Blessed be the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.Let's learn and share in the Word of life.

In Romans 12:3,the Bible says; "For I say,through the grace given unto me,to every man that is among you,not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think;but to think soberly,according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith."

What does it mean to think of oneself more highly than you ought to think?To get a clear answer,let's read the next verses:

Romans 12:4-8

<sup>4</sup> For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office:

<sup>5</sup> So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

<sup>6</sup> Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith;

<sup>7</sup> Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching;

<sup>8</sup> Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness.

To think of oneself more highly means being proud to the extent they you feel you can have more of or all the spiritual gifts. For instance, one would to be an evangelist, an apostle, a great prophet, a teacher among others. In other words, it's like all the gifts belong to them. They feel it's not possible to have just one gift. He or she should either be a pastor and a teacher or a prophet and an evangelist as well, and so on. However, the Bible warns us against such things. We are to think soberly, according to the measure of faith Christ has dealt each person.

When comes pride,God's presence in a person ceases.For the Lord resists the proud,but delights in those who are lowly.Humility does not flourish in the garden of pride. 1 Peter 5:5;".....

for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. "

The gifts that are given unto us are not meant for a show-off or comparing ourselves to see those that are better than others.Any gift being used for vain or selfish reasons is a sign that it has been invaded by the devil so that it is working under Satan's influence. Remember, we are differently but equally gifted for a reason.These gifts have been given to us to equip us for the works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.We have no right to boast or exalt ourselves above others

## Ephesians 4:11-12

<sup>11</sup> And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

<sup>12</sup> For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

Have you invited Christ into your life as your Saviour and Lord?Remember, the days are gone,and we have a very short period of time,and the end will come.The trumpet could at any time and Jesus will come to take with him his church into the eternal glory.The day of the Lord's coming will be such a doomsday.He will come in vengeance to those living on the face of the earth.Let's dread it so that we won't fall in God's judgment onthat day.Turn from your evil ways and give your life to Jesus today

Heaven is real and hell is also real.it's upon us to choose between LIFE and DEATH during our stay on earth .When we die,there's no more chance to make choices.Eternal life or eternal doom(death) will be the consequences of the choices we made while we living in the world.The choices we make will determine where we will spend eternity;whether away from God or with God.Life is short.Make things right with God before your days come to an end.Be wise.Choose life and enter into safety.There's no place any safer than in Christ.

## **God bless you!**

Maran Atha.

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