

An open Bible with a blue bookmark is shown from a top-down perspective. The pages are filled with text, and the book is bound in the center. The text is overlaid on the Bible.

Biblical Paradoxes

Discipleship

Matthew 16:21-27

A declared TRUTH which
seems to be absolutely
contradictory (opposite)
....but it isn't 😊

Paradox:

“TRUTH...standing
on its head...crying
for attention!”

G.K. Chesterton



*To go UP in God's
economy, one must go
DOWN – i.e. exaltation
comes through humility*

Humble yourselves in the
sight of the Lord,
and he shall lift you up.

James 4:10

But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant:

Matthew 20:26-27

Humble yourselves
therefore under the
mighty hand of God, that
he may exalt you in due
time:

1 Peter 5:6

*The One Who is **LIFE**...came to
DIE, in order that we
who were dead...
...might have life!*

Jesus saith unto him, I am
the way, the truth, and the
LIFE: no man cometh unto
the Father, but by me.

John 14:6

Verily, verily, I say unto
you, Except a corn of
wheat fall into the ground
and die, it abideth alone:
but if it die, it bringeth
forth much fruit.

John 12:24

*The One Who was **RICH** beyond
description became **POOR**...that
we who had nothing might enjoy
of the riches of Heaven!*

For ye know the grace of our
Lord Jesus Christ, that,
though he was rich, yet for
your sakes he became poor,
that ye through his poverty
might be rich.

*Our ultimate and
complete **FREEDOM**
will/must result
[“demonstrate itself”]
in **slavery!***

But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

Romans 6:17-18

FINDING (gaining) life,
happiness, success, etc...
...comes through ***LOSING!***

He that findeth his life
shall lose it; and he that
loseth his life for my sake
shall find it.

Matthew 10:39

But what things were gain to me,
those I counted loss for Christ. Yea
doubtless, and I count all things but
loss for the excellency of the
knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord:
for whom I have suffered the loss of
all things, and do count them but
dung, that I may win Christ.

*It is the **FOOLISH**
whom God chooses and uses
to confound the **WISE!***

But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, *yea*, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: **that no flesh should glory in his presence.**

1 Corinthians 1:27-29

*It is in **GIVING**...
...that we **RECEIVE!***

I have shewed you all things,
how that so labouring ye ought
to support the weak, and to
remember the words of the Lord
Jesus, how he said, It is more
blessed to give than to receive.

Acts 20:35

Give, and it shall be given unto you;
good measure, pressed down, and
shaken together, and running over,
shall men give into your bosom. For
with the same measure that ye mete
withal it shall be measured to you
again.

Luke 6:38

Genuine
STRENGTH...
...comes through ***WEAKNESS!***

And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee; for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.

*The **LAST** shall be **FIRST**...
and the first last!*

So the last shall be first,
and the first last: for
many be called, but few
chosen.

Matthew 20:16

***Self-righteousness is
NO righteousness...and no self-
righteousness allows for
DECLARED righteousness!***

And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of faith.

Philippians 3:9

*We find **REST**...
under His **YOKE!***

Come unto me, all *ye* that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Matthew 11:28-30

TRIALS....
are the source of JOY!

My brethren, count it all joy
when ye fall into divers
temptations; Knowing *this*, that
the trying of your faith worketh
patience. But let patience have
her perfect work, that ye may
be perfect and entire, wanting
nothing.

*Paradox
of
Discipleship*

“Winning by Losing”

- *Denying one's self . . .*
- *Bearing His cross . . .*
- *Obediently following Him*

