There is a Way that SEEMS Right

EVERYONE WANTING TO BE A CHRISTIAN MUST CONSIDER THIS - Luke 14:28-33 - 28 "Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Will he not first sit down and **ESTIMATE THE COST** to see if he has enough money to complete it? 29 For if he lays the foundation and is not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule him, 30 saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' 31 "Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Will he not first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? 32 If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. 33 **IN THE SAME WAY**, any of you who **DOES NOT GIVE UP EVERYTHING** he has **cannot** be my disciple.

Even when following Christ, we can be misled by our focus when our mind is not on God - Matt 16:21-23 - 21 From that time on <u>Jesus began to explain to his disciples</u> that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. 22 <u>Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.</u> "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!" 23 Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; YOU DO NOT HAVE IN MIND THE THINGS OF GOD, BUT THE THINGS OF MEN."

We MUST recognize, there is only ONE Right view - John 14:6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

A major mistake of Christians is making Christianity what <u>they think</u> it should be and not accept it for what <u>it is</u>. We are given clear instruction on how to live - 2 Cor 5:7 <u>We live</u> by <u>faith</u>, **NOT** by <u>sight</u>.

We tend to get led astray based on how we think it should be - Prov 14:12 There is a <u>way that seems right</u> to a man, but <u>in</u> the end it leads to death.

Our senses will give us the wrong outlook

<u>It seems</u> people will be put in the position that they appear best fit for - (The Bible reveals) Eccl 9:11 I have seen something else under the sun: The <u>race is not to the swift</u> or the <u>battle to the strong</u>, nor does <u>food come to the wise</u> or <u>wealth to the brilliant</u> or <u>favor to the learned</u>; but <u>time and chance happen to them all</u>.

<u>It seems</u> people will get what they deserve in this world - (The Bible reveals) Eccl 8:14 There is something else meaningless that occurs on earth: <u>righteous men who get what the wicked deserve</u>, and <u>wicked men who get what the righteous deserve</u>. This too, I say, is meaningless.

<u>It seems</u> that if I live a "righteous life" I'll have a problem free life - (The Bible reveals) Eccl 9:12 Moreover, <u>no man knows</u> when his hour will come: As fish are caught in a cruel net, or birds are taken in a snare, so <u>men are trapped by evil times that</u> fall **unexpectedly** upon them.

Our faith is what keeps us firm in God

By faith I know as a Christian whatever I go through is for a good purpose - Rom 8:28 And WE KNOW THAT in <u>all things</u> God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

By faith I follow God's instruction to prepare and protect me for the evil times to come - Eph 6:13 Therefore <u>put on the full</u> <u>armor of God, so that WHEN the day of evil comes</u>, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

How to truly stay focused on the right path

Stop trying to hold God to your understanding - Isa 55:8-9 - 8 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord. 9 "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

To be a Christian means we trust in God because He's God -

Rom 9:16 It does not, therefore, depend on man's desire or effort, but on God's mercy.

Prov 3:5 Trust in the Lord with ALL your heart and lean not on your own understanding;

Make up your mind to only follow THE WAY - Matt 7:13-14 - 13 "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. 14 But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.

Truly live by faith. - Heb 10:38-39 - 38 But my righteous one will live by faith. And if he shrinks back, I will not be pleased with him." 39 But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who believe and are saved.