THAT YE SHOULD FOLLOW HIS STEPS, Three

INTRODUCTION

In 2 previous lessons, we looked at the context of 1 Pet. 2:21, where Peter said that Jesus suffered for us, leaving us an example that we should follow His steps. We looked at the ORIGIN of His suffering, WHY He suffered, and HOW we are to share in that suffering. In a second lesson, we looked at some of the STEPS Jesus took, in which can can also step. This involved the Jordan of BAPTISM, the wilderness of TEMPTATION, the temple of WORSHIP, and the highway of SERVICE. In this lesson we shall conclude the series by looking at 4 additional steps Jesus took, in which we can take. These things all pertain to the **future** of our lives that we need to consider.

DISCUSSION

I. 1st, we shall follow Jesus'steps in the VALLEY OF DEATH.

A. David refers to **his** and **our** going through the valley of the shadow of death. Psa. 23:4
 1. Death is a shadow because it is **temporary** and **fleeting.** Job 14:1-2
 2. Death is like a shadow in that we enter a state where we are caught between the **past** and the **eternal future.** Job 8:9
B. Christ has gone before, and has experienced death, and be with us as we enter this valley. Ps. 23:4
 1. Christ died physically so we who also died physically will **not** have to die eternally. Heb. 2:9
 2. Christians die "in the Lord," and do not think of physical death as the end of our existence. Matt. 10:28; Rev. 14:13

II. 2nd, we shall follow Jesus' steps in the GARDEN OF THE RESURRECTION.

A. Jesus was raised from the tomb in a garden, to confirm that **He** was indeed the Son of God who had **foretold** His own resurrection. Matt. 16:21; Jn. 19:41–203
B. Jesus was raised from the dead as the **first part** of the final resurrection of the dead in the last day. 1 Cor. 15:12-23

III. 3rd, we shall follow Jesus' steps in the ascension through the CLOUDS OF HEAVEN.

A. After His resurrection, Jesus **ascended** through the clouds. Acts 1:9-11
B. When Jesus returns, He will **not set foot** on the earth, but we shall meet Him in the **clouds** of heaven. 1 Thess. 4:13-17

IV. 4th, we shall follow Jesus' steps as we enter the joys of OF GLORY.

A. Jesus left this life to enter into His glory, as He did so with **joy.** John 17:1-5; Heb. 12:2; Rom. 8:17-18
B. Heaven be a place of joy and peace. Rev. 21:4; Matt. 25:21
 1. There'll be no cause of unhappiness in heaven. Rev. 21:4
 2. SONG: "No Disappointment in Heaven", by F. M. Lehman, written In 1942.

3 Stanzas

"There's no disappointment in heaven, No weariness, sorrow or pain;
No hearts that are bleeding and broken, No song with a minor refrain;
The clouds of our earthly horizon, Will never appear in the sky,
For all will be sunshine and gladness, With never a sob nor a sigh.

We'll never pay rent for our mansion, the taxes will never come due;
Our garments will never grow threadbare;, But always be fadeless and new;
We'll never be hungry nor thirsty, Nor languish in poverty there,
For all the rich bounties of heaven, His sanctified children will share.

There'll never be crepe on the door-knob, No funeral train in the sky;
No graves on the hillside of glory, For there we shall never-more die;
The old will be young there forever, Transformed in a moment of time;
Immortal we'll stand in His likeness, The stars and the sun to outshine.

Chorus

I'm bound for that beautiful city My Lord has prepared for His own;
Where all the redeemed of all ages, Sing "glory" around that white throne;
Sometimes I grow homesick for heaven, And the glories I there shall behold;
What a joy that will be when my Savior I see, In that beautiful city of gold.

CONCLUSION
I. Are **you** bound for the city of gold?
    A. If you are not a Christian, why not confess your faith in Jesus, repent of sins and
        be baptized into Him this very hour?
    B. If as a baptized believer, you have ceased to follow Jesus, why not get back in
        step with Him, as you repent and pray for forgiveness.
II. If you follow Jesus in this life, you can be with Him in heaven forever and ever.,