

JOE GRIFFIN

*Promises  
of God*

EDITED BY  
JOHN CAMERON SMITH

THIRD PRINTING

***Promises  
of God***



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**Joe Griffin Media Ministries**

St. Charles, Missouri

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This book is edited from the lectures and unpublished notes of Joe Griffin.

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Faith-rest is a basic problem-solving device that relies on God's biblical promises to confront and endure all circumstances in life. These assurances from God are supported by His integrity and are designed to sustain the believer through difficult times during which the utilization of human viewpoint might result in sinful reactions that interrupt his spiritual life.

The faith-rest technique is a temporary solution for preserving the believer's spiritual relationship with God until more advanced biblical doctrines are learned and applied. Claiming divine promises is accomplished in three stages:

- (1) Mixing God's promises with unfailing faith in His integrity to accomplish whatsoever He desires,
- (2) Applying biblical doctrines applicable to the difficulty or circumstance, and
- (3) Reaching the confident conclusion that the power of God's grace is more real than the reality of the problem currently confronted.

In summary, the believer must learn to rely on the integrity of God's grace for protection, provision, and deliverance. This publication is designed to assist the believer in making that advance.

Joe Griffin  
St. Charles, Missouri  
January 2015



## PREFACE

If you are a believer in the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, then before beginning your Bible study it is mandatory that you name your sins directly and privately to God the Father:

**If believers confess their known sins to the Father, He is faithful and righteous to forgive their sins and to cleanse them from all wrongdoing, including unknown or forgotten sins. (1 John 1:9)**

Accordingly, you will be filled with God the Holy Spirit in fellowship with God the Father, and thus spiritually prepared to learn Bible doctrine:

**God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in the filling of the Spirit and biblical truth. (John 2:24)**

If you have never believed in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior, then the issue is not your naming of sins. The issue is faith alone in Christ alone:

**He who believes in Christ has eternal life; but he who does not obey the command to believe in Jesus Christ shall not see eternal life, but is condemned to the Lake of Fire, forever alienated from God. (John 3:36)**

## INTRODUCING GOD

The Christian Trinity (or Triune Godhead), consisting of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, represents the union of three distinct persons (or personalities), each possessing identical intrinsic essence.

Each member of the Trinity is assigned a unique role in God's grace plan. God's plan defines all that He is free to do for the benefit of the believer resulting from the spiritual sacrifice of His Son, Jesus Christ, Who freely agreed to suffer the substitutionary penalty on the cross on behalf of all the sins of mankind:

*God the Father:* Divine author of the grace plan.

*God the Son:* Visible member of the Godhead Who fulfills and implements the Father's plan.

*God the Holy Spirit:* Spiritual counselor Who activates and teaches the Father's plan.

### **GOD THE FATHER** *Author of the Grace Plan*

**For God so loved the world, that He gave His uniquely born Son, that anyone who believes in Jesus Christ will not be condemned to the Lake of Fire<sup>1</sup> but have eternal life with Him. (John 3:16)<sup>2</sup>**

**It is by God's grace you have been saved, through faith in Christ; and this salvation is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of human effort, so that no one may boast. (Eph. 2:8-9)**

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<sup>1</sup> The Lake of Fire is the eternal residence for unbelievers, Satan, and the fallen angels wherein they are forever alienated from God.

<sup>2</sup> New American Standard and New International Bibles are used for the verses in this book, and many have been expanded to more literally reflect the original Hebrew and Greek languages in current English.

**GOD THE SON***God-Man, Jesus the Christ*<sup>3</sup>

**In the beginning was the Word [Christ], and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. The Word became human and made His dwelling among us. (John 1:1-2,14)**

**All things were created by Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in [by] Him all things [everything in creation] are regulated and controlled. (Col. 1:16-17)**

**Salvation is found in no one else [only Jesus Christ], for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved. (Acts 4:12)**

**I am the Way and the Truth and the Life. No man comes to the Father except through Me. (John 14:6)**

**If you continue to study and apply My [Christ's] Word, then you are truly My followers. And you shall know the truth [of God's Word] and the truth shall make you free. (John 8:31-32)**

**Behold, My [God's] servant [Christ] will be caused to prosper in His true humanity. He shall be raised up by means of the resurrection [from death]. He shall be authorized to lift Himself up [into heaven] at the ascension, and be very highly exalted at His session [seated] at the right hand of the Father. (Isa. 52:13)**

**I [Christ] am the Alpha [beginning] and Omega [ending] ... Who is [present], and Who was [past], and Who is to come [future], the Almighty. (Rev. 1:8)**

---

<sup>3</sup> Sinless humanity and undiminished deity eternally joined together in one person, without the loss of separate identity.

**GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT***Spiritual Teacher*

I [Christ] will ask and the Father will give believers another Counselor to be with you forever — the Holy Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept Him, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. But you know Him, for He lives with you and will be in you. (John 14:16-17)

The Counselor, the Holy Spirit, Whom the Father will send in My [Christ's] name, will teach you all things and will cause you to remember everything I have taught you. (John 14:26)

God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in the filling of the Holy Spirit and biblical truth [Bible doctrine]. (John 2:24)

Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit Who is in you, Whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? (1 Cor. 6:19)

**TRINITY***One Essence, Three Persons*

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (2 Cor. 13:14)

As soon as Jesus was baptized, He went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and He saw the Holy Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on Him. God's [the Father's] voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, Whom I love; with Him I am well pleased." (Matt. 3:16-17)

For He [Christ] Whom God has sent speaks the words of God; for He [God] gives the [Holy] Spirit without measure. (John 3:34)

## PROMISES OF GOD

God's promises provide the believer with divine wisdom, stability, and encouragement, enabling him to endure any pressure, frustration, worry, failure, sorrow, pain, or suffering in his life. Total trust in these promises encourages the believer to patiently wait for divine solutions ("*faith-rest*"<sup>4</sup>) by means of his continuing focus on Bible study:

**For by His own glory and excellence, God has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them believers may become partakers of the divine nature of Christ, having escaped the world's corruption caused by evil desires within men encouraged by Satan and his angelic and human agents. (2 Pet. 1:4)**

**So do not throw away your confidence in God; it will be richly rewarded. You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive the blessings He has promised to those who are faithful to His Word. (Heb. 10:35-36)**

Throughout our lives, we must learn to confront and endure difficulties for which human solutions are only temporary or ineffective. The Word of God, however, offers the faithful believer both lasting and effective solutions. With total confidence in God's Word, the believer does not experience feelings of hopelessness or anxiety if he patiently relies on the absolute truths

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<sup>4</sup> See Appendix A, *Faith-Rest Life*, page 85.

of Scripture to resolve his problems. God's grace blessings are available only to advancing believers who patiently wait on His perfect timing to resolve their difficulties — ***we must learn to be patient!***

**There is no problem for you that is not also experienced by others; God is faithful and will not allow you to suffer beyond what you can tolerate, and He will provide a way of escape in order that you will be able to endure the difficulty.** (1 Cor. 10:13)

The Protestant Bible consists of over 31,000 verses,<sup>5</sup> representing only an insignificant fraction of God's infinite wisdom. However, each verse expresses God's absolute truth that He wishes to reveal to mankind, and identifies what He is prepared to do in us, for us, and through us. If we fail to make use of these grace provisions, we will not succeed in living the *Christian way of life* that He planned for each of us.<sup>6</sup>

The following pages include only a partial listing of God's promises, which may be claimed with unflinching faith and the use of confessional prayer:<sup>7</sup>

**Whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope** [confidence in the future]. (Rom. 15:4)

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<sup>5</sup> Herbert Lockter, *All the Promises of the Bible* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan Books, 1962), page 10.

<sup>6</sup> See Appendix C, *Christian Way of Life*, page 91.

<sup>7</sup> See Appendix B, *Power of Prayer*, page 87.

## **Word of God**

*“For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,” declares the Lord.*

*“For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts higher than your thoughts.*

*For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there without watering the earth and making it bear and sprout, and furnishing seed to the sower and bread to the eater;*

*So will My word be that which goes forth from My mouth; it will not return to Me empty, without accomplishing what I desire, and without succeeding in the manner in which I sent it.”* (Isa. 55:8-11)

**ANGER***Loss of self-control*

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**Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires.**

*(Jas. 1:19-20)*

**In your anger do not sin: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold.** *(Eph. 4:26-27)*

**For the churning of milk produces butter, and pressing the nose brings forth blood; so the churning of anger produces strife.** *(Prov. 30:33)*

**Do not make friends with a hot-tempered man; do not associate with one easily angered, or you may learn his ways and get yourself trapped.**

*(Prov. 22:24-25)*

**Cease from anger and forsake wrath; do not fret; it leads only to evildoing.** *(Ps. 37:8)*

**Do not be eager in your heart to be angry, for anger resides in the bosom of fools.** *(Eccl. 7:9)*

**A hot-tempered man stirs up strife, but the slow to anger calms a dispute.** *(Prov. 15:18)*

**Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, brawling, and slander, along with all malice.** *(Eph. 4:31)*

**A fool always loses his temper, but a wise man always holds it back.** *(Prov. 29:11)*



**Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, casting all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you.**

*(1 Pet. 5:6-7)*

**Be anxious for nothing but in everything by prayer and petition after gratitude to God let your requests be made known to Him, and the peace of God that exceeds all understanding shall guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.** *(Phil. 4:6-7)*

**Do not worry about your life, as to what you will eat; nor for your body, as to what you will wear. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing ... But seek His kingdom, and these things will be added to you.** *(Luke 12:22-23, 31)*

**Do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.** *(Matt. 6:34)*

**Come to Christ all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.** *(Matt. 11:28-29)*

**Call upon Me [God] in the day of trouble; I shall rescue you, and you will honor Me.** *(Ps. 50:15)*

**In this world you will have difficulties. But have courage; I have overcome the world.** *(John 16:33)*

**ARROGANCE***Pride, self-importance*

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**God will put an end to the arrogance of the haughty and will humble the pride of the ruthless.**

*(Isa. 13:11)*

**A man's pride will bring him low, but a humble spirit will obtain honor.** *(Prov. 29:23)*

**Lest I [Paul] should become arrogant because of my surpassing knowledge of doctrine, I was given a thorn in the flesh [suffering], a messenger of Satan that he might torment me, lest I become arrogant.**

*(2 Cor. 12:7)*

**Let him who boasts boast in the Lord. For it is not the one who praises himself who is approved, but the one whom the Lord praises.** *(2 Cor. 10:17-18)*

**Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him.** *(Prov. 26:12)*

**You are those who justify yourselves in the sight of men, but God knows your hearts; for that which is highly esteemed among men is detestable in the sight of God.** *(Luke 16:15)*

**They pray but God does not answer because of the pride of evil men. Surely God will not listen to an arrogant prayer.** *(Job 35:12-13)*

**Clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble.** *(1 Pet. 5:5)*

**For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not be condemned to the Lake of Fire but have eternal life. (John 3:16)**

**He who believes in Christ has eternal life; but he who does not obey the command to believe in Christ shall not see eternal life in His presence, but is condemned to the Lake of Fire, alienated from God. (John 3:36)**

**Of Him [Christ] all the prophets bear witness that through His name everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins. (Acts 10:43)**

**Yet to all who received Him [Christ], to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God. (John 1:12)**

**He who believes in Christ is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the one and only Son of God. (John 3:18)**

**I [Christ] have come as Light into the world, so that everyone who believes in Me will not remain in darkness (John 12:46). All things are possible to him who believes. (Mark 9:23)**

**Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God. (1 John 5:5)**

**BLESSINGS***God's grace for believers*

I have been young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the believers forsaken or his descendants begging bread. All daylong he is generous and lends freely; his children will be blessed.<sup>8</sup> (*Ps. 37:25-26*)

God did not spare His own Son, but gave Him up for us all – how will He not also, along with Christ, graciously give us all things? (*Rom. 8:32*)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places. (*Eph. 1:3*)

Blessed are all who trust in the Lord, who walk in His ways. Blessings and prosperity will be yours. (*Ps. 128:1-2*)

Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has passed the testing, he will receive the crown of life [reward] that God has promised to those who love Him. (*Jas. 1:12*)

Now to Christ Who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power [Holy Spirit] that works within us. (*Eph. 3:20*)

And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. (*Phil. 4:7*)

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<sup>8</sup> Blessings from God for children are initiated primarily by their association with spiritually advancing relatives.

**A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed. (Prov. 11: 25)**

**When you give to the poor, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do so that they may be honored by men. But when you give to the poor, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving will be in secret; and your Father Who sees what is done in secret will reward you. (Matt. 6:2-4)**

**If man shuts his ears to the cry of the poor, he too will cry out and not be answered. (Prov. 21:13)**

**God is not unjust; He will not forget your work and the love you have shown Him as you have helped His people and continue to help them. (Heb. 6:10)**

**Blessed is he who considers the helpless; the Lord will deliver him in times of trouble. The Lord will protect him and keep him alive; He will bless him in the land. (Ps. 41:1-2)**

**If you give yourself to the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then your light will rise in darkness and your gloom will become like midday. (Isa. 58:10)**

**One who is gracious to a poor man lends to the Lord, and He will repay him for his good deed. (Prov. 19:17)**

**CHILDREN***Instruct in Christianity*

---

**Permit the children to come to Me [Christ]; do not hinder them; for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the Kingdom of God like a child will not enter it at all. (Mark 10:14-15)**

**Parents should teach God's Word to their children. Talk about His Word when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. (Deut. 6:7)**

**The rod and reproof [discipline] give wisdom, but a child who gets his own way brings shame to his mother. (Prov. 29:15)**

**Train up a child in the way he should go, and even when he is old he will not depart from it ... Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child; the rod of discipline will remove it far from him. (Prov. 22:6,15)**

**Whoever causes one of these children who believes in Christ to be led astray, it would be better for him to have a heavy millstone hung around his neck, and to be drowned in the sea. (Matt. 18:6)**

**Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right ... Honor your father and mother (the first commandment with a promise [Ten commandments -- Exod. 20:12], so that it may be well with you, and you may live long on the earth. (Eph. 6:1-3)**

For even as the body is one and yet has many members, and all members of the body are one body, so also is the body [Church] of Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Gentiles, whether slaves or free. (1 Cor. 12:12-13)

God has composed the body [Church] of Christ, so that here may be no division [schism] in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it. (1 Cor. 12:24-26)

I [Paul] urge you, brothers, keep your eye on those who cause discord and obstacles contrary to the teaching you have learned, and turn away from them. For such people are not serving our Lord Christ, but their own appetites. (Rom. 16:17-18)

God placed all things under Christ's feet and appointed Him to be head over everything for the Church, which is His Body, the fullness of Him Who fills everything in every way. (Eph. 1:22-23)

God gave spiritual gifts, some as evangelists and as pastors-teachers, to prepare believers for Christian service, to the building up of the body of Christ; until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become spiritually mature. (Eph. 4:11-13)

**COMFORT***Refuge and support*

**Come to Me [Christ], all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke [divine instructions] upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My load is light. (Matt. 11:28-30)**

**The Lord is my rock, in whom I take refuge. He is my shield and the power of my salvation, my stronghold. I call to the Lord Who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies. (Ps. 18:2-3)**

**I [Paul] am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Rom. 8:38-39)**

**Though I walk in the midst of trouble, You [Lord] will revive me; You will stretch forth Your hand against the wrath of my enemies, and Your right hand will save me. The Lord will accomplish what concerns me. (Ps. 138:7-8)**

**Peace [tranquility of soul] I [Christ] leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful. (John 14:27)**

**The Lord is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. (Ps. 9:9)**



If believers claim to be without sin, they deceive themselves ... If we confess our known sins to God, He is faithful and just and will forgive us of our sins and cleanse us from all wrongdoing, including unknown and forgotten sins. (1 John 1:8-9)

Wash and make yourselves clean [*confession of sins*]. Take your evil deeds out of My [*Lord's*] sight! Stop doing wrong, learn to do right! (Isa. 1:16-17)

He who conceals his transgressions [*wrongdoings*] will not prosper, but he who confesses [*to God*] and forsakes them will find compassion. (Prov. 28:13)

I [*David*] acknowledged my sin to You [*Lord*], and my wickedness I did not hide; I said, "I will confess my wrongdoings to the Lord" and You forgave the guilt of my sin. (Ps. 32:5)

According to your great compassion blot out my wrongdoings. Wash me [*David*] thoroughly from my wickedness and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my wrongdoings, and my sin is ever before me. Against You [*God*], You only, I have sinned and done what is evil in Your sight. (Ps. 51:2-4)

So it shall be when he becomes guilty [*of sinning*], that he shall confess that in which he has sinned. (Lev. 5:5)

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<sup>9</sup> See *Prayer*, page 64 and *Appendix B, Power of Prayer*, page 87.

**CONFIDENCE***Trust in God's Word*

---

**These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But have confidence! I, Christ, have overcome the world.** (*John 16:33*)

**The Lord will be your confidence and will keep your foot from being caught.** (*Prov. 3:26*)

**Faith [in God's Word] is the confidence of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.** (*Heb. 11:1*)

**Christ Who is in you is greater than Satan who is in the world.** (*1 John 4:4*)

**God is able to do exceedingly abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to His power [Holy Spirit] that is at work in us.** (*Eph. 3:20*)

**Let us draw near in prayer with confidence to God's throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find His grace to help in time of need.** (*Heb. 4:16*)

**Do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded. You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what He has promised.** (*Heb. 10:35-36*)

**This is the confidence believers have before God [in prayer]: that if we ask anything according to His will [divine purpose for our lives], He hears us.** (*1 John 5:14*)

**I [Paul] have learned to be content in whatever the circumstances. I know how to get along with humble means and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every situation I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need. I can do all things through Christ Jesus Who strengthens me. (Phil. 4:11-13)**

**Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." (Heb. 13:5)**

**But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. If we have food and covering, with these we shall be content. (1 Tim. 6:6-8)**

**Not one of us lives for himself, and not one of us dies for himself. If we live, we live for the Lord; if we die, we die for the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, that He might be Lord both of the dead and of the living. (Rom. 14: 7-9)**

**Trust in the Lord leads to life, so that one may rest satisfied, untouched by evil. (Prov. 19:23)**

**All the days of the afflicted are bad, but a cheerful heart has a continual feast. (Prov. 15:15)**

**COURAGE***Fearless under pressure*

---

**Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. (Josh. 1:9)**

**God gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. (Isa. 40:29)**

**God has not given believers a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline. (1 Tim. 1:7)**

**Be strong and courageous, all you who have confidence in the Lord. (Ps. 31:24)**

**Wait for the Lord; be strong and let your heart take courage and wait for the Lord. (Ps. 27:14)**

**The day I [David] called, God answered me; You made me courageous with strength in my soul. (Ps. 138:3)**

**Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, be men of courage, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love. (1 Cor. 16:13-14)**

**I [Paul] eagerly expect and hope that I will have sufficient courage so that Christ will even now, as always, be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death [ambassador for Christ]. For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. (Phil. 1:20-21)**

**I [Paul] can do all things through Him [Christ] Who strengthens me. (Phil. 4:13)**

**Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of [physical] death, I fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and staff, they comfort me.**

*(Ps. 23:4)*

**God will wipe away every tear from the believer's eyes; and there will no longer be any physical death, mourning, crying, or pain; the old order of things (worldly imperfections, including the inborn sinful nature) has passed away.** *(Rev. 21:4)*

**For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life, and I Myself will raise [resurrect] Him up on the last day** *(John 6:40).*

**This Man [Christ] was nailed to the cross and put to death. But God raised Him from the dead, freeing Him from the agony of death, for it was impossible for Him to be held in its power.** *(Acts 2:23-24)*

**Christ has been raised [resurrected] from the dead, the first fruits [first human] of those who are asleep [dead]. For since by a man [Adam] came physical death, by a Man also [Christ] came the resurrection of the dead.** *(1 Cor. 15:20-21)*

**The mind of sinful man is spiritual death, but the mind controlled by the [Holy] Spirit is life and [inner] peace, because the sinful mind is hostile toward God.** *(Rom. 8:6-7)*

**For You, O Lord, have delivered my soul from [spiritual] death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling. (Ps. 116:8)**

**My Father, who has given believers to Me [Christ], is greater than all; no one can snatch believers out of My Father's hand. I and the Father are one [in our divine essence]. (John 10:29-30)**

**And the Lord God commanded Adam, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for in the day that you eat thereof, dying (spiritually) you will surely die (physically)." <sup>10</sup> (Gen. 2:16-17)**

**I [Christ] say to you, he who hears My Word, and believes Him [Father] Who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment [sentenced to Lake of Fire], but has passed out of spiritual death into eternal life. (John 5:24)**

**Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man [Adam], and [spiritual] death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned. (Rom. 5:12)**

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<sup>10</sup> Since our original parents disobeyed God's mandate in the Garden, they suffered **spiritual death** (separation from God) by His assignment to them of sinful natures, followed eventually by **physical death**. The lasting effect of Adam's disobedience to God was the genetic transmission by procreation of his corrupted sinful nature and Adam's original sin to all of his descendants throughout human history (Rom. 5:12,19).

All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness. (*Heb. 12:11*)

Do not regard lightly the Lord's discipline, nor lose heart when you are rebuked by Him; the Lord disciplines those He loves [*believers*], and He punishes everyone He accepts as a son. Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as sons. For what son is not disciplined by his [*human*] father? (*Heb. 12:5-7*)

Know then in your heart that as a man disciplines his son, so the Lord your God disciplines you. (*Deut. 8:5*)

If a person sins and does what is forbidden in any of the Lord's commands, even though he does not know it, he is guilty and will be held responsible. (*Lev. 5:17*)

I [*Christ*] stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice [*warning discipline*] and opens the door [*confesses sins*], I will come in and eat [*restore fellowship*] with him, and he with Me. (*Rev. 3:20*)

It is the Lord Christ Whom you serve. For he that does wrong will receive the consequences of his wrong which he has done, and that without partiality. (*Col. 3:25*)

**DISAPPOINTMENT**      *Unsatisfied, frustrated*

**Trust in God at all times; pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us. (Ps. 62:8)**

**The Lord is near to all who call upon Him, to all who call upon Him in truth. He will fulfill the desire of those who trust in Him. (Ps. 145:18-19)**

**Whoever follows Jesus Christ will never walk in darkness, but have the Light of life. (John 8:12)**

**The eyes of the Lord are on those who trust in Him, on those whose hope is in His unfailing love. (Ps. 33:18)**

**God will strengthen you, and help you; He will uphold you with His righteous right hand. (Isa. 41:10)**

**O Lord, my strength and my stronghold, and my refuge in the day of distress. (Jer. 16:19)**

**There will be trouble and distress for every soul of man who does evil, but glory and honor and [inner] peace to everyone who does good. (Rom. 2:9-10)**

**Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? For I [Paul] am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Rom. 8:35-39)**



**Those who trust in the Lord will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings as eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and not become weary. (Isa. 40:31)**

**May our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, Who loved us and by His grace gave us eternal encouragement, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word. (2 Thess. 2:16-17)**

**Believers are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him Who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light. (1 Pet. 2:9)**

**All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified [reconciled to God] as a gift by His grace through the redemption [spiritual sacrifice on the cross] which is in Christ Jesus. (Rom. 3:23-24)**

**For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. (Jer. 29:11)**

**God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. (Ps. 46:1)**

**God is not unjust; He will not forget your work and the love you have shown Him as you have helped His people and continue to help them. (Heb. 6:10)**

**ENVY***Craving success of others*

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**Do not fret because of evildoers, be not envious toward wrongdoers (Ps. 37:1). Do not let your heart envy sinners, but live in the trust of the Lord always. (Prov. 23:17)**

**If you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not be arrogant and so lie against the truth. For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing. (Jas. 3:14,16)**

**Rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. Like newborn babies, crave spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted the kindness of the Lord. (1 Pet. 2:1-3)**

**Anger is cruel and fury overwhelming, but who can stand before jealousy? (Prov. 27:4)**

**What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? ... You are envious but cannot have what you want; so you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask God. When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend what you get on your pleasures. (Jas. 4:1-3)**

**Let us not become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another. (Gal. 5:26)**

***ETERNAL LIFE****Faith alone in Christ alone*

**I [Christ] am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live [spiritually and eternally] even if he dies [physically], and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die [spiritually and eternally].**  
*(John 11:25-26)*

**He who believes in Christ has eternal life; he who does not believe in the Son of God does not have eternal life.** *(1 John 5:12)*

**Even as You [Father] gave Him [Christ] authority over all people, that to all whom You have given Him, He [Christ] may give eternal life. This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ Whom You have sent.** *(John 17:2-3)*

**Now having been freed [as believers] from [the unrestricted power of] sin and have become slaves to [accepted the authority of] God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. For the wages of sin is spiritual death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**  
*(Rom. 6:22-23)*

**So that, just as sin reigned [ruled] in spiritual death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring about eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.** *(Rom. 5:21)*

**The one who sows to please the Holy Spirit, from that Spirit will reap eternal life.** *(Gal. 6:8)*

**EVIL***Satan's strategy for domination*<sup>11</sup>

**Turn from evil and advance spiritually by your knowledge and use of doctrine. The judgment of the Lord is against those who accomplish evil deeds; He will cut off positive remembrances of them from the earth. (Ps. 34:14-16)**

**Do not be deceived by others: Bad company corrupts good character. (1 Cor. 15:33)**

**He who walks with the wise grows wise, but a companion of fools suffers evil. (Prov. 13:20)**

**Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves ... Every tree that does not bear good fruit [divine good] is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus, by their fruit [human good and evil] you will recognize them. (Matt. 7:15-20)**

**Live as free men, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but use it as servants of God (1 Pet. 2:16). The Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from satanically inspired evil (2 Thess. 3:3).**

**For everyone who does evil hates the Light [life that is in Christ], and does not come to the Light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. (John 3:20)**

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<sup>11</sup> Evil identifies Satan's global strategy to deceive and control the thoughts, decisions, and actions of mankind by skillfully manipulating their inherited sinful natures.

**For it is by grace you are saved, through faith – and this salvation not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast.**

*(Eph. 2:8-9)*

**Eye has not seen nor has ear heard [empiricism], neither has there entered into the minds of men [rationalism] the things that God has prepared for those who love Him [by means of faith].** *(1 Cor. 2:9)*

**Whatever is born of God [believers] overcomes the world; and this is our victory that has overcome the world – our faith.** *(1 John 5:4)*

**Without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him.** *(Heb. 11:6)*

**Faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.** *(Heb. 11:1)*

**Israel, who pursued after righteousness based on the [Mosaic] Law, has not attained the purpose of the Law (which is salvation). Why? Because they did not pursue righteousness by means of an act of faith but rather as if it were by means of many human works.** *(Rom. 9:31-32)*

**If we are faithless, God remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself.** *(2 Tim. 2:13)*

**I [Paul] have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who lives, but Christ lives in me; and the life I now live in the body I live by faith in the Son of God, Who loved me and gave Himself up for me. (Gal. 2:20)**

**Your Word, O Lord, is eternal and will never change; Your faithfulness continues throughout all generations. (Ps. 119:89-90)**

**The believer recalls Bible doctrines; therefore he has confidence the Lord's logistical grace functions never cease, for His compassions never fail; they are renewed one day at a time. Great is His faithfulness. (Lam. 3:21-23)**

**O Lord, You are my God; I will exalt You, I will give thanks to Your name; for You have worked wonders, plans formed long ago, with perfect faithfulness. (Isa. 25:1)**

**There is no problem for you that is not also experienced by others; God is faithful and will not allow you to suffer beyond what you can bear, and He will provide a way of escape in order that you will be able to endure the difficulty. (1 Cor. 10:13)**

**The works of God's hands are faithful and just; all His precepts are trustworthy. They are steadfast forever, done in faithfulness and uprightness. (Ps. 111:7-8)**

**His works are perfect, and all His ways are just. A faithful God Who does no wrong, upright and just is He. (Deut. 32:4)**

**The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?** (*Heb. 13:6*)

**Do not fear! Stand fast and see the deliverance of the Lord, which He will accomplish for you today.** (*Exod. 14:13*)

**Be strong and courageous [of soul], do not be afraid or tremble at them [enemies], for the Lord your God is the One Who goes with you. He will not fail you or forsake you.** (*Deut. 31:6*)

**For I am the Lord your God, Who upholds your right hand, Who says to you, Do not fear, I will help you.** (*Isa. 41:13*)

**God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change.** (*Ps. 46:1-2*)

**Do not fear those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear [trust in] Him Who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.** (*Matt. 10:28*)

**God has not given us a spirit of timidity [fear], but of power and love and self-discipline.** (*2 Tim. 1:7*)

**Even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. And do not fear their intimidation, and do not be frightened [Isa. 8:12]. But in your heart, set apart Christ as Lord.** (*1 Pet. 3:15*)

**FORGIVENESS***For personal sins*

If believers confess their known sins to the Father, He is faithful and just to forgive their sins and to cleanse them from all wrongdoing, including unknown or forgotten sins. (1 John 1:9)

Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you. (Eph. 4:32)

I [David] acknowledged my sin to You [God], and my iniquity I did not hide; I said "I will confess my transgressions [wrongdoings] to the Lord;" and You forgave the guilt of my sin. (Ps. 32:5)

For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins. (Matt. 6:14-15)

Do not judge, and you will not be judged; and do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you. For by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you in return. (Luke 6:37-38)

Never pay back evil for evil to anyone ... Never take your own revenge, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written [in Deut. 32:35], "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. (Rom. 12:17-19)



**For we [believers] are the temple of the living God; just as God said [Lev. 26:12]: "I will dwell in them and walk among them; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people; and I will be a Father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to Me." (2 Cor. 6:16,18)**

**If we say that we have fellowship with God and yet walk in the darkness [without His Word], we lie and do not practice the truth. (John 1:6)**

**So I [Paul] say, through confession of sins be in fellowship with the Holy Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. (Gal. 5:16)**

**Those who I [Christ] love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest and repent. Here I am. I stand at the door and knock [warning discipline]. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door [confesses his sins], I will come in, I will eat with him, and he will eat with Me [divine fellowship]. (Rev. 3:19-20)**

**Believers, do not be bound together [closely associated] with unbelievers; for what fellowship has light with darkness? (2 Cor. 6:14)**

**If we [believers] walk in the Light as He Himself [Christ] is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another. (1 John 1: 7)**

**Then the Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper [woman] suitable for him [see Marriage pp. 56-57]. (Gen. 2:18)**

**Believers, love one another, even as I [Christ] have loved you. By this all men will know that you are My disciples. (John 13:34-35)**

**May the God Who gives perseverance and encouragement grant you to be of the same mind with one another [unity of spirit] according to Christ Jesus, so that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Rom. 15:5-6)**

**May the Lord cause you to increase and overflow in love for one other, and for all people, just as we [Paul and Timothy] also do for you. (1 Thess. 3:12)**

**With humility, do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others. (Phil. 2:3-4)**

**Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth [doctrine] so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply. (1 Pet. 1:22)**

**For you are all sons in God through faith in Jesus Christ...You are all one in Christ Jesus. (Gal. 3:26,28)**

**God is faithful, through Whom you were called into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (1 Cor. 1:9)**

**FREEDOM***Liberated from adversity*

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If you continue in My *[Christ's]* Word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free. For if the Son makes you free *[from the control of your soul by Satan]*, you will be free indeed. *(John 8:31, 34-36)*

Sin shall not be master over you, for you are under *[God's]* grace. *(Rom. 6:14)*

We know that our sinful nature was crucified with Christ, in order that our body of sin might be rendered powerless, so that we would no longer be slaves to *[continuous]* sin. *(Rom. 6:6)*

The Lord is with me; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me? The Lord is with me; He is my helper. I will look in triumph on my enemies. *(Ps. 118:6-7)*

The Lord helps them *[believers]* and delivers them; He delivers them from the wicked and saves them, because they take refuge in Him. *(Ps. 37:40)*

With God we will gain the victory, and He will trample down our adversaries. *(Ps. 60:12)*

Because of His great love for us, God, Who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were *[spiritually]* dead in our wrongdoings. *(Eph. 2:4-5)*

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. *(Gal. 5:1)*

**For I [Paul] am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes [in Christ]. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written [Hab. 2:4], "But the righteous man shall live by faith." (Rom. 1:16-17)**

**Conduct yourselves as citizens worthy of the gospel of Christ ... standing fast [unity of purpose] in one Spirit [unity in the Holy Spirit], in one soul [unity of doctrinal thought], cooperating in the conflict [unity of doctrinal use] for the faith of the gospel ... without being intimidated by those who oppose you. (Phil. 1:27-28)**

**God has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, but has now been revealed to us by the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, Who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel of Christ. (2 Tim. 1:9-11)**

**If anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted [from Paul], let him be eternally condemned ... I [Paul] want you to know, brothers, that the gospel I preached is not something that man made up; rather, I received it by revelation from Jesus Christ. (Gal. 1:9, 11-12)**

**Your tongue plots destruction; it is like a sharpened razor, you who practice deceit. You love every harmful word. (Ps. 52:2-4)**

**Guard your tongue from speaking deceitful thoughts and your lips from misleading someone by withholding the truth. (Ps. 34:13)**

**Likewise the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole person, sets the whole course of his life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell [Lake of Fire]. (Jas. 3:5-6)**

**He who goes about as a slanderer [always critical of others] reveals secrets, therefore do not associate with a gossip. (Prov. 20:19)**

**A lying tongue hates those it hurts, and a flattering mouth works ruin. (Prov. 26:28)**

**Without wood a fire goes out; without gossip a quarrel dies down ... the words of a gossip are like choice morsels; they go down to a man's innermost parts of the body. (Prov. 26:20,22)**

**A fool's mouth is his undoing. (Prov. 18:7)**

**A gossip betrays a confidence, but a trustworthy man keeps a secret. (Prov. 11:13)**

**GRACE***Blessings from God*

**It is by God's grace<sup>12</sup> you have been saved, through faith in Christ; and this salvation is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of human effort, so that no one may boast. For we [believers] are His workmanship. (Eph. 2:8-10)**

**Christ's grace is sufficient for you, for His power is made perfect in your weakness. (2 Cor. 12:9)**

**Because of God's magnificent grace, believers do not become discouraged: though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed one day at a time ... So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. (2 Cor. 4:16-18)**

**If by God's divine grace, then it is no longer by works [human effort]; if it were, grace would no longer be grace. (Rom. 11:6)**

**Christ saved us, not because of righteous things we have done [human effort], but because of His divine grace. (Titus 3:5)**

**Clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble. (1 Pet. 5:5)**

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<sup>12</sup> Grace is demonstrated by what God is free to do for mankind resulting from the substitutionary, spiritual sacrifice on the cross of His Son, Jesus Christ, in full payment for all human sins.

Therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, having been firmly rooted and now being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing with gratitude. *(Col. 2:6-7)*

For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with gratitude; for it is sanctified by means of the Word of God and prayer. *(1 Tim. 4:4)*

The Lord is my *[David's]* strength and my shield; my heart trusts in Him and I am helped; therefore my heart exults, and with my song I will express gratitude to Him. *(Ps. 28:7)*

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I *[Paul]* will say, rejoice! Let your gentle spirit be known to all men. The Lord is near. *(Phil. 4:4-5)*

Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father. *(Col. 3:17)*

Since we receive an eternal kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable service *[by worshiping Him]* with reverence and awe. *(Heb. 12:28)*

Praise, glory, wisdom, gratitude, honor, power, and strength be to our God forever. *(Rev. 7:12)*

**GRIEF***Anguish, sadness, sorrow*

**My soul is weary with sorrow; strengthen me according to Your Word.** *(Ps. 119:28)*

**Cast your burden upon the Lord and He will sustain you; He will never let the righteous fall.** *(Ps. 55:22)*

**Come to Me** *[Christ]*, all of you who are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest. *(Matt. 11:28)*

**God will wipe away every tear from the believer's eyes; and there will no longer be any physical death, mourning, crying, or pain; the old order of things** *(imperfections of the Devil's world)* has passed away. *(Rev. 21:4)*

**Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His godly ones.** *(Ps. 116:15)*

**For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Jesus those believers who have fallen asleep** *[died]* in Him. *(1 Thess. 4:14)*

**You** *[God]* Who have shown me many troubles and distresses will deliver me again. *(Ps. 71:20-21)*

**A foolish son brings grief to his father and bitterness to her who bore him.** *(Prov. 17:25)*

**Do not grieve** *[do not reject the power of]* the Holy Spirit *[by sinning]*. *(Eph. 4:30)*

**In my anguish I cried to the Lord, and He answered by setting me free.** *(Ps. 118:5)*



**For such is God, our God forever and ever; He will guide us until death. (Ps. 48:14)**

**I [God] will lead the blind by ways they have not known, along unfamiliar paths I will guide them; I will turn darkness into light before them and make the rough places smooth. These are things I will do; I will not forsake them. (Isa. 42:16)**

**But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, Whom the Father will send in My [Christ's] name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I [Christ] said to you. (John 14:26)**

**But when He [Holy Spirit], the Spirit of Truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth ... He will bring glory to Me [Christ] by taking from what is Mine and making it known to you. (John 16:13-14)**

**Though he stumble, he will not fall, because the Lord is the One Who holds his hand. (Ps. 37: 24)**

**For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways, declares the Lord. My Word will not return to Me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. (Prov. 56:8,11)**

**You [God] have taken hold of my right hand. With Your counsel You will guide me, and afterward receive me to glory. (Ps. 73:23-24)**

**GUILT***Shame, disgrace*

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**O Lord, we are covered with shame because we have sinned against You. The Lord our God is merciful and forgiving, even though we have rebelled against Him. (Dan. 9:8-9)**

**The Lord your God is gracious and compassionate. He will not turn His face from you if you return to Him. (2 Chron. 30:9)**

**If a person sins and does what is forbidden in any of the Lord's commands, even though he does not know it, he is guilty and will be held responsible. (Lev. 5:17)**

**Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people. (Prov. 14:34)**

**I [Paul] am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes [in Christ]. (Rom. 1:16)**

**I [God] will not be angry forever. Only acknowledge your guilt. (Jer. 3:12-13)**

**If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand? But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are to be trusted. (Ps. 130:3-4)**

**All the sins and blasphemies of men shall be forgiven; but whoever blasphemes [sins] against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin. (Mark 3:28-29)**

**So that the proof of your faith [doctrine in your soul], being much more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be discovered to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ; and though you have never seen Him, you continue loving and believing in Him, and greatly rejoice with happiness that is inexpressible and full of glory. (1 Pet. 1:7-8)**

**Consider it all happiness, fellow believers, when you become involved in various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith is for the approval of your doctrine, producing endurance. And let patience keep on having quality production, so that you may be spiritually mature and undamaged, being deficient in nothing. (Jas. 1:2-4)**

**How blessed is everyone who trusts in the Lord, who walks in His ways. When you shall eat the fruit of your hands, you will be happy and it will be well with you. Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine within your house, your children like olive plants around your table. Behold, for thus shall the man be blessed who trusts in the Lord. (Ps. 128:1-4)**

**We consider those blessed [happy] the ones having endured. You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. (Jas. 5:11)**

*See also Blessings, Contentment, and Joyfulness*

**HEAVEN***Future residence of believers*

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**But [as aliens and strangers in the world] our [believers'] citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.**  
*(Phil. 3:20)*

**We live [the Christian way of life] by faith, not by sight. We are confident ... and would prefer to be away from the body [physical death] and at home [face-to-face in heaven] with Christ.** *(2 Cor. 5:7-8)*

**I [John] saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away [were destroyed by God] ... Now the dwelling of God is among men, and He will live with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them.** *(Rev. 21:1,3)*

**Forever, O Lord, Your Word is settled in heaven [will never change]; Your faithfulness continues through all generations.** *(Ps. 119:89-90)*

**At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.**  
*(Phil. 2:10-11)*

**Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me [Christ]. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven.**  
*(Matt. 5:11-12)*

**HUMILITY***Obedience, respect*

**Whoever exalts himself will be humbled; whoever humbles himself will be exalted.** (*Matt. 23:12*)

**As God's chosen people, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.** (*Col. 3:12*)

**With all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love.** (*Eph. 4:2*)

**Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves.** (*Phil. 2:3*)

**Clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble. Therefore, humble yourselves under God's mighty hand.** (*1 Pet. 5:5-6*)

**But He [God] gives us more grace: "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble [Prov. 3:34]."** (*Jas. 4:6*)

**The Lord guides the humble in what is right and teaches them His way.** (*Ps. 25:9*)

**When pride comes, then comes dishonor, but with the humble is wisdom.** (*Prov. 11:2*)

**Take My [Christ's] yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.** (*Matt. 11:29*)

**IMMORALITY***Sexual sins*

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Since there is so much immorality [see 1 Cor. 6:9-20], each man should have his own wife, and each woman her own husband. (1 Cor. 7:2)

Do not be deceived [tempted] by sexually immoral unbelievers who behave as: fornicators, idolaters, adulterers, submissive homosexuals, aggressive homosexuals, thieves, coveters, drunkards, verbally abusive, or swindlers. (1 Cor. 6:9-10)

Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I [Paul] then take away the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? May it never be! (1 Cor. 6:15)

Flee immorality. Every other sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body. (1 Cor. 6:18-20)

*Verses from the Ten Commandments:* You shall not commit adultery (Exod. 20:14) ... You shall not covet [lust after] your neighbor's wife. (Exod. 20:17)

Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept undefiled, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral. (Heb. 13:4)

**I [Paul] wrote to you not to associate with any so-called brother [believer] if he is an immoral person, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or a swindler. (1 Cor. 5:10)**

**I [Christ] tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. (Matt. 5:28)**

**The deeds of the flesh [sinful nature] are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, sorcery [illicit drugs, witchcraft], hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries [orgies], and the like. Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Holy Spirit, let us also walk by the Holy Spirit. (Gal. 5:19-21, 24-25)**

**This is the will of God, your sanctification; that you should abstain from sexual immorality; that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, not in lustful passion, like those who do not know God. (1 Thess. 4:3-5)**

**I [Paul] wrote to you not to associate with any so-called brother if he is a sexually immoral person ... What business is it of mine to judge those [unbelievers] outside the church? Are you not to judge those [believers] inside? God will judge those outside. Expel the wicked man from among you. (1 Cor. 5:11-13)**

**JOYFULLNESS***Happiness, enjoyment*

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**May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Rom. 15:13)**

**I delight in the Lord; my soul rejoices in my God. He has clothed me with garments of salvation and wrapped me in a robe of righteousness. (Isa. 61:10)**

**Light is shed upon the righteous and joy on the upright in heart. Rejoice in the Lord, you who are righteous, and praise His holy name. (Ps. 97:11-12)**

**Though you have not seen Him [Christ], you love Him; and even though you do not see Him now, you believe in Him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls. (1 Pet. 1:8-9)**

**If you obey My [Christ] commands, you remain in My love, just as I have obeyed My Father's commands and remain in His love. I have told you this so that My joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. (John 15:10-11)**

**But let the righteous be glad; let them rejoice before God; yes, let them rejoice with gladness. (Ps. 68:3)**

**Until now you have asked for nothing in My [Christ's] name; ask and you will receive [according to God's will and purpose], so that your joy may be made full. (John 16:24)**



**He is the rock, His works are perfect, and all His ways are just. A faithful God Who does no wrong, upright and just is He. (Deut. 32:4)**

**God publically presented by Jesus' blood [spiritual death] as an atoning sacrifice through faith. This was to demonstrate His justice ... so as to be just and the One Who justifies those who have faith in Jesus. (Rom. 3:25-26)**

**Judge carefully, for with the Lord our God there is no injustice or partiality or bribery. (2 Chr. 19:7)**

**The Lord reigns forever; He has established His throne for judgment. He will judge the world in righteousness; He will govern the peoples with justice. (Ps. 9:7-8)**

**Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne; love and faithfulness go before You. (Ps. 89:14)**

**Here is My servant [Christ], Whom I uphold, My chosen One in Whom I delight; I will put My Holy Spirit on Him and He will bring justice to the nations. (Isa. 42:1)**

**For I [Christ] can do nothing on My own initiative. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is just, because I do not seek My own will, but the will of the Father Who sent Me. (John 5:30)**

**KINDNESS***Compassion, generosity*

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**When the kindness of God our Savior and His love for mankind appeared [First Advent], He saved us, not on the basis of deeds [human efforts] which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit. (Titus 3:4-5)**

**Do you show contempt for the riches of His kindness, tolerance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness leads you to repentance? But because of your stubbornness and unrepentant heart you are storing up God's wrath. (Rom. 2:4-5)**

**Behold then the kindness and severity of God: to those who fell [unbelievers], severity [judgment], but to you [believers], God's kindness if you continue in His kindness. (Rom. 11:22)**

**God raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. (Eph. 2:6-7)**

**Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. (Col. 3:12-13)**

**The Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged. (2 Tim. 2:24)**

**LAZINESS***Unwilling to work*

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart [soul], as [if] working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. (Col. 3:23-24)

He who works his land [hard-working] will have plenty of food, but he who follows worthless pursuits will have poverty in plenty. (Prov. 28:19)

The Lord does not let the righteous go hungry, but He thwarts [frustrates] the craving of the wicked. Lazy hands make a man poor, but diligent [hard-working] hands bring wealth. He who gathers crops in summer is a wise son, but he who sleeps during harvest is a disgraceful son. (Prov. 10:3-5)

If anyone is not willing to work, he is not to eat, either. For we [Paul and his companions] hear that some among you are leading an undisciplined life, doing no work at all, but acting like busybodies [meddling in the affairs of others]. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to work in quiet fashion and eat their own bread. (2 Thess. 3:10-12)

Do not become lazy, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised. (Heb. 6:12)

Laziness brings on deep sleep, and the idle man goes hungry. (Prov. 19:15)

**LONELINESS***Alone, separated*

**Turn [Lord] to me and be gracious to me, for I [David] am lonely and afflicted. The troubles of my heart have multiplied; free me from my anguish. (Ps. 25:16-17)**

**God makes a home for the lonely; He leads out the prisoners into prosperity, only the rebellious dwell in a parched land. (Ps. 68:6)**

**Then you will call, and the Lord will answer; you will cry, and He will say, "Here I am." (Isa. 58:9)**

**In Christ all the fullness of deity dwells in bodily form, and in Him you have been made complete, and He is the head over all rule and authority. (Col. 2:9-10)**

**I [Christ] am the good shepherd; I know My own and My own knows Me, even as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep [substitutionary sacrifice]. I have other sheep [Gentiles], which are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they will hear My voice; and they will become one flock [worldwide Church of believers in Christ] with one shepherd. (John 10:14-16)**

**I will welcome you. And I will be a Father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to Me, says the Lord Almighty. (2 Cor. 6:17-18)**

**May the Lord think of me. You are my help and my deliverer; O my God, do not delay. (Ps. 40:17)**

**For God loved the world so much, that He gave His uniquely born Son, that whoever believes in Jesus Christ as their personal Savior will not be condemned to the Lake of Fire but have eternal life with Him. (John 3:16)**

**I [Paul] am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Rom. 8:38-39)**

**We have come to know and have believed the love which God has for us. God is love, and the one who lives in love lives in God, and God lives in him. (1 John 4:16)**

**For the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me [Christ] and have believed that I came forth from the Father. (John 16:27)**

**Righteous Father, although the world has not known You, yet I [Christ] have known You; and they have known that You sent Me; and I have made Your name known to them ... so that the love You have for Me may be in them. (John 17:25-26)**

**This is Paul's prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge [of God's Word] and depth of insight [discernment of God's truth]. (Phil. 1:9)**

**Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this, love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these. (Mark 12:30-31)**

**Eye has not seen nor has ear heard, neither has there entered into the minds of men the things that God has prepared for those who love Him. (1 Cor. 2:9)**

**Whoever has My [Christ's] commandments and obeys them, he is the one who loves Me. He who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I too will love him and show Myself to him. (John 14:21)**

**Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not arrogant. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs, does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. (1 Cor. 13:4-6)**

**We love because God first loved us. If anyone says, "I love God," yet hates his brother, he is a liar; for anyone who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen. And God has given us this command: whoever loves God must also love his brother. (1 John 4:19-21)**

**If you really keep the royal law of Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself" [Lev. 19:18], you are doing right. But if you show favoritism, you sin. (Jas. 2:8-9)**

All that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but from the world [controlled by Satan]. The world is passing away with all of its desires [lusts]; but the person who does the will of God remains forever. (1 John 2:16-17)

You lust and do not have what you want, so you commit murder. You are jealous and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on pleasures. (Jas. 4:2-3)

For the lust for money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith [doctrine] and pierced themselves with many griefs [divine discipline]. (1 Tim. 6:10)

Flee from youthful lusts and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, with those who call on the Lord with a pure heart. (2 Tim. 2:22)

As obedient children, do not be conformed to the lusts which you had in your former ignorance, but like the Holy One Who called you. (1 Pet. 1:14-15)

The grace of God has appeared [First Advent], bringing salvation to all men, instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously, and godly. (Titus 2:11-12)

**LYING***Falsehood, untruth*

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**Do not lie to one another, since you laid aside the old self [sinful nature] with its evil practices, and have put on the new self [Spirit-filled life] who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of his Creator [Christ]. (Col. 3:9-10)**

**Truthful lips will be established forever, but a lying tongue is only for a moment. Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord (Prov. 12:19,22)**

**A truthful witness does not deceive, but a false witness pours out lies. (Prov. 14:5)**

**Even from birth the wicked go astray; from the womb they are wayward and speak lies. (Ps. 58:3)**

**You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. (Exod. 20:16 – from the Ten Commandments)**

**Laying aside falsehood, speak truth each one of you with his neighbor, for we are members of one another. (Eph. 4:25)**

**They [false teachers] are from the world; therefore they speak as from the world [controlled by Satan], and the world listens to them. We [believers] are from God, and whoever knows God listens to us ... This is how we recognize the Spirit of Truth and the spirit of falsehood. (1 John 4:5-6)**

**You love evil rather than good, falsehood rather than speaking the truth. (Ps. 52:3)**



**MARRIAGE***One man with one woman*

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**From the beginning of creation, God made them male and female. For this reason [see Gen. 2:24] a man shall leave his father and mother, and the two shall become one flesh; so they are no longer two, but one flesh.<sup>13</sup> What God has joined together, let no man separate. (Mark 10:6-9)**

**Since there is so much immorality [see page 45], each man should have his own wife, and each woman her own husband. The husband must fulfill his duty to his wife, and likewise also the wife to her husband. The wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does; and likewise also the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does. (1 Cor. 7:2-4)**

**Marriage is to be held in honor among all, and the marriage bed is to be undefiled; for fornicators and adulterers God will judge. (Heb. 13:4)**

**Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what does a believer have in common with an unbeliever? (2 Cor. 6:14-15)**

**A wife of noble character who can find? She speaks with wisdom and faithful instruction. Her children arise and bless her; her husband also and he praises her. (Prov. 31:10-30)**

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<sup>13</sup> Refer to [www.joegriffin.org](http://www.joegriffin.org) for the marital doctrine in Scripture of the concept of "*Right Man/Right Woman*."

**If anyone does not provide for his own, especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever. (1 Tim. 5:8)**

**Wives, be submissive<sup>14</sup> to your husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the Word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives, when they see the purity and reverence of your lives. (1 Pet. 3:1-2)**

**Husbands, in the same way live with your wives on the basis of doctrine, she being the weaker vessel since she is a woman, and treat her with respect as a fellow heir of the gracious gift of life. (1 Pet. 3:7)**

**Husbands, unconditionally love your wives, just as Christ loved the Church and gave Himself up as a substitute for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing of water through [God's] Word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, holy and blameless. In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself. (Eph. 5:25-28)**

**The unbelieving husband is sanctified [set apart] through his wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified through her believing husband; for otherwise your children are unclean [unbelievers], but now they are holy [set apart<sup>15</sup>]. (1 Cor. 7:14)**

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<sup>14</sup> The word "submissive" in the Greek means to willingly respect her husband's authority, whereas the husband is commanded to love his wife.

<sup>15</sup> Sanctified by the Christian influence of one believing parent.

I [Paul] eagerly expect and hope that I will have sufficient courage so that Christ will even now, as always, be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. (*Phil. 1:20-21*)

Make every effort to add to your faith, goodness; to goodness, doctrine; to doctrine, self-control; to self-control, perseverance; to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being useless or unfruitful in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. (*2 Pet. 1:5-8*)

The [spiritual] weapons believers fight with are not the weapons of human origin. On the contrary, they have divine power [Bible doctrine] to demolish satanic influences. We demolish arguments and every pretension [worldly propaganda] that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every [human] thought to make it obedient to Christ. (*2 Cor. 10:4-5*)

Consider it all happiness, fellow believers, when you become involved in various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith is for the approval of your doctrine, producing endurance [patience]. And let patience keep on having quality production, so that you may be spiritually mature and undamaged, not lacking anything. (*Jas. 1:2-4*)

**We know to those [mature believers only] who love God, He works all things together for the purpose of divine good, to those who have been called according to His predetermined plan. (Rom. 8:28)**

**Just as the Father has loved Me [Christ], I have also loved you [believers]. If you obey My commands, you remain in My love, just as I have obeyed My Father's commands and remain in His love. I have told you this so that My joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. (John 15:9-11)**

**We [Paul and Timothy] have not stopped praying for you and asking that you might be filled with knowledge of His will by means of all spiritual wisdom and understanding [spiritual maturity]; that you conduct yourselves worthy of the Lord, seeking to please Him in every way, bearing fruit in every good work [use of doctrine], always making progress [spiritual growth] in the knowledge of God; that you might be made spiritually strong in order that you might always have endurance, stability, and patience with happiness [spiritual maturity]; constantly being thankful to the Father, for He rescued us from the authority of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of His beloved Son. (Col. 1:9-13)**

**Make my [Apostle Paul's] joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love [as exhibited by God], being one in spirit [unity of the Church] and purpose [glorification of Christ]. (Phil. 2:2)**

Keep yourselves free from the lust for money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?" (*Heb. 13:5-6*)

No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money. (*Matt. 6:24*)

He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves abundance with its income. This too is vanity. (*Eccl. 5:10*)

Be wary of all kinds of greed; life does not consist in the abundance of possessions. (*Luke 12:15*)

Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver. (*2 Cor. 9:7*)

But godliness is a means of great gain when accompanied by contentment [*inner happiness*]. For we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it either ... For the love of money is the root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs [*divine discipline*]. (*1 Tim. 6:6-7, 10*)

**OBEDIENCE***To God's Word*

**As the Father has loved Me [Christ], so have I loved you [believer]. Now remain in My love. If you obey My commands, you remain in My love, just as I have obeyed My Father's commands and remain in His love. I have told you this so that My joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. (John 15:9-11)**

**You [believers] show [by obedience to Bible doctrine] that you are a letter from Christ, the result of His ministry, written not with ink but with the Holy Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts [souls]. Such confidence as this is ours through [belief in] Christ before God. (2 Cor. 3:3-4)**

**Whoever has My [Christ's] commandments and obeys them, he is the one who loves Me. He who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I too will love him and show Myself to him. (John 14:21)**

**This is love for God: to obey His commands. And His commands are not burdensome, for everyone born of God overcomes the world. Who overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God. (1 John 5:3-5)**

**Anyone who listens to the Word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in the mirror, and after looking at himself, goes away and forgets what he looks like. (Jas. 1:23-24)**

**PATIENCE***Calmly endure, persevere*

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**The Lord is not slow about His promise, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance. (2 Pet. 3:9)**

**We urge you, fellow believers, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone. (1 Thess. 5:14)**

**Rest in the Lord and wait patiently for Him; do not fret when men succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes. (Ps. 37:7)**

**Be on guard so that you are not carried away by the error of unprincipled men and fall from your own perseverance, but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. (2 Pet. 3:17-18)**

**Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. (Col. 3:12-13)**

**Not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer. (Rom. 12:11-12)**

**Love is patient, love is kind. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. (1 Cor. 13:4,7)**

**You need to persevere so that when you have done [continue to follow] God's will, you will receive what He has promised. (Heb. 10:36)**

**POWER***Absolute authority of God*

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What may be known about God is plain to believers, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities — His eternal power and divine nature — have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been created, so that unbelievers are without excuse. (*Rom. 1:19-20*)

The Lord brings death and He makes alive; He brings down to the grave and raises up. The Lord sends poverty and wealth; He humbles and He exalts. (*1 Sam. 2:6-7*)

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the majesty, and the splendor. For everything in heaven and earth is Yours ... You are exalted as Head over all. (*1 Chr. 29:11*)

Eye has not seen nor has ear heard, neither has there entered into the minds of men the things [*personal destinies*] that God has prepared for those who love Him. (*1 Cor. 2:9*)

God's divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him Who called us by His own glory and excellence. (*2 Pet. 1:3*)

And He [*Christ*] said to me [*Paul*], My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in your weakness. (*2 Cor. 12:9*)



**Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks [to God] in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. (1 Thess. 5:16-18)**

**And it will come to pass that before you pray, I [God] will answer; and while you are still speaking, I will respond. (Isa. 65:24)**

**Everything God created [for food] is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with gratitude, because it is sanctified by means of God's Word and the believer's prayer. (1 Tim. 4:4-5)**

**But I [Christ] tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. (Matt. 5:44-45)**

**You pray and do not receive, because you pray for selfish purposes [wrong personal motives]. (Jas. 4:3)**

**Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father. (Col. 3:17)**

**If believers abide in Me [Christ] and My words abide in them, ask whatever you wish and it shall be done for your personal advantage. (John 15:7)**

**When you are praying, do not use meaningless repetition ... For your Father knows what you need before you ask Him. (Matt. 6:7-8)**

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<sup>16</sup> See also Appendix B, *Power of Prayer*, page 87.

**PROTECTION***Security, safety*

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**The Lord loves justice and does not forsake His faithful ones. They will be protected forever, but the offspring of the wicked will be cut off.** *(Ps. 37:28)*

**For I, declares the Lord, will be a wall of fire around you** *[provide divine protection]. (Zech. 2:5)*

**If you don't have a weapon, sell your cloak and buy one. When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own house, his possessions are safe.** *(Luke 22:36; 11:21)*

**The Lord will judge the world in righteousness; He will govern the peoples with justice. He is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble.** *(Ps. 9:8-9)*

**I [God] will make you [Abraham] into a great nation [of Jews] and I will bless you. I will bless those who bless you [pro-Semitism], and whoever curses you I will curse [anti-Semitism]; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.** *(Gen. 12:2-3)*

**The Lord is the defense of my life; whom shall I dread?** *(Ps. 27:1)*

**By Christ all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones, dominions, rulers, or authorities – all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things and all things hold together** *[controlled and regulated in human history]. (Col. 1:16-17)*

**God's divine power has given believers everything they need for [physical] life and godliness [spiritual life] through our knowledge of Christ. (2 Pet 1:3)**

**The Everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth gives strength to the weary, and to him who lacks might He increases power. (Isa. 40:28-29)**

**The Lord helps believers and delivers them; He delivers them from the wicked and saves them, because they trust in Him. (Ps. 37:40)**

**Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me [Christ]. In My Father's house are many dwelling places [heaven]; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place [in heaven] for you [believers] ... where I am, there you may be also. (John 14:1-3)**

**Everything that lives and moves will be food for you. Just as I [God] gave you the green plants, I now give you everything. (Gen. 9:2-3)**

**By faith we understand that the universe was prepared by God's Word, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible. (Heb. 11:3)**

**The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me besides quiet waters. He restores my soul; He guides me in the paths of righteousness. (Ps. 23:1-3)**

**PURPOSE***Compatible with God's will*

**For not one of us lives for himself, and not one dies for himself; for if we live, we live for the Lord, or if we die, we die for the Lord; therefore whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again. (Rom. 14:7-9)**

**The work of the Spirit [character traits] is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. (Gal. 5:22-23)**

**In Him [Jesus Christ] also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose Who works all things according to His will. (Eph. 1:11)**

**Conduct yourselves as citizens of Heaven worthy of Christ's gospel ... standing fast [unity of purpose], [unity] in one Holy Spirit, one soul [unity of thought], cooperating in the conflict [unity of application] for the faith of the gospel; without being intimidated by those who oppose you. (Phil. 1:27-28)**

**Applying all diligence, add to your faith goodness, and goodness, doctrine, and doctrine, self-control, and self-control, perseverance, and perseverance, godliness, and godliness, brotherly kindness, and brotherly kindness, love. (2 Pet. 1:5-8)**

**Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. (Col. 3:23-24)**

**So it will be with the resurrection of the dead. The physical body that is born is perishable [by the corrupted sinful nature], it is raised [resurrected] imperishable [freed from the sinful nature]; it is sown in dishonor [disobedience], it is raised in glory [to Christ]; it is sown in weakness [corruption], it is raised in power; it is sown a natural [physical] body, it is raised a spiritual body. (1 Cor. 15:42-44)**

**Listen, I [Paul] tell you a mystery [doctrine]: We will not all sleep [physically die], but we will all be changed [at the Rapture] – in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet ... The dead [believers who die during the Church Age<sup>18</sup>] will be raised imperishable [receive resurrection bodies], and we will be changed. Then the written saying [Hos. 13:14] will come true: “Death has been swallowed up in victory.” (1 Cor. 15:51-52)**

**I [Christ] am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live [be resurrected] even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. (John 11:25-26)**

**If we [believers] have become united with Christ in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be in the likeness of His resurrection. (Rom. 6:5)**

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<sup>17</sup> Rapture identifies that future event in history when Church Age believers who have died or are currently alive will meet Christ in the sky to be transferred to heaven in resurrection bodies (1 Thess. 4:16).

<sup>18</sup> See Appendix D – Dispensations, pages 95-96.

**RIGHTEOUSNESS***Virtue, integrity*

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**Beware not to practice your acts of righteousness before men in order to be noticed by them; otherwise you have no reward with your Father Who is in heaven. (Matt. 6:1)**

**For all of us have become unclean since our self-righteous acts [lacking the power of the Holy Spirit] are like filthy garments to God. (Isa. 64:6)**

**For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and His ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil. (1 Pet. 3:12)**

**In the gospel of Christ a righteousness is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from faith to faith, just as it is written [Hab. 2:4]: "The righteous will live by faith." (Rom. 1:17)**

**Fellow believers, make sure no one deceives you; the one who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He [Christ] is righteous; the one who practices sin is of the devil; for the devil has sinned from the beginning. (1 John 3:7-8)**

**The eyes of the Lord are toward the righteous, and His ears are open to their cry. (Ps. 34:15)**

**The path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, that shines brighter and brighter until the full day. The way of the wicked is like darkness; they do not know over what they stumble. (Prov. 4:18-19)**

Salvation is found only in Jesus Christ, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved. (*Acts 4:12*) [see also page 2]

If anyone is a believer, he is a new spiritual species as a child of God; the sinful nature has lost its unopposed power; behold, all things have become new. All these divine assets are from God, Who reconciled us to Himself through the spiritual sacrifice of Christ. (*2 Cor. 5:17-18*)

My sheep [*believers*] listen to My voice [*Christ*]; I know them, and they follow Me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never be condemned to the Lake of Fire; no one can snatch them out of My hand. (*John 10:27-28*)

He who hears My [*Christ's*] Word, and believes in Him [*Father*] Who sent Me, has eternal life and does not come into judgment. (*John 5:24*)

What the [*Mosaic*] Law was powerless to do [*save mankind*] because it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering [*substitutionary sacrifice for sins of mankind*]. (*Rom. 8:3*)

Having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through Whom we have gained access into this grace in which we now stand. (*Rom. 5:1-2*)

**SATAN***Evil adversary of God*

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Your [*Satan's*] heart became arrogant on account of your beauty, and you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendor ... So I [*God*] made a fire come out from you, and the Lake of Fire consumed you, and I reduced you to ashes on the ground in the sight of all who were watching. (*Ezek. 28:17-18*)

We have learned that we [*believers*] are from God, and that the entire world is under the control of the evil one [*Satan*]. (*1 John 5:19*)

You [*unbelievers*] are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies. (*John 8:44*)

The Lord said to Paul: "Open their eyes [*unbelievers*] so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified [*set apart*] by faith in Me. (*Acts 26:18*)

Since believers have flesh and blood, Christ too shared in their humanity so that by His spiritual death on the cross He might render Satan powerless who holds the power of spiritual death. (*Heb. 3:14*)



God gave spiritual gifts to prepare His people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity of the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God. (*Eph. 4:11-13*)

I [*Paul*] urge you, believers, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. (*Rom. 12:1*)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who comforts us in all our affliction so that we will be able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. (*2 Cor. 1:3-4*)

Whoever serves Me [*Christ*] must follow Me; and where I am, My servant will also be. My Father will honor the one who serves Me. (*John 12:26*)

Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. (*1 Pet. 4:10-11*)

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men. (*Col. 3:23*)

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<sup>19</sup> Christian service or deeds performed while in fellowship with God the Holy Spirit, made possible only by the confession of personal sins.

**SIN***Disobedience to God's Word*

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**From the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you [Adam] will not eat from it, because in the day that you eat from it dying [spiritually] you will surely die [physically]. (Gen. 2:17)**

**Therefore, just as sin entered the world through Adam, and spiritual death through sin, and in this way death came to all men. (Rom. 5:12)**

**God made Him [Christ] Who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might receive the righteousness of [become justified by] God. (2 Cor. 5:21)**

**He [Christ] is the atoning sacrifice for our sins [that reconciled man to God], and not only for ours but also for the sins of the world. (1 John 2:2)**

**So I [Paul] say, be in fellowship with the Holy Spirit, and you will not gratify the temptations of the sinful nature [see also page 45]. For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Holy Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other. (Gal. 5:16-17)**

**For what I [Paul] am doing [sinning], I do not understand; for I am not practicing what I would like to do [stop sinning], but I am doing the very thing I hate. No longer am I the one sinning, but it is the sinful nature living in me.<sup>20</sup> (Rom. 7:15-17)**

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<sup>20</sup> It is human volition that grants permission for sin to occur, but the sinful nature is the source of the temptation to sin.

**If believers claim to be without sin, they deceive themselves and the truth is not in them. If they claim they have not sinned, they make God out to be a liar and His Word has no place in their lives.**

*(1 John 1:8,10)*

**If we [believers] walk in the Light as He Himself [Christ] is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son [sacrifice on the cross] cleanses us from all sin. (1 John 1: 7)**

**Christ was pierced [crucified] for our wrongdoings, He was crushed for our iniquities [sins]; the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, and by His wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the Lord [God] has laid on Him [Christ's sacrifice] the iniquity of us all. (Isa. 53:5-6)**

**Fellow believers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it [spiritual maturity]. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind [wrongdoings] and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win rewards in time and eternity for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. (Phil. 3:13-14)**

**There are six things the Lord hates, seven that are detestable to Him: haughty eyes [arrogance], a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil, a false witness who lies, and a man who stirs up dissension among brothers. (Prov. 6:16-19)**

**SUFFERING***Pain, distress, anguish*

**We rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. Not only this, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing suffering brings about perseverance; and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope [confident expectation for the future].** *(Rom. 5:3-4)*

**It is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing [divine] good than for doing evil.** *(1 Pet. 3:17)*

**Cast your burdens on the Lord and He will sustain you, He will never let the righteous fall.** *(Ps. 55:22)*

**These tests of suffering for blessing have come so that your faith — of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire — may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory, and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.** *(1 Pet. 1:7)*

**But resist him [Satan], firm in your faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brothers who are in the world.<sup>21</sup> After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, Who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.** *(1 Pet. 5:9-10)*

**For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps.** *(1 Pet. 2:21)*

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<sup>21</sup> See also verse *1 Cor. 10:13*, pages 5, 76.

No temptation will afflict you except what has been experienced by others. God is faithful; He will not let believers be tempted beyond what they can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way of escape so that you can endure the pressure. *(1 Cor. 10:13)*

When tempted by the sinful nature, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He tempt anyone; but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. Then, after desire has been volitionally accepted, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to temporal death. *(Jas. 1:13-15)*

Keep yourselves free from the love of [*lust for*] money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?" *(Heb. 13:5-6)*

Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction. *(1 Tim. 6:9)*

We do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One Who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin. *(Heb. 4:15)*

**TRUST***Reliance on Christian faith*

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**May the God of confidence fill you with happiness and prosperity as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with confidence by means of the power of the Holy Spirit. (Rom. 15:13)**

**In God I trust; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me? (Ps. 56:11)**

**For those who know Your name will put their trust in You, for You, O Lord, have not forsaken those who seek You. (Ps. 9:10)**

**Those who trust in the Lord will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings as eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and not become weary. (Isa. 40:31)**

**Trust in the Lord with all your soul and do not trust in your own human perspective. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will make your paths straight. (Prov. 3:5-6)**

**My God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus. (Phil. 4:19)**

**Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and cultivate faithfulness. Delight in the Lord; and He will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him and He will do this: He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun. (Ps. 37:3-6)**

**If you continue to study and apply My [Christ's] Word, then you are truly My followers. And you shall know the truth [of God's Word] and the truth shall make you free. (John 8:31-32)**

**For everyone who does evil hates the Light [life that is in Christ], and does not come to the Light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. But he who practices the truth [of God's Word] comes to the Light, so that his deeds may be seen as having been done through God. (John 3:20-21)**

**Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman [student of God's Word] who does not need to be ashamed [due to lack of study and preparation], accurately handling [interpreting] the Word of truth. (2 Tim. 2:15)**

**God is spirit, and believers who worship Him must worship in the filling of the Holy Spirit and [application to life of biblical] truth. (John 2:24)**

**I [Christ] am the Way and the Truth [doctrine] and the Life. No man comes to the Father except through Me. (John 14:6)**

**My [Christ's] prayer is that You [Father] protect them [believers] from the evil one [Satan]. They are not of the [devil's] world, even as I [Christ] am not of it. Sanctify [set apart] them by the truth; Your Word is truth ... For them I sanctify Myself, that they too may be truly sanctified. (John 17:15-19)**

**WISDOM***Divine knowledge*

**Do not conform to the example of this world [human knowledge], but be transformed by the renovation of your mind [divine wisdom]. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – His good, pleasing and perfect will. (Rom. 12:2)**

**If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God ... But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind. (Jas. 1:5-6)**

**The fear [reverential trust] of the Lord [by believers] is the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have those who follow His commandments. His [believer's] descendants will be mighty on earth; the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

*(Ps. 111:10; 112:2)*

**My [Paul's] message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive [human] words, but with a demonstration of the [Holy] Spirit's power, so that your faith might not rest on men's [inferior] wisdom, but on God's power [divine wisdom]. We do, however, speak a [divine] message of wisdom among the mature [believers], but not the wisdom of this age or the rulers of this age. (1 Cor. 2:4-6)**

**See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world [secular humanism] rather than on Christ [divine wisdom]. (Col. 2:8)**



**For the Lord gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding. He stores up wisdom for the upright; He is a shield to those who walk in integrity. (Prov. 2:6-7)**

**No prophecy of Scripture originates from one's own [human] opinion. No prophecy resulted from the purpose and design of mankind; but holy men of God [writers of Scripture] communicated as they were carried along under [inspired by] the agency of the Holy Spirit. (2 Pet. 1:20-21)**

**Listen, for I [doctrine] have worthy things to say; I open My lips to speak what is right. My mouth speaks what is true, for My lips detest wickedness. All the words of My mouth are just; none of them is crooked or perverse. To the doctrinal believer all of My words are right; they are faultless to those who have knowledge of My wisdom. (Prov. 8:6-9)**

**God has revealed divine wisdom to us by His [Holy] Spirit ... For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man's spirit within him? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the [Holy] Spirit of God. We have not received the spirit of the world but the [human] spirit<sup>22</sup> who is created by God, that we may understand what [wisdom] God has freely given us. (1 Cor. 2:9-12)**

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<sup>22</sup> God creates a human spirit in the new believer at salvation to which eternal life is assigned and with which God the Holy Spirit enables the understanding of divine wisdom.

**WITNESS***Represent Jesus as the Christ*

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**I [Paul] endure everything for the sake of those who are positive to the gospel, so that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus and with it eternal glory. (2 Tim. 2:10)**

**All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me [Christ]. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them everything I have commanded you. (Matt. 28:19-20)**

**We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making His appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: be reconciled to God. (2 Cor. 5:20)**

**I [Peter] urge you [believers], as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul. Live such good lives among the unbelievers that, although they accuse you of wrongdoing, they may see your good deeds and glorify God. (1 Pet. 2:11-12)**

**Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father Who is in heaven. (Matt. 5:16)**

**I [Paul] aspired to preach the gospel so that unbelievers who had no news of Him shall see, and they who have not heard shall understand. (Rom. 15:20-21)**

**Do not be conformed to [influenced by] this world [controlled by Satan], but be transformed by the renewing of your mind [with doctrine], so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and complete. (Rom. 12: 2)**

**If you continue to study My [Christ's] Word, then you are truly My followers. And you shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free. (John 8:31-32)**

**The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the Word of the Lord stands forever. (1 Pet. 1:24-25)**

**God has revealed His Word to believers by His Holy Spirit, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Holy Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words ... that we may understand what God in His grace has freely given us. (1 Cor. 2:10-13)**

**My [God's] Word will not return to Me empty, without accomplishing what I [God] desire, and without succeeding in the manner in which I sent it. (Isa. 55:11)**

**Where there is no teaching of doctrine, the people are unrestrained and ignorant. (Prov. 29:18)**

**Jesus answered, "It is written [Deut. 8:3]: Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God." (Matt. 4:4)**

**Do not forget My teaching, but keep its commands in your soul, for they will prolong your life many years and bring you prosperity. (Prov. 3:1-2)**

**Blessed is the man who finds divine wisdom, who gains understanding, for Bible doctrine is more profitable than silver and yields better returns than gold ... Long life is in doctrine's right hand; in its left hand are riches and honor. Doctrine's ways are pleasant ways, and all its paths are peace [soul tranquility]. (Prov. 3:13-17)**

**No prophecy of Scripture originates from one's own disclosure [human thought]. For prophecy came not in old time from the will of man: but the holy men of God [authors of Scripture] wrote as they were directed by the Holy Spirit. (2 Pet. 1:20-21)**

**The [spiritual] weapons believers fight with are not the weapons of human origin. They have divine power [God's Word] to demolish satanic influences. We [believers] demolish arguments and every pretension [propaganda] that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. (2 Cor. 10:4-5)**

**Prove yourselves doers of the Word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves ... this man will be blessed in what he does. (Jas. 1:22,25)**

**How blessed is the man who finds [divine] wisdom and the man who gains understanding. (Prov. 3:13)**

## ***Appendices***

***Appendices are edited from doctrines explained in One Day at a Time<sup>23</sup> and are accessible at [www.joegriffin.org](http://www.joegriffin.org).***

***These doctrines increase the reader's understanding of God's promises, and offer an introduction to biblical concepts for believers interested in an advanced understanding of God's absolute Truth and its importance in their lives.***

***Only God's wisdom is capable of creating an individualized grace plan for believers in achieving life's most important goal – namely, spiritual maturity with full knowledge and utilization of Bible doctrine and gratitude for His grace gift to the human race of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and His written Word.***

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<sup>23</sup> Joe Griffin Media Ministries, St. Charles, Missouri, 2016.

*Appendix A***FAITH-REST LIFE****Introduction**

Few people take advantage of the divine blessings available to anyone who believes in Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. While searching anxiously for relief from life's inevitable stress, the unbeliever, or believer without doctrine, ignores or is unaware of the inner soul contentment found only in God's Word. Unfailing belief in Jesus Christ when struggling with life's difficulties (*faith*), and trusting in that faith while patiently waiting for His divine guidance and provision (*rest*), provides the positive believer with access to "**the inner peace of God**" (*Phil. 4:7*).

The Faith-Rest Life may be summarized as follows:

*Combining the promises of God with enduring faith and trust in His Word, resulting in a condition of physical rest and mental clarity, freed from anxiety and filled with total confidence in God's faithfulness to resolve the pressures in the believer's life, whereby Jesus Christ is glorified and His Word is magnified.*

God's description of the faith-rest life is also depicted as the moment-by-moment "*Sabbath*" (or rest from human effort) while trusting in divine solutions to human problems (*Heb. 4:9-11*). The believer must surrender his problems to the Lord (*1 Pet. 5:7*), which replaces emotional behavior with an inner calmness and clarity resulting in biblical problem resolution.

## **God's Promises**

When the believer claims God's promises, knowing those promises is ineffective without combining that knowledge with an unfailing faith in God's ability to solve his problems. The greater his faith in and knowledge of doctrine, the more successful is the believer in overcoming stress and the more believable is his life's witness to unbelievers and other believers of the grace and power of Jesus Christ:

**Christ's grace is sufficient for you, for His  
divine power is made perfect in your  
weakness** (*2 Cor. 12:9*).

## **Doctrinal Rationales**

By claiming God's promises, the stressful believer is divinely motivated to focus on and recall doctrines applicable to the resolution of his difficulties. From among numerous doctrinal rationales available, the attributes of God's perfect intrinsic essence provide the troubled believer with absolute assurance that whatever God promises He accomplishes completely, correctly, independently, and impartially.

## **Doctrinal Conclusion**

In summary, God's Word becomes more real to the believer than the reality of his present difficulty. Once the believer enjoys success in living the faith-rest life, his courage to use doctrine triumphs over his failure to think and act calmly under pressure. Thus, if God is in control, then the positive believer may correctly conclude that with God's divine assistance he is in total control of his life and circumstances (*1 John 4:4*).

*Appendix B***POWER OF PRAYER****Introduction**

Prayer is the divinely ordained method of direct and private communication between God the Father and the individual believer. Consequently, prayer is the unique prerogative of believers and represents one of many privileges intended by God for those who accept by faith His Son, Jesus Christ, as their personal Savior.

Prayers to God are classified as either *intercession* (prayer for others) or *petition* (prayer for oneself). In order for prayers to be answered by God, they must follow a sequential process that gives emphasis to the doctrinal content of the believer's prayer requests:

- ~ ***Directed only to God the Father under the power of God the Holy Spirit.***
- ~ ***Content that consists of confession of sins, gratitude to God, intercession for others, and petition for oneself in that order.***
- ~ ***Submitted only by believers in the name of the divine Intercessor, Jesus Christ.***

The believer must “**pray continually**” (1 Thess. 5:17), but only as first enabled by the confession of known sins under the power of the Holy Spirit (Eph. 6:18). Prayer is used to resolve problems before they occur, never as an after-the-fact, problem-solving method. The spiritually advancing believer focuses less of his time and emphasis on his own prayer petitions and more on intercessory prayers for others.



## **Confession**

Whenever the believer sins, God's Word mandates the confession of those sins to the Father, requiring only a simple acknowledgment or naming of sins to restore the believer's fellowship with Him:

**If we confess our known sins to God, He is faithful and just and will forgive us of our sins and cleanse us from all wrongdoing, including unknown and forgotten sins.** *(1 John 1:9)*

When out of fellowship with God, the believer's sinful nature cannot resist the temptation to think and act as an unbeliever under the control of satanic deception.

## **Gratitude**

Regardless of the number or severity of his problems, the believer in Christ knows he is forever a privileged participant in the grace plan of God. Nothing occurs by accident in his life that has not already been anticipated in God's plan for every individual believer *(1 Cor. 10:13)*. Therefore, without exception, gratitude for God's magnificent grace should always be included in the believer's prayers *(2 Pet. 1:4)*. Once the believer becomes self-sufficient in his spiritual life, he becomes a witness to others by his inner soul contentment that always creates a positive mental attitude of gratitude toward God *(Phil. 4:11-13)*.

## **Intercession**

The scriptural word for intercession translates to "*intercede for or act on behalf of another,*" just as Jesus Christ intercedes on behalf of all believers in their prayers to God the Father. Examples of intercessory

prayers to God, encouraging divinely accepted action or thought by others, are as follows:

**Salvation:** For occasions to present the gospel to and for its objective evaluation by the unbeliever, emphasizing man's delivery from the Lake of Fire (*purpose of salvation*) with God's gift of eternal life (*result of salvation*). (*John 3:16*)

**Doctrine:** Following salvation, for the believer to mature spiritually by the daily intake and use of God's Word in his life. (*2 Pet. 3:18*)

**Pressure:** For the believer to persevere in the recall and use of God's Word under pressure, knowing God will not allow him to be tempted beyond what he can endure. (*1 Cor. 10:13*)

**Grace:** For the appreciation of God's grace, not human effort, which identifies what God is free to do for mankind resulting from the spiritual sacrifice of His Son on the cross. (*Rom. 11:6*)

**Confidence:** For unfailing trust in God's Word, knowing that Jesus Christ is mankind's grace gift with the divine responsibility for controlling and regulating human history. (*Col. 1:15-17*)

Without invading the privacy of others, intercessory prayers are motivated by a desire to offer spiritual encouragement and support to others in need.

### **Petition**

Petitions are personal requests that are usually based on urgent needs, but often result from the believer's failure to understand or properly use doctrine. Many

problems are solved not by prayer but by confession of sins, knowledge and use of God's Word, and/or obedience to His mandates (*2 Cor. 10:4-5*).

### **Summary**

The more doctrine learned and applied in his life, the more successful are the believer's prayers:

**If believers abide in Me [Christ] and My words abide in them, ask whatever you wish and it shall be done for your personal advantage.<sup>24</sup> (*John 15:7*)**

The unity of the local Church and its influence within its community is dependent on individual members in various stages of spiritual growth striving to encourage one another by intercessory prayers and the examples of their lives. If the number of spiritually mature believers are sufficient, they play a major role in sustaining their client nation status granted by God. A client nation is responsible and accountable to God to develop, protect, educate, and distribute His Word throughout the world.<sup>25</sup>

Finally, in all prayers to God the believer must include the specific recognition of Jesus Christ as his Advocate and Intercessor before the Father **"Always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ (*Eph. 5:20*)."**

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<sup>24</sup> God answers prayers according to His will and purpose, which may replace the believer's request with His own guidance and timing or fail to answer prayers that do not conform to His divine policy.

<sup>25</sup> See *Appendix D, Dispensations*, pages 95-96.

*Appendix C***CHRISTIAN WAY OF LIFE****Introduction**

Christianity is an intimate, personal relationship of each believer with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, which is the focus of God's grace plan for the human race. Grace identifies God's plan and defines all that God is free to do for the believer as a result of the substitutionary penalty paid by His Son, Jesus Christ, Who volunteered to suffer spiritual death on the cross on behalf of the sins of all human beings. The source of this matchless grace is always God, never from any human thought, opinion, or effort:

**If by God's divine grace [salvation], then it is no longer by works [human effort]; if it were, grace would no longer be grace. (Rom. 11:6)**

**Salvation**

The offer of salvation is the critical first stage of the Father's plan by which unbelievers are reconciled to Him and receive His gift of an eternal relationship with Him. On the cross, Jesus Christ was judged by the Father and endured spiritual death as punishment for all of mankind's past, present, and future sins. As a result, at salvation God reconciles man's sinfulness to His own perfect righteousness (2 Cor. 5:17-18); creates a human spirit (1 Cor. 2:10-12) to which eternal life is assigned that facilitates his understanding, recall, and use of God's Word; and transforms him into a new spiritual species as a child in His eternal family of born-again believers (John 1:12).

Salvation is possible only by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ (*Eph. 2:8*), never by human energy or effort (*Acts 4:12*). "**Grace**" defines God's irrevocable offer of salvation and eternal life (*John 10:27-28*); and "**faith**" is the non-meritorious process by which the believer is saved.

The following analogy illustrates Christ's decision to serve as the substitute for the sins of mankind:

*Imagine a court of law where a man is tried for serious crimes, and a guilty sentence of death is certain. On the day of the verdict, a stranger enters the courtroom and offers to substitute himself for the man's guilt and suffer the penalty of death in his place.<sup>26</sup>*

When we choose to believe by faith alone in Christ alone as our Savior, nothing thereafter can disrupt or separate our eternal relationship with Him:

**I [Paul] am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.** (*Rom. 8:38-39*)

## **Doctrine**

Once saved, the believer is enabled by the Holy Spirit to benefit from a personalized plan for his life. If the believer faithfully learns and uses God's Word, he is

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<sup>26</sup> Griffin, *One Day at a Time* (2016), page 21.

divinely empowered to live life as a spiritually mature Christian, and acts of divine good pleasing to God<sup>27</sup> become the result of his spiritual growth:

**Bearing fruit** [*living the Christian way of life*] **in every good work** [*divine good*], **growing** [*spiritually*] **in the knowledge of God** [*doctrine*].  
(Col. 1:10)

Thus, following salvation the most important focus in the believer's life is the divine mandate to "**grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ**" (2 Pet. 3:18). This process of growth adds Christian virtue and spiritual maturity to his life:

**Applying all diligence, in your faith add goodness; and in your goodness, doctrine; and in your doctrine, self-control; and in your self-control, perseverance; and in your perseverance, godliness; and in your godliness, brotherly kindness; and in your brotherly kindness, love. For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.**  
(2 Pet. 1:5-8)

**We know to those** [*mature believers only*] **who love God, He works all things together for the purpose of divine good, to those who have been called** [*identified*] **according to His predetermined plan.** (Rom. 8:28)

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<sup>27</sup> Christian service or deeds performed while in fellowship with God the Holy Spirit, made possible only by the confession of personal sins.

All that is required is the believer's positive interest in doctrine, an eagerness to learn biblical truth, and the confidence and courage to apply that truth in his life.

## **Eternity**

Eternity is the *out of this world*, final phase in the believer's earthly life. The believer who understands the grace-gift concept of eternal life accepts the certainty of physical death without fear or anxiety. The Bible is written in order that we might believe in Jesus as the Christ, and by believing in Him we receive an eternal relationship with Him:

**Christ is the Alpha** [*beginning*] **and Omega** [*ending*] ... **Who is** [*present*], **and Who was** [*past*], **and Who is to come** [*future*], **the Almighty.**  
(*Rev. 1:8*)

At the Rapture, the soul and human spirit are instantly transferred to heaven where, in his new resurrection body, the believer is divinely blessed with total freedom from his previous sinful state:

**The physical body we are born with is contaminated by the sinful nature, it is resurrected free of the sinful nature; it is born in dishonor; it is resurrected in glory.**  
(*1 Cor. 15:42-43*)

The Eternal State (or residence) for believers only is described in the Book of Revelation:

**God will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no longer any death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.** (*Rev. 21:4*)

## *Appendix D*

### **DISPENSATIONS**

The divine timetable of human history consists of six dispensations during which God assigns to specific individuals the divine responsibility of protecting and distributing His Word throughout the world (*Acts 1:7*). Each succeeding dispensation is differentiated by the introduction of new divine mandates coupled with new doctrines required to fulfill those mandates, newly assigned human authorities to administer God's grace plan for mankind, and new strategies by Satan attempting to prevent or disrupt the future course of human history. The divinely established timetable of human history, followed by the Eternal State, is graphically depicted on the following page.<sup>28</sup>

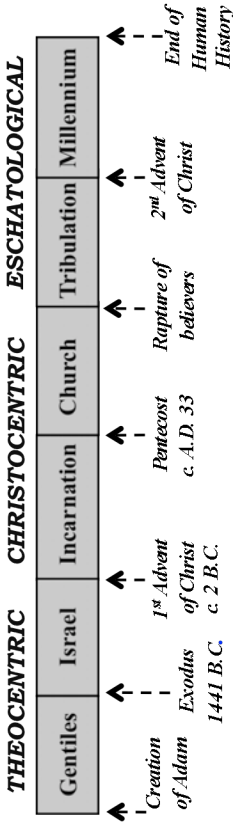
Although God's will and purpose for mankind persists from period-to-period, failure of His representatives to accomplish their assigned objectives brings about divine judgment followed by a new dispensational period. During all but two dispensations (Incarnation and Millennium), God's delegated authorities failed in their assigned missions.

Believers must be familiar with dispensational history to accurately interpret Scripture, resolve alleged scriptural contradictions, and comprehend God's plan for their own dispensation. Continuing uninterrupted during all dispensations is but one Savior, Jesus Christ, and only one grace plan of salvation (*Acts 4:12*).

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<sup>28</sup> See "Dispensational History" in *One Day at a Time* (2016), pages 72-98, for a more detailed explanation.





*Theocentric Age [God-centered]* began with the creation of Adam and ended with the First Advent (virgin birth) of Christ. *Christocentric Age [Christ-centered]* began with the birth of Christ and ends with the Resurrection or Rapture of the Church. *Eschatological Age [Divine prophecies not yet fulfilled]* occur after the Rapture and terminates with the end of human history.

**The Eternal State** (eternity) follows the end of human history.

## ***Promises to Keep***

***The Bible consists of 31,173 verses, 23,214 verses in the Old Testament and 7,959 verses in the New Testament. Throughout the Bible are specific, implied, and potential promises from God to mankind identified by the Apostle Peter as “exceedingly great and precious” (2 Pet. 1:4).<sup>29</sup>***

***The pages of this book include only a selected fraction of God’s promises, but as you persist in your study of the Bible, you will discover numerous promises that explain how to live the Christian way of life. The following pages offer the believer an opportunity to record favorite verses for recall.***

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<sup>29</sup> Lockyer, *All the Promises of the Bible*, page 10.











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## Greystone Chapel

Inside the walls of prison my body may be,  
But my Lord has set my soul free.

There's a Greystone Chapel here at Folsom,  
A house of worship in this den of sin.  
You wouldn't think that God had a place here at Folsom,  
But he saved the soul of many lost men.

Now this Greystone Chapel here at Folsom  
Stands a hundred years old made of granite rock.  
It takes a ring of keys to move here at Folsom,  
But the door to the house of God is never locked.

Inside the walls of prison my body may be  
But the Lord has set my soul free.

There are men here that don't ever worship.  
There are men here who scoff at the ones who pray.  
But I've got down on my knees in that Greystone Chapel  
And I've thanked the Lord for helping me each day.

Now this Greystone Chapel here at Folsom,  
It has a touch of God's hand on every stone.  
It's a flower of light in a field of darkness  
And it's given me the strength to carry on.

Inside the walls of prison my body may be,  
But my Lord has set my soul free.

Written by Glen Sherley.

Performed by Johnny Cash / At Folsom Prison / 1968.

Performed by Marty Stuart / The Gospel Music of  
Marty Stuart / 2014.

The grass withers and the flowers fall,  
but the Word of the Lord stands forever.

(1 Pet. 1:24-25)

If you continue to study Christ's Word,  
then you are truly His followers.  
And you shall know the truth and  
the truth shall make you free.

(John 8:31-32)



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