

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

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### Recap of previous lesson (Discerning the Lord's Body)

- We are all members of the body of Christ, with roles to play for the benefit of other members. Failure to play our role or to discern how other members are meant to benefit you spells 'weakness, sickness and death'.
- Only do what the Father commands

### Today's Topic: ATTAINING TRUE GREATNESS

Theme Scripture = Matthew 6:33a

*"The door that requires the most sacrifice to enter will always take us to the highest level."*

*"When I finally committed myself to doing the Lord's will, whether it was to stay or go, Wisdom appeared to me and showed me this door. He said it was a shortcut to the top. That is how I was able to reach the top before you did."*

*"Spiritual maturity is always determined by our willingness to sacrifice our own desires for the interests of the kingdom or for the sake of others. The door that requires the most sacrifice to enter will always take us to the highest level."*

*"I did not go directly to the top, and I haven't met anyone who has," the eagle continued. "But I went there much faster than most because I had learned so much about self-sacrifice while fighting here on the level of "Salvation."*

*I have not called you to sacrifice, but to obey. Sometimes you will have to sacrifice in order to obey Me, but if your sacrifice is not done in obedience, it will separate us. (Why? Because obedience is better than sacrifice: 1 Samuel 15:18-22; Acts 13:22; Hebrews 10:5-7; Philippians 2:8-9)*

How to attain true greatness: 1) Obedience to God, which sometimes calls for sacrifice

*I turned back to the angel and said, "You must help me find the door that leads to the top." The angel looked perplexed. "We are your servants," he responded, "but you must lead us. This whole mountain is a mystery to us. We all desired to look into this great mystery, but after we leave this room we will be learning even more than you."*

*"Do you know where all the doors are?" I asked.*

*"Yes. But we do not know where they lead. There are some that look very inviting, some that are plain, and some that are actually repulsive. One is even terrible."*

**Terrible door with a red stone that led to Gethsemane where the agony (of the Lord before His crucifixion) therein was more terrible than the door. Luke 22:41-44.**

I saw the presence of the Father depart from Jesus on the cross, I could stand it no longer. I quit. **Matthew 27:46**

### **How to attain true greatness: 2) embrace the sufferings of Christ (Luke 22:28-30)**

As I approached it, I could feel the fear welling up inside me, but not nearly as intensely as the first time. Unlike the other doors, it was very dark around this one, and I had to get very close to read the truth written over it. Mildly surprised, I read "THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST." "Why is this truth so fearful?" I asked aloud, knowing that the angels would not answer me. As I continued looking at it, I knew that it was the one I should go through.

"There are many reasons it is fearful," the familiar voice of the eagle responded.

"I'm very glad you came back," I replied. "Have I made a poor choice?"

"No! You have chosen well," the eagle assured me. "This door will take you back to the top of the mountain faster than any other. It is fearful because the greatest fear in the creation has its source through that door. The greatest wisdom that men can know in this life, or in the life to come, is also found through that door. Even so, very few will go through it."

"But why is this door so dark?" I asked.

"The light of these doors reflects the attention that the church is presently giving to the truths behind them. The truth behind that door is one of the most neglected of these times, yet it is one of the most important. You will understand when you enter. The greatest authority that men can receive will be entrusted only to those who will go through this door. When you see Christ Jesus sitting on this throne, you will be prepared to sit with Him on it, too."

"Then this door would not be so dark and foreboding if we had just given more attention to this truth?" I asked.

"That is correct. If men knew the glory that is revealed behind that door, it would be one of the most brilliant," the eagle lamented. "However, it is still a difficult door to pass through. I was told to return and encourage you because soon you will need it. You will see a greater glory, but also a greater terror than you have ever known.

"Because you have chosen the difficult way now, it will be much easier for you later. Because you are willing to face this hard truth now, you will not suffer loss later. Many love to know His kindness, but very few are willing to know His severity. If you do not embrace both, you will always be in danger of deception and of a fall from His great grace."

"I know that I would never come here if I had not spent the time I did at the red stone. How could I keep trying to take the easy way when that is so contrary to the nature of the Lord?" I asked.

How to attain true greatness: 3) know the terror of the God of Judgment (2 Corinthians 5:10-11)