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LETTER TO THE

ROMANS

Personal Notes Edition

Amplified Classic Translation

Thank you for downloading this Bible study resource!

Why Use This Study Resource?

2 Timothy 3:16-17 says,

Every Scripture is God-breathed (given by His inspiration) and profitable for instruction, for reproof and conviction of sin, for correction of error and discipline in obedience, [and] for training in righteousness (in holy living, in conformity to God's will in thought, purpose, and action), so that the man of God may be complete and proficient, well fitted and thoroughly equipped for every good work.

We all know that reading the Bible regularly is part of how we water and nourish our Christian lives and how we grow in the things of God. But there is more to reading God's Word than the physical act of engaging our intellect and our thought life.

One minister likes to say, "The Bible wasn't written to your head; it was written to your heart." I like that. In other words, if you will allow it to be so, God's Word will actually impart spiritual as well as physical life to you as you read it (John 6:63). God's Word is not only His written will, but we know that the Word of God is *theopneustos*, that is, it is literally *God-breathed*. He put Himself in the Bible! His very nature and person is present in the holy Word of God!

When you read the Word of God *with your heart*, you initiate a divine transaction. The Holy Spirit takes what is old and parched in your heart and replaces it with the fresh, life-giving, and invigorating water of revelation that flows from the heart of God. He heals the broken parts of our lives with His completeness and gently pours His healing oil on our wounds. The Word of

God is alive, powerful, and sharp enough to cut through all the pretense of our intellect and get straight to the heart of the matter.

Paul's Epistle to the Romans is a powerful letter for today's believer and its anointed words resonate deeply to people of every stage of spiritual growth. Romans is a perfect place for new believers to start because it is chock full of solid, Christ-centered doctrine. In this book, Paul lays out the most complete description of our need for a Savior and the grace of God than any other book in the New Testament. For the Gentile reader, this is the *perfect* place to build your foundation on Jesus Christ. For spiritual young men and women, this is a book to "cut your teeth on" the underpinnings of what it looks like to follow Jesus with His power and grace flowing powerfully through your lives as you learn to "reign as kings in life through the one Man Jesus Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One)." Romans 5:17.

For those more established and mature in the Lord, Romans continues to remind us of the simple origins of the grace of God and our continual need to lay our lives down on the altar as living sacrifices to God in ardent pursuit of everything He has called us to do and to become in Christ.

Romans will strengthen and serve to seal up any cracks in your spiritual foundation that may have been neglected over the years or are just plain missing. In this book, amongst many other foundational Christian truths, you will find expert-level revelation on *how the faith of God operates, how to support and uphold weak and growing believers*, and the "force-field-like" *protection* we have in the precious love of Christ that nothing can take away from us. (Chapters four, fourteen, and eight, respectively)

I know that as we take in the precious Word of Life, we are given fresh anointing to walk in our callings, purposes, and divine giftings in life—and we find the strength to do so through the precious shed Blood of Jesus Christ. No other book in the New Testament equips the believer to walk in the power of the Blood like the book of Romans does.

Organization

I've organized the Book of Romans in the same way I organize most of the books of the Bible for my own personal study—double-spaced in a single column on the left, with a blank column on the right for notes and comments. I heard about this method of studying the Bible from a dear friend of mine, who over the years has introduced me to fresh and different ways of getting the most out of studying the Word of God. While I have been using these methods for years with tremendous benefit, I still have much to learn! I simply want to share with you, friend, some of the tools and methods that have enabled me over the years to, by the anointing of the Holy Spirit, extract an amazing amount of revelation from the Word of God.

For instance, one way I like to study the Bible is to set up a two-column format and remove all the chapter titles and page numbers. Doing this helps to immerse myself in the text and allows me to think along with what the Holy Spirit is saying and doing, rather than creating false contextual barriers between chapter and verse because of a rude and interrupting chapter heading or verse number. In many cases, the Holy Spirit may be in the middle of developing an idea or spiritual truth, when suddenly, the chapter (placed there by people) ends. Our brains are trained to read the first words of the next chapter as distinct from the last, but in fact, it is a continuation

of the last chapter. For a good example of this, try reading through the transition between Ephesians 1 and 2 without acknowledging the chapter break.

Although eliminating chapter and verse headings is a good way to encourage a deeper encounter with the Word in many cases, for this study, I have chosen to keep them. I find that, for longer texts like the Letter to the Romans, retaining the chapter and verse numbers is useful for cross-referencing and for keeping your place between readings. If you find the Holy Spirit speaking to your heart about a chapter or two, however, I recommend studying them without numbers.

Why the *Amplified Classic Bible*?

I chose to study Paul's Epistle to the Romans in the *Amplified Bible, Classic Edition* because I love how this translation makes many of the Greek words explicit in the English language. Although I zealously employ and highly recommend an interlinear resource (like *Blue Letter Bible*) for deeper word studies, the *AMPC* provides a great context for a more comprehensive word study than most of the other English translations, while staying close to the KJV text.

One of the most important benefits from spending time in the Bible is learning how to hear God's voice as you read, and learning how to stop, listen, and engage with the Father as you read. *Recall that the Bible isn't written to your head; it is written to your heart.* It is only through ongoing *relationship* and *intimacy* with the Author of the Bible that one can truly *taste and see* that the Lord is good.

Go deep with God. Don't be afraid to ask Him questions; He can handle your doubts and concerns. He isn't offended when you ask Him about His Word. With such an important subject as the Gospel of Jesus, it is *vital* that we *take the time* to get to know God's heart concerning His plan for salvation, and this Plan is no more clearly laid out than in Paul's Epistle to the Romans.

Remember, like Paul wrote to Timothy, **every Scripture is God-breathed.** God's Word, although physically printed on computer paper or digitally reproduced on your mobile device, contains the very life and spirit of God Himself. I pray that you enjoy your time with Him, that you hear His voice clearly, and that you engage deeply with the truths that the Holy Spirit desires to impart to you in this season. It is my deepest desire that you will sink your roots down deep into the revelation of grace revealed so clearly in Romans and that your heart would be open to the Holy Spirit's life-giving breath as you study this resource.

With all my love,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Justin". The script is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

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LETTER TO THE
ROMANS

Personal Notes Edition

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⊛ PAUL'S INTRO: HIS IDENTITY IN CHRIST.

SERVANT: δουλος = "δοῦλος"

= SLAVE
= ONE WHO GIVES HIMSELF UP TO ANOTHER'S WILL
= DEVOTED TO ANOTHER TO THE DISREGARD OF ONE'S OWN INTERESTS

Chapter 1

IMITATE HIM AS HE IMITATES CHRIST!

1 From Paul, a bond servant of Jesus Christ (the Messiah) called to be an apostle, (a "SENT ONE" special messenger) set apart to [preach] the

Gospel (good news) of and from God, NOT OF MAN OR RELIGION.

2 Which He promised in advance [long ago] through His prophets in the sacred

Scriptures— THE PLAN OF REDEMPTION THROUGH A GOD-MAN (JESUS) IS ENFOLED IN THE OLD TESTAMENT!

3 [The Gospel] regarding His Son, Who as to the flesh (His human nature) was descended from David,

4 And [as to His divine nature] according to the Spirit of holiness was openly designated the Son of God in power [in a striking, triumphant and miraculous manner] by His resurrection from the dead, even Jesus Christ our Lord (the Messiah, the Anointed One).

CALLLED:

= INVITED

→ IN GAL. 1:15, PAUL USES KAIRO, WHICH IS "CALLED BY NAME."

⇒ HERE, "CALLED" = KĪETOS

= INVITED TO A FEAST

= DIVINELY APPOINTED

WE ARE ALL INVITED TO THE LOVE BANQUET OF CHRIST!

BOTH MARY AND JOSEPH WERE DESCENDENTS OF KING DAVID.

THE ROLE OF GOD IS NEVER SEPARATE FROM THE GOSPEL!

THIS IS HOW JESUS IS DECLARED ONCE AND FOR ALL THE SON OF GOD. NO OTHER RELIGION CAN HANDLE THE BODILY RESURRECTION OF CHRIST.

GOOD GOSPEL, NOT MAN'S. THIS IS HIS PLAN, BY WHICH HE WOULD RECONCILE THE WORLD TO HIMSELF THROUGH JESUS.

5 It is through Him that we have received

grace (God's unmerited favor) and [our]

apostleship to promote obedience to the faith

and make disciples for His name's sake

among all the nations,

↑ NOT JUST OUR OWN

6 And this includes you, called of Jesus Christ

and invited [as you are] to belong to Him.

7 To [you then] all God's beloved ones in

Rome, called to be saints and designated for a

consecrated life: Grace and spiritual blessing

and peace be yours from God our Father and

from the Lord Jesus Christ.

8 First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ

for all of you, because [the report of] your

faith is made known to all the world and is

commended everywhere.

9 For God is my witness, Whom I serve with

my [whole] spirit [rendering priestly and

spiritual service] in [preaching] the Gospel

⊛ TWO SIDES OF THE GOSPEL COIN.
RECEIVE ; GO!

OUR JOB DESCRIPTION.
NOT GOING TO CHURCH (ONLY).
NOT GIVING TITHES (ONLY).

HE MAKES IT SO PERSONAL!!
"YEAH, YOU! THE ONE READING THIS LETTER!"

"CALLED" AGAIN - THIRD TIME IN THE FIRST 7 VERSES.

WE ARE CALLED (INVITED)
TO BE SET APART AND HOLY TO GOD. AND WHAT DOES THIS LIFE LOOK LIKE?

"GRACE [EMPOWERMENT],
SPIRITUAL BLESSING [BLESSING OF THE HIGHEST ORDER;
GIVEN BY THE SPIRIT] AND PEACE [SHALOM]."

↓
→ SEPARATE PERSONS, YET ONE.

PERSONAL FAITH IS RECOGNIZABLE AND COMMENDABLE.

"SET APART AND HOLY TO GOD."
THIS TYPE OF LIFESTYLE IS A FRUIT, NOT A ROOT, OF A REDEEMED LIFE.

AS HE IS OURS TODAY AND EVERYDAY. SEE PSALM 34:15
2 CHRON. 16:9

PREACHING THE GOSPEL AND TELLING THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS IS PART OF OUR PRIESTLY AND SPIRITUAL SERVICE! SEE ALSO ROMANS 12:1-2.

and [telling] the good news of His Son, how incessantly I always mention you when at my prayers.

↑ "E/O BREAKS"

10 I keep pleading that somehow by God's

will I may now at last prosper and come to you.

↑
A GOOD THING: TO PROSPER

PAUL IS WILLING TO PUT HIS PERSONAL DESIRES ON HOLD IN LIEU OF GOD'S DIRECTION IN THE MOMENT. BEING LED BY THE SPIRIT ALWAYS INVOLVES HUMILITY.

11 For I am yearning to see you, that I may impart and share with you some spiritual gift to strengthen and establish you;

LOVE THIS!
NOT A SELFISH DESIRE, BUT NEITHER DOES HE DOUBT HE WILL RECEIVE SOMETHING IN THE EXCHANGE, TOO. HE ISN'T SURE EXACTLY WHAT IT WILL BE, BUT HE IS CONFIDENT THAT SOMETHING WILL HAPPEN. HE IS FULL OF EXPECTATION.

12 That is, that we may be mutually strengthened and encouraged and comforted by each other's faith, both yours and mine.

THIS SHOULD BE OUR ATTITUDE OF EXPECTATION EVERY TIME WE GATHER

13 I want you to know, brethren, that many times I have planned and intended to come to you, though thus far I have been hindered and prevented, in order that I might have some fruit (some result of my labors) among you, as I have among the rest of the Gentiles.

SEE PROV. 16:9.
AGAIN, PAUL'S DESIRES ARE NO HINDRANCE TO THE HOLY SPIRIT'S GUIDING VOICE. WE MUST BE SENSITIVE TO HIS LEADERSHIP!

↓
PAUL OPENLY ACKNOWLEDGED HIS SUCCESSES, AS WELL AS HIS FAILURES. TRUE HUMILITY SHIES FROM NEITHER.

14 Both to Greeks and to barbarians (to the cultured and to the uncultured), both to the wise and the foolish, I have an obligation to discharge and a duty to perform and a debt to pay.

↑
THE ONLY
DEBT WORTH THE
COST!

MAY THIS BE THE WAY WE LIVE!
WITH SUCH A GLORIOUS AND PRECIOUS
GIFT OF LIFE, WE CERTAINLY OWE
IT TO THE WORLD TO GO OUT
IN THE POWER OF GOD AND TO
SHARE THIS GLORIOUS GOSPEL
ALL. WE DON'T GET TO PICK &
CHOOSE WHO WE SHARE IT WITH.
THE GOSPEL IS FOR ALL MEN.

15 So, for my part, I am willing and eagerly ready to preach the Gospel to you also who are in Rome.

GET READY, BECAUSE HERE IT COMES...

16 For I am not ashamed of the Gospel (good news) of Christ, for it is God's power working unto salvation [for deliverance from eternal death] to everyone who believes with a personal trust and a confident surrender and firm reliance, to the Jew first and also to the Greek,

NOT
"ANYONE"
BUT
"EVERYONE"
WHO
BELIEVES

THE THESIS STATEMENT
OF THE BOOK OF ROMANS

THE KINGDOM IS NOT OF WORD,
BUT OF POWER (1 COR. 4:20).
THE GOSPEL OF JESUS IS
NOT C/O POWER. ANYTHING LESS
IS NOT THE FULL AND TRUE
GOSPEL; IT STANDS ON ITS OWN!

17 For in the Gospel a righteousness which God ascribes is revealed, both springing from faith and leading to faith [disclosed through the way of faith that arouses to more faith].

ANY OTHER TYPE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS
WILL NOT GET THE JOB DONE.

As it is written, The man who through faith is

"FROM FAITH TO FAITH."
lit, "FAITH EXCEEDING INTO, OR
RESULTING IN MORE MATURE
FAITH."

↓
HABAKKUK 2:4. QUOTED 3x IN THE
NEW TESTAMENT. SEE GALATIANS 3:11
AND HEBREWS 10:38

just and upright shall live and shall live by faith.

18 For God's [holy] wrath and indignation are revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who in their wickedness repress and hinder the truth and make it inoperative.

19 For that which is known about God is evident to them and made plain in their inner consciousness, because God [Himself] has shown it to them.

20 For ever since the creation of the world His invisible nature and attributes, that is, His eternal power and divinity, have been made intelligible and clearly discernible in and through the things that have been made (His handiworks). So [men] are without excuse [altogether without any defense or justification],

⊙ CREATION IS THE MOST BASIC LANGUAGE OF GOD - HE USES IT TO CLEARLY DESCRIBE HIS INVISIBLE ATTRIBUTES!

WE ARE TO LIVE IN SUCH A WAY THAT WE CAN NEVER LOOK BACK AND TAKE ANY CREDIT FOR OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS. IF YOU AREN'T LIVING ON THE EDGE, YOU ARE TAKING IT TOO EASY. WE NEED TO STEP OUT IN FAITH IF WE EXPECT A "GOD-STORY" TO TELL LATER.

lit, "SUPPRESS" OR "MUZZLE". THIS IS AN ACCURATE DESCRIPTION OF SATAN'S WORK IN AND AMONG THE "SONS OF DISOBEDIENCE."

← THERE IS, THEN, NO TRUE ATHEISTS. THERE ARE ONLY THOSE WHO HAVE DECEIVED THEMSELVES INTO IGNORING GOD AND THE DEEP, INNER TRUTH HE HAS SHOWN THEM. THIS IS USEFUL KNOWLEDGE WHEN SPEAKING TO AN "ATHEIST." YOU SPEAK TO THEM LIKE THEY BELIEVE IN GOD - B/C THEY ACTUALLY DO.

← THEY WILL HAVE NOTHING TO STAND ON IN THE JUDGMENT. GREEK:

"THAT WHICH CANNOT BE DEFENDED."

→ STRONG LANGUAGE FOR A SOCIETY STEEPED IN LOGIC, PHILOSOPHY, AND GREAT ORATORS.

21 Because when they knew and recognized

Him as God, they did not honor and glorify

Him as God or give Him thanks. But instead

they became futile and godless in their

thinking [with vain imaginings, foolish

reasoning, and stupid speculations] and their

senseless minds were darkened.

22 Claiming to be wise, they became fools

[professing to be smart, they made simpletons

of themselves].

"BECAME" - IT DIDN'T
HAPPEN OVERNIGHT.

23 And by them the glory and majesty and

excellence of the immortal God were

exchanged for and represented by images,

resembling mortal man and birds and beasts

and reptiles.

SEE KJV: THIS IS THE HISTORY OF IDOLATRY!

24 Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of

their [own] hearts to sexual impurity, to the

dishonoring of their bodies among themselves

[abandoning them to the degrading power of

sin],

FOUR STEPS TO HARDENING YOUR HEART AGAINST GOD:

- 1) DO NOT HONOR & GLORIFY GOD
- 2) FORGET WHAT HE HAS DONE AND NEGLECT TO BE THANKFUL.
- 3) ALLOW YOUR THOUGHTS AND IMAGINATIONS TO STRAY FROM THE WORD OF GOD AND BECOME VAIN; IDLE, AND USELESS.
- 4) ALLOW YOUR DISTANCE FROM GOD TO PENETRATE YOUR HEART, DARKEN YOUR IDENTITY, AND AFFECT YOUR ENTIRE BODY & LIFESTYLE.

⊛ THESE STEPS, IF TAKEN SERIOUSLY AND PUT INTO ACTION, WILL BE THE DOWNFALL OF EVEN THE MOST GODLY MAN OR WOMAN.

HE FINALLY RELENTED AND ALLOWED THEM TO RECEIVE WHAT THEY WANTED. HOW TRAGIC! HOW HEART-BREAKING!! BUT WE HAVE FREE WILL. THIS WAS NOT / IS NOT GOD'S WILL FOR ANY PERSON.

11 { BUT WE CAN HAVE WHAT WE WANT, REGARDLESS OF GOD'S WILL. }

SEE 2 PETER 3:9 FOR PROOF ↗

SEE PROVERBS 23:23

25 Because they exchanged the truth of God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, Who is blessed forever! Amen (so be it).

→ THIS IS HAPPENING TODAY ON A WORLD-WIDE SCALE!

26 For this reason God gave them over and abandoned them to vile affections and degrading passions. For their women exchanged their natural function for an unnatural and abnormal one,

→ THEY GAVE HIM NO CHOICE! HE FINALLY RELENTED AND LET THEM HAVE WHAT THEY WANTED, SINCE THEY STUBBORNLY AND KNOWINGLY TURNED THEIR BACKS ON HIM TIME & AGAIN.

27 And the men also turned from natural relations with women and were set ablaze (burning out, consumed) with lust for one another—men committing shameful acts with men and suffering in their own bodies and personalities the inevitable consequences and penalty of their wrong-doing and going astray, which was [their] fitting retribution.

→ HOMOSEXUALITY ISN'T AN ABOMINATION FOR NO REASON. LOOK AT WHAT IT PRODUCES IN A PERSON. GOD KNEW THE CONSEQUENCES OF ENGAGING IN SUCH A PERVERSION; THAT'S WHY HE SPEAKS AGAINST IT. NOT ONLY DOES IT BRING NATURAL CONSEQUENCES, BUT IT IS A PERVERSION; A TWISTING—A DEFORMATION OF THE WAY GOD DESIGNED HIS CHILDREN—IN HIS IMAGE!

DOUBTLESS REFERS TO STDs AND OTHER WRECKAGE CAUSED IN THE BODIES OF THOSE WHO ARE DECEIVED INTO SUCH PERVERSION

→ "AND PERSONALITIES!" HOMOSEXUALITY DAMAGES THE BODY & THE SOUL!

28 And so, since they did not see fit to acknowledge God or approve of Him or consider Him worth the knowing, God gave

ONE OF THE SADDEST STATEMENTS IN THE ENTIRE BIBLE!

them over to a base and condemned mind to do things not proper or decent but loathsome,

KJV: "REPROBATE"

= UNFIT FOR USE
= MORALLY CORRUPT; DEPRAVED

29 Until they were filled (permeated and saturated) with every kind of unrighteousness, iniquity, grasping and covetous greed, and malice. [They were] full of envy and jealousy, murder, strife, deceit and treachery, ill will and cruel ways. [They were] secret backbiters and gossipers,

→ HOMOSEXUALITY IS NOT PROPER OR DECENT; RATHER IT IS LOATHSOME. WHY? LOOK AT WHAT DRIVES THESE SEXUAL PERVERSIONS!

= IT OPENS THE DOOR TO EVERY KIND OF UNRIGHTEOUSNESS!

→ SOMETHING PREACHED AGAINST YET PRACTICED MORE OFTEN THAN NOT.

30 Slanderers, hateful to and hating God, full of insolence, arrogance, [and] boasting; inventors of new forms of evil, disobedient and undutiful to parents.

→ "DISOBEDIENT TO PARENTS" IS PART OF THIS TERRIBLE LIST!

31 [They were] without understanding, conscienceless and faithless, heartless and loveless [and] merciless.

→ CLEARLY RELATED TO MATING GOD. IF ANYONE CATCHES THE SLIGHTEST Glimpse OF HIS TRUE NATURE, THEY ARE FOREVER CHANGED; SUDDENLY FINDING THE LOVE OF THEIR LIVES!

32 Though they are fully aware of God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve to die, they not only do them

→ EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE LIVES IN AN INTERNAL KNOWLEDGE OF THE ONE TRUE GOD AND HIS RIGHTEOUS JUDGMENTS!!

themselves but approve and applaud others

who practice them.

Chapter 2

1 Therefore you have no excuse or defense or justification, O man, whoever you are who judges and condemns another. For in posing as judge and passing sentence on another, you condemn yourself, because you who judge are habitually practicing the very same things [that you censure and denounce].

MAKE IT PERSONAL, PAUL!

BE WARY OF PREACHERS WHO HARP, HARP, HARP ON SIN. THEY ARE LIKELY PRACTICING THAT VERY THING THEY ARE VEHEMENTLY PREACHING AGAINST!

2 [But] we know that the judgment (adverse verdict, sentence) of God falls justly and in accordance with truth upon those who practice such things.

"DECISION" IS ALL THIS MEANS. DECISIONS MUST BE MADE!

HIS DECISIONS WILL BE COMPLETELY JUST AND RIGHT!

3 And do you think or imagine, O man, when you judge and condemn those who practice such things and yet do them yourself, that you will escape God's judgment and elude His sentence and adverse verdict?

IF YOU DO THESE THINGS AND HAVE CONVINCED YOURSELF THAT YOU ARE JUSTIFIED IN THEM, THINK AGAIN. THIS IS THE END RESULT OF YOUR STANCE.

4 Or are you [so blind as to] trifle with and presume upon and despise and underestimate

the wealth of His kindness and forbearance

and long-suffering patience? Are you

unmindful or actually ignorant [of the fact]

that God's kindness is intended to lead you to

repent (to change your mind and inner man to

accept God's will)?

HIS GOODNESS (OR KINDNESS)
LEADS PEOPLE TO REPENTANCE.

↑
GODLY SORROW COMES, TOO, BUT
IT'S NOT GOD CONDEMNING
YOUR HEART. HIS GOODNESS
IS THE THING THAT RESONATES
SO DEEPLY IN YOUR SPIRIT
THAT YOUR ENTIRE BEING
BEGINS TO HUM AFTER THE
PROSPECT OF ONENESS \bar{c}
HIM. A CHANGE OF MIND IS
THE ONLY CONCLUSION.

5 But by your callous stubbornness and impenitence of heart you are storing up wrath and indignation for yourself on the day of wrath and indignation, when God's righteous judgment (just doom) will be revealed.

→ YOUR STUBBORN ATTITUDE TOWARD
GOD IS NOT GOING TO BOW WELL
FOR YOU IN THE END.

6 For He will render to every man according

to his works [justly, as his deeds deserve]:

→ EVERY MAN!

7 To those who by patient persistence in well-

doing [springing from piety] seek [unseen but

sure] glory and honor and [the eternal

blessedness of] immortality, He will give

eternal life.

} THIS IS THE MAN WHO KNOWS HIS
CITIZENSHIP, HIS HOMELAND, IS NOT
OF THIS WORLD! (HEBREWS 11:13-16)

← DEFINED EXPLICITLY IN JOHN 17:3

8 But for those who are self-seeking and self-

willed and disobedient to the Truth but

responsive to wickedness, there will be

indignation and wrath.

⊗ RESPONSIVE TO WICKEDNESS... CHECK YOUR REFLEXES!!

I WANT TO BE A CHILD WHEN IT COMES TO MALICE + WICKEDNESS, BUT IN UNDERSTANDING A MIGHTY MAN
SEE 1 COR. 14:20

9 [And] there will be tribulation and anguish

and calamity and constraint for every soul of

man who [habitually] does evil, the Jew first

and also the Greek (Gentile).

→ THERE IS TRIBULATION FOR MEN'S SOULS WHO DO EVIL NOW; HOW MUCH MORE IN THE GREAT DAY OF DECISION?

10 But glory and honor and [heart] peace

shall be awarded to everyone who [habitually]

does good, the Jew first and also the Greek

(Gentile).

JUST A FEW OF MANY REWARDS AND CROWNS TO BE GIVEN OUT TO THE RIGHTEOUS ON THAT DAY!

11 For God shows no partiality [undue favor

or unfairness; with Him one man is not

different from another].

SUPER GOOD NEWS!

HE REALLY DOES OFFER EACH ONE OF US THE SAME GRACE AND POWER! WHAT HE HAS DONE FOR ONE HE CERTAINLY WILL DO (OR HAS DONE THROUGH JESUS) FOR ANOTHER!

12 All who have sinned without the Law will

also perish without [regard to] the Law, and

all who have sinned under the Law will be

judged and condemned by the Law.

↘ PEOPLE WILL NOT BE ACCOUNTABLE TO WHAT THEY HAVE NOT HEARD.
(SEE ALSO ROMANS 10:14-21)

13 For it is not merely hearing the Law [read]

that makes one righteous before God, but it is

the doers of the Law who will be held

guiltless and acquitted and justified.

THIS IS TRUE UNDER THE
LAW OF THE SPIRIT OF LIFE
IN CHRIST JESUS (ROMANS 8:2)
ALSO SEE JAMES 1:22-25.
BE A DOER OF THE WORD!

14 When Gentiles who have not the [divine]
Law do instinctively what the Law requires,
they are a law to themselves, since they do
not have the Law.

WE SEE THIS IN UNREACHED
PEOPLE GROUPS AROUND THE
WORLD. MANY UN-EVANGELIZED
CULTURES, IF NOT ALL, RECOGNIZE
AT LEAST ONE GOD OF THREE
PARTS IN THEIR RELIGIOUS
TRADITIONS. ALSO, THEY DO
INDEED SHOW THE LAW OF
GOD "WRITTEN ON THEIR
HEARTS" BY THEIR NATURAL
GOVERNMENTS AND FAMILY/
TRIBAL INTERACTIONS.

15 They show that the essential requirements
of the Law are written in their hearts and are
operating there, with which their consciences
(sense of right and wrong) also bear witness;
and their [moral] decisions (their arguments
of reason, their condemning or approving
thoughts) will accuse or perhaps defend and
excuse [them]

16 On that day when, as my Gospel
proclaims, God by Jesus Christ will judge
men in regard to the things which they
conceal (their hidden thoughts).

literally, "TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE NEWS"
THIS WORD WAS RARE IN GREEK
USAGE DUE TO ITS SUPERFLUOUS
AND EXCESSIVE IMPLICATIONS.

THIS IS GOOD NEWS! REMEMBER
THE ETERNAL REWARDS!!

17 But if you bear the name of Jew and rely upon the Law and pride yourselves in God and your relationship to Him,

WHEN YOU ARE CONFIDENT YOU HAVE IT ALL FIGURED OUT, BE VERY CAREFUL...

18 And know and understand His will and discerningly approve the better things and have a sense of what is vital, because you are instructed by the Law;

THIS IS COMPLETELY POSSIBLE, AND IS IN FACT COMMANDED! SEE **EPHESIANS 5:17**

19 And if you are confident that you [yourself] are a guide to the blind, a light to those who are in darkness, and [that

20 You are] a corrector of the foolish, a teacher of the childish, having in the Law the embodiment of knowledge and truth—

THE POINT OF 17-21.
BE A DOER OF THE WORD, NOT JUST A HEARER OR EVEN A PREACHER!

21 Well then, you who teach others, do you not teach yourself? While you teach against stealing, do you steal (take what does not really belong to you)?

YOU CAN PREACH AND TEACH THE WORD &O REALY EATING IT - CONSUMING IT - LETTING IT CHANGE YOUR DNA.

WE CAN ONLY TEACH WHAT COMES NATURAL TO US EFFECTIVELY. PEOPLE NEED AN AUTHENTIC EXPERIENCE & THE POWER OF GOD, NOT A WELL-CRAFTED THEOLOGICAL DISSERTATION!

22 You who say not to commit adultery, do you commit adultery [are you unchaste in action or in thought]? You who abhor and loathe idols, do you rob temples [do you appropriate to your own use what is consecrated to God, thus robbing the sanctuary and doing sacrilege]?

GOD MAKES IT PERSONAL!
NO ONE CAN HEAR AND OBEY
AND CONSUME JESUS, THE WORD,
THE BREAD OF LIFE, FOR YOU.
YOU ARE THE ONLY ONE WHO
CAN CONSUME AND BENEFIT
THE LIFE OF GOD'S WORD FOR
YOURSELF.

23 You who boast in the Law, do you dishonor God by breaking the Law [by stealthily infringing upon or carelessly neglecting or openly breaking it]?

THE MAIN THRUOT OF VSS. 12-22

24 For, as it is written, The name of God is maligned and blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you! [The words to this effect are from your own Scriptures.]

THAT IS, BECAUSE OF THE
OUTWARDLY RELIGIOUS JEWS WHO
DID NOT LIVE A LIFE THAT
RADIATED THE POWER THAT
RESULTS FROM A VIBRANT AND
EFFECTIVE INTIMACY WITH GOD
AND HIS WORD.

25 Circumcision does indeed profit if you keep the Law; but if you habitually transgress the Law, your circumcision is made uncircumcision.

THE OUTWARD DISPLAY IS TRUMPED BY
ACTIONS AND RESULTS

26 So if a man who is uncircumcised keeps the requirements of the Law, will not his uncircumcision be credited to him as [equivalent to] circumcision?

IT WILL.

27 Then those who are physically uncircumcised but keep the Law will condemn you who, although you have the code in writing and have circumcision, break the Law.

THIS HAPPENS TODAY AMONG CHURCHES WHO PREACH THAT THE SACRIFICE OF JESUS WASN'T ENOUGH - THAT IS, THAT YOU STILL MUST EARN AND WORK YOUR WAY TO GOOD BLESSINGS BY RELIGIOUS EXERCISE.

28 For he is not a [real] Jew who is only one outwardly and publicly, nor is [true] circumcision something external and physical.

THIS WAS AN EXTREMELY CONTROVERSIAL THING TO SAY AT THE TIME.

29 But he is a Jew who is one inwardly, and [true] circumcision is of the heart, a spiritual and not a literal [matter]. His praise is not from men but from God.

BUT LOOK AT THIS!
INDEED, WE WHO HAVE BECOME ONE $\bar{\iota}$ CHRIST ARE PART OF THE FAMILY OF GOD - A POSITION ONCE ONLY AFFORDED TO THE PRECIOUS JEWISH PEOPLE.

THE CHURCH HAS NOT REPLACED THE JEWISH PEOPLE, BUT RATHER HAS BEEN "GRAFTED IN."

SEE ALSO 1 COR. 4:5

"PRAISE" = epainos = APPROVAL
= COMMENDATION
= PRAISE

= FROM GOD!!!

OH, THAT WE WOULD UNDERSTAND THAT GOD REWARDS, STANDS UP, AND GIVES A ROUND OF APPLAUSE TO THE MAN OF VERSE 29.

Chapter 3

1 Then what advantage remains to the Jew?
[How is he favored?] Or what is the value or
benefit of circumcision?

THE NATURAL QUESTION FOLLOWING
OUR DISCUSSION SO FAR.

2 Much in every way. To begin with, to the
Jews were entrusted the oracles (the brief
communications, the intentions, the
utterances) of God.

← AND THEY HAVE PRESERVED THE
WORD TO THIS DAY!

3 What if some did not believe and were
without faith? Does their lack of faith and
their faithlessness nullify and make
ineffective and void the faithfulness of God
and His fidelity [to His Word]?

↪ DOES MAN'S UNFAITHFULNESS, EVEN
IF HE IS CONSIDERED RIGHTEOUS BY
OTHERS, SOMEHOW REFLECT THAT
GOD IS UNFAITHFUL?
THIS IS WHAT MANY BELIEVE, AND
ARE CONSEQUENTLY TURNED AWAY
FROM GOD - DECEIVED INTO THINKING
HE IS AS UNFAITHFUL AS THAT
"RIGHTEOUS" LEADER WHO FELL.

4 By no means! Let God be found true though
every human being is false and a liar, as it is
written, That You may be justified and shown
to be upright in what You say, and prevail
when You are judged [by sinful men].

← THIS DOESN'T MEAN EVERY PERSON
IS FALSE OR A LIAR, BUT WE
KNOW THAT GOD'S GOODNESS AND
FAITHFULNESS ARE COMPLETELY
SEPARATE FROM THAT OF MAN.

↓
WHICH JESUS
PHYSICALLY DID, AND WHAT GOD CONTINUES TO DO
TODAY.

5 But if our unrighteousness thus establishes and exhibits the righteousness of God, what shall we say? That God is unjust and wrong to inflict His wrath upon us [Jews]? I speak in a [purely] human way.

OF COURSE NOT!

6 By no means! Otherwise, how could God judge the world?

AND THE WORLD MUST BE JUDGED!

7 But [you say] if through my falsehood God's integrity is magnified and advertised and abounds to His glory, why am I still being judged as a sinner?"

MANY STILL ARE DECEIVED ALONG THESE LINES TODAY. EVERY PERSON MUST GIVE AN ACCOUNT OF HIMSELF ON THE DAY OF JUDGMENT. END OF STORY!

8 And why should we not do evil that good may come?—as some slanderously charge us with teaching. Such [false teaching] is justly condemned by them.

"OUR OPPONENTS HAVE THIS RIGHT, AT LEAST. THIS IDEA IS WRONG, WRONG, WRONG!"

9 Well then, are we [Jews] superior and better off than they? No, not at all. We have already charged that all men, both Jews and Greeks

THE WORLD

(Gentiles), are under sin [held down by and subject to its power and control].

THIS IS TRUE ONLY BEFORE RECEIVING THE GIFT OF SALVATION. THIS IS NOT THE CASE FOR A BORN-AGAIN, BLOOD-WASHED, REDEEMED BELIEVER.

10 As it is written, None is righteous, just and truthful and upright and conscientious, no, not one.

↑ NO ONE E/O CHRIST.

IF IT WERE, JESU DID NOT TRULY FINISH ANYTHING, AND WE MUST ATONE FOR OUR OWN SIN SOMEHOW BEYOND JESUS. NOT THE CASE!

11 No one understands [no one intelligently discerns or comprehends]; no one seeks out God.

← THANK GOD FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT WHO DRAWS U TO GOD! OTHERWISE WE WOULD NEVER SEEK HIM.

12 All have turned aside; together they have gone wrong and have become unprofitable and worthless; no one does right, not even one!

SEE PSALMS 14:1-3 AND 53:1-3

13 Their throat is a yawning grave; they use their tongues to deceive (to mislead and to deal treacherously). The venom of asps is beneath their lips.

} PSALM 5:9

} PSALM 140:3

14 Their mouth is full of cursing and bitterness.

} PSALM 10:7

15 Their feet are swift to shed blood.

16 Destruction [as it dashes them to pieces] and misery mark their ways.

17 And they have no experience of the way of peace [they know nothing about peace, for a peaceful way they do not even recognize].

ISAIAH 59:7-8

SEE ALSO PROVERBS 8:13

18 There is no [reverential] fear of God before their eyes.

PSALM 36:1

THIS IS THE
CONDITION OF SINFUL
MAN BEFORE, NOT
AFTER SALVATION.

19 Now we know that whatever the Law says, it speaks to those who are under the Law, so that [the murmurs and excuses of] every mouth may be hushed and all the world may be held accountable to God.

→ THE PURPOSE OF THE LAW IS NOT TO PROVIDE A WAY TO GOD DIRECTLY. THE PURPOSE OF THE LAW IS TO POINT US TO OUR NEED FOR A SAVIOR!

20 For no person will be justified (made righteous, acquitted, and judged acceptable) in His sight by observing the works prescribed by the Law. For the real function of] the Law is to make men recognize and be

SO WHY DO SO MANY BELIEVE THE OPPOSITE? THE PREACHING OF THE LAW IS ONLY RESERVED FOR THE SELF-RIGHTEOUS; TO TURN THEM TO JESUS. TO THE SAVED, THE LAW HAS BEEN FULFILLED AND IS NO LONGER RELEVANT TO SALVATION.

conscious of sin [not mere perception, but an acquaintance with sin which works toward repentance, faith, and holy character].

SO THE WHOLE PART OF THE LAW IS TO POINT OUT SIN, WHICH LEADS TO A RECOGNITION OF OUR NEED FOR JESUS.

21 But now the righteousness of God has been revealed independently and altogether apart from the Law, although actually it is attested by the Law and the Prophets,

RADICAL, RADICAL WORDS TO THE JEWISH LISTENER. MUSIC TO THE EARS OF THE ROMAN GENTILE.

22 Namely, the righteousness of God which comes by believing with personal trust and confident reliance on Jesus Christ (the Messiah). [And it is meant] for all who believe. For there is no distinction,

GLORY TO GOD!!

23 Since all have sinned and are falling short of the honor and glory which God bestows and receives.

THE POINT IS THAT WE FELL, THROUGH ADAM, FROM THE GLORY OF GOD. HE CREATED US TO SHARE IN HIS GLORY (PSALM 8:4) AND THE SAVING WORK OF JESUS IS INTENDED TO BRING US BACK TO THAT "CROWNING" OF GLORY!

dikaōō = TO BE DECLARED INNOCENT AND THEREFORE TO BE ABOLVED FROM THE CHARGE OF SINS
ABOLVED = FREE FROM GUILT, CONSEQUENCES, SET FREE; RELEASED (USED IN A COURT OF LAW)

24 [All] are justified and made upright and in right standing with God, freely and gratuitously by His grace (His unmerited

WE ARE NOT LOWLY, WORTHLESS WORMS - GOD CHERISHES US AND LOVES US SO MUCH THAT HE WORKED THE GOSPEL PLAN TO COMPLETION IN ORDER TO RESTORE TO US THE GLORY HE FIRST GAVE US. MORE BELIEVERS NEED TO RECOGNIZE THE GLORY HE GIVES US.

"JUSTIFIED" = JUST-AS-IF-I'D - NEVER SINNED.

TOO MANY CHRISTIANS FORGET THEY HAVE BEEN DECLARED RIGHTEOUS BY GOD AND ARE MORE MINDFUL OF SIN THAN THEY ARE OF THEIR RIGHT STANDING = GOD!

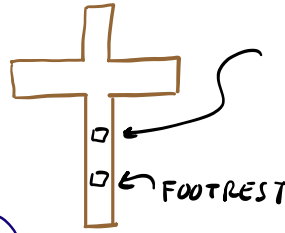
favor and mercy), through the redemption

NOT THROUGH ANY OTHER (god OR METHOD)

which is [provided] in Christ Jesus,

← JESUS

25 Whom God put forward [before the eyes of all] as a mercy seat and propitiation by His blood [the cleansing and life-giving sacrifice of atonement and reconciliation, to be received] through faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in His divine forbearance He had passed over and ignored former sins without punishment.



THIS LITTLE WEDGE IS FOR THE CRUCIFIED PERSON TO SIT AND REST FOR A MOMENT SO THEY CAN TAKE A BREATH. THIS WEDGE IS KNOWN AS THE "MERCY SEAT."

ALSO A DIRECT REFERENCE TO THE MERCY SEAT OF THE ARK OF THE COVENANT. (EXODUS 25:21)

26 It was to demonstrate and prove at the present time (in the now season) that He Himself is righteous and that He justifies and accepts as righteous him who has [true] faith in Jesus.

THIS MEANS TODAY! THE CHURCH AGE; THAT IS, BETWEEN PENTACOST (ACTS 2) AND JESUS' RETURN. A.K.A, "THE LAST DAYS."

← THAT HE MIGHT BE THE DECLARER OF INNOCENCE OF THE ONE WHO HAS FAITH IN JESUS.

← ONLY THE ONES WITH TRUE FAITH IN JESUS

27 Then what becomes of [our] pride and [our] boasting? It is excluded (banished, ruled out entirely). On what principle? [On the principle] of doing good deeds? No, but on the principle of faith.

OR, "THE LAW OF FAITH."

THIS NEW COVENANT IS GOVERNED BY EACH INDIVIDUAL'S FAITH—TAKING GOD AT HIS WORD TO A POINT OF ACTING ON IT PERSONALLY.

28 For we hold that a man is justified and made upright by faith independent of and distinctly apart from good deeds (works of the Law). [The observance of the Law has nothing to do with justification.]

} SO LET'S STOP PREACHING THIS!

29 Or is God merely [the God] of Jews? Is He not the God of Gentiles also? Yes, of Gentiles also,

← THANK GOD!!

30 Since it is one and the same God Who will justify the circumcised by faith [which germinated from Abraham] and the uncircumcised through their [newly acquired] faith. [For it is the same trusting faith in both cases, a firmly relying faith in Jesus Christ].

31 Do we then by [this] faith make the Law of no effect, overthrow it or make it a dead letter? Certainly not! On the contrary, we confirm and establish and uphold the Law.

} THE LAW STILL HAS A PURPOSE, AS WE WILL SEE SHORTLY.

JESUS:

Matthew 5:17 (KJV) Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

"IF WE CONFIRM AND ESTABLISH AND UPHOLD THE LAW"

Chapter 4

1 [But] if so, what shall we say about

Abraham, our forefather humanly speaking—

[what did he] find out? [How does this affect

his position, and what was gained by him?]

HOW DO WE SEE THIS CONCEPT OF "FAITH,
NOT LAW" IN ABRAHAM, THE FATHER
OF THE JEWISH NATION?

2 For if Abraham was justified (established as

just by acquittal from guilt) by good works

[that he did, then] he has grounds for

← AND THUS, SO DO WE.

boasting. But not before God!

THE RIGHT WAY TO APPROACH EVERYTHING IN LIFE

3 For what does the Scripture say? Abraham

believed in (trusted in) God, and it was

credited to his account as righteousness (right

living and right standing with God).

} GENESIS 15:6

4 Now to a laborer, his wages are not counted

as a favor or a gift, but as an obligation

(something owed to him).

} THINK ABOUT PUTTING IN YOUR HOURS;
YOU'VE EARNED A PAYCHECK.

5 But to one who, not working [by the Law],

trusts (believes fully) in Him Who justifies



FAITH IS CREDITED AS RIGHTEOUSNESS.
 SALVATION IS NOT LIKE A PAYCHECK
 FOR YOUR "HOURS" - GOOD WORKS!!

the ungodly, his faith is credited to him as
 righteousness (the standing acceptable to
 God).

IF YOU ARE BORN
 AGAIN, YOU ARE
 ACCEPTABLE TO GOD!!!

6 Thus David congratulates the man and → THAT'S ME!
 pronounces a blessing on him to whom God
 credits righteousness apart from the works he
 does:

7 Blessed and happy and to be envied are
 those whose iniquities are forgiven and whose
 sins are covered up and completely buried.

PSALM 32:1,2

8 Blessed and happy and to be envied is the
 person of whose sin the Lord will take no
 account nor reckon it against him.

SO THEN, OUR INIQUITIES ARE
 FORGIVEN, OUR SINS ARE
 COVERED UP AND COMPLETELY
 BURIED, AND WE ARE PEOPLE
 WHOSE SIN THE LORD TAKES NO
 ACCOUNT OF NOR RECKONS IT
 AGAINST US!!

OUR CALLING CARD

9 Is this blessing (happiness) then meant only
 for the circumcised, or also for the
 uncircumcised? We say that faith was
 credited to Abraham as righteousness.



∴ WE OUGHT TO ACT AND LIVE
 AS THOUGH THE ABOVE TRUTHS
 ARE TRUE. (BECAUSE THEY ARE!)

10 How then was it credited [to him]? Was it before or after he had been circumcised? It was not after, but before he was circumcised.


11 He received the mark of circumcision as a token or an evidence [and] seal of the righteousness which he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised—[faith] so that he was to be made the father of all who [truly] believe, though without circumcision, and who thus have righteousness (right standing with God) imputed to them and credited to their account,

THIS IS US!



12 As well as [that he be made] the father of those circumcised persons who are not merely circumcised, but also walk in the way of that faith which our father Abraham had before he was circumcised.

OUR WALK MATTERS MORE THAN OUR PROFESSION OF RELIGIOUSITY.



13 For the promise to Abraham or his posterity, that he should inherit the world, did not come through [observing the commands

of] the Law but through the righteousness of faith.

THE PROMISES OF GOD TO US THAT ARE IN HIS WORD LIKEWISE DO NOT COME THROUGH OBSERVING THE LAW (EVEN THE TEN COMMANDMENTS) BUT THROUGH THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF FAITH!

MAJOR DEAL

14 If it is the adherents of the Law who are to be the heirs, then faith is made futile and empty of all meaning and the promise [of God] is made void (is annulled and has no power).

WE ARE TO BE THE HEIRS!

IS THE PROMISE OF GOD VOID, ANULLED, OR POWERLESS? IS FAITH FUTILE?

→ THEN THE ADHERENTS OF THE LAW ARE NOT TO BE HEIRS.

15 For the Law results in [divine] wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression [of it either].

NOTICE THE CAUSAL RELATIONSHIP

THIS WAS THE CASE FROM ADAM TO MOSES.

16 Therefore, [inheriting] the promise is the outcome of faith and depends [entirely] on faith, in order that it might be given as an act of grace (unmerited favor), to make it stable and valid and guaranteed to all his descendants—not only to the devotees and adherents of the Law, but also to those who share the faith of Abraham, who is [thus] the father of us all.

FAITH, TRUE BIBLE FAITH — NOT RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE. BUT FAITH THAT COMES BY HEARING AND INTERNALIZING THE WORD OF GOD!

THIS WOULD SETTLE A GREAT MANY QUESTIONS FOR TODAY'S BELIEVER, IF HE WERE TO RECEIVE THIS SIMPLE TRUTH ABOUT RELIGIOUS TEACHINGS AND TRADITIONS OF MAN — ESPECIALLY CONCERNING THE RECEIVING OF GOD'S BLESSINGS AND PROMISES.

THIS IS US!

SO PROMISES MADE TO ABRAHAM AND HIS SEED ARE TO US, IF WE BELIEVE ON JESUS AS OUR SAVIOR BY FAITH! STUDY GALATIANS FOR MORE DETAILS ON THIS.

IT IS BY FAITH, NOT BY WORKS!

GOD'S FAITH SEES AS HISTORY THAT WHICH HASN'T HAPPENED YET!

17 As it is written, I have made you the father of many nations. [He was appointed our father] in the sight of God in Whom he believed, Who gives life to the dead and speaks of the nonexistent things that [He has foretold and promised] as if they [already] existed.

THIS IS INSIGHT INTO THE SPIRITUAL MECHANICS THAT GOVERN HOW FAITH WORKS!!

NOTICE: GOD ^ CALLS THOSE THINGS THAT BE NOT AS THOUGH THEY WERE."

FAITH CALLS THINGS THAT DO NOT EXIST @ THE PRESENT MOMENT AS IF THEY HAD ALREADY TAKEN PLACE.

↑ THIS IS "THE FAITH OF GOD!"
SEE MARK 11:22: HAVE "THE FAITH OF GOD"

FUNDAMENTALS OF FAITH:

- 1) FAITH IS FOUNDED ON SOMETHING GOD SAID
- 2) FAITH ACTIVELY FORMS A PICTURE OF WHAT IT IS BELIEVERS FOR
- 3) FAITH IS SPOKEN
- 4) FAITH MUST BE ACTED UPON
- 5) FAITH WORKS BY LOVE

18 [For Abraham, human reason for] hope being gone, hoped in faith that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been promised, So [numberless] shall your descendants be.

HOPE &/O FAITH IS JUST WISHPUL THINKING

FAITH THAT WORKS ALWAYS SPRINGS

FROM GOD'S WORD!

19 He did not weaken in faith when he considered the [utter] impotence of his own body, which was as good as dead because he was about a hundred years old, or [when he considered] the barrenness of Sarah's [deadened] womb.

WEAK FAITH CONSIDERS THE PHYSICAL CIRCUMSTANCE THAT OPPOSES THE PROMISE. WEAK FAITH NULLIFIES THE RESULTS OF STRONG FAITH, IF IT EVER WAS THERE. (MATTHEW 14:31)

COMPARE 2 HEB. 3:1 "CONSIDER"

20 No unbelief or distrust made him waver (doubtingly question) concerning the promise

THESE ARE FAITH-KILLERS

WAVERING WILL DESTROY YOUR CHANCES OF SEEING ANY OF GOD'S POWER FLOW (JAMES 1:6-8)

HOW DO YOU NOT WAVER?

SEE BELOW.

of God, but he grew strong and was empowered by faith as he gave praise and glory to God,

EMPOWERED: en dunamis
OR "BOLD"; "HEADSTRONG."

A HEART FULL OF PRAISE

A HEART THAT HONORS, RECOGNIZES,
AND GLORIFIES GOD

21 Fully satisfied and assured that God was able and mighty to keep His word and to do what He had promised.

IF YOU ARE "FULLY CONVINCED," THERE IS NO ROOM FOR DOUBT

THIS IS HOW YOU KEEP FROM WAVERING.

I AM FULLY SATISFIED AND ASSURED AND COMPLETELY SETTLED ON THE FACT THAT GOD IS GOOD AND HE IS FAITHFUL TO HIS WORD!!

22 That is why his faith was credited to him as righteousness (right standing with God).
GENESIS 15:6

23 But [the words], It was credited to him, were written not for his sake alone,

THE WORD OF GOD BRINGS MUCH PROFIT TO THE MAN WHO GIVES HIMSELF TO IT, DEVOTED TO SHAPING HIS LIFE AND FAMILY AROUND IT, AND WHO ALLOWS GOD'S WORD TO CHANGE HIM.

24 But [they were written] for our sakes too.

THANK GOD!

[Righteousness, standing acceptable to God] will be granted and credited to us also who believe in (trust in, adhere to, and rely on) God, Who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead,

THIS IS THE ESSENCE OF THE GOSPEL!

25 Who was betrayed and put to death because of our misdeeds and was raised to

MY PRECIOUS, PRECIOUS LORD!!

secure our justification (our acquittal),

[making our account balance and absolving us

from all guilt before God].

IF JESUS NEVER ROSE AGAIN,
WE WOULD HAVE NO HOME FOR
RIGHT STANDING \bar{c} GOD AT ALL.

THIS INCLUDES COMPLETE ERADICATION OF
ALL OUR PAST, PRESENT, AND (YES, EVEN)
OUR FUTURE SINS. GLORY TO GOD!

Chapter 5

1 Therefore, since we are justified (acquitted,

declared righteous, and given a right standing

with God) through faith, let us [grasp the fact

that we] have [the peace of reconciliation to

hold and to enjoy] peace with God through

our Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah, the

Anointed One).

THIS IS HOW GOD SEES ME AS I
STAND BEFORE HIM!

THROUGH FAITH! IN WHAT? HIS WORD!
IF I CAN BELIEVE GOD FOR SOZE,
I CAN BELIEVE HIM FOR ANYTHING.

THIS
IS
MY
PLACE!

THIS REALIZATION HAS TO BE GRASPED. IT
DOESN'T COME NATURALLY TO THE
MIND.

2 Through Him also we have [our] access

(entrance, introduction) by faith into this

grace (state of God's favor) in which we

[firmly and safely] stand. And let us rejoice

and exult in our hope of experiencing and

enjoying the glory of God.

"ACCESS" = *prosgogé* = THAT FRIENDLY
RELATION \bar{c} GOD WHEREBY WE ARE
ACCEPTABLE TO HIM AND HAVE
ASSURANCE THAT HE IS FAVORABLY
DISPOSED TOWARD US.

SEE ALSO: EPHESIANS
2:18 : ACCESS BY ONE
SPIRIT TO THE
FATHER

EPHESIANS
3:12 : BOLDNESS AND
ACCESS \bar{c}
CONFIDENCE
BY THE FAITH
OF HIM.

(HIS FAITH!)

A
COMMAND!

LET OTHERS
SEE IT ON
YOUR FACE!

HIS GLORY IS TO BE ENJOYED!

3 Moreover [let us also be full of joy now!]

let us exult and triumph in our troubles and

DON'T PUT IT OFF UNTIL
YOU GO TO HEAVEN!

IF ONLY
MORE OF CHRIST'S
BRIDE WERE FULL OF
JOY TODAY!

rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that

pressure and affliction and hardship produce

patient and unswerving endurance.

4 And endurance (fortitude) develops

maturity of character (approved faith and tried integrity). And character [of this sort]

produces [the habit of] joyful and confident

hope of eternal salvation.

WHICH STARTS HERE (JOHN 17:3)

5 Such hope never disappoints or deludes or

shames us, for God's love has been poured

out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit Who

has been given to us.

AT CONVERSION: SEE JOHN 20:22

6 While we were yet in weakness [powerless

to help ourselves], at the fitting time Christ

died for (in behalf of) the ungodly.

7 Now it is an extraordinary thing for one to

give his life even for an upright man, though

perhaps for a noble and lovable and generous

benefactor someone might even dare to die.

SEE JAMES 1:2-4

DURING THU TINY SLICE OF OUR ETERNAL LIVES, WE HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PRAISE, WORSHIP, TRUST, AND ADORE OUR FATHER IN THE MIDST OF HARDSHIP.

IT WILL BE EASY TO REJOICE IN HEAVEN WHEN EVERYTHING IS PERFECT.

BUT RESOLVING AND ADMIRING AND BELIEVING GOD ON EARTH (WHEN WE DON'T HAVE TO) IS WHAT

SEPARATES THE MEN FROM THE BOYS!!

I HAVE THE LOVE OF GOD IN ME! THAT IS, IN MY SPIRIT (2 COR. 6:17)

I CAN OPERATE IN THIS

LOVE (1 COR. 13) AS I RENEW MY MIND TO THE WORD OF GOD AND ALLOW MY SPIRIT TO CONTROL ME, NOT MY BODY.

HE MOVED HIS TIMELINE UP BECAUSE OF A SIMPLE REQUEST BY HIS MOTHER.

HIS TIMELINE IS NOT ALWAYS ABSOLUTE, BUT IS RELATIONALLY DEPENDENT.

= THIS IS CRAZY! SEE JOHN 2:4,11

THIS IS VASTLY OPPOSED TO MOST RELIGIOUS TEACHING TODAY, BUT IT IS CLEARLY SCRIPTURAL!

HYPÓMENE!!

8 But God shows and clearly proves His [own] love for us by the fact that while we were still sinners, Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One) died for us.

IT IS NOT HIDDEN!
IT IS NOT clo PROOF!

GOD'S LOVE IS MADE PERFECTLY CLEAR TO THE WORLD BY THE SACRIFICE OF JESUS.

9 Therefore, since we are now justified (acquitted, made righteous, and brought into right relationship with God) by Christ's blood, how much more [certain is it that] we shall be saved by Him from the indignation and wrath of God.

EVIDENCE OF A PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH. SEE 1 THESSALONIANS 4:16-17

10 For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, it is much more [certain], now that we are reconciled, that we shall be saved (daily delivered from sin's dominion) through His [resurrection] life.

→ GOD'S WORK OF SALVATION HAS APPEARED TO ALL MEN, SO ANYONE WHO DOES NOT ACCEPT THE GOSPEL HAS NO EXCUSE OR POSITION THAT CAN BE DEFENDED. SEE ROM. 1:20 AND TITUS 2:11

→ SOZO

11 Not only so, but we also rejoice and exultingly glory in ¹ God [in His love and perfection] through our ² Lord Jesus Christ,

→ MORE SOG FOR HIS BRIDE TODAY!

NDU, HERE, IN THIS LIFE!
HOW CAN ONE LIVE A LIFE OF RESIDUING WHEN THEY HAVE A VIEW OF GOD THAT IS STOIC AND NON-RELATIONAL? GOD IS INFINITELY RELATIONAL!

- 1- THE FATHER
- 2- THE SON
- 3- THE HOLY GHOST

through ³ Whom we have now received and

enjoy [our] reconciliation.

← ENJOY YOUR SALVATION TODAY! ENJOY FREEDOM FROM SICKNESS, POVERTY, ANXIETY, AND DEPRESSION TODAY!

12 Therefore, as sin came into the world

through one man, and death as the result of

sin, so death spread to all men, [no one being

able to stop it or to escape its power] because

all men sinned.

WE WERE NOT SINNERS BY CHOICE.

WE WERE ALL BORN IN SIN (PSALM 51:5)

THIS IS WHY REUSION WILL NEVER PRODUCE TRUE HOLINESS OR RECONCILIATION.

OUR VERY HUMAN NATURE MUST BE

CHANGED — HENCE THE NECESSITY OF THE NEW BIRTH!! OH, WHAT A PLANNER GOD IS!

13 [To be sure] sin was in the world before ever the Law was given, but sin is not charged to men's account where there is no law [to transgress].

AND SO IT IS ONCE AGAIN FOR THE BORN-AGAIN BELIEVER IN CHRIST. JESUS FULFILLED THE LAW FOR US, SO WE CAN LIVE IN RIGHTEOUSNESS + LIBERTY IN HIM. (ROMANS 8:2)

14 Yet death held sway from Adam to Moses

[the Lawgiver], even over those who did not

themselves transgress [a positive command]

as Adam did. Adam was a type (prefigure) of

the One Who was to come [in reverse, the

former destructive, the Latter saving].

THIS IS LIKE TODAY. DEATH "HOLDS SWAY", OR RULES, IN EVERY SPIRIT OF EVERY PERSON UNTIL RECONCILIATION THROUGH JESUS. HE MUST BREATHE THE BREATH OF LIFE ANEW INTO A MAN'S UNREGENERATE SPIRIT IN ORDER TO BRING THE MAN OUT OF DEATH'S GRIP!

15 But God's free gift is not at all to be

compared to the trespass [His grace is out of

← SALVATION THROUGH JESUS!

WE ARE TO ENJOY

OUR RECONCILIATION THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT!

all proportion to the fall of man]. For if many died through one man's falling away (his lapse, his offense), much more profusely did God's grace and the free gift [that comes] through the undeserved favor of the one Man Jesus Christ abound and overflow to and for [the benefit of] many.

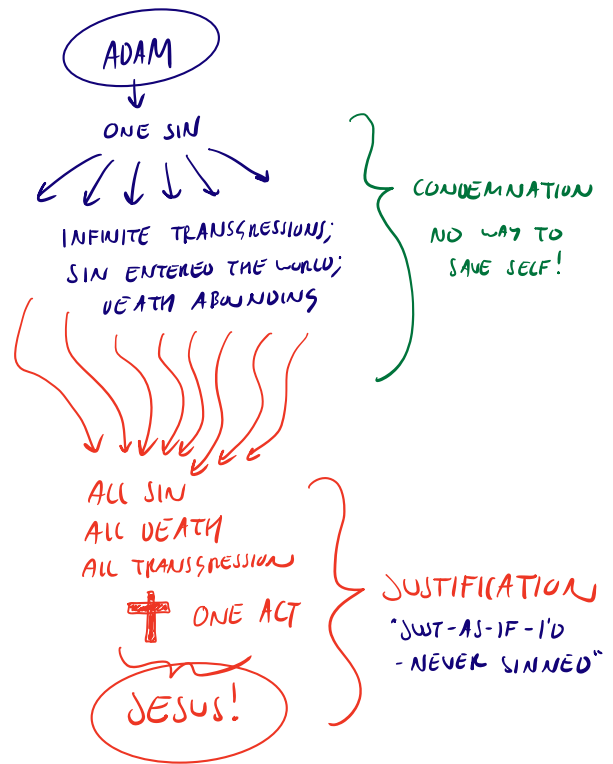
NOT TO A SELECT FEW, AS FATALISM SUGGESTS

16 Nor is the free gift at all to be compared to the effect of that one [man's] sin. For the sentence [following the trespass] of one [man] brought condemnation, whereas the free gift [following] many transgressions brings justification (an act of righteousness).

17 For if because of one man's trespass (lapse, offense) death reigned through that one, much more surely will those who receive [God's] overflowing grace (unmerited favor)

and the free gift of righteousness [putting them into right standing with Himself] reign

as kings in life through the one Man Jesus Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One).



BASILEUŌ
 "TO BE KING; TO EXERCISE KINGSLY POWER." OR, TO EXERT THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF INFLUENCE AND CONTROL; ROYAL POWER.

⊛ THE WIDESPREAD ACCEPTANCE AND ACTIVATION OF THIS ONE TRUTH WOULD SET THE CHURCH ON FIRE AND SIGNS, WONDERS, MIRACLES, AND MANIFESTATIONS OF THE HOLY GHOST WOULD SWEEP ACROSS THE UNSAVED WORLD, AND MANY WOULD ENTER INTO ETERNAL LIFE AS A GLORIOUS RESULT!

18 Well then, as one man's trespass [one man's false step and falling away led] to

condemnation for all men, so one Man's act of righteousness [leads] to acquittal and right standing with God and life for all men.

THIS IS WHY WE NEED A SAVIOR

PREDESTINATION, OR, CALVINISM, DOES NOT SQUARE WITH THIS TRUTH. NOR DOES IT ALIGN WITH JOHN 3:16 OR TITUS 2:11, AND MANY OTHERS.

19 For just as by one man's disobedience

(failing to hear, heedlessness, and carelessness) the many were constituted sinners, so by one Man's obedience the many will be constituted righteous (made acceptable to God, brought into right standing with Him).

ALL SINNERS WERE SO DESIGNATED NOT BY THEIR OWN SINFUL ACTS, BUT BY THEIR HUMAN BLOODLINE THEY RECEIVED FROM THEIR FATHERS.

HENCE THE NECESSITY FOR A HUMAN TO SUFFER AND DIE, YET ONE - THE PURE AND HOLY BLOOD OF GOD.

THIS IS MY IDENTITY!

20 But then Law came in, [only] to expand and increase the trespass [making it more apparent and exciting opposition]. But where

sin increased and abounded, grace (God's unmerited favor) has surpassed it and increased the more and superabounded,

THE PURPOSE OF THE LAW!
GALATIANS 3:11
1 COR. 15:56

GREEK: "SUPER-HYPER-ABOVE MEASURE"

"ABOUND EXCEEDINGLY, OVERFLOW, BEYOND OVERFLOWING"

21 So that, [just] as sin has reigned in death, [so] grace (His unearned and undeserved

SIN REIGNS IN THE LIVES OF THOSE WHO HAVE DEAD SPIRITS.

GRACE REIGNS THROUGH OUR POSITION, NOT OUR WORKS!



favor) might reign also through righteousness

(right standing with God) which issues in

eternal life through Jesus Christ (the Messiah,

the Anointed One) our Lord.

DEFINED
EXPLICITLY

IN JOHN 17:3

= THE TRUTH IS WOVEN ALL THROUGHOUT THE
WORD OF GOD.

⇒ IT IS A LIE OF SATAN THAT WE MUST
ADD TO THE FINISHED WORK OF CHRIST THROUGH
HOLY LIVING OR OTHER "GOOD WORKS" IN
ORDER TO RECEIVE BLESSINGS FROM GOD.

DO NOT BE DECEIVED! MATTHEW 24:4

Chapter 6

1 What shall we say [to all this]? Are we to
remain in sin in order that God's grace (favor
and mercy) may multiply and overflow?

2 Certainly not! How can we who died to sin

live in it any longer?

↳ WE CANNOT!

THE UNHEALTHY AND UNGODLY PREOCCUPATION WITH
CONSTANTLY DOING BATTLE = "OUR SIN NATURE" IS A
SLAP IN THE FACE TO JESUS! HE EITHER DEALT
WITH OUR SIN NATURE ON THE CROSS FULLY AND
COMPLETELY, OR HE IS NO MORE THE SAVIOR OF
THE WORLD THAN COUSIN BILLY BOB IS!!!

3 Are you ignorant of the fact that all of us

who have been baptized into Christ Jesus

were baptized into His death?

TOO MANY BELIEVERS ARE IGNORANT OF THIS FACT!

4 We were buried therefore with Him by the

baptism into death, so that just as Christ was

raised from the dead by the glorious [power]

of the Father, so we too might [habitually]

live and behave in newness of life.

OUR OLD SIN NATURE WAS DESTROYED BY THE
WORKS OF JESUS. WE WERE BURIED = HIM
BY THE PERMANENT IMMERSION OF BAPTISM
INTO DEATH... SO THAT WE WOULD BE RAISED
FROM THE DEAD.

→ THE FIRST "WE" REFERS TO OUR SIN NATURE,
THAT IS, OUR DEAD SPIRIT.

THE SECOND "WE" REFERS TO OUR NEW, HOLY

40 SPIRIT NATURE! SEE 2 COR. 5:17

≡ THIS IS IDENTITY-DEEP TRUTH!

CAN'T GET ANY CLOSER THAN THIS!

5 For if we have become one with Him by sharing a death like His, we shall also be [one with Him in sharing] His resurrection [by a new life lived for God].

6 We know that our old (unrenewed) self was nailed to the cross with Him in order that [our] body [which is the instrument] of sin might be made ineffective and inactive for evil, that we might no longer be the slaves of sin.

↓
THIS MEANS FREEDOM FROM SIN-CONSCIOUSNESS
HEBREWS 10:2

HOW CAN THIS BE MADE MORE CLEAR?
YET SO MANY ARE CONFUSED, BELIEVING THEY HAVE TWO NATURES AT WAR WITHIN THEM. WE WHO HAVE BEEN BURIED WITH CHRIST AND BEEN RAISED UP WITH HIM HAVE ONLY ONE NATURE; THE HOLY NATURE OF GOD'S SPIRIT.

7 For when a man dies, he is freed (loosed, delivered) from [the power of] sin [among men].

8 Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him,

SEE 1 CORINTHIANS 6:17
WE LIVE WITH HIM OUT OF OUR SHARED NATURE

9 Because we know that Christ (the Anointed One), being once raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has power over Him.

AND THUS, WE HAVE THE SAME GLORIOUS TESTIMONY ALSO

10 For by the death He died, He died to sin [ending His relation to it] once for all; and the life that He lives, He is living to God [in unbroken fellowship with Him].

ONE TIME FOR ALL PEOPLE, ALL SINS, AND FOR ALL TIME.

AND OURS!

WE WHO ARE BORN-AGAIN ALSO ENJOY THIS SAME UNBROKEN FELLOWSHIP. (WHETHER OR NOT WE ARE MINDFUL OF IT!)

ACT OF THE WILL

11 Even so consider yourselves also dead to sin and your relation to it broken, but alive to God [living in unbroken fellowship with Him] in Christ Jesus.

(X)

(X)

(X)

(X)

CONSIDER ≡ "logizomai"

= RECKON, COUNT, COMPUTE

= MEDITATE ON, DEEM, JUDGE

= DETERMINE, PURPOSE, DECIDE

THIS IS AN ACT OF THE WILL!

ACT OF THE WILL

12 Let not sin therefore rule as king in your mortal (short-lived, perishable) bodies, to make you yield to its cravings and be subject to its lusts and evil passions.

BASILEUS SEE 5:17

WE ARE ENFORCING WITH OUR MINDS THAT WHICH IS REALITY IN THE SPIRIT

I DO NOT TOLERATE SICKNESS OR DISEASE IN MY BODY!

ACT OF THE WILL

13 Do not continue offering or yielding your bodily members [and faculties] to sin as instruments (tools) of wickedness. But offer and yield yourselves to God as though you have been raised from the dead to [perpetual] life, and your bodily members [and faculties] to God, presenting them as implements of righteousness.

SEE ROMANS 12:1

GET YOUR BODY IN LINE 2 THE REALITY OF VERSES 1-10.

"hoplon" ≡ ARMS USED IN WARFARE, WEAPONS

USE YOUR HOLY AND SINLESS IDENTITY TO DO DAMAGE TO THE ENEMY!

SEE JOHN 18:3 "TORCHES AND WEAPONS"

42

SEE ROM 13:12 "ARMOR OF LIGHT."

SEE 2 COR. 6:7 "BY THE ARMOR OF RIGHTEOUSNESS"

SEE 2 COR 10:4 "THE WEAPONS OF OUR WARFARE ARE NOT..."

14 For sin shall not [any longer] exert
dominion over you, since now you are not
under Law [as slaves], but under grace [as
subjects of God's favor and mercy].

↙ MANY PRECIOUS BELIEVERS DO NOT BELIEVE THIS TRUTH OVER THE EMPTY RELIGION THEY ARE BEING TAUGHT.

→ GRACE IS AT THE IDENTITY-LEVEL. SO HOW CAN IT BE EARNED BY HOLY LIVING?

15 What then [are we to conclude]? Shall we
sin because we live not under Law but under
God's favor and mercy? Certainly not!

⊛

IF THEY BEGIN TO ASK THIS QUESTION, YOU KNOW YOU HAVE COMPLETELY PREACHED THE TRUE GOSPEL OF GRACE, LIKE PAUL.

16 Do you not know that if you continually
surrender yourselves to anyone to do his will,
you are the slaves of him whom you obey,
whether that be to sin, which leads to death,
or to obedience which leads to righteousness
(right doing and right standing with God)?

THIS IS WHY YOU SHOULDN'T COMMIT SINFUL ACTS. NOT OUT OF DUTY OR IN ORDER TO EARN ANYTHING FROM GOD.

17 But thank God, though you were once
slaves of sin, you have become obedient with
all your heart to the standard of teaching in
which you were instructed and to which you
were committed.

A PRAISEWORTHY TESTIMONY!

↓ COMMIT YOURSELF TO THE TEACHINGS OF GOD'S WORD!

18 And having been set free from sin, you have become the servants of righteousness (of conformity to the divine will in thought, purpose, and action).

WE WHO BELIEVE HAVE THIS TESTIMONY ALSO

ANOTHER ACT OF THE WILL.

THE ROMAN CHURCH HAD CHOSEN TO BE SLAVES OF GOD AND NOT OF SIN.

19 I am speaking in familiar human terms because of your natural limitations. For as you yielded your bodily members [and faculties] as servants to impurity and ever increasing lawlessness, so now yield your bodily members [and faculties] once for all as servants to righteousness (right being and doing) [which leads] to sanctification.

↓ A REITERATION OF THE PREVIOUS VERSES.

AN ACT OF THE WILL!

20 For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness.

WE USED TO BE UNDER THE SLAVERY MASTER SATAN, SO WE COULD NOT BE OWNED BY ANYONE ELSE.

21 But then what benefit (return) did you get from the things of which you are now ashamed? [None] for the end of those things is death.

↓ SEPARATION FROM GOD'S BEST FOR YOUR LIFE

22 But now since you have been set free from sin and have become the slaves of God, you have your present reward in holiness and its end is eternal life.

WE HAVE BEEN LEGALLY AND COMPLETELY TRANSFERRED FROM ONE SLAVE OWNER TO ANOTHER.

THEREFORE, AT THE IDENTITY-LEVEL, THE DEEPEST LEVEL, WE ARE NO LONGER UNDER THE OLD SLAVEMASTER SIN AND HIS RULES.

WE ARE NO LONGER IN EGYPT, BUT ARE FREE.

BUT THE MIND MUST CATCH UP TO THE REALITY OF THE SPIRIT!

WAGES PAID DURING OUR PREVIOUS TENURE UNDER SIN

23 For the wages which sin pays is death, but the [bountiful] free gift of God is eternal life through (in union with) Jesus Christ our Lord.

OUR PAYCHECKS AS SLAVES TO GOD REFLECT A BETTER COMPENSATION PACKAGE!

Chapter 7

1 Do you not know, brethren—for I am speaking to men who are acquainted with the Law—that legal claims have power over a person only for as long as he is alive?

"deo"
= TO BIND, TIE, FASTEN & CHAINS

→ SEE LUKE 13:16

SATAN IS IN THE BUSINESS OF BINDING AND TYING

2 For [instance] a married woman is bound by law to her husband as long as he lives; but if her husband dies, she is loosed and discharged from the law concerning her husband.

"katargeo"

= TO DEPRIVE OF FORCE, INFLUENCE, POWER

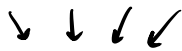
= TO BE SEVERED FROM, SEPARATED FROM, DISCHARGED FROM, LOOSED FROM ANYONE.

= TO TERMINATE ALL INTERCOURSE & ONE

= DESTROY, ABOLISH

THIS DESCRIBES OUR RELATIONSHIP & THE LAW IN GOD'S EYES!

3 Accordingly, she will be held an adulteress if she unites herself to another man while her husband lives. But if her husband dies, the marriage law no longer is binding on her [she is free from that law]; and if she unites herself to another man, she is not an adulteress.



4 Likewise, my brethren, you have undergone death as to the Law through the [crucified] body of Christ, so that now you may belong to Another, to Him Who was raised from the dead in order that we may bear fruit for God.

SO THAT WE MAY ENJOY OUR SAVED STATUS & ALL THE OTHER SAVED ONES? OR THAT WE MAY BEAR FRUIT FOR GOD? SEE JOHN 15:1-5

5 When we were living in the flesh (mere physical lives), the sinful passions that were awakened and aroused up by [what] the Law [makes sin] were constantly operating in our natural powers (in our bodily organs, in the sensitive appetites and wills of the flesh), so that we bore fruit for death.

6 But now we are discharged from the Law and have terminated all intercourse with it,

HOW COULD THIS BE MADE PLAINER?

↑ NOT SOME

A PERMANENT EVENT

having died to what once restrained and held

us captive. So now we serve not under

→ WE DO STILL SERVE; SERVICE IS NOT DONE AWAY C.

[obedience to] the old code of written

regulations, but [under obedience to the

↙ RECALL JESUS' WORDS IN LUKE 5:36-39.

promptings] of the Spirit in newness [of life].

7 What then do we conclude? Is the Law

identical with sin? Certainly not!

Nevertheless, if it had not been for the Law, I should not have recognized sin or have known

} THE PURPOSE OF THE LAW EXPOSED!

its meaning. [For instance] I would not have

known about covetousness [would have had

no consciousness of sin or sense of guilt] if

→ IF, THEN, WE WHO HAVE RECEIVED THE GIFT OF GOD'S PERMANENT GRACE, WHY DO SO MANY OF HIS CHILDREN PERSIST IN CONSCIOUSNESS AND GUILT OF SIN?

the Law had not [repeatedly] said, You shall

THIS REVEALS A DISDAIN (ALTHOUGH DONE IN IGNORANCE) TOWARD THE FINISHED WORK OF JESUS. "HE DIDN'T REALLY DO IT ALL; MORE MUST BE ADDED TO COMPLETE MY CLEANSING."

not covet and have an evil desire [for one

THIS SIN-CONSCIOUSNESS REVEALS A LACK OF UNDERSTANDING OF GOD'S GRACE. SEE HEBREWS

thing and another].

10:2, 10, 12, 14

8 But sin, finding opportunity in the

commandment [to express itself], got a hold

on me and aroused and stimulated all kinds of

forbidden desires (lust, covetousness). For

} THEN WE WHO HAVE BEEN FREELY JUSTIFIED BY FAITH APART FROM THE LAW OUGHT TO LIVE W/O A SENSE OF SIN, SINCE IT IS AN "INACTIVE AND LIFELESS THING."

without the Law sin is dead [the sense of it is

inactive and a lifeless thing].

AS A CHILD, BEFORE TRUE ACCOUNTABILITY.

9 Once I was alive, but quite apart from and

unconscious of the Law. But when the commandment came, sin lived again and I died (was sentenced by the Law to death).

"LIVED AGAIN." KJV, "REVIVED."

SO SIN WAS PRESENT, BUT DORMANT. SUCH IS THE CASE IN EVERY PERSON.

⊕ BEFORE REACHING THE PLACE OF FULLY-AWARE ACCOUNTABILITY, EVERY PERSON WHO DIES IS FREE FROM THE "LAW OF SIN AND DEATH" AND GOES TO BE IN THE LORD. THE MURDERED ABORTED BABIES AND MISCARRIAGES ARE ALIVE IN HEAVEN TODAY.

10 And the very legal ordinance which was designed and intended to bring life actually proved [to mean to me] death.

11 For sin, seizing the opportunity and getting a hold on me [by taking its incentive] from the commandment, beguiled and entrapped and cheated me, and using it [as a weapon], killed me.

12 The Law therefore is holy, and [each]

commandment is holy and just and good.

→ AN IMPORTANT TRUTH!

13 Did that which is good then prove fatal [bringing death] to me? Certainly not! It was sin, working death in me by using this good thing [as a weapon], in order that through the

THE LAW ISN'T THE PROBLEM. SIN USES THE LAW TO WORK DEATH. SO THE LAW NOW HAS BECOME A VEHICLE OF DEATH!

THIS IS THE REALITY OF "RELIGION".

commandment sin might be shown up clearly to be sin, that the extreme malignity and immeasurable sinfulness of sin might plainly appear.

14 We know that the Law is spiritual; but I am a creature of the flesh [carnal, unspiritual], having been sold into slavery under [the control of] sin.

15 For I do not understand my own actions [I am baffled, bewildered]. I do not practice or accomplish what I wish, but I do the very thing that I loathe [which my moral instinct condemns].

ALL THESE "I'S" ARE SPEAKING FROM THE SPIRIT.

16 Now if I do [habitually] what is contrary to my desire, [that means that] I acknowledge and agree that the Law is good (morally excellent) and that I take sides with it.

17 However, it is no longer I who do the deed, but the sin [principle] which is at home in me and has possession of me.

THIS IS OUR POSITION BEFORE RECEIVING JESUS' SACRIFICE AS OUR OWN.

18 For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot perform it. [I have the intention and urge to do what is right, but no power to carry it out.]

A VITAL DISTINCTION.

THE HOLY SPIRIT DWELLS IN HIS SPIRIT, AND HIS MIND IS BEING RENEWED TO THE WORD OF GOD. BUT THE FLESH IS COMPLETELY NEUTRAL AND WILL FOLLOW THE SOUL.

19 For I fail to practice the good deeds I desire to do, but the evil deeds that I do not desire to do are what I am [ever] doing.

20 Now if I do what I do not desire to do, it is no longer I doing it [it is not myself that acts], but the sin [principle] which dwells within me [fixed and operating in my soul].

→ SIN "PROGRAMMING," NOT SIN-NATURE. THIS WAS FOREVER ERADICATED BY THE CROSS. SEE 6:13,14,17,18

21 So I find it to be a law (rule of action of my being) that when I want to do what is right and good, evil is ever present with me and I am subject to its insistent demands.

IN THE FLESH, THAT IS, IN ANYTHING NOT YET RENEWED TO THE WORD OF GOD AND MANIFEST IN THE BODY.

22 For I endorse and delight in the Law of God in my inmost self [with my new nature].

23 But I discern in my bodily members [in the sensitive appetites and wills of the flesh] a different law (rule of action) at war against the law of my mind (my reason) and making me a prisoner to the law of sin that dwells in my bodily organs [in the sensitive appetites and wills of the flesh].

24 O unhappy and pitiable and wretched man that I am! Who will release and deliver me from [the shackles of] this body of death?

25 O thank God! [He will!] through Jesus Christ (the Anointed One) our Lord! So then indeed I, of myself with the mind and heart, serve the Law of God, but with the flesh the law of sin.

THE ANSWER IS SALVATION!

Ⓢ CONTINUE TO MEDITATE ON THESE THINGS!

Chapter 8

← NONE AT ALL!

1 Therefore, [there is] now no condemnation
(no adjudging guilty of wrong) for those who
are in Christ Jesus, who live [and] walk not
after the dictates of the flesh, but after the
dictates of the Spirit.

2 For the law of the Spirit of life [which is] in
Christ Jesus [the law of our new being] has
freed me from the law of sin and of death.

EVERY SICKNESS, DISEASE, LACK, DEPRESSION -
ANYTHING SHORT OF THE GARDEN OF EDEN
(GOD'S PERFECT PLAN).
THIS IS A VERY POWERFUL WEAPON IN THE
MOUTH OF ONE FILLED w/ FAITH.

3 For God has done what the Law could not
do, [its power] being weakened by the flesh
[the entire nature of man without the Holy
Spirit]. Sending His own Son in the guise of
sinful flesh and as an offering for sin, [God]
condemned sin in the flesh [subdued,
overcame, deprived it of its power over all
who accept that sacrifice],

THE MECHANICS OF THE GOSPEL IN
TWO SENTENCES.

↓ A LUCKY FEW only? NO, ALL!

4 So that the righteous and just requirement of
the Law might be fully met in us who live and

→ "FULLY MET IN US!"

move not in the ways of the flesh but in the ways of the Spirit [our lives governed not by the standards and according to the dictates of the flesh, but controlled by the Holy Spirit].

IT IS VITAL BEYOND HUMAN PERSUASIVE LANGUAGE TO BE GOVERNED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT - TO BE CLOTHED IN HIM (LUKE 24:49) AND TO LIVE AND MOVE AND HAVE OUR BEINGS IN GOD THRU HIM (ACTS 17:28)

5 For those who are according to the flesh and are controlled by its unholy desires set their minds on and pursue those things which gratify the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit and are controlled by the desires of the Spirit set their minds on and seek those things which gratify the [Holy] Spirit.

SENSE AND REASON \neq THE HOLY SPIRIT IS SIMPLY CARNALITY.

6 Now the mind of the flesh [which is sense and reason without the Holy Spirit] is death [death that comprises all the miseries arising from sin, both here and hereafter]. But the mind of the [Holy] Spirit is life and [soul] peace [both now and forever].

THIS IS THE SECRET SAUCE TO CONTINUAL LIFE AND PEACE.

= MINDSET! WHERE IS YOUR MIND SET?

SEE ALSO COLOSSIANS 3:1-3

7 [That is] because the mind of the flesh [with its carnal thoughts and purposes] is hostile to

God, for it does not submit itself to God's Law; indeed it cannot.

8 So then those who are living the life of the flesh [catering to the appetites and impulses of their carnal nature] cannot please or satisfy

SEE HEBREWS 11:6

God, or be acceptable to Him.

9 But you are not living the life of the flesh,

you are living the life of the Spirit, if the

[Holy] Spirit of God [really] dwells within

you [directs and controls you]. But if anyone

does not possess the [Holy] Spirit of Christ,

he is none of His [he does not belong to

Christ, is not truly a child of God].

10 But if Christ lives in you, [then although]

your [natural] body is dead by reason of sin

and guilt, the spirit is alive because of [the]

righteousness [that He imputes to you].

SEE 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

= THE SPIRIT HAS BEEN MADE
NEW - ONLY THE SPIRIT.

(FOR NOW)

11 And if the Spirit of Him Who raised up

Jesus from the dead dwells in you, [then] He



Who raised up Christ Jesus from the dead will also restore to life your mortal (short-lived, perishable) bodies through His Spirit Who dwells in you.

THIS IS THE VERSE THE LORD USED TO FOREVER LOCK IN MY REVELATION OF DIVINE HEAVENS. I WAS INSTANTLY HEALED OF A VERY NASTY COLD/FEVER AFTER MEDITATING THIS VERSE UNTIL A "LIGHT-BULB" MOMENT - AND I WAS INSTANTLY (FULLY) HEALED ON A LUNCH BREAK @ HOME DEPOT!

12 So then, brethren, we are debtors, but not to the flesh [we are not obligated to our carnal nature], to live [a life ruled by the standards set up by the dictates] of the flesh.

DEBTORS TO LIVE A LIFE IN THE SPIRIT.

13 For if you live according to [the dictates of] the flesh, you will surely die. But if through the power of the [Holy] Spirit you are [habitually] putting to death (making extinct, deadening) the [evil] deeds prompted by the body, you shall [really and genuinely] live forever.

THIS GOES FOR EVERYONE, NOT JUST CHRISTIANS.

HOW ARE WE TO OPERATE IN THIS POWER? BY BEING ENDUED - IT!
SEE LUKE 24:49, ACTS 1:5, 8; 2:4

14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

THE PERSONAL, INTIMATE, AND PERFECT LEADERSHIP OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS MY RIGHT AND PRIVILEGE AS A CHILD UNDER THE BLOOD OF CHRIST. HE IS OUR GUIDE. HIS SHEEP KNOW HIS VOICE. WE ARE TO LIVE IN A CONSTANT COMMUNICATION ("PRAY (TO CEASING)") RELATIONSHIP - THE HOLY SPIRIT WHO MOST CERTAINLY WILL LEAD US + GUIDE US IN ALL TRUTH!

15 For [the Spirit which] you have now received [is] not a spirit of slavery to put you

once more in bondage to fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption [the Spirit producing sonship] in [the bliss of] which we cry, Abba (Father)! Father!

SEE GALATIANS 4.

NOT "ITSELF." THE HOLY GHOST IS A PERSON.

16 The Spirit Himself [thus] testifies together with our own spirit, [assuring us] that we are children of God.

SO THIS IS TEST IS FOR OUR PERSONAL EDIFICATION.

THAT'S WHY WE ASK AN UNBELIEVER, "IF YOU WERE TO STAND BEFORE GOD TODAY, WOULD YOU HAVE FULL ASSURANCE THAT YOU WOULD BE ACCEPTED IN HIM?"

17 And if we are [His] children, then we are [His] heirs also: heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ [sharing His inheritance with Him]; only we must share His suffering if we

= CHECKING OUR PERSONAL ASSURANCE!!

HIS HEAVENLY INHERITANCE - HE WANTS HIS CHURCH EQUIPPED + FULL OF POWER.

are to share His glory.

THIS VERSE DOES NOT SAY THAT "IT IS THE CHRISTIAN LOT IN LIFE TO SUFFER IN SICKNESS, DEPRESSION, AND POVERTY."

ACCEPT HIS SUFFERINGS AS OUR OWN!!

"And since we are his true children, we qualify to share all his treasures, for indeed, we are heirs of God himself. And since we are joined to Christ, we also inherit all that he is and all that he has. We will experience being glorified with him provided that we accept his sufferings as our own." Romans 8:17 TPT

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

18 [But what of that?] For I consider that the sufferings of this present time (this present life) are not worth being compared with the glory that is about to be revealed to us and in us and for us and conferred on us!

"Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him," Romans 6:8 AMPC

BUT EVEN IF IT WERE OUR LOT, NOTHING WE COULD EVER EXPERIENCE ON EARTH COULD EVER COMPARE TO THE GLORY IN US.

19 For [even the whole] creation (all nature) waits expectantly and longs earnestly for

"I have been crucified with Christ [in Him I have shared His crucifixion]; it is no longer I who live, but Christ (the Messiah) lives in me; and the life I now live in the body I live by faith in (by adherence to and reliance on and complete trust in) the Son of God, Who loved me and gave Himself up for me." Galatians 2:20 AMPC

God's sons to be made known [waits for the revealing, the disclosing of their sonship].

EVEN ALL THE CREATED WORLD YEARNs FOR THE SONS + DAUGHTERS OF GOD TO RISE UP AND WALK IN ALL OUR FULLNESS - BOTH IN THIS AGE AND THE AGE TO COME!

20 For the creation (nature) was subjected to frailty (to futility, condemned to frustration), not because of some intentional fault on its part, but by the will of Him Who so subjected it—[yet] with the hope

SUBJECTED TO, NOT CREATED AS SUCH

CREATION AS WE KNOW IT - EVEN IN ALL ITS BEAUTY IS FALLEN AND SINFUL - NOT THE WAY GOD ORIGINALLY CREATED IT TO BE.

SEE DEUTERONOMY 32:4

"... HIS WORK IS PERFECT..."

AND ISAIAH 45:18

"HE CREATED [THE EARTH] NOT IN VAIN [TOHU: CHAOTIC, ETC]..."

↑ HE GAVE CREATION THE OPTION TO FAIL

21 That nature (creation) itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and corruption [and gain an entrance] into the glorious freedom of God's children.

DECAY & CORRUPTION ARE LIKE SCAVEHOLDERS HEAVEN NOW DOES, AND THE NEW JERUSALEM WILL SOMEWAY, LITERALLY SMELL DIFFERENT - WE HAVE GROWN UP ACCUSTOMED TO THE STENCH OF DECAY AND CORRUPTION.

22 We know that the whole creation [of irrational creatures] has been moaning together in the pains of labor until now.

ONE REASON WHY NATURAL DISASTERS ARE ON THE RISE. SEE ALSO

MATT. 24:7

MK. 13:8

LK. 21:11

23 And not only the creation, but we ourselves too, who have and enjoy the firstfruits of the [Holy] Spirit [a foretaste of the blissful things to come] groan inwardly as we wait for the redemption of our bodies

THE INFUSING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS TO BE ENJOYED! LIFE BECOMES MORE ENJOYABLE WHEN SATURATED AND CLOTHED IN POWER FROM ON HIGH!!

[from sensuality and the grave, which will reveal] our adoption (our manifestation as God's sons).

SEE JAMES 1:21

24 For in [this] hope we were saved. But hope [the object of] which is seen is not hope. For how can one hope for what he already sees?

OUR SPIRITS WERE THE ONLY PART OF US SAVED

OUR SOULS ARE STILL IN THE PROCESS OF BEING SAVED (SOZO) AND OUR BODIES ARE NOT YET SAVED, AS SEEN HERE.

25 But if we hope for what is still unseen by us, we wait for it with patience and composure.

HOPE =

GODLY EXPECTATION, OR, CONFIDENT EXPECTATION IN GOD'S FAITHFULNESS TO HIS WORD. MY DEFINITION.

IN THE SAME WAY

WE NAVIGATE A CORRUPT CREATION & CONFIDENT EXPECTATION IN GOD'S FAITHFULNESS TO HIS WORD AND & PATIENCE AND COMPOSURE

COMPARE & FAITH, WHICH IS THE SUBSTANCE OF THINGS HOPE FOR... HEB. 11:1

26 So too the [Holy] Spirit comes to our aid

and bears us up in our weakness; for we do

not know what prayer to offer nor how to

offer it worthily as we ought, but the Spirit

Himself goes to meet our supplication and

pleads in our behalf with unspeakable

yearnings and groanings too deep for

utterance.

IN THE SAME WAY THAT WE NAVIGATE A CORRUPT CREATION & HOPE, PATIENCE, AND COMPOSURE, SO ALSO WE ARE TO NAVIGATE OUR UTTER INABILITY TO PRAY EFFECTIVELY OUT OF OUR LIMITED UNDERSTANDING - OUR WEAKNESSES!

⊛

VS. 26 "COMES TO OUR AID"

⊛

LITERALLY "TAKES HOLD TOGETHER [i.e. us] AGAINST [SOME IMMOVABLE OBSTACLE]."

HE PERSONALLY IS INVOLVED!

27 And He Who searches the hearts of men

knows what is in the mind of the [Holy] Spirit

SEE 1 COR. 2:10,16

PRAYING IN TONGUES

THE HOLY SPIRIT HELPS US PRAY WHAT AND HOW

[what His intent is], because the Spirit intercedes and pleads [before God] in behalf of the saints according to and in harmony with God's will.

28 We are assured and know that [God being a partner in their labor] all things work together and are [fitting into a plan] for good to and for those who love God and are called according to [His] design and purpose.

29 For those whom He foreknew [of whom He was aware and loved beforehand], He also destined from the beginning [foreordaining them] to be molded into the image of His Son [and share inwardly His likeness], that He might become the firstborn among many brethren.

30 And those whom He thus foreordained, He also called; and those whom He called, He also justified (acquitted, made righteous, putting them into right standing with

WHEN I PRAY IN TONGUES, THE HOLY SPIRIT PHYSICALLY PARTICIPATES, GIVING ME THE UTTERANCE (ACTS 2:4) AND LITERALLY PRAYS THROUGH ME THE ABSOLUTE PERFECT WILL OF GOD CONCERNING THE MATTER @ HAND. THIS IS POWERFUL AND BENEFICIAL BEYOND EXPRESSION.

THREE CONDITIONS TO "ALL THINGS WORK TOGETHER FOR GOOD." ROM. 8:28

- 1) I MUST BE PRAYING IN THE SPIRIT AND GOD BEING A PARTNER IN MY PRAYERS ACCORDING TO THE PRECEDING VERSES
- 2) I MUST LOVE GOD (JOHN 14:21 AND 1 JOHN 2:5)
- 3) I MUST BE ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN FULFILLING HIS DESIGN AND PURPOSE (HIS PURPOSE: 1 JOHN 3:8)

THE PLAN FOR HUMANITY GENESIS 1:26-27

NOT JUST A SELECT FEW BUT MANY.

HIS PLAN FOR ALL MANKIND TITUS 2:11; JOHN 3:16

Himself). And those whom He justified, He also glorified [raising them to a heavenly dignity and condition or state of being].

} AGAIN, THIS IS HIS PLAN FOR ALL HUMANITY, NOT JUST A SELECT FEW.

31 What then shall we say to [all] this? If God is for us, who [can be] against us? [Who can be our foe, if God is on our side?]

→ THIS IS THE RIGHT PERSPECTIVE!

32 He who did not withhold or spare [even]

His own Son but gave Him up for us all, will

He not also with Him freely and graciously

give us all [other] things?

THIS OUGHT TO DO AWAY \bar{c} OUR PRE-PROGRAMMED "POVERTY MENTALITY" ONCE AND FOR ALL!

33 Who shall bring any charge against God's elect [when it is] God Who justifies [that is,

Who puts us in right relation to Himself?

Who shall come forward and accuse or impeach those whom God has chosen? Will God, Who acquits us?]

→ SATAN WILL TRY; THIS TRUTH IN ROMANS 8 OUGHT TO BE OUR COUNTER-ARGUMENT TO ANY AND ALL SATANIC ACCUSATION.

34 Who is there to condemn [us]? Will Christ Jesus (the Messiah), Who died, or rather Who was raised from the dead, Who is at the right

→ BUT TRY AS HE MIGHT, SATAN HAS NO LEGAL STANDING UPON WHICH TO ACCUSE OR CONDEMN THE CHILD OF GOD.
IF SOMEONE IS NOT A CHILD OF GOD, THAT IS, IF THEY REJECT CHRIST, THAT IS ANOTHER MATTER. SATAN DOES HAVE LEGAL CASE 2

↳ AGAINST THAT ONE.

SEE EPHESIANS 2:2-3; 1 JOHN 4:3

hand of God actually pleading as He

intercedes for us?

JESUS IS AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD, PRAYING AND INTERCEDING FOR US.

SO: TWO OUT OF THREE MEMBERS OF THE GODHEAD ARE ACTIVELY INTERCEDING FOR US RIGHT NOW.

35 Who shall ever separate us from Christ's love? Shall suffering and affliction and tribulation? Or calamity and distress? Or persecution or hunger or destitution or peril or sword?

36 Even as it is written, For Thy sake we are put to death all the day long; we are regarded and counted as sheep for the slaughter.

37 Yet amid all these things we are more than conquerors and gain a surpassing victory through Him Who loved us.

38 For I am persuaded beyond doubt (am sure) that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities, nor things impending and threatening nor things to come, nor powers,

BUT THE POINT IS NO PERSON OR ENTITY CAN, DESPITE THEIR ATTEMPTS

OF COURSE THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE

THE WHO
THE WHAT

THIS WORD IS RIDICULOUS IN THE GREEK. "SUPER-HYPER-ABOVE-AND-BEYOND-TOTAL-CONQUEROR."

↳ THE SAINT OUGHT TO HAVE A VICTORY MENTALITY

DEMONIC ARMIES

39 Nor height nor depth, nor anything else in

all creation will be able to separate us from

the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our

Lord.

Chapter 9

"THIS LAST BIT [ROMANS 8] IS ALMOST TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE; BUT I'M TELLING YOU, PAUL STRESSES, "IT REALLY IS TRUE!"

1 I am speaking the truth in Christ. I am not lying; my conscience [enlightened and prompted] by the Holy Spirit bearing witness with me

2 That I have bitter grief and incessant anguish in my heart.

3 For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off and banished from Christ for the sake of my brethren and instead of them, my natural kinsmen and my fellow countrymen.

4 For they are Israelites, and to them belong God's adoption [as a nation] and the glorious Presence (Shekinah). With them were the

CAN YOU IMAGINE THIS? PAUL HAD MORE REVELATION ON GRACE THAN ANY OTHER MAN, YET HE SAID "I COULD WISH MYSELF DAMNED TO HELL IF IT MEANT THE JEWS WOULD ACCEPT CHRIST."
UNBELIEVABLE. TRULY, THERE WAS A SINGLE PERSON I COULD SAY THIS ABOUT.
(OKAY, PERHAPS CAESAR OR SENNA...)

TO THE JEWISH NATION BELONGS THESE; WE GENTILES ARE ADOPTED INTO THE FAMILY.

THE PECULIARITY AND HONOR OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE:

special covenants made, to them was the Law given. To them [the temple] worship was revealed and [God's own] promises announced.

5 To them belong the patriarchs, and as far as His natural descent was concerned, from them is the Christ, Who is exalted and supreme over all, God, blessed forever! Amen (so let it be).

6 However, it is not as though God's Word had failed [coming to nothing]. For it is not everybody who is a descendant of Jacob (Israel) who belongs to [the true] Israel.

7 And they are not all the children of Abraham because they are by blood his descendants. No, [the promise was] Your descendants will be called and counted through the line of Isaac [though Abraham had an older son].

- 1.) THEY RECEIVED THE INITIAL ADOPTION TO GOD - IT BELONGS TO THEM.
- 2.) TO THEM BELONGS THE SHEKINAH GLORY OF GOD - A NEVER-BEFORE-SEEN EXPRESSION OF THE CREATOR. NO OTHER NATION WAS EVER GIVEN THIS PRIVILEGE.
- 3.) SPECIAL COVENANTS WERE MADE TO THE JEWISH PEOPLE. *ABRAHAM, DAVID, AND OTHERS.*
- 4.) THE LAW OF GOD WAS GIVEN TO THE JEWISH PEOPLE ALONE.
- 5.) THE REVELATION OF THE TEMPLE WORSHIP WAS GIVEN TO THE JEWISH PEOPLE.

→ SUPER OFFENSIVE TO THE JEW. BUT SEE ALSO GALATIANS 3:24-29

WHO ARE ABRAHAM'S DESCENDANTS?
- ANYONE WHO IS PART OF GOD'S FAMILY THROUGH FAITH IN JESUS! GAL-3:29

IF THE PROMISE OF SALVATION SIMPLY COMES THROUGH ABRAHAM'S BLOODLINE, THEN EVERY CHILD OF ISHMAEL IS GRANTED SALVATION. BUT IT IS BY FAITH.

8 That is to say, it is not the children of the body [of Abraham] who are made God's children, but it is the offspring to whom the promise applies that shall be counted [as Abraham's true] descendants.

NOT PHYSICAL SEED BUT SPIRITUAL.

ABRAHAM IS OUR "FATHER" IN THE SENSE WE ARE BORN INTO THE FAMILY OF GOD BY FAITH, AS HE FIRST EXEMPLIFIED.

9 For this is what the promise said, About this time [next year] will I return and Sarah shall have a son.

10 And not only that, but this too: Rebecca conceived [two sons under exactly the same circumstances] by our forefather Isaac,

TWO WITNESSES (DEUTERONOMY 19:15)

11 And the children were yet unborn and had so far done nothing either good or evil. Even so, in order further to carry out God's purpose of selection (election, choice), which depends not on works or what men can do, but on Him Who calls [them],

12 It was said to her that the elder [son] should serve the younger [son].

THERE ARE RULES & LAWS THAT APPLY TO THE SPIRIT

13 As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated (held in relative disregard in comparison with My feeling for Jacob).

THIS IS HOW LUKE 14:26 OUGHT TO BE INTERPRETED.

→ MANY CONCLUDE THIS WRONGLY.

14 What shall we conclude then? Is there injustice upon God's part? Certainly not!

15 For He says to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy and I will have compassion (pity) on whom I will have compassion.

NO MENTION OF "I WILL HAVE EVIL UPON WHOM I WILL HAVE EVIL."

16 So then [God's gift] is not a question of human will and human effort, but of God's mercy. [It depends not on one's own willingness nor on his strenuous exertion as in running a race, but on God's having mercy on him.]

→ OF SALVATION AND ALL ITS BENEFITS, INCLUDING HEAVENS, DELIVERANCE, THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT, AND THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT - ALL NOT OF WORK BUT GIFTS.

→ SO THEY MUST BE RECEIVED AS GIFTS

17 For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, I have raised you up for this very purpose of displaying My power in [dealing with] you,

- DID GOD NOT HAVE A GOOD PLAN AND PURPOSE FOR PHARAOH, OR ONLY EVIL??
- DOES THIS PROVE THAT GOD DOES INDEED CHOOSE WHOM WILL INHERIT SALVATION AND WHOM WILL PERISH?
- 65. • DOES THIS DO AWAY WITH FREE WILL? DID THIS OVERRIDE PHARAOH'S " " ?

so that My name may be proclaimed the whole world over.

18 So then He has mercy on whomever He wills (chooses) and He hardens (makes stubborn and unyielding the heart of) whomever He wills.

THE ANSWERS TO ALL THESE QUESTIONS ARE MADE VERY PLAIN THROUGH RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF GOD.

(2 TIMOTHY 2:15).

→ SEE, FOR EXAMPLE, THE ETERNAL TRUTH OF GODS LOVE & PLAN FOR THE WORLD:

- TITUS 2:11
- JOHN 3:16
- 2 PETER 3:9

...TO NAME A FEW.

19 You will say to me, Why then does He still find fault and blame us [for sinning]? For who can resist and withstand His will?

THE NATURAL QUESTION THAT FOLLOWS THE ABOVE INFORMATION.

20 But who are you, a mere man, to criticize and contradict and answer back to God? Will what is formed say to him that formed it, Why have you made me thus?

→ SEE JOB 38:3; 40:7

→ HE TRULY DOES HAVE THAT RIGHT!

21 Has the potter no right over the clay, to make out of the same mass (lump) one vessel for beauty and distinction and honorable use, and another for menial or ignoble and dishonorable use?

22 What if God, although fully intending to show [the awfulness of] His wrath and to make known His power and authority, has tolerated with much patience the vessels (objects) of [His] anger which are ripe for destruction?

HERE IT IS, THEN. PHARAOH, FOR INSTANCE, PROVOKED GOD TO ANGER AFTER AFFLICTING HIS PEOPLE AND **HARDENING HIS OWN HEART BEFORE** THE SCRIPTURE SAYS "GOD HARDENED HIS HEART." EXODUS 5:2

23 And [what if] He thus purposes to make known and show the wealth of His glory in [dealing with] the vessels (objects) of His mercy which He has prepared beforehand for glory,

24 Even including ourselves whom He has called, not only from among the Jews but also from among the Gentiles (heathen)?

TO THIS POINT, NOTICE THE SCRIPTURES THAT POINT TO THE SALVATION OF THE GENTILES — THEY ARE NOT AT ALL EXCLUSIVE!

25 Just as He says in Hosea, Those who were not My people I will call My people, and her who was not beloved [I will call] My beloved.

EVERY GENTILE IS INVITED TO THIS BLESSED STATE. NOT "JUST A FEW WHOM GOD SOVEREIGNLY DICTATES."

26 And it shall be that in the very place where it was said to them, You are not My people, they shall be called sons of the living God.

THE GREAT MYSTERY AND SLOWY OF THE NEW BIRTH! SEE ROM. 8:14, GALATIANS 4:4-7.

27 And Isaiah calls out (solemnly cries aloud)

over Israel: Though the number of the sons of Israel be like the sand of the sea, only the remnant (a small part of them) will be saved [from perdition, condemnation, judgment]!

ISAIAH
10:22
-23

(?) I THINK THIS SPEAKS OF THE GREAT TRIBULATION, IN WHICH THE JEWS WHO HAVE NOT ACCEPTED CHRIST WILL DEFINITELY PARTICIPATE IN.

28 For the Lord will execute His sentence upon the earth [He will conclude and close His account with men completely and without delay], rigorously cutting it short in His justice.

THE JUDGEMENTS ON THE EARTH DURING THE TRIBULATION.

29 It is as Isaiah predicted, If the Lord of hosts had not left us a seed [from which to propagate descendants], we [Israel] would have fared like Sodom and have been made like Gomorrah.

NO OTHER PEOPLE GROUP IN THE HISTORY OF MANKIND HAS SUFFERED ANYWHERE NEAR THE SUFFERING, PERSECUTION, AND RIDICULE THAT THE SELEUCID NATION HAS EXPERIENCED. SATAN TRIED TO MAD HIS CROSSMAN ON GOD'S PEOPLE FROM THE VERY BEGINNING, BUT GOD HAS ALWAYS BROUGHT HIS PEOPLE THROUGH!!

30 What shall we say then? That Gentiles who did not follow after righteousness [who did not seek salvation by right relationship to God] have attained it by faith [a righteousness imputed by God, based on and produced by faith],

← YES

31 Whereas Israel, though ever in pursuit of a law [for the securing] of righteousness (right standing with God), actually did not succeed in fulfilling the Law.

← YES.

32 For what reason? Because [they pursued it] not through faith, relying [instead] on the merit of their works [they did not depend on faith but on what they could do]. They have stumbled over the Stumbling Stone.

33 As it is written, Behold I am laying in Zion a Stone that will make men stumble, a Rock that will make them fall; but he who believes in Him [who adheres to, trusts in, and relies

on Him] shall not be put to shame nor be disappointed in his expectations.

"... THAT WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM SHALL NOT PERISH BUT HAVE EVERLASTING LIFE." JOHN 3:16B

Chapter 10

1 Brethren, [with all] my heart's desire and goodwill for [Israel], I long and pray to God that they may be saved.

→ TRULY! SEE PAUL'S DEPTH OF COMPASSION FOR HIS PEOPLE IN ROMANS 9:3

2 I bear them witness that they have a [certain] zeal and enthusiasm for God, but it is not enlightened and according to [correct and vital] knowledge.

THIS "ZEAL" & NO KNOWLEDGE IS A PRODUCT OF A RELIGIOUS MINDSET AND CAN BE TRANSFORMED BY THE RENEWING OF THE MIND TO THE WORD OF GOD!

THIS IGNORANCE IS IN THE CHURCH, TOO.

3 For being ignorant of the righteousness that God ascribes [which makes one acceptable to Him in word, thought, and deed] and seeking to establish a righteousness (a means of salvation) of their own, they did not obey or submit themselves to God's righteousness.

THIS MEANS THAT SEEKING TO OBTAIN RIGHT STANDING \bar{c} GOD (TRYING TO "GET GOD TO LOVE" BASED ON YOUR ACTIONS AND GOODNES) FALL INTO THIS CATEGORY) IS OUTRIGHT DISOBEDIENCE TO GOD AND LACK OF SUBMISSION TO HIM!!!

4 For Christ is the end of the Law [the limit at which it ceases to be, for the Law leads up to

telos = completion

Him Who is the fulfillment of its types, and in Him the purpose which it was designed to accomplish is fulfilled. That is, the purpose of the Law is fulfilled in Him] as the means of righteousness (right relationship to God) for everyone who trusts in and adheres to and relies on Him.

← THE ETERNAL TRUTH AND SCARY OF THE GRACE PROVIDED TO US BY THE PRECIOUS AND PRICELESS BLOOD OF JESUS!

5 For Moses writes that the man who [can] practice the righteousness (perfect conformity to God's will) which is based on the Law [with all its intricate demands] shall live by it.

↗ NO MAN CAN

WHEREAS "THE JUST LIVE BY FAITH."

6 But the righteousness based on faith [imputed by God and bringing right relationship with Him] says, Do not say in your heart, Who will ascend into Heaven? that is, to bring Christ down;

CAN A MAN DO THIS?

7 Or who will descend into the abyss? that is, to bring Christ up from the dead [as if we could be saved by our own efforts].

OR THIS?

THE WAY WE MUST APPROACH EVERY PROBLEM IS
UNCERTAINTY IN LIFE: 'WHAT DOES GOD'S WORD SAY?'

8 But what does it say? The Word (God's message in Christ) is near you, on your lips and in your heart; that is, the Word (the message, the basis and object) of faith which we preach,

"THE WORD OF FAITH WHICH WE PREACH"

9 Because if you acknowledge and confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and in your heart believe (adhere to, trust in, and rely on the truth) that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

10 For with the heart a person believes (adheres to, trusts in, and relies on Christ) and so is justified (declared righteous, acceptable to God), and with the mouth he confesses (declares openly and speaks out freely his faith) and confirms [his] salvation.

THE BENEFITS OF THE GREAT SALVATION THAT JESUS PURCHASED FOR US:

JOHN 3:16

soteria: DELIVERANCE FROM PENALTY OF SIN; PROTECTION FROM SATAN AND ALL DEMONIC ATTACK;

PHYSICAL, MENTAL, & EMOTIONAL

HEALING; INTIMATE FRIENDSHIP

W/ GOD AND

BEING CONFORMED

TO HIS LIKENESS

IN EVERY WAY

1 PETER 2:24
ACTS 10:38
3 JOHN 2
ISAIAH 53:4-5
72 JOHN 14:1,27

• JOHN 17:3
• JOHN 15:14-15
• ROMANS 8:14
• JOHN 14:16

11 The Scripture says, No man who believes in Him [who adheres to, relies on, and trusts in Him] will [ever] be put to shame or be disappointed.

- PSALM 34:22
- ISAIAH 28:16
- " 49:23
- JEREMIAH 17:7

12 [No one] for there is no distinction

between Jew and Greek. The same Lord is

Lord over all [of us] and He generously

bestows His riches upon all who call upon

Him [in faith].

→ ΠΛΟΥΤΕΩ = TO BE RICH, TO HAVE ABUNDANCE

- OF OUTWARD POSSESSIONS

→ TO BE RICHLY SUPPLIED

"[GOD] IS AFFLUENT IN RESOURCES

SO THAT HE CAN GIVE BLESSINGS

OF SALVATION TO ALL."

- THAYER'S GREEK LEXICON

13 For everyone who calls upon the name of

the Lord [invoking Him as Lord] will be

saved.

NOT JUST A SELECT FEW!

14 But how are people to call upon Him

Whom they have not believed [in Whom they

have no faith, on Whom they have no

reliance]? And how are they to believe in Him

[adhere to, trust in, and rely upon Him] of

Whom they have never heard? And how are

they to hear without a preacher?

HOW TO ACCESS GOD'S RICHES

1) HEAR THE WORD OF GOD.

(ROMANS 10:17)

2) BELIEVE THE WORD OF GOD.

(ROMANS 10:10, MARK 11:22-24)

3) SPEAK/CALL UPON THE PROMISES OF GOD

(ROMANS 10:10, 10:13, MARK 11:22-24)

15 And how can men [be expected to] preach

unless they are sent? As it is written, How

beautiful are the feet of those who bring glad

tidings! [How welcome is the coming of those

who preach the good news of His good things!]

16 But they have not all heeded the Gospel; for Isaiah says, Lord, who has believed (had faith in) what he has heard from us?

THIS IS HOW FAITH COMES.

FAITH DOES NOT COME BY:

- ASKING FOR IT
- PRAYING FOR IT
- HAVING SOMEONE ELSE ASK FOR IT FOR YOU
- THE LAYING ON OF HANDS
- PRAYING IN TONGUES
(THIS BUILDS UP THE FAITH YOU ALREADY HAVE - JUDE 20)
- DIVINE SOVEREIGNTY
(IT DOES COME FROM GOD, BUT THE IDEA THAT SOME ARE SIFTED & MORE FAITH THAN OTHERS IS FALSE - SEE ROMANS 12:3.

17 So faith comes by hearing [what is told], and what is heard comes by the preaching [of the message that came from the lips] of Christ (the Messiah Himself).

18 But I ask, Have they not heard? Indeed they have; [for the Scripture says] Their voice [that of nature bearing God's message] has gone out to all the earth, and their words to the far bounds of the world.

EVERYONE IS AFFORDED THE SAME OPPORTUNITY TO BELIEVE IN JESUS AND ON HIS WORD.

SEE ROMANS 1:18-20

19 Again I ask, Did Israel not understand? [Did the Jews have no warning that the Gospel was to go forth to the Gentiles, to all the earth?] First, there is Moses who says, I will make you jealous of those who are not a

nation; with a foolish nation I will make you angry.

20 Then Isaiah is so bold as to say, I have been found by those who did not seek Me; I have shown (revealed) Myself to those who did not [consciously] ask for Me.

GOD HIMSELF A WITNESS TO THE SALVATION OF THE GENTILES!

21 But of Israel he says, All day long I have stretched out My hands to a people unyielding and disobedient and self-willed [to a faultfinding, contrary, and contradicting people].

} ISRAEL

Chapter 11

1 I ask then: Has God totally rejected and disowned His people? Of course not! Why, I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin!

2 No, God has not rejected and disowned His people [whose destiny] He had marked out

and appointed and foreknown from the beginning. Do you not know what the Scripture says of Elijah, how he pleads with God against Israel?

“
3 Lord, they have killed Your prophets; they have demolished Your altars, and I alone am left, and they seek my life.”

4 But what is God’s reply to him? I have kept for Myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal!

5 So too at the present time there is a remnant **OF ISRAELITES** (a small believing minority), selected (chosen) by grace (by God’s unmerited favor and graciousness).

6 But if it is by grace (His unmerited favor and graciousness), it is no longer conditioned on works or anything men have done. Otherwise, grace would no longer be grace [it would be meaningless].

THESE ISRAELITES HAVE ONLY BELIEVED IN THE WORD OF GOD — THAT SALVATION IS MADE AVAILABLE THROUGH GRACE AND NOT WORKS.

7 What then [shall we conclude]? Israel failed

to obtain what it sought [God's favor by obedience to the Law]. Only the elect (those chosen few) obtained it, while the rest of them became callously indifferent (blinded, hardened, and made insensible to it).

ekloge = FROM eklogomai
ek + lego

= OUT FROM, AWAY FROM = TO SAY, TO SPEAK, TO CALL OUT, TO TEACH TO BREAK THE SILENCE

↓
THOSE WHO REJECTED THE WORD

= THIS ELECTION IS NOT GOD

CHOOSING SOME TO BE SAVED AND OTHERS TO BE DAMNED. THAT CONCLUSION GOES AGAINST MANY SCRIPTURES THAT PROMISE LIFE AND SALVATION TO "ALL."

THIS IS A CALLING OUT OR UP TO A HIGHER PLACE IN HIM.

8 As it is written, God gave them a spirit (an attitude) of stupor, eyes that should not see and ears that should not hear, [that has continued] down to this very day.

A "PRICKING" OR A "PIERCING"

THIS IS WHAT THEY HAVE DONE
E
THIS PRICKING

9 And David says, Let their table (their feasting, banqueting) become a snare and a

trap, a pitfall and a just retribution [rebounding like a boomerang upon them];

NOT UNJUST BUT JUST.

10 Let their eyes be darkened (dimmed) so that they cannot see, and make them bend their back [stooping beneath their burden] forever.

11 So I ask, Have they stumbled so as to fall [to their utter spiritual ruin, irretrievably]? By no means! But through their false step and *→ NOT SOO'S* transgression salvation [has come] to the Gentiles, so as to arouse Israel [to see and feel what they forfeited] and so to make them jealous.

12 Now if their stumbling (their lapse, their transgression) has so enriched the world [at large], and if [Israel's] failure means such riches for the Gentiles, think what an enrichment and greater advantage will follow their full reinstatement!

} WE MUST ALWAYS BE MINDFUL OF AND PRAYERFUL FOR ISRAEL'S PEACE AND PROSPERITY!

13 But now I am speaking to you who are Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I lay great stress on my ministry and magnify my office,

PAUL KNOWS HIS CALLING - EVEN THOUGH HE FOUGHT IT AT FIRST.

14 In the hope of making my fellow Jews jealous [in order to stir them up to imitate,

copy, and appropriate], and thus managing to save some of them.

15 For if their rejection and exclusion from the benefits of salvation were [overruled] for the reconciliation of a world to God, what will their acceptance and admission mean? [It will be nothing short of] life from the dead!

WHAT A PLAN!

16 Now if the first handful of dough offered as the firstfruits [Abraham and the patriarchs] is consecrated (holy), so is the whole mass [the nation of Israel]; and if the root [Abraham] is consecrated (holy), so are the branches.

17 But if some of the branches were broken off, while you, a wild olive shoot, were grafted in among them to share the richness [of the root and sap] of the olive tree,

ISRAEL

→ GENTILES

↓ GOD'S FAMILY

18 Do not boast over the branches and pride yourself at their expense. If you do boast and

feel superior, remember it is not you that support the root, but the root [that supports] you.

19 You will say then, Branches were broken (pruned) off so that I might be grafted in!

20 That is true. But they were broken (pruned) off because of their unbelief (their lack of real faith), and you are established through faith [because you do believe]. So do

✧ not become proud and conceited, but rather ✧ stand in awe and be reverently afraid. ✧

21 For if God did not spare the natural branches [because of unbelief], neither will He spare you [if you are guilty of the same offense].

} THE LAW OF FAITH STAND FOR ALL

22 Then note and appreciate the gracious kindness and the severity of God: severity toward those who have fallen, but God's gracious kindness to you—provided you

continue in His grace and abide in His kindness; otherwise you too will be cut off (pruned away).

SALVATION CAN BE LOST PERMANENTLY, (HEBREWS 6:4-6) AND ITS BENEFITS MISSED. THE FORMER IS RARE, BUT THE LATTER IS SHAMEFULLY COMMON.

23 And even those others [the fallen branches, Jews], if they do not persist in [clinging to] their unbelief, will be grafted in, for God has the power to graft them in again.

UNBELIEF IS A CHOICE!

24 For if you have been cut from what is by nature a wild olive tree, and against nature grafted into a cultivated olive tree, how much easier will it be to graft these natural [branches] back on [the original parent stock of] their own olive tree.

25 Lest you be self-opinionated (wise in your own conceits), I do not want you to miss this hidden truth and mystery, brethren: a ⓧ hardening (insensibility) has [temporarily] befallen a part of Israel [to last] until the full number of the ingathering of the Gentiles has come in,

AS OF THIS WRITING, WE ARE STILL BEFORE THIS TIME. THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH WILL BE THE MARKER THAT THE FULLNESS OF THE TIME OF THE GENTILES HAS COME IN.

26 And so all Israel will be saved. As it is written, The Deliverer will come from Zion, He will banish ungodliness from Jacob.

27 And this will be My covenant (My agreement) with them when I shall take away their sins.

28 From the point of view of the Gospel (good news), they [the Jews, at present] are enemies [of God], which is for your advantage and benefit. But from the point of view of God's choice (of election, of divine selection), they are still the beloved (dear to Him) for the sake of their forefathers.

29 For God's gifts and His call are irrevocable. [He never withdraws them when once they are given, and He does not change His mind about those to whom He gives His grace or to whom He sends His call.]

THIS IS AN ETERNAL AND UNIVERSAL TRUTH.

30 Just as you were once disobedient and rebellious toward God but now have obtained [His] mercy, through their disobedience,

31 So they also now are being disobedient [when you are receiving mercy], that they in turn may one day, through the mercy you are enjoying, also receive mercy [that they may share the mercy which has been shown to you—through you as messengers of the ← Gospel to them].

PRAY OVER AND MINISTER THE GOSPEL TO OUR JEWISH BROTHERS AND SISTERS!

32 For God has consigned (penned up) all men to disobedience, only that He may have mercy on them all [alike]. SEE ROMANS 3:23-26

33 Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unfathomable (inscrutable, unsearchable) are His judgments (His decisions)! And how untraceable (mysterious, undiscoverable) are His ways (His methods, His paths)!

WHAT A GLORIOUS PLANNER!
HE IS ABLE TO SAVE ALL!
HIS PLAN IS TO SAVE ALL!
EVEN WHEN A NATION WANDERS
LOST IN THE WILDERNESS, HIS LOVE
AND COMPASSION COMPEL HIM TO
MAKE A WAY OF SALVATION!!

34 For who has known the mind of the Lord

and who has understood His thoughts, or who

has [ever] been His counselor?

35 Or who has first given God anything that

he might be paid back or that he could claim a

recompense?

NO ONE, OF COURSE!

36 For from Him and through Him and to

Him are all things. [For all things originate

with Him and come from Him; all things live

through Him, and all things center in and tend

to consummate and to end in Him.] To Him

be glory forever! Amen (so be it).

THANK YOU, FATHER!!

SEE ACTS 17:28

Chapter 12

BECAUSE OF WHAT I JUST SAID

1 I appeal to you therefore, brethren, and beg

"APPEAL" AND "BEG" (KJV "BESEECH")

of you in view of [all] the mercies of God, to

= parakaleo = TO CALL TO ONE'S SIDE, TO SUMMON

→ AS AN OFFICER WOULD CALL - parakaleo -

HIS TROOPS BEFORE A MAJOR BATTLE

→ TO ENCOURAGE, STRENGTHEN.

make a decisive dedication of your bodies

[presenting all your members and faculties] as

a living sacrifice, holy (devoted, consecrated)

"MERCIES" = oiktirmos = COMPASSION, PITY, MERCY

and well pleasing to God, which is your

→ EMOTIONS, LONGINGS, MANIFESTATIONS OF PITY

→ THE BOWELS OF COMPASSION!!

THIS IS A CHOICE WE MAKE. GOD DOESN'T MAKE IT FOR US.

⊛ A LIVING SACRIFICE CRAWLS WILLINGLY UP ONTO THE ALTAR OF ITS OWN VOLITION. HOLY! OUR BODIES!! DEVOTED! CONSECRATED TO GOD! WELL-PLEASING TO HIM! OUR BODIES ARE THE TEMPLE & DWELLING PLACE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT - IT IS OUR DUTY TO

TAKE CARE OF OUR BODIES AND YIELD EVERY PART OF OUR SENSES TO HIM.

THIS IS OUR REASONABLE RESPONSE TO THE GOD AND FATHER OF 11:36 ABOVE!!

reasonable (rational, intelligent) service and spiritual worship. CONSECRATING OUR FLESH IS SPIRITUAL WORSHIP!

THE GREEK

SAYS: "AND DO NOT BE..."

2 Do not be conformed to this world (this age), [fashioned after and adapted to its

external, superficial customs], but be transformed (changed) by the [entire] renewal

of your mind [by its new ideals and its new

attitude], so that you may prove [for

yourselves] what is the good and acceptable

and perfect will of God, even the thing which

is good and acceptable and perfect [in His

sight for you].

IT IS MY JOB TO RENEW MY MIND TO THE WORD, NOT GOD'S!!

3 For by the grace (unmerited favor of God)

given to me I warn everyone among you not

to estimate and think of himself more highly

than he ought [not to have an exaggerated

opinion of his own importance], but to rate

his ability with sober judgment, each

according to the degree of faith apportioned

by God to him.

↓
YOUR FAITH WORKS JUST FINE;
JUST LOOK AT WHERE YOUR
WORDS HAVE GOTTEN YOU!!

THIS IS OUR REASONABLE RESPONSE TO THE GOD AND

FATHER OF 11:36 ABOVE!!

spiritual worship.

CONSECRATING OUR FLESH IS SPIRITUAL WORSHIP!

YOU!
YES YOU!
THIS IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY!

SEE
EPHESIANS
4:22
-24

= EXTREMELY POWERFUL

I CAN WALK IN GOD'S PERFECT WILL IF I WALK IN THE LIGHT OF THE WORD.

gion: ASE

NOTICE HOW WE ARE CHANGED

CONFORMED = syn + schema

"WITH"

THE HABITUS (A PERSON'S GENERAL CONSTITUTION) AS COMPRISING EVERYTHING IN A PERSON WHICH STATES THE SENSES, THE FIGURE, THE BEARING, DISCOURSE, ACTIONS, MANNER OF LIFE, ETC."

THAYER'S GREEK LEXICON

TRANSFORMED = metamorphoo = meta + morphoo

↓

ONLY USED 4x IN THE N.T.:

- 1) MATT. 17:2
- 2) MARK 9:2
- 3) ROM. 12:2
- 4) 2 COR. 3:18

TO CHANGE INTO ANOTHER FORM, TO TRANSFORM, TO TRANSFIGURE

PROVE = dokimazo = TO TEST, EXAMINE, SCRUTINIZE, TO APPROVE AS THE GENUINE ARTICLE.

THESE ALL SPEAK OF A NATURAL PERSON BEING RADICALLY, SUPERNATURALLY, AND VISIBLY TRANSFORMED INTO AN UNIMAGINABLY GLORIOUS STATE.

PERFECT: teleios = WANTING NOTHING → COMPLETE!

NOTHING IS SAID OF DIFFERENT MEASURES OF FAITH GIVEN. THE GREEK SAYS, "AS GOD HAS DISTRIBUTED TO EVERY MAN [THE] MEASURE [OF] FAITH."

- FAITH CAN GROW BY HEARS IN (HEARING) THE WORD OF GOD. (ROM. 10:17)
- FAITH CAN BE STRONG OR WEAK (SEE ROMANS 4)
- FAITH CAN BE "BUILT UP" (JUNE 20) BY PRAYING IN OTHER TONGUES.

A 'MUSTARD SEED' AMOUNT IS ALL THAT IS NEEDED. IT'S NOT THE AMOUNT OF FAITH THAT MATTERS, BUT IT MUST BE PURE.

↑
IN LINE WITH THE WORLD AND UNMIXED WITH UNBELIEF - CONTAINING NO UNBELIEF!!

HONOR, DON'T MIMIC OR CRITIQUE OTHERS' CALLINGS. RUN IN YOUR LANE.

4 For as in one physical body we have many parts (organs, members) and all of these parts do not have the same function or use,

v.6 GIFTS = charisma = FAVOR RECEIVED APART FROM MERIT

→ GRACE OR GIFTS DENOTING EXTRAORDINARY POWERS

5 So we, numerous as we are, are one body in Christ (the Messiah) and individually we are parts one of another [mutually dependent on one another].

THE CHURCH!

v.6 EVERYONE CAN AND OUGHT TO PROPHECY BUT SOME ARE SUPER- (1 COR. 14:31,39) NATURALLY INCLINED TO THE GIFT.

* THE "GIFT" HERE IS THE ONLY ONE HERE ALSO MENTIONED IN 1 COR. 12 AS THE MANIFESTATIONS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

6 Having gifts (faculties, talents, qualities) that differ according to the grace given us, let

LET US USE THEM!

us use them: [He whose gift is] prophecy, [let him prophesy] according to the proportion of his faith;

propheteia = COMMUNICATING GOD'S WORDS, INSPIRED BY HIM.

⇒ ALTHOUGH ALL THESE GIFTS REQUIRE SUPERNATURAL ENERGY TO PERFORM AND DIVINE ENDOWMENT TO RECEIVE, THIS IS THE ONLY ONE "RECOGNIZABLY SPIRITUAL." HOWEVER, THIS GIFT MAY LAY AS DORMANT AND UNREALIZED AS ALL THE OTHERS HERE IF THE PERSON DOES NOT SEEK THE LORD CONCERNING HIS OR HER OWN GIFTS.

WE ALL HAVE BEEN GIFTS FROM GOD. SEE 1 COR. 7:7

7 [He whose gift is] practical service, let him give himself to serving; he who teaches, to his teaching;

"MINISTRY" = diakonia = MINISTRY OF THE WORD OF GOD
→ SERVING TABLES
→ OFFERING GIFTS

THERE ARE FOUR "GIFTS" MENTIONED IN 1 COR. 12. THEY ARE:

- 1) GIFTS OF HEALINGS (v.9)
- 2) PROPHECY (v.10)
- 3) DIVERS KINDS OF TONGUES (v.11)
- 4) INTERPRETATION OF TONGUES (v.11)

8 He who exhorts (encourages), to his exhortation; he who contributes, let him do it in simplicity and liberality; he who gives aid and superintends, with zeal and singleness of

v.7 "TEACHES" = didasko = TO TEACH, TO HOLD DISCOURSE, INSTRUCT

"RULETH" = proistemi = TO BE OVER, TO SUPERINTEND, PRESIDE OVER
→ TO BE PROTECTOR OR GUARDIAN
→ CARE FOR, GIVE ATTENTION TO

→ TO IMPART INSTRUCTION
→ INSTILL DOCTRINE INTO ONE
→ TO EXPLAIN OR EXPOUND A THING
→ TO TEACH ONE SOMETHING

EXHORTS = parakaleo = SEE NOTE ON 12:1

CONTRIBUTES = "GIVETH" = metadidomi

= TO IMPART, TO SHAKE
→ HE THAT IMPARTETH OF HIS SUBSTANCE

"SHOWETH MERCY" = *eleeō* ≡ TO HAVE MERCY ON
 → TO HELP ONE AFFLICTED OR SEEKING AID
 → TO BRING HELP TO THE WRETCHED
 → TO EXPERIENCE MERCY

mind; he who does acts of mercy, with genuine cheerfulness and joyful eagerness.

↳ *hilarotes* ≡ CHEERFULNESS, EAGERNESS

9 [Let your] love be sincere (a real thing); → THE OPPOSITE OF "PLAYING A PART" AS IN A STAGE PRODUCTION.

↳ hate what is evil [loathe all ungodliness, turn

in horror from wickedness], but hold fast to → STAY GLUED TIGHTLY TO THAT WHICH IS GOOD

that which is good.

HATE,
DON'T
TOLERATE
EVIL

10 Love one another with brotherly affection

[as members of one family], giving

precedence and showing honor to one

another.

11 Never lag in zeal and in earnest endeavor;

be aglow and burning with the Spirit, serving

the Lord.

Holy ZEAL NEVER DISSIPATES w/ AGE
 NOTICE CALEB'S ZEAL AT 85 YEARS OLD.

NOTICE MOSES' PHYSIQUE @ 120.

↑ SEE
 JOHANA 14:11
 -13
 ↪ SEE DEUT. 34:7

↳ *elpis* ≡ TO ANTICIPATE w/ PLEASURE
 EXPECTATION OF GOD'S BEST OUTCOME

12 Rejoice and exult in hope; be steadfast and

patient in suffering and tribulation; be

constant in prayer.

↳ TO BE STEADFASTLY ATTENTIVE UNTO, TO GIVE UNREMITTING CARE TO A THING.

} THIS IS POSSIBLE WHEN YOU CULTIVATE A LIFE OF PRAYING IN THE SPIRIT AT NEARLY ALL TIMES OF THE DAY

13 Contribute to the needs of God's people

[sharing in the necessities of the saints];

pursue the practice of hospitality.

philoxenia = LOVE TO STRANGERS
LOVER OF STRANGERS

RUN SWIFTLY TO ATTAINING THE GOAL OF BEING HOSPITABLE TO OTHERS

14 Bless those who persecute you [who are

cruel in their attitude toward you]; bless and

SEE MATTHEW 5:44 AND LUKE 6:28

do not curse them.

15 Rejoice with those who rejoice [sharing

others' joy], and weep with those who weep

[sharing others' grief].

BE THE KIND OF DEEP FRIEND THAT
YOU WANT TO HAVE IN YOUR OWN
LIFE.

16 Live in harmony with one another; do not

be haughty (snobbish, high-minded,

exclusive), but readily adjust yourself to

[people, things] and give yourselves to

humble tasks. Never overestimate yourself or

be wise in your own conceits.

SEE PROVERBS 3:7, 12:15, 26:12; ISAIAH 5:21
ALSO PHILIPPIANS 2:1-7.

17 Repay no one evil for evil, but take

thought for what is honest and proper and

noble [aiming to be above reproach] in the

sight of everyone.

IT DOES MATTER, TO A DEGREE, WHAT OTHERS THINK OF YOU
THEIR OPINIONS NEED NOT PENETRATE OUR SOULS, BUT WE
MUST GIVE OTHERS A REFLECTION OF JESUS THAT IS
ENTICING AND LOVELY. CERTAINLY, WE MUST DO EVERYTHING
WE CAN TO FLEE THE APPEARANCE OF EVIL - THIS IS WISDOM!



18 If possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

19 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave the way open for [God's] wrath; for it is written, Vengeance is Mine, I will repay (requite), says the Lord.

IF YOU GO OUT TO AVENGE YOURSELF, YOU CLOSE THE DOOR FOR GOD TO COME IN AND DO IT FOR YOU. HIS VENGEANCE IS ALWAYS MORE RIGHTeous AND COMPLETE THAN OURS!

20 But if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals upon his head.

NOT A BAD THING; BUT AN ACT OF LOVE AND CARE

Kenneth Samuel Wuest (1893-1962):

In Bible times an oriental needed to keep his hearth fire going all the time in order to insure fire for cooking and warmth. If it went out, he had to go to a neighbour for some live coals of fire. These he would carry on his head in a container, oriental fashion, back to his home. The person who would give him some live coals would be meeting his desperate need and showing him an outstanding kindness. If he would heap the container with coals, the man would be sure of getting some home still burning. The one injured would be returning kindness for injury.

21 Do not let yourself be overcome by evil, but overcome (master) evil with good.

↑ THIS IS MY JOB TO DO! NOT GOD'S.
I MUST OVERCOME EVIL - E GOOD!

<https://www.hiskingdomprophecy.com/heaping-coals>

Chapter 13

1 Let every person be loyally subject to the governing (civil) authorities. For there is no authority except from God [by His permission, His sanction], and those that exist do so by God's appointment.

THIS IS NOT SAYING THAT GOD PICKS EVERY ELECTION TO PUT HIS CHOSEN MAN OR WOMAN IN AUTHORITY.

THE GREEK WORD HERE IS "TO PUT IN ORDER, TO ARRANGE, TO ASSIGN A PLACE, TO APPOINT"

AND IS SPEAKING OF THE SYSTEM OF AUTHORITY, NOT EVERY INDIVIDUAL LEADER. TO SAY THAT GOD PERSONALLY APPOINTS EVERY LEADER IS UNSCRIPTURAL. THIS IS NOT WHAT GOD DID IN THE DAYS OF THE WARRING KINGS (EVEN OF HIS OWN PEOPLE) IN 1 AND 2 KINGS + 1 AND 2 CHRONICLES.

2 Therefore he who resists and sets himself up against the authorities resists what God has appointed and arranged [in divine order]. And those who resist will bring down judgment upon themselves [receiving the penalty due them].

3 For civil authorities are not a terror to [people of] good conduct, but to [those of] bad behavior. Would you have no dread of him who is in authority? Then do what is right and you will receive his approval and commendation.

4 For he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, [you should dread him and] be afraid, for he does not bear and wear the sword for nothing. He is God's servant to execute His wrath (punishment, vengeance) on the wrongdoer.

5 Therefore one must be subject, not only to avoid God's wrath and escape punishment,

↗ IF GOD SET NEBUCHADNEZZAR UP PERSONALLY, THEN WHY DID SHADRACH, MESHACH, AND ABERNETHO NOT RECEIVE JUDGEMENT FOR RESISTING THE KING IN DANIEL 3?

IF GOD SET THE "PRESIDENTS + PRINCES" OF KING DARIUS' KINGDOM (DANIEL 6) IN THEIR PLACE OF AUTHORITY, AND DANIEL DISOBEYED THE ORDER OF KING DARIUS (THE ORDER DESIGNED BY THE PRINCES), WHY DID DANIEL, WHO **RESISTED THE LAW**, NOT "BRING DOWN JUDGEMENT ON HIMSELF?"

∴ THIS IS TALKING ABOUT RESISTING THE SYSTEM THAT GOD SET UP - HUMAN GOVERNMENT.

↘ THIS IS IN REGARD TO A GOVERNMENT THAT IS ACCORDING TO GOD, NOT A CORRUPT ONE.

THE APOSTLE JOHN, FOR INSTANCE, DID WHAT WAS RIGHT AND DID NOT RECEIVE APPROVAL FROM THE WICKED EMPEROR DOMITIAN.

THE GOVERNMENT OUGHT TO BE BASED ON THESE PRINCIPLES, FOR THIS IS GOD'S DESIGN FOR IT - BUT SATAN ELEVATES THE WICKED INTO THESE HIGH POSITIONS AND THE RIGHTEOUS ARE PUNISHED UNLESS THEY DO WRONG (SEE DANIEL 3, DANIEL 6, AND THE BOOK OF ESTHER)

THIS IS GOD'S JOB DESCRIPTION FOR GOVT AUTHORITIES.

but also as a matter of principle and for the sake of conscience.

6 For this same reason you pay taxes, for [the civil authorities] are official servants under God, devoting themselves to attending to this very service.

AS SERVANTS \bar{c} FREE WILL, THOSE IN POSITIONS OF AUTHORITY WILL ONE DAY ANSWER FOR THEIR STEWARDSHIP.

7 Render to all men their dues. [Pay] taxes to whom taxes are due, revenue to whom revenue is due, respect to whom respect is due, and honor to whom honor is due.

PAY TAXES!
PAY THE PRICE FOR GOODS AND SERVICES!
DON'T HAGGLE TO THE POINT OF DISRESPECT.
PAY WHAT THE OBJECT IS WORTH.
GIVE HONOR TO THE SELLER.

8 Keep out of debt and owe no man anything, except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor [who practices loving others] has fulfilled the Law [relating to one's fellowmen, meeting all its requirements].

STAY OUT OF LITERAL DEBT!

HE WHO LOVES HIS NEIGHBOR HAS FULFILLED THE LAW.
WOW!

9 The commandments, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not kill, You shall not steal, You shall not covet (have an evil desire), and any other commandment, are

← MORE CLARIFICATION ON THIS RADICAL TRUTH

KEEPING THE SABBATH HOLY,
FOOD RESTRICTIONS, ETC

summed up in the single command, You shall

love your neighbor as [you do] yourself.

10 Love does no wrong to one's neighbor [it

never hurts anybody]. Therefore love meets

all the requirements and is the fulfilling of the

Law.

11 Besides this you know what [a critical] hour this is, how it is high time now for you to wake up out of your sleep (rouse to reality). For salvation (final deliverance) is nearer to us now than when we first believed (adhered to, trusted in, and relied on Christ, the Messiah).

DON'T MESS AROUND \bar{c} RELIGIOUS TRADITION AND NONSENSE - WAKE IN LOVE. WE ARE LIVING IN THE LAST OF THE LAST DAYS (SEE 1 TIM. 4 AND 2 TIM. 3).

12 The night is far gone and the day is almost here. Let us then drop (fling away) the works and deeds of darkness and put on the [full] armor of light.

JESUS IS RETURNING TO RAPTURE HIS CHURCH VERY SOON!

SEE ALSO HEBREWS 12:1

SEE ALSO EPHESIANS 6:10-20

13 Let us live and conduct ourselves

honorably and becomingly as in the [open

light of] day, not in reveling (carousing) and drunkenness, not in immorality and debauchery (sensuality and licentiousness), not in quarreling and jealousy.

14 But clothe yourself with the Lord Jesus

Christ (the Messiah), and make no provision

SEE ALSO EPHESIANS 4:20-24

for [indulging] the flesh [put a stop to

thinking about the evil cravings of your

physical nature] to [gratify its] desires (lusts).

Chapter 14

1 As for the man who is a weak believer,

IT IS APPROPRIATE TO JUDGE AND IDENTIFY SOME BELIEVERS AS WEAK.

welcome him [into your fellowship], but not to criticize his opinions or pass judgment on his scruples or perplex him with discussions.

NOTICE HOW WE ARE TO TREAT THE SPIRITUALLY WEAK

2 One [man's faith permits him to] believe he

may eat anything, while a weaker one [limits

his] eating to vegetables.

→ PROOF THAT YOUR FAITH WALK IS UNDER YOUR CONTROL AND STEWARDSHIP.
SEE ALSO HEBREWS 5:12-14

3 Let not him who eats look down on or despise him who abstains, and let not him who abstains criticize and pass judgment on him who eats; for God has accepted and welcomed him.

4 Who are you to pass judgment on and censure another's household servant? It is before his own master that he stands or falls.

And he shall stand and be upheld, for the Master (the Lord) is mighty to support him and make him stand.

5 One man esteems one day as better than another, while another man esteems all days alike [sacred]. Let everyone be fully convinced (satisfied) in his own mind.

"THE SABBATH, THE SABBATH!"
LOOK, IT'S NO BIG DEAL. IT ISN'T A MATTER OF SALVATION. THE POINT IS TO NOT GIVE SATAN A FOOTHOLD FOR STRIFE, DIVISION, AND DISCORD AMONG THE CHURCH.

6 He who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. He also who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God; while he who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God.

7 None of us lives to himself [but to the Lord], and none of us dies to himself [but to the Lord, for]

8 If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or we die, we belong to the Lord.

9 For Christ died and lived again for this very purpose, that He might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

10 Why do you criticize and pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you look down upon or despise your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God.

11 For it is written, As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to Me, and every tongue shall confess to God [acknowledge Him to His honor and to His praise].

NOTICE THAT WE (THE BELIEVERS) WILL STAND, NOT CRY, GRIEVE, OR BE FLAILING ABOUT ON THE GROUND BEFORE HIM. THIS IS THE PLACE WHERE JESUS WILL BE GIVING OUT AWARDS BASED ON OUR LEVEL OF OBEDIENCE TO HIS WORD DURING OUR LIFETIMES ON EARTH.

SEE ALSO PSALM 130:3-4

↙ bēma = A RAISED PLATFORM WHERE THE JUDGES OF THE ISTHMIAN GAMES WOULD STAND TO PLACE LAUREL CROWNS ON THE HEADS OF THOSE WHO HAD COMPETED WELL AND ACCORDING TO THE RULES. THE bēma HISTORICALLY WAS A PLACE OF EVALUATION AND DESIGNATION.

(RENNER, "BUILD YOUR FOUNDATION," PAGE 188)

A "FACTUAL REPORT" SEE ALSO 2 COR. 5:10

12 And so each of us shall give an account of

himself [give an answer in reference to

judgment] to God.

EVERY BELIEVER IN CHRIST WILL STAND BEFORE HIS BEMA AND WILL RECEIVE WHAT IS DUE US ACCORDING TO WHAT WE HAVE DONE IN OUR WALK 2 CHRIST ON THE EARTH.

WHAT YOU DO WITH YOUR LIFE AFTER THE MOMENT OF SALVATION IS YOUR GIFT TO GOD, AND THAT IS WHAT IS GOING TO BE EVALUATED AT THE BEMA OF CHRIST. (RENNER)

13 Then let us no more criticize and blame and pass judgment on one another, but rather decide and endeavor never to put a stumbling block or an obstacle or a hindrance in the way

of a brother. NOT AN UNBELIEVER, OTHERWISE WE COULD NEVER PREACH CHRIST TO THEM. 1 COR. 1:23, PSALM 118:22, MT. 21:44

14 I know and am convinced (persuaded) as one in the Lord Jesus, that nothing is [forbidden as] essentially unclean (defiled and unholy in itself). But [none the less] it is unclean (defiled and unholy) to anyone who thinks it is unclean.

NOTHING, IN REALITY, IS UNCLEAN, BUT IS DESIGNED TO BE RECEIVED 2 THANKSGIVING BEFORE EATING - SEE 1 TIMOTHY 4:3-4

BUT, IF SOMEONE, A BROTHER, THINKS SHRIMP OR PORK (FOR INSTANCE) IS UNCLEAN OR UNHOLY, LET THEM BE CONVINCED. THEY THINK THAT WAY ONTO THE LORD; IT IS THEIR WORSHIP - DON'T FIGHT THEM ON IT.

15 But if your brother is being pained or his feelings hurt or if he is being injured by what

you eat, [then] you are no longer walking in

love. [You have ceased to be living and

conducting yourself by the standard of love

AND THAT IS A SERIOUS DEAL

→ YOUR FAITH WORKS WHEN YOU ARE WALKING IN LOVE

→ YOU FULFILL GOD'S LAW WHEN YOU WALK IN LOVE

toward him.] Do not let what you eat hurt or
cause the ruin of one for whom Christ died!

16 Do not therefore let what seems good to you be considered an evil thing [by someone else]. [In other words, do not give occasion for others to criticize that which is justifiable for you.]

BE CAREFUL HOW YOU PRESENT YOURSELF AS YOU WALK IN FAITH AND FREEDOM IN CHRIST. YOU DON'T NEED TO COMPROMISE, BUT YOU MUST BE CAREFUL HOW YOU INTERACT WITH THE BRETHREN.

17 [After all] the kingdom of God is not a matter of [getting the] food and drink [one likes], but instead it is righteousness (that state which makes a person acceptable to God) and [heart] peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS MORE THAN NATURAL THINGS - IT IS RIGHTEOUSNESS WITH GOD THROUGH CHRIST, PEACE FROM GOD AND BETWEEN GOD & MAN, AND JOY - NOT OF THIS WORLD - BUT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT!!!

18 He who serves Christ in this way is acceptable and pleasing to God and is approved by men.

WALKING IN LOVE AND KEEPING THE MAIN THINGS THE MAIN THINGS - FOCUSED ON AND MANIFESTING THROUGH THEIR LIFE THE ACTUAL KINGDOM OF GOD.

19 So let us then definitely aim for and eagerly pursue what makes for harmony and

for mutual upbuilding (edification and development) of one another.

20 You must not, for the sake of food, undo and break down and destroy the work of God!

THIS IS APPARENTLY POSSIBLE!

Everything is indeed [ceremonially] clean and pure, but it is wrong for anyone to hurt the conscience of others or to make them fall by what he eats.

21 The right thing is to eat no meat or drink no wine [at all], or [do anything else] if it makes your brother stumble or hurts his conscience or offends or weakens him.

22 Your personal convictions [on such matters]—exercise [them] as in God's presence, keeping them to yourself [striving only to know the truth and obey His will].

DON'T LET YOUR CORRECTNESS DAMAGE THE WEAKER BROTHER.

Blessed (happy, to be envied) is he who has no reason to judge himself for what he approves [who does not convict himself by what he chooses to do].

HAPPY IS THE CHRISTIAN WHO WALKS IN TOTAL FREEDOM, UNENCUMBERED BY USELESS TRADITION AND RELIGIOUS NONSENSE THAT IS UNSCRIPTURAL AND BRINGS DOWNGRADE INSTEAD OF LIFE.

THE GREEK WORD DESCRIBES PROVING OR TESTING METALS FOR USE IN CURRENCY.
THIS IS RIGHT AND GOOD JUDGEMENT.

23 But the man who has doubts (misgivings, an uneasy conscience) about eating, and then eats [perhaps because of you], stands condemned [before God], because he is not true to his convictions and he does not act from faith. For whatever does not originate and proceed from faith is sin [whatever is done without a conviction of its approval by God is sinful].

THIS IS SOMETHING WE MUST BE AWARE OF IN CORRECTING OUR LOVE WALK.

THIS IS A POWERFUL STATEMENT!!

Chapter 15

1 We who are strong [in our convictions and of robust faith] ought to bear with the failings and the frailties and the tender scruples of the weak; [we ought to help carry the doubts and qualms of others] and not to please ourselves.

IT'S OK TO BE RIGHT AND STILL HUMBLE YOURSELF IN ORDER TO WALK IN LOVE - CHRIST DID THIS CONSTANTLY IN HIS EARTHLY WALK.

2 Let each one of us make it a practice to please (make happy) his neighbor for his good and for his true welfare, to edify him [to strengthen him and build him up spiritually].

DON'T BE A PEOPLE-PLEASER, BUT WALK IN LOVE AND EDIFY OTHERS SPIRITUALLY.

3 For Christ did not please Himself [gave no thought to His own interests]; but, as it is written, The reproaches and abuses of those who reproached and abused you fell on Me.

SEE 1 COR. 13: 4-8 IN THE AMPAC

4 For whatever was thus written in former days was written for our instruction, that by [our steadfast and patient] endurance and the encouragement [drawn] from the Scriptures we might hold fast to and cherish hope.

SEE ALSO 2 TIMOTHY 3:16-17
HEBREWS 4:12
AND 1 COR. 10:11

5 Now may the God Who gives the power of patient endurance (steadfastness) and Who supplies encouragement, grant you to live in such mutual harmony and such full sympathy with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus,

PRAY THIS OVER THE CHURCH

6 That together you may [unanimously] with united hearts and one voice, praise and glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah).

SEE ACTS 4:23-31

FOR AN EXAMPLE OF WHAT CAN HAPPEN WHEN A LOCAL BODY OF BELIEVERS TRULY SETS INTO ONE ACCORD!

→ IT DOESN'T TAKE MANY, BUT THEIR HEARTS MUST BE PURE!!

7 Welcome and receive [to your hearts] one

another, then, even as Christ has welcomed

and received you, for the glory of God.

NOT FOR ANY OTHER REASON

8 For I tell you that Christ (the Messiah)

became a servant and a minister to the

circumcised (the Jews) in order to show

THE PLANS OF GOD DID NOT SUPERCEDE HIS CHARACTER.

God's truthfulness and honesty by confirming

(verifying) the promises [given] to our

fathers,

↳ WE CAN HOLD HIM TO HIS WORD!
HE HAS PROVEN HIMSELF UTTERLY FAITHFUL!

9 And [also in order] that the Gentiles

(nations) might glorify God for His mercy THANK GOD!

[not covenanted] to them. As it is written,

Therefore I will praise You among the

Gentiles and sing praises to Your name.

10 Again it is said, Rejoice (exult), O

Gentiles, along with His [own] people;

THE JEWISH NATION IS OUR FAMILY, TOO!

11 And again, Praise the Lord, all you

Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise Him!

↳ THERE IS NO LOST CASE 2 GOD - ALL ARE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE SAVED AND BLESSED

12 And further Isaiah says, There shall be a
Sprout from the Root of Jesse, He Who rises
to rule over the Gentiles; in Him shall the
Gentiles hope.

13 May the God of your hope so fill you with
all joy and peace in believing [through the
experience of your faith] that by the power of
the Holy Spirit you may abound and be
overflowing (bubbling over) with hope.

14 Personally I am satisfied about you, my
brethren, that you yourselves are rich in
goodness, amply filled with all [spiritual]
knowledge and competent to admonish and
counsel and instruct one another also.

15 Still on some points I have written to you
the more boldly and unreservedly by way of
reminder. [I have done so] because of the
grace (the unmerited favor) bestowed on me
by God

← WANT THIS KIND OF HOPE?
MEDITATE ON THE PRECEDING VERSES.
THEY GO TOGETHER.

← THE HOLY SPIRIT IN US IS THE AGENT BY
WHICH WE EXPERIENCE ALL THAT JESUS AND
THE FATHER ARE

← LET'S BUILD OUR CHURCHES TO BE AT THE
SAME LEVEL AND GREATER!

← PAUL HAS AUTHORITY TO SPEAK BOLDLY
ABOUT CERTAIN THINGS TO THEM, THAT
JUST ANY LEADER DOES NOT.

↙ GOD, NOT MAN, MADE HIM SO.

16 In making me a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles. I act in the priestly service of the Gospel (the good news) of God, in order that the sacrificial offering of the Gentiles may be acceptable [to God], consecrated and made holy by the Holy Spirit.

} HIS GOAL IS NOT PERSONAL ENLIGHTENMENT, BUT IN THE UPRIGHT CONDUCT AND BETTERMENT OF OTHERS!

THE KEY

17 In Christ Jesus, then, I have legitimate reason to glory (exult) in my work for God [in what through Christ Jesus I have accomplished concerning the things of God].

} TRUE HUMILITY NEITHER OVERSTATES NOR SHY AWAY FROM LEGITIMATE SUCCESS.
SEE NUMBERS 12:3
(MOSES WROTE NUMBERS)

18 For [of course] I will not venture (presume) to speak thus of any work except what Christ has actually done through me [as an instrument in His hands] to win obedience from the Gentiles, by word and deed,

} THE GENTILES TODAY STILL VALUE RESULTS. WE HAVE THE HOLY SPIRIT, WHO IS ALL ABOUT PRODUCING REAL, LASTING, RESULTS!

↖ BOTH! SEE JAMES 2:26

19 [Even as my preaching has been accompanied] with the power of signs and wonders, [and all of it] by the power of the Holy Spirit. [The result is] that starting from Jerusalem and as far round as Illyricum, I

} WE MUST IMITATE AND LEARN HOW TO FLOW IN THIS KIND OF MINISTRY!

"FULLY PREACHING THE GOSPEL," "CARRYING OUT TO THE FULL," AND

"... ENTIRETY" = ALL DESCRIBE THE PREACHING OF THE FULL AND COMPLETE GOSPEL OF CHRIST, WHICH ENCOMPASSES REAL POWER IN EVERY AREA OF ONE'S LIFE HERE ON EARTH.

have fully preached the Gospel [faithfully executing, accomplishing, carrying out to the full the good news] of Christ (the Messiah) in its entirety.

HE JUST DESCRIBED

20 Thus my ambition has been to preach the Gospel, not where Christ's name has already been known, lest I build on another man's foundation;

} THIS IS MY JOB, TOO!
→ INVEST IN MISSIONS!
→ GO PERSONALLY

21 But [instead I would act on the principle] as it is written, They shall see who have never been told of Him, and they shall understand who have never heard [of Him].

} THERE ARE STILL MILLIONS TODAY...

22 This [ambition] is the reason why I have so frequently been hindered from coming to visit you.

↓ BY HIS CALLING AND MISSION!

23 But now since I have no further opportunity for work in these regions, and since I have longed for enough years to come to you,

24 I hope to see you in passing [through Rome] as I go [on my intended trip] to Spain, and to be aided on my journey there by you, after I have enjoyed your company for a little while.

25 For the present, however, I am going to Jerusalem to bring aid (relief) for the saints (God's people there).

26 For it has been the good pleasure of Macedonia and Achaia to make some contribution for the poor among the saints of Jerusalem.

27 They were pleased to do it; and surely they are in debt to them, for if these Gentiles have come to share in their [the Jerusalem Jews'] spiritual blessings, then they ought also to be of service to them in material blessings.

WE "OWE NO MAN ANYTHING BUT TO LOVE," YET WE ARE ALSO DEBTORS, IN A SENSE, TO THE JEWISH NATION. WE MUST PRAY FOR SUPPORT, AND LOVE THE NATION OF ISRAEL!!!

28 When therefore I have completed this mission and have delivered to them [at

NOTHING WRONG WITH RAISING FUNDS FOR MINISTRY

Jerusalem] what has been raised, I shall go on
by way of you to Spain.

29 And I know that when I do come to you, I
shall come in the abundant blessing of the
Gospel of Christ.

IF YOU AREN'T PREACHING BLESSINGS,
YOU AREN'T PREACHING CHRIST'S GOSPEL

30 I appeal to you [I entreat you], brethren,
for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ and by
the love [given by] the Spirit, to unite with me
in earnest wrestling in prayer to God in my
behalf.

NOT WRESTLING IN PRAYER AGAINST GOD, BUT AGAINST THE
SPIRITUAL FORCES OPPOSED TO THE WORK (EPHESIANS 6:12)

31 [Pray] that I may be delivered (rescued) ①
from the unbelievers in Judea and that my
mission of relief to Jerusalem may be ②
acceptable and graciously received by the
saints (God's people there),

FOUR WAYS TO PRAY
FOR CHURCH LEADERS:

1. DELIVERANCE AND PROTECTION FROM THOSE WHO OPPOSE THE PREACHING OF THE WORD.
2. THAT THEIR MISSION FROM GOD WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE AND WELL-RECEIVED BY THE PEOPLE.
3. THAT THEY WOULD COME TO THE PEOPLE WITH JOY.
4. THAT THEY WOULD BE REFRESHED AND RESUMINATED WITH THE PEOPLE.

32 So that by God's will I may subsequently ③
come to you with joy (with a happy heart) and
be refreshed [by the interval of rest] in your ④
company.

THIS IS WHO HE IS.

SEE ISAIAH 26:3

33 May [our] peace-giving God be with you
all! Amen (so be it).

Chapter 16

1 Now I introduce and commend to you our
sister Phoebe, a deaconess of the church at
Cenchreae,

NOTHING WRONG WITH WOMEN
IN LEADERSHIP!

2 That you may receive her in the Lord [with
a Christian welcome], as saints (God's
people) ought to receive one another. And
help her in whatever matter she may require
assistance from you, for she has been a helper
of many including myself [shielding us from
suffering].

↑ I WONDER WHAT HAPPENED?

3 Give my greetings to Prisca and Aquila, my
fellow workers in Christ Jesus,

→ HUSBAND AND WIFE TEAM WHO
HAD TO FLEE ROME UNDER
PERSECUTION. THEY PARTNERED WITH
PAUL IN EPHESUS ON HIS FIRST
JOURNEY. POWERFUL LEADERS IN
THE EARLY CHURCH.

4 Who risked their lives [endangering their
very necks] for my life. To them not only I

but also all the churches among the Gentiles
give thanks.

5 [Remember me] also to the church [that
meets] in their house. Greet my beloved

Epaenetus, who was a firstfruit (first convert)
to Christ in Asia.

“PRAISEWORTHY”

→ “THE CHURCH” MEETS IN
A HOUSE. WE TRULY MUST BAND
TOGETHER IN ONE ACCORD AS
A CHURCH!!

- WOW!! WHAT A TITLE!

6 Greet Mary, who has worked so hard among
you.

↑ COULD THIS BE ONE OF THE MARYS WHO AIDED JESUS?

7 Remember me to Andronicus and Junias,
my tribal kinsmen and once my fellow
prisoners. They are men held in high esteem
among the apostles, who also were in Christ
before I was.

8 Remember me to Ampliatus, my beloved in
the Lord.

9 Salute Urbanus, our fellow worker in
Christ, and my dear Stachys.

"CALLED"

10 Greet Apelles, that one tried and approved = dokimos

in Christ (the Messiah). Remember me to

those who belong to the household of

Aristobulus.

I. accepted, particularly of coins and money.
 II. accepted, pleasing, acceptable

"In the ancient world there was no banking system as we know it today, and no paper money. All money was made from metal, heated until liquid, poured into moulds and allowed to cool. When the coins were cooled, it was necessary to smooth off the uneven edges. The coins were comparatively soft, and of course many people shaved them closely. In one century, more than eighty laws were passed in Athens to stop the practice of whittling down the coins then in circulation. But some money-changers were men of integrity, who would accept no counterfeit money; they were men of honour who put only genuine, full-weight money into circulation. Such men were called *dokimos*, and this word is used here for the Christian as he is to be seen by the world." (Donald Grey Barnhouse, *Romans: God's Glory*, p. 18.)

11 Greet my tribal kinsman Herodion, and

↑ FROM BLUE LETTER BIBLE

those in the Lord who belong to the

household of Narcissus.

12 Salute those workers in the Lord,

Tryphaena and Tryphosa. Greet my dear

Persis, who has worked so hard in the Lord.

13 Remember me to Rufus, eminent in the

"eklektos" = CHOSEN, ELECT
= EXCELLENT, PREEMINENT.

Lord, also to his mother [who has been] a
mother to me as well.

= THIS MAN WAS CHARACTERIZED
BY A SPIRIT OF EXCELLENCE!
~~~~~

14 Greet Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes,

Patrobas, Hermas, and the brethren who are

with them.

15 Greet Philologus, Julia, Nereus and his sister, and Olympas, and all the saints who are with them.

16 Greet one another with a holy (consecrated) kiss. All the churches of Christ (the Messiah) wish to be remembered to you.

SUCH LOVE AND BROTHERHOOD!

SEE ALSO: 1 CORINTHIANS 16:20

2 CORINTHIANS 13:12

1 THESSALONIANS 5:26

1 PETER 5:14

17 I appeal to you, brethren, to be on your guard concerning those who create

dissensions and difficulties and cause divisions, in opposition to the doctrine (the teaching) which you have been taught. [I warn you to turn aside from them, to] avoid

them. ← AVOID THE ONES CAUSING THESE THINGS

PARAKALEO

"MARK THEM"

DISAGREEMENT THAT LEAD TO DISCORD

Ⓢ DO NOT GIVE PLACE NOT DEBATE TO THESE TROUBLEMAKERS, BUT SIMPLY AVOID THEM. NOTICE THAT YOU WILL RECOGNIZE THEM BY THEIR DEPARTURE FROM THE DOCTRINE OF THE BIBLE!

18 For such persons do not serve our Lord

Christ but their own appetites and base

desires, and by ingratiating and flattering

speech, they beguile the hearts of the

unsuspecting and simpleminded [people].

} BUT IT MAY LOOK LIKE THEY DO

← INSIGHT INTO THE HEARTS OF THESE TROUBLEMAKERS. PRAY FOR THEM!

19 For while your loyalty and obedience is

known to all, so that I rejoice over you, I

would have you well versed and wise as to

what is good and innocent and guileless as to

what is evil.

BE CAREFUL ABOUT WHAT YOU BECOME  
A SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT ON! Ⓝ

SEE ALSO 1 CORINTHIANS 14:20

“SHATTER COMPLETELY”

20 And the God of peace will soon crush

Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord

Jesus Christ (the Messiah) be with you.

SATAN IS DEFEATED BY THE VICTORY  
OF CHRIST, BUT HE IS NOT YET  
“CRUSHED.” THIS WILL HAPPEN PERMANENTLY  
WHEN ALL SIN IS PUT DOWN FOREVER.

21 Timothy, my fellow worker, wishes to be  
remembered to you, as do Lucius and Jason  
and Sosipater, my tribal kinsmen.

IT TAKES WORK TO FULFILL  
YOUR CALLING

BUT DON'T EVER FORGET, CHURCH, THAT SINCE  
JESUS DEFEATED SATAN (COLOSSIANS 2:15, 1 JOHN  
3:8) ONCE FOR ALL (HEBREWS 10:10,14) WE ARE  
PARTAKERS OF THIS VICTORY AND IT IS OUR  
RESPONSIBILITY AS THE VISIBLE BODY OF  
CHRIST ON THE EARTH TODAY TO ENFORCE  
THAT VICTORY THROUGH WALKING IN OUR  
AUTHORITY AND TAKING UP THE FULL  
CUP OF SALVATION!!

22 I, Tertius, the writer of this letter, greet  
you in the Lord.

23 Gaius, who is host to me and to the whole  
church here, greets you. So do Erastus, the

city treasurer, and our brother Quartus.

24 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ (the  
Messiah) be with you all. Amen (so be it).

25 Now to Him Who is able to strengthen you

in the faith which is in accordance with my

Gospel and the preaching of (concerning)

Jesus Christ (the Messiah), according to the

revelation (the unveiling) of the mystery of

the plan of redemption which was kept in

silence and secret for long ages,

26 But is now disclosed and through the

prophetic Scriptures is made known to all

nations, according to the command of the

eternal God, [to win them] to obedience to the

faith,

27 To [the] only wise God be glory

forevermore through Jesus Christ (the

Anointed One)! Amen (so be it).

NOT "STRENGTHEN YOUR FAITH," BUT STRENGTHEN YOU.

IT IS MY RESPONSIBILITY TO BUILD/STRENGTHEN

MY OWN FAITH BY PRAYING IN TONGUES (JUDE

20) NOWHERE IN THE BIBLE DOES GOD SAY

HE IS THE ONE STRENGTHENING OR BUILDING

OUR FAITH.

SEE ALSO COLOSSIANS 1:26-27

← NOT ANYMORE!

"phaneroō" = FROM "phos" (LIGHT)

• TO MAKE MANIFEST OR VISIBLE OR KNOWN THAT WHICH HAS BEEN HIDDEN OR UNKNOWN

• TO MAKE VISIBLE

→ NOTICE HOW THE GREATEST TRUTH

MANKIND HAS EVER KNOWN IS REVEALED:

THROUGH THE WORD OF GOD! THE BIBLE!

→ THERE IS ONLY ONE FAITH THAT LEADS TO TRUE AND TOTAL REDEMPTION.

ⓓ GLORY TO THE HOLY NAME OF THE LORD GOD, WHO MAKES HIS FACE TO SHINE DOWN UPON THE LOWLY OF THE EARTH! WHO ALONE IS ABLE TO DETHROW THE MIGHTY, WHO ALONE IS ABLE TO CONSIDER THE DEEPEST FOUNTAINS OF THE SEA AND THE VERY FOUNDATIONS OF THE EARTH. WHAT A GLORIOUS FATHER WE HAVE, WHO HAS BLESSED US ( EVERY SPIRITUAL BLESSING) IN CHRIST JESUS OUR LORD, WHO LOVED US AND GAVE HIMSELF FOR US! PRAISE YOU, LORD, FOR YOU ARE FAITHFUL AND GOOD!!

REVELATION OF THE GOSPEL GIVEN SPECIALLY TO PAUL

THANK YOU!

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