Power of God

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Preface

Let's begin by reviewing my walk with Jesus. I'd like to start by saying that I was not always a bible believer. I grew up in church. We celebrated all the religious holidays. Not always for the alory of God, but for the alory of saints. Always making sure we went to church. I knew the ten commandments. I never killed anyone, so I must be going to heaven. I was taught that there were two things you don't talk about. Politics and religion. I got married during the Vietnam war and took premarriage classes. I was told that I would go to hell if I did not tell the Viet Cong where my platoon was so they could kill them. If I was going to hell for saving the guys I love, then so be it. Regardless of what I did in religion, I did not know if I was going to heaven or hell. Many years later, I was looking for something, just not knowing who or what and I turned to reading the bible. I needed peace in my life. I prayed to God. He sent blessings. I just didn't have peace. I didn't know what was missing. The reward for saving the guys I love, did not deserve hell. After six months of reading the bible, I realized who I was looking for. Jesus Christ. I didn't know what sin was. I didn't know what it meant to live a righteous life.

A life with Jesus, the journey begins:

- I studied at a church on the west side of Cincinnati which was strong on bible doctrine. Reading my bible every day. I prayed for God's direction in my life. God decided I needed more.
- My wife and I both got pneumonia and God redirected us. We could no longer make the drive from the east side to the west side, so we found a church on the east side of Cincinnati. That church had a mold problem and God sent us to a different church. That wasn't where he wanted us. Mold and I don't get

along! My wife and I are side by side on this journey to serve Jesus.

- That led us to a church where I got involved in the jail ministry. It was there where God begin to work in my heart. During my youth, I thought I was saved by religious works. Paul tells us that we must repent and turn from sin in Romans 6. Jesus tells us in his words that we must repent and turn from sin to obtain everlasting life. He tells us to go and sin no more. A sinner must turn to God and in his heart ask for salvation. The church leaders liked to quote a couple of bible verses to people and tell them that they are saved. I could no longer support promising salvation to the lost with a couple of bible verses. I was a young child of God and thousands of years of church knowledge was in that church. My light came on when I was told there was no room on the church literature to include repentance. That was when I figured out that religion is a game heaped upon us by the devil. There is no religion that is free of man's opinions. Once I took a stand for Jesus Christ, he has launched me on a mission. A mission for the kingdom of God.
- I have now written 4 bible books (including this one) and I hand them out with confidence in God as my savior that salvation is only in Jesus Christ. Salvation as only told to you by the New Testament.
- 1st book- Jesus is Coming tells you to get ready for the coming of Jesus Christ.
- 2nd Book- Glory Bound tells you how to get salvation without religion.
- 3rd book Put God First tells you how to get victory with Jesus Christ.

- 4th book Power of God tells you how to get the Power of God in your life. In this book I include the Gospel of Jesus Christ as spoken by <u>Jesus's words</u> from the New Testament.
- Jesus demands that we repent and turn from our sins and live a righteous life for him for the gift of everlasting life. Jesus died on the cross for the forgiveness of your sins. Believe in Jesus and live a righteous life for him and he will give you the gift of life everlasting with him in heaven. So, what did it mean to live a righteous life? Jesus told you to love God with all your heart, mind, soul and strength and love your neighbor as yourself. Avoiding the sins of the flesh was more than stealing, adultery or murder. It includes fornication, idol worship, drunkenness, etc.
- Salvation, so easy, but yet so hard for the religious to believe, heaped in tradition to comprehend. Many countries still worship ancestors. Like I was told, "after thousands of years of millions of religious ministers, priests, scholars etc. - what qualifies me to say this?"
- When I realized that salvation required repentance, God texted me Romans 8:28. God has opened my eyes. He has made me free!
 I could have enjoyed my past lifestyle. I could have stayed away from the bible. I could have stopped anytime I got sick or offended. I could have ignored a text on my phone, Romans 8:28. God asked me if I believe on the Son of God. I answered and said I believe and I am worshipping him.
- So, the question you'd have to ask is why did I get a mysterious text on Labor Day: 9/6/21. Let's review.
- On 9/6/21 after texting the time, 8:28, on my phone, I had put my phone in my pocket. Minutes later I pulled my phone from my pocket and my phone had pocket text the phrase "Romans".

From the Bible we know Romans 8:28 states:

- Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.
- At that time, I was struggling with my church sending people to the jail ministry wanting to read the ABC plan of salvation to people without repentance of sin required by Jesus. They would then tell the inmates that they were saved and had everlasting life with Jesus. This ABC plan of salvation is wrong and is in direct conflict with Jesus's words in the Bible. Jesus tells us in his words in the New Testament that you must repent of your sins and turn to him, abide in his words and by faith you receive the gift of everlasting life.
- With this Romans 8:28 text, I communicated with my pastors and jail ministry team. The outcome is that I have the jail ministry, teaching the truth in God's Word and without any interference.

So why did I get this text on 9/6/21?

In bible numbers:

Number 9: Nine (teth) - Visitation

- Teth is a snake in Hebrew. It can also signify being surrounded, for the snake was often pictured in a circle swallowing its tail.
- The number nine speaks God's "visitation." This is a Hebraism that pictures God as an Investigator "visiting" a person, city, or nation to expose the hearts, gather evidence, and "see" firsthand, as it were, the truth of a matter. It is much like a divine court case where the evidence is uncovered and presented to the judge for judgment. In Luke 19:43 and 44, Jesus says to the temple in Jerusalem, 43 For the days shall come upon you when your enemies will throw up a bank before

you, and surround you, and hem you in on every side, 44 and will level you to the around and your children within you, and they will not leave you one stone upon another, because you did not recognize the time of your visitation [Greek: episcope, "bishopric, overseer"]. In this case, the time of visitation was the three-year period of Jesus' ministry from 30-33 A.D., where God manifested in human flesh to "visit" Judea and Jerusalem and to test the hearts of the people. (Jesus is called a Bishop or Overseer in 1 Peter 2:25.) In another sense, Jesus was the Heavenly Fruit Inspector. Jesus found a few whose hearts were right, and these formed the branches of the good fig tree that brought forth good fruit (Jer. 24:5-7). The majority, however, along with the religious leaders, were of the evil fig tree (Jer. 24:8-10). The good figs were Jesus' disciples and the converts of the early Church, who were expelled from the land (by persecution), in order that God might spare them from the coming judgment forty years later.

The idea of "visitation" is shown in the Old Testament. For believers, it has a positive connotation, as in Gen. 50:24, 25, Psalm 106:4, and Jer. 27:24. Their visitation results salvation or deliverance. However, for unbelievers, it carries a negative result, as we see in Ex. 32:34, Lev. 18:25, Isaiah 10:3, and Jer. 10:15. The Hebrew word for "visitation" in the Old Testament is peqadah, and the Septuagint Greek equivalent is episcope.

Number 6: Six (vav) - Man

- Vav is a nail or peg in Hebrew. It is also a conjunction ("and"), for it takes a nail to connect two things.
- Six is the number of man, for man was created on the sixth day (Gen. 1:24-31). Man was also to labor for six days before entering into the Sabbath rest (Ex. 20:8-11), and the Hebrew slave was to serve for six years (Ex. 21:2).

- Moses had to wait for six days before he was allowed to go up the mount to meet the Lord (Ex. 24:16-18). Even so, has man had to wait six thousand years to meet the Lord in the second coming of Christ.
- Israel compassed the walls of Jericho for six days before the city fell on the seventh (Joshua 6:14, 15). This is a type of 6,000 years of labor in spiritual warfare before the world system falls.
- In Daniel 3, King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon erected an image of gold by which the gold standard was created. Verse 1 says that it was 60 cubits high and 6 cubits wide. The dimensions of this image are too thin to be the statue of a man. It was more likely something else with a gold object on the top or head. But it does speak of man's effort to establish a system of economic control by means of the worship of gold and money in general.
- Hence, Paul writes in 1 Tim. 6:10 that "the love of money [greed] is the root of all evil." Also, the works of the flesh in Gal. 5:19-21 lists witchcraft as the sixth vice. Witchcraft is simply man's attempt to manipulate others against their will. For this reason, Saul's rebellion against God was "as the sin of witchcraft" (1 Sam. 15:23). What is not generally understood is that man's religion is largely a matter of doing rituals to manipulate one's god (or gods) into doing things that are beneficial to them.

Number 21: Twenty-One (kaph-aleph) - Distress

- To write twenty-one in Hebrew, they wrote two Hebrew letters: kaph-aleph. These signify giving strength as well as the strength of God's grace to cover sin during our time of spiritual growth.
- When twenty-one is used in terms of time (as in a 21-year period) it is the number of trouble or distress (tsarah), during which time we are in need of God's strength, offered by an open hand.

When it is used as a number in itself, it speaks of the end of the distress. Thus, it speaks of the blessing at the end.

- Likewise, the 21st time Abram is mentioned is in Gen. 13:3, where he returned to Bethel after being in distress in Egypt. Verse 4 says that there he "called on the name of the Lord."
- In conclusion: On that Labor Day morning, 9/6/21, I needed the Power of God to overcome the wickedness in man's religion by misleading people not in accordance to God's word. I was under great distress! God visited me and gave me his word in Romans 8:28 and told me to have faith and he will take care of me! That verse gave me strength to stand up against the evils of religion. Three days later the jail ministry was mine and no longer were heretics coming to the jail abusing God's word. There is no confusion when you abide in God's word. The message is clear.
- Psalm 118:5 I called upon the Lord in distress: the Lord answered me, and set me in a large place.
- Since that Monday morning, God has been so good to me. I love Jesus so much. I study his word daily and am always looking for ways to feed his sheep. Since that day, in God's name, he has allowed me to publish four books, which contains powerful messages from God's word on getting victory in your life. They are given away freely.
 - My books are salvation in Jesus for dummies. Once you understand it, it is impossible to prove the Bible wrong. We are only offered salvation per the Bible and God's doctrine. Salvation is only by your faith in Jesus.
- God gave you a bible, written in your language. He wants you to study it and learn for yourself, not to follow deceiver's false doctrine.

- Ephesians 5:6 Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience.
- This is where it is difficult for any that do not come to God with the attitude of a little child. You will not have an open mind! Your pride and traditions will blind you. Your religion will make you blind and lame and you are not capable of seeing or walking in the knowledge of Jesus Christ. You must get knowledge from God's word.
- Mark 7:13 Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye.
- The Lord has opened my eyes and I now see! There are many healing stories in the bible!
- John 9:1,4-7,35-38 And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth. <u>I must work the works of him that</u> <u>sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can</u> work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world. When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay, And said unto him, <u>Go, wash in the pool of</u> <u>Siloam</u>, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing. Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when he had found him, he said unto him, <u>Dost thou believe on the Son of God?</u> He answered and said, Who is he, Lord, that I might believe on him? And Jesus said unto him, <u>Thou hast both seen him, and it is he</u> <u>that talketh with thee.</u> And he said, Lord, I believe. And he worshipped him.
- Let your journey begin! Today, decide to love Jesus and follow him. You never know which path God wants you to go. Just trust

him, go and worship him in everything you do! Stay in his word. Don't doubt yourself and he will direct you. He will put the Power of God into your heart and direct you. Follow God's word and on judgement day, you will hear, "Well done my good and faithful servant."

- Remember, Jesus is the mediator between you and God the Father. All your prayers for salvation should go to Jesus Christ. Jesus is God. The words Jesus spoke in the bible are "<u>Bold and</u> <u>Underlined."</u>
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To God be the glory in all you do, Amen.

Introduction:

- I am a goat. There are goats of this world and sheep of this world. You've seen both on the farmer's field. Sheep keep their heads down and just nibble and graze on the nubs of grass all day. Moving in a herd, following one another. Sheep don't know what to expect in the end, but today the grass is good, so let's eat. Goats challenge the status quo. Eating anything that gets in their way. Nubs of grass is not for them. Banging heads, running, jumping climbing and just giving it heck. They are not timid for sure. Life for a goat is more than just eating. They will climb up the side of a rock mountain, just to lick some salt and get refreshed. What is a goat:
- GOAT, n. An animal or quadruped of the genus Capra. The horns are hollow, turned upwards, erect and scabrous. Goats are nearly of the size of sheep, but stronger, less timid and more agile. They delight to frequent rocks and mountains, and subsist on scanty coarse food. The milk of the goat is sweet, nourishing and medicinal, and the flesh furnishes provisions to the inhabitants of countries where they abound.
- You will behave in this world as a sheep or a goat. When you are in the flesh, hanging out with friends and living in sin day after day, your behavior is that of a sheep. Not wanting to change or bang heads with anyone and you are happy grazing on the tidbits of life and sin that come your way. You don't know what to expect in the end, but who cares. You are likely to follow a religious leader. Listening to their every instruction and following whatever law or practice they throw in your way.
- A goat is different. A goat is just not happy with nibbling on sin. If something doesn't feel right, well a goat just goes another way and doesn't do as the other goats. He knows when he finds the real deal. A big bunch of fresh green grass picked from across

the fence and they will feed willingly. They know what is good. They aren't afraid to take a chance.

There are goats and sheep in the bible. Goats react to the following:

- 1. Provided escape from the ungodly.
- 2. Stood up against common opinion.

Let's look at a couple.

- 1. Provided escape from the ungodly
- Joshua sent two spies to check out Jericho. They needed a hide-out and Rahab, a harlot, provided them safety. She could have turned them away or turned them in, like her friends would have done, but she didn't. God took care of her. She was a goat.
- Joshua 6:22-23,25 But Joshua had said unto the two men that had spied out the country, Go into the harlot's house, and bring out thence the woman, and all that she hath, as ye sware unto her. And the young men that were spies went in, and brought out Rahab, and her father, and her mother, and her brethren, and all that she had; and they brought out all her kindred, and left them without the camp of Israel. And Joshua saved Rahab the harlot alive, and her father's household, and all that she had; and she dwelleth in Israel even unto this day; because she hid the messengers, which Joshua sent to spy out Jericho.
- Saul or Paul was prosecuting Christians left and right. He was a Pharisee, treating Christians like criminals and responsible for their death. Stephen was stoned to death at the hands of Saul. After three days of being blind and not eating or drinking, God woke Saul up and gave him a handful of fresh green grass and he was born again in Damascus as Paul, a new creature. Paul

served God with a vengeance. Man, did Paul bang heads. That fresh green grass of the Lord's doctrine is all Paul needed. Not per man's law, but the truth per Jesus Christ.

- 2 Corinthians 11:23-26, 30-33 Are they ministers of Christ? (I speak as a fool) I am more; in labours more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft. Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep; In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; In Damascus the governor under Aretas the king kept the city of the Damascenes with a garrison, desirous to apprehend me: And through a window in a basket was I let down by the wall, and escaped his hands.
- 2. Stood up against common opinion.
- In Numbers 13:1-33, Moses sent one member from each of the twelve tribes of Israel to go into the promised land of Canaan and check it out. There were giants there. Upon returning to Moses, ten of the spies convinced Moses that they could never conquer the giants. Caleb and Joshua had great faith in God and said, "let's go and take'em." It didn't happen. Moses and ten spies never made it to the promised land. For forty years they lived in the wilderness, never taking a chance, nibbling on the nubs of grass. God took care of Caleb and Joshua.
- Numbers 26:64-65 But among these there was not a man of them whom Moses and Aaron the priest numbered, when they numbered the children of Israel in the wilderness of Sinai. For the Lord had said of them, They shall surely die in

the wilderness. And there was not left a man of them, save Caleb the son of Jephunneh, and Joshua the son of Nun.

- Numbers 32:12 Save Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenezite, and Joshua the son of Nun: for they have wholly followed the Lord.
- Your behavior as a goat will break you free from the flesh and religions of the world. Once you taste from the fresh green grass of the Lord's doctrine, there is no going back. A sinner nibbling on the nubs of grass, you are no more. You'll no longer walk in darkness. God will deliver you out of temptation. You will have the Power of God to direct you and change your life forever.
- 1 John 1:5-10 KJV This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.
- 2 Peter 2:9 The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:
- You must decide today, if you will continue to be a sheep nibbling on nubs of grass, living in sin and never experiencing true happiness and victory over death or if you are a goat, willing to taste of the fresh green grass of the Lord's doctrine. As a goat, you'll want to continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of

your Lord and Savior. Today, decide that you want to be a goat like Caleb. You've seen the promise land. God will deliver, if you put your trust in him. Giants and sinners of the flesh scare you no more.

- 2 Peter 3:17-18 Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own stedfastness. But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.
- There are modern day goats that gave their life for the Lord. William Tyndale was a scholar of Greek and Hebrew and proficient in Latin, Italian, Spanish, French and English. At the age of nineteen he was ordained a deacon and a priest in the diocese of London. God gave him the knowledge and passion to translate the Greek New Testament into English. He had a vision that the farmer would know and understand God's word and no longer under the rule of religious oligarchs. He published his English translation of the New Testament in 1526. Per God's words, "<u>the truth shall make you free</u>." In 1536, in appreciation for his hard work, the religious leaders of England hung him and burned him at the stake as a heretic. His final prayer to God was for the Lord to open the King of England's eyes. In 1537 the Matthew bible was licensed by Henry VIII.
- The goats of this world turned into great saints for God. Read Hebrews 11. Today, decide that you will be a goat for the Lord!
- Don't stop with the instruction presented in this publication. Read the Bible and understand what God needs you to do for him!
- To God be the glory in all you do, Amen.

Chapter 1: Power of God

- This nation was built by the Power of God. Our founders created this country, as reflected in the Declaration of Independence, as God and Creator. Not any old god of the flesh, but the one true God of the bible. The God that created heaven and earth. Our founders were first, God-fearing men that recognized the power of God. A power that would be used to protect this country or destroy it like Sodom and Gomorrah. Our soldiers went to war with the Holy Scriptures in their pockets. With God in their hearts, they were able to conquer giants!
- Today, the Lord they God is being mocked by our leaders. Jesus gave us two commandments. Love God and love your neighbor as yourself. Look around. There is a little love being shown. With no fear of God, Jesus told us exactly what is going to happen. Man will fall into the seductions of false gods and then Jesus will come again with great power and glory. Without the desire to understand God's word and live a righteous life for Jesus Christ, all Jesus can do is say, "<u>Watch</u>." Heaven and earth will pass away. God's word will not pass away!
- Mark 13:5-6,22,26,31,33,36-37 And Jesus answering them began to say, <u>Take heed lest any man deceive you: For many shall</u> <u>come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive</u> <u>many. For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall</u> <u>shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even</u> <u>the elect. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in</u> <u>the clouds with great power and glory. Heaven and earth</u> <u>shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away. Take ye</u> <u>heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is. Lest</u> <u>coming suddenly he find you sleeping. And what I say unto</u> <u>you I say unto all, Watch.</u>

- Without the fear of God, you will never seek wisdom and instruction. Sadly, buy true. When Jesus comes again, few will be ready. How many people have failed to crack open a bible and read God's word. Then at the first sign of despair, they pray to God for help. Not with heavenly desires, but to resolve their worldly issue. Jesus could do nothing without God. It is time to knowledge up and be a worshipper of God.
- Proverbs 1:7 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.
- John 9:31,33 Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth. If this man were not of God, he could do nothing.
- In his first miracle Jesus turned water into good wine. Anyone in the wine making process knows to make good wine, you must select and blend only the finest grapes and then allow it to age to bring out the taste of the wine. This process does not happen overnight. Yet in the blink of an eye, the Power of God was able to turn water into good wine. How many of the wedding party drank right through this miracle, without even knowing that a miracle from God took place. The bride and groom and others members of the wedding party were likely drunk and did not give God the glory. How many miracles have you missed? Today, will you let the Power of God take you, perform a miracle and turn you into servant for Jesus Christ. Not just a servant of man's religion, but a good servant to be worthy of the finest celebration for Jesus Christ!
- John 2:7-8,10-11 Jesus saith unto them, <u>Fill the waterpots with</u> <u>water</u>. And they filled them up to the brim. And he saith unto them, <u>Draw out now</u>, and bear unto the governor of the <u>feast</u>. And they bare it. And saith unto him, Every man at the beginning doth set forth good wine; and when men have well

drunk, then that which is worse: but thou hast kept the good wine until now. This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth his glory; and his disciples believed on him.

- This wasn't the only miracle Jesus performed that was missed by the Jews. Regardless as to how many miracles he performed, it was never enough. Look back on your life. God has blessed you, and you've likely not recognized it. Your blessing may not be exactly what you wanted, but it is what God saw as your need.
- John 1:10-11 He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not.
- The sick and poor often came to Jesus in dire need of healing. They had plenty of time with little money or things of this earth to distract them. Will you recognize your needs to understand Jesus and to be able to ask him for healing? For sight? For guidance? For salvation? For victory over your addiction? For family time? Will you glorify God and serve him when he sends you the blessing that you're in need of?
- Luke 18:39-43 And they which went before rebuked him, that he should hold his peace: but he cried so much the more, Thou Son of David, have mercy on me. And Jesus stood, and commanded him to be brought unto him: and when he was come near, he asked him, <u>Saying, What wilt thou that I shall</u> <u>do unto thee?</u> And he said, Lord, that I may receive my sight. And Jesus said unto him, <u>Receive thy sight: thy faith hath</u> <u>saved thee.</u> And immediately he received his sight, and followed him, glorifying God: and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise unto God.

Jesus has the power to change your life. But you must be willing to serve only him! Not the devil. Only Jesus.

- Luke 4:41 And devils also came out of many, crying out, and saying, Thou art Christ the Son of God. And he rebuking them suffered them not to speak: for they knew that he was Christ.
- Luke 4:35-36 And Jesus rebuked him, saying, <u>Hold thy peace, and</u> <u>come out of him.</u> And when the devil had thrown him in the midst, he came out of him, and hurt him not. And they were all amazed, and spake among themselves, saying, What a word is this! for with authority and power he commandeth the unclean spirits, and they come out.
- Luke 4:6,8 And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it. And Jesus answered and said unto him, <u>Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written,</u> <u>Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou</u> <u>serve.</u>
- When you accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, he'll give you power and authority over all the devils.
- Luke 9:1 Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases.
- Luke 4:32 And they were astonished at his doctrine: for his word was with power.
- Romans 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.
- Will there still be storms in your life? Absolutely. God wants to temper your faith, to make it stronger. Never give in to the

devil and pray to Jesus for strength every day. You will not perish. Jesus will calm the storm.

- Matthew 8:23-27 And when he was entered into a ship, his disciples followed him. And, behold, there arose a great tempest in the sea, insomuch that the ship was covered with the waves: but he was asleep. And his disciples came to him, and awoke him, saying, Lord, save us: we perish. And he saith unto them, <u>Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith?</u> Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm. But the men marvelled, saying, What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him!
- 1 Corinthians 2:4-5 And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.
- 2 Corinthians 8:3-5,7,9 For to their power, I bear record, yea, and beyond their power they were willing of themselves; Praying us with much intreaty that we would receive the gift, and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints. And this they did, not as we hoped, but first gave their own selves to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God. Therefore, as ye abound in everything, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also. For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.
- God is still performing miracles and Jesus is at his right hand. Ask for his power to change your life for him.

Luke 22:69 - <u>Hereafter shall the Son of man sit on the right hand</u> of the power of God. Accept the Power of God into your heart and your life will absolutely change. Maybe not in the manner you expected, but in the manner that God has waiting for you. Where does change start? You must first start your walk by understanding God's word and not man's religion. Man's plan for you is not the plan God has for you. Man's plan for you is to stay in church. God's word is the truth. His plan for you is to spend eternity with Jesus in heaven. Study God's word and decide today to accept God into your heart. Be born again as a child of God. No longer a servant of sin and the devil, but a servant of Jesus Christ. Be of great faith and decide today that all you do will be for the glory of God.

To God be the glory in all you do, Amen

Chapter 2: Chosen

- Jesus chose the twelve apostles. We know that they were of the Jewish faith, practicing religion. All lived in the flesh and were hard workers. Peter, Andrew, James and John were fishermen. Matthew was a tax collector. They did not go to bible school! Paul, a religious leader (Pharisee) and prosecutor of early Christians, was on his way to Damascus when God chose him. Luke (the physician) and Mark were chosen by God. When chosen, these men, felt God in their presence. They immediately dropped what they were doing and followed him. Not by man's instruction, but by God's.
- Matthew 4:18-22- And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers. And he saith unto them, <u>Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men</u>. And going on from thence, he saw other two brethren, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in a ship with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and he called them. And they immediately left the ship and their father, and followed him.
- Acts 9:3-6 And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven: And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, <u>Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?</u> And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, <u>I am Jesus whom thou</u> <u>persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.</u> And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, <u>Arise, and go into the</u> <u>city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.</u>
- Nathanael was an Israelite, practicing Jewish religion, in him there was no guile.

- John 1:47-51 Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and saith of him, <u>Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile</u>! Nathanael saith unto him, Whence knowest thou me? Jesus answered and said unto him, <u>Before that Philip called thee,</u> when thou wast under the fig tree, I saw thee. Nathanael answered and saith unto him, Rabbi, thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel. Jesus answered and said unto him, <u>Because I said unto thee, I saw thee under the fig tree,</u> <u>believest thou? thou shalt see greater things than these.</u> And he saith unto him, <u>Verily, verily, I say unto you, Hereafter ye</u> <u>shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and</u> <u>descending upon the Son of man.</u>
- After Jesus picked the twelve apostles, he directed their lives. He taught them lesson after lesson of the power and the glory of God. When on earth, Jesus did no single thing to give them the gift of the Holy Ghost. No water baptism or other spiritual sign. Just as there is no single thing that man's religion can do to give you the gift of the Holy Ghost or save you. You must decide to walk with Jesus. From the original twelve disciples (see Matthew 10:2-4), Nathanael and Lebbaeus no longer were followers. Not all that are chosen, decide to be followers and walk with Jesus.
- John 6:66 KJV From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him.
- These followers of Jesus were there, not by religious demand, but because they wanted to be there. After Christ was put to death, the disciples and his followers would meet together for fellowship. I suspect that Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of Jesus, his brethren and these disciples were there, including Matthias.

- Acts 1:13 And when they were come in, they went up into an upper room, where abode both Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon Zelotes, and Judas the brother of James.
- Acts 1:4-9 And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, <u>but wait for the promise of the Father</u>, which, saith he, <u>ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with</u> water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many <u>days hence.</u> When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? And he said unto them, <u>It is not for</u> you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.
- They were looking for the restoration of the kingdom of Israel. They had left all and now Jesus was gone! From the expectation of an earthly kingdom with power and money for Israel to a spiritual kingdom for Jesus Christ. They needed direction in their lives. It wasn't until after Jesus Christ ascended into heaven, did the Holy Ghost ascend on the followers of Christ.
- Acts 2:1-4,7,9,11,17-18,21 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled

with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven. Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language. And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans? And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born? Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God. And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy: And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

These followers had forsaken all and not all of their families were there. Joseph, the carpenter was not there. Your family may not appreciate the gift that Jesus has waiting for you.

Matthew 19:27-29 - Then answered Peter and said unto him, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore? And Jesus said unto them, <u>Verily I say</u> <u>unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the</u> <u>regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of</u> <u>his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the</u> <u>twelve tribes of Israel. And every one that hath forsaken</u> <u>houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife,</u> <u>or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an</u> <u>hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.</u> These followers received Jesus as God. They believed on his name and were born again at the will of God.

- John 1:12-13 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.
- When does God chose you? Steve Curington, after ten years of serving man and his addictive alcohol and drugs and a near death experience, was chosen by God on that hospital bed to serve him. Dave Spurgeon, after fifteen years of serving man and his addictive alcohol and drugs, was chosen by God in that jail cell to serve him. Both of these men grew up in traditional Christian homes. It wasn't until they were on the way to "their Damascus" did Jesus stop them and then they decided to follow him. Despite every event that happened in their younger religious experiences, this one event in their life is when they felt the presence of God in their life and they responded. This was their true born-again experience, when they became a child of God. The Holy Ghost descended upon them and started directing their life serving Jesus in the glory of God.
- When you are chosen by God, he already has a plan for you. Like the early disciples, you must choose between following him or man's religion. God is choosing you to be one of his followers. Repent of your sins, believe in Jesus and his doctrine and be born again as a child of God. When your heart is right with God, you will then receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. The Holy Ghost will direct your life serving God.
- You don't need to read modern day bible translations and come up with a different conclusion. You must accept that Jesus is God!
- To God be the glory in all you do, Amen

Chapter 3: Gentile and Jew

- It is clear from the bible that the New Testament disciples were going to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ to two types of people: Gentiles and Jews. From the Old Testament, the Gentiles did not follow the religious traditions of the Jews. The Gentiles had their own religious practices and worshipped fertility gods, gods of the earth, moon, sun, stars, gods like those of Greek mythology or Diana of the Ephesians. The Jews followed the ten commandments God gave Moses as well as the 600+ traditional, man-made laws that the Jewish religion had imposed on the followers. These traditional laws were added by the Jewish leaders over time and used to direct the Jewish lives and worship. These laws included things like the need for males to be circumcised on the eighth day, to do no work on the sabbath, priest would offer the blood sacrifice for sin forgiveness, wash your hands before eating, etc. Both the Gentiles and Jews had one thing in common: they used spiritual worship in their lives as directed by man. "Circumcision" in the bible is a term that is used to refer to the laws the Jews had to live by.
- Over and over again in the New Testament, God tells us that the traditions, religious laws or circumcision means nothing in the eyes of God. The only thing that does matter is your faith in Jesus Christ. You are only justified by faith in the eyes of God.
- Romans 3:30 Seeing it is one God, which shall justify the circumcision by faith, and uncircumcision through faith.
- Galatians 5:6 For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love.
- 1 Corinthians 7:18-19 Is any man called being circumcised? let him not become uncircumcised. Is any called in uncircumcision? let him not be circumcised. Circumcision is

nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but the keeping of the commandments of God.

- Matthew 15:3 But he answered and said unto them, Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?
- 1 Peter 1:18 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers;
- Acts 21:21 And they are informed of thee, that thou teachest all the Jews which are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, saying that they ought not to circumcise their children, neither to walk after the customs.
- Salvation or everlasting life is a gift offered by believing in the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. You are justified by faith in his blood. Adherence to religious laws, traditions and customs yield nothing. Why waste your time glorifying man's laws. It is better to give God the glory. Only faith will make you whole.
- Romans 5:1-2,8-9 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.
- Mark 10:52 And Jesus said unto him, <u>Go thy way; thy faith hath</u> <u>made thee whole.</u> And immediately he received his sight, and followed Jesus in the way.
- Religious traditions will lead you into believing that practicing these traditions means something to God. They mean nothing. God wants you to study his words.

Mark 7:13 - <u>Making the word of God of none effect through your</u> <u>tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things</u> <u>do ye.</u>

- When you repent and turn from your sinful past, you are as a new creature. Your old sinful life is gone. You are no longer serving the devil, but serving only Jesus Christ.
- Galatians 6:15 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature.
- 2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.
- When you believe in Jesus, do you continue putting emphasis on man's religious traditions? No. Jesus tells you to hear God's word and do it. You repent and turn from your sinful past. Otherwise, you will continue to rely on the comfort of man's religion to give you a false sense of salvation, which is not salvation in Jesus. Your family in Christ are your associates which hear the word of God and do it!

Luke 8:21 - And he answered and said unto them, <u>My mother and</u> my brethren are these which hear the word of God, and do it.

New Testament believers were told by Jesus Christ multiple times to come as little children and God's word. You must forego your religious traditions and worship only God and live a righteous life as directed by God's word. Salvation is given without religion. The only thing that matters is giving your heart to God. Following man's laws is enough to keep your heart from God. The Pharisees wanted to impose religious laws on the Christians. Peter said no! These were false teachings. There is no commandment from God that states ye must follow man's laws for salvation in Christ.

- Acts 15:1 And certain men which came down from Judaea taught the brethren, and said, except ye be circumcised after the manner of Moses, ye cannot be saved.
- Acts 15:4-5,7-9 And when they were come to Jerusalem, they were received of the church, and of the apostles and elders, and they declared all things that God had done with them. But there rose up certain of the sect of the Pharisees which believed, saying, That it was needful to circumcise them, and to command them to keep the law of Moses. And when there had been much disputing, Peter rose up, and said unto them, Men and brethren, ye know how that a good while ago God made choice among us, that the Gentiles by my mouth should hear the word of the gospel, and believe. And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as he did unto us; And put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.
- Acts 15:24 Forasmuch as we have heard, that certain which went out from us have troubled you with words, subverting your souls, saying, Ye must be circumcised, and keep the law: to whom we gave no such commandment:
- Being a Gentile or a Jew doesn't matter in the eyes of God. You are directed to abound in faith, teaching, knowledge, love and grace. Faith in Jesus Christ is all that matters.
- 2 Corinthians 8:7 Therefore, as ye abound in every thing, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also.
- Luke 7:50 And he said to the woman, <u>Thy faith hath saved thee;</u> go in peace.
- To God be the glory in all you do, Amen

Chapter 4: Gospel of Jesus Christ

- Jesus was sent to earth to offer salvation to the Jews and Gentiles. His offer of salvation or everlasting life is contained in the Gospels of the New Testament in <u>his words</u>. Jesus offers us victory over death in the New Testament. You will be free of death and never die! Do not let man fool you! You will not obtain everlasting life by saying you believe in Jesus and not changing your sinful life when presented this one verse, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." You must understand God's doctrine, from the <u>words Jesus</u> <u>spoke</u>. When you are of Jesus, you hear, understand and keep his words. You follow him and he knows you.
- John 7:16-17 Jesus answered them, and said, <u>My doctrine is not</u> mine, but his that sent me. If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.
- John 5:24 <u>- Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my</u> word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.
- John 6:47 <u>Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me</u> <u>hath everlasting life.</u>
- John 8:31-32 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, <u>If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples</u> <u>indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make</u> <u>you free.</u>
- John 8:47,51 <u>He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore</u> <u>hear them not, because ye are not of God. Verily, verily, I say</u> <u>unto you, If a man keep my saying, he shall never see death.</u>

- John 10:27-30 <u>My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and</u> <u>they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they</u> <u>shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of</u> <u>my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all;</u> <u>and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. I</u> <u>and my Father are one.</u>
- John 11:25-26 Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?
- Luke 11:28 But he said, <u>Yea rather</u>, <u>blessed are they that hear</u> <u>the word of God, and keep it</u>.
- Jesus tells you to repent of your sins and turn to him being born again, as a child of God. Being baptized by the Holy Ghost and with the power of the Holy Ghost residing in your heart. You no longer desire to be a sinner. Jesus wants you to abstain from a sinful life and live a righteous life for him.
- Matthew 4:17 From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, <u>Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.</u>
- Luke 13:3 <u>- I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all</u> likewise perish.
- John 8:11, 34-35 She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, <u>Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more</u>. Jesus answered them, <u>Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever</u> <u>committeth sin is the servant of sin. And the servant abideth</u> <u>not in the house for ever: but the Son abideth ever.</u>
- Matthew 5:20 For I say unto you, <u>That except your righteousness</u> <u>shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees</u>, <u>ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven</u>.

- 1 John 5:17-18 All unrighteousness is sin: and there is a sin not unto death. We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not.
- Matthew 18:3 And said, <u>Verily I say unto you</u>, <u>Except ye be</u> <u>converted</u>, and become as little children, ye shall not enter <u>into the kingdom of heaven</u>.
- John 3:3,5,7 Jesus answered and said unto him, <u>Verily, verily, I</u> say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Jesus answered, <u>Verily, verily, I say unto</u> thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.
- Acts 1:5,8 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.
- By believing on Jesus, he wants you to keep the commandments of God and avoid the sins of the flesh.
- Matthew 19:17-19 And he said unto him, <u>Why callest thou me</u> <u>good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou</u> <u>wilt enter into life, keep the commandments</u>. He saith unto him, Which? Jesus said, <u>Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt</u> <u>not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not</u> <u>bear false witness, Honour thy father and thy mother: and,</u> <u>Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.</u>
- Matthew 22:37-39 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all

thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

- Galatians 5:16,19-21 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these ; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.
- When you are of God, you desire to serve only Jesus. No longer a servant of sin. Jesus tells you that you cannot serve two masters. You are to serve only God.
- Luke 16:13 <u>No servant can serve two masters: for either he will</u> <u>hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the</u> <u>one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and</u> <u>mammon</u>.
- Matthew 4:10 Then saith Jesus unto him, <u>Get thee hence, Satan:</u> for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.
- When you believe in Jesus, you feed his sheep. No longer denying him before men.
- Mark 16:15-16 And he said unto them, <u>Go ye into all the world</u>, <u>and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth</u> <u>and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall</u> <u>be damned.</u>

Matthew 10:33 - <u>But whosoever shall deny me before men, him</u> will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.

- John 21:17 He saith unto him the third time, <u>Simon, son of</u> <u>Jonas, lovest thou me?</u> Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep.
- Religious traditions do not offer salvation. Only God's word offers salvation.
- Matthew 15:3 But he answered and said unto them, <u>Why do ye</u> also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?
- 1 Peter 1:18 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers;
- When you understand the Gospel of Jesus Christ, you have everlasting life. Jesus tells you that you can know for sure that you can have the gift of everlasting life. Not maybe, but for sure! That is why my brothers and sisters in Christ, we are bible believers! Today decide that you will search the scriptures.

John 5:39 - <u>Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have</u> eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.

To God be the glory in all you do, Amen

Chapter 5: Everlasting Life

- Salvation in Jesus Christ is between you and Jesus. Man's religion cannot save you. Adherence to the laws of man's religion cannot save you. Man cannot baptize you in water and tell you that you have everlasting life. In the New Testament, God sent his son, Jesus Christ, as the savior of mankind. He loved us so much that he was no longer going to destroy mankind, but desired that given the freedom to choose, you would choose to believe in Jesus Christ and be saved from eternal damnation and enjoy everlasting life with Jesus Christ in heaven. Jesus came not to condemn the world, but to save the world.
- John 3:16-17 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.
- The time for choosing God is now. You are likely set in your earthly desires and enjoying the sins of the flesh. Jesus tells you to repent and turn from your sinful life and be born again into a life serving him. You must become as little children, with great faith in Jesus and an open mind, to accept God's guidance in his word (Bible) and forgiveness of sins by the shed blood of Jesus.
- Colossians 1:14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:
- Romans 6:10 For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.
- John 6:33,35,47-48,51, 53-56 For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world. And Jesus said unto them, <u>I am the bread of life: he that</u> cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on

me shall never thirst. Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life. I am that bread of life. I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world. Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him.

When you come to Jesus, you accept him as the Son of God who gives life to the world. Jesus is everlasting life. His bread is the word of God, his Gospel that he shared with us. If you believe in Jesus, then you read the word of God or eat it up and abide in God's word. You'll know what it means to live a righteous life for Jesus...loving God, loving your neighbor and avoiding the sins of the flesh. Jesus shed his blood for the forgiveness of your sins. Jesus said "<u>unless ye repent ye shall all likewise</u> <u>perish</u>". When you drink of the wine or blood of Jesus, you repent and turn from your sin. You will not perish, but have everlasting life.

Luke 13:3 - <u>I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all</u> <u>likewise perish.</u>

When you repent of your sins, you turn to Jesus. You are born again in the spirit as a child of God. No longer a child of the devil. Jesus says you must be born again! The Holy Ghost comes into your heart, to direct you.

John 3:3,5,7 - Jesus answered and said unto him, <u>Verily, verily, I</u> say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the

kingdom of God. Jesus answered, Verily, verily, <u>I say unto</u> thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

- When you believe in Jesus, you hear his voice and you follow him. You understand his instructions. You walk with Jesus and in him you can have everlasting life. You can't say you believe in Jesus and walk with the devil.
- John 10:25-30 Jesus answered them, I told you, and ye believed not: the works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me. But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you. My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. I and my Father are one.
- John 8:47,51 <u>He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore</u> <u>hear them not, because ye are not of God. Verily, verily, I say</u> <u>unto you, If a man keep my saying, he shall never see death.</u>
- John 12:47 <u>And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I</u> judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world.
- These are a lot of promises. If Jesus is giving you the promise of everlasting life, then wouldn't you really want to understand God's word and just not take man's religious words as gospel. There is only one gospel of salvation and that is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

John 5:24 - <u>Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word,</u> and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and

shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

- Once you believe in Jesus, you want to study his word. Why? To acquire the knowledge needed to survive this world and obtain the gift of everlasting life that Jesus has waiting for you. Start by loving God and loving one another. Jesus is the resurrection. He will lift you up and out of this world. Jesus tells us to continue in his word and live a righteous life. If you believe in him, you will never die. Jesus is the Truth and he will make you free! Free of the devil, free of death and destruction. Free to have everlasting life with Jesus in heaven.
- John 8:31-32 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, <u>If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples</u> <u>indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make</u> <u>you free</u>.
- When you understand the Gospel of Jesus Christ, you have everlasting life. Jesus tells you that you can know for sure that you can have the gift of everlasting life. Today decide that you will search the scriptures.

John 5:39 - <u>Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have</u> eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.

- Do you love Jesus? Easy question. If you do, then you'll keep his words. You'll love Jesus from your heart!
- John 14:23-24 Jesus answered and said unto him, <u>If a man love</u> <u>me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and</u> <u>we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. He</u> <u>that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word</u> <u>which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me.</u>

Although the bread of life is presented to all, not all will believe. Like Judas, you may betray Jesus and turn from him. You will not keep his sayings nor his word. Jesus knows who you are. You will no longer walk with Jesus.

- John 6:64-66 <u>But there are some of you that believe not</u>. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who should betray him. And he said, <u>Therefore said I</u> <u>unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were</u> <u>given unto him of my Father.</u> From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him.
- If you do sin, then confess and pray to God. Don't let sin, turn into death. Jesus doesn't have to die and shed his blood again to forgive you of your sins. Confess your sins daily and turn from your sinful habits! Never go to bed with sin in your heart that offends God.
- Hebrews 6:4-6 For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.
- 1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- To God be the glory in all you do. Amen.

Chapter 6: Heart

- God created the sun, stars, heaven, earth and all things of this universe, including man. When Adam and Eve sinned in the garden, it was apparent to God, that man did not love God nor would they follow him. Time and time again, a man that was jealous of God's blessing given to another man, would then murder that other man. When your heart turns to Jesus Christ, your life will change.
- Genesis 4:1-8 And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the Lord. And she again bare his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground. And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the Lord. And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the Lord had respect unto Abel and to his offering: But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell. And the Lord said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen? If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him. And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.
- Very few men were righteous toward God. So rare indeed that when God found one, he rewarded them with a life with him, without death. Enoch loved and served God and his fellow man. Enoch loved God so much that God took Enoch from this wicked world without death! Enoch was rescued from the wickedness. He was no longer of this fleshly world. Enoch loved God from the heart. Not through religion. Not through

man's laws. Not through commandments. He did all things pleasing to God. He walked with God and God knew him.

- Genesis 5:24 And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him.
- Man has tested God to the limit? Man was made the supreme of all creatures. God gave him a brain for knowledge, a heart to love by and hands to work by. A heart that God found would also hate by. Man, left to his own desires and without God directing his life is just plain wicked. A wickedness that was great on this earth! Is it any different today?
- Genesis 6:5 And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.
- It was God's heart that told God that the heart of man, although full of love, can be desperately wicked.
- Genesis 6:6 And it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart.
- There was so much wickedness on the earth that God just couldn't take it anymore. How could anything that he had created, be so wicked. Noah loved God, and God decided to work through Noah to save mankind. He had Noah build an ark, take two of every animal on the earth and God flooded to earth to remove wickedness.
- Genesis 8:20-21 And Noah builded an altar unto the Lord ; and took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt offerings on the altar. And the Lord smelled a sweet savour; and the Lord said in his heart, I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake; for the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; neither will I again smite any more every thing living, as I have done.

- Man's heart favors the things of this world. It is about the love of the flesh. The love of fornication leads to unwanted babies. Question: Is abortion about the baby or the mother's love of fornication? So, in love with sacks full of money, that fornicators want you to pay for their abortions. Sacks full of money will not satisfy. Only a few will question why?
- Genesis 42:28 And he said unto his brethren, My money is restored; and, lo, it is even in my sack: and their heart failed them, and they were afraid, saying one to another, What is this that God hath done unto us?
- God choose the family of Jacob to see if he could make man love one another. The sons were so jealous of their brother, Joseph, that they went to kill him and decided it was more profitable to sell him as a slave to the Egyptians. Joseph, full of love, blossomed as a servant. Through God, Joseph was able to interpret a dream for Pharaoh and for his reward, Pharaoh made him governor over all of Egypt. There was a famine and Jacob sent his boys to Egypt to buy corn. In Egypt, they were reunited with Joseph. Joseph accepted his role and purpose of being sold to the Egyptians and later to save the family. The family of Jacob became the Israelites.
- Genesis 45:26 And told him, saying, Joseph is yet alive, and he is governor over all the land of Egypt. And Jacob's heart fainted, for he believed them not.
- Genesis 45:5,7 Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: for God did send me before you to preserve life. And God sent me before you to preserve you a posterity in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance.
- After Moses lead the Israelites out of Egypt, the Israelites are told to worship God from the heart and soul.

- Deuteronomy 4:27-29- And the Lord shall scatter you among the nations, and ye shall be left few in number among the heathen, whither the Lord shall lead you. And there ye shall serve gods, the work of men's hands, wood and stone, which neither see, nor hear, nor eat, nor smell. But if from thence thou shalt seek the Lord thy God, thou shalt find him, if thou seek him with all thy heart and with all thy soul.
- The Israelites were told not to add to or diminish the commandments of the God.
- Deuteronomy 4:2 Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you.
- Even after God gives Moses the ten commandments, it is apparent that the Israelites cannot worship just God. God tells Moses that the Israelites must love God from their heart, first. Non-Israelites had false gods. Greeks and others have a whole book full of gods. Today some religions still worship false gods.
- Deuteronomy 6:4-6 Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:
- Deuteronomy 32:46 And he said unto them, Set your hearts unto all the words which I testify among you this day, which ye shall command your children to observe to do, all the words of this law.
- Exodus 20:6 And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.
- The religious leaders of the Israelites turned those ten commandments into 600+ laws that the Israelites had to follow

every day. No longer could they show their love for God from the heart, as they had to follow man's laws.

- It does not tell us in the bible, why God chose Mary to bear his son, Jesus. She likely loved God from the heart. God is demanding the love of God from the Jews and the Gentiles, as he did from the Israelites, with all thy heart, first.
- Matthew 22:37-38 Jesus said unto him, <u>Thou shalt love the Lord</u> <u>thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all</u> <u>thy mind. This is the first and great commandment.</u>
- Today, decide to love God from the heart so you can live! No longer living in sin, but to the glory of God.
- Deuteronomy 30:6 And the Lord thy God will circumcise thine heart, and the heart of thy seed, to love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, that thou mayest live.

To God be the glory in all you do, Amen

Chapter 7: Born Again

- A very simple phrase, "<u>Ye must be born again</u>" spoken by Jesus and yet so many people do not understand it. Religions around the world use this phrase as a wake-up call to the lost, but rarely do they explain the meaning. "Born again" is used only three times in the New Testament. Jesus's ministry started with John and Peter. If Jesus said it and they captured it, then you must understand it!
- John 3:3,5-7 <u>- Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I</u> say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.
- 1 Peter 1:23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.
- You must be "born again" to enter the kingdom of heaven. Your first birth is of the flesh, born as a child of the water in the placenta. Born again or the second birth is of the Spirit or baptism by the Holy Ghost. You get born again by knowledge in the word of God as presented in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, by repenting of your sins and accepting the Holy Ghost into your heart.
- The Spirit as the Holy Ghost is presented in John. The glorification of Jesus was by his death, burial and resurrection. Your sins are forgiven by the blood of Jesus Christ. He is the propitiation for your sins.

- John 7:38-39 <u>He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said,</u> <u>out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.</u> (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)
- Revelation 1:5 And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,
- 1 John 2:2 And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.
- The gift of the Holy Ghost is presented in Acts, as told to you by Peter.
- Acts 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.
- From John and Acts, everlasting life is given to you when you believe on Jesus, repent of your sins and turn from your sinful ways walking in darkness to a righteous life. A life living for God and hearing God's word. If you continue to sin, then you are a servant of sin and you will not abide in the Lord's house forever.
- John 8:31-32 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, <u>If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples</u> <u>indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make</u> <u>you free.</u>
- Luke 13:5 <u>I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all</u> <u>likewise perish.</u>

John 8:34-36 - Jesus answered them, <u>Verily, verily, I say unto you,</u> <u>Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin. And the</u> <u>servant abideth not in the house for ever: but the Son</u> <u>abideth ever. If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye</u> <u>shall be free indeed.</u>

John 8:47 - <u>He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore</u> hear them not, because ye are not of God.

- When you keep Jesus's saying, you abide in the doctrine of Jesus Christ and shall never see death. By doing the will of the Father, you are saved from eternal damnation and you shall enter into the kingdom of heaven.
- John 8:51 <u>- Verily, verily, I say unto you, If a man keep my saying,</u> <u>he shall never see death.</u>
- Matthew 7:21-24 <u>Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord,</u> <u>shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the</u> <u>will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in</u> <u>that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name?</u> <u>and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done</u> <u>many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I</u> <u>never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.</u> <u>Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and</u> <u>doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his</u> <u>house upon a rock:</u>
- Thus, when you are born again, do you continue your sinful life and serve the devil. The doctrine of Jesus Christ, says you can't serve two masters. You can't serve God and serve the devil sin. If you are not with Jesus, then you are against him.

Luke 16:13 - <u>No servant can serve two masters: for either he will</u> hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the

one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

- Paul likens born again to you being a new creature. Your old sinful life is passed away, you are become new.
- 2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.
- You have a choice in the New Testament to believe on Jesus or not. He came to save the world, not to condemn it.
- John 12:47 <u>And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I</u> judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world.
- John 10:26-30 <u>But ye believe not, because ye are not of my</u> <u>sheep, as I said unto you. My sheep hear my voice, and I</u> <u>know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them</u> <u>eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man</u> <u>pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me,</u> <u>is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of</u> <u>my Father's hand. I and my Father are one.</u>
- So, what is sin in the New Testament: It is clear that if you know Jesus, you keep his commandments. You show your belief in Jesus by not being a servant of sin, but by living a righteous life.
- Matthew 22:37-39 Jesus said unto him, <u>Thou shalt love the Lord</u> <u>thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all</u> <u>thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the</u> <u>second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as</u> <u>thyself.</u>
- Galatians 5:17,19-21 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to

the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these ; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

- You are all sinners. You are living in the flesh daily. If you sin, then confess your sins to Jesus.
- 1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- Born again doctrine is summarized by John in the last book of the bible, Revelation. If you abide in the doctrine of Jesus Christ and receive the word of God, hold fast and repent, then your name will not be blotted out of the book of life. You will spend eternity in heaven with Jesus Christ.
- Revelation 22:12-14 <u>Blessed are they that do his</u> <u>commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life,</u> <u>and may enter in through the gates into the city.</u>
- Revelation 3:5,8 <u>He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed</u> <u>in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the</u> <u>book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and</u> <u>before his angels. I know thy works: behold, I have set before</u> <u>thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a</u> <u>little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied</u> <u>my name.</u>
- When you are "Born Again", you are as a child of God. Humble yourself and study God's word.

To God be the glory in all you do, Amen

Chapter 8: Child of God

When you accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior and are Born Again by the Holy Ghost, you become a child of God. Life will be great now, right? Wrong. The devil will be working overtime on you. He had you in the palm of his hand and he wants you back. You are being led by the Spirit into a wilderness you've not seen before. The devil will promise you the moon and the stars. Everything you've ever wanted. The devil wants you to give up living a righteous life for Jesus Christ. Jesus as the Son of God was tempted. You must be strong. Resist the devil and he will leave. You will be administered to by the angels.

Matthew 4:1-3,5-6,8-11 - Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred. And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple, And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me. Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.

Your life will not be any different than the life Jesus experienced here on earth. Jesus and the apostles told us that he was the Son of God.

John 10:36 KJV - <u>Say ye of him, whom the Father hath sanctified,</u> and sent into the world, Thou blasphemest; because I said, I am the Son of God?

Mark 1:1 KJV - The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God;

As a child (son) of God, you are joint-heirs with Christ. Just as you glory with him, you may suffer with him.

1 John 3:1-2 - Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

Romans 8:14-17,19 - For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.

Galatians 4:4-7 - But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father. Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ. So, when you are Born Again as a child of God, should you continue in sin? Absolutely not! We are told not to be deceived.

Romans 6:1-2,5 - What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:

Galatians 6:7 - Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

1 Corinthians 6:9-11 - Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

You can and must resist the devil by living a righteous life for Jesus Christ. Living a righteous life is so important to Jesus that he tells us to sacrifice to avoid sin or even the appearance of sin. If your eyes cause you to sin, then sacrifice and do whatever you need to and redirect your eyes to avoid sin. If going a certain way home causes you to stop at a bar and engage in drunkenness, then go a different way home. If getting on the internet causes you to lust after the flesh, then don't get on the internet. It is better to avoid sin than to be cast into hell.

Matthew 5:27-30 - Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart. And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell. And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell.

Galatians 4:14-15 - And my temptation which was in my flesh ye despised not, nor rejected; but received me as an angel of God, even as Christ Jesus. Where is then the blessedness ye spake of? for I bear you record, that, if it had been possible, ye would have plucked out your own eyes, and have given them to me.

The devil will also try to convince that the sins of the flesh doesn't matter. Jesus died on the cross to forgive you of your sins. He is OK when you sin. The opposite is true. You must avoid the sins of the flesh, in order to live a righteous life for Jesus. Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil.

Galatians 5:19-21 - Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these ; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

1 John 3:5-8 - And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin. Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him. Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous. He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil. When you heart is right with God, you will be right with God. Salvation will be more important than sin.

Romans 10:10 - For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Matthew 6:33 - <u>But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his</u> righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

To God be the glory in all you do, Amen.

Chapter 9: Children of God

- Throughout the Old Testament, the Jews struggled in their worship of God. There was great love, great faith, periods of intense struggles and periods of wickedness. In every one of these events, the power of God shown forth. Enoch served God with such love that God took him in body to heaven. Man was so wicked that God directed Noah, a man of great faith, to build an ark and filled it with two of every creature and his family to save the world from a great flood. The men of Sodom and Gomorrah were so wicked that God rained fire down on these towns to destroy them and the inhabitants. This was the first reference to death of sin by fire in the bible. The last reference of fire in the bible is in Revelation, with death and hell being cast into a lake of fire. God led the Jews out of Eavpt and parted the Red Sea, so they could escape the Egyptians. God aave Moses, simply the ten commandments and yet the Jews worshipped false gods. God hates sin.
- Genesis 19:24 Then the Lord rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the Lord out of heaven;
- Revelation 20:14-15 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.
- In the New Testament, God sent his son, Jesus Christ, as the savior of mankind. He loved us so much that he was no longer going to destroy mankind, but desired that given the freedom to choose, you would choose to believe in Jesus Christ and be saved from eternal damnation and enjoy everlasting life with Jesus Christ in heaven. Jesus came not to condemn the world, but to save the world.
- John 3:16-17 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not

perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

The time for choosing God is now. You are likely set in your earthly desires and enjoying the sins of the flesh. Jesus tells you to repent and turn from your sinful life and be born again into a life serving him. You must become as little children, with great faith in Jesus and an open mind, to accept God's guidance.

Matthew 18:3 - And said, <u>Verily I say unto you, Except ye be</u> <u>converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter</u> <u>into the kingdom of heaven.</u>

- This is where you must have great faith. Up to this point, you are into the things of the world and have no desire to born again into the spirit of the Holy Ghost, serving God as a child of God. This is when you must choose. Do you want to live a righteous life serving God with the promise of everlasting life in heaven or do you want to enjoy the sins of the flesh, serving the devil with the promise of everlasting life in hell. You must accept Jesus as the light of the world. Ask Jesus for your eyes to be opened and to believe on him.
- John 9:5-7,32-39 <u>As long as I am in the world, I am the light of</u> <u>the world.</u> When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay, And said unto him, <u>Go, wash in the</u> <u>pool of Siloam</u>, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing. Since the world began was it not heard that any man opened the eyes of one that was born blind. If this man were not of God, he could do nothing. They answered and said unto him, Thou wast altogether born in sins, and dost thou teach us? And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out;

and when he had found him, he said unto him, <u>Dost thou</u> <u>believe on the Son of God?</u> He answered and said, Who is he, Lord, that I might believe on him? And Jesus said unto him, Thou hast both seen him, and it is he that talketh with thee. And he said, Lord, I believe. And he worshipped him. And Jesus said, <u>For judgment I am come into this world, that they</u> which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind.

When you accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior, you believe on him, you abide in his word, you follow him and he knows you. When you walk with Jesus, he knows you and no one can pluck you from his hand. You no longer desire to continue in sin.

John 10:25-30 - Jesus answered them, I told you, and ye believed not: the works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me. But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you. My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. I and my Father are one.

As childen of God, walking with Jesus, Jesus will guide you as the light of the world.

- John 11:9-10 Jesus answered, <u>Are there not twelve hours in the</u> <u>day? If any man walk in the day, he stumbleth not, because</u> <u>he seeth the light of this world. But if a man walk in the night,</u> <u>he stumbleth, because there is no light in him.</u>
- You must die to the flesh and become as little children to be born again. Jesus's friend, Lazarus died and Jesus waited three days before he raised him from the dead. He performed the miracle to test the faith of his disciples. He could have healed Lazarus

anytime during those three days. He raised him from the dead, so they could see the glory of God. Like Lazarus, when you are born again, you are raised from the dead.

- John 11:14-16, 25-26, 40 Then said Jesus unto them plainly, <u>Lazarus is dead. And I am glad for your sakes that I was not</u> <u>there, to the intent ye may believe; nevertheless let us go</u> <u>unto him.</u> Then said Thomas, which is called Didymus, unto his fellow disciples, Let us also go, that we may die with him. Jesus said unto her, <u>I am the resurrection, and the life: he</u> <u>that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:</u> <u>And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.</u> <u>Believest thou this?</u> Jesus saith unto her, <u>Said I not unto</u> <u>thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the</u> <u>glory of God?</u>
- Jesus died on the cross to unite the children of God together to serve only him.
- John 11:51-52 And this spake he not of himself: but being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus should die for that nation; And not for that nation only, but that also he should gather together in one the children of God that were scattered abroad.
- As children of God, by faith you are no longer held into the bondage of this world. Not of the flesh or bondwoman but of the Holy Ghost, free of the sins of this world, as a follower of God, walking in the love and light of the world, Jesus Christ.
- Galatians 4:3-7,9,19,30-31 Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world: But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the

Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father. Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ. But now, after that ye have known God, or rather are known of God, how turn ye again to the weak and beggarly elements, whereunto ye desire again to be in bondage? My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you, Nevertheless what saith the scripture? Cast out the bondwoman and her son: for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman. So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman, but of the free.

Ephesians 5:1-8,10-11 - Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling savour. But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints; Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks. For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience. Be not ye therefore partakers with them. For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light: Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.

God loves the little children. Today, decide to be free of the devil as a child of God and to start your walk with Jesus Christ.

To God be the glory in all you do, Amen

Chapter 10: Scripture

- We read scripture for one reason...Jesus tells us too. The Bible is the inspired word of God, given to you for your edification. Jesus knew that he could not trust the Pharisees to educate the Jews and Gentiles, so he wanted to make sure you had bible scripture that you could read. Religious leaders always bend the word of God, in a direction that brings them money. God wanted to make sure you could read scripture, understand how to obtain righteousness and how to accept the gift of everlasting life. It is only in reading and knowing scripture do you understand the truth and power of God. You error by not reading and understanding God's word. Jesus is the stone that the builders (Jews) rejected and he is the corner stone!
- 2 Timothy 3:16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:
- Matthew 22:29,33 Jesus answered and said unto them, <u>Ye do</u> <u>err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God. And</u> <u>when the multitude heard this, they were astonished at his</u> <u>doctrine.</u>
- Matthew 21:42-44 Jesus saith unto them, <u>Did ye never read in</u> <u>the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the</u> <u>same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's</u> <u>doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes?</u> Therefore say I unto you, <u>The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given</u> <u>to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof. And whosoever</u> <u>shall fall on this stone shall be broken: but on whomsoever it</u> <u>shall fall, it will grind him to powder.</u>
- Little did the Jews, Judas and Pontus Pilate realize that when they rejected Jesus and condemned him to die, that the power of God would shine forth with the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

- Acts 1:16 Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus.
- Lessons abound in the scriptures. The prophets saw the coming of Jesus Christ. Jesus told of his suffering to come and resurrection on the third day. The apostles did not heed these words. Jesus absolutely wants you to understand the scriptures. Not to be blind in your faith. Blind faith, has little power. May scripture lift you up to the light of the world and open your eyes to the power of God. Jesus tells you to search the scriptures.
- Luke 24:44-47 And he said unto them, <u>These are the words</u> which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning <u>me.</u> Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, And said unto them, <u>Thus it is</u> written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.
- John 5:39 <u>Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have</u> <u>eternal life: and they are they which testify of me</u>.
- John 19:24,28,36-37 They said therefore among themselves, Let us not rend it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be: that the scripture might be fulfilled, which saith, They parted my raiment among them, and for my vesture they did cast lots. These things therefore the soldiers did. After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled, saith, <u>I thirst</u>. For these things

were done, that the scripture should be fulfilled, A bone of him shall not be broken. And again another scripture saith, They shall look on him whom they pierced.

- It wasn't until after third day, did the disciples remember the scripture and believe.
- John 2:22 When therefore he was risen from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this unto them; and they believed the scripture, and the word which Jesus had said.
- John 20:28 And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.
- You must read and understand scripture to believe in Jesus and his gift of everlasting life. When you believe and understand this gift, you will then see God's word as truth. It will work in your heart. Salvation is in the New Testament only by believing in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. You humble yourself as a child and are made wise by the Holy Scriptures.
- Thessalonians 2:13 For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.
- Luke 11:28 But he said, Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it.
- Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

- 2 Timothy 3:15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.
- As you study God's word, you will be a discerner of his word. You recognize his gift of the Holy Ghost after being Born Again. You do not worship idols. You worship only Jesus Christ and it is him that you seek to serve.
- 2 Timothy 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.
- 1 Peter 1:23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.
- Matthew 4:10 Then saith Jesus unto him, <u>Get thee hence, Satan:</u> for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him <u>only shalt thou serve.</u>
- You are told to search and read scripture daily. Why. Because the devil will be working on you every day. It is by reading and understanding the scripture will you be able to grow your faith in Jesus Christ. Not understanding scripture will lead to your own destruction.
- 1 Thessalonians 2:13 For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.
- Romans 10:17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

- 2 Peter 3:16 As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.
- Romans 15:4 For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.
- Jesus told John in the last book of the bible, that man who adds or takes away from his word will be punished.
- Revelation 22:18-20 For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book. He which testifieth these things saith, <u>Surely I come quickly</u>. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

Today, decide to read and understand God's word.

To God be the glory in all you do, Amen

Chapter 11: God's Word

- You are a spiritual being. If left to your own accord, then your spirit will turn you to the worship of idols, mammon and the things of this world. As directed by the devil, he will lead you down the path of man's religion, death and destruction. Lust of the flesh, gambling, addictions, drugs, alcohol, love of money are tools that the devil will be using. You will learn, that you can never have enough. There is an alternative: A life with Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is the great "<u>1am</u>." Jesus is the only way to the Father, God almighty, creator of the heaven and earth. Jesus is the truth...the Word...the life of the World. If you believe in him, then you shall never see death.
- John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.
- John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- The apostles walked with Jesus on this earth and saw him with their eyes. They saw his miracles of healing the sick, giving sight to the blind and hearing to the deaf. They felt his pain and the love of Christ. Those twelve men would die a martyr's death before they would denounce Jesus. And they did.
- 1 John 1:1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life;
- So, you have doubts on believing in Jesus. You are thinking, what about all those fossils? They've been around millions of years. Fact check: Go look up 'Fossil Hat' on the internet. The hat is a fossilized miner's hat from Tasmania that was covered with water for about 50 years. It is rock hard. Don't believe anyone

that say fossils are a million years old! Oil is not from fossils. The earth creates oil. You see. Jesus gives you a choice. You can believe deceivers or you can believe on him. Jesus came to save the world. Not condemn it.

John 12:47 - <u>And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I</u> judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world.

- Once you decide that you want to believe on Jesus, you want to study his word. Why? To acquire the knowledge needed to survive this world and obtain the gift of everlasting life that Jesus has waiting for you. Start by loving God and loving one another. Jesus is the resurrection. He will lift you up and out of this world. If you believe in him, you will never die.
- 1 John 2:24 Let that therefore abide in you, which ye have heard from the beginning. If that which ye have heard from the beginning shall remain in you, ye also shall continue in the Son, and in the Father.
- 1 John 3:11 For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.
- John 11:25-26 Jesus said unto her<u>, I am the resurrection, and the</u> <u>life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall</u> <u>he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never</u> <u>die. Believest thou this?</u>
- John 8:51 <u>Verily, verily, I say unto you, If a man keep my saying,</u> <u>he shall never see death.</u>
- These are a lot of promises. If Jesus is giving you the promise of everlasting life, then wouldn't you really want to understand God's word and just not take man's religious words as gospel? There is only one gospel of salvation and that is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

- John 5:24 <u>- Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word,</u> and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.
- Ephesians 1:12-13 That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ. In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,
- Salvation is simple. God wants you to hear his words. It starts by studying his word. Salvation for the Jews and Gentiles is presented in the New Testament only. Does it take faith to believe in Jesus. Absolutely. The more you read and study the bible, your faith will be made strong.
- Revelation 13:9 If any man have an ear, let him hear.
- Romans 10:17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.
- John 8:31-32 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.
- Acts 28:28 Be it known therefore unto you, that the salvation of God is sent unto the Gentiles, and that they will hear it.
- Jesus gives you the gift of everlasting life. Do you have to work for a gift? No. Do you have to pay money for a gift? No. Remember the devil has many false teachers in this world, filling up false religions.
- Titus 1:10-11,14-16 For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, specially they of the circumcision: Whose

mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake. Not giving heed to Jewish fables, and commandments of men, that turn from the truth. Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled. They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.

- Only put you trust in God's Word. You must be a hearer of the word. If your treasure is in everlasting life and the love of God, then that is where your heart will be. God the Father told you to hear him!
- Matthew 6:21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.
- Luke 9:35 And there came a voice out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son: hear him.
- Once you decide to put your trust in Jesus, you repent of your sinful ways and decide to live a righteous life for Jesus Christ with the Holy Ghost directing your life. You will be a disciple of Jesus Christ. You hear the word of God and you do it. Jesus is your shepherd. You hear his voice and you follow him.
- Acts 2:38 -Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.
- Acts 10:44 While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.
- John 9:27,31 He answered them, <u>I have told you already, and ye</u> did not hear: wherefore would ye hear it again? will ye also be his disciples? Now we know that God heareth not sinners:

but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth.

- John 10:27-30 <u>My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and</u> <u>they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they</u> <u>shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of</u> <u>my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all;</u> <u>and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. I</u> <u>and my Father are one.</u>
- Decide today, to continue in God's Word. You will have a love of God and man that you never thought possible.
- Colossians 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

To God be the glory in all you do, Amen

Chapter 12: Religion vs. God's Word

- There are many things that drive human behavior, but none can be more confusing than man's religion vs. God's bible. Here is a quick example.
- *Religion: Some religions practice the anointing of the sick before death.*
- "Anointing of the Sick: Telling of your sins to a religious person is an essential part of the anointing of the sick. By telling of your sins on their death bed, a dying person can be absolved of their sins by the religious person. In doing so, the sick will receive sacramental grace."
- Bible: The bible says that Jesus died on the cross once for the forgiveness of your sins. If you accepted Jesus as your savior and been born again as a child of God, just tell Jesus you are sorry for your sins and look forward to being with him in heaven! Man can never take away your sins.
- Romans 6:10 For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.
- Hebrews 10:10-11 By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins:
- Hebrews 10:12 But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down on the right hand of God;
- And yes, a religious person can never take away your sins. There is no grace offered by God in the telling your sins to a person. Go check your bible. Jesus tells you to repent.

Matthew 9:13 KJV - <u>But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will</u> <u>have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the</u> <u>righteous, but sinners to repentance.</u>

- Admittance of sin is not repentance. Repentance is the act of turning from your sin to God. When you turn from sin and have a clean heart that Jesus knows!
- The criminal on the cross knew that Jesus was God. He repented of his sins directly to Jesus and asked to be with him in heaven. For that, Jesus told him that he will be in paradise. Sacramental grace is not even a thing.
- Luke 23:39-43 And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us. But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss. And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. And Jesus said unto him, <u>Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou</u> be with me in paradise.
- Now: Here is the confusing part that God tells you to beware of in your bible! Changing God's word to fit man's religion. These religions may be taking the part of a deceiver or antichrist. An antichrist is one that does not give Jesus the credit for the forgiveness of you sins once through his death on the cross and the gift of everlasting life. An antichrist is one that thinks man can forgive you of your sins. Jesus did it all.
- 2 John 1:7 For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.

- Revelation 22:18-21 For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.
- There are many newer versions of the bible on the market. Most just keep changing year after year. Does God's word change. No. Then why must man keep changing God's word. Let's look at a couple verses:
- How about the forgiveness of sins forever, by the death of Jesus once on the cross. Jesus was a man, not a priest. We know from bible doctrine that the death and shed blood by Jesus on the cross forgives sins, forever. Jesus is currently seated at the right hand of God the Father. We also know that Jesus is coming again and will spend 1000 years on the earth. Here are some different bible versions and comparison of verses. When you understand salvation, the sins of the flesh and the Gospel of Jesus Christ, then pray for discernment when reading the bible. Understand the author of the books of the bible and who they are in communication with. If a verse in your bible conflicts with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, then look at older versions of bibles. God will direct you, when you walk with him. The Coverdale is one of the oldest English bibles translated from the Greek New Testament. The King James is the second oldest. In researched verses, the Coverdale, King James and the New Catholic Bible versions agrees.
- Coverdale Hebrews 10:12 But this man whan he had offred for synnes, one sacrifice which is of value for euer, sat him downe on the righte hande of God,

- Kings James Hebrews 10:12 But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;
- New World Translation 1984 Hebrews 10:12 But this [man] offered one sacrifice for sins perpetually and sat down at the right hand of God,
- Living English Hebrews 10:12 but this one, having offered one sacrifice for sins, took a seat in perpetuity at God's right hand,
- Emphasized Bible Hebrews 10:12 But this priest having offered one sacrifice for sins evermore Sat down on the right hand of God:
- Catholic Bible Hebrews 10:12 He, on the other hand, has offered one single sacrifice for sins, and then taken his seat for ever, at the right hand of God,
- New Catholic Bible Hebrews 10:12 But Jesus offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, and then took his seat at the right hand of God
- See the confusion offered by the different versions of the bible. If you find a conflicting verse, make sure you understand the totality of the bible doctrine. Don't let one verse steer you wrong!
- Let's look at another. We know that Jesus did not baptize anyone. Philip explained the Gospel of Jesus to the Ethiopian eunuch. Recall that the Gospel of Jesus Christ has nothing to do with baptism by water, but baptism by the Holy Ghost. If you leave out Acts 8:37, the verses imply that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is all about water baptism. Again, a major conflict.

John 4:2 - (Though Jesus himself baptized not, but his disciples,)

- Coverdale Acts 8:35-38 Philippe opened his mouth, and beganne at this scripture, and preached him the Gospell of Iesus. And as they wete on their waye, they came to a water. And the chamberlayne sayde: Beholde, here is water, what hyndereth me to be baptysed? Philippe sayde: Yf thou beleue from thy whole herte, thou mayest. He answered, and sayde: I beleue, that Iesus Christ is the sonne of God. And he commaunded to holde styll the charet, and they wente downe in to the water, both Philippe and the chamberlayne. And he baptysed him.
- Kings James Acts 8:36-38 And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.
- Living English Acts 8:35-38 And Philip opened his mouth and started from this text and told him the gospel of Jesus. And as they were going along the road they came to a bit of water, and the eunuch said "Here is water; what hinders my being baptized?"37 * — 38 And he gave orders for the chariot to halt, and they both went down into the water, both Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him.
- Catholic Bible Acts 8:35-38 Starting, therefore, with this text of scripture Philip proceeded to explain the good news of Jesus to him. Further along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, 'Look, is some water; is there anything to prevent my being baptised?' 37 38 He ordered the chariot to stop, then Philip and the eunuch both went down into the water and he baptised him.

New Catholic Bible – Acts 8:35-38 - And so Philip, starting with this text of Scripture, proceeded to explain to him the good news of Jesus. As they were traveling along the road, they came to some water. The eunuch said, "Look, here is some water. What is to prevent me from being baptized?" And Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." The eunuch said in reply, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." Then he ordered the chariot to stop, and Philip and the eunuch both went down into the water, and he baptized him.

Jesus want you to be knowledgeable of God's word. It is the power to those that believe.

To God be the glory in all you do, Amen.

Chapter 13: Deceivers

- Jesus came this earth as the Son of God, to offer everlasting life or salvation to the Jews and Gentiles. The free gift of salvation is offered to those that abide in the word of God and believe in Jesus. Religion was very profitable for the Pharisees and scribes. Religion continues to be profitable for those that prey on the weak and unknowing. God tells you to be aware of deceivers that profit off of the sacrifice that Jesus made for you and use religion to sell you salvation. Works of religions, sacrifices, money and laws can never be used by you to acquire God's free gift of salvation. God tells you that priests or teachers are to give glory to his name through the knowledge of his word. Loving God from the heart and not for the love of money. Yet they fail. The devil and the love of money is a powerful combination and addiction that many people of the flesh cannot overcome, even religious leaders.
- Malachi 2:1-2,7-8 And now, O ye priests, this commandment is for you. If ye will not hear, and if ye will not lay it to heart, to give glory unto my name, saith the Lord of hosts, I will even send a curse upon you, and I will curse your blessings: yea, I have cursed them already, because ye do not lay it to heart. For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law at his mouth: for he is the messenger of the Lord of hosts. But ye are departed out of the way; ye have caused many to stumble at the law; ye have corrupted the covenant of Levi, saith the Lord of hosts.
- 2 John 1:7 For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.

When a deceiver (i.e. teacher) is not teaching God's word and betraying the Gospel of Jesus Christ, Jesus tells you that it would be better if that man had never been born.

Mark 14:21 <u>- The Son of man indeed goeth, as it is written of him:</u> <u>but woe to that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed!</u> <u>good were it for that man if he had never been born.</u>

When you repent of your sins and turn to Jesus, he asks you to humble yourself at his greatness and be as little children. Being excited for this free gift, you no longer have faith in the things of this world, money, lusts of the flesh, but instead having faith in the things of God, desiring to live a righteous life for him and seeking his knowledge from his word and by serving him.

Matthew 18:3 - And said, <u>Verily I say unto you, Except ye be</u> <u>converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter</u> <u>into the kingdom of heaven.</u>

Now, as a child that has humbled yourself for the truth in God's word, God again warns teachers seeking to profit, harm or teach false doctrine to you as a little child, seeking God's word. God warned them not to be deceivers.

Mark 9:42 - <u>And whosoever shall offend one of these little ones</u> <u>that believe in me, it is better for him that a millstone were</u> <u>hanged about his neck, and he were cast into the sea.</u>

Children without the knowledge of God's word are vulnerable.

Mark 10:14-15 - But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, <u>Suffer the little children to come unto</u> <u>me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.</u> <u>Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the</u> <u>kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein.</u> Deceivers talk a good talk, but their heart is far from loving God. Jesus gave you two great commandments. Love God with all your heart, mind, soul and strength and love your neighbor as yourself. A deceiver, teaching false doctrine, is walking hand in hand with the devil. They do not have the love of God in their heart.

Matthew 15:8 - <u>This people draweth nigh unto me with their</u> <u>mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is</u> <u>far from me.</u>

- God gave you a bible, written in your language. He wants you to study it and learn for yourself, not to follow deceiver's false doctrine.
- Ephesians 5:6 Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience.
- This is where it is difficult for any that do not come to God with the attitude of a little child. You will not have an open mind! Your pride and traditions will blind you. Your religion will make you lame and you are not capable of walking in the knowledge of Jesus Christ. You must get knowledge from God's word.
- Mark 7:13 <u>Making the word of God of none effect through your</u> <u>tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things</u> <u>do ye.</u>
- Luke 4:4 And Jesus answered him, saying, <u>It is written, That man</u> shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.
- When you believe in Jesus, do you continue in man's religious traditions? No. Jesus tells you to hear God's word and do it. You repent and turn from your sinful past. Jesus does not want you to rely on the comfort of man's religion to give you a false sense of salvation, which is no salvation in Jesus.

Luke 8:21 - And he answered and said unto them, <u>My mother and</u> <u>my brethren are these which hear the word of God, and do it.</u>

- Jesus tells you not to continue in the sins of the flesh. If your religion doesn't steer you away from these sins, then you are practicing false doctrine and are being deceived.
- 1 John 2:1 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:
- Galatians 5:19-21 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these ; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.
- Jesus sent his disciples on their way and to spread God's word, not for the love of money or filthy lucre.
- Mark 6:7-8 And he called unto him the twelve, and began to send them forth by two and two; and gave them power over unclean spirits; And commanded them that they should take nothing for their journey, save a staff only; no scrip, no bread, no money in their purse:
- 1 Peter 5:2 Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind.
- Jesus commands that salvation be taught in his name as a free gift without the cost of money or following the laws of religion. It is not by the offering of a tithe to the Levites as in the Old Testament.

- Numbers 18:26 Thus speak unto the Levites, and say unto them, When ye take of the children of Israel the tithes which I have given you from them for your inheritance, then ye shall offer up an heave offering of it for the Lord, even a tenth part of the tithe.
- If you are comfortable in man's religion, then I pray today that you are not being deceived and you decide to put your trust only in God's Word. Decide to study the bible and learn what God has waiting for you!

To God be the glory in all you do, Amen.

Chapter 14: Water Baptism

- John the Baptist was sent to the earth by God, to prepare the way of the Lord for the Jews. He preached the baptism of water for the remission of sins. John the Baptist preached on the coming of Jesus Christ. He only baptized with water. He tells us that Jesus Christ will baptize with the Holy Ghost. John the Baptist, died before the glorification of Jesus Christ, which gave us the forgiveness of sins and everlasting life in heaven by believing in the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus. If you believe in Jesus, then water baptism does not forgive your sins! Period.
- Mark 1:3,4,7,8 The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. And preached, saying, There cometh one mightier than I after me, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to stoop down and unloose. I indeed have baptized you with water: but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost.
- True to John the Baptist's word, Jesus never baptized anyone with water. He baptized salvation by the Holy Ghost. He did not condemn sinners. They repented of their sins and Jesus told them to "<u>sin no more.</u>"
- John 8:10-11- When Jesus had lifted up himself, and saw none but the woman, he said unto her, <u>Woman, where are those thine</u> <u>accusers? hath no man condemned thee?</u> She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, <u>Neither do I condemn thee: go,</u> <u>and sin no more.</u>
- When Jesus died on the cross, one of the criminals repented of his sins, and said he deserved death and hell. He asked for forgiveness of his sins directly to Jesus and asked to be with

him in heaven. Without water baptism, Jesus gave him everlasting life with him in paradise.

- Luke 23:39-43 And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us. But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss. And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. And Jesus said unto him, <u>Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou</u> <u>be with me in paradise.</u>
- After his resurrection, Jesus told the disciples that they will be baptized with the Holy Ghost after his ascension.
- Acts 1:5,9 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.
- The disciples assembled for the day of the Pentecost and they received the Holy Ghost, with the power of God! Salvation and power by the Holy Ghost. Not by a religious leader or by water baptism. Just by believing in Jesus.
- Acts 2:1-4,17-18, 21 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and

your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy: And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Remember, John the Baptist baptized the Jews. The Jews were circumcised, baptized and many believed on Jesus for salvation. The disciples were operating out of Antioch. A sect of Pharisees came to Antioch to impose the laws of the Jews onto the Gentiles for salvation. Peter made it clear that salvation is by believing in the grace of God with the power of the Holy Ghost. Nothing else. No laws. Just live a righteous life for Jesus Christ.

Acts 15:1,5,7-11,19,24,28-29 - And certain men which came down from Judaea taught the brethren, and said, Except ve be circumcised after the manner of Moses, ye cannot be saved. But there rose up certain of the sect of the Pharisees which believed, saying, That it was needful to circumcise them, and to command them to keep the law of Moses. And when there had been much disputing, Peter rose up, and said unto them, Men and brethren, ye know how that a good while ago God made choice among us, that the Gentiles by my mouth should hear the word of the gospel, and believe. And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as he did unto us; And put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith. Now therefore why tempt ye God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear? But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they. Wherefore my sentence is, that we trouble not them, which from among the Gentiles are turned to God: Forasmuch as we have heard, that certain which went out from us have troubled you with words, subverting your souls, saying, Ye must be circumcised, and

keep the law: to whom we gave no such commandment: For it seemed good to the Holy Ghost, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things; That ye abstain from meats offered to idols, and from blood, and from things strangled, and from fornication: from which if ye keep yourselves, ye shall do well. Fare ye well.

- Peter was the disciple for the Jews. In his preaching, the Jews are "us" and the Gentiles are "they". They of the circumcision are the Jews. The gift of the Holy Ghost was given to the Jews and Gentiles which heard the Word. The Jews were astonished that this gift was also offered to the Gentiles. The Jews had previously been baptized with water. Peter commanded the Gentiles to be baptized with water. Not under God's authority, but under man's authority.
- Acts 10:43-48 To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins. While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter, Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we? And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.
- Why did Peter command these followers to be baptized? Peter knew that from God, no law is required for salvation. Peter did not want to offend the Jews. This is not the first time Peter did this. When with the Jews, Peter did as the Jews did. The disciple Paul, called him out on this behavior. If it pleased the Jews that they had been baptized with water, then Peter

commanded the Gentiles to be baptized with water in the name of the Lord. Don't let baptism by water as a child of God confuse you into thinking you have the gift of everlasting life. The only souls ever saved by water were the family of Noah. If you want baptism by water, then it is only in good conscience toward God. It is just a sign. Not a law. No saving power. Not to be born again. Not required to join the Kingdom of God!

- 1 Peter 3:20-21 Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water. The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:
- When you believe in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, you repent of your sins and turn to God. God knows what is in your heart. God gives you the gift of the Holy Ghost. No man-made laws are required.

To God be the glory in all you. Amen.

Chapter 15: Body and Blood

- The celebration of eating bread and drinking wine is one of the most complex parables taught by Jesus. Few believers in Jesus Christ, will truly understand it. Only those that desire to understand the word of God. Jesus started and ended his ministry on earth with this parable. The reason this parable was so hard for the apostles to understand was that it wasn't until his death, shed blood, burial and resurrection could the apostles even be able to relate the eating of body/flesh (or bread) and drinking of blood (or wine) to the saving power of Jesus Christ. Most of the apostles were laborers, fishermen and not scholars. Luke as a doctor was the smartest. Paul as a Pharisee and scholar, saw it. As a bible believer, today, you will understand it!
- John 6:33,35,47-48,51, 53-56 For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world. And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst. Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life. I am that bread of life. I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world. Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him.

When you come to Jesus, you accept him as the Son of God who gives life to the world. Jesus is everlasting life. Jesus gave us victory over death. His bread is the word of God, his Gospel that he shared with us. If you believe in Jesus, you read the word of God or eat it and abide in God's Word, then you know what is meant of living a righteous life for Jesus...loving God, loving your neighbor and avoiding the sins of the flesh. Jesus shed his blood for the forgiveness of your sins. Jesus said "<u>unless ye repent ye shall all likewise perish</u>". When you drink of the wine or blood of Jesus, you repent and turn from your sin. You will not perish, but have everlasting life.

- Jesus used the symbology of body and blood (bread and wine) at the beginning and end of his ministry during his walk on earth Again at the last supper, Jesus shared bread and wine with his Apostles at the feast of the Passover. Jesus used symbology to say take and eat his body or study the word of God to feed your spirit. Take and drink his blood for the repentance and remission of sins. Not just for you but for all the sins of the world. This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Salvation for all that believe in Jesus by abiding in his word and repenting of your sins.
- We know from the New Testament that salvation and everlasting life is given to the Jews and Gentiles by believing in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. And when you believe, you know that Jesus Christ, is the Son of the living God and you abide in him, thus keep his commandments. You turn from your sin and turn to Jesus.
- John 6:69 And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God.

John 14:15 - If ye love me, keep my commandments.

John 14:23-24 - Jesus answered and said unto him, <u>If a man love</u> <u>me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and</u> <u>we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. He</u>

that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me.

- Although the bread of life is presented to all, not all will believe. Like Judas, you will betray Jesus and turn from him. You will not keep his sayings nor his word. Jesus knows who you are. You will no longer walk with Jesus.
- John 6:64-66 <u>- But there are some of you that believe not</u>. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who should betray him. And he said, Therefore said I unto you, <u>that no man can come unto me</u>, <u>except it were</u> <u>given unto him of my Father</u>. From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him.
- John 7:1 After these things Jesus walked in Galilee: for he would not walk in Jewry, because the Jews sought to kill him.
- You may attend church regular, but through your actions you may betray Jesus.
- Matthew 26:23 And he answered and said, <u>He that dippeth his</u> <u>hand with me in the dish, the same shall betray me.</u>
- Jesus does not want you to keep his bread and wine to yourself. He ABSOLUTELY wants you to share it! Jesus wants you to share this meal and drink with all you see, "<u>his sheep</u>." His last words to Peter and the disciples were his command.
- John 21:17 He saith unto him the third time, <u>Simon, son of Jonas,</u> <u>lovest thou me?</u> Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, <u>Feed my sheep</u>.
- When you "<u>Feed my sheep</u>", you become a servant for Jesus Christ. You are sons of God. Not at your will or the will of man, but to

the will of God. You feed the lost and unbelieving the body and blood in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

- John 1:12-13 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.
- As a servant and sons of God, you will not be above Jesus. You will need to get on your hands and knees and serve like Jesus did. As a servant, you must humble yourself. You must want to be a part of God's earthly ministry. Not hiding the Gospel of Jesus Christ under a bushel basket.
- John 13:4-10 He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself. After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded. Then cometh he to Simon Peter: and Peter saith unto him, Lord, dost thou wash my feet? Jesus answered and said unto him, What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know <u>hereaft</u>er. Peter saith unto him, Thou shalt never wash my feet. Jesus answered him, <u>If I wash thee not, thou hast no</u> <u>part with me.</u> Simon Peter saith unto him, Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head. Jesus saith to him, <u>He</u> <u>that is washed needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean</u> <u>every whit: and ye are clean, but not all.</u>
- When Jesus died on the cross, it was by his shed blood that your sins are forgiven. You must accept that Jesus can and did do this by shedding of his blood for you in this single act as by just washing of the feet. Not with additional acts of forgiveness of sin or cleansing of filth as in the washings of the hand and the head, but the forgiveness of all sins with this one act. Past, present and future. So, when you celebrate the eating and

drinking of bread and wine, you show your belief in the body and blood of Jesus Christ by reading and abiding in God's word and repenting of your sins. You accept God's gift of everlasting life and look forward to a life serving Jesus Christ. You want to celebrate this feast forever and with all you see!

To God be the glory in all you do, Amen

Chapter 16: Confession

Salvation in Jesus Christ is between you and Jesus. When you come to Jesus, you accept him as the Son of God who gives life to the world. Jesus is everlasting life. Jesus shed his blood for the forgiveness of your sins. Jesus tells you to repent and turn from your sin. You will not perish, but have everlasting life.

Luke 13:3 - <u>I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all</u> <u>likewise perish.</u>

When you repent of your sins, you turn to Jesus and then you are born again in the spirit as a child of God. No longer a child of the devil. Jesus says you must be born again! The Holy Ghost comes into your heart, to direct you. You are still human and likely to sin again. If you do sin, then confess and pray to directly to God. Don't let sin, turn into death. After you repent of you sins, Jesus doesn't have to die and shed his blood again to forgive you of your sins. Confess your sins daily and turn from your sinful habits! Never go to bed with sin in your heart that offends God.

Hebrews 6:4-6 - For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.

1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Your sins are forgiven by the grace of God. When you speak directly to Jesus, Jesus forgives sin. Not through a man or a priest, or through sacrificial offerings. Your sin is forgiven by the grace of God. Ephesians 1:7 - In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

Luke 7:48 - And he said unto her, Thy sins are forgiven.

In the Old Testament, the Jews had their sins forgiven by the blood offering performed by a priest. The laws of the Jewish faith in the Old Testament required the blood offering. In the New Testament, Jesus gave one blood offering for the forgiveness of your sins, forever. He shed his own blood. Thus, blood offerings by the priest are no longer required. Priests cannot forgive your sins. Righteousness no longer comes by the law. No sacrifice or prayer offering that you make to man can forgive you of your sin. You must believe in the sin offering of the grace of God, through Jesus Christ to obtain righteousness.

Hebrews 10:11-12 - And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;

This is where man's religious laws are in conflict with God's word. Sin confession in man's religion is treated like a case in a court of law before the judge. Once you confess of your sins to man, you admit your guilt and man wants you to do time or works. Works is a sacrifice that you must make in terms of time, service, prayers or even money. If you must do works for a sin offering, then you are not saved by the grace of God. This is telling God, that essentially you don't believe in the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ to forgive you of your sins! Thus, Jesus died in vain.

Romans 11:6 - And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work. Ephesians 2:8-9 - For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Galatians 2:21 - I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.

Man's religion has lost all power to serve God or forgive you of your sins. You serve God directly through the knowledge of the bible. Any man that demands acknowledgement for something that Jesus has done, is false doctrine. These men are denying the gift that God has given us and Jesus fulfilled.

Jude 1:4 - For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

When you know God, then you must abide in the word of God. You must know his word. When you know God, you must not deny him! Your works should be only to give God the glory. Never to rely on man's religious laws to discredit what Jesus did! If you deny Jesus, then he will deny you!

Titus 1:16 - They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.

2 Timothy 2:12 - If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us:

Jesus did the work, once for the forgiveness of your sins. For his sacrifice, he lives unto God with life everlasting.

Romans 6:10 - For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.

When you turn to Jesus and repent of your sins, you are telling Jesus that you want to live a life for him. He knows what is in your heart. As you are growing in faith, through the grace of Jesus Christ, he will forgive your sin. How many times? Jesus tells you to forgive your brother, if he trespasses against thee. Not just once, but multiple times.

Luke 17:4 KJV - <u>And if he trespass against thee seven times in a</u> <u>day, and seven times in a day turn again to thee, saying, I repent;</u> <u>thou shalt forgive him.</u>

Needless to say, Jesus knows what is in your heart. As you make a conscious effort to turn from sin, Jesus will forgive you. Just remember. God will not be mocked.

John 3:16-17 - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

You will reap whatever you sow. God knows if you are walking with the devil, claiming glory to God.

Galatians 6:7 -Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

Today, decide to follow Jesus and tell yourself that you will live a life that is pleasing to God. A life of serving and praising Jesus for his gifts. Confess his glory to men and he will confess you to the Father!

Matthew 10:32 - <u>Whosoever therefore shall confess me before</u> men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.

To God be the glory in all you do!

Chapter 17: Tongues

Speaking in tongues in the New Testament was a gift offered by Jesus Christ to the early disciples, so that they could speak the language of foreign lands, as they spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles into all the world. These disciples were not Hebrew language scholars selected from local universities. They were working class Galileans, selected by Jesus during his walk here on earth. They were fishermen, doctor, tax collectors, tent makers and zealots. Jesus started his life as a carpenter. Jesus knew that he had to bless the disciples with the ability to speak in foreign languages or foreign tongues so as to be able to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. There is nothing more rewarding than to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ, in the language of the foreign country you are visiting. I did this multiple times, with the books of John and Romans distributed in Portuguese, Spanish and French. These were received freely when presented in the language of the country you are visiting. Thus, 2000 years ago, Jesus knew that the disciples did not have time to learn the language of the foreign countries they were going to visit in order to effectively spread the Gospel. They needed the gift of tongues or the ability to speak in languages foreign to the native tongue of Hebrew. Thus, tongue in the bible is referred to as the language of the foreign country that you are visiting and engaging in conversation with the people born in that country.

In the book of Acts, Paul was speaking to the Jews in Jerusalem. He was accused of being an Egyptian and bringing Greeks into the Temple. He had traveled around the Mediterranean preaching on Jesus Christ. When it came time to defend himself in Jerusalem, he spoke in the Hebrew tongue and the people listened.

Acts 21:37-39 KJV - And as Paul was to be led into the castle, he said unto the chief captain, May I speak unto thee? Who said, Canst thou speak Greek? Art not thou that Egyptian, which before these days madest an uproar, and leddest out into the wilderness four thousand men that were murderers? But Paul said, I am a man which am a Jew of Tarsus, a city in Cilicia, a citizen of no mean city: and, I beseech thee, suffer me to speak unto the people.

Acts 22:2 KJV - (And when they heard that he spake in the Hebrew tongue to them, they kept the more silence: and he saith,)

Jesus gave his disciples, one assignment, to spread the Gospel into all the world. For this they needed to speak in new tongues or languages foreign to Hebrew.

Mark 16:15-20 KJV - <u>And he said unto them, Go ye into all the</u> <u>world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth</u> <u>and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be</u> <u>damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my</u> <u>name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new</u> <u>tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly</u> <u>thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and</u> <u>they shall recover</u>. So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

The gift of speaking in tongues for the disciples was associated with their confirmed belief in Jesus Christ and the result of being born again with the gift of the Holy Ghost. Thus, the Holy Ghost had given them this ability.

Acts 1:4-8 KJV - And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, <u>saith he, ye have</u> <u>heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be</u> <u>baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.</u> When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? And he said unto them, <u>It is not for you to know the times or the seasons,</u> which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Acts 2:4,7-8 KJV - And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans? And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?

Acts 19:6 KJV - And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.

Thus, speaking in tongues is the ability to speak and prophesize in a language understood by man to edify the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Speaking in tongues was a gift from the Holy Ghost. Speaking in an unknown tongue edifies no one, but yourself! Thus, speaking in tongues is the ability to speak in a language known by man. Not in an unknown tongue or babbling.

1 Corinthians 14:2-5,8-9 KJV - For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him ; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries. But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort. He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church. I would that ye all spake with tongues, but rather that ye prophesied: for greater is he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, that the church may receive edifying. For if the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to the battle? So likewise ye, except ye utter by the tongue words easy to be understood, how shall it be known what is spoken? for ye shall speak into the air.

2 Timothy 2:16 - But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness.

Speaking in tongues is not associated with being baptized in water! We know that John the Baptist, baptized in water. We know that Jesus baptized with the Holy Ghost. It was this baptism by the Holy Ghost that gave the early disciples the ability to speak in tongues.

Mark 1:8 KJV - I indeed have baptized you with water: but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost.

Acts 10:44-46 KJV - While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God.

Acts 11:15-16 KJV - And as I began to speak, the Holy Ghost fell on them, as on us at the beginning. Then remembered I the word of the Lord, how that he said, John indeed baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost.

When you accept the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Holy Ghost is a gift you accept. Although we may not necessarily speak in tongues, the Holy Ghost gives you the ability to witness and speak and edify the Gospel of Jesus Christ to people you meet, in a manner that the people understand.

To God be the Glory in all you do, Amen

Chapter 18: Strong Drink

- As a believer in Christ, is it acceptable to drink wine or strong drink? Many religious denominations consider consumption of strong drink and wine taboo. Some don't even caution against it. Some religions even promote it. They have it on tap at the church and sell it at every festival. Thus, it must be OK, right? Strong drink would be any drink with alcohol, wine, mind altering and illegal drugs.
- In the Old Testament, the Jews were warned about strong drink. The woes of strong drink are presented in over nineteen (19) Old Testament verses. You are deceived by it and are not wise to drink it. Only one (1) verse in the New Testament, presents John the Baptist, a Jew, as drinking neither wine or strong drink. John the Baptist was living in the Old Testament age of salvation by works when Christ came into the world. The Old Testament Jew stayed away from strong drink. Only recommended for the sick and dying.
- Proverbs 20:1 -Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.
- Proverbs 31:4-6 It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine; nor for princes strong drink: Lest they drink, and forget the law, and pervert the judgment of any of the afflicted. Give strong drink unto him that is ready to perish, and wine unto those that be of heavy hearts.
- Luke 7:33 For John the Baptist came neither eating bread nor drinking wine; and ye say, He hath a devil.
- Luke 1:15 For he (John the Baptist) shall be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink; and he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost, even from his mother's womb.

God gave you his word in the Bible. He wants you to understand his doctrine. Jesus came to heal the blind. Let him heal you today. The New Testament refers the consumption of strong drink resulting in drunkenness to be a sin of the flesh. Drunkenness is the #2 sin of the flesh presented in the New Testament in over ten (10) verses. Fornication is the #1 sin of the flesh presented in over thirty (30) verses. It is clear that Jesus does not want you to sin and to drink strong drink.

Hebrews 3:13-15 - But exhort one another daily, while it is called Today; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

- No one wants to hear that they should not engage in strong drink. If the bible says you should not engage in strong drink that leads to drunkenness, then don't do it. That is sound doctrine. Any decision you make in terms of living in the New Testament, should be in accordance to sound doctrine. Do not be deceived.
- 2 Timothy 4:3-4 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.
- Ephesians 5:6 Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience.
- Matthew 24:4-5,11 And Jesus answered and said unto them, <u>Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in</u> <u>my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many. And</u> <u>many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.</u>

- Hebrews 3:13 But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.
- As a young believer in Christ, you've now accepted Jesus as your Lord and Savior. We don't live by the laws of the Old Testament. You understand that in the New Testament we are saved by grace. Like a rebellious teenager, you say what is the big deal with strong drink. It is not like committing murder or adultery. You know the sins of the flesh. It doesn't say to avoid strong drink. It says to avoid drunkenness. There is no law or sin of the flesh that says thou shalt drink no strong drink.
- You may have struggled with peace in your life and struggled with job, finances and relationships due to drunkenness. God has promised you to the Fruits of the Spirit by living a righteous life and you are ready!
- So, as a young believer, you study the word of God. You want to find out if you can drink alcohol. You find verses that supports drinking wine. Jesus drank wine. So, it must be OK. Right!
- Luke 7:34 <u>The Son of man is come eating and drinking; and ye</u> say, Behold a gluttonous man, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners!
- 1 Timothy 5:23 Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities.
- Ephesians 5:18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;
- Well. Jesus is God. He resisted the devil for 40 days in the wilderness, without food and water. You are not likely strong at resisting the devil. If you drank alcohol before you were saved, then you are likely weak in resisting temptation. The devil will be working overtime. You were his, before Jesus came

along. The devil wants you back. The devil wants you to be miserable. The devil wants you to think that one strong drink won't hurt.

- Jesus wants you to be strong. He wants you to resist temptation. To enjoy the Fruits of the Spirit, you must understand the sins of the flesh. You must endure temptation. You must fear, that sin brings death, darkness and strife. You must not be a fool.
- James 1:12-15 Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him. Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.
- Proverbs 20:3 It is an honour for a man to cease from strife: but every fool will be meddling.
- So how must you be strong and not meddle in sin?
- First. You believe that sin is bad. Repent, turn from your sin toward God and be born again, no longer wanting to be entangled in the sins of the flesh. You can overcome this world. Christ has made you free. You no longer want to be entangled in bondage and the sins of the flesh.
- 1 John 5:4-5 For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?
- 1 John 5:18-19 We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that

wicked one toucheth him not. And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness.

- Galatians 5:1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.
- Romans 13:13 Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying.
- Second, you realize that you are weak. You know that you must abstain from fleshly lusts (i.e. alcohol). You need the power of the Holy Ghost in your life to keep you strong, free from the sins of the flesh. God knows how to deliver the ungodly out of temptation.
- 1 Peter 2:11 Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;
- 2 Peter 2:7-9 And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked: (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds;) The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:
- 2 Timothy 2:19,22 Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity. Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

- Third, humble yourself before God. Be meek. By faith, you must be made strong. Ask him for strength. Ask him to save your soul. Pray for strength to keep you free from sin.
- James 1:14,21 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.
- Luke 21:34-36 And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares. For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.
- As you humble yourself before God, you must recognize that there is one thing that will make you weak and keep you in sin...Strong drink. Strong drink has led to adultery, fornication, wrath, strife, hatred and even murder. When you are sober, the Holy Ghost can work in your heart. The Holy Ghost will say no. Strong drink will weaken your spirit. You will be tempted and drawn away into your own lust, which brings on sin. The Holy Ghost will no longer be able to guide you. The devil will be in control.
- James 1:14-15 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.
- Isaiah 11:2 And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord;

- Ezekiel 36:27 And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.
- John 16:13 <u>Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will</u> guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.
- So, you have one strong drink at home and tell yourself, one drink is not bad. Your spirit is weakened. Instead of studying the bible, you turn on the computer and pornography appears on the screen. You head to the store and your buddy invites you to his house for a barbeque. You are offered one more strong drink and you say that is not bad. You can handle one more drink. He has a pool and a "knock-out" person comes up and starts flirting with you! Your eyes are full of lust. The devil now has hold of your heart and sin has occurred. Thus, the cycle of strong drink, deceit and sin. Strong drink will steal your spirit. God is not mocked. If you sow in sin, then you will reap sin.
- Galatians 6:7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.
- 2 Peter 2:14 Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children:
- 1 John 2:16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.
- God's word tells you to refrain from strong drink.
- 1 Timothy 3:8 Likewise must the deacons be grave, not double tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre;

- Titus 1:7 For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not self-willed, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre;
- Titus 2:3 The aged women likewise, that they be in behavior as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things;
- Strong drink will lead your eyes to darkness. Keep your eyes from darkness, sin and death. Your eyes are the gateway to the soul. Keep your eyes in light and you will be full of light, righteousness and love for God.

Matthew 6:22 - <u>The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine</u> eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light.

- Today, accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. God does not want you to engage in strong drink, drunkenness and sin. God does not want you to be a friend of worldly lusts. Understand sound bible doctrine and get filled with God's word. Avoid temptation, strong drink and get ready for the gifts and blessings that God has waiting for you. You can never obtain righteousness when you are living in sin. Submit yourself to God and the devil will flee from you. Your desire for strong drink, will go the way of the devil. Avoid strong drink. If you are sick, can't sleep or on your death bed, see a doctor for a prescription that doesn't steal your spirit.
- James 1:12 Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.
- James 4:1-8,10- From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members? Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because

ye ask not. Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts. Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God. Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy? But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

Thanks be to God for his power and glory. Starting today, give God the glory. Study his word. Serve him with love. He will guide you through this life, with his power. Tell yourself, that strong drink is a thing of the past.

To God be the glory in all you do, Amen

Chapter 19: Take up thy Cross

- Jesus took up his cross as the instrument by which he gave up his life, so that by faith you can have the gift of everlasting life with him in heaven. He could have spent more time on the earth. He had friends and enjoyed teaching and healing. He knew that he was going to have to sacrifice himself to seal the gospel of Jesus Christ and the gift of everlasting life. The forgiveness of sins is offered by the shed blood of Jesus Christ and not the shed blood of lambs and goats offered by the priests and Pharisees. Salvation is offered to both the Jews and Gentiles by grace. No longer by works, as required in the Old Testament. Jesus entered this earth as a poor humble man. He was born in a manger in the lamb stockyard of Israel, Bethlehem. He grew up in the poor rough area of Nazareth. Jesus is the KING OF THE JEWS. Jesus could have entered humanity as a great and powerful king, wealthy and conquered all. But he didn't. He humbled himself and revealed himself as God.
- John 19:19 And Pilate wrote a title, and put it on the cross. And the writing was, JESUS OF NAZARETH THE KING OF THE JEWS.
- John 19:17 And he bearing his cross went forth into a place called the place of a skull, which is called in the Hebrew Golgotha:
- Jesus shed his blood on the cross for the forgiveness of your sins. Jesus, as the Lamb of God, offered this path for you to believe in him. He showed his love for you and took up his cross for you!
- John 1:29 The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

John 15:13 - <u>Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay</u> down his life for his friends.

- While hanging on the cross, he offered salvation to the malefactor on the cross. Dying of the flesh while in pain and he did this out of love. This criminal knew he deserved to die and go to hell for his sins. The criminal took up his cross and defended Jesus in front of the other criminal on the cross. He repented of his sins and asked Jesus to be with him in paradise. Jesus gave him everlasting life. No work. No money. No water baptism.
- Luke 23:39-43 And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us. But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss. And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. And Jesus said unto him, <u>Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt</u> thou be with me in paradise.
- Jesus died for you out of love. He healed the sick and dying. At any point he could have said the heck with this. He could have said that humans are losers and to burn in hell, but he didn't. People don't remember Sodom and Gomorrah. Lot's sons burnt up. He saved Lot. He knows there is good in you. You have to choose to believe in Jesus. God will not choose for you. Once you believe, he is asking for your love. And how do you show your love for God?
- Mark 8:34 And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, <u>Whosoever will come after</u> <u>me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow</u> <u>me.</u>

Today, take up your cross and follow Jesus. To serve a living God.

- Hebrews 9:14 How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?
- You'll never know when the cross will be offered to you. Simon of Cyrene carried Jesus's cross. Simon was the father of Rufus and Alexander. Was this Simon's cross that which eventually led to Cyrene being an early center of Christianity? Did the guards pick Simon from the crowd or did God?
- Matthew 27:32 And as they came out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name: him they compelled to bear his cross.
- Mary Magdalene was healed of seven devils. She could have walked away, satisfied to know Jesus. Her cross was to minister to Jesus and take care of his needs with many sisters. She believed in Jesus!
- Luke 8:1-3 And certain women, which had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities, Mary called Magdalene, out of whom went seven devils, And Joanna the wife of Chuza Herod's steward, and Susanna, and many others, which ministered unto him of their substance.
- Luke 5:28 And he left all, rose up, and followed him.
- The devil will tell you that you do not need to take up thy cross. God doesn't care if you don't serve him. Go sin. You have everlasting life! God doesn't care. He loves you! The devil knows Jesus. Remember, God knows what is in your heart. He will not be mocked! He cares.
- Galatians 6:7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

The devil will tell you that you can never do what others did for Jesus. He wants to convince you how weak you are in faith. Jesus will stand up for you. He stood up for Mary Magdalene.

- Luke 10:38-42 And she had a sister called Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard his word. But Martha was cumbered about much serving, and came to him, and said, Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me. And Jesus answered and said unto her, <u>Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled</u> <u>about many things: But one thing is needful: and Mary hath</u> <u>chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from</u> <u>her</u>.
- There is NO verse in the Bible that says "if you know of Jesus or go to church, then thou shalt be saved". When you believe in Jesus you want to give him your glory. In the march to the super bowl, the Bengals gave Cincinnati hope. Cincinnatians cheered for the Bengals. They bought Bengal gear and went to the game. God wants the same from you. Unlike the Bengals, God will win in the end. Right now, you are in the fight of your life. That is everlasting life. Whose team are you on? God's team or the devil's team.
- 1 Thessalonians 1:9 For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God;

God does not want a double-minded servant. One that says he loves God, but serves the devil.

James 1:8- A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.

1 Corinthians 10:20-21- But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils. Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils.

- James 4:4-8 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God. Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy? But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.
- What is your cross? When you take up your cross, you turn from the idols of the flesh and turn to God's team. You become a new creature. No longer living in the flesh on the devil's team. You are not worthy being on the devil's team.

Matthew 10:38 - <u>And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth</u> <u>after me, is not worthy of me.</u>

- 2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.
- Take up thy cross and decide today to be a servant for Jesus Christ. Only then on judgement day will you hear:

Matthew 25:23 - <u>His lord said unto him, Well done, good and</u> <u>faithful servant;</u>

To God be the glory in all you do, Amen

Chapter 20: Follow Jesus

- How strong is your faith in the saving grace of Jesus Christ? Jesus has knocked on your doorstep before and likely many times in your life. Time after time, you keep brushing him aside. He has plans for you. You just have to meet him half way. You are no different than the sick, blind and lost of the bible that were made whole by Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ can see and feel when your faith has been made whole! Being born again, does not start your walk with Jesus. Being born again is confirmation of your development in the doctrine of Jesus Christ and you are born spiritually into this world by the Holy Ghost to be a servant of Jesus Christ. You now decide to follow Jesus.
- Mark 10:50-52 And he, casting away his garment, rose, and came to Jesus. And Jesus answered and said unto him, <u>What wilt</u> <u>thou that I should do unto thee?</u> The blind man said unto him, Lord, that I might receive my sight. And Jesus said unto him, <u>Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole</u>. And immediately he received his sight, and followed Jesus in the way.
- Is it like that of all the bible parables that Jesus presented to us? Absolutely not. I think the Jews in the time of Jesus were some of the most unbelieving and stubborn people I've ever read about. If they won the lottery, then they would not believe it until the money was in their hands. Let's look at John the Baptist. We know that John the Baptist is the cousin of Jesus. The baptism of Jesus experience was like no other. Jesus went out of the water and rose up to the heavens! God spoke from the heavens. While in jail, John the Baptist sent two of his disciples to Jesus to see if he was the real deal or if they had to look for another! Oh, ye of little faith. Jesus wanted John the Baptist in jail, serving him.

- Matthew 3:1,11,13-17 In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire: Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him. But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me? And Jesus answering said unto him, <u>Suffer it to be so now: for thus it</u> <u>becometh us to fulfil all righteousness.</u> Then he suffered him. And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: And lo a voice from heaven, saying, <u>This is my</u> beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.
- Matthew 11:1-6 And it came to pass, when Jesus had made an end of commanding his twelve disciples, he departed thence to teach and to preach in their cities. Now when John had heard in the prison the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples, And said unto him, Art thou he that should come, or do we look for another? Jesus answered and said unto them, <u>Go and shew John again those things which ye do hear</u> <u>and see: The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the</u> <u>lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised</u> <u>up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them.] And</u> <u>blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me.</u>
- Matthew 11:11 Verily I say unto you, Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist: notwithstanding he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.
- *Like the criminal on the cross that wanted Jesus to save him off the cross and be set free, I'm sure John the Baptist wanted*

freedom. John must have thought, "If Jesus is the real deal, then why isn't he setting me free from jail." God has put you where you need to be. It may not be where you want to be, but that is where God needs you. For John the Baptist, God did not need John to be baptizing repentant Jews in the Jordan. He needed John in jail. God needed the ministry of Jesus Christ to engulf the Jews. John had great faith and for that Jesus recognized it. If you are not where you want to be, then do not give up on Jesus. It is where he needs you right now. When he asks you to follow him, you respond, like the sons of God from the bible. You serve God on his terms. Peter and Andrew didn't waiver on responding to God's call. Neither did James and John. They dropped everything and went to the promised land. God will provide for you when you respond to his call.

- Matthew 4:16-19 The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up. From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, <u>Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at</u> <u>hand.</u> And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers. And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.
- Matthew 4:21-22 And going on from thence, he saw other two brethren, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in a ship with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and he called them. And they immediately left the ship and their father, and followed him.
- Luke 5:11 And when they had brought their ships to land, they forsook all, and followed him.
- Matthew was a tax collector. Easy job making money without much effort. His life was taken care of! He had made it. We

don't know what was going on in his life. We know he wasn't a Pharisee or priest. Ask yourself: Did he need a rebel preacher in his life? No. As far as the Pharisees were concerned Jesus was a goat! Did Matthew have to drop everything and follow Jesus? No. When Jesus asked Matthew to follow him, did Matthew say," well not today Lord. How about when I" Matthew arose and followed him. There were no stories in the bible about Matthew's wavering belief in Jesus. Matthew was a solid apostle, who loved Jesus from the first time, Jesus said, "<u>Follow me</u>." Matthew wrote the first Gospel with very powerful messages. He understood the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

- Matthew 9:9 And as Jesus passed forth from thence, he saw a man, named Matthew, sitting at the receipt of custom: and he saith unto him, <u>Follow me</u>. And he arose, and followed him.
- Matthew 6:25-26,33 Therefore I say unto you, <u>Take no thought</u> for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.
- Matthew 16:24 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, <u>If any man will</u> <u>come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross,</u> <u>and follow me.</u>
- Matthew 10:9-11,14 Provide neither gold, nor silver, nor brass in your purses, Nor scrip for your journey, neither two coats, neither shoes, nor yet staves: for the workman is worthy of his meat. And into whatsoever city or town ye shall enter,

enquire who in it is worthy; and there abide till ye go thence. And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear your words, when ye depart out of that house or city, shake off the dust of your feet.

- When you follow Jesus, you repent of your sins unto a pure heart and decide you will sin no more. You look for the strength of the Holy Ghost to work in your life unto righteousness. Always looking for the love of God and loving your neighbor as yourself. Thanking God whenever you can for the gift of the Holy Ghost and everlasting life.
- 2 Timothy 2:22 Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.
- Hebrews 12:14 Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:
- Jude 1:21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.
- 1 Thessalonians 1:6 And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost:
- Ephesians 5:1-8,10-11 Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour. But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints; Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks. For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. Let no man deceive you

with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience. Be not ye therefore partakers with them. For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light: Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.

Today, decide that you have had enough of this sinful, unfruitful life. Decide to take up you cross and follow Jesus. Decide to accept his free gifts and be a faithful witness.

To God be the glory in all you do, Amen.

Chapter 21: Witness

- I grew up refraining from talking about politics and religion. I never talked to anyone about Jesus. I learned that adhering to man's religious laws would not get you to heaven. Jesus told Peter before he ascended into heaven to feed his sheep. Feed his sheep was for Peter to be a witness for Jesus Christ. Once you get freedom from death and religion, Jesus wants us to be excited for him. You want to tell people about him. I still don't talk about politics or religion. I now talk about the saving grace by faith in Jesus Christ. This message is available to you by reading your bible. That is all Jesus wants you to do. He does not want you to be ashamed of his word. Jesus is giving you, life everlasting. Why would you be ashamed of his word. Jesus knows that the traditions of man's religion is hard to separate yourself from. Some of you will not taste death until you see the kingdom of God. Then it is too late.
- Matthew 10:32 <u>Whosoever therefore shall confess me before</u> <u>men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in</u> <u>heaven.</u>
- Galatians 3:26 For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.
- Luke 9:26-27 For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and in his Father's, and of the holy angels. But I tell you of a truth, there be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the kingdom of God.
- Romans 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

- Romans 10:11 For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.
- 1 John 2:28-29 And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming. If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him.
- Matthew 24:14 <u>And this gospel of the kingdom shall be</u> <u>preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and</u> <u>then shall the end come.</u>
- Matthew 28:16-20 Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted. And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, <u>All</u> <u>power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye</u> <u>therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name</u> <u>of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:</u> <u>Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have</u> <u>commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the</u> <u>end of the world. Amen.</u>
- No one could be clearer about the saving grace of Jesus Christ than Paul in his epistles. Paul was at the top of the religious food chain as a Pharisee. Circumcision was one of 600+ religious laws the Jews had to adhere to. God woke Paul up on his way to Damascus. Prosecuting Christians was not going to get Paul to heaven. After three days of blindness, no food and no water, Paul got it! He woke up born again as a disciple for Jesus Christ. No longer pushing the laws of circumcision, but only the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Circumcision or serving religious laws or not serving religious laws means nothing in the eyes of God.

The only thing that matters is that you are born again as a new creature not serving the sins of the flesh.

- Galatians 6:15- For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature.
- Galatians 6:7-8 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.
- Paul did not walk with Jesus while on this earth, but he got it. Remember his life was set. 100% paid for as a Pharisee in the Jewish religion. He had no cares or worries, other than going after and prosecuting those that believed in Jesus Christ. He was responsible for the stoning of the apostle Stephen. He saw great faith. Once his light came on for Jesus Christ, he had great faith. He was no longer chargeable to any man's religion.
- 2 Corinthians 11:7-10,20-33 Have I committed an offence in abasing myself that ye might be exalted, because I have preached to you the gospel of God freely? I robbed other churches, taking wages of them, to do you service. And when I was present with you, and wanted, I was chargeable to no man: for that which was lacking to me the brethren which came from Macedonia supplied: and in all things I have kept myself from being burdensome unto you, and so will I keep myself. As the truth of Christ is in me, no man shall stop me of this boasting in the regions of Achaia. For ye suffer, if a man bring you into bondage, if a man devour you, if a man take of you, if a man exalt himself, if a man smite you on the face. I speak as concerning reproach, as though we had been weak. Howbeit whereinsoever any is bold, (I speak foolishly,)

I am bold also. Are they Hebrews? so am I. Are they Israelites? so am I. Are they the seed of Abraham? so am I. Are they ministers of Christ? (I speak as a fool) I am more: in labours more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft. Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep; In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness. Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches. Who is weak, and I am not weak? who is offended, and I burn not? If I must needs glory, I will glory of the things which concern mine infirmities. The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which is blessed for evermore, knoweth that I lie not. In Damascus the governor under Aretas the king kept the city of the Damascenes with a garrison, desirous to apprehend me: And through a window in a basket was I let down by the wall, and escaped his hands.

By believing in Jesus Christ and preaching freedom and everlasting life, Paul suffered at the hands of unbelievers. There is no greater testimony in support of the saving grace of Jesus Christ than seeing what he went through. He went from a top of his game, a Pharisee with never a want of shelter, food or wine to a disciple with no home, no pay, in hunger and thirst often and preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles! Not to the Jews that worshipped him as a Pharisee, but to the Gentiles, or the enemy of the Jews in the Old Testament.

- I pray today, that your trip to freedom in Jesus Christ is a much shorter trip than I went through. Like you, I am a Gentile believer, who has stayed in God's word. Like Paul, open your eyes to Jesus Christ and learn what God has in store for you. Don't be afraid to be a witness for Jesus Christ!
- Share this book with a lost soul. To that one soul, that is blind or dead in trespasses and sin, you and the Gospel of Jesus Christ could mean the difference between them going to hell or enjoying a victorious life on earth and eternity with Jesus in heaven. Approach life with the "Power of God." Be ready to serve Jesus with a vengeance. Abide in his Word. Accept him today and be ready for a wonderful life.
- If you have any questions on how to get started, what church should you attend or have trusted Jesus Christ as your personal Savior, please email us: rick.kjv1611@gmail.com. Read the books of John, Romans, Ephesians, Galatians, 1 Peter, 2 Peter and 1 John until you understand the gift offered by God. Repent and be born again. We would like to rejoice with you and help you to learn more about Jesus, salvation, and what God wants you to do now that you are spiritually born again.

To God be the glory in all you do, Amen

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek - Romans 1:16