outweigh material loss and persecution incurred in service to Him.

### **John 10:17-18 NKJV**

**[17] "Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again. [18] No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father."**

## **Romans 8:13-17 NKJV**

**[13] For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. [14] For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. [15] For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." [16] The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, [17] and if children, then heirs-heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.**

## **Galatians 2:20 NKJV**

**[20] I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.**

## **Daniel 4:28-37 NKJV**

[28] All this came upon King Nebuchadnezzar.

[29] At the end of the twelve months he was walking about the royal palace of Babylon. [30]

The king spoke, saying, "Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for a royal dwelling by my mighty power and for the honor of my

majesty?" [31] While the word was still in the king's mouth, a voice fell from heaven: "King

Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is spoken: the kingdom has departed from you! [32] And they shall drive you from men, and your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field. They shall

make you eat grass like oxen; and seven times shall pass over you, until you know that the

Most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomever He chooses." [33] That

very hour the word was fulfilled concerning Nebuchadnezzar; he was driven from men and

ate grass like oxen; his body was wet with the dew of heaven till his hair had grown like

eagles' feathers and his nails like birds' claws.

[34] And at the end of the time I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and

**my understanding returned to me**; and I blessed the Most High and praised and honored Him who lives forever: For His dominion is an everlasting dominion, And His kingdom is from generation to generation. [35] All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; He does according to His will in the army of heaven And among the inhabitants of the earth. No one can restrain His hand Or say to Him, "What have You done?" [36] **At the same time my reason returned to me**, and for the glory of my kingdom, my honor and splendor returned to me. My counselors and nobles resorted to me, I was restored to my kingdom, and excellent majesty was added to me. [37] Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, all of whose works are truth, and His ways justice. And those who walk in pride He is able to put down.

# Matthew 6:25-34 (NKJV)

- <sup>25</sup> “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 the body more than clothing?
- <sup>26</sup> Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?
- <sup>27</sup> Which of you by worrying can add one cubit (about 18 inches) to his stature (height, length of life)?
- <sup>28</sup> “So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin;
- <sup>29</sup> and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed (dressed) like one of these.
- <sup>30</sup> Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into

the oven, *will He* not much more *clothe* you, O you of little faith?

- <sup>31</sup> “Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’
- <sup>32</sup> For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.
- <sup>33</sup> But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.
- <sup>34</sup> Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day *is* its own trouble.

## Luke 9: 23-27 (NKJV), ref. (Mark 8: 34-38 NKJV)

<sup>23</sup> Then He said to *them* all, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.

<sup>24</sup> For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it.

<sup>25</sup> For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and is himself destroyed or lost?

<sup>26</sup> For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words, of him the Son of Man will be ashamed when He comes in His *own* glory, and *in His* Father’s, and of the holy angels.

<sup>27</sup> But I tell you truly, there are some standing here who shall not taste death till they see the kingdom of God.”