# True Life Eternal

Rev3:20“Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me.” - Jesus Christ

This flow-path is to rapidly bring you deep into God and His Kingdom.

Contains Intensely Rich => Fullness **:** Breadth **:** Depth

See if you can read it in several hours, have it all in your head at once.

May the Lord live in you and emanate to those around you.

**Luk1:37“For nothing is impossible with God.”**

- angel Gabriel talking with Mary about the birth of Christ,
who was conceived in her by the Holy Spirit.

Mat3:1In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the Desert of Judea [2]and saying, “Repent[4a], for the kingdom of heaven is near.”

Luk1:15“for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and **he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even from birth** [OR from his mother's womb]. **[16]Many of the people of Israel will he bring back to the Lord their God.** [17]And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, **to turn the hearts of the fathers to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.”** - angel of the Lord speaking about John the Baptist

Mar1:7And this was his message: “After me will come one more powerful than I, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. [8]I baptize you with water, but **he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”** - John the Baptist speaking of Jesus

Luk3:16“ ..... **He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.** [17]His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

**Luk3:8“Produce fruit in keeping with repentance[4b]. ..... [9]The axe is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.”**

[10]“What should we do then?” the crowd asked.

[11]John answered, “The man with two tunics should share with him who has none, and the one who has food should do the same.”

[12]Tax collectors also came to be baptized. “Teacher,” they asked, “what should we do?”
[13]“Don't collect any more than you are required to,” he told them.

[14]Then some soldiers asked him, “And what should we do?”
He replied, “Don't extort money and don't accuse people falsely—be content with your pay.”

Mar1:9At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. [10]As Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and **the Spirit descending on him** like a dove. [11]And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, **whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”**

[12]At once the Spirit sent him out into the desert, [13]and he was in the desert forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.

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Luk4:13When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time. **[14]Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit**, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. [15]He taught in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

Mar1:14 ..... Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. [15]“The time has come,” he said. **“The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!”**

Mat4:17 ..... Jesus began to preach, “Repent[4c], for the kingdom of heaven is near.”

Luk6:19and the people all tried to touch him, because power was coming from him and healing them all. - people reaching out to Jesus to be healed of their diseases and freed from demons

**Mat5:3“Blessed are the poor in spirit,**
**for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

**[4]Blessed are those who mourn,**
**for they will be comforted.**

**[5]Blessed are the meek,**
**for they will inherit the earth.**

**[6]Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,**
**for they will be filled.**

**[7]Blessed are the merciful,**
**for they will be shown mercy.**

**[8]Blessed are the pure in heart,**
**for they will see God.**

**[9]Blessed are the peacemakers,**
**for they will be called sons of God.**

**[10]Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,**
**for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

**[11]Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. [12]Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven,** for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

**Luk6:22“Blessed are you when men hate you,**
**when they exclude you and insult you**
**and reject your name as evil, because of the Son of Man.”**

**[23]“Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven.”**

**Mat5:13“You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men.”**

**[14]“You are the light of the world.** A city on a hill cannot be hidden. [15]Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house [Luk11:33...,that those who come in may see the light]. [16]In the same way, **let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.”**

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[21]“You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'Do not murder (Exo 20:13), and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.' **[22]But I tell you that anyone who is angry with his brother will be subject to judgment.”**

[23]“Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, [24]leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift.”

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[27]“You have heard that it was said, 'Do not commit adultery.' (Exo 20:14) **[28]But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. [29]If your right eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.** [30]And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.”

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[38]“You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.' (Exo 21:24; Lev 24:20; Deu 19:21) [39]But I tell you, **Do not resist an evil person. If someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also.** [40]And if someone wants to sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. [41]If someone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. **[42]Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you.”**

[43]“You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' [44]But I tell you: **Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, [45]that you may be sons of your Father in heaven.** He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. [46]If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? [47]And if you greet only your brothers, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? **[48]Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.”**

Luk6:27“But I tell you who hear me: **Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, [28]bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. .....** [30]Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. **[31]Do to others as you would have them do to you.”**

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[35]“But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. **[36]Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.”**

**Mat6:14“For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. [15]But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.”**

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[19]“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. **[20]But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven,** where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. **[21]For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”**

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[24]“No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. **You cannot serve both God and Money.”**

**Luk12:29“And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it.** [30]For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them. [31]But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.”

**Mat6:33“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”**

[32]“Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. **[33]Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will not be exhausted, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. [34]For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”**

**Mat7:1“Do not judge, or you too will be judged. [2]For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”**

**Luk6:37“Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. [38]Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”**

Luk11:5Then he said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, and he goes to him at midnight and says, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, [6]because a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have nothing to set before him.' [7]Then the one inside answers, 'Don't bother me. The door is already locked, and my children are with me in bed. I can't get up and give you anything.' [8]I tell you, though he will not get up and give him the bread because he is his friend, **yet because of the man's boldness he will get up and give him as much as he needs.”**

[9]“So I say to you: **Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. [10]For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.”**

[11]“Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? [12]Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? **[13]If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”**

**Mat7:11“ ..... how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him! [12]So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you,** for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.”

Luk18:1Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that **they should always pray and not give up.** [2]He said: “In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared about men. [3]And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, 'Grant me justice against my adversary.' ”

[4]“For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, 'Even though I don't fear God or care about men, [5]yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won't eventually wear me out with her coming!' ”

[6]And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. [7]And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? [8]I tell you, **he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?”**

Luk11:27As Jesus was saying these things, a woman in the crowd called out, “Blessed is the mother who gave you birth and nursed you.”

**[28]He replied, “Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it.”**

**Mat7:13“Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. [14]But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.”**

Luk6:43“No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. [44]Each tree is recognized by its own fruit. People do not pick figs from thornbushes, or grapes from briers. **[45]The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks.”**

**Mat7:19“Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”**

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**[21]“Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.** [22]Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' [23]Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!' ”

**Luk6:46“Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?** [47]I will show you what he is like who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice. [48]He is like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built. [49]But the one who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. The moment the torrent struck that house, it collapsed and its destruction was complete.”

Luk13:22Then Jesus went through the towns and villages, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem. [23]Someone asked him, “Lord, are only a few people going to be saved?”

He said to them, **[24]“Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to.** [25]Once the owner of the house gets up and closes the door, you will stand outside knocking and pleading, 'Sir, open the door for us.' ”

“But he will answer, 'I don't know you or where you come from.' ”

[26]“Then you will say, 'We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.' ”

[27]“But he will reply, 'I don't know you or where you come from. Away from me, all you evildoers!' ”

[28]“There will be weeping there, and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but you yourselves thrown out. [29]People will come from east and west and north and south, and will take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God. [30]Indeed there are those who are last who will be first, and first who will be last.”

Mat7:28When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching, [29]because he taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law.

Luk5:27After this, Jesus went out and saw a tax collector by the name of Levi sitting at his tax booth. **“Follow me,” Jesus said to him, [28]and Levi got up, left everything and followed him.**

[29]Then Levi held a great banquet for Jesus at his house, and a large crowd of tax collectors and others were eating with them. [30]But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law who belonged to their sect complained to his disciples, “Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and 'sinners'?”

[31]Jesus answered them, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. **[32]I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance[4d].”**

Mat10:16“I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves.”

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[21]“Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; children will rebel against their parents and have them put to death. **[22]All men will hate you because of me, but he who stands firm to the end will be saved.** [23]When you are persecuted in one place, flee to another.”

Luk12:4“I tell you, my friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body and after that can do no more. **[5]But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear him who, after the killing of the body, has power to throw you into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear him.”**

[6]“Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God. [7]Indeed, **the very hairs of your head are all numbered.** Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.”

**Mat10:32“Whoever acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven. [33]But whoever disowns me before men, I will disown him before my Father in heaven.”**

[34]“Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. [35]For I have come to turn

“ 'a man against his father,
a daughter against her mother,
a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law—
**[36]a man's enemies will be the members of his own household.' ” (Mic 7:6)**

**[37]“Anyone who loves his father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves his son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; [38]and anyone who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. [39]Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.”**

Luk14:25Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said: **[26]“If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters—yes, even his own life—he cannot be my disciple. [27]And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.”**

**..... [33] ..... “any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple.”**

**[34]“Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? [35]It is fit neither for the soil nor for the manure pile; it is thrown out.”**

**Luk16:9“I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings.”**

**[10]“Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. [11]So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches?** [12]And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own?”

**[13]“No servant can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money.”**

[14]The Pharisees, who loved money, heard all this and were sneering at Jesus. [15]He said to them, **“You are the ones who justify yourselves in the eyes of men, but God knows your hearts. What is highly valued among men is detestable in God's sight.”**

**Mat11:12“From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful men lay hold of it.”**

**Luk16:16“ ..... the good news of the kingdom of God is being preached, and everyone is forcing his way into it.”**

Mat11:25At that time Jesus said, “I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. [26]Yes, Father, for this was your good pleasure.”

[27]“All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.”

**[28]“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. [29]Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. [30]For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”**

Luk13:1Now there were some present at that time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices. [2]Jesus answered, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered this way? [3]I tell you, no! **But unless you repent[4e], you too will all perish.** [4]Or those eighteen who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them—do you think they were more guilty than all the others living in Jerusalem? [5]I tell you, no! **But unless you repent, you too will all perish.”**

[6]Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree, planted in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it, but did not find any. [7]So he said to the man who took care of the vineyard, 'For three years now I've been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven't found any. Cut it down! Why should it use up the soil?' ”

**[8]“ 'Sir,' the man replied, 'leave it alone for one more year, and I'll dig around it and fertilize it. [9]If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.' ”**

**Mat12:33“Make a tree good and its fruit will be good, or make a tree bad and its fruit will be bad, for a tree is recognized by its fruit.** [34]You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks. [35]The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in him, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in him. **[36]But I tell you that men will have to give account on the day of judgment for every careless word they have spoken. [37]For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned.”**

Mat12:46While Jesus was still talking to the crowd, his mother and brothers stood outside, wanting to speak to him. [47]Someone told him, “Your mother and brothers are standing outside, wanting to speak to you.”

[48]He replied to him, “Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?” [49]Pointing to his disciples, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers. **[50]For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.”**

Luk8:21He replied, **“My mother and brothers are those who hear God's word and put it into practice.”**

Luk8:11“This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God. [12]Those along the path are the ones who hear, and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, **so that they may not believe and be saved.** [13]Those on the rock are the ones who receive the word with joy when they hear it, but they have no root. **They believe for a while, but in the time of testing they fall away.** [14]The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, **but as they go on their way they are choked by life's worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature.** [15]But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and **by persevering produce a crop.”**

Mat13:31He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. **[32]Though it is the smallest of all your seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and perch in its branches.”**

[33]He told them still another parable: **“The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into a large amount of flour until it worked all through the dough.”**

Luk17:20Once, having been asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, Jesus replied, “The kingdom of God does not come with your careful observation, [21]nor will people say, 'Here it is,' or 'There it is,' because **the kingdom of God is within you.**”

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[40]“As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. **[41]The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. [42]They will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. [43]Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father.** He who has ears, let him hear.”

[44]“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and **then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.”**

[45]“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. [46]When he found one of great value, **he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.”**

[47]“Once again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish. [48]When it was full, the fishermen pulled it up on the shore. Then they sat down and collected the good fish in baskets, but threw the bad away. **[49]This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous [50]and throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”**

Mar4:24“Consider carefully what you hear,” he continued. **“With the measure you use, it will be measured to you—and even more.** [25]Whoever has will be given more; whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him.”

Luk8:18“Therefore **consider carefully how you listen.** Whoever has will be given more; whoever does not have, **even what he thinks he has** will be taken from him.”

**Mar7:21“For from within, out of men's hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, [22]greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, [false testimony Mat15:19], slander, arrogance and folly. [23]All these evils come from inside and make a man 'unclean.' ”**

Mark5:24 ..... A large crowd followed and pressed around him. [25]And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. [26]She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse. [27]When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, [28]because **she thought, “If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed.”** [29]Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering.

**[30]At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him.** He turned around in the crowd and asked, “Who touched my clothes?”

[31]“You see the people crowding against you,” his disciples answered, “and yet you can ask, 'Who touched me?' ”

[32]But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it. [33]Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth. [34]He said to her, **“Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering.”**

Luk7:36Now one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, so he went to the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table. [37]When a woman who had lived a sinful life in that town learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house, she brought an alabaster jar of perfume, [38]and as she stood behind him at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them and poured perfume on them.

[39]When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, “If this man were a prophet, he would know who is touching him and what kind of woman she is—that she is a sinner.”

[40]Jesus answered him, “Simon, I have something to tell you.”
“Tell me, teacher,” he said.

[41]“Two men owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii [a coin worth about a day's wages], and the other fifty. [42]Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he canceled the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?”

[43]Simon replied, “I suppose the one who had the bigger debt canceled.”
“You have judged correctly,” Jesus said.

[44]Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. [45]You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet. [46]You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my feet. **[47]Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—for she loved much. But he who has been forgiven little loves little.”**

[48]Then Jesus said to her, “Your sins are forgiven.”

[49]The other guests began to say among themselves, “Who is this who even forgives sins?”

[50]Jesus said to the woman, **“Your faith has saved you; go in peace.”**

Luk10:30 ..... Jesus said: “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. [31]A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. [32]So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. [33]But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, **he took pity on him. [34]He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him. [35]The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.' ”**

[36]“Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?”

[37]The expert in the law replied, “The one who had mercy on him.”
Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.”

Luk14:12Then Jesus said to his host, “When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. **[13]But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, [14]and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”**

Mat16:21From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

.....

Mar8:34Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: **“If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross [daily Luk9:23] and follow me.** [35]For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but **whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it.** [36]**What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul [very self Luk9:25]? [37]Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?** [38]If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels.”

> Mat16:27**“For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what he has done.”**

Luk9:62**Jesus replied, “No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God.”**

Mar9:19 ..... “Bring the boy to me.” [20]So they brought him. When the spirit saw Jesus, it immediately threw the boy into a convulsion. He fell to the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth.

[21]Jesus asked the boy's father, “How long has he been like this?”

“From childhood,” he answered. [22]“It has often thrown him into fire or water to kill him. But if you can do anything, take pity on us and help us.”

[23]“ 'If you can'?” said Jesus. **“Everything is possible for him who believes.”**

[24]Immediately the boy's father exclaimed, **“I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!”**

Mar9:33They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the road?” [34]But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest.

[35]Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, **“If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last, and the servant of all.”**

> Mar10:42Jesus called them together and said, “You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. [43]Not so with you. Instead, **whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, [44]and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all.** [45]For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”
>
> ..... Mat20:26“Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, [27]and **whoever wants to be first must be your slave—”**
>
> ..... Luk22:26**“..... the greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the one who rules like the one who serves.** [27]For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.”

Mat23:11“The greatest among you will be your servant. **[12]For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.”**

Mat18:1At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?”

[2]He called a little child and had him stand among them. [3]And he said: **“I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. [4]Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.”**

> Mar10:13People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. [14]When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. **[15]I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.”** [16]And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them.
>
> Luk9:46An argument started among the disciples as to which of them would be the greatest. [47]Jesus, knowing their thoughts, took a little child and had him stand beside him. [48]Then he said to them, “Whoever welcomes this little child in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. **For he who is least among you all—he is the greatest.”**

Mar9:49**“Everyone will be salted with fire.”**

**[50]“Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with each other.”**

Mat18:7“Woe to the world because of the things that cause people to sin! Such things must come, but woe to the man through whom they come! [8]If your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life maimed or crippled than to have two hands or two feet and be thrown into eternal fire. **[9]And if your eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into the fire of hell.”**

> Luk17:1**Jesus said to his disciples: “Things that cause people to sin are bound to come, but woe to that person through whom they come.** [2]It would be better for him to be thrown into the sea with a millstone tied around his neck than for him to cause one of these little ones to sin. **[3]So watch yourselves.”**

Luk17:3 ..... “If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents[4f], forgive him. [4]If he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times comes back to you and says, 'I repent,' forgive him.”

Luk17:5**The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!”**

**[6]He replied, “If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it will obey you.”**

> Luk17:7“Suppose one of you had a servant plowing or looking after the sheep. Would he say to the servant when he comes in from the field, 'Come along now and sit down to eat'? [8]Would he not rather say, 'Prepare my supper, get yourself ready and wait on me while I eat and drink; after that you may eat and drink'? [9]Would he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do? **[10]So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.' ”**
>
> Luk18:9To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everybody else, Jesus told this parable: [10]“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. [11]The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. [12]I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.' ”
>
> [13]“But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, **'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.' ”**
>
> **[14]“I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”**

Mat18:21Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?”

**[22]Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times [OR, seventy times seven].”**

.....

..... [32]“Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. [33]Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' [34]In anger his master turned him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.”

**[35]“This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother from your heart.”** - punchline of Jesus' parable

> Luk18:28Peter said to him, “We have left all we had to follow you!”
>
> [29]“I tell you the truth,” Jesus said to them, “no one who has left home or wife or brothers or parents or children for the sake of the kingdom of God [30]will fail to receive many times as much in this age and, in the age to come, eternal life.”

Luk19:1Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. [2]A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. [3]He wanted to see who Jesus was, but being a short man he could not, because of the crowd. [4]So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way.

[5]When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today.” [6]So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.

[7]All the people saw this and began to mutter, “He has gone to be the guest of a 'sinner.' ”

[8]But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, “Look, Lord! **Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount.”**

**[9]Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. [10]For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost.”**

Mat21:18Early in the morning, as he was on his way back to the city, he was hungry. [19]Seeing a fig tree by the road, he went up to it but found nothing on it except leaves. Then he said to it, “May you never bear fruit again!” Immediately the tree withered.

[20]When the disciples saw this, they were amazed. “How did the fig tree wither so quickly?” they asked.

**[21]Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, if you have faith and do not doubt, not only can you do what was done to the fig tree, but also you can say to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and it will be done. [22]If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.”**

> Mar11:22**“Have faith in God,” Jesus answered. [23]“I tell you the truth, if anyone says to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart but believes that what he says will happen, it will be done for him. [24]Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. [25]And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins.”**

Mat21:43**“Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.” - words of Jesus**

Mar12:28One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, “Of all the commandments, which is the most important?”

**[29]“The most important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. [30]Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' (Deu 6:4-5) [31]The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' (Lev 19:18) There is no commandment greater than these.”**

[32]“Well said, teacher,” the man replied. “You are right in saying that God is one and there is no other but him. [33]To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.”

[34]When Jesus saw that he had answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” And from then on no one dared ask him any more questions.

> Mat25:31“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his throne in heavenly glory. **[32]All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.** [33]He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.”
>
> [34]“Then the King will say to those on his right, **'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. [35]For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, [36]I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' ”**
>
> [37]“Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? [38]When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? [39]When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' ”
>
> [40]“The King will reply, **'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.' ”**
>
> [41]“Then he will say to those on his left, **'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. [42]For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, [43]I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.' ”**
>
> [44]“They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?' ”
>
> [45]“He will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.' ”
>
> **[46]“Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.”**

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- Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane before being arrested and crucified

Mat26:36Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, “Sit here while I go over there and pray.” [37]He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled. [38]Then he said to them, “My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me.”

[39]Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, **“My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.”**

> Mar14:35Going a little farther, he fell to the ground and prayed that if possible the hour might pass from him. [36]“Abba, **Father,” he said, “everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.”**
>
> > Luk22:42**“Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done.”** [43]An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him. [44]And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground.

Mat26:40Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. “Could you men not keep watch with me for one hour?” he asked Peter. **[41]“Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak.”**

[42]He went away a second time and prayed, **“My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done.”**

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> - After the religious leaders and people arrested Jesus, sentenced Him to death, flogged, insulted, and mocked him.
>
> Luk23:33When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified him, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left.
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> .....
>
> **[44]It was now about the sixth hour, and darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour, [45]for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. [46]Jesus called out with a loud voice, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.” When he had said this, he breathed his last.**
>
> > Mat27:51**At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook and the rocks split.**
>
> **[47]The centurion, seeing what had happened, praised God and said, “Surely this was a righteous man.”** [48]When all the people who had gathered to witness this sight saw what took place, they beat their breasts and went away. [49]But all those who knew him, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.
>
> > Mar15:39**And when the centurion, who stood there in front of Jesus, heard his cry and saw how he died, he said, “Surely this man was the Son of God!”**
> >
> > Mat27:54 **..... When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, “Surely he was the Son of God!”**
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> .....
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> .....
>
> - after Jesus' resurrection
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> Mat28:1After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.
>
> [2]There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. [3]His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. [4]The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.
>
> [5]The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for **I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. [6]He is not here; he has risen, just as he said.** Come and see the place where he lay. [7]Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you.”
>
> > Luk24:5 **..... “Why do you look for the living among the dead? [6]He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: [7]'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.' ”** [8]Then they remembered his words.

- Jesus speaking to the 11 disciples after His resurrection

Luk24:44He said to them, “This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.”

[45]Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. [46]He told them, “This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, [47]and repentance[4g] and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. [48]You are witnesses of these things. **[49]I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”**

Mat28:16Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. [17]When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. [18]Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. **[19]Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, [20]and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”** - after Jesus' resurrection from the dead

> Joh1:1**In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. [2]He was with God in the beginning.**
>
> **[3]Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. [4]In him was life, and that life was the light of men. [5]The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.**
>
> ..... **[9]The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world.**
>
> [10]He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. [11]He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. **[12]Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—** [13]children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but **born of God.**
>
> **[14]The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.**
>
> ..... **[16]From the fullness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another.** [17]For the law was given through Moses; **grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. [18]No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father's side, has made him known.**

.....

- John the Baptist

[29]The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, **“Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!** ..... [31] ..... the reason I came baptizing with water was that he might be revealed to Israel.”

[32]Then John gave this testimony: **“I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him.** [33]I would not have known him, except that the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, **'The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is he who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.' [34]I have seen and I testify that this is the Son of God.”**

> Joh2:23Now while he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many people saw the miraculous signs he was doing and believed in his name. **[24]But Jesus would not entrust himself to them, for he knew all men. [25]He did not need man's testimony about man, for he knew what was in a man.**

Joh3:1Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council. [2]He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, **we know you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the miraculous signs you are doing if God were not with him.”**

[3]In reply Jesus declared, “I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.”

.....

[5]Jesus answered, **“I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of** water and **the Spirit.** [6]Flesh gives birth to flesh, but **the Spirit gives birth to spirit.** [7]You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' **[8]The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”**

.....

**[13]“No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. [14]Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, [15]that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.”**

**[16]“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.** [17]For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. [18]Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. [19]This is the verdict: **Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. [20]Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. [21]But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God.”**

> Joh3:31“The one who comes from above is above all; the one who is from the earth belongs to the earth, and speaks as one from the earth. **The one who comes from heaven is above all. [32]He testifies to what he has seen and heard,** but no one accepts his testimony. [33]The man who has accepted it has certified that God is truthful. **[34]For the one whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for God gives the Spirit without limit [OR: to him God gives the Spirit without limit].** [35]The Father loves the Son and has placed everything in his hands. **[36]Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him.”** - John the Baptist speaking about Jesus

- Jesus and the woman at the well

Joh4:10Jesus answered her, **“If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.”**

[11]“Sir,” the woman said, “you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? [12]Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his flocks and herds?”

[13]Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, [14]but **whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”**

Joh4:34**“My food,” said Jesus, “is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work.”**

- after Jesus healed a man who could not walk, who had been disabled for 38 years, on the Sabbath

Joh5:16So, because Jesus was doing these things on the Sabbath, the Jews persecuted him. [17]Jesus said to them, **“My Father is always at his work to this very day, and I, too, am working.”** [18]For this reason the Jews tried all the harder to kill him; not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but **he was even calling God his own Father, making himself equal with God.**

[19]Jesus gave them this answer: **“I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does. [20]For the Father loves the Son and shows him all he does.** Yes, to your amazement he will show him even greater things than these. [21]For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so **the Son gives life** to whom he is pleased to give it. [22]Moreover, the Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgment to the Son, [23]that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father, who sent him.”

**[24]“I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life.** [25]I tell you the truth, a time is coming and has now come when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live. **[26]For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son to have life in himself.** [27]And he has given him authority to judge because he is the Son of Man.”

[28]“Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice [29]and come out—**those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned.** [30]By myself I can do nothing; I judge only as I hear, and my judgment is just, **for I seek not to please myself but him who sent me.”**

Joh5:41“I do not accept praise from men, [42]but **I know you. I know that you do not have the love of God in your hearts.** [43]I have come in my Father's name, and you do not accept me; but if someone else comes in his own name, you will accept him. [44]**How can you believe if you** accept praise from one another, yet **make no effort to obtain the praise that comes from the only God?”**

Joh6:27**“Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you.** On him God the Father has placed his seal of approval.”

[28]Then they asked him, “What must we do to do the works God requires?”

[29]Jesus answered, **“The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent.”**

.....

**[33]“For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”**

[34]“Sir,” they said, “from now on give us this bread.”

[35]Then Jesus declared, **“I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty.”**

.....

**[40]“For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day.”**

.....

[45]“It is written in the Prophets: 'They will all be taught by God.' (Isa 54:13) **Everyone who listens to the Father and learns from him comes to me.”**

> [46]“No one has seen the Father except the one who is from God; only he has seen the Father. **[47]I tell you the truth, he who believes has everlasting life.** [48]I am the bread of life. [49]Your forefathers ate the manna in the desert, yet they died. **[50]But here is the bread that comes down from heaven, which a man may eat and not die. [51]I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.”**

.....

**[57]“Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me.** [58]This is the bread that came down from heaven. Your forefathers ate manna and died, but **he who feeds on this bread will live forever.”**

.....

**[63]“The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.”**

> Joh7:16Jesus answered, **“My teaching is not my own. It comes from him who sent me. [17]If anyone chooses to do God's will, he will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own.** [18]He who speaks on his own does so to gain honor for himself, but he who works for the honor of the one who sent him is a man of truth; there is nothing false about him.”
>
> .....
>
> [28]“ ..... I am not here on my own, but he who sent me is true. You do not know him, **[29]but I know him because I am from him and he sent me.”**

.....

Joh7:37On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, **“If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. [38]Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.” [39]By this he meant the Spirit,** whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

> Joh8:12When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, **“I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”**
>
> .....
>
> [23]But he continued, “You are from below; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world. **[24]I told you that you would die in your sins; if you do not believe that I am the one I claim to be, you will indeed die in your sins.”**
>
> .....
>
> **[26] ..... “But he who sent me is reliable, and what I have heard from him I tell the world.”**

[27]They did not understand that he was telling them about his Father. [28]So Jesus said, “When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am the one I claim to be and that **I do nothing on my own but speak just what the Father has taught me. [29]The one who sent me is with me; he has not left me alone, for I always do what pleases him.”** [30]Even as he spoke, many put their faith in him.

[31]To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, **“If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. [32]Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”**

.....

[34]Jesus replied, **“I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin.** [35]Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. **[36]So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.** [37]I know you are Abraham's descendants. Yet you are ready to kill me, because **you have no room for my word.”**

.....

[42]Jesus said to them, **“If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and now am here. I have not come on my own; but he sent me.** [43]Why is my language not clear to you? Because you are unable to hear what I say. [44]You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies. **[45]Yet because I tell the truth, you do not believe me! [46]Can any of you prove me guilty of sin? If I am telling the truth, why don't you believe me?** [47]He who belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God.”

.....

**[51]“I tell you the truth, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death.”**

.....

[54]Jesus replied, “If I glorify myself, my glory means nothing. My Father, whom you claim as your God, is the one who glorifies me. **[55]Though you do not know him, I know him.** If I said I did not, I would be a liar like you, but **I do know him and keep his word.** [56]Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; he saw it and was glad.”

[57]“You are not yet fifty years old,” the Jews said to him, “and you have seen Abraham!”

**[58]“I tell you the truth,” Jesus answered, “before Abraham was born, I am!”**

- a man born blind who Jesus healed, speaking about Jesus to the Jewish religious leaders who were questioning him

[Joh9:30]The man answered, “Now that is remarkable! You don't know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. **[31]We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly man who does his will.** [32]Nobody has ever heard of opening the eyes of a man born blind. **[33]If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.”**

.....

[39]Jesus said, “For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind.”

[40]Some Pharisees who were with him heard him say this and asked, “What? Are we blind too?”

[41]Jesus said, “If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin; but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains.”

[Joh10:9]“I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture. [10]The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; **I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.”**

[11]“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.”

.....

[14]“I am the good shepherd; **I know my sheep and my sheep know me— [15]just as the Father knows me and I know the Father**—and I lay down my life for the sheep. ..... **[17]The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again.** [18]No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.”

[Joh10:22]Then came the Feast of Dedication at Jerusalem. It was winter, [23]and Jesus was in the temple area walking in Solomon's Colonnade. [24]The Jews gathered around him, saying, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly.”

[25]Jesus answered, “I did tell you, but you do not believe. The miracles I do in my Father's name speak for me, [26]but you do not believe because you are not my sheep. [27]My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. **[28]I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish;** no one can snatch them out of my hand. [29]My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. **[30]I and the Father are one.”**

.....

[37]“Do not believe me unless I do what my Father does. [38]But if I do it, even though you do not believe me, believe the miracles, that you may **know and understand that the Father is in me, and I in the Father.”**

[Joh11:21]“Lord,” Martha said to Jesus, “if you had been here, my brother would not have died. [22]But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.”

[23]Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.”

[24]Martha answered, “I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.”

[25]Jesus said to her, **“I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; [26]and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?”**

[27]“Yes, Lord,” she told him, “I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who was to come into the world.”

..... [38]Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. [39]“Take away the stone,” he said.

“But, Lord,” said Martha, the sister of the dead man, “by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days.”

[40]Then Jesus said, **“Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?”**

..... [43] ..... Jesus called in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” [44]The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face.

Jesus said to them, “Take off the grave clothes and let him go.”

**[Joh12:25]“The man who loves his life will lose it, while the man who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. [26]Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.”**

.....

[32]“But I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself.” [33]He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.

.....

[35]Then Jesus told them, “You are going to have the light just a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, before darkness overtakes you. The man who walks in the dark does not know where he is going. **[36]Put your trust in the light while you have it, so that you may become sons of light.”**

.....

[44]Then Jesus cried out, **“When a man believes in me, he does not believe in me only, but in the one who sent me.** [45]When he looks at me, he sees the one who sent me. **[46]I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness.”**

[47]“As for the person who hears my words but does not keep them, I do not judge him. For I did not come to judge the world, but to save it. **[48]There is a judge for the one who rejects me and does not accept my words; that very word which I spoke will condemn him at the last day. [49]For I did not speak of my own accord, but the Father who sent me commanded me what to say and how to say it. [50]I know that his command leads to eternal life. So whatever I say is just what the Father has told me to say.”**

[Joh13:1]Having loved his own who were in the world, he now showed them the full extent of his love [OR, he loved them to the last]. ..... [3]Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; [4]so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. [5]After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him. ..... [12]When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. “Do you understand what I have done for you?” he asked them. [13]“You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. **[14]Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet.** [15]I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. [16]I tell you the truth, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. **[17]Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.”**

.....

[20]“I tell you the truth, whoever accepts anyone I send accepts me; and whoever accepts me accepts the one who sent me.”

.....

**[34]“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. [35]By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”**

**[Joh14:1]“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me.”**

[2]“In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. [3]And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. [4]You know the way to the place where I am going.”

[5]Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?”

**[6]Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”**

.....

[9] ..... “Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? [10]Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you are not just my own. Rather, **it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. [11]Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves. [12]I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. [13]And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. [14]You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.”**

**[15]“If you love me, you will obey what I command. [16]And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever— [17]the Spirit of truth.** The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. **But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.** [18]I will not leave you as orphans; **I will come to you.** [19]Before long, the world will not see me anymore, **but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. [20]On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. [21]Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him.”**

.....

**[23]Jesus replied, “If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. [24]He who does not love me will not obey my teaching.** These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me.”

[25]“All this I have spoken while still with you. **[26]But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. [27]Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”**

[28]“You heard me say, 'I am going away and I am coming back to you.' If you loved me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, **for the Father is greater than I.** [29]I have told you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe. [30]I will not speak with you much longer, for the prince of this world is coming. He has no hold on me, **[31]but the world must learn that I love the Father and that I do exactly what my Father has commanded me.”**

“Come now; let us leave.”

[Joh15:1]“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. **[2]He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful.** [3]You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. **[4]Remain in me, and I will remain in you.** No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.”

[5]“I am the vine; you are the branches. **If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit**; apart from me you can do nothing. **[6]If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. [7]If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. [8]This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.”**

**[9]“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. [10]If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. [11]I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. [12]My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. [13]Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. [14]You are my friends if you do what I command. [15]I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. [16]You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. [17]This is my command: Love each other.”**

[18]“If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. [19]If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you. [20]Remember the words I spoke to you: 'No servant is greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also. If they obeyed my teaching, they will obey yours also. [21]They will treat you this way because of my name, for they do not know the One who sent me. [22]If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not be guilty of sin. Now, however, they have no excuse for their sin. [23]He who hates me hates my Father as well. [24]If I had not done among them what no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin. But now they have seen these miracles, and yet they have hated both me and my Father. [25]But this is to fulfill what is written in their Law: 'They hated me without reason.' (Psa 35:19;69;4)”

**[26]“When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me. [27]And you also must testify ..... ”**

[Joh16:1]“All this I have told you so that you will not go astray. [2]They will put you out of the synagogue; in fact, a time is coming when anyone who kills you will think he is offering a service to God. [3]They will do such things because they have not known the Father or me.”

**[Joh16:13]“But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.** [14]He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. [15]All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you.”

.....

**[23] ..... “I tell you the truth, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. [24]Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.”**

.....

[26] ..... **“I am not saying that I will ask the Father on your behalf. [27]No, the Father himself loves you because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God.** [28]I came from the Father and entered the world; now I am leaving the world and going back to the Father.”

.....

[33]“I have told you these things, so that **in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”**

[Joh17:1]After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: “Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. [2]For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. **[3]Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. [4]I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do.** [5]And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.”

[6]“I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and **they have obeyed your word.** [7]Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. **[8]For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me.”**

[9]“I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. [10]All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. [11]I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. **Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name—the name you gave me—so that they may be one as we are one.** [12]While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled.”

[13]“I am coming to you now, **but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them.** [14]I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. [15]My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. [16]They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. **[17]Sanctify[1a] them by the truth; your word is truth. [18]As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. [19]For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.”**

[20]“My prayer is not for them alone. **I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, [21]that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. [22]I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: [23]I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.** [24]Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world. [25]Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. **[26]I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them.”**

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[Joh18:37]“You are a king, then!” said Pilate.
Jesus answered, “You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, **for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.”**

- after Christ's resurrection from the dead

[Joh20:29]Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; **blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”**

[30]Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. **[31]But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.**

**[Joh21:25]Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written.**

- Jesus speaking with the apostles after His resurrection

[Act1:4]On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but **wait for the gift my Father promised,** which you have heard me speak about. [5]For John baptized with water, but **in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”**

..... **[8]“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses** in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

[Act2:17]“ 'In the last days, God says,
**I will pour out my Spirit on all people.**
Your sons and daughters will prophesy,
your young men will see visions,
your old men will dream dreams.
[18]Even on my servants, both men and women,
**I will pour out my Spirit in those days,**
**and they will prophesy.**
[19]I will show wonders in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood and fire and billows of smoke.
[20]The sun will be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood
before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord.
[21]And everyone who calls
on the name of the Lord will be saved.' ” (Joe 2:32)

..... **[28]“ 'You have made known to me the paths of life;**
**you will fill me with joy in your presence.' ” (Psa 16:8-11)**

- King David speaking of Jesus talking to God the Father

..... [32]“God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact. [33]Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear.” - the apostle Peter speaking to the crowd, quoting Scripture fulfilled in Christ

..... [38]Peter replied, **“Repent[4h] and be baptized,** every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. [39]The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

[40]With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, **“Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.”** [41]Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

- Peter, speaking to the crowd after healing a man lame from birth

[Act3:14]“You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. [15]You killed **the author of life**, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. [16]By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. **It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has given this complete healing to him,** as you can all see.”

[17]“Now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. ..... **[19]Repent[4i], then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, [20]and that he may send the Christ, who has been appointed for you—even Jesus.** [21]He must remain in heaven until the time comes for God to restore everything, as he promised long ago through his holy prophets. [22]For Moses said, 'The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; **you must listen to everything he tells you. [23]Anyone who does not listen to him will be completely cut off from among his people.' (Deu 18:15,18,19)”**

..... **[26]“When God raised up his servant, he sent him first to you to bless you by turning each of you from your wicked ways.”** - speaking about Jesus

- Peter before the Jewish religious leaders testifying concerning the healing of man lame from birth

**[Act4:10]“ ..... It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed.** [11]He is

“ 'the stone you builders rejected,
which has become the capstone.' ” (Psa 118:22)

**[12]“Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.”**

..... [18]Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. [19]But Peter and John replied, “Judge for yourselves whether it is right in God's sight to obey you rather than God. **[20]For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard.”**

- the believers after hearing from Peter about what happened above

..... [24] ..... they raised their voices together in prayer to God. “Sovereign Lord,” they said, “you made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. [25]You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David:

“ 'Why do the nations rage
and the peoples plot in vain?
[26]The kings of the earth take their stand
and the rulers gather together
against the Lord
and against his Anointed One.' ” (Psa 2:1,2)

..... [29]“Now, Lord, consider their threats and **enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness.** [30]Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”

[31]After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. **And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.**

[Act5:19]But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the jail and brought them out. [20]“Go, stand in the temple courts,” he said, “and **tell the people the full message of this new life.”**

[21]At daybreak they entered the temple courts, as they had been told, and began to teach the people. .....

..... [25]Then someone came and said, “Look! The men you put in jail are standing in the temple courts teaching the people.” [26]At that, the captain went with his officers and brought the apostles. They did not use force, because they feared that the people would stone them. [27]Having brought the apostles, they made them appear before the Sanhedrin to be questioned by the high priest. [28]“We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name,” he said. “Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and are determined to make us guilty of this man's blood.”

[29]Peter and the other apostles replied: “We must obey God rather than men! [30]The God of our fathers raised Jesus from the dead—whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. [31]God exalted him to his own right hand as Prince and Savior **that he might give repentance[4j]** and forgiveness of sins to Israel. [32]We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

- the Jewish religious leader Gamaliel speaking to the other religious leaders about the apostles

..... [38]“Therefore, in the present case I advise you: Leave these men alone! Let them go! For if their purpose or activity is of human origin, it will fail. [39]But if it is from God, you will not be able to stop these men; you will only find yourselves fighting against God.”

[40]His speech persuaded them. They called the apostles in and had them flogged. Then they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.

[41]The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name. [42]Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, **they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Christ.**

[Act10:34]Then Peter began to speak: “I now realize how true it is that **God** does not show favoritism [35]but **accepts men from every nation who fear him and do what is right.** [36]You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, telling the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. [37]You know what has happened throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached— [38]how **God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.”**

[39]“We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a tree, [40]but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. [41]He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen—by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. [42]He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. [43]All the prophets testify about him that **everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”**

[44]While Peter was still speaking these words, **the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message.**

Then Peter said, [47]“Can anyone keep these people from being baptized with water? **They have received the Holy Spirit** just as we have.”

[Act11:22] ..... they sent Barnabas to Antioch. [23]When he arrived and saw the evidence of the grace of God, he was glad and **encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts. [24]He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and a great number of people were brought to the Lord.**

[Act13:38]“Therefore, my brothers, I want you to know that through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you.”

.....

[46]Then Paul and Barnabas answered them boldly: **“We had to speak the word of God to you first. Since you reject it and do not consider yourselves worthy of eternal life, we now turn to the Gentiles.”**

.....

**[52]And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.**

[Act14:21]They preached the good news in that city and won a large number of disciples. Then they returned to Lystra, Iconium and Antioch, [22]strengthening the disciples and encouraging them to remain true to the faith. **“We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God,”** they said.

[Act15:7]After much discussion, Peter got up and addressed them: “Brothers, you know that some time ago God made a choice among you that the Gentiles might hear from my lips the message of the gospel and believe. **[8]God, who knows the heart, showed that he accepted them by giving the Holy Spirit to them,** just as he did to us. [9]He made no distinction between us and them, for **he purified their hearts by faith.”**

[Act16:29]The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. [30]He then brought them out and asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”

[31]They replied, **“Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.”** [32]Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. [33]At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his family were baptized. [34]The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; **he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole family.**

[Act17:24]“The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by hands. [25]And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything, because he himself gives all men life and breath and everything else. [26]From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and **he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live. [27]God did this so that men would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him,** though he is not far from each one of us.”

[Act20:18] ..... he said to them: “You know how I lived the whole time I was with you, from the first day I came into the province of Asia. **[19]I served the Lord with great humility** and with tears, although I was severely tested by the plots of the Jews. **[20]You know that I have not hesitated to preach anything that would be helpful to you** but have taught you publicly and from house to house. [21]I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that **they must turn to God in repentance[4k] and have faith in our Lord Jesus.”**

[22]“And now, compelled by the Spirit, I am going to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there. [23]I only know that in every city the Holy Spirit warns me that prison and hardships are facing me. [24]However, **I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the gospel of God's grace.”**

[25]“Now I know that none of you among whom I have gone about preaching the kingdom will ever see me again. [26]Therefore, I declare to you today that **I am innocent of the blood of all men. [27]For I have not hesitated to proclaim to you the whole will of God.”**

..... **[32]“Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.[1b]** [33]I have not coveted anyone's silver or gold or clothing. [34]You yourselves know that these hands of mine have supplied my own needs and the needs of my companions. [35]In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' ”

[36]When he had said this, he knelt down with all of them and prayed. [37]They all wept as they embraced him and kissed him. [38]What grieved them most was his statement that they would never see his face again. Then they accompanied him to the ship.

[Act24:15]“and I have the same hope in God as these men, that **there will be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked.** **[16]So I strive always to keep my conscience clear before God** and man.”

[Act26:15]“Then I asked, 'Who are you, Lord?'”

“ 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting,' the Lord replied. [16]'Now get up and stand on your feet. I have appeared to you to appoint you as a servant and as a witness of what you have seen of me and what I will show you. [17]I will rescue you from your own people and from the Gentiles. **I am sending you to them [18]to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified[1c] by faith in me.' ”**

[19]“ ..... I was not disobedient to the vision from heaven. [20]First to those in Damascus, then to those in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and to the Gentiles also, I preached that **they should repent and turn to God and prove their repentance by their deeds.”**

[21]“That is why the Jews seized me in the temple courts and tried to kill me. [22]But I have had God's help to this very day, and so I stand here and testify to small and great alike. I am saying nothing beyond what the prophets and Moses said would happen—[23]that the Christ would suffer and, as the first to rise from the dead, would proclaim light to his own people and to the Gentiles.”

**[Jam1:2]Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, [3]because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. [4]Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. [5]If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. [6]But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. [7]That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; [8]he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does.**

.....

**[12]Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.**

[13]When tempted, no one should say, “God is tempting me.” For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; **[14]but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed.** [15]Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

[16]Don't be deceived, my dear brothers. **[17]Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights,** who does not change like shifting shadows. **[18]He chose to give us birth through the word of truth,** that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.

[19]My dear brothers, take note of this: **Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, [20]for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires. [21]Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.**

**[22]Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.** [23]Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror [24]and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. **[25]But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it—he will be blessed in what he does.**

**[26]If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless. [27]Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.**

[Jam2:5]Listen, my dear brothers: **Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him?**

.....

**[8]If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, “Love your neighbor as yourself,” (Lev 19:18) you are doing right.**

.....

**[12]Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom,** [13]because **judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment!**

**[Jam2:14]What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him?** [15]Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. [16]If one of you says to him, “Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed,” but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? **[17]In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.**

[18]But someone will say, “You have faith; I have deeds.”

Show me your faith without deeds, and **I will show you my faith by what I do.**

[19]You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder.

[20]You foolish man, do you want evidence that **faith without deeds is useless**? [21]Was not our ancestor Abraham considered righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? [22]You see that **his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did.** [23]And the scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness,” (Gen 15:6) and he was called God's friend. **[24]You see that a person is justified by what he does and not by faith alone.**

[25]In the same way, was not even Rahab the prostitute considered righteous for what she did when she gave lodging to the spies and sent them off in a different direction? **[26]As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead.**

[Jam3:1]Not many of you should presume to be teachers, my brothers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly. **[2]We all stumble in many ways. If anyone is never at fault in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to keep his whole body in check.**

[3]When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal. [4]Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go. [5]Likewise the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. **[6]The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole person, sets the whole course of his life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.**

[7]All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and creatures of the sea are being tamed and have been tamed by man, [8]but no man can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

**[9]With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in God's likeness. [10]Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers, this should not be.** [11]Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring? [12]My brothers, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water.

**[13]Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show it by his good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom.** [14]But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. [15]Such “wisdom” does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, of the devil. [16]For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

**[17]But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. [18]Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness.**

**[Jam4:1]What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you?** [2]You want something but don't get it. You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight. You do not have, because you do not ask God. **[3]When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.**

**[4]You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world is hatred toward God? Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God.** [5]Or do you think Scripture says without reason that the spirit he caused to live in us envies intensely? [6]But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says:

**“God opposes the proud**
**but gives grace to the humble.” (Pro 3:34)**

**[7]Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. [8]Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.** [9]Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. **[10]Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.**

**[11]Brothers, do not slander one another. Anyone who speaks against his brother or judges him** speaks against the law and judges it. When you judge the law, you are not keeping it, but sitting in judgment on it. **[12]There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the one who is able to save and destroy.** But you—who are you to judge your neighbor?

[13]Now listen, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money.” [14]Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. [15]Instead, you ought to say, “If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that.” [16]As it is, you boast and brag. All such boasting is evil. **[17]Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins.**

[Jam5:7]Be patient, then, brothers, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop and how patient he is for the autumn and spring rains. **[8]You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. [9]Don't grumble against each other, brothers, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door!**

[10]Brothers, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. [11]As you know, **we consider blessed those who have persevered.** You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. **The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.**

[12]Above all, my brothers, do not swear—not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. Let your “Yes” be yes, and your “No,” no, or you will be condemned.

**[13]Is any one of you in trouble? He should pray.** Is anyone happy? Let him sing songs of praise. [14]Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord. **[15]And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven. [16]Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.**

[17]Elijah was a man just like us. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. [18]Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops. [19]My brothers, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring him back, [20]remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of his way will save him from death and cover over a multitude of sins.

[1Pet1:1]Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,

**To God's elect, strangers in the world,** scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia, **[2]who have been chosen** according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, **through the sanctifying[1k] work of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ** and sprinkling by his blood:

Grace and peace be yours in abundance.

[3]Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy **he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,** [4]and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you, **[5]who through faith are shielded by God's power** until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. **[6]In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. [7]These have come so that your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.** [8]Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, **you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, [9]for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.**

[10] ..... the prophets ..... [12] ..... spoke of the things that have now been told you by **those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit** sent from heaven.

[13]Therefore, **prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed. [14]As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. [15]But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; [16]for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy.” (Lev 11:44,45; 19:2; 20:7)**

**[17]Since you call on a Father who judges each man's work impartially, live your lives as strangers here in reverent fear.** [18]For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that **you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers,** [19]but **with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.** [20]He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. **[21]Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.**

**[22]Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart. [23]For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.** [24]For,

“All men are like grass,
and all their glory is like the flowers of the field;
the grass withers and the flowers fall,
**[25]but the word of the Lord stands forever.”** (Isa 40:6-8)

And this is the word that was preached to you.

**[1Pet2:1]Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. [2]Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, [3]now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.**

[4]As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him— [5]you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be **a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.** [6]For in Scripture it says:

“See, I lay a stone in Zion,
a chosen and precious cornerstone,
**and the one who trusts in him**
**will never be put to shame.” (Isa 28:16)**

[7]Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe,

“The stone the builders rejected
has become the capstone,” (Psa 118:22)

[8]and,

“A stone that causes men to stumble
and a rock that makes them fall.” (Isa 8:14)

**They stumble because they disobey the message**—which is also what they were destined for.

[9]But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, **a holy nation**, a people belonging to God, that you may **declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.**

.....

[11]Dear friends, I urge you, **as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul.**

[12]Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

[13]Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every authority instituted among men: whether to the king, as the supreme authority, [14]or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right.

[15]For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish men. [16]Live as free men, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil;

**live as servants of God. [17]Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, honor the king.**

**[18]Slaves, submit yourselves to your masters with all respect, not only to those who are good and considerate, but also to those who are harsh.**

**[19]For it is commendable if a man bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because he is conscious of God.** [20]But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? **But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. [21]To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.**

**[22]“He committed no sin,**
**and no deceit was found in his mouth.” (Isa 53:9)**

**[23]When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. [24]He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. [25]For you were like sheep going astray, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.**

**[1Pet3:8]Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble. [9]Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult, but with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing. [10]For,**

**“Whoever would love life**
**and see good days**
**must keep his tongue from evil**
**and his lips from deceitful speech.**
**[11]He must turn from evil and do good;**
**he must seek peace and pursue it.**
**[12]For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous**
**and his ears are attentive to their prayer,**
**but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.” (Psa 34:12-16)**

[1Pet3:13]Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? **[14]But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed.** “Do not fear what they fear [OR fear their threats]; do not be frightened.” (Isa 8:12) **[15]But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord.** Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. **But do this with gentleness and respect, [16]keeping a clear conscience,**

so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. [17]It is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. [18]For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit, .....

[21] ..... baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but **the pledge of a good conscience toward God.** It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, [22]who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand—with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

**[1Pet4:1]Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because he who has suffered in his body is done with sin. [2]As a result, he does not live the rest of his earthly life for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God. [3]For you have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do—living in debauchery[2d], lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry.** [4]They think it strange that you do not plunge with them into the same flood of dissipation[6a], and they heap abuse on you. **[5]But they will have to give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead.** [6]For this is the reason the gospel was preached even to those who are now dead, so that they might be judged according to men in regard to the body, but live according to God in regard to the spirit.

**[7]The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray. [8]Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.** [9]Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. [10]Each one should use whatever gift he has received to **serve others, faithfully administering God's grace** in its various forms. [11]If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. **If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides,** so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

**[1Pet4:12]Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you. [13]But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. [14]If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you.** [15]If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. **[16]However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name.** [17]For it is time for judgment to begin with the family of God; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God? [18]And,

**“If it is hard for the righteous to be saved,**
**what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?” (Pro 11:31)**

**[19]So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.**

[1Pet5:2] ..... **eager to serve;** [3]not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. [4]And when the Chief Shepherd appears, **you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.**

**[5] ..... All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because,**

**“God opposes the proud**
**but gives grace to the humble.” (Pro 3:34)**

**[6]Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. [7]Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.**

**[8]Be self-controlled and alert.** Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. **[9]Resist him, standing firm in the faith,** because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

**[10]And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.** [11]To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

[12]With the help of Silas, whom I regard as a faithful brother, I have written to you briefly, encouraging you and testifying that **this is the true grace of God. Stand fast in it.**

[2Pet1:1]Simon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ,

To those who **through the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ have received a faith as precious as ours:**

**[2]Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.**

**[3]His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.** [4]Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them **you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.**

**[5]For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; [6]and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; [7]and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. [8]For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. [9]But if anyone does not have them, he is nearsighted and blind, and has forgotten that he has been cleansed from his past sins.**

[10]Therefore, my brothers, **be all the more eager to make your calling and election sure. For if you do these things, you will never fall, [11]and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.**

[12]So I will **always remind you** of these things, even though you know them and are firmly established in the truth you now have. [13]I think it is right to **refresh your memory** as long as I live in the tent of this body, [14]because I know that I will soon put it aside, as our Lord Jesus Christ has made clear to me. [15]And I will make every effort to see that after my departure you will always be able to **remember these things.**

.....

**[19]And we have the word of the prophets made more certain, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.** [20]Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. [21]For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but **men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.**

[2Pet2:4]For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but sent them to hell, putting them into gloomy dungeons to be held for judgment; [5]if he did not spare the ancient world when he brought the flood on its ungodly people, but protected Noah, a preacher of righteousness, and seven others; [6]if he condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah by burning them to ashes, and made them an example of what is going to happen to the ungodly; [7]and if he rescued Lot, a righteous man, who was distressed by the filthy lives of lawless men [8](for that righteous man, living among them day after day, was tormented in his righteous soul by the lawless deeds he saw and heard)— [9]if this is so, then the **Lord knows how to rescue godly men from trials and to hold the unrighteous for the day of judgment, while continuing their punishment. [10]This is especially true of those who follow the corrupt desire of the sinful nature** and despise authority.

Bold and arrogant, these men are not afraid to slander celestial beings; [11]yet even angels, although they are stronger and more powerful, do not bring slanderous accusations against such beings in the presence of the Lord. [12]But these men blaspheme in matters they do not understand. They are like brute beasts, creatures of instinct, born only to be caught and destroyed, and like beasts they too will perish.

[13]They will be paid back with harm for the harm they have done. Their idea of pleasure is to carouse in broad daylight. They are blots and blemishes, reveling in their pleasures while they feast with you. **[14]With eyes full of adultery, they never stop sinning;** they seduce the unstable; **they are experts in greed—an accursed brood!** [15]They have left the straight way and wandered off to follow the way of Balaam son of Beor, **who loved the wages of wickedness.** [16]But he was rebuked for his wrongdoing by a donkey—a beast without speech—who spoke with a man's voice and restrained the prophet's madness.

**[17]These men are springs without water and mists driven by a storm. Blackest darkness is reserved for them.** [18]For they mouth empty, boastful words and, by appealing to the lustful desires of sinful human nature, they entice people who are just escaping from those who live in error. **[19]They promise them freedom, while they themselves are slaves of depravity[5d]—for a man is a slave to whatever has mastered him. [20]If they have escaped the corruption of the world by knowing our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and are again entangled in it and overcome, they are worse off at the end than they were at the beginning.** [21]It would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than to have known it and then to turn their backs on the sacred command that was passed on to them. [22]Of them the proverbs are true: “A dog returns to its vomit,” (Pro 26:11) and, “A sow that is washed goes back to her wallowing in the mud.”

[2Pet3:1]Dear friends, this is now my second letter to you. I have written both of them as **reminders to stimulate you to wholesome thinking. [2]I want you to recall** the words spoken in the past by the holy prophets and the command given by our Lord and Savior through your apostles.

[3]First of all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and **following their own evil desires.** [4]They will say, “Where is this 'coming' he promised? Ever since our fathers died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation.” **[5]But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens existed and the earth was formed out of water and by water.** [6]By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. **[7]By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.**

[8]But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: **With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. [9]The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance[4p].**

[10]But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare.

**[11]Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives [12]as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming.** That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. [13]But in keeping with his promise **we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.**

[14]So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, **make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him.** [15]Bear in mind that our Lord's patience means salvation, just as our dear brother Paul also wrote you with the wisdom that God gave him. [16]He writes the same way in all his letters, speaking in them of these matters. **His letters contain some things that are hard to understand, which ignorant and unstable people distort, as they do the other Scriptures, to their own destruction.**

[17]Therefore, dear friends, since you already know this, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of lawless men and fall from your secure position. **[18]But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.** To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.

[1Joh1:1]That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning **the Word of life. [2]The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us.** [3]We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. **And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.** [4]We write this to make our joy complete.

[5]This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: **God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. [6]If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. [7]But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.**

[8]If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. **[9]If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.** [10]If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives.

[1Joh2:1]My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. [2]He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

**[3]We know that we have come to know him if we obey his commands. [4]The man who says, “I know him,” but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him. [5]But if anyone obeys his word, God's love is truly made complete in him. This is how we know we are in him: [6]Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did.**

[7]Dear friends, I am not writing you a new command but an old one, which you have had since the beginning. This old command is the message you have heard. [8]Yet I am writing you a new command; its truth is seen in him and you, because the darkness is passing and the true light is already shining.

**[9]Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates his brother is still in the darkness. [10]Whoever loves his brother lives in the light, and there is nothing in him to make him stumble.** [11]But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks around in the darkness; he does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded him.

[12]I write to you, dear children,
because your sins have been forgiven on account of his name.
[13]I write to you, fathers,
because you have known him who is from the beginning.
I write to you, young men,
because you have overcome the evil one.
I write to you, dear children,
because you have known the Father.
**[14]I write to you, fathers,**
**because you have known him who is from the beginning.**
**I write to you, young men,**
**because you are strong,**
**and the word of God lives in you,**
**and you have overcome the evil one.**

**[15]Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. [16]For everything in the world—the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does—comes not from the Father but from the world. [17]The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.**

.....

**[20]But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know the truth.**

.....

**[24]See that what you have heard from the beginning remains in you. If it does, you also will remain in the Son and in the Father. [25]And this is what he promised us—even eternal life.**

.....

**[27]As for you, the anointing you received from him remains in you,** and you do not need anyone to teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about all things and as that anointing is real, not counterfeit—just as it has taught you, **remain in him.**

[28]And now, dear children, **continue in him, so that when he appears we may be confident and unashamed before him at his coming.**

**[29]If you know that he is righteous, you know that everyone who does what is right has been born of him.**

[1Joh3:1]How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. [2]Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that **when he appears, we shall be like him,** for we shall see him as he is. **[3]Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure.**

[4]Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. **[5]But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin. [6]No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him.**

**[7]Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. He who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous. [8]He who does what is sinful is of the devil,** because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work. **[9]No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in him; he cannot go on sinning, because he has been born of God. [10]This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not a child of God; nor is anyone who does not love his brother.**

**[11]This is the message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another.** [12]Do not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own actions were evil and his brother's were righteous. **[13]Do not be surprised, my brothers, if the world hates you. [14]We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love our brothers. Anyone who does not love remains in death. [15]Anyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life in him.**

**[16]This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers. [17]If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? [18]Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth. [19]This then is how we know that we belong to the truth, and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence [20]whenever our hearts condemn us. For God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.**

**[21]Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God [22]and receive from him anything we ask, because we obey his commands and do what pleases him. [23]And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. [24]Those who obey his commands live in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.**

[1Joh4:2]This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, [3]but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world.

[4]You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. [5]They are from the world and therefore speak from the viewpoint of the world, and the world listens to them. [6]We are from God, and whoever knows God listens to us; but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. This is how we recognize the Spirit of truth and the spirit of falsehood.

**[7]Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. [8]Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.** [9]This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. **[10]This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning[3c] sacrifice for our sins. [11]Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. [12]No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.**

**[13]We know that we live in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.** [14]And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. [15]If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him and he in God. **[16]And so we know and rely on the love God has for us.**

**God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him. [17]In this way, love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment, because in this world we are like him.** [18]There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. **The one who fears is not made perfect in love.**

[19]We love because he first loved us. **[20]If anyone says, “I love God,” yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. [21]And he has given us this command: Whoever loves God must also love his brother.**

[1Joh5:1]**Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God,** and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well. **[2]This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. [3]This is love for God: to obey his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, [4]for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. [5]Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.**

[6]This is the one who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ. He did not come by water only, but by water and blood. **And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.** [7]For there are three that testify: [8]the Spirit, the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement. [9]We accept man's testimony, but **God's testimony is greater because it is the testimony of God, which he has given about his Son. [10]Anyone who believes in the Son of God has this testimony in his heart.** Anyone who does not believe God has made him out to be a liar, because he has not believed the testimony God has given about his Son. [11]And this is the testimony: **God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. [12]He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.**

**[13]I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life. [14]This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. [15]And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.**

[16]If anyone sees his brother commit a sin that does not lead to death, **he should pray and God will give him life.**

.....

**[18]We know that anyone born of God does not continue to sin; the one who was born of God keeps him safe, and the evil one cannot harm him. [19]We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one. [20]We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true. And we are in him who is true—even in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.**

**[21]Dear children, keep yourselves from idols.**

[2Joh1:1]The elder,

To the chosen lady and her children, whom I love in the truth—and not I only, but also all who know the truth - [2]because of **the truth, which lives in us and will be with us forever:**

**[3]Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Father's Son, will be with us in truth and love.**

.....

**[8]Watch out that you do not lose what you have worked for, but that you may be rewarded fully.**

[3Joh1:11]Dear friend, do not imitate what is evil but what is good. **Anyone who does what is good is from God. Anyone who does what is evil has not seen God.**

[Jud1:3] ..... contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to the saints.

.....

[5]Though you already know all this, **I want to remind you that the Lord delivered his people out of Egypt, but later destroyed those who did not believe.** [6]And the angels who did not keep their positions of authority but abandoned their own home—these he has kept in darkness, bound with everlasting chains for judgment on the great Day. [7]In a similar way, **Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding towns gave themselves up to sexual immorality and perversion. They serve as an example of those who suffer the punishment of eternal fire.**

**[8]In the very same way, these dreamers pollute their own bodies, reject authority** and slander celestial beings. [9]But even the archangel Michael, when he was disputing with the devil about the body of Moses, did not dare to bring a slanderous accusation against him, but said, “The Lord rebuke you!” [10]Yet these men speak abusively against whatever they do not understand; and what things they do understand by instinct, like unreasoning animals—these are the very things that destroy them.

[11]Woe to them! They have taken the way of Cain; they have rushed for profit into Balaam's error; they have been destroyed in Korah's rebellion.

[12]These men are blemishes at your love feasts, eating with you without the slightest qualm—**shepherds who feed only themselves. They are clouds without rain, blown along by the wind; autumn trees, without fruit and uprooted—twice dead. [13]They are wild waves of the sea, foaming up their shame; wandering stars, for whom blackest darkness has been reserved forever.**

[14]Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men: **“See, the Lord is coming with thousands upon thousands of his holy ones [15]to judge everyone, and to convict all the ungodly of all the ungodly acts they have done in the ungodly way, and of all the harsh words ungodly sinners have spoken against him.” [16]These men are grumblers and faultfinders; they follow their own evil desires;** they boast about themselves and flatter others for their own advantage.

[17]But, dear friends, remember what the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ foretold. [18]They said to you, **“In the last times there will be scoffers who will follow their own ungodly desires.”** [19]These are the men who divide you, **who follow mere natural instincts and do not have the Spirit.**

[20]But you, dear friends, **build yourselves up in your most holy faith and pray in the Holy Spirit. [21]Keep yourselves in God's love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life.**

**[22]Be merciful to those who doubt; [23]snatch others from the fire and save them; to others show mercy, mixed with fear—hating even the clothing stained by corrupted flesh.**

[24]To him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy— [25]to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen.

[Rom1:1]Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God— [2]the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures [3]regarding his Son, who as to his human nature was a descendant of David, [4]and **who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God** by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord. [5]Through him and for his name's sake, we received grace and apostleship **to call people** from among all the Gentiles **to the obedience that comes from faith.** [6]And you also are among those who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.

.....

[16]I am not ashamed of **the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes:** first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. **[17]For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: “The righteous will live by faith.” (Hab 2:4)**

**[18]The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness,** [19]since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. [20]For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.

**[21]For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.** [22]Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools .....

.....

**[24]Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity** for the degrading of their bodies with one another. [25]They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.

[26]Because of this, **God gave them over to shameful lusts.** Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. [27]In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion.

[28]Furthermore, **since they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, he gave them over to a depraved[5a] mind, to do what ought not to be done.** [29]They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, [30]slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; [31]they are senseless, faithless, heartless, ruthless. [32]Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them.

[Rom2:3]So when you, a mere man, pass judgment on them and yet do the same things, do you think you will escape God's judgment? [4]Or do you show contempt for **the riches of his kindness, tolerance and patience,** not realizing that **God's kindness leads you toward repentance**[4]?

[Rom2:5]**But because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for the day of God's wrath, when his righteous judgment will be revealed. [6]God “will give to each person according to what he has done.” (Psa 62:12; Pro 24:12) [7]To those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality, he will give eternal life. [8]But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger. [9]There will be trouble and distress for every human being who does evil:** first for the Jew, then for the Gentile; **[10]but glory, honor and peace for everyone who does good: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. [11]For God does not show favoritism.**

.....

[16]God will judge men's secrets through Jesus Christ, as my gospel declares.

[Rom2:29]No, a man is a Jew if he is one inwardly; and **circumcision is circumcision of the heart, by the Spirit,** not by the written code. Such a man's praise is not from men, but from God.

[Rom3:21]But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. **[22]This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.** There is no difference, [23]for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, [24]and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. **[25]God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement[3a], through faith in his blood. .....**

[Rom4:3]What does the Scripture say? **“Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.”** (Gen 15:6)

[4]Now when a man works, his wages are not credited to him as a gift, but as an obligation. [5]However, to the man who does not work but trusts God who justifies the wicked, his faith is credited as righteousness. [6]David says the same thing when he speaks of the blessedness of the man to whom God credits righteousness apart from works:

**[7]“Blessed are they**
**whose transgressions are forgiven,**
**whose sins are covered.**
**[8]Blessed is the man**
**whose sin the Lord will never count against him.” (Psa 32:1,2)**

[9] ..... We have been saying that Abraham's faith was credited to him as righteousness. ..... [11] ..... he is the father of all who believe .....

..... [18]Against all hope, Abraham **in hope believed** and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” (Gen 15:5) **[19]Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead**—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah's womb was also dead. **[20]Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, [21]being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised.** [22]This is why “it was credited to him as righteousness.” [23]The words “it was credited to him” were written not for him alone, [24]but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness—for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. [25]He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.

[Rom5:1]Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through **our Lord Jesus Christ, [2]through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. [3]Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; [4]perseverance, character; and character, hope. [5]And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.**

[6]You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. [7]Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. [8]But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

.....

[12]Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned—

..... [17]For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, **how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.**

[18]Consequently, just as the result of one trespass was condemnation for all men, so also **the result of one act of righteousness** was justification that **brings life for all men.** [19]For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also **through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.**

..... [21] ..... just as sin reigned in death, so also **grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

[Rom6:1]What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? [2]By no means! **We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?** [3]Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? [4]We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, **just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.**

[5]If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection. [6]For we know that **our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin**— [7]because anyone who has died has been freed from sin.

[8]Now if we died with Christ, **we believe that we will also live with him.** [9]For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. [10]The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but **the life he lives, he lives to God.**

[11]In the same way, **count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.** [12]Therefore **do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires.** [13]Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather **offer yourselves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer the parts of your body to him as instruments of righteousness. [14]For sin shall not be your master,** because you are not under law, but under grace.

[15]What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! **[16]Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone to obey him as slaves, you are slaves to the one whom you obey—whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness?** [17]But thanks be to God that, **though you used to be slaves to sin, you wholeheartedly obeyed the form of teaching to which you were entrusted. [18]You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.**

[19]I put this in human terms because you are weak in your natural selves. **Just as you used to offer the parts of your body in slavery to impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness, so now offer them in slavery to righteousness leading to holiness. [20]When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the control of righteousness. [21]What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are now ashamed of? Those things result in death! [22]But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves to God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. [23]For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

[Rom7:4]So, my brothers, you also died to the law through the body of Christ, that you might belong to another, to him who was raised from the dead, in order **that we might bear fruit to God. [5]For when we were controlled by the sinful nature, the sinful passions aroused by the law were at work in our bodies, so that we bore fruit for death. [6]But now, by dying to what once bound us, we have been released from the law** so that **we serve in the new way of the Spirit,** and not in the old way of the written code.

.....

[14]We know that the law is spiritual; but **I am unspiritual, sold as a slave to sin.** [15]I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. [16]And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. [17]As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. [18]I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. **For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out.** [19]For what I do is not the good I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing. [20]Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it.

[21]So I find this law at work: **When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. [22]For in my inner being I delight in God's law; [23]but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members. [24]What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? [25]Thanks be to God—through Jesus Christ our Lord!**

**So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God's law, but in the sinful nature a slave to the law of sin.**

[Rom8:1]Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, [2]because **through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death.** [3]For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man, [4]in order that **the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.**

**[5]Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires.** [6]The mind of sinful man is death, but **the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; [7]the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. [8]Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God.**

**[9]You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. [10]But if Christ is in you,** your body is dead because of sin, yet **your spirit is alive because of righteousness.** [11]And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you.

**[12]Therefore, brothers, we have an obligation—but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it. [13]For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live, [14]because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.** [15]For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, **but you received the Spirit of sonship.** And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” **[16]The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. [17]Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.**

**[18]I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.**

.....

**[23] ..... we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. [24]For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what he already has? [25]But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.**

**[26]In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. [27]And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will.**

**[28]And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. [29]For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son,** that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

[30]And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

[31]What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? **[32]He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?**

[33]Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. [34]Who is he that condemns? **Christ Jesus, who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.** [35]Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? [36]As it is written:

“For your sake we face death all day long;
we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.” (Psa 44:22)

**[37]No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.** [38]For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, [39]neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

[Rom10:2]For I can testify about them that they are zealous for God, but their zeal is not based on knowledge. [3]Since they did not know the righteousness that comes from God and sought to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. **[4]Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.**

.....

**[8] ..... “The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart,” (Deu 30:14) that is, the word of faith** we are proclaiming: [9]That if you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. [10]For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. [11]As the Scripture says, “Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame.” (Isa 28:16) [12]For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—t**he same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, [13]for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” (Joe 2:32)**

[Rom11:18] ..... consider this: You do not support the root, but the root supports you. [19]You will say then, “Branches were broken off so that I could be grafted in.” [20]Granted. **But they were broken off because of unbelief, and you stand by faith. Do not be arrogant, but be afraid. [21]For if God did not spare the natural branches, he will not spare you either.**

**[22]Consider therefore the kindness and sternness of God: sternness to those who fell, but kindness to you, provided that you continue in his kindness. Otherwise, you also will be cut off.** [23]And if they* do not persist in unbelief, they will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again. [24]After all, if you were cut out of an olive tree that is wild by nature, and contrary to nature were grafted into a cultivated olive tree, how much more readily will these, the natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree!

* the Israelites, Jews

[Rom11:32]For God has bound all men over to disobedience so that he may have mercy on them all.

[33]Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!
How unsearchable his judgments,
and his paths beyond tracing out!
[34]“Who has known the mind of the Lord?
Or who has been his counselor?” (Isa 40:13)
[35]“Who has ever given to God,
that God should repay him?” (Job 41:11)
[36]For from him and through him and to him are all things.
To him be the glory forever! Amen.

[Rom12:1]Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to **offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. [2]Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.** Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

.....

**[9]Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. [10]Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. [11]Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. [12]Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. [13]Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.**

**[14]Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. [15]Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. [16]Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.**

**[17]Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. [18]If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. [19]Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: “It is mine to avenge; I will repay,” (Deu 32:35) says the Lord.** [20]On the contrary:

“If your enemy is hungry, feed him;
if he is thirsty, give him something to drink.
In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head.” (Pro 25:21,22)

**[21]Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.**

[Rom13:8]**Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for he who loves his fellowman has fulfilled the law. ..... [9] ..... “Love your neighbor as yourself.” (Lev 19:18) [10]Love does no harm to its neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.**

[11]And do this, understanding the present time. The hour has come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. [12]The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. **So let us put aside the deeds of darkness** and put on the armor of light. **[13]Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery[2a], not in dissension and jealousy. [14]Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ,** and **do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature.**

[Rom14:7]**For none of us lives to himself alone and none of us dies to himself alone. [8]If we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.**

.....

**[10] ..... For we will all stand before God's judgment seat.** [11]It is written:

“ 'As surely as I live,' says the Lord,
'every knee will bow before me;
every tongue will confess to God.' ” (Isa 45:23)

**[12]So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God.**

.....

**[17]For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit,** [18]because anyone who serves Christ in this way is pleasing to God and approved by men.

**[19]Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification.**

.....

**[22] ..... Blessed is the man who does not condemn himself by what he approves.** [23]But the man who has doubts is condemned if he eats, because his eating is not from faith; and **everything that does not come from faith is sin.**

[Rom15:1]We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. **[2]Each of us should please his neighbor for his good, to build him up.** [3]For even Christ did not please himself but, as it is written: “The insults of those who insult you have fallen on me.” (Psa 69:9)

[4]For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that **through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.**

**[5]May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus,** [6]so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

.....

**[13]May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.**

.....

[16] ..... so that the Gentiles might **become[1d] an offering acceptable to God, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.**

**[17]Therefore I glory in Christ Jesus in my service to God.** [18]I will not venture to speak of anything except **what Christ has accomplished through me in leading the Gentiles to obey God** by what I have said and done— [19]by the power of signs and miracles, **through the power of the Spirit.**

[Rom16:19]**Everyone has heard about your obedience, so I am full of joy over you;** but I want you to be wise about what is good, and innocent about what is evil.

[20]The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.
The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you.

.....

[25]Now to him who is able to establish you by my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery hidden for long ages past, [26]but now revealed and made known through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, **so that all nations might believe and obey him**— [27]to the only wise God be glory forever through Jesus Christ! Amen.

[1Cor1:4]I always thank God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. **[5]For in him you have been enriched in every way—in all your speaking and in all your knowledge—** ..... [8]He will keep you strong to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. [9]God, who has called you into fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful.

[10] ..... **be perfectly united in mind and thought.**

[1Cor1:18]For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. .....

[24]but to those whom God has called ..... Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

..... **[30] ..... Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption.**

[1Cor2:4]My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with **a demonstration of the Spirit's power, [5]so that your faith might not rest on men's wisdom, but on God's power.**

.....

[9] ..... as it is written:

**“No eye has seen,**
**no ear has heard,**
**no mind has conceived**
**what God has prepared for those who love him” (Isa 64:4)**

**— [10]but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit.**

**The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God.** [11]For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man's spirit within him? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. **[12]We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us. .....**

[16]“For who has known the mind of the Lord
that he may instruct him?” (Isa 40:13)

**But we have the mind of Christ.**

**[1Cor3:16]Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you?**

[1Cor3:19]For the wisdom of this world is foolishness in God's sight. ..... [20] ..... "The Lord knows that the thoughts of the wise are futile." (Psa 94:11)

[1Cor4:1]So then, men ought to regard us as **servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the secret things of God. [2]Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful. .....**

**[4] ..... It is the Lord who judges me. [5] ..... the Lord comes. He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will expose the motives of men's hearts. At that time each will receive his praise from God.**

[1Cor4:7]For who makes you different from anyone else? What do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as though you did not?

[1Cor4:9]For it seems to me that God has put us apostles on display at the end of the procession, like men condemned to die in the arena. We have been made a spectacle to the whole universe, to angels as well as to men. [10]We are fools for Christ, but you are so wise in Christ! We are weak, but you are strong! You are honored, we are dishonored! [11]To this very hour we go hungry and thirsty, we are in rags, we are brutally treated, we are homeless. [12]We work hard with our own hands. When we are cursed, we bless; when we are persecuted, we endure it; [13]when we are slandered, we answer kindly. Up to this moment we have become the scum of the earth, the refuse of the world.

.....

[18] ..... I will find out not only how these arrogant people are talking, but what power they have. **[20]For the kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power.**

**[1Cor5:11]But now I am writing you that you must not associate with anyone who calls himself a brother but is sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater or a slanderer, a drunkard or a swindler. With such a man do not even eat. ..... [13] ..... "Expel the wicked man from among you." (Deu 17:7, 19:19, 21:21, 22:21,24, 24:7)**

[1Cor6:7]The very fact that you have lawsuits among you means you have been completely defeated already. **Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be cheated?**

**[1Cor6:9]Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders [10]nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. [11]And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified[1e], you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.**

[12]"Everything is permissible for me"—but not everything is beneficial. "Everything is permissible for me"—but I will not be mastered by anything. [13] ..... **The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. .....**

**[17]But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with him in spirit.**

**[18]Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. [19]Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; [20]you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.**

**[1Cor7:19] ..... Keeping God's commands is what counts.**

.....

[22]For he who was a slave when he was called by the Lord is the Lord's freedman; similarly, **he who was a free man when he was called is Christ's slave.**

[23]You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of men.

[1Cor7:29]What I mean, brothers, is that the time is short. From now on those who have wives should live as if they had none; [30]those who mourn, as if they did not; those who are happy, as if they were not; those who buy something, as if it were not theirs to keep; [31]those who use the things of the world, as if not engrossed in them. **For this world in its present form is passing away. .....**

**[35] ..... live in a right way in undivided devotion to the Lord.**

[1Cor8:1] ..... Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. [2]The man who thinks he knows something does not yet know as he ought to know. **[3]But the man who loves God is known by God.**

[1Cor9:19]Though I am free and belong to no man, **I make myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible.** ..... [22]To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all men **so that by all possible means I might save some. [23]I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.**

[24]Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize.

[25]Everyone who competes in the games goes into **strict training.** They do it to get a crown that will not last; but **we do it to get a crown that will last forever. ..... [27] ..... I beat my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.**

[1Cor10:1]For I do not want you to be ignorant of the fact, brothers, that our forefathers were all under the cloud and that they all passed through the sea. [2]They were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. [3]They all ate the same spiritual food [4]and drank the same spiritual drink; for **they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ. [5]Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them; their bodies were scattered over the desert.**

[6]Now these things occurred as examples **to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things** as they did. [7]Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written: "The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in pagan revelry." (Exo 32:6) **[8]We should not commit sexual immorality, as some of them did—and in one day twenty-three thousand of them died.** [9]We should not test the Lord, as some of them did—and were killed by snakes. [10]And do not grumble, as some of them did—and were killed by the destroying angel.

[11]These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the fulfillment of the ages has come. [12]So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! **[13]No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.**

.....

**[24]Nobody should seek his own good, but the good of others.**

.....

**[31]So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God. ..... [33]even as I try to please everybody in every way. For I am not seeking my own good but the good of many, so that they may be saved.**

[1Cor11:31]But if we judged ourselves, we would not come under judgment. [32]When we are judged by the Lord, we are being disciplined so that we will not be condemned with the world.

**[1Cor13:1]If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. [2]If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. [3]If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing.**

**[4]Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. [5]It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. [6]Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. [7]It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.**

**[8]Love never fails. .....**

[10] ..... when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears. ..... [12] ..... then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

**[13]And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.**

[1Cor14:24]But if an unbeliever or someone who does not understand comes in while everybody is prophesying, he will be convinced by all that he is a sinner and will be judged by all, [25]and the secrets of his heart will be laid bare. So he will fall down and worship God, exclaiming, "God is really among you!"

[1Cor15:1]Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. **[2]By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.**

[3]For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, [4]that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, [5]and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve. [6]After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, .....

[9]For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. [10]But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.

.....

**[19]If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are to be pitied more than all men.**

.....

[22]For as in Adam all die, so **in Christ all will be made alive.** ..... [24]Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. [25]For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. [26]The last enemy to be destroyed is death. ..... [28]When he has done this, then the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so that God may be all in all.

.....

[30]And as for us, why do we endanger ourselves every hour? [31]I die every day—I mean that, brothers—just as surely as I glory over you in Christ Jesus our Lord. [32] ..... If the dead are not raised,

"Let us eat and drink,
for tomorrow we die." (Isa 22:13)

[33]Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character." **[34]Come back to your senses as you ought, and stop sinning;** for there are some who are ignorant of God—I say this to your shame.

.....

[45]So it is written: "The first man Adam became a living being" (Gen 2:7); **the last Adam, a life-giving spirit.** ..... [47]The first man was of the dust of the earth, the second man from heaven. ..... [49]And just as we have borne the likeness of the earthly man, **so shall we bear the likeness of the man from heaven.**

[54]When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory." (Isa 25:8)

[55]"Where, O death, is your victory?
Where, O death, is your sting?" (Hos 13:14)

[56]The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. **[57]But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

[58]Therefore, my dear brothers, **stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord,** because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

**[1Cor16:13]Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be men of courage; be strong. [14]Do everything in love.**

**[2Cor1:3]Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, [4]who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God. [5]For just as the sufferings of Christ flow over into our lives, so also through Christ our comfort overflows.**

..... [8]We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about the hardships we suffered in the province of Asia. We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired even of life. [9]Indeed, in our hearts we felt the sentence of death. **But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead.** [10]He has delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. On him we have set our hope that he will continue to deliver us, .....

.....

**[12] ..... Our conscience testifies that we have conducted ourselves in the world, and especially in our relations with you, in the holiness and sincerity that are from God.** We have done so not according to worldly wisdom but according to God's grace.

.....

[21]Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. **He** anointed us, [22]set his seal of ownership on us, and **put his Spirit in our hearts** as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

.....

[24] ..... we work with you for your joy, because **it is by faith you stand firm.**

**[2Cor2:14]But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him.** [15]For we are to God **the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing.** [16]To the one we are the smell of death; to the other, the fragrance of life. And who is equal to such a task? [17]Unlike so many, we do not peddle the word of God for profit. On the contrary, in Christ we speak before God with sincerity, like men sent from God.

[2Cor3:3]You show that **you are a letter from Christ,** the result of our ministry, **written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God,** not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.

.....

[5]Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from **God. [6]He has made us competent as ministers** of a new covenant—not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but **the Spirit gives life.**

[2Cor3:7]Now if the ministry that brought death, which was engraved in letters on stone, came with glory, so that the Israelites could not look steadily at the face of Moses because of its glory, fading though it was, **[8]will not the ministry of the Spirit be even more glorious?** [9]If the ministry that condemns men is glorious, how much more glorious is the ministry that brings righteousness! [10]For what was glorious has no glory now in comparison with the surpassing glory. [11]And if what was fading away came with glory, how much greater is the glory of that which lasts!

[12]Therefore, **since we have such a hope, we are very bold.** [13]We are not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face to keep the Israelites from gazing at it while the radiance was fading away. [14]But their minds were made dull, for to this day the same veil remains when the old covenant is read. It has not been removed, because only in Christ is it taken away. [15]Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts. [16]But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. **[17]Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. [18]And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.**

[2Cor4:1]Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart. [2]Rather, **we have renounced secret and shameful ways;** we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, **by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.** [3]And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. **[4]The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.**

[5]For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and **ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. [6]For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," (Gen 1:3) made his light shine in our hearts** to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

[7]But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that **this all-surpassing power is from God** and not from us. [8]We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; [9]persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. [10]We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. **[11]For we who are alive are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that his life may be revealed in our mortal body.**

.....

**[13]It is written: "I believed; therefore I have spoken." (Psa 116:10) With that same spirit of faith we also believe and therefore speak,** [14]because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you in his presence. .....

.....

[16]Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet **inwardly we are being renewed day by day. [17]For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. [18]So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.**

[2Cor5:1]Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. **[2]Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, [3]because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. [4]For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. [5]Now it is God who has made us for this very purpose and has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.**

**[6]Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. [7]We live by faith, not by sight. [8]We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. [9]So we make it our goal to please him,** whether we are at home in the body or away from it. **[10]For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.**

**[2Cor5:11]Since, then, we know what it is to fear the Lord, we try to persuade men. .....**

[12]We are not trying to commend ourselves to you again, but are giving you an opportunity to take pride in us, so that you can answer those who take pride in what is seen rather than in what is in the heart.

.....

**[14]For Christ's love compels us,** because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. [15]And he died for all, that **those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.**

[16]So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. **[17]Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! [18]All this is from God,** who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: [19]that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. **[20]We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.** [21]God made him who had no sin to be sin for us [OR, be a sin offering], so that **in him we might become the righteousness of God.**

**[2Cor6:4] ..... as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: in great endurance; in troubles, hardships and distresses;** [5]in beatings, imprisonments and riots; **in hard work,** sleepless nights and hunger; **[6]in purity, understanding, patience and kindness; in the Holy Spirit and in sincere love;** [7]in truthful speech and **in the power of God; with weapons of righteousness in the right hand and in the left;** [8]through glory and dishonor, bad report and good report; genuine, yet regarded as impostors; [9]known, yet regarded as unknown; dying, and yet we live on; beaten, and yet not killed; [10]sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; poor, yet making many rich; having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

**[14]Do not be yoked together with unbelievers.** For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or **what fellowship can light have with darkness?** [15]What harmony is there between Christ and Belial? What does a believer have in common with an unbeliever? [16]What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? **For we are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people." (Lev 26:12; Jer 32:38; Eze 37:27)**

**[17]"Therefore come out from them**
**and be separate, says the Lord.**
**Touch no unclean thing,**
**and I will receive you." (Isa 52:11; Eze 20:34,41)**
**[18]"I will be a Father to you,**
**and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty." (2Sam 7:14; 7:8)**

**[2Cor7:1]Since we have these promises, dear friends, let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God.**

[2Cor7:9]For you became sorrowful as God intended ..... **[10]Godly sorrow brings repentance[4m] that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death.** [11]See what this godly sorrow has produced in you: what earnestness, what eagerness to clear yourselves, what indignation, what alarm, what longing, what concern, what readiness to see justice done. At every point you have proved yourselves to be innocent in this matter. ...... [13]By all this we are encouraged.

**[2Cor8:11]Now finish the work,** so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according to your means.

[2Cor9:6]Remember this: **Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.** [7]Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. **[8]And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.** [9]As it is written:

"He has scattered abroad his gifts to the poor;
**his righteousness endures forever." (Psa 112:9)**

**[10]Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. [11]You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion,** and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

[2Cor9:13]Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for **the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, .....**

[2Cor10:1]By **the meekness and gentleness of Christ,** I appeal to you—I, Paul, who am "timid" when face to face with you, but "bold" when away!

.....

**[3]For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. [4]The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. [5]We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.**

.....

[9]I do not want to seem to be trying to frighten you with my letters. [10]For some say, "His letters are weighty and forceful, but in person he is unimpressive and his speaking amounts to nothing." [11]Such people should realize that what we are in our letters when we are absent, we will be in our actions when we are present.

.....

[17]But, "Let him who boasts boast in the Lord." (Jer 9:24) [18]For it is not the one who commends himself who is approved, but the one whom the Lord commends.

[2Cor11:14] ..... for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. [15]It is not surprising, then, if his servants masquerade as servants of righteousness. Their end will be what their actions deserve.

[2Cor11:19]**You gladly put up with fools** since you are so wise! **[20]In fact, you even put up with anyone who enslaves you or exploits you or takes advantage of you or pushes himself forward or slaps you in the face.** [21]To my shame I admit that we were too weak for that!

What anyone else dares to boast about—I am speaking as a fool—I also dare to boast about. [22]Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they Abraham's descendants? So am I. [23]Are they servants of Christ? (I am out of my mind to talk like this.) I am more. I have worked much harder, been in prison more frequently, been flogged more severely, and been exposed to death again and again. [24]Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. [25]Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea, [26]I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my own countrymen, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false brothers. [27]I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked. [28]Besides everything else, I face daily the pressure of my concern for all the churches. **[29]Who is weak, and I do not feel weak? Who is led into sin, and I do not inwardly burn?**

[30]If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness.

**[2Cor12:7]To keep me from becoming conceited because of these surpassingly great revelations, there was given me a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. [8]Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. [9]But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. [10]That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.**

.....

[14] ..... I will not be a burden to you, because what I want is not your possessions but you. After all, children should not have to save up for their parents, but parents for their children. **[15]So I will very gladly spend for you everything I have and expend myself as well.** If I love you more, will you love me less? [16]Be that as it may, I have not been a burden to you.

**[2Cor13:3] ..... Christ is speaking through me.** He is not weak in dealing with you, but is powerful among you. [4]For to be sure, he was crucified in weakness, yet he lives by God's power. Likewise, **we are weak in him, yet by God's power we will live with him to serve you.**

[2Cor13:5]Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. **Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you—unless, of course, you fail the test? ..... [7]Now we pray to God that you will not do anything wrong. ..... [8]For we cannot do anything against the truth, but only for the truth.** [9]We are glad whenever we are weak but you are strong; and **our prayer is for your perfection.**

.....

[11]Finally, brothers, good-by. **Aim for perfection,** listen to my appeal, **be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you.**

.....

**[14]May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.**

[Gal1:3]Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, **[4]who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age,** according to the will of our God and Father, [5]to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

[Gal2:20]"I have been crucified with Christ and **I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God,** who loved me and gave himself for me."

[Gal3:1]You foolish Galatians! ..... Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified. [2]I would like to learn just one thing from you: **Did you receive the Spirit by observing the law, or by believing what you heard?** [3]Are you so foolish? After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort? ..... **[5]Does God give you his Spirit and work miracles among you because you observe the law, or because you believe what you heard?**

**[6]Consider Abraham: "He believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness." (Gen15:6)** [7]Understand, then, that those who believe are children of Abraham. ..... **[9]So those who have faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.**

[10]All who rely on observing the law are under a curse, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law." (Deu 27:26) [11]Clearly no one is justified before God by the law, because, **"The righteous will live by faith." (Hab 2:4)** [12]The law is not based on faith; on the contrary, "The man who does these things will live by them." (Lev 18:5) [13]Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree." (Deu 21:23) [14]He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that **by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.**

.....

[22]But the Scripture declares that the whole world is a prisoner of sin, so that **what was promised, being given through faith in Jesus Christ, might be given to those who believe.**

.....

**[26]You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, [27]for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.** [28]There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

[Gal4:1] ..... as long as the heir is a child, he is no different from a slave, although he owns the whole estate. [2]He is subject to guardians and trustees until the time set by his father. **[3]So also, when we were children, we were in slavery under the basic principles of the world.** [4]But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, [5]to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. **[6]Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father."** [7]So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir.

**[8]Formerly, when you did not know God, you were slaves to those who by nature are not gods. [9]But now that you know God—or rather are known by God—how is it that you are turning back to those weak and miserable principles? Do you wish to be enslaved by them all over again?**

.....

[15]What has happened to all your joy? ..... [16]Have I now become your enemy by telling you the truth?

**[Gal5:1]It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.**

.....

[4]You who are trying to be justified by law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen away from grace. **[5]But by faith we eagerly await through the Spirit the righteousness for which we hope.** [6]For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. **The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.**

.....

**[13]You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love.** [14]The entire law is summed up in a single command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." (Lev 19:18) [15]If you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.

[16]So I say, **live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature.** [17]For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. [18]But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law.

**[19]The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery[2b]; [20]idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions [21]and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.**

**[22]But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, [23]gentleness and self-control.** Against such things there is no law. **[24]Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. [25]Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.** [26]Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.

[Gal6:1]Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted. **[2]Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.** [3]If anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself. [4]Each one should test his own actions. Then he can take pride in himself, without comparing himself to somebody else, [5]for each one should carry his own load.

.....

[Gal6:7]Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. **[8]The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. [9]Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. [10]Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.**

.....

[14]May I never boast except in **the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. [15] ..... what counts is a new creation.**

.....

[18]The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers. Amen.

[Eph1:3]Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

[4]**For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight.**

In love [5]he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will— [6]to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.

[7]In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace [8]that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.

[9]And he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, [10]to be put into effect when the times will have reached their fulfillment—to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ.

[11]In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, ..... [13]And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. **Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit**, [14]who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

[15] ..... I heard about **your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints,** .....

[17]**I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.**

[18]**I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you,**

**the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and**

[19]**his incomparably great power for us who believe.**

That power is like the working of his mighty strength, [20]which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, [21]far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.

[22]And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, [23]which is his body, **the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.**

Eph2:1 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, [2]in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.

[3]**All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts.** Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath.

[4]**But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy,** [5]**made us alive with Christ** even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. [6]And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, [7]in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. [8]For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— [9]not by works, so that no one can boast. [10]**For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.**

[11]Therefore, **remember that formerly ..... [12] ..... you were separate from Christ,** excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, **without hope and without God in the world.** [13]**But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ.**

[14]For he himself is our peace, ..... [15] ..... abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. ..... [18]**For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.**

[19]Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, [20]built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. [21]In him the whole building is joined together and rises **to become a holy temple** in the Lord.

.....

[22]**And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.**

Eph3:7 I became a servant of this gospel by **the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power.**

.....

[11] **..... Christ Jesus our Lord.** [12]**In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.**

.....

[14] ..... I kneel before the Father, [15]from whom his whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name.

[16]**I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being,** [17]**so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.**

**And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love,** [18]**may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ,** [19]**and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.**

[20]**Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us,** [21]to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

Eph4:1 ..... I urge you to **live a life worthy of the calling you have received.**

[2]**Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.**

[3]**Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.**

.....

[7]But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. [8]This is why it says:

**“When he ascended on high,**
**he led captives in his train**
**and gave gifts to men.”** **(Psa 68:18)**

[9](What does “he ascended” mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions?

[10]**He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens,**
**in order to fill the whole universe.**)

[11]It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, [12]**to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up** [13]until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, **attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.**

[14]Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. [15]**Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ.** [16]From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, **grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.**

Eph4:17So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that **you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking.** [18]**They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts.** [19]**Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, with a continual lust for more.**

[20]**You, however, did not come to know Christ that way.** [21]Surely you heard of him and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus.

[22]**You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires;**

[23]**to be made new in the attitude of your minds;** [24]**and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.**

[25]Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbor, for we are all members of one body.

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

.....

[28]He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need.

.....

[29]**Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.**

.....

[30]**And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.**

[31]**Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice.**

[32]**Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.**

Eph5:1 **Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children** [2]**and live a life of love,** just as **Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.**

[3]**But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people.**

[4]Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving.

[5]**For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person—such a man is an idolater—has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.**

[6]**Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient.** [7]**Therefore do not be partners with them.**

[8]**For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light** [9]**(for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth)** [10]**and find out what pleases the Lord.** [11]**Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness,** but rather expose them. [12]**For it is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret.** [13]But everything exposed by the light becomes visible, [14]for it is light that makes everything visible. This is why it is said:

**“Wake up, O sleeper,**
**rise from the dead,**
**and Christ will shine on you.”**

[15]**Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise,** [16]**making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.**

[17]Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. [18]Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery[2c]. Instead, **be filled with the Spirit.**

Eph5:19Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, [20]**always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

[21]**Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.**

..... [25]Husbands, love your wives, just as **Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her** [26]**to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word,** [27]and to present her to himself as **a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.** [28]In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. [29]After all, no one ever hated his own body, but **he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church—** [30]**for we are members of his body.**

Eph6:5 **Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ.** [6]Obey them not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but **like slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart.** [7]**Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men,** [8]because you know that **the Lord will reward everyone for whatever good he does,** whether he is slave or free.

.....

**Eph6:10**Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.** [11]Put on the full armor of God so that you can **take your stand against the devil's schemes.** [12]For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

[13]Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that **when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.**

[14]**Stand firm then,**

with the belt of truth buckled around your waist,

with the breastplate of righteousness in place,

[15]and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.

[16]In addition to all this, **take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.**

[17]Take the helmet of salvation

and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

[18]**And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.** With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.

[19]Pray also for me, **that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel,** [20]for which I am an ambassador in chains. **Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.**

.....

[23]Peace to the brothers, and **love with faith from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.**

[24]**Grace to all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with an undying love.**

Phi1:3I thank my God every time I remember you. [4]In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy [5]because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, [6]being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

.....

[9]And this is my prayer:

**that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight,**

[10]**so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ,**

[11]**filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—**

to the glory and praise of God.

.....

[13] ..... it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ. [14]Because of my chains, most of the brothers in the Lord have been encouraged to speak the word of God more courageously and fearlessly. ..... [18]Christ is preached. And because of this **I rejoice.**

**Yes, and I will continue to rejoice,** [19]for I know that through your prayers and the help given by the Spirit of Jesus Christ, what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance. [20]**I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body,** whether by life or by death.

[21]For to me, **to live is Christ** and to die is gain.

.....

[27]Whatever happens, **conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. ..... stand firm in one spirit,** contending as one man for the faith of the gospel [28]without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you. This is a sign to them that they will be destroyed, but that you will be saved—and that by God. [29]**For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for him, .....**

Phi2:1If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any **comfort from his love,** if any **fellowship with the Spirit,** if any tenderness and compassion, [2]then make my joy complete by **being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose.** [3]**Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves.** [4]**Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.**

[5]**Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:**

[6]Who, being in very nature God,
did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,
[7]**but made himself nothing,**
**taking the very nature of a servant,**
being made in human likeness.
[8]And being found in appearance as a man,
**he humbled himself**
**and became obedient to death—**
**even death on a cross!**

[9]Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,
[10]that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
[11]and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Phi2:12Therefore, my dear friends, **as you have always obeyed ..... continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling,** [13]**for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.**

[14]**Do everything without complaining or arguing,** [15]**so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved**[5b] **generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe** [16]**as you hold out the word of life .....**

Phi2:19 I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon ..... [20]**I have no one else like him, who takes a genuine interest in your welfare.** [21]**For everyone looks out for his own interests, not those of Jesus Christ.** [22]But you know that Timothy has proved himself, because as a son with his father he has served with me in the work of the gospel.

Phi3:1Finally, my brothers, **rejoice in the Lord!** It is no trouble for me to write the same things to you again, and it is a safeguard for you.

.....

[3]For it is we ..... **who worship by the Spirit of God**, who glory in Christ Jesus, and who put no confidence in the flesh— [4]though I myself have reasons for such confidence.

If anyone else thinks he has reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: [5]circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; [6]as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for legalistic righteousness, faultless.

[7]**But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ.** [8]What is more, **I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things.** I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ [9]and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—**the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith.** [10]**I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings,** becoming like him in his death, [11]and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead.

[12]**Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect,** but **I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.** [13]Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: **Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead,** [14]**I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.**

.....

[16]**Only let us live up to what we have already attained.**

.....

[18]For, as I have often told you before and now say again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. [19]**Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is on earthly things.** [20]**But our citizenship is in heaven.** And we eagerly await a Savior from there, **the Lord Jesus Christ,** [21]**who,** by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, **will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.**

Phi4:1Therefore, my brothers, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, that is how you should **stand firm in the Lord, dear friends!**

.....

[4]**Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!** [5]**Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.** [6]**Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.** [7]**And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.**

[8]**Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.** [9]Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. **And the God of peace will be with you.**

.....

[11] **..... I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances.** [12]I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. **I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation,** whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. [13]**I can do everything through him who gives me strength.**

[14]Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles. ..... [16]for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid again and again when I was in need. [17]Not that I am looking for a gift, but I am looking for what may be credited to your account. [18]I have received full payment and even more; I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. [19]**And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.**

[20]To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Col1:2To the holy and faithful brothers in Christ at Colosse: ..... [3]We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, [4]because we have heard of **your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all the saints—** [5]**the faith and love that spring from the hope** that is stored up for you in heaven and that you have already heard about in the word of truth, the gospel [6]that has come to you. .....

[7] ..... Epaphras ..... [8] ..... who also told us of **your love in the Spirit.**

[9]For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you and asking **God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding.** [10]And we pray this in order **that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God,** [11]**being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and joyfully** [12]**giving thanks to the Father,** who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light. [13]**For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves,** [14]in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

[15]He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. [16]For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. [17]He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. [18]And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. [19]For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, [20]and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

**Col1:21Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior.** [22]**But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation—** [23]**if you continue in your faith, established and firm, not moved from the hope held out in the gospel.**

[24]**Now I rejoice in what was suffered for you, and I fill up in my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ's afflictions, for the sake of his body, which is the church.**

.....

[27] ..... God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles **the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.**

[28]We proclaim him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so **that we may present everyone perfect in Christ.** [29]To this end **I labor, struggling with all his energy, which so powerfully works in me.**

Col2:1I want you to know how much I am struggling for you and for those at Laodicea, and for all who have not met me personally. [2]My purpose is that they may **be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ,** [3]**in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.**

.....

[6]**So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him,** [7]**rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.**

Col2:9For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, [10]and **you have been given fullness in Christ,** who is the head over every power and authority. [11]**In him you were also circumcised, in the putting off of the sinful nature,** not with a circumcision done by the hands of men but **with the circumcision done by Christ,** [12]having been buried with him in baptism and **raised with him through your faith in the power of God,** who raised him from the dead.

[13]**When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ.** He forgave us all our sins, [14]having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross. [15]And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

Col3:1**Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above,** where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. [2]**Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.** [3]**For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.** [4]When **Christ, who is your life,** appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

[5]**Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.** [6]**Because of these, the wrath of God is coming.** [7]You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. [8]But now **you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.** [9]**Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices** [10]**and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.** [11]Here there is no Greek or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

[12]Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, **clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.** [13]**Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.** [14]**And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.**

[15]**Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,** since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. [16]**Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly** as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with **gratitude in your hearts to God.**

[17]**And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.**

.....

[23]**Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord,** not for men, [24]since you know that **you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.** [25]**Anyone who does wrong will be repaid for his wrong, and there is no favoritism.**

**Col4:2Devote yourselves to prayer, being** watchful and **thankful.** [3]**And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ,** for which I am in chains. [4]**Pray that I may proclaim it clearly,** as I should. [5]**Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity.** [6]**Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.**

.....

[12]Epaphras, who is one of you and a servant of Christ Jesus, sends greetings. He is always wrestling in prayer for you, **that you may stand firm in all the will of God, mature and fully assured.**

.....

[17]Tell Archippus: **“See to it that you complete the work you have received in the Lord.”**

1The1:3We continually remember before our God and Father **your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.**

[4]For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, [5]because **our gospel came to you not simply with words, but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction.** You know how we lived among you for your sake. [6]You became imitators of us and of the Lord; in spite of severe suffering, **you welcomed the message with the joy given by the Holy Spirit.**

.....

[9] ..... you turned to God from idols to **serve the living and true God,** [10]and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—**Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.**

1The2:2We had previously suffered and been insulted in Philippi, as you know, but **with the help of our God we dared to tell you his gospel in spite of strong opposition. .....** [4] **..... We are not trying to please men but God, who tests our hearts.**

.....

[6] ..... As apostles of Christ we could have been a burden to you, [7]but we were gentle among you, like a mother caring for her little children. [8]**We loved you so much that we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well, because you had become so dear to us.** [9]Surely you remember, brothers, our toil and hardship; we worked night and day in order not to be a burden to anyone while we preached the gospel of God to you.

[10]**You are witnesses, and so is God, of how holy, righteous and blameless we were among you who believed.** [11]**For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children,** [12]**encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God,** who calls you into his kingdom and glory.

1The2:13And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but as it actually is, **the word of God, which is at work in you who believe.**

[14]For you, brothers, became imitators of God's churches in Judea, which are in Christ Jesus: You suffered from your own countrymen the same things those churches suffered from the Jews, [15]who killed the Lord Jesus and the prophets and also drove us out. They displease God and are hostile to all men [16]in their effort to keep us from speaking to the Gentiles so that they may be saved. In this way they always heap up their sins to the limit. The wrath of God has come upon them at last.

1The3:12**May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else,** just as ours does for you. [13]**May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy** in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

1The4:1Finally, brothers, we instructed you **how to live in order to please God,** as in fact you are living. **Now we ask you and urge you in the Lord Jesus to do this more and more.** [2]For you know what instructions we gave you by the authority of the Lord Jesus.

[3]**It is God's will that you should be sanctified**[1f]**: that you should avoid sexual immorality;** [4]**that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable,** [5]**not in passionate lust like the heathen, who do not know God;** [6]and that in this matter no one should wrong his brother or take advantage of him. The Lord will punish men for all such sins, as we have already told you and warned you. [7]**For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life.** [8]Therefore, he who rejects this instruction does not reject man but **God, who gives you his Holy Spirit.**

[9]Now about brotherly love we do not need to write to you, for **you yourselves have been taught by God to love each other.** [10]And in fact, you do love all the brothers throughout Macedonia. Yet we urge you, brothers, to **do so more and more.**

[11]Make it your ambition to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business and to work with your hands, just as we told you, [12]so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders and so that you will not be dependent on anybody.

.....

[13]We believe that Jesus died and rose again and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. ..... [16]For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. [17]After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. **And so we will be with the Lord forever.** [18]Therefore encourage each other with these words.

1The5:1Now, brothers, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, [2]for you know very well that **the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.** [3]**While people are saying, “Peace and safety,” destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.**

[4]But you, brothers, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. [5]You are all sons of the light and sons of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. [6]So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but **let us be alert and self-controlled.** [7]For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. [8]But since we belong to the day, **let us be self-controlled, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet.** [9]For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. [10]He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, **we may live together with him.** [11]Therefore **encourage one another and build each other up,** just as in fact you are doing.

.....

[13] **..... Live in peace with each other.** [14]And we urge you, brothers, **warn those who are idle, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with everyone.** [15]**Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always try to be kind to each other and to everyone else.**

[16]**Be joyful always;** [17]**pray continually;** [18]**give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.**

1The5:19**Do not put out the Spirit's fire;** [20]do not treat prophecies with contempt. [21]Test everything. **Hold on to the good. [22]Avoid every kind of evil.**

**[23]May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify[1g] you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. [24]The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it.**

2The1:3We ought always to thank God for you, brothers, and rightly so, because **your faith is growing more and more, and the love every one of you has for each other is increasing.** [4]Therefore, among God's churches we boast about **your perseverance and faith in all the persecutions and trials you are enduring.**

[5]All this is evidence that God's judgment is right, and **as a result you will be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are suffering.** [6]God is just: He will pay back trouble to those who trouble you [7]and give relief to you who are troubled, and to us as well. This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels. **[8]He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. [9]They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord** and from the majesty of his power [10]on the day he comes to be glorified in his holy people and to be marveled at among all those who have believed. This includes you, because you believed our testimony to you.

[11]With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, **that our God may count you worthy of his calling**, and that **by his power he may fulfill every good purpose of yours and every act prompted by your faith.** [12]We pray this **so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him,** according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

2The2:9The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with the work of Satan displayed in all kinds of counterfeit miracles, signs and wonders, [10]and in every sort of evil that deceives those who are perishing. **They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved.** [11]For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie [12]and so that **all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness.**

[13]But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers loved by the Lord, because from the beginning **God chose you to be saved through the sanctifying[1h] work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth.** [14]He called you to this through our gospel, **that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.** [15]So then, brothers, **stand firm and hold to the teachings** we passed on to you, whether by word of mouth or by letter.

**[16]May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, [17]encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.**

2The3:1Finally, brothers, pray for us that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored, just as it was with you. [2]And pray that we may be delivered from **wicked and evil men, for not everyone has faith.** [3]But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen and protect you from the evil one. [4]We have confidence in the Lord that **you are doing and will continue to do the things we command. [5]May the Lord direct your hearts into God's love and Christ's perseverance.**

[6]In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we command you, brothers, to keep away from every brother who is idle and does not live according to the teaching you received from us. [7]For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example. We were not idle when we were with you, [8]nor did we eat anyone's food without paying for it. On the contrary, we worked night and day, laboring and toiling so that we would not be a burden to any of you. [9]We did this, not because we do not have the right to such help, but in order to make ourselves a model for you to follow. [10]For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: "If a man will not work, he shall not eat."

[13]And as for you, brothers, **never tire of doing what is right.**

[14]If anyone does not obey our instruction in this letter, take special note of him. Do not associate with him, in order that he may feel ashamed. [15]Yet do not regard him as an enemy, but warn him as a brother.

**[16]Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you.**

Heb1:1In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, **[2]but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe. [3]The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word.** After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.

.....

[8]But about the Son he* says,

"Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever,
and righteousness will be the scepter of your kingdom.
**[9]You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;**
therefore God, your God, has set you above your companions
by anointing you with the oil of joy." (Psa 45:6,7)

* God

[10]He also says,

"In the beginning, O Lord, you laid the foundations of the earth,
and the heavens are the work of your hands.
[11]They will perish, but you remain;
they will all wear out like a garment.
[12]You will roll them up like a robe;
like a garment they will be changed.
**But you remain the same,**
**and your years will never end." (Psa 102:25-27)**

**Heb2:1We must pay more careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away.** [2]For if the message spoken by angels was binding, and every violation and disobedience received its just punishment, [3]how shall we escape if we ignore such a great salvation? This salvation, which was first announced by the Lord, was confirmed to us by those who heard him. [4]God also testified to it by signs, wonders and various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.

.....

[10]In bringing many sons to glory, **it was fitting that God**, for whom and through whom everything exists, **should make the author of their salvation perfect through suffering. [11]Both the one who makes men holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers.**

.....

[14]Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that **by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil— [15]and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.** [16]For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham's descendants. [17]For this reason **he had to be made like his brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement[3b] for the sins of the people. [18]Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.**

Heb3:1Therefore, holy brothers, who share in the heavenly calling, **fix your thoughts on Jesus,** the apostle and high priest whom we confess.

.....

[6]But Christ is faithful as a son over God's house. **And we are his house, if we hold on to our courage and the hope of which we boast.**

[7]So, as the Holy Spirit says:

**"Today, if you hear his voice,**
**[8]do not harden your hearts**
as you did in the rebellion,
during the time of testing in the desert,
[9]where your fathers tested and tried me
and for forty years saw what I did.
[10]That is why I was angry with that generation,
and I said, **'Their hearts are always going astray,**
**and they have not known my ways.'**
[11]So I declared on oath in my anger,
'They shall never enter my rest.' " (Psa 95:7-11)

**[12]See to it, brothers, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God.** [13]But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, **so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness. [14]We have come to share in Christ if we hold firmly till the end the confidence we had at first.** [15]As has just been said:

**"Today, if you hear his voice,**
**do not harden your hearts**
as you did in the rebellion." (Psa 95:7,8)

**[16]Who were they who heard and rebelled? Were they not all those Moses led out of Egypt? [17]And with whom was he angry for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the desert? [18]And to whom did God swear that they would never enter his rest if not to those who disobeyed? [19]So we see that they were not able to enter, because of their unbelief.**

Heb4:1Therefore, since the promise of entering his rest still stands, **let us be careful that none of you be found to have fallen short of it. [2]For we also have had the gospel preached to us, just as they did; but the message they heard was of no value to them, because those who heard did not combine it with faith. [3]Now we who have believed enter that rest,** .....

And yet his work has been finished since the creation of the world. [4]For somewhere he has spoken about the seventh day in these words: "And on the seventh day God rested from all his work." (Gen 2:2)

..... [6]It still remains that some will enter that rest, and **those who formerly had the gospel preached to them did not go in, because of their disobedience.** [7]Therefore God again set a certain day, calling it Today, when a long time later he spoke through David, as was said before:

**"Today, if you hear his voice,**
**do not harden your hearts." (Psa 95:7,8)**

..... [9]There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God; [10]for anyone who enters God's rest also rests from his own work, just as God did from his. **[11]Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will fall by following their example of disobedience.**

**[12]For the word of God is living and active.** Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. [13]Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. **Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.**

[14]Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, **let us hold firmly to the faith we profess.** [15]For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin. **[16]Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.**

Heb5:7During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with loud cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and **he was heard because of his reverent submission.** [8]Although he was a son, **he learned obedience from what he suffered [9] [9]and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him** [10]and was designated by God to be high priest in the order of Melchizedek.

.....

[13]Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about **righteousness.** [14]But solid food is for the mature, who **by constant use** have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.

Heb6:4It is impossible for those who have **once been enlightened,** who have **tasted the heavenly gift,** who have **shared in the Holy Spirit,** [5]who have **tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the coming age,** [6]if they fall away, to be brought back to repentance[4o], because to their loss they are crucifying the Son of God all over again and subjecting him to public disgrace.

**[7]Land that drinks in the rain often falling on it and that produces a crop useful to those for whom it is farmed receives the blessing of God. [8]But land that produces thorns and thistles is worthless** and is in danger of being cursed. **In the end it will be burned.**

[9]Even though we speak like this, dear friends, we are confident of better things in your case—things that accompany salvation. [10]God is not unjust; he will not forget **your work and the love you have shown him** as you have helped his people and continue to help them. **[11]We want each of you to show this same diligence to the very end, in order to make your hope sure.** [12]We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who **through faith and patience inherit what has been promised.**

Heb7:18The former regulation is set aside because it was weak and useless [19](for the law made nothing perfect), and **a better hope is introduced, by which we draw near to God.**

.....

**[24]but because Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood. [25]Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.**

**[26]Such a high priest meets our need—one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens.** [27]Unlike the other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. **He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself.** [28]For the law appoints as high priests men who are weak; but the oath, which came after the law, appointed **the Son, who has been made perfect forever.**

Heb8:1The point of what we are saying is this: We do have such **a high priest, who sat down at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, [2]and who serves in the sanctuary, the true tabernacle set up by the Lord,** not by man.

.....

[7]For if there had been nothing wrong with that first covenant, no place would have been sought for another. [8]But God found fault with the people and said:

"The time is coming, declares the Lord,
when I will make a new covenant
with the house of Israel
and with the house of Judah.
[9]It will not be like the covenant
I made with their forefathers
when I took them by the hand
to lead them out of Egypt,
because they did not remain faithful to my covenant,
and I turned away from them, declares the Lord.
[10]This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel
after that time, declares the Lord.
**I will put my laws in their minds**
**and write them on their hearts.**
**I will be their God,**
**and they will be my people.**
[11]No longer will a man teach his neighbor,
or a man his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,'
because **they will all know me,**
**from the least of them to the greatest.**
**[12]For I will forgive their wickedness**
**and will remember their sins no more." (Jer 31:31-34)**

Heb9:11**When Christ came as high priest of the good things that are already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not man-made, that is to say, not a part of this creation.** [12]He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but **he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, having obtained eternal redemption.** [13]The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify[1i] them so that they are outwardly clean. **[14]How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!**

[15]For this reason **Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance—now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant.**

.....

[22] ..... the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, **and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.**

[23]It was necessary, then, for the copies of the heavenly things to be purified with these sacrifices, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. [24]For Christ did not enter a man-made sanctuary that was only a copy of the true one; **he entered heaven itself, now to appear for us in God's presence.** [25]Nor did he enter heaven to offer himself again and again, the way the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood that is not his own. [26]Then Christ would have had to suffer many times since the creation of the world. **But now he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of himself. [27]Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment,** [28]so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people; and **he will appear a second time,** not to bear sin, but **to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.**

Heb10:5Therefore, when Christ came into the world, he said:

"Sacrifice and offering you did not desire,
but a body you prepared for me;
[6]with burnt offerings and sin offerings
you were not pleased.
[7]Then I said 'Here I am—it is written about me in the scroll—
**I have come to do your will, O God.' "** (Psa 40:6-8)

.....

**[10]And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.**

[11]Day after day every priest stands and performs his religious duties; again and again he offers the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. **[12]But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God.** [13]Since that time he waits for his enemies to be made his footstool, [14]because **by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.**

[15]The Holy Spirit also testifies to us about this. First he says:

[16]"This is the covenant I will make with them
after that time, says the Lord.
**I will put my laws in their hearts,**
**and I will write them on their minds." (Jer 31:33)**

[17]Then he adds:

**"Their sins and lawless acts**
**I will remember no more." (Jer 31:34)**

[18]And where these have been forgiven, there is no longer any sacrifice for sin. [19]Therefore, brothers, since **we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, [20]by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, [21]and since we have a great priest over the house of God, [22]let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. [23]Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.**

[24]And let us consider how we may **spur one another on toward love and good deeds. [25]Let us not give up meeting together,** as some are in the habit of doing, but **let us encourage one another**—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

**[26]If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, [27]but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God.** [28]Anyone who rejected the law of Moses died without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. [29]How much more severely do you think a man deserves to be punished who has trampled the Son of God under foot, who has treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant that sanctified[1j] him, and who has insulted the Spirit of grace? [30]For we know him who said, "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," (Deu 32:35) and again, "The Lord will judge his people." (Deu 32:36; Psa 135:14) **[31]It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.**

[32]Remember those earlier days after you had received the light, when **you stood your ground in a great contest in the face of suffering. [33]Sometimes you were publicly exposed to insult and persecution;** at other times you stood side by side with those who were so treated. [34]You sympathized with those in prison and joyfully accepted the confiscation of your property, because **you knew that you yourselves had better and lasting possessions.**

**[35]So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded. [36]You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised.** [37]For in just a very little while,

"He who is coming will come and will not delay.
**[38]But my righteous one will live by faith.**
And if he shrinks back,
I will not be pleased with him." (Hab 2:3,4)

**[39]But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who believe and are saved.**

Heb11:1 **Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. [2]This is what the ancients were commended for.**

**[3]By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.**

.....

**[5]By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death;** he could not be found, because God had taken him away. For before he was taken, **he was commended as one who pleased God.**

**[6]And without faith it is impossible to please God,** because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that **he rewards those who earnestly seek him.**

[7]By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, **in holy fear built an ark to save his family.** By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of **the righteousness that comes by faith.**

[8]By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. [9]By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. [10]For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

[11]By faith Abraham, even though he was past age—and Sarah herself was barren—was enabled to become a father because **he considered him faithful who had made the promise.** [12]And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.

**[13]All these people were still living by faith when they died.** They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance. **And they admitted that they were aliens and strangers on earth. [14]People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own.** [15]If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. **[16]Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.**

[17]By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had received the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son, [18]even though God had said to him, "It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned." (Gen 21:12) [19]Abraham reasoned that God could raise the dead, and figuratively speaking, he did receive Isaac back from death.

.....

[24]By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. **[25]He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a short time. [26]He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward.** [27]By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger; **he persevered because he saw him who is invisible.**

.....

[32]And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel and the prophets, [33]who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions, [34]quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; **whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle** and routed foreign armies. [35]Women received back their dead, raised to life again. Others were tortured and refused to be released, so that they might gain a better resurrection. [36]Some faced jeers and flogging, while still others were chained and put in prison. [37]They were stoned; they were sawed in two; they were put to death by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated—[38]the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

[39]These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised. [40]God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.

Heb12:1Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, **let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. [2]Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith,** who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. [3]Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, **so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.** [4]In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. [5]And you have forgotten that word of encouragement that addresses you as sons:

"My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline,
and do not lose heart when he rebukes you,
[6]because **the Lord disciplines those he loves,**
and he punishes everyone he accepts as a son." (Pro 3:11,12)

**[7]Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as sons.** For what son is not disciplined by his father? **[8]If you are not disciplined (and everyone undergoes discipline), then you are illegitimate children and not true sons.** [9]Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we **submit to the Father of our spirits and live!** [10]Our fathers disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but **God disciplines us for our good, that we may share in his holiness.** [11]No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, **it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace** for those who have been trained by it.

[12]Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees. **[13]"Make level paths for your feet," (Pro 4:26)** so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed.

.....

**[14]Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. [15]See to it that no one misses the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many. [16]See that no one is sexually immoral, or is godless like Esau, who for a single meal sold his inheritance rights as the oldest son.** [17]Afterward, as you know, when he wanted to inherit this blessing, he was rejected. He could bring about no change of mind, though he sought the blessing with tears.

[18]You have not come to a mountain that can be touched and that is burning with fire; to darkness, gloom and storm; [19]to a trumpet blast or to such a voice speaking words that those who heard it begged that no further word be spoken to them, [20]because they could not bear what was commanded: "If even an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned." (Exo 19:12,13) [21]The sight was so terrifying that Moses said, "I am trembling with fear." (Deu 9:19)

**[22]But you have come to Mount Zion, to the heavenly Jerusalem, the city of the living God.** You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, [23]to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. **You have come to God, the judge of all men, to the spirits of righteous men made perfect,** [24]to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

**[25]See to it that you do not refuse him who speaks.** If they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, how much less will we, if we turn away from him who warns us from heaven? [26]At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, "Once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens." (Hag 2:6) [27]The words "once more" indicate the removing of what can be shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain.

[28]Therefore, since **we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken,** let us **be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, [29]for our "God is a consuming fire."** (Deu 4:24)

**Heb13:1Keep on loving each other as brothers.** [2]Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some people have entertained angels without knowing it. **[3]Remember those in prison as if you were their fellow prisoners, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.**

[4]Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for **God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral. [5]Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said,**

**"Never will I leave you;**
**never will I forsake you." (Deu 31:6)**
**[6]So we say with confidence,**
**"The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid.**
**What can man do to me?" (Psa 118:6,7)**

.....

**[8]Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.**

.....

[11]The high priest carries the blood of animals into the Most Holy Place as a sin offering, but the bodies are burned outside the camp. **[12]And so Jesus also suffered outside the city gate to make the people holy through his own blood.** [13]Let us, then, go to him outside the camp, bearing the disgrace he bore. **[14]For here we do not have an enduring city, but we are looking for the city that is to come.**

**[15]Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that confess his name. [16]And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.**

.....

[18]Pray for us. **We are sure that we have a clear conscience and desire to live honorably in every way.**

.....

**[20]May the God of peace,** who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, **[21]equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ,** to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

**1Tim1:4 ..... God's work—which is by faith.** [5]The goal of this command is **love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.** [6]Some have wandered away from these and turned to meaningless talk. [7]They want to be teachers of the law, but they do not know what they are talking about or what they so confidently affirm.

.....

**[14]The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.**

[15]Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. [16]But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on him and receive eternal life. [17]Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

**[18] ..... fight the good fight, [19]holding on to faith and a good conscience.** Some have rejected these and so have shipwrecked their faith.

1Tim2:3 ..... God our Savior, [4]who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. [5]For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, [6]who gave himself as a ransom for all men—the testimony given in its proper time.

.....

[8]I want men everywhere to lift up holy hands in prayer, without anger or disputing.

**[9]I also want women to dress modestly, with decency and propriety, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or expensive clothes, [10]but with good deeds,** appropriate for women who profess to worship God.

**1Tim4:7 ..... train yourself to be godly.** [8]For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.

.....

**[12] ..... set an example** for the believers **in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity.** [13]Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching.

**[15]Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone may see your progress. [16]Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers.**

1Tim5:1Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but exhort him as if he were your father. **Treat** younger men as brothers, [2]older women as mothers, and **younger women as sisters, with absolute purity.**

.....

**[8]If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.**

.....

**[22] ..... do not share in the sins of others. Keep yourself pure.**

.....

[25] ..... good deeds are obvious, and even those that are not cannot be hidden.

1Tim6:6 **But godliness with contentment is great gain.** [7]For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. [8]But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. [9]People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. [10]For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. **Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith** and pierced themselves with many griefs.

[11]But you, man of God, flee from all this, and **pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. [12]Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called** when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses. [13]In the sight of **God, who gives life to everything,** and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you [14]to **keep this command without spot or blame** until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, [15]which God will bring about in his own time—God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, [16]who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen.

[17]Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to **put their hope in God,** who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. **[18]Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share.** [19]In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may **take hold of the life that is truly life.**

2Tim1:1Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, according to **the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, .....**

.....

[6] ..... I remind you to **fan into flame the gift of God**, which is in you through the laying on of my hands.

**[7]For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.**

**[8]So do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord,** or ashamed of me his prisoner.

But **join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God,** [9]**who has saved us and called us to a holy life**—not because of anything we have done but **because of his own purpose and grace.**

This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, [10]but it has now been revealed through the appearing of **our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.** [11]And of this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher. [12]That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet I am not ashamed, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him for that day.

[13]What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, **with faith and love in Christ Jesus.** [14]Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you—guard it with the help of **the Holy Spirit who lives in us.**

2Tim2:1You then, my son, **be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.** [2]And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.

[3]**Endure hardship with us like a good soldier of Christ Jesus.** [4]**No one serving as a soldier gets involved in civilian affairs—he wants to please his commanding officer.** [5]**Similarly, if anyone competes as an athlete, he does not receive the victor's crown unless he competes according to the rules.**

[6]The hardworking farmer should be the first to receive a share of the crops.

[7]Reflect on what I am saying, for the Lord will give you insight into all this.

[8]Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. This is my gospel, [9]for which I am suffering even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But God's word is not chained. [10]**Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect,** that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.

[11]Here is a trustworthy saying:

**If we died with him,**
**we will also live with him;**
[12]**if we endure,**
**we will also reign with him.**
If we disown him,
he will also disown us;
[13]if we are faithless,
he will remain faithful,
for he cannot disown himself.

.....

[15]**Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.** [16]Avoid godless chatter, because those who indulge in it will become more and more ungodly.

2Tim2:19 ..... God's solid foundation stands firm, sealed with this inscription: "The Lord knows those who are his," (Num 16:5) and, **"Everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness."**

[20]In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for noble purposes and some for ignoble. [21]**If a man cleanses himself from the latter, he will be an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work.**

[22]**Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.** [23]Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels. [24]**And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful.** [25]**Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance[4n] leading them to a knowledge of the truth,** [26]**and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.**

2Tim3:1But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. [2]People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, [3]without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, [4]treacherous, rash, conceited, **lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God**— [5]**having a form of godliness but denying its power.** **Have nothing to do with them.**

[6]They are the kind who worm their way into homes and gain control over weak-willed women, **who are loaded down with sins and are swayed by all kinds of evil desires,** [7]**always learning but never able to acknowledge the truth.** [8]Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so also **these men oppose the truth—men of depraved[5c] minds, who, as far as the faith is concerned, are rejected.** [9]But they will not get very far because, as in the case of those men, their folly will be clear to everyone.

[10]You, however, know all about my teaching, **my way of life, my purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance,** [11]**persecutions, sufferings**—what kinds of things happened to me in Antioch, Iconium and Lystra, the persecutions I endured. Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them. [12]In fact, **everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted,** [13]while evil men and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. [14]But **as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of,** because you know those from whom you learned it, [15]and how from infancy you have known **the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.** [16]**All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,** [17]**so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.**

2Tim4:1In the presence of God and of **Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead,** and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: [2]**Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction.** [3]For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. [4]They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.

[5]**But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.**

[6]For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time has come for my departure. [7]**I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.** [8]Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also **to all who have longed for his appearing.**

.....

[16]At my first defense, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them. [17]**But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it.** And I was delivered from the lion's mouth. [18]The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Tit1:1Paul, **a servant of God** and an apostle of Jesus Christ **for the faith of God's elect and the knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness**— [2]**a faith and knowledge resting on the hope of eternal life,** which God, who does not lie, promised before the beginning of time, [3]and at his appointed season he brought his word to light through the preaching entrusted to me by the command of God our Savior, .....

.....

[15]To the pure, all things are pure, but to those who are corrupted and do not believe, nothing is pure. In fact, **both their minds and consciences are corrupted.** [16]**They claim to know God, but by their actions they deny him. They are detestable, disobedient and unfit for doing anything good.**

Tit2:7**In everything set them an example by doing what is good.** In your teaching show integrity, seriousness [8]and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned, so that those who oppose you may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us.

.....

[11]**For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men.** [12]**It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age,** [13]while we wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, **Jesus Christ,** [14]**who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.**

[15]These, then, are the things you should teach. Encourage and rebuke with all authority. Do not let anyone despise you.

Tit3:1Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, **to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good,** [2]**to slander no one, to be peaceable and considerate, and to show true humility toward all men.**

[3]**At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures.** We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. [4]But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, [5]he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. **He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit,** [6]**whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior,** [7]so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having **the hope of eternal life.** [8]This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so **that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good.** These things are excellent and profitable for everyone.

.....

[14]**Our people must learn to devote themselves to doing what is good,** in order that they may provide for daily necessities and not live unproductive lives.

Phm1:4I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers, [5]because I hear about **your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints.** [6]I pray that you may **be active in sharing your faith, so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ.** [7]Your love has given me great joy and encouragement, because you, brother, have refreshed the hearts of the saints.

**Rev1:5 ..... To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood,** [6]**and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father**—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

[7]**Look, he is coming with the clouds,**
**and every eye will see him,**
**even those who pierced him;**
**and all the peoples of the earth will mourn because of him. So shall it be! Amen.**

[8]**"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty."**

[9]I, John, your brother and companion in **the suffering and kingdom and patient endurance that are ours in Jesus,** was on the island of Patmos **because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.**

.....

[17]When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid. **I am the First and the Last.** [18]**I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever!** And I hold the keys of death and Hades."

[19]"Write, therefore, what you have seen, what is now and what will take place later. [20]The mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand and of the seven golden lampstands is this: The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches."

Rev2:1"To the angel of the church in Ephesus write:

These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands: [2]**I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked men, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false.** [3]**You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary.** [4]**Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken your first love.** [5]**Remember the height from which you have fallen! Repent[4q] and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place.** [6]**But you have this in your favor: You hate the practices of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.** [7]He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. **To him who overcomes, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God."**

[8]"To the angel of the church in Smyrna write:

These are the words of him who is the First and the Last, who died and came to life again. [9]**I know your afflictions and your poverty—yet you are rich!** I know the slander of those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. [10]Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. **Be faithful, even to the point of death,** and I will give you the crown of life. [11]He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. **He who overcomes will not be hurt at all by the second death."**

[12]"To the angel of the church in Pergamum write:

These are the words of him who has the sharp, double-edged sword. [13]**I know where you live—where Satan has his throne. Yet you remain true to my name. You did not renounce your faith in me, even in the days of Antipas, my faithful witness, who was put to death in your city—where Satan lives.** [14]Nevertheless, I have a few things against you: You have people there who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to entice the Israelites to sin by eating food sacrificed to idols and **by committing sexual immorality.** [15]Likewise you also have those who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans. [16]**Repent[4r] therefore! Otherwise, I will soon come to you and will fight against them** with the sword of my mouth. [17]He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. **To him who overcomes, I will give some of the hidden manna. I will also give him a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to him who receives it."**

[18]"To the angel of the church in Thyatira write:

These are the words of the Son of God, whose eyes are like blazing fire and whose feet are like burnished bronze. [19]**I know your deeds, your love and faith, your service and perseverance, and that you are now doing more than you did at first.** [20]**Nevertheless, I have this against you: You tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess. By her teaching she misleads my servants into sexual immorality** and the eating of food sacrificed to idols. [21]**I have given her time to repent[4s] of her immorality, but she is unwilling.** [22]**So I will cast her on a bed of suffering,** and I will make those who commit adultery with her suffer intensely, unless they repent of her ways. [23]I will strike her children dead. Then all the churches will know that **I am he who searches hearts and minds, and I will repay each of you according to your deeds.** [24]Now I say to the rest of you in Thyatira, to you who do not hold to her teaching and have not learned Satan's so-called deep secrets (I will not impose any other burden on you): [25]Only **hold on to what you have until I come.** [26]**To him who overcomes and does my will to the end, I will give authority over the nations—**

[27]'He will rule them with an iron scepter;
he will dash them to pieces like pottery' (Psa 2:9)

— just as I have received authority from my Father. [28]I will also give him the morning star. [29]He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

Rev3:1"To the angel of the church in Sardis write:

These are the words of him who holds the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead. [2]**Wake up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your deeds complete in the sight of my God.** [3]**Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; obey it, and repent[4t]. But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what time I will come to you.** [4]**Yet you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes. They will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are worthy.** [5]**He who overcomes will, like them, be dressed in white. I will never blot out his name from the book of life, but will acknowledge his name before my Father and his angels.** [6]He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

[7]"To the angel of the church in Philadelphia write:

**These are the words of him who is holy and true,** who holds the key of David. What he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open. [8]**I know your deeds.** See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut. **I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name.** [9]I will make those who are of the synagogue of Satan, who claim to be Jews though they are not, but are liars—I will make them come and fall down at your feet and acknowledge that I have loved you. [10]**Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come upon the whole world to test those who live on the earth.** [11]**I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your crown.** [12]**Him who overcomes I will make a pillar in the temple of my God. Never again will he leave it. I will write on him the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which is coming down out of heaven from my God; and I will also write on him my new name.** [13]He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

[14]"To the angel of the church in Laodicea write:

**These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God's creation.** [15]**I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other!** [16]**So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth.** [17]**You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked.** [18]**I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see.** [19]**Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest, and repent[4u].** [20]**Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me.** [21]**To him who overcomes, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I overcame and sat down with my Father on his throne.** [22]He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

**Rev4:8 ..... "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty,**
**who was, and is, and is to come."**

**Rev4:11"You are worthy, our Lord and God,**
**to receive glory and honor and power,**
**for you created all things,**
**and by your will they were created**
**and have their being."**

Rev12:9The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.

.....

[12]"Therefore rejoice, you heavens
and you who dwell in them!
But woe to the earth and the sea,
because the devil has gone down to you!
He is filled with fury,
because he knows that his time is short."

.....

[17]**Then the dragon ..... went off to make war against ..... those who obey God's commandments and hold to the testimony of Jesus.**

Rev13:5The beast was given a mouth to utter proud words and blasphemies and to exercise his authority for forty-two months. [6]He opened his mouth to blaspheme God, and to slander his name and his dwelling place and those who live in heaven. [7]**He was given power to make war against the saints and to conquer them.** And he was given authority over every tribe, people, language and nation. [8]All inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast—all whose names have not been written in the book of life belonging to the Lamb that was slain from the creation of the world.

[9]He who has an ear, let him hear.

[10]**If anyone is to go into captivity,**
**into captivity he will go.**
**If anyone is to be killed with the sword,**
**with the sword he will be killed.**

**This calls for patient endurance and faithfulness on the part of the saints.**

Rev14:9A third angel followed them and said in a loud voice: "If anyone worships the beast and his image and receives his mark on the forehead or on the hand, [10]he, too, will drink of the wine of God's fury, which has been poured full strength into the cup of his wrath. He will be tormented with burning sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and of the Lamb. [11]And the smoke of their torment rises for ever and ever. There is no rest day or night for those who worship the beast and his image, or for anyone who receives the mark of his name." [12]**This calls for patient endurance on the part of the saints who obey God's commandments and remain faithful to Jesus.**

[13]Then I heard a voice from heaven say, "Write: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on."

**"Yes," says the Spirit, "they will rest from their labor, for their deeds will follow them."**

Rev15:1I saw in heaven another great and marvelous sign: seven angels with the seven last plagues—last, because with them God's wrath is completed. [2]And I saw what looked like a sea of glass mixed with fire and, standing beside the sea, **those who had been victorious** over the beast and his image and over the number of his name. They held harps given them by God [3]and sang the song of Moses the servant of God and the song of the Lamb:

**"Great and marvelous are your deeds,**
Lord God Almighty.
**Just and true are your ways,**
King of the ages.
[4]Who will not fear you, O Lord,
and bring glory to your name?
**For you alone are holy.**
All nations will come
and worship before you,
**for your righteous acts have been revealed."**

**Rev16:15"Behold, I come like a thief! Blessed is he who stays awake and keeps his clothes with him, so that he may not go naked and be shamefully exposed."**

[16]Then they gathered the kings together to the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon.

Rev19:6Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting:

**"Hallelujah!**
**For our Lord God Almighty reigns.**
[7]Let us rejoice and be glad
and give him glory!
For the wedding of the Lamb has come,
and his bride has made herself ready.
[8]**Fine linen, bright and clean,**
**was given her to wear." (Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of the saints.)**

[9]Then the angel said to me, **"Write: 'Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!' " And he added, "These are the true words of God."**

[10]At this I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "Do not do it! I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers who **hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."**

Rev20:7When the thousand years are over, Satan will be released from his prison [8]and will go out to deceive the nations in the four corners of the earth—Gog and Magog—to gather them for battle. In number they are like the sand on the seashore. [9]They marched across the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of God's people, the city he loves. But fire came down from heaven and devoured them. [10]**And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever.**

[11]Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. Earth and sky fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. [12]And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. **The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books.** [13]The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and **each person was judged according to what he had done.** [14]Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. [15]**If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.**

**Rev21:1Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth,** for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. [2]**I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,** prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. [3]And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, **"Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.** [4]**He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."**

[5]He who was seated on the throne said, **"I am making everything new!"** Then he said, "Write this down, for **these words are trustworthy and true."**

[6]He said to me: **"It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End."**

**"To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life."**

[7]**"He who overcomes will inherit all this, and I will be his God and he will be my son."**

[8]**"But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars—their place will be in the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death."**

[9]One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb." [10]And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me **the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God.** [11]**It shone with the glory of God, and its brilliance was like that of a very precious jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal.** [12]It had a great, high wall with twelve gates, and with twelve angels at the gates. On the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel. [13]There were three gates on the east, three on the north, three on the south and three on the west. [14]The wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

[15]The angel who talked with me had a measuring rod of gold to measure the city, its gates and its walls. [16]The city was laid out like a square, as long as it was wide. He measured the city with the rod and found it to be 12,000 stadia in length [about 1,400 miles], and as wide and high as it is long. [17]He measured its wall and it was 144 cubits [about 200 feet] thick [OR high], by man's measurement, which the angel was using. [18]**The wall was made of jasper, and the city of pure gold, as pure as glass.** [19]The foundations of the city walls were decorated with every kind of precious stone. The first foundation was jasper, the second sapphire, the third chalcedony, the fourth emerald, [20]the fifth sardonyx, the sixth carnelian, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, and the twelfth amethyst. [21]The twelve gates were twelve pearls, each gate made of a single pearl. The great street of the city was of pure gold, like transparent glass.

[22]**I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.** [23]The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for **the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp.** [24]The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their splendor into it. [25]On no day will its gates ever be shut, for there will be no night there. [26]The glory and honor of the nations will be brought into it. [27]**Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.**

Rev22:1Then the angel showed me **the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb** [2]down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. [3]**No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him.** [4]**They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads.** [5]There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. **And they will reign for ever and ever.**

[6]The angel said to me, "These words are trustworthy and true. The Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, sent his angel to show his servants the things that must soon take place."

[7]**"Behold, I am coming soon! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy in this book."**

[8]I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I had heard and seen them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who had been showing them to me. [9]But he said to me, "Do not do it! I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers the prophets and of all who keep the words of this book. Worship God!"

[10]Then he told me, "Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, because the time is near. [11]Let him who does wrong continue to do wrong; let him who is vile continue to be vile; **let him who does right continue to do right; and let him who is holy continue to be holy."**

[12]**"Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done.** [13]**I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End."**

[14]**"Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city.** [15]**Outside are the dogs, those who practice magic arts, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters and everyone who loves and practices falsehood."**

[16]"I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star."

[17]The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" **Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life.**

.....

[20]He who testifies to these things says, **"Yes, I am coming soon."**

Amen. **Come, Lord Jesus.**

[21]The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God's people. Amen

1 - sanctify: to free from sin, purify, and set apart for a sacred purpose. 1a: ^ 1b: ^ 1c: ^ 1d: ^ 1e: ^ 1f: ^ 1g: ^ 1h: ^ 1i: ^ 1j: ^ 1k: ^

2 - debauchery: indulgence in pleasure that lacks moral restraint, extreme indulgence in sensual pleasure. 2a: ^ 2b: ^ 2c: ^ 2d: ^

3 - atonement: to restore to friendship or harmony, settle, resolve --- to repair, the act of making amends or giving satisfaction for a wrong or injury, something done or given as amends or satisfaction, the payment of damages for an offense or injury --- the reconciliation of God and humankind through the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ. 3a: ^ 3b: ^ 3c: ^

4 - repent: to turn from sin/harmdoing and dedicate oneself to the correction of one's life to God's principles: to feel regret and sorrow, to change one's mind. 4a: ^ 4b: ^ 4c: ^ 4d: ^ 4e: ^ 4f: ^ 4g: ^ 4h: ^ 4i: ^ 4j: ^ 4k: ^ 4l: ^ 4m: ^ 4n: ^ 4o: ^ 4p: ^ 4q: ^ 4r: ^ 4s: ^ 4t: ^ 4u: ^

5 - deprave: to make bad, to corrupt morally, degrade with unsound principles or moral values. 5a: ^ 5b: ^ 5c: ^ 5d: ^

6 - dissipation: spending or using up wastefully or foolishly, causing to spread thin or scatter and gradually vanish. 6a: ^

**Faith** and **Love**

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