

FRIEND

Friend has a different meaning biblically than it has in our society today. Today, any acquaintance could loosely be termed a friend. However, in the Bible, it refers to people in a covenant relationship, with God or with one another. Moses is referred to as a friend of God, for instance.

A friend is to be dearer and more important than any other in one's life. This is seen in marriage where our covenant partner (spouse) is to be closest to us.

Proverbs 18:24

“A man of {many} friends {comes} to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.”

We come into friendship with God when we get saved. This relationship is based on His being Lord.

Romans 10:9-10

“that if you confess with your mouth Jesus {as} Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved;

for with the heart man believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.”

To remain in proper relationship with Him and be a true friend of God means we must allow Him to be Lord - to direct us and have His way as King in His Kingdom, as Shepherd in His pasture, as God over His sons. This acknowledges His Lordship and our covenant position.

John 15:14

“You are My friends, if you do what I command you.”

Romans 8:14

“For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.”

John 10:27-28

*“My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me;
and I give eternal life to them, and they shall never perish; and no one shall snatch them out of My hand.”*

He laid down His life for us and as covenant people (friends), we are to lay down our lives for Him (Luke 9:23), as well as our other covenant friends (Christians).

1 John 3:16

“We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.”