

## LESSONS FROM RICK JOYNER'S BOOK "THE FINAL QUEST"

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### Recap of the previous lesson (The Good Shepherd)

- Jesus is our good Shepherd; we are called to be good shepherds like Him.
- Good shepherds feed the sheep, and heal the wounded sheep.
- Good shepherds must be willing to suffer for the wellbeing of the sheep. They must lay down their lives for the sheep. (The Final Quest: *"The voluntary suffering of men for the Lord and for their fellow men is the greatest wonder of all...The Lord never promised that His way would be easy, but He has assured us that it would be worth it."*)

### Today's Topic: A BARE LIFE

Theme Scriptures: (Hebrews 12:1-3, 2 Corinthians 5:9-10)

46-10 (first sentence) *Old acquaintance*: "Looking at me intently, my former acquaintance continued: "You are not here just to gain understanding, but to be changed."

44-7, 8 "How is it that you know me?" I asked, surprised at my own boldness in asking them a question. "You are one of the saints fighting in the last battle," a man close by responded. "Everyone here knows you, as well as all those who are now fighting on the earth. We are the saints who have served the Lord in the generations before you. We are the great cloud of witnesses who have been given the right to behold the last battle. We know all of you, and we see all that you do."

47-4 (last two sentences) "He also gave us power to observe what is happening on earth. We are the great cloud of witnesses who are watching you and cheering you on." **Hebrews 12:1**

45-1 (last two sentences) *Old acquaintance*: "If I had known on earth what I know here, I would not have lived the way I did. You are greatly blessed to be able to come here before you die," he said, looking at my garments."

45-9 "There is an aristocracy of sorts here," he answered. "The rewards for our earthly lives are the eternal positions that we will have forever. This great multitude are those whom the Lord called 'foolish virgins.' We knew the Lord and trusted in His cross for salvation, but we lived for ourselves more than we really lived for Him. We did not keep our vessels filled with the oil of the Holy Spirit. We have eternal life, but we wasted our lives on earth."

50-8 *The great Reformer*: “God does have a different set of history books than those on the earth. You have had a glimpse of this, but you do not yet know how different they are. Earthly histories will pass away, but the books that are kept here will last forever. If you can rejoice in what heaven is recording about your life, you are blessed indeed. Men see through a glass darkly, so their histories will always be clouded and sometimes completely wrong.” **Revelation 20:11-12**

“How was it that so many other leaders esteemed you so?” I inquired, still having trouble absorbing what I was hearing.

“Very few Christians, even very few leaders, have the true gift of discernment. Without this gift it is impossible to accurately discern truth in those of the present or the past. Even with this gift it is difficult. Until we have been here . . .”

**Philippians 3:14 then 3:12 – 15 (the high calling/upward call)**

53-3 “The high calling is not out of reach for anyone that the Lord has called. I will tell you what will keep you on the path of life—love the Savior and seek His glory alone. Everything you do to exalt yourself will one day bring you the most terrible humiliation. Everything you do out of genuine love for the Savior, to glorify His name, will extend the limits of His eternal kingdom and ultimately result in a much higher place for yourself. Live for what is recorded here. Care nothing for what is recorded on earth.”

53:9 “The more people praised us, and the more we accepted their praises, the further we drifted from the path of life. Then we started living for the praises of men and to gain power over those who would not praise us. That was our demise, and it is the same for many who are here in the lowest place.” **Galatians 1:10**