

The Law of Self-Realization

Introduction: Certain laws govern life and happiness. The law of retribution *Gal 6:7-8*. The law of sin and death *Rom. 6:23*. The law of self-preservation *Mark 8:35*. The law of self-realization through sacrificial giving is listed in the gospels *Matt. 10:39, Luke 9:24, Mark 8:38, John 12:25*.

Jesus lived by this principle.

- A) Jesus told the disciples to give up their occupation.
- B) Their family life secondary -*Matt. 8:19-22*.
- C) Forsake safety for danger -*Matt. 10:16-24*.
- D) Jesus was obedient unto death -*Phil. 2:7-8*.

History full of noble examples.

- A) John Bunyan, put in prison rather than ceasing from preaching the gospel.
- B) Albert Schweitzer.
- C) John the Baptist -*John 3:30*.
- D) Priests, Levites did not believe this law -*Luke 10:30-36*.

If we could live a rich, full, satisfying Christian life, we cannot ignore the principle that self-realization comes through self-sacrifice.

- A) We must say no to self and yes to Christ.
- B) No to our love of ease and comfort.
- C) No to every act of self-seeking.
- D) No to every act of touching and tasting forbidden things.
- E) Serve our King.
- F) Say yes to the will of God and the call for self-giving love.

Conclusion: The great historian Gibbon tells the story of the monk Telemachus. He had to fight to his death; he was killed by a sword. The games ended and never began again. In death he found the realization of a purpose that has greatly blessed the world.