CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD Through Studying His Word

Book Five

by Joan Royer

INTRODUCTION

THE PROPHET PRAYS FOR THESE BOOKS

Pray for the books.

He prayed for the books. He released them. He saw the angels that gather to send them out. He spoke this:

Your word will accomplish everything in those books. Let them go across America and throughout the earth. Wherever the angels take them and the winds blow. For they are nuggets and treasures of the heart. Let them provide comfort for those who have a soft heart. May they find their way even into the remotest village. Let the cry be heard - "Look what I found. Look what I found." We bless the works of Joan in her heart to do this, Lord. We rejoice with You because of everything that's going to be accomplished because of this work. We bless this and we bless You in the name of Jesus.

Surely I will take this to the ends of the earth as you have asked.

Before he prayed he saw the angels gather the books like the 4 winds of the earth and send them out. (see Zechariah 6:5)

The 4 winds are the power of God in the natural world, basically where miracles can occur, and where the strength of God is made visible to humans.

He said - *it gives life, life, life - giving life into those books is what it means for them.* (see Ezekiel 37:7-10)

Psalm 96:3 Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples.

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Psalm 96:3 Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples. CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD through studying His Word, book five

CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD Listening To God Through His Word Book 5

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path. (Psalm 119:105)

DRAWING NEAR TO GOD

One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord, and to seek him in his temple. (Psalm 27:4)

One thing I try to do each day of my life is draw near to God, come into His presence, get connected with Him, and then communicate with Him. As I ponder what helps me come into His presence, I have found different ways work at different times. I want to list here some ways that work for me, that may be of help to others who want to draw near to God also.

SET YOURSELF APART TO BE ALONE WITH HIM

Song of Solomon 8:14 Come away, My beloved.

BE STILL

Psalm 46:10 Be still and know that I am God.

DRAW NEAR

James 4:8 Come near to God and he will come near to you.

Hebrews 10:22

Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.

HUMBLE YOURSELF BEFORE THE LORD

James 4:10 Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

Psalm 25:9 He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them his way.

SUBMIT YOURSELF TO GOD

James 4:7

Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

STAND AND WATCH

Habakkuk 2:1 I will stand at my watch and station myself on the ramparts; I will look to see what he will say to me and what answer I am to give.

WAIT

Proverbs 8:34 Blessed is the man who listens to me, watching daily at my doors, waiting at my doorway. For whoever finds me finds life, and receives favor from the Lord.

Psalm 27:14 Wait for the Lord, be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.

GET CLEANSED

Psalm 51:7

Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

LISTEN

1 Samuel 3:10

The Lord came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

FORGIVE OTHERS

Matthew 6:12 Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

REPENT FROM SINS

Matthew 4:17 From that time on Jesus began to preach, "Repent for the kingdom of heaven is near."

READ THE WORD

John 15:7

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you.

PRAY

Jeremiah 29:12 Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.

[A song] Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, That calls me from a world of care, And bids me at my Father's throne, Make all my wants and wishes known. In seasons of distress and grief, My soul has often found relief, And oft escaped the tempter's snare, By thy return, sweet hour of prayer

SEEK HIM

Jeremiah 29:13 You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you.

Psalm 27:8 My heart says of you, "Seek his face!" Your face, Lord, I will seek.

ASK AND YOU SHALL RECEIVE

Matthew 7:7-8

Ask and it will be given to you, seek and you will find, knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives; he who seeks, finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.

BE STILL

Psalm 46:10 Be still, and know that I am God.

Psalm 37:7 Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him; do not fret when men succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes.

THANK HIM

Psalm 100:4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

SING TO THE LORD

Psalm 95:1-2

Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song. [A song] I have a song that Jesus gave me It was sent from heaven above I know there is no sweeter melody It's a melody of love.

In my heart there rings a melody There rings a melody with heaven's harmony In my heart there rings a melody There rings a melody of love.

LOVE THE LORD

Matthew 22:37

Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment."

[A song] Father, I adore You Lay my life before You How I love You.

Jesus, I adore You Lay my life before You How I love You.

Holy Spirit, I adore You Lay my life before You How I love You.

BLESS THE LORD

Psalm 103:1 Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

PRAISE THE LORD

Psalm 150:6 Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord.

1 Chronicles 16:24-25

Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples. For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise.

TURN YOUR EYES UPON JESUS

Psalm 123:1 I lift up my eyes to you, to you whose throne is in heaven.

2 Chronicles 20:12 We do not know what to do, but our eyes are upon you.

Hebrews 12:2 Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.

> [A song] Turn your eyes upon Jesus Look full in His wonderful face, And the things of earth will grow strangely dim In the light of His glory and grace.

CALL ON HIS NAME

Isaiah 55:6 Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near.

Psalm 145:18

The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

[A song] Jesus, Jesus, Jesus There's just something about that name Master, Savior, Jesus Like the fragrance after the rain Jesus, Jesus, Jesus Let all heaven and earth proclaim Kings and kingdoms shall all pass away But there's something about that name.

TAKE COMMUNION

Luke 22:19

And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you."

COME TO HIM EARLY IN THE DAY

Psalm 5:3

In the morning, O Lord, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait in expectation.

[A song]

I come to the garden alone While the dew is still on the roses And the voice I hear sounding round my ear The Son of God discloses And He walks with me and He talks with me And He tells me I am His own, And the joy we share as we tarry there None other has ever known.

TRUST

Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will direct your path.

REST

Matthew 11:28-29

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

Isaiah 30:15 In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength.

FEAR THE LORD

Psalm 25:12

Who, then, is the man that fears the Lord? He will instruct him in the way chosen for him.

Psalm 25:14

The Lord confides in those who fear him; he makes his covenant known to them.

SOUL LONGING AND THIRSTING FOR THE LORD

Psalm 23:3 He restores my soul.

Psalm 25:1-2, 4-5

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; in you I trust, O my God. Show me your ways, O Lord, teach me your paths; guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior and my hope is in you all day long.

Psalm 27:8 My heart says of you, "Seek his face!" Your face, Lord, I will seek.

Psalm 28:1

To you I call, O Lord my Rock; do not turn a deaf ear to me. For if you remain silent, I will be like those who have gone down to the pit. Hear my cry for mercy as I call to you for help, as I lift up my hands toward your Most Holy Place.

Psalm 34:4-5

I sought the Lord, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears. Those who look to him are radiant.

Psalm 34:15, 17

The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their cry. The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles.

Psalm 42:1-2

As a deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. Where can I go and meet with God?

Psalm 42:7

Deep calls to deep in the roar of your waterfalls, all your waves and breakers have swept over me.

Psalm 63:1

O God, you are my God, earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my body longs for you, in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

Isaiah 55:1-3

Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost. Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare.

Isaiah 55:10

As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth; it will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire, and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

Jeremiah 6:16

This is what the Lord says: "Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls."

Jeremiah 31:25

I will refresh the weary and satisfy the faint.

Matthew 5:6

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Matthew 13:16-17

Blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear. For I tell you the truth, many prophets and righteous men longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.

John 4:14

But whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.

John 6:35

Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty.

John 7:37-39

On the last great day of the feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him."

2 Corinthians 5:2, 8

Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling...We... would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord.

2 Timothy 4:8

Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day--and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

Revelation 7:16 Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst.

Revelation 22:17

The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life.

PRAYING THE WORD, THE NAME, THE BLOOD

Joyce Meyer has a wonderful book called *The Word, The Name, and The Blood.* Since I read that book I have felt led often to pray over myself and others those three: The Word, The Name, and The Blood. Here are some scriptures regarding them:

THE WORD

John 1:1, 4, 5 AMP

In the beginning [before all time] was the Word (Christ), and the Word was with God, and the Word was God Himself....In Him was Life, and the Life was the Light of men. And the Light shines on in the darkness, for the darkness has never overpowered it [put it out or absorbed it or appropriated it, and is unreceptive to it].

Hebrews 4:12 AMP

For the Word that God speaks is alive and full of power [making it active, operative, energizing, and effective]; it is sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating to the dividing line of the breath of life (soul) and [the immortal] spirit, and of joints and marrow [of the deepest parts of our nature], exposing and sifting and analyzing and judging the very thoughts and purposes of the heart.

James 1:21-25

Humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you. Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it--he will be blessed in what he does.

Romans 12:2

Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will.

John 8:31-32

If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.

Mark 4:14-20

The farmer sows the word. Some people are like seed along the path, where the word is sown. As soon as they hear it, Satan comes and takes away the word that was sown in them. Others, like seed sown on rocky places, hear the word and at once receive it with joy. But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. Still others, like seed sown among thorns, hear the word; but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful. Others, like seed sown on good soil, hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop--thirty, sixty or even a hundred times what was sown.

1 Peter 1:24-25

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

2 Peter 1:19-21

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

THE NAME

John 17:11-12

Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name—the name you gave me—so that they may be one as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me.

Psalm 54:1 Save me, O God, by your name; vindicate me by your might.

Psalm 20:1 May the name of the God of Jacob protect you.

John 1:12

To all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.

Psalm 138:2

I will bow down toward your holy temple and will praise your name for your love and your faithfulness, for you have exalted above all things your name and your word.

Philippians 2:10

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

Exodus 20:7

You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.

Numbers 6:22-24

Tell Aaron and his sons, "This is how you are to bless the Israelites, Say to them:

'The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.'

So they will put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them."

Proverbs 18:10

The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe.

Micah 4:5

All the nations may walk in the name of their gods; we will walk in the name of the Lord our God for ever and ever.

Matthew 6:9

This, then, is how you should pray: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name."

John 14:13-14

And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

John 16:23-24

In that day you will no longer ask me anything. I tell you the truth, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.

THE BLOOD

Hebrews 13:20

May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

1 Corinthians 10:16

Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ?

Ephesians 2:13

But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ.

Hebrews 9:14

How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!

1 Peter 1:18-19

For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

1 Corinthians 11:25

In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Ephesians 1:7

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

Colossians 1:19-20

For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

Hebrews 10:19

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body...

1 Peter 1:1-2

To God's elect, strangers in the world.....chosen according to the foreknowledge of God, the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and sprinkling by his blood.

1 John 1:7

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

Revelation 1:5

And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth, To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood...

Revelation 5:9

And they sang a new song: "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation."

Revelation 12:11

They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony.

MYSTERIES

Romans 16:25-27

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

Ephesians 1:9

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

(From NIV Scofield Study Bible)

Matthew 13:11 note - a secret or mystery in scripture is a previously hidden truth now divinely revealed.

- 1. The mysteries of the kingdom of heaven (Matthew 13:3-50)
- 2. The mystery of <u>Israel's blindness</u> during this age (Romans 11:25 with context)
- 3. The mystery of the <u>translation of living saints</u> at the end of this age (1 Corinthians 15:51-52; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17
- 4. The mystery of the New Testament <u>church as one body</u> composed of Jews and Gentiles (Ephesians 3:1-12; Romans 16:25; Ephesians 6:19; Colossians 4:3)
- 5. The mystery of the church as the bride of Christ (Ephesians 5:23-32)
- 6. The mystery of the indwelling Christ (Galatians 2;20; Colossians 1:26-27)
- The <u>mystery of God, namely, Christ</u> i.e. Christ as the incarnate fullness of the Godhead embodied, in whom all the divine wisdom for man subsists (1 Corinthians 2:7; Colossians 2:2, 9)
- 8. The mystery of the processes by which <u>godlikeness is restored</u> to man (1 Timothy 3:16)
- 9. The mystery of *iniquity* (2 Thessalonians 2:7; compare Matthew 13:33)
- 10. The mystery of the seven stars (Revelation 1:20)
- 11. The mystery of <u>Babylon</u> (Revelation 17:5, 7)

Proverbs 3:32 The Lord ... takes the upright into his confidence.

Proverbs 3:32 KJV His secret is with the righteous.

Amos 3:7

Surely the Sovereign Lord does nothing without revealing his plan to his servants the prophets.

Matthew 13:3 (and following) - the parables which Jesus calls the secrets of the kingdom of heaven

Matthew 13:11

The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them.

Mark 4:11

He told them, "The secret of the kingdom of God has been given to you. But to those on the outside everything is said in parables."

Romans 16:25-27

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

1 Corinthians 4:1

So then, men ought to regard us as servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the secret things of God.

1 Corinthians 15:51-52

Listen, I tell you a mystery. We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed - in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

Ephesians 1:9

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

Ephesians 3:3-5

That is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to men in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets.

Ephesians 3:6

This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together in one body, and sharers together in the promise of Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 5:32

This is a profound mystery - but I am talking about Christ and the church.

Ephesians 6:19

Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel.

Colossians 1:26-27

I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness - the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the saints. To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

Colossians 2:2

My purpose is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

1 Timothy 3:16 Beyond all question, the mystery of godliness is great: He appeared in a body, was vindicated by the Spirit, was seen by angels, was preached

a body, was vindicated by the Spirit, was seen by angels, was preached among the nations, was believed on in the world, was taken up in glory.

(From Books of Destiny by Paul Keith Davis, p. 18)

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"Presently we are at the threshold of a "fullness of time" juncture in Church history. A door stands open before us, and a Voice calls us to higher, heavenly realms. God invites us to understand experientially the unfolding of heavenly blueprints and to apprehend spiritual mysteries that have been hidden until now. These secrets of God and mysteries of His Kingdom are hidden in the depths of Christ.

APPEARANCES OF THE LORD

At Sinai

Exodus 24:9-12

Moses and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and the seventy elders of Israel went up and saw the God of Israel. Under his feet was something like a pavement made of sapphire, clear as the sky itself. But God did not raise his hand against these leaders of the Israelites; they saw God and they ate and drank.

In the tabernacle

Exodus 40:34-38

Then the cloud covered the Tent of Meeting, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. Moses could not enter the Tent of Meeting because the cloud had settled upon it, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. In all the travels of the Israelites, whenever the cloud lifted from above the tabernacle, they would set out; but if the cloud did not lift, they did not set out - until the day it lifted. So the cloud of the Lord was over the tabernacle by day, and fire was in the cloud by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel during all their travels.

In the temple

1 Kings 8:10-11

When the priests withdrew from the Holy Place, the cloud filled the temple of the Lord. And the priests could not perform their service because of the cloud, for the glory of the Lord filled his temple.

To Abraham

Genesis 12:7

The Lord appeared to Abram, and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built an altar there to the Lord, who had appeared to him.

Genesis 17:1

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to him and said, "I am God Almighty; walk before me and be blameless."

Genesis 18:1

The Lord appeared to Abraham near the great trees of Mamre while he was sitting at the entrance to his tent in the heat of the day.

To Isaac

Genesis 26:2-3

The Lord appeared to Isaac and said, "Do not go down to Egypt; live in the land where I tell you to live. Stay in this land for a while, and I will be with you and will bless you.

Genesis 26:24-25

That night the Lord appeared to him (Isaac) and said, "I am the God of your father Abraham. Do not be afraid, for I am with you. I will bless you and will increase the number of your descendants for the sake of my servant Abraham." Isaac built an altar there and called on the name of the Lord.

To Jacob

Genesis 31:11, 13

"The angel of God said to me in the dream, 'Jacob.' I answered, 'Here I am.' And he said, 'Look up and see that all the male goats mating with the flock are streaked, speckled or spotted, for I have seen all that Laban has been doing to you. I am the God of Bethel, where you anointed a pillar and where you made a vow to me. Now leave this land at once and go back to your native land.'"

Genesis 35:1

Then God said to Jacob, "Go up to Bethel and settle there, and build an altar there to God who appeared to you when you were fleeing from your brother Esau."

Genesis 35:9-10

After Jacob returned from Paddan Aram, God appeared to him again and blessed him. God said to him, "Your name is Jacob, but you will no longer be called Jacob; your name will be Israel."

To Moses

Exodus 3:1-2

Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the desert and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush.

Exodus 3:16

Go, assemble the elders of Israel and say to them, "The Lord, the God of your fathers - the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob - appeared to me and said: I have watched over you and have seen what has been done to you."

Exodus 24:15-18

When Moses went up on the mountain, the cloud covered it, and the glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai. For six days the cloud covered the mountain, and on the seventh day the Lord called to Moses from within the cloud. To the Israelites the glory of the Lord looked like a consuming fire on top of the mountain. Then Moses entered the cloud as he went on up the mountain. And he stayed on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

To Israel

Exodus 16:10

While Aaron was speaking to the whole Israelite community, they looked toward the desert and there was the glory of the Lord appearing in the cloud. The Lord said to Moses, "I have heard the grumbling of the Israelites. Tell them, 'At twilight you will eat meat, and in the morning you will be filled with bread. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God.'"

Judges 2:1-5

The angel of the Lord went up from Gilgal to Bokim and said, "I brought you up out of Egypt and led you into the land that I swore to give to your forefathers."

To Joshua

Joshua 5:13-15

Now when Joshua was near Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing in front of him with a drawn sword in his hand. Joshua went up to him and asked, "Are you for us or for our enemies?"

"Neither," he replied, "but as commander of the army of the Lord I have now come." Then Joshua fell facedown to the ground in reverence, and asked him, "What message does my Lord have for his servant?"

The commander of the Lord's army replied, "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy." And Joshua did so.

In the mercy seat

Leviticus 16:2

The Lord said to Moses: "Tell your brother Aaron not to come whenever he chooses into the Most Holy Place behind the curtain in front of the atonement cover on the ark, or else he will die, because I appear in the cloud over the atonement cover."

In the tabernacle

Numbers 14:10

The whole assembly talked about stoning them. Then the glory of the Lord appeared at the Tent of Meeting to all the Israelites. The Lord said to Moses, "How long will these people treat me with contempt? How long will they refuse to believe in me, in spite of all the miraculous signs I have performed among them?"

To Gideon

Judges 6:11, 12

The angel of the Lord came and sat down under the oak in Ophrah that belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, when his son Gideon was threshing wheat in a wine-press to keep it from the Midianites. When the angel of the Lord appeared to Gideon, he said, "The Lord is with you, mighty warrior."

To Manoah

Judges 13:2-3, 9-11

A certain man of Zorah, named Manoah, from the clan of the Danites, had a wife who was sterile and remained childless. The angel of the Lord appeared to her and said, "You are sterile and childless, but you are going to conceive and have a son."

God heard Manoah, and the angel of God came again to the woman while she was out in the field, but her husband Manoah was not with her. The woman hurried to tell her husband, "He's here! The man who appeared to me the other day!"

Manoah got up and followed his wife. When he came to the man, he said, "Are you the one who talked to my wife?"

"I am," he said.

To Samuel

1 Samuel 3:21

The Lord continued to appear at Shiloh, and there he revealed himself to Samuel through his word.

To David

2 Chronicles 3:1

Then Solomon began to build the temple of the Lord in Jerusalem on Mount Moriah, where the Lord had appeared to his father David.

To Solomon

1 Kings 3:5-9

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon during the night in a dream, and God said, "Ask for whatever you want me to give you."

Solomon answered, "You have shown great kindness to your servant, my father David, because he was faithful to you and righteous and upright in heart. You have continued this great kindness to him and have given him a son to sit on his throne this very day.

Now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David. But I am only a little child and do not know how to carry out my duties. Your servant is here among the people you have chosen, a great people, too numerous to count or number. So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of yours?"

To Isaiah

Isaiah 6:1-9

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. And they were calling to one another: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory."

At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke.

"Woe to me!" I cried. "I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty."

Then one of the seraphs flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. With it he touched my mouth and said, "See, this has touched your lip; you guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for."

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?"

And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"

To Jeremiah

The word of the Lord came to me, saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations."

"Ah, sovereign Lord," I said, "I do not know how to speak; I am only a child."

But the Lord said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a child.' You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you," declared the Lord.

Then the Lord reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, "Now, I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant."

To Ezekiel

Ezekiel 40:3

He took me there, and I saw a man whose appearance was like bronze; he was standing in the gateway with a linen cord and a measuring rod in his hand. The man said to me, "Son of man, look with your eyes and hear with your ears and pay attention to everything I am going to show you, for that is why you have been brought here. Tell the house of Israel everything you see."

Ezekiel 43:6-7

While the man was standing beside me, I heard someone speaking to me from inside the temple. He said, "Son of man, this is the place of my throne and the place for the soles of my feet. This is where I will live among the Israelites forever.

To Daniel

Daniel 8:15-17

While I, Daniel was watching the vision and trying to understand it, there before me stood one who looked like a man. And I heard a man's voice from the Ulai calling, "Gabriel, tell this man the meaning of the vision." As he came near the place where I was standing, I was terrified and fell prostrate. "Son of man," he said to me, "understand that the vision concerns the time of the end."

Daniel 10:5-6

I looked up and there before me was a man dressed in linen, with a belt of the finest gold around his waist. His body was like chrysolite, his face like lightning, his eyes like flaming torches, his arms and legs like the gleam of burnished bronze, and his voice like the sound of a multitude.

Daniel 10:16-19

Then the one who looked like a man touched my lips, and I opened my mouth and began to speak. I said to the one standing before me, "I am overcome with anguish because of the vision, my lord, and I am helpless. How can I, your servant, talk with you, my lord? My strength is gone and I can hardly breathe."

Again the one who looked like a man touched me and gave me strength. "Do not be afraid, O man highly esteemed," he said. "Peace! Be strong now; be strong."

When he spoke to me, I was strengthened and said, "Speak, my lord, since you have given me strength."

To Paul

Acts 9:3-6

As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked.

"I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. "Now get up and to into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

To Stephen

Acts 7:55-56

But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."

To John

Revelation 1:9-18

I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and kingdom and patient endurance that are ours in Jesus, was on the island of Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. On the Lord's Day I was in the Spirit, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet, which said, "Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea."

I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I turned I saw seven golden lampstands, and among the lampstands was someone "like a son of man," dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest. His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire. His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters. In his right hand he held seven stars, and out of his mouth came a sharp double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance.

When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. I am the Living One. I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades."

To Peter, James, and John

Matthew 17:1-3

After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.

To the disciples

John 1:14, 18

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth....No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father's side, has made him known.

John 20:19

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."

John 20:26

A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"

To everyone

Revelation 1:7-8

Look, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and all the peoples of the earth will mourn because of him. So shall it be! Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty."

STAND

Exodus 14:13 Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today.

2 Chronicles 20:17

You will not have to fight this battle. Take up your positions; stand firm and see the deliverance the Lord will give you, O Judah and Jerusalem. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. Go out to face them tomorrow, and the Lord will be with you.

Isaiah 7:7-9

This is what the Sovereign Lord says: "If you do not stand firm in your faith, you will not stand at all."

1 Corinthians 15:58 Therefore, dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you.

1 Corinthians 16:13 Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be men of courage; be strong.

Galatians 5:1 It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

Ephesians 6:13 Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you've done everything, to stand.

2 Thessalonians 2:15 So, then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the teachings we passed on to you, whether by word of mouth or by letter.

James 5:8 You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near.

1 Peter 5:8-9 Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith.

OCCUPYUNTILICOME

Luke 19:13 KJV

And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, "Occupy [trade with this] till I come."

It means to use what I've given you until I return.

Matthew 25:21

His master replied, "Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!"

Luke 16:10-12

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

Luke 17:9-10

Would he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do? So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, "We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty."

Luke 19:13 NIV

So he called ten of his servants and gave them ten minas. "Put this money to work," he said, "until I come back."

Luke 19:15

He was made king, however, and returned home. Then he sent for the servants to whom he had given the money, in order to find out what they had gained with it.

Luke 19:16-17

The first one came and said, "Sir, your mina has earned ten more." "Well done, my good servant!" his master replied. "Because you have been trustworthy in a very small matter, take charge of ten cities."

Luke 19:26

I tell you that to everyone who has, more will be given, but as for the one who has nothing, even what he has will be taken away.

Romans 12 6-8

We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.

1 Corinthians 4:2

Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.

1 Peter 4:10 Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.

ABIDING

ABIDE - To continue in a place, to stay, or to dwell. Jesus urged his followers to abide in him. (John 15:4)

Psalm 23:6

Surely goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell (abide) in the house of the Lord forever.

Psalm 27:4-6

One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek: that I may dwell (abide) in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple. For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his tabernacle and set me high upon a rock. Then my head will be exalted above the enemies who surround me.

Psalm 31:20 In the shelter of your presence you hide them from the intrigues of men; in your dwelling you keep them safe from accusing tongues.

Psalm 32:7 You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance. (Psalm 32:7)

Psalm 65:4

Blessed are those you choose and bring near to live in your courts! We are filled with the good things of your house, of your holy temple.

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. (Psalm 91:1)

Proverbs 19:23

The fear of the Lord leads to life; and he who has it rests (abides) satisfied; he will not be visited by harm.

John 14:16

And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever.

John 15:4-7

Abide in me, and I in you. As a branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in me, and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. If a man does not abide in me, he is cast forth as a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you.

John 15:9-10

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain (abide) in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain (abide) in his love.

You are accepting who you are in Me. So be content in who you are. It pleases Me and it is what I want for you – and what you want for yourself inwardly. This is called "abiding in the shadow of the Almighty". This is living in the "shelter of the Most High". That's why I have you read that Psalm (91) so often, so you can see and know the life I've called you to live. You are My living example of that Psalm. Every promise in that Psalm is yours.

I can go as far as I can see in my "vision." I can see in my vision spending more and more time listening to the Lord, sitting at His feet (as Mary did) and learning from Him. As I hear the secret desires of His heart, I can share in those dreams and pray for them. This is what I am to spend my time doing, rather than "things" (like giving out tracts, soup kitchen, etc). My call is to build a deep and <u>abiding</u> relationship with the Lord.

In the past you got to sing it, teach it, write it, dramatize it, and encourage others – to know about Me and who I was and am. This was your life's work and that's what you did. That's what you came to earth to do. And in this whole process you drew closer and closer to Me every day until you came into My secret place, My shelter, My fellowship, like you are now – and you have been abiding there and dwelling there.

Abiding in Christ -

It's a place of being, a place of resting in Me.

You ARE abiding there right now, and that is where I want you every day and every hour of every day. Be there right now. I will show you the way. Do not worry or fret - just watch and see what I am doing and join Me.

(From Bob Sorge's book *Secrets of the Secret Place* p. 209)

"Friendship with God comes not from striving after faith but from resting in the faithful one."

How you come to abide in Christ will be different from all others. We all abide differently because we are all unique creations of God.

We all have to find our own way to abiding in Christ. When all is said and done, we must shut the door, get into the secret place with God, and discover what an abiding relationship with Christ will look like for ourselves.

(From *Secrets of the Secret Place* by Bob Sorge, p 211-212)

"Press into God like you never have in all your life. Allow the desperation of your soul to help you pursue God with absolute abandonment. The secret is this: If you seek Him with all your heart, He will guide you to the ancient river that runs deep in the heart of God."

"If you drink of <u>this</u> river everything in you and around you will begin to shake and shudder under the ground swell of God's power released."

"Joseph kept sinking his spiritual roots deeper and deeper into the Spirit of God -- until one day he found the river! There is a river, dear friend, that makes glad the city of God. This subterranean river runs so deep that most don't find it."

"When Joseph found this river, he found a life source in God that goes deeper than the seasons of life. Whether it's flood season or drought season, there is a river available to the saint providing a constant source of divine life and Spirit empowerment. Very few seem to find this great underground river, but when you find it, it is called "abiding in Christ."

ASSURANCE AND SECURITY

Psalm 23:1

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.

Psalm 32:7

You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance.

Psalm 32:8

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye upon you.

Psalm 91:1

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

Psalm 91:2 I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."

Psalm 91:9-11

If you say, "The Lord is my refuge" and you make the Most High your dwelling, no harm will overtake you, no disaster will come near your tent. For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

Psalm 91:15 He will call on me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble.

Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will direct your paths.

Proverbs 3:26 The Lord will be your confidence and will keep your foot from being caught.

Proverbs 4:10-11 I instruct you in the way of wisdom and lead you along straight paths. When you walk, your steps will not be hampered; when you run, you will not stumble.

Isaiah 30:15 In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength.

Isaiah 32:17

The fruit of righteousness will be peace; the effect of righteousness will be quietness and confidence forever.

Jeremiah 33:6

Nevertheless, I will bring health and healing to it; I will heal my people and will let them enjoy abundant peace and security.

Acts 17:31

He has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all men by raising him from the dead.

Philippians 4:19

And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.

1 Timothy 3:13

Those who have served well gain an excellent standing and great assurance in their faith in Christ Jesus.

Hebrews 10:22

Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.

Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

1 John 5:14

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us - whatever we ask - we know that we have what we asked of him.

BESTILL

Exodus 13:13-14

Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.

1 Kings 19:11-12

The Lord said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by."

Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper [a still small voice]. When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave. Then a voice said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

Psalm 4:4 When you are on your beds, search your hearts and be silent.

Psalm 37:7 Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him.

Psalm 46:10 Be still, and know that I am God.

Habakkuk 2:20 The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth be silent before him.

Zechariah 2:13 Be still before the Lord, all mankind, because he has roused himself from his holy dwelling.

Mark 4:39 He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.

Revelation 22:11 Let him who does wrong continue to do wrong; let him who is vile continue to be vile; let him who does right continue to do right; and let him who is holy continue to be holy.

HOLY

Holy - Set apart for God; belonging to God; pure; godly; sacred, consecrated, worthy of adulation, set apart for the worship of God.

Exodus 3:5 "Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.

Exodus 20:8 Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

Leviticus 11:44-45 I am the Lord your God; consecrate yourselves and be holy, because I am holy...I am the Lord who brought you up out of Egypt to be your God; therefore be holy, because I am holy.

Leviticus 20:7 Consecrate yourselves and be holy, because I am the Lord your God.

Leviticus 20:26 You are to be holy to me because I, the Lord, am holy, and I have set you apart from the nations to be my own.

Deuteronomy 7:6

For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be his people, his treasured possession.

1 Samuel 2:2 There is no one holy like the Lord; there is no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God.

Psalm 30:4 Sing the praises of the Lord, you his faithful people; praise his holy name.

Isaiah 6:3 Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory.

Isaiah 35:8 And a highway will be there; it will be called the Way of Holiness; it will be for those who walk on that Way.

Zechariah 14:5

Then the Lord my God will come, and all the holy ones with him.

Romans 12:1

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God - this is your true and proper worship.

Ephesians 1:4 For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight.

1 Peter 1:15-16 But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do, for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."

Revelation 4:8 Day and night they never stop saying: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come."

PERFECT

Psalm 18:30 As for God, his way is perfect.

Matthew 5:48 Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Matthew 19:21

Jesus answered, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."

Romans 12:2

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is - his good, pleasing and perfect will.

1 Corinthians 13:10

For our knowledge is imperfect and our prophecy is imperfect; but when the perfect comes, the imperfect will pass away.

Colossians 1:28

We proclaim him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ.

Philippians 3:12

Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.

Hebrews 10:14

For by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.

James 1:4 KJV

But let patience have her perfect (complete) work, that ye may be perfect (mature) and entire (finished), wanting (lacking) nothing.

James 3:2

We all stumble in many ways. If anyone is never at fault in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to keep his whole body in check.

Perfect - the word implies full development, growth into maturity or godliness. The word "perfect," as the Bible uses it of men, does not refer to sinless perfection...the thought is usually either completeness in all details...or to reach a goal or achieve a purpose. Maturity is achieved progressively. (Philippians 3:12 note in NIV Scofield Study Bible)

WHAT TO EXPECT IN THESE LAST DAYS THE GOOD AND THE BAD

Matthew 24:3

As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately. "Tell us," they said, "when will this happen, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?"

THE GOOD

Job 23:10

He knows the way that I take: when he has tested me, I will come forth as gold.

Isaiah 43:1-3

Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; <u>you are mine</u>. When you pass through the waters, <u>I will be with you</u>; and when you pass through the <u>rivers</u>, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the <u>fire</u>, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. For I am the Lord, your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

Joel 3:14

Multitudes, <u>multitudes in the valley of decision</u>! For the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision.

Joel 3:16

But <u>the Lord will be a refuge</u> for his people, <u>a stronghold</u> for the people of Israel.

Matthew 13:30

Let <u>both grow together until the harvest</u>. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then <u>gather the wheat</u> and bring it into my barn.

Matthew 24:14

And this <u>gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world</u> as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

Matthew 25:10, 13

But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The <u>virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding</u> <u>banquet</u>. And the door was shut...Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

Luke 19:13 NIV So he called ten of his servants and gave them ten minas. "<u>Put this</u> <u>money to work," he said, "until I come back.</u>"

John 10:3-4

He <u>calls his own sheep by name and leads them out</u>. When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and <u>his sheep</u> <u>follow him because they know his voice</u>.

John 14:2-3

I am going to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, <u>I will come back and take you to be with me</u> that you also may be where I am.

Acts 2.17 In the last days, God says, <u>I will pour out my Spirit on all people</u>.

Romans 13:11-12

And do this, understanding the present time. The hour has come for you to wake up from your slumber, because <u>our salvation [The full</u> result of salvation in glory] is nearer now than when we first believed. The night is nearly over; <u>the day is almost here</u>.

1 Corinthians 7:29 What I mean, brothers, is that <u>the time is short</u>.

2 Thessalonians 2:7

For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work; but <u>the one</u> who now holds it back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way.

Titus 2:14

While <u>we wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our</u> <u>great God and Savior, Jesus Christ</u>, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

James 5:8

Be patient then, brothers, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop and how patient he is for the autumn and spring rains. You too, <u>be patient and stand firm</u>, <u>because the Lord's coming is near</u>.

1 Peter 4:7

The <u>end of all things is near</u>. Therefore <u>be clear-minded and self-</u> <u>controlled</u> so that you can pray.

Revelation 3:10

Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, <u>I will also keep</u> you from the hour of trial that is going to come upon the whole world to test those who live on the earth.

THE BAD

Joel 2:30-31

I will show <u>wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire</u> <u>and billows of smoke</u>. The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord.

Joel 3:14-16

Multitudes, <u>multitudes in the valley of decision</u>! For the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision. The <u>sun and moon will be</u> <u>darkened</u>, and the stars no longer shine. The Lord will roar from Zion and thunder from Jerusalem; the <u>earth and the sky will tremble</u>. But the Lord will be a refuge for his people, a stronghold for the people of Israel.

Matthew 24:6

You will <u>hear of wars and rumors of wars</u>, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come.

Matthew 24:7-8

<u>Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom</u>. There will be <u>famines and earthquakes</u> in various places. All these are the beginning of birth pains.

Matthew 24:21

For then there will be <u>great distress</u>, unequaled from the beginning of the world until now - and never to be equaled again. If those days had not been cut short, no one would survive, but for the sake of the elect, those days will be shortened.

Matthew 25:10, 13

But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And <u>the door was shut</u>...Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

Luke 21:10-11

Then he said to them: "<u>Nation will rise against nation</u>, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great <u>earthquakes</u>, <u>famines and pestilences</u> in various places, and <u>fearful events</u> and <u>great signs</u> from heaven.

2 Timothy 3:1

But mark this: There will be <u>terrible times</u> in the last days. <u>People will</u> <u>be</u> lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God - having a <u>form of godliness but denying its power</u>.

2 Peter 3:3-5 First of all, you must understand that in the last days <u>scoffers will</u> <u>come</u>, scoffing and following their own evil desires.

1 John 2:18 Dear children, this is the last hour; and as you have heard that the <u>antichrist is coming</u>, even now <u>many antichrists have come</u>. This is how we know it is the last hour.

Jude 17-18 But, dear friends, remember what the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ foretold. They said to you, "In the last times there will be scoffers who will follow their own ungodly desires."

BLESS THE LORD

Psalm 103:1-5

Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless his holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

1 Kings 8:56

Blessed be the Lord who has given rest to his people Israel, according to all that he promised; not one word has failed of all his good promise, which he uttered by Moses his servant.

1 Chronicles 16:36 Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting!

2 Chronicles 20:26

On the fourth day they assembled in the Valley of Beracah (blessing), for there they blessed the Lord; therefore the name of that place has been called the Valley of Beracah to this day.

Nehemiah 9:5

Then the Levites...said, "Stand up and bless the Lord your God from everlasting to everlasting. Blessed be thy glorious name which is exulted above all blessing and praise."

Job 1:20-21

Then Job arose, and rent his robe, and shaved his head, and fell upon the ground, and worshiped. And he said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return; the Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."

Psalm 34:1

I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

Psalm 66:8

Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard, who has kept us among the living, and has not let our feet slip.

Psalm 66:20

Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me!

Daniel 2:19

Then the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a vision of the night. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven.

Daniel 2:20

Daniel said, "Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever, to whom belong wisdom and might. He changes times and seasons; he removes kings and sets up kings, he gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding; he reveals deep and mysterious things; he knows what is in the darkness, and the light dwells with him."

Matthew 21:9

And the crowds that went before him (Jesus) and that followed him shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!"

Mark 11:9

And those who went before and those who followed (Jesus) cried out, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is coming! Hosanna in the highest."

Luke 1:64

And immediately his (Zechariah's) mouth was opened and his tongue loosed, and he spoke, blessing God.

Luke 1:67-68

And his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit, and prophesied, saying, "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people."

Luke 2:28

Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he has seen the Lord's Christ. Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the law required, Simeon took him in his arms and praised [blessed] God saying, "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all people, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

Luke 13:35

(Jesus said) O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, killing the prophets and stoning those who are sent to you! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not! Behold, your house is forsaken. And I tell you, you will not see me until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!'''

PROSPERITY

Genesis 22:14

So Abraham called that place The Lord Will Provide (Jehovah Jirah). And to this day it is said, "On the mountain of the Lord it will be provided."

Deuteronomy 11:13-15

So if you faithfully obey the commands I am giving you today - to love the Lord your God and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul - then I will send rain on your land in its season, both autumn and spring rains, so that you may gather in your grain, new wine and oil. I will provide grass in the fields for your cattle, and you will eat and be satisfied.

Deuteronomy 12:7, 18b, 19

There (the place where God wants you to worship Him) in the presence of the Lord your God, you and your families shall eat and shall rejoice in everything you have put your hand to, because the Lord your God has blessed you....and you are to rejoice before the Lord your God in everything you put your hand to. Be careful not to neglect the Levites (who have no allotment or inheritance of their own) as long as you live in your land.

Deuteronomy 28:8

The Lord will send a blessing on your barns and on everything you put your hand to. The Lord your God will bless you in the land he is giving you.

Deuteronomy 28:12-13

The Lord will open the heavens, the storehouse of his bounty, to send rain on your land in season and to bless all the work of your hands. You will lend to many nations but will borrow from none. The Lord will make you the head, not the tail. If you pay attention to the commands of the Lord your God that I give you this day and carefully follow them, you will always be at the top, never at the bottom.

1 Kings 17:14-16

For this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: "The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of oil will not run dry until the day the Lord gives rain on the land." She went away and did as Elijah had told her (THAT'S THE KEY!). So there was food every day for Elijah and for the woman and her family. For the jar of flour was not used up and the jug of oil did not run dry, in keeping with the word of the Lord spoken by Elijah.

Job 8:5-7

But if you will look to God and plead with the Almighty, if you are pure and upright, even now he will rouse himself on your behalf and restore you to your rightful place. Your beginnings will seem humble, so prosperous will your future be.

Job 22:21-22, 25

Submit to God and be at peace with him; in this way prosperity will come to you. Accept instruction from his mouth and lay up his words in your heart.....the Almighty will be your gold, the choicest silver for you.

Job 42:12

The Lord blessed the latter part of Job's life more than the first.

Psalm 1:1, 3

Blessed is the man...whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers.

Psalm 5:12

Surely, O Lord, you bless the righteous; you surround them with your favor as with a shield.

Psalm 16:6

Lord, you have assigned me my portion and my cup; you have made my lot secure. The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance.

Psalm 23:1-3

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Psalm 23:5-6

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and love shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Psalm 34:9-10

Fear the Lord, you his saints, for those who fear him lack nothing. Those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.

Psalm 37:3-4

Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Psalm 37:25-26

I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging bread. They are always generous and lend freely; their children will be blessed.

Psalm 103:2-5

Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits--who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Psalm 111:5

He provides food for those who fear him; he remembers his covenant forever.

Psalm 112:1, 3, 7

Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who finds great delight in his commands. Wealth and riches are in his house, and his righteousness endures forever. He will have no fear of bad news; his heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord.

Psalm 115:14 The Lord shall increase you more and more, you and your children.

Psalm 128:1-2

Blessed are all who fear the Lord, who walk in his ways. You will eat the fruit of your labor; blessings and prosperity will be yours.

Psalm 132:15

I will bless her with abundant provisions; her poor will I satisfy with food.

Proverbs 3:24

Long life is in her (Wisdom's) right hand; in her left hand are riches and honor. Her ways are pleasant ways, and all her paths are peace. She is the tree of life to those who embrace her; those who lay hold of her will be blessed.

Proverbs 8:17-21

I love those who love me, and those who seek me find me. With me are riches and honor, enduring wealth and prosperity. My fruit is better than fine gold; what I yield surpasses choice silver. I walk in the way of righteousness, along the paths of justice, bestowing wealth on those who love me and making their treasuries full. Proverbs 10:6 Blessings crown the head of the righteous.

Proverbs 10:22 The blessing of the Lord brings wealth, and he adds no trouble to it.

Proverbs 10:24 What the righteous desire will be granted.

Proverbs 11:5 The righteousness of the blameless makes a straight way for them.

Proverbs 11:18 He who sows righteousness reaps a sure reward.

Proverbs 12:2 A good man obtains favor of the Lord.

Proverbs 13:9, 21 The light of the righteous shines brightly. Prosperity is the reward of the righteous.

Proverbs 13:22 A good man leaves an inheritance for his children's children, but a sinner's wealth is stored up for the righteous.

Proverbs 15:6 The house of the righteous contains great treasure.

Proverbs 21:21 He who pursues righteousness and love finds life, prosperity and honor.

Proverbs 22:4 Humility and the fear of the Lord bring wealth and honor and life.

Proverbs 28:20 A faithful man shall abound with blessings.

Ecclesiastes 2:26

To the man who pleases him, God gives wisdom, knowledge and happiness, but to the sinner he gives the task of gathering and storing up wealth to hand it over to the one who pleases God.

Ecclesiastes 3:12-13

I know that there is nothing better for men than to be happy and do good while they live. That everyone may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all his toil--this is the gift of God.

Ecclesiastes 5:18-19

Then I realized that it is good and proper for a man to eat and drink, and to find satisfaction in his toilsome labor under the sun during the few days of life God has given him--for this is his lot. Moreover, when God gives any man wealth and possessions, and enables him to enjoy them, to accept his lot and be happy in his work--this is a gift of God. He seldom reflects on the days of his life, because God keeps him occupied with gladness of heart.

Isaiah 3:10

Tell the righteous it will be well with them, for they will enjoy the fruit of their deeds.

Isaiah 65:21-23

They will build houses and dwell in them; they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit. No longer will they build houses and others live in them, or plant and others eat. For as the days of a tree, so will be the days of my people; my chosen ones will long enjoy the works of their hands. They will not toil in vain or bear children doomed to misfortune; for they will be a people blessed by the Lord.

Matthew 6:25-27

Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food and the body more important than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?

Matthew 6:31-33

So do not worry, saying, "What shall we eat?" or "What shall we drink?" or "What shall we wear?" Your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Matthew 14:15-21

As evening approached, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a remote place, and it's already getting late. Send the crowds away, so they can go to the villages and buy themselves some food."

Jesus replied, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat."

"We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish," they answered.

"Bring them here to me," (THAT'S THE KEY!) he said. And he directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Luke 6:38

Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

Romans 8:32

He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all--how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?

Philippians 4:12-13

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

Philippians 4:19

And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.

1 Timothy 6:17 God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.

OUR BODIES FORMED BY GOD

Job 10:8-11

You formed me with your hands, you made me, yet now you completely destroy me. Remember that you made me from dust - will you turn me back to dust so soon? You guided my conception and formed me in the womb. You clothed me with skin and flesh, and you knit my bones and sinews together.

Job 14:15

You will call and I will answer you; you will long for the creature your hands have made.

Job 31:15

Did not he who made me in the womb make them? Did not the same one form us both within our mothers?

Job 34:18-19

Is he not the One who...does not favor the rich over the poor, for they are all the work of his hands?

Psalm 119:73

Your hands made me and formed me; give me understanding to learn your commands.

Psalm 138:8

The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me; your love, O Lord, endures forever - do not abandon the works of your hands.

Psalm 139:13

You created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

Psalm 139:15-16

You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb. You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed.

Proverbs 22:2

Rich and poor have this in common: The Lord is the Maker of them all.

Ecclesiastes 11:5

As you do not know the path of the wind or how the body is formed in a mother's womb, so you cannot understand the work of God, the Maker of all things.

Isaiah 29:16

You turn things upside down, as if the potter were thought to be like the clay! Shall what is formed say to him who formed it, "He did not make me"?

Isaiah 43:6-7

Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth - everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.

Isaiah 45:9

Woe to him who quarrels with his Maker, to him who is but a potsherd among the potsherds on the ground. Does the clay say to the potter, "What are you making?"

Isaiah 45:11-12

This is what the Lord says - the Holy One of Israel, and its Maker: Concerning things to come, do you question me about my children, or give me orders about the work of my hands? It is I who made the earth and created mankind upon it.

Isaiah 60:21

Then will all your people be righteous and they will possess the land forever. They are the shoot I have planted, the work of my hands, for the display of my splendor.

Isaiah 61:3

They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendor.

Isaiah 64:8

Yet, O Lord, you are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand.

Malachi 2:10

Have we not all one Father? Did not one God create us?

Romans 9:20-21

But who are you, O man, to talk back to God? Shall what is formed say to him who formed it, "Why did you make me like this?" Does not the potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for noble purposes and some for common use?

Ephesians 2:10

For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Hebrews 10:5 A body you prepared for me.

THE BIRTH OF JESUS CHRIST

Isaiah 7:14

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

Isaiah 9:6-7

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this. (Isaiah 9:6-7)

Hosea 11:1 When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son.

Micah 5:2

But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.

Luke 1:28-38

In the sixth month God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendent of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end."

"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month. For nothing is impossible with God."

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.

Luke 2:4-7

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Luke 2:8-14

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you. You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."

Luke 2:15

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

So they hurried off and found Many and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

Luke 2:21-22

On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise him, he was named Jesus, the name the angel had given him before he had been conceived. When the time for their purification according to the Law of Moses had been completed, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.

Luke 2:29-32

Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Christ. Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all people, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

Luke 2:33-35

The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."

Luke 2:36-38

There was also a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, and the was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

Matthew 2:1-12

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him."

When King Herod head this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Christ was to be born. "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied.

Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."

After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

Matthew 2:13-15

When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him."

So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son."

COMFORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT

2 Chronicles 15:7

But as for you, be strong and do not give up, for your work will be rewarded.

Nehemiah 8:10 The joy of the Lord is your strength.

Psalm 32:8 I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you.

Psalm 33:18 But the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love.

Psalm 50:15 Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will honor me.

Psalm 119:11 I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.

Psalm 119:105 Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

Proverbs 2:6

For the Lord gives wisdom, and from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.

Proverbs 2:7-8

He holds victory in store for the upright, he is a shield to those whose walk is blameless, for he guards the course of the just and protects the way of his faithful ones.

Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him and he will make your paths straight.

Proverbs 3:9 The light of the righteous shines brightly.

Proverbs 14:30 A heart at peace gives life to the body.

Ecclesiastes 5:19

When God gives any man wealth and possessions, and enables him to enjoy them, to accept his lot and be happy in his work--this is a gift of God.

Isaiah 26:3

You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you.

Isaiah 32:17

The fruit of righteousness will be peace; the effect of righteousness will be quietness and confidence forever.

Isaiah 40:29 He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

Isaiah 40:31

Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Isaiah 54:17

No weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and this is their vindication from me.

John 14:27

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

Romans 5:3-4

We also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.

Galatians 5:22

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Galatians 6:9

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

Ephesians 2:14 For he himself is our peace.

Philippians 4:6-7

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Colossians 1:11 TLB

We are praying, too, that you will be filled with his mighty, glorious strength so that you can keep going no matter what happens - always full of the joy of the Lord.

Colossians 3:15

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

Philippians 4:6-7

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:19

And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 4:11-12

Make it your ambition to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business and to work with your hands, just as we told you, so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders and so that you will not be dependent on anybody.

2 Thessalonians 3:16

Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way.

1 Timothy 4:16

Keep a close watch on all you do and think. Stay true to what is right and God will bless you and use you to help others.

James 1:2-4

Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. (James 1:2-4)

James 5:7-8

Be patient, then, brothers, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop and how patient he is for the autumn and spring rains. You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near.

Hebrews 10:23 Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.

1 Peter 5:7 Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

Revelation 12:11 They overcame him by the blood of the lamb and by the word of their testimony.

TAKING COMMUNION AND THE TREE OF LIFE

- When you eat My body it's like eating from the Tree of Life.
- I AM the Tree of Life.

- Unless you eat My body and drink My blood you have no part in Me.
- The life is in the blood.
- They ate the Lamb at Passover.
- The Father has life in Him.
- *He gave life to Me.*
- *I give it to those who belong to the Father.*
- Their names are written in the Book of Life.
- They have crossed over from death to life.

When you eat My body it's like eating from the Tree of Life.

Genesis 2:8-9

Now the Lord God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. And the Lord God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground - trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Genesis 3:22-24

And the Lord God said, "The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever. So the Lord banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.

Proverbs 3:18 She [Wisdom] is a tree of life to those

She [Wisdom] is a tree of life to those who embrace her; those who lay hold of her will be blessed.

Proverbs 11:30 The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life.

Revelation 2:7

He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.

IAM the Tree of Life.

John 1:4 In him was life, and that life was the light of men.

John 14:6

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life."

1 John 1:2

The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us.

Proverbs 8:34

Blessed is the man who listens to me, watching daily at my doors, waiting at my doorway. For whoever finds me finds life, and receives favor from the Lord.

Unless you eat My body and drink My blood you have no part in Me.

Matthew 26:26-29

While they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it anew with you in my Father's kingdom."

Mark 14:22

While they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take it; this is my body." Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, and they all drank from it. "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many," he said to them. "I tell you the truth, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it anew in the kingdom of God."

Luke 22:19

And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you."

John 6:53-58

Jesus said to them, "I tell you the truth, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him. Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven. Your forefathers ate manna and died, but he who feeds on this bread will live forever.

1 Corinthians 10:16

Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ?

1 Corinthians 10:21

You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons too; you cannot have a part in both the Lord's table and the table of demons.

1 Corinthians 11:23

For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

1 Corinthians 11:27-29

Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself. That is why many among you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep. But if we judged ourselves, we would not come under judgment.

The life is in the blood.

Leviticus 17:11-14

For the life of a creature is in the blood, and I have given it to you to make atonement for yourselves on the altar; it is the blood that makes atonement for one's life. Therefore I say to the Israelites, "None of you may eat blood, nor may an alien living among you eat blood."

Any Israelite or any alien living among you who hunts any animal or bird that may be eaten must drain out the blood and cover it with earth, because the life of every creature is its blood.

They ate the Lamb at Passover.

Exodus 12:8

That same night they are to eat the meat [Passover lamb] roasted over the fire, along with bitter herbs, and bread made without yeast.

Exodus 12:21

Then Moses summoned all the elders of Israel and said to them, "Go at once and select the animals for your families and slaughter the Passover lamb. Take a bunch of hyssop, dip it into the blood in the basin and put some of the blood on the top and on both sides of the doorframe. Not one of you shall go out the door of his house until morning. When the Lord goes through the land to strike down the Egyptians, he will see the blood on the top and sides of the doorframe and will pass over that doorway, and he will not permit the destroyer to enter your houses and strike you down.

The Father has life in Him.

John 17:3 Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.

He gave life to Me.

Psalm 2:7 He said to me, "You are my Son, today I have become your Father."

Hebrews 1:5 I will be his Father, and he will be my Son.

I give life to those who belong to the Father.

John 17:2

For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him.

John 10:27-30

My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and the Father are one.

Their names are written in the Book of Life.

Revelation 3:14

All inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast - all whose names have not been written in the book of life belonging to the Lamb that was slain from the creation of the world.

Revelation 21:27

Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Revelation 22:1-2

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

Revelation 22:14

Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city.

Revelation 22:19

And if anyone takes words away from this book of prophecy, God will take away from him his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book.

They have crossed over from death to life.

John 5:24

I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life.

HOW THE LORD YEARNS FOR HIS PEOPLE

Deuteronomy 5:29

Oh, that their hearts would be inclined to fear me and keep all my commands always, so that it might go well with them, and their children forever!

Deuteronomy 32:29

If only they were wise and would understand this and discern what their end will be!

2 Chronicles 7:14

If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

Psalm 81:13

If my people would but listen to me, if Israel would follow my ways, how quickly would I subdue their enemies and turn my hand against their foes!

Psalm 91:9-11

If you make the Most High your dwelling - even the Lord, who is my refuge - then no harm will befall you, no disaster will come near your tent. For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

Isaiah 30:18

Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you; he rises to show you compassion. For the Lord is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him.

Isaiah 48:18

If only you had paid attention to my commands, your peace would have been like a river, your righteousness like the waves of the seas.

Matthew 11:28-30

Cone to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.

Matthew 23:37

O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing.

Luke 19:41-42

As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it and said, "If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace - but now it is hidden from your eyes. The days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment against you and encircle you and hem you in on every side. They will dash you to the ground, you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one stone on another, because you did not recognize the time of God's coming to you."

John 12:35-36

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

2 Corinthians 6:17

"Therefore come out from them and be separate," says the Lord. "Touch no unclean thing, and I will receive you. I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters," says the Lord Almighty.

2 Peter 3:9

The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

THE PRINCE OF THIS WORLD NOW STANDS CONDEMNED

Matthew 25:41

Then he will say to those on his left, "Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.

John 12:31

Jesus said, "This voice was for your benefit, not mine. Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out.

John 16:7-11

But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me, in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer, and in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.

Colossians 2:15 And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

Revelation 20:10

And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

OUR TIMES OF TESTING AND TROUBLE

2 Chronicles 15:7

But as for you, be strong and do not give up, for your work will be rewarded.

Psalm 27:5

For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his tabernacle and set me high upon a rock.

Psalm 50:15 Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will honor me.

Proverbs 2:7-8

He holds victory in store for the upright, he is a shield to those whose walk is blameless, for he guards the course of the just and protects the way of his faithful ones.

Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him and he will make your paths straight.

Isaiah 26:3 You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you.

Isaiah 40:29 He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

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Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Isaiah 54:17

No weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and this is their vindication from me.

Matthew 7:24

Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.

John 14:1 Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me.

John 14:27

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

John 16:22

Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy.

John 16:33

I have told you these things so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.

John 17:9

I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours.

John 17:11

I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name - the name you gave me - so that they may be one as we are one.

John 17:15

My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one.

Romans 5:3-4

We also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.

1 Corinthians 10:13

No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear.

Galatians 6:9

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

Philippians 4:6-7

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Colossians 1:11 TLB

We are praying, too, that you will be filled with his mighty, glorious strength so that you can keep going no matter what happens - always full of the joy of the Lord.

Colossians 3:15

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

Philippians 4:6-7

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:19

And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.

2 Thessalonians 3:16

Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way.

1 Timothy 4:16

Keep a close watch on all you do and think. Stay true to what is right and God will bless you and use you to help others.

Hebrews 2:18

He himself suffered when he was tempted; he is able to help those who are being tempted.

Hebrews 4:14-16

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are - yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

James 1:2-4

Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. (James 1:2-4)

James 5:7-8

Be patient, then, brothers, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop and how patient he is for the autumn and spring rains. You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near.

1 Peter 5:7

Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

Revelation 2:7

To him who overcomes, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.

Revelation 2:11

He who overcomes will not be hurt at all by the second death.

Revelation 2:17

To him who overcomes, I will give some of the hidden manna. I will also give him a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to him who receives it.

Revelation 2:26

To him who overcomes and does my will to the end, I will give authority over the nations...just as I have received authority from my Father. I will also give him the morning star.

Revelation 3:5

He who overcomes will, like them, be dressed in white. I will never blot out his name from the book of life, but will acknowledge his name before my Father and his angels.

Revelation 3:12

Him who overcomes I will make a pillar in the temple of my God. Never again will he leave it. I will write on him the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which is coming down out of heaven from my God, and I will also write on him my new name.

Revelation 3:21

To him who overcomes, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I overcame and sat down with my Father on his throne.

Revelation 12:11

They overcame him by the blood of the lamb and by the word of their testimony.

DON'T BE AFRAID

Genesis 26:24 Do not be afraid, for I am with you.

Exodus 14:11-14

Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.

Exodus 20:20

Do not be afraid. God has come to test you, so that the fear of God will be with you to keep you from sinning.

Deuteronomy 1:21

See, the Lord your God has given you the land. Go up and take possession of it as the Lord, the God of your fathers, told you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."

Deuteronomy 3:22

Do not be afraid of them; the Lord your God himself will fight for you.

Deuteronomy 4:24 Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.

Joshua 1:9

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2 Chronicles 20:15, 17

This is what the Lord says to you: "Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. For the battle is not yours, but God's...You will not have to fight this battle. Take up your positions; stand firm and see the deliverance the Lord will give you...do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. Go out to face them tomorrow, and the Lord will be with you."

Psalm 23:4-5

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Psalm 27:1, 3

The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid? ... Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then will I be confident.

Psalm 34:4

I sought the Lord, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears.

Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

Psalm 56:3 When I am afraid, I will trust in you.

Psalm 91:4-6

He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart. You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday.

Proverbs 1:33

But whoever listens to me (Wisdom) will live in safety and be at ease, without fear of harm.

Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

Proverbs 3:24

My son, preserve sound judgment and discernment...they will be life for you...When you lie down, you will not be afraid; when you lie down, your sleep will be sweet.

Proverbs 3:25-26

Have no fear of sudden disaster or of the ruin that overtakes the wicked, for the Lord will be your confidence and will keep your foot from being snared.

Isaiah 41:10

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Isaiah 41:13

For I am the Lord, your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, do not fear; I will help you.

Isaiah 43:1-2

But now, this is what the Lord says—he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.

Isaiah 54:4 Do not be afraid; you will not suffer shame. Do not fear disgrace; you will not be humiliated.

Jeremiah 1:8 Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you.

Matthew 10:28 Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul.

Matthew 10:31 And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

Matthew 28:20 And lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the age.

Mark 5:36 Don't be afraid; just believe.

Luke 12:32 Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom.

John 14:27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

2 Timothy 1:7 NLT For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love and self-discipline.

Hebrews 13:5-6 God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?"

1 Peter 3:14 But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear; do not be frightened.

CROSSOFCHRIST

Luke 9:23

Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.

Luke 9:27

And whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

1 Corinthians 1:18

For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Galatians 6:14

May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

Philippians 2:8

And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death - even death on a cross!

Philippians 3:18 Many live as enemies of the cross of Christ

Colossians 2:13-14

He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross.

Colossians 2:15

And having disarmed the powers and authorities he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

Hebrews 12:1-2

Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

HE CANCELED THE RECORD OF THE CHARGES AGAINST US

Colossians 2:13-15 NLT

You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ, for he forgave all our sins. He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross. In this way, he disarmed the spiritual rulers and authorities. He shamed them publicly by his victory over them on the cross.

Colossians 2:11-15 NCV

Also in Christ you had a different kind of circumcision, not done by hands. It was through Christ's circumcision, that is, his death, that you were made free from the power of your sinful self. When you were baptized, you were buried with Christ, and you were raised up with him through your faith in God's power that was shown when he raised Christ from the dead.

When you were spiritually dead because of your sins and because you were not free from the power of your sinful self, God made you alive with Christ, and he forgave all our sins. He canceled the debt, which listed all the rules we failed to follow. He took away that record with its rules and nailed it to the cross. God stripped the spiritual rulers and powers of their authority. With the cross, he won the victory and showed the world that they were powerless.

Colossians 2:10-15 NIV

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

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

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DEATHANDLIFE

Genesis 2:7

Then the Lord God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

Genesis 3:3

The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'"

Deuteronomy 30:15 See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction.

Deuteronomy 30:19

This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live.

Deuteronomy 32:30

See now that I myself am he. There is no god besides me. I put to death and I bring to life, I have wounded and I will heal, and no one can deliver out of my hand.

Psalm 56:13 For you have delivered me from death and my feet from stumbling, that I may walk before God in the light of life.

Psalm 116:15 Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.

Proverbs 8:35-36 For whoever finds me finds life and receives favor from the Lord. But whoever fails to find me harms himself; all who hate me love death.

Proverbs 10:16 The wages of the righteous is life, but the earnings of the wicked are sin and death.

Proverbs 14:12

There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death.

Proverbs 18:21

The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

Ecclesiastes 7:1

A good name is better than fine perfume, and the day of death better than the day of birth.

Ecclesiastes 7:2

It is better to go to a house of mourning than to go to a house of feasting, for death is the destiny of every man; the living should take this to heart.

Isaiah 25:7-8

On this mountain he will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations; he will swallow up death forever.

Isaiah 53:12

Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because He poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Jeremiah 21:8

Furthermore, tell the people, "This is what the Lord says: See, I am setting before you the way of life and the way of death.

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

John 5:24

Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life.

John 11:25

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.

John 14:6

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the father except through me."

Romans 4:25

He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.

Romans 5:17

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

Romans 6:13

Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness.

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus.

Romans 8:1-2

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death.

1 Corinthians 15:21-22

For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.

1 Corinthians 15:56-57

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

Revelation 1:18 And I hold the keys of death and Hades.

Revelation 20:6

Blessed and holy are those who have part in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years.

Revelation 20:14

The lake of fire is the second death.

Revelation 21:4 There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.

DELIVERUSFROMEVIL

Exodus 3:8

So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey.

2 Samuel 22:17-18, 20

He reached down from on high and took hold of me; he drew me out of deep waters. He rescued me from my powerful enemy, from my foes, who were too strong for me...He brought me out into a spacious place; he rescued me because he delighted in me.

1 Chronicles 16:34-35

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. Cry out, "Save us, God our Savior: gather us and deliver us from the nations, that we may give thanks to your holy name, and glory in your praise."

Psalm 3:7-8

Arise, Lord! Deliver me, my God! Strike all my enemies on the jaw; break the teeth of the wicked. From the Lord comes deliverance.

Psalm 6:4 Turn, Lord, and deliver me; save me because of your unfailing love.

Psalm 23:4

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Psalm 33:18-19

But the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love, to deliver them from death and keep them alive in famine.

Psalm 34:4-7

I sought the Lord, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears. Those who look to him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame. This poor man called, and the Lord heard him; he saved him out of all his troubles. The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them.

Psalm 34:17

The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles.

Psalm 34:19

The righteous person may have many troubles, but the Lord delivers him from them all.

Psalm 37:39-40

The salvation of the righteous comes from the Lord; he is their stronghold in time of trouble. The Lord helps them and delivers them.

Psalm 44:26 Rise up and help us; rescue us because of your unfailing love.

Psalm 59:1

Deliver me from my enemies, O God; be my fortress against those who are attacking me.

Psalm 138:7

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve my life. You stretch out your hand against the anger of my foes; with your right hand you save me.

Isaiah 43:12-13

"You are my witnesses," declares the Lord, "that I am God. Yes, and from ancient days I am he. No one can deliver out of my hand. When I act, who can reverse it?"

Isaiah 50:2

Was my arm too short to deliver you? Do I lack the strength to rescue you?

Jeremiah 1:8

"Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you," declares the Lord.

Jeremiah 39:17

"But I will rescue you on that day," declares the Lord; "you will not be given into the hands of those you fear. I will save you; you will not fall by the sword but will escape with your life, because you trust in me," declares the Lord.

Galatians 1:4-5

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

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FAITH

2 Chronicles 20:20

As they set out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, "Listen to me, Judah and people of Jerusalem! Have faith in the Lord your God and you will be upheld; have faith in his prophets and you will be successful."

Habakkuk 2:4 The righteous will live by his faith.

Matthew 9:29 Then he touched their eyes and said, "According to your faith will it be done to you"; and their sight was restored.

Matthew 17:20

He replied, "Because you have so little faith. I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from hear to there' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you."

Mark 11:22-24

"Have faith in God," Jesus answered. "I tell you the truth, if anyone says to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart but believes that what he says will happen, it will be done for him. Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours."

Luke 17:5-6

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" He replied, "If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it will obey you."

Romans 1:17

For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."

Romans 3:21-22

But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.

Romans 4:5

To a man who does not work but trusts God who justifies the wicked, his faith is credited as righteousness.

Romans 10:17

Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.

1 Corinthians 13:13

And now these three remain (NLT – three things will last forever): faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

1 Corinthians 16:13 Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be men of courage; be strong. Do everything in love.

2 Corinthians 5:7 We live by faith and not by sight.

Galatians 2:20

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

Galatians 3:11 Clearly no one is justified before God by the law, because, "The righteous will live by faith."

Ephesians 2:8

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.

Ephesians 6:16 In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.

Colossians 1:23 If you continue in your faith, established and firm, not moved from the hope held out in the gospel.

1 Thessalonians 5:8 But since we belong to the day, let us be self-controlled, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet.

1 Timothy 6:12 Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

Hebrews 11:1 NIV Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

Hebrews 11:1 NLT Faith is the confidence that what we hope for will actually happen; it gives us assurance about things we cannot see.

Hebrews 11:6 Without faith it is impossible to please God; because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Hebrews 12:2 Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.

James 2:26 Faith without deeds is dead.

1 John 5:4-5

For everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

CONTENTMENT

Luke 3:14 Be content with your wages.

2 Corinthians 12:10 RSV

For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities; for when I am weak, then I am strong.

Philippians 4:11-13

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

1 Timothy 6:6-8

Godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that.

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

THE DEPOSIT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN US

Now I want you to know this...it is a VERY SHORT TIME now until the rapture and the changing of the bodies of all who belong to Me - those who truly belong to Me, not those who just think they belong to Me, but really don't. The filling with My Spirit is the key to this. The Spirit is the "deposit" that seals our commitment to each other. Those who have My Spirit (like the 5 virgins with plenty of oil) are the ones who will come with Me when I return for My bride. Deposit - something pledged or given as part of the payment.

Ephesians 1:14-15

When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession - to the praise of his glory.

Ephesians 4:30

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

2 Corinthians 1:21-22 NIV

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

2 Corinthians 1:21-22 RSV

But it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has commissioned us; he has put his seal upon us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.

2 Corinthians 5:1-5

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

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SALVATION OF THE FAMILY

Joshua 14:15 But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.

Acts 16:31

Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved--you and your household.

Proverbs 14:26

He who fears the Lord has a secure fortress, and for his children it will be a refuge.

Isaiah 54:13

All your sons will be taught by Lord, and great will be your children's peace.

Acts 2:38-39

Repent and be baptized...and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children...for all whom the Lord our God will call.

1 Corinthians 7:14-15

For the unbelieving husband has been sanctified through his wife, and the unbelieving wife has been sanctified through her believing husband. Otherwise your children would be unclean, but as it is, they are holy. But if the unbeliever leaves, let him do so. A believing man or woman is not bound in such circumstances; God has called us to live in peace.

Isaiah 44:3

I will pour out my Spirit on your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants.

2 Peter 3:9

The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

FELLOWSHIP

Fellowship with God Fellowship of the Holy Spirit Fellowship with Jesus Christ Fellowship with other believers

Acts 2:42

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

1 Corinthians 1:9

God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

2 Corinthians 13:14

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

Galatians 2:9

James, Cephas and John, those esteemed as pillars, gave me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship when they recognized the grace given to me.

1 John 1:3

We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.

1 John 1:6

If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth.

1 John 1:7

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

FIGHTING NEGATIVE THOUGHTS

I woke up about 2:15 a.m. Then I stayed awake until about 4:00 a.m. thinking about a friend - and how he fluctuates from faith to negativity, back and forth. I kept thinking about his "going around the mountain" another time when he goes into negative thinking. I also have to fight negative thinking at times too.

Then I began to get the idea/revelation of what to do about it when the negative thoughts (fiery darts) begin to try to hit us. The idea is about the armor of God mentioned in Ephesians 6:10-18.

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints. (Ephesians 6:10-18)

The shield of faith, which is to be used to "extinguish the fiery darts of the evil one," came to mind. I was shown that THAT is the weapon to use to extinguish those negative thoughts/fiery darts of doubt and unbelief from the evil one. Those fiery darts are lies with which the enemy tries to accuse God and criticize God. So when the fiery darts try to hit us, we need to use our shield of faith, hold it up, and refuse those darts in the name of Jesus Christ, and extinguish them.

Then I was shown that **the sword of the Spirit** (the Word of God) is to be used to speak forth *the truth* into the atmosphere. These are the two weapons we hold in our hands.

Another day the Lord had me copy what He taught me about using **the shield of faith** to extinguish the fiery darts of the evil one when they come, and then using **the sword of the Spirit** to fight off those thoughts from the enemy. Then He guided me to ask:

What are the scriptures (the "sword of the Spirit") that we can use to fight off those fiery darts from coming any more after we have extinguished them with the "shield of faith"?

SCRIPTURES ON FIGHTING NEGATIVE THOUGHTS

Psalm 19:14

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer.

Psalm 37:7, 9

Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for him...Those that wait upon the Lord, they shall inherit the earth.

Psalm 141:3

Set a guard, O Lord, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips.

Isaiah 40:31

Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Habakkuk 2:4 The righteous will live by his faith.

Acts 16: 31

They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household."

Acts 27:25 So take courage! For I believe God. It will be just as he said.

Romans 1:17

For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."

Romans 8:25

Hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what he already has? But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

Romans 10:9

If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved.

Romans 10:17

Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:7 We live by faith and not by sight.

Galatians 2:20

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

Ephesians 6:16

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

Hebrews 3:12

See to it, brothers, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God.

Hebrews 11:1 NIV

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

Hebrews 11:1 NLT

Faith is the confidence that what we hope for will actually happen; it gives us assurance about things we cannot see.

Hebrews 11:6

Without faith it is impossible to please God; because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Hebrews 12:2 Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.

James 1:2-4

Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

James 1:5-8

If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does.

James 1:26

If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless.

1 John 5:4-5

For everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

1 John 5:10b

Anyone who does not believe God has made him out to be a liar, because he has not believed the testimony God has given about his Son.

Revelation 2:26-28

To him who overcomes and does my will to the end, I will give authority over the nations - just as I have received authority from my Father. I will also give him the morning star.

Revelation 3:21

To him who overcomes, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I overcame and sat down with my Father on his throne.

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FINANCES AND PROSPERITY

Exodus 15:23-25

When they came to Marah, they could not drink its water because it was bitter. So the people grumbled against Moses, saying, "What are we to drink?" Then Moses cried out to the Lord, and the Lord showed him a piece of wood. He threw it into the water, and the water became fit to drink.

Deuteronomy 8:3

He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your ancestors had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

Deuteronomy 8:4

Your clothes did not wear out and your feet did not swell during these forty years.

Deuteronomy 8:10

And you shall eat and be full, and you shall bless the Lord your God for the good land he has given you.

Deuteronomy 14:22-23

Be sure to set aside a tenth of all that your fields produce each year. Eat the tithe of your grain, new wine and olive oil, and the firstborn of your herds and flocks in the presence of the Lord your God at the place he will choose as a dwelling for his Name, so that you may learn to revere the Lord your God always.

Deuteronomy 15:1-3

At the end of every seven years you must cancel debts...he shall not require payment from his...brother, because the Lord's time for canceling debts has been proclaimed...you must cancel any debt your brother owes you.

Deuteronomy 28:1-14

If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations on earth. All these blessings will come upon you and accompany you if you obey the Lord your God:

- You will be blessed in the city and blessed in the country.
- The fruit of your womb will be blessed.
- The crops of your land and the young of your livestock.
- Your basket and your kneading trough will be blessed.
- You will be blessed when you come in and blessed when you go out.
- The enemies who rise up against you will be defeated before you.
- The Lord will send a blessing on your barns and on everything you put your hand to.
- The Lord will bless you in the land he is giving you.
- The Lord will establish you as his holy people.
- The Lord will grant you abundant prosperity.
- The Lord will open the heavens, the storehouse of his bounty, to send rain on your land in season and to bless all the work of your hands.
- You will lend to many nations but will borrow from none.
- The Lord will make you the head, not the tail.
- You will always be at the top, never at the bottom.

1 Kings 17:6

The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and bread and meat in the evening, and he drank from the brook.

1 Kings 17:15-16

She went away and did as Elijah had told her. So there was food every day for Elijah and for the woman and her family. For the jar of flour was not used up and the jug of oil did not run dry, in keeping with the word of the Lord spoken by Elijah.

2 Kings 4:3-7

Elisha said, "Go around and ask all your neighbors for empty jars. Don't ask for just a few. Then go inside and shut the door behind you and your sons. Pour oil into all the jars, and as each is filled, put it to one side."

She left him and shut the door behind her and her sons. They brought the jars to her and she kept pouring. When all the jars were full, she said to her son, "Bring me another one."

But he replied, "There is not a jar left." Then the oil stopped flowing. She went and told the man of God, and he said, "Go, sell the oil and pay your debts. You and your sons can live on what is left."

1 Chronicles 29:12 Wealth and honor come from You; You are the ruler of all things.

1 Chronicles 29:14

Everything comes from You, and we have given You only what comes from Your hand.

1 Chronicles 29:16 It (abundance) comes from Your hand; and all of it belongs to You.

Ecclesiastes 5:10

Whoever loves money never has money enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with his income.

Isaiah 5:2

Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare.

Isaiah 61:6

And you will be called priests of the Lord, you will be named ministers of our God. You will feed on the wealth of nations, and in their riches you will boast.

Haggai 2:8

"The silver is mine and the gold is mine" declares the Lord Almighty.

Malachi 3:8-12

"Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. "But you ask, 'How do we rob you?" "In tithes and offerings. You are under a curse--the whole nation of you--because you are robbing me. Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it. I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not cast their fruit," says the Lord Almighty. "Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land," say the Lord Almighty.

Matthew 6:1-4

Be careful not to do your acts of righteousness before men, to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven.

So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

Matthew 6:9-11

Our Father in heaven, hallowed by your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.

Matthew 6:19-21

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

Matthew 6:24

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

Matthew 6:25-27

Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or eat or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?

Matthew 6:28-33

And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Romans 13:8 Let no debt remain outstanding.

1 Corinthians 2:16 But we have the mind of Christ

2 Corinthians 8:7 See that you also excel in this grace of giving.

2 Corinthians 9:6-8

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

2 Corinthians 9:10-11

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

Philippians 4:19

And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.

James 1:5

If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him.

1 John 5:14-15

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us--whatever we ask--we know that we have what we asked of him.

Ephesians 3:20

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

HANDOFGOD

Exodus 3:20

So I will stretch out my hand and strike the Egyptians with all the wonders that I will perform among them. After that, he will let you go.

Exodus 9:3

If you refuse to let them go and continue to hold them back, the hand of the Lord will bring a terrible plague on your livestock in the field on your horses and donkeys and camels and on your cattle and sheep and goats.

Exodus 33:22-23

When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by. Then I will remove my hand and you will see my back, but my face must not be seen.

Deuteronomy 33:2 Surely it is you who love the people; all the holy ones are in your hand.

1 Samuel 5:11

So they called together all the rulers of the Philistines and said, "Send the ark of the god of Israel away; let it go back to its own place, or it will kill us and our people" For death had filled the city with panic; God's hand was very heavy upon it.

Nehemiah 2:18

I also told them about the gracious hand of my God upon me and what the king had said to me. They replied, "Let us start rebuilding." So they began this good work.

Job 19:21

Have pity on me, my friends, have pity, for the hand of God has struck me.

Psalm 16:11

You have made known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

Psalm 31:15

My times are in your hands; deliver me from my enemies and from those who pursue me.

Psalm 37:23-24

If the Lord delights in a man's way, he makes his steps firm; though he stumble, he will not fall, for the Lord upholds him with his hand.

Psalm 75:8

In the hand of the Lord is a cup full of foaming wine mixed with spices; he pours it out, and all the wicked of the earth drink it down to its very dregs.

Psalm 139:9-10

If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.

Psalm 145:16 You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing.

Ecclesiastes 2:24-25

A man can do nothing better than to eat and drink and find satisfaction in his work. This too, I see, is from the hand of God, for without him, who can eat or find enjoyment?

Isaiah 40:12

Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, or with the breadth of his hand marked off the heavens?

Isaiah 53:10

Yet it was the Lord's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the Lord makes his life a guilt offering, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the Lord will prosper in his hand.

Daniel 4:35 No one can hold back his hand or say to him: "What have you done?"

Mark 14:62 "I am," said Jesus. "And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven."

Mark 16:19 After the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, he was taken up into heaven and he sat at the right hand of God.

John 19:22-30

I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and the Father are one."

Hebrews 10:31 It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

IN CHRIST

Ephesians 1:13-14

And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession - to the praise of his glory.

Romans 3:22 This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.

Romans 8:1

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

1 Corinthians 15:22 For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come.

Ephesians 1:3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

Ephesians 1:4 For he chose us in him (Christ) before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight.

Colossians 1:26-27

The mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the saints. To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

Colossians 1:28

We proclaim him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ.

Colossians 2:17 These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ.

2 Timothy 2:10

Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.

2 Timothy 3:12 In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.

2 Timothy 3:15

And how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

Hebrews 3:14

We have come to share in Christ if we hold firmly till the end the confidence we had at first.

This is the question He is giving me to learn about today: What does it mean to be "in Christ"?

I learned this from reading the Scriptures:

We are <u>marked with a seal of the Holy Spirit</u> We have <u>righteousness</u> through faith in Christ We have <u>no condemnation</u> We will be <u>made alive</u> We are a <u>new creation</u> We have <u>every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms</u> We have been <u>chosen to be holy and blameless</u> We have been <u>chosen to be holy and blameless</u> We have the mystery of Christ in you, the <u>hope of glory</u> We are <u>perfect in Christ</u> The <u>reality of things to come</u> is found in Christ We have <u>salvation with eternal glory</u> We are <u>living a godly life</u> We have <u>wisdom</u> from the holy Scriptures for <u>salvation through faith</u> We share in Christ

HUMILITY

Psalm 25:9 He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them His way.

Proverbs 3:34 He gives grace to the humble.

Proverbs 11:2 With humility comes wisdom.

Isaiah 6:2 This is the one I esteem; he who is humble and contrite in spirit, and trembles at my word.

Micah 6:8

He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

Matthew 11:28-30

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

Matthew 18:4 Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 23:11-12

The greatest among you will be your servant. For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

Ephesians 4.2 Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

Philippians 2/3 In humility consider others better than yourselves.

Titus 3:2 Show true humility toward all men.

James 4:10 Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

1 Peter 5:5-6

God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.

JESUSINME

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you.

Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will direct your paths.

Matthew 28:20 And Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.

John 14:20 On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you.

Romans 8:16 The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.

1 Corinthians 3:16 Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you?

Galatians 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me.

Ephesians 1:4 For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight.

Ephesians 1:5 In love he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will.

Ephesians 2:6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus. (Ephesians 2:6)

JESUS' AUTHORITY

Matthew 26:64

But I say to all of you: From now on you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven.

Matthew 28:20

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

John 14:8

I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

John 14:10

The words that I say to you are not just my own. Rather, it is the Father living in me, who is doing his work. Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me.

Acts 10:38

How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.

Ephesians 3:20

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

Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any doubleedged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

Hebrews 13:8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

WHAT JESUS GAVE HIS DISCIPLES AUTHORITY TO DO

Jeremiah 29:11-14

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you," declares the Lord. (Jeremiah 29:11-14)

Matthew 10:1

He called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out evil spirits and to heal every disease and sickness.

Mark 11:22-24

"Have faith in God," Jesus answered. "I tell you the truth, if anyone says to this mountain, 'Go throw yourself into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart but believes that what he says will happen, it will be done for him. Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours."

Luke 11:9-10

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

John 8:31-32

If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.

John 14:12-14

I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

John 15:7

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish and it will be given you.

John 17:13-19

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

John 17:20-21

My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

John 17:22

I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one.

John 20:21-23

Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." (John 20:21-23)

Romans 12:6 We have different gifts, according to the grace given us.

1 Corinthians 1:7 Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed.

1 Corinthians 2:16 But we have the mind of Christ.

2 Corinthians 3:18

And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

2 Corinthians 5:7 We live by faith, not by sight.

2 Corinthians 9:8

And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

Ephesians 1:3

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

Philippians 1:6 He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

Philippians 2:13 It is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.

Philippians 4:13 I can do everything through him who gives me strength.

Philippians 4:19 God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.

Hebrews 13:5 God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."

1 Peter 2:9

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

1 John 4:4 You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.

1 John 5:14-15

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us--whatever we ask--we know that we have what we asked of him.

INHERITANCE

Deuteronomy 4:20

But as for you, the Lord took you and brought you out of the ironsmelting furnace, out of Egypt, to be the people of his inheritance, as you now are.

Psalm 37:11 For evil men will be cut off, but those who hope in the Lord will inherit the land.

Psalm 37:29 The righteous will inherit the land and dwell in it forever.

Proverbs 13:22

A good man leaves an inheritance for his children's children, but a sinner's wealth is stored up for the righteous.

Matthew 5:5 Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Mark 10:17

As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. "Good teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

1 Corinthians 15:50

I declare to you, brothers, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, not does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

Ephesians 1:13-14

Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

Ephesians 1:18

I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and his incomparably great power for us who believe.

Ephesians 5:5

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

Hebrews 9:15

For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance—now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant.

1 Peter 1:4

In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

GOSSIP AND SLANDER

Leviticus 19:16 Do not go about spreading slander among your people.

Proverbs 11:13 A gossip betrays a confidence, but a trustworthy man keeps a secret.

Proverbs 16:28 A perverse man stirs up dissension, and a gossip separates close friends.

Proverbs 18:8 The words of a gossip are like choice morsels; they go down to a man's inmost parts.

Proverbs 26:20 Without wood a fire goes out; without gossip a quarrel dies down.

Romans 1:29-30 They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, slanderers.

1 Corinthians 4:13 When we are slandered, we answer kindly.

1 Corinthians 6:9-10

Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters not adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders nor thieves not the greedy nor drunkards not slanderers not swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.

2 Corinthians 12:20

For I am afraid that when I come I may not find you as I want you to be, and you may not find me as you want me to be. I fear that there may be quarreling, jealousy, outburst of anger, factions, slander, gossip, arrogance and disorder.

1 Timothy 5:14

So I counsel younger widows to marry, th have children, to manage their homes and to give the enemy no opportunity for slander.

Titus 2:3 Teach the older women to be reverent in the way they live, not to be slanderers.

Titus 3:1-2 Remind the people...to slander no one.

FIREOFGOD

Habakkuk 2:2-3

Then the Lord replied: 'Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald may run with it. For the revelation awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end and will not prove false. Though it linger, wait for it: it will certainly come and will not delay.

That makes you think of the last scene in your series of visions in 1985, doesn't it?

The Last Scene in my series of visions in 1985

I see pray-ers kneeling at the front of the sanctuary in front of the platform. I only see their silhouettes and they are aqua blue. They are surrounded by a rose colored light. The four who met in the air came together into a ball of fire. This ball started moving around inside the sanctuary in an arc to come down and touch someone, then went up in another arc to some other part of the

sanctuary to come down and touch someone else. It kept doing this over and over, faster and faster, touching more and more people. Each time it went in the arc through the air it left a trail of silver dust, like a jet trail in the sky, so these trails increased and increased within the inside of the sanctuary. It kept going faster and faster until it exploded so the light and silver dust filled everywhere.

That last scene is starting to happen now - now meaning since about 2000. It is increasing and going faster every day, and touching millions of people. It will accelerate much faster this year. You will see it. Much will be happening this year that I have been getting you in place for. You will be part of it - the "much happening". It will surely involve the church in a profound way, and you will be part of that, as well as one-on-one with others, and also personally.

You see in your mind that "ball of fire" moving up and around, touching people here and there. If you think of that sanctuary in which you see it moving as 'the world' then you can see that ball of fire going around 'the world' and touching people and groups all over the world. That's what the sanctuary represents - it represents where I am working around the world, in My sanctuary, the place where I am dwelling and working.

My Holy Spirit ball of fire is using My people and taking them all around the world to people groups and setting them on fire for Me.

My fire is burning!

Look up all the Scriptures that fit this scenario and write them here:

Jeremiah 23:29 "Is not my word like fire," declares the Lord...?"

Acts 2:3

They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them.

Hebrews 12:29 For our God is a consuming fire.

Luke 12:49 I have come to bring fire on the earth.

Isaiah 4:4 In that day -- The Lord will.....cleanse ... by a spirit of judgment and a spirit of fire.

Exodus 24:15-17 When Moses went up on the mountain, the cloud covered it, and the glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai. For six days the cloud covered the mountain, and on the seventh day the Lord called to Moses from within the cloud. To the Israelites the glory of the Lord looked like a consuming fire on top of the mountain.

Ezekiel 1:4-5

I looked, and I saw a windstorm coming out of the north--an immense cloud with flashing lighting and surrounded by brilliant light. The center of the fire looked like glowing metal, and in the fire was what looked like four living creatures.

Ezekiel 1:27

...and high above on the throne was a figure like that of a man. I saw that from what appeared to be his waist up he looked like glowing metal, as if full of fire, and that from there down he looked like fire; and brilliant light surrounded him.

Daniel 7:9-10

As I looked, thrones were set in place, and the Ancient of Days took his seat. His clothing was as white as snow; the hair of his head was white like wool. His throne was flaming with fire, and its wheels were all ablaze. A river of fire was flowing, coming out from before him. Thousands upon thousands attended him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him. The court was seated, and the books were opened.

This is now, My child. I am on My throne with the books open and judging the ten thousand times ten thousand (meaning all peoples) who are 'before Me' - as My eyes run to and fro throughout the earth. The court with Me is also seated meaning they are also ready and waiting to judge with Me and watch Me judge the earth. The books are now open for the judgment. That judgment is like a fire coming out from before Me to the earth.

There is very little 'time' left for people to change positions from where they are right now.

Hebrews 1:7 He makes....his servants flames of fire.

My fire is burning. It is making judgment throughout the earth. You (people) will either be consumed by fiery passion for Me or fiery passion for the enemy. Soon there will be no "in between." People must choose. They chose Me or they reject Me (which means they choose to live on earth without Me). If they choose to live without Me, then they will be deceived by the enemy and will think they are right, but they will be dead wrong!

Joel 3:14

Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision.

Come, My children, come to Me and be saved! I want you for Mine, but I allow you freedom to choose to live without Me. It is a sad choice to do so, a sad choice. It means you will die. There will be no 'life' in you for I am Life. If you have no Life, then you die.

I want My own to come to Me, My child, and I want you to pray for that as often as I bring it to your mind. They have mostly come already, but there are a few more.

I didn't know it was that close, Lord.

It is. There is not much time left.

Come to Me, My children. I love you and I want you to be Mine. When I close the opportunity to choose Me, I want you to be with Me. And the opportunity will close soon. Then I will take My own to heaven to be with Me, and you (if you don't choose Me) will be left on earth to face the judgment. Some of you will choose Me then, and I will love you for that, but you will have to 'go through' the judgment just the same.

It is so much better if you choose Me now, before the Rapture...so much better! Come, My children and choose Me while there is still time.

THE FRUIT OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

Righteousness - being in a right relationship to God; not guilty before God.

Isaiah 32:17

The fruit of that righteousness will be peace; its effect will be quietness and confidence forever.

Galatians 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Philippians 1:9-11 And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ to the glory and praise of God.

Hebrews 12:11

For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant; later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

Proverbs 11:30 The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life

Proverbs 10:11 The mouth of the righteous is a fountain of life.

GIVING TO THE NEEDY, POOR, WIDOWS, AND ORPHANS

Micah 6:8

He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

Matthew 5:42 Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you.

Acts 2:45 Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need.

Romans 12:13 Share with God's people who are in need.

Ephesians 4:28 ...but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need.

1 Timothy 5:3, 5

Give proper recognition to those widows who are really in need...The widow who is really in need and left all alone puts her hope in God and continues night and day to pray and ask God for help.

James 1:27

Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

1 John 3:17 If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him?

IAM

Today I finished reading the book *Finding Friendship with God* by Floyd McClung (Executive Director of YWAM - Youth With A Mission). In the book he gives this list which we can read to remind ourselves who we really are.

- 1. I am a *child* of God (Rom. 8:16).
- 2. I am *redeemed* from the hand of the enemy (Psalm 107:2).
- 3. I am forgiven (Col. 1:13, 14).
- 4. I am *saved* by grace through faith (Eph. 2:8).
- 5. I am *justified* (Rom. 5:11).
- 6. I am *sanctified* (1 Cor. 5:17).
- 7. I am a *new creation* (2 Cor. 5:17).
- 8. I am a *partaker* of his divine nature (2 Peter 1:4).
- 9. I am *redeemed* from the curse of the law (Gal. 3:13).
- 10. I am *delivered* from the powers of darkness (Col. 1:13).
- 11. I am *led* by the Spirit of God (Rom. 8:14).
- 12. I am a *son or daughter* of God (Rom. 8:14).
- 13. I am kept under his wings wherever I go (Psalm 91:11).
- 14. I am cared for by Jesus (1 Peter 5:7).
- 15. I am *strong* in the Lord and the power of his might (Eph. 6:10).
- 16. I am *able* to do all things through Christ who strengthens me (Phil. 4:13).
- 17. I am an heir of God and a joint heir with Jesus (Rom. 8:17).
- 18. I am *empowered* to do all the Lord's commandments (Dt. 28:12).
- 19. I am blessed in my coming in and my going out (Dt. 28:6).
- 20. I am *blessed* with all spiritual blessings (Eph. 1:3).
- 21. I am *saved* by Jesus' wounds (1 Peter 2:24).

- 22. I am more than a *conqueror* (Rom. 8:37).
- 23. I am an *overcomer* by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of my testimony (Rev. 12:11).
- 24. I am *empowered* to cast down vain imaginations (2 Cor. 10:4-5).
- 25. I am *able* to bring every thought into captivity (2 Cor. 10:5).
- 26. I am being *transformed* by the renewing of my mind (Rom. 12:1,2).
- 27. I am a *co-laborer* together with God (1 Cor. 5:21).
- 28. I am a friend of God (John 15:15).

(Finding Friendship With God; Floyd McClung, Servant Publications, Ann Arbor, MI, 1992, pg. 111-112)

HOPE

Psalm 42:5

Why are you downcast, O my soul? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.

Psalm 62:5-6

Find rest, O my soul, in God alone; my hope comes from him. He alone is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will not be shaken.

Psalm 119:74

May those who fear you rejoice when they see me, for I have put my hope in your word.

Psalm 147:11

The Lord delights in those who fear him, who put their hope in his unfailing love.

Isaiah 40:31

Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not faint.

Romans 5:4-5

We also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.

Romans 8:24

But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what he already has? But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

Romans 12:12 Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

Romans 15:4

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

1 Corinthians 13:7 Love always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

1 Corinthians 13:13 And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

Colossians 1:27

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

1 Thessalonians 5:8

Since we belong to the day, let us be self-controlled, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet.

1 Timothy 6:17

Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.

Hebrews 6:19

We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, where Jesus, who went before us, has entered on our behalf.

Hebrews 10:23

Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. 1 John 3:2-3 We know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure.

The Lord wanted me to put at the end of this book a message that tells you how to receive salvation through Jesus Christ. So I chose to copy here the material from Good News Tracts at <u>www.goodnewstracts.org</u>)

IS THERE A WAY TO BE SAVED?

Perhaps one of the most commonly referenced verses in the Bible is John 3:16, in which Jesus says, "For God so love the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

John's gospel is crucial to learning more about Jesus and discovering what it means to become a Christian. His purpose in writing this book of the Bible is to evidence that Jesus is the Son of God and our Savior. By believing in Jesus and trusting in the salvation from our sin that he offers, people can gain eternal life.

WHY DO WE NEED TO BE SAVED?

Jesus said, "Everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin" (John 8:34). If we are honest with ourselves, we cannot deny that from the moment of our birth we have done wrong things - things that make us guilty before God and deserving of his judgment. The Bible calls these wrong things sin, and sin separates us from God. And because we are separated from God, we face the awful prospect of his eternal wrath (John 3:36). "Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him" (John 3:36).

JESUS IS THE ONLY WAY

Can anyone save us from God's wrath and assure us of heaven? Some people believe that they can get into heaven by doing good works, or by following the teachings of a religion, or even by giving money to churches or charities. But Jesus clearly said that none of these things would save us: "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me" (John 14:6). No human effort can give us eternal life.

In fact, the only "work" that can save us is the "work" of believing in what Jesus has done to accomplish our salvation: "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent" (John 6:29). And to those who so believe, the promise of God stands firm: "To all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God" (John 1:12).

HOW DOES JESUS SAVE US?

John the Baptist, a biblical prophet, calls Jesus the "Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world" (John 1:29). Jesus explains that our salvation comes through his death on the cross as the perfect and sufficient sacrifice for our sin. "Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in him, may have eternal life." (John 3:14-15).

When reading the Gospel of John, for example, you'll notice that chapters 18-19 describe Jesus' death and then chapter 20 tells of his glorious triumph over death as he rose from the dead. Jesus' resurrection means that he can give eternal life to all who believe in him: "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die" (John 11:25-26).

DO YOU BELIEVE?

John 11:26 ends with Jesus asking, **"Do you believe this?"** It is a question that every person must answer: Do you believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God? Do you believe that he died on the cross to free you from guilt and judgment of sin? Do you believe that he rose from the grave, breaking the power of death and making a way for you to have eternal life in heaven?

If you believe that these things are true, then you may want to express your faith in him by praying the prayer:

Heavenly Father, I believe that Jesus Christ is your Son, and that he died on the cross to save me from my sin. I believe that he rose again to life, and that he invites me to live forever with him in heaven as part of your family. Because of what Jesus has done, I ask you to forgive me of my sin and give me eternal life. Help me to live in a way that pleases and honors you. Amen.

GROWING IN CHRIST

Once you have received the gift of eternal life, you will want to grow in your knowledge of Christ and your obedience to him. Jesus' teaching about how to live for God can be summed up in three simple instructions:

<u>Read the Bible.</u> Jesus said, "Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me" (John 14:21). One way to show our love for God is to read and live out the commands set forth in the Bible, God's holy Word. Read the Bible daily to learn how to live a life that honors God and gives testimony to others that Jesus has made a difference in your life.

<u>Pray.</u> Communication with God through prayer keeps your focus on eternal things. If you are truly following Jesus, your desires will be for God's glory and for his kingdom, the church. Jesus promised, "If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you" (John 15:7).

<u>Seek Christian fellowship.</u> Meeting regularly with Christian brothers and sisters allows you to follow Jesus' example of love and to fulfill his command to "Love one another...just as I have love you" (John 13:34). Just as Jesus surrounded himself daily with his disciples and followers, find a Bible believing church where you can meet with other Christians. There you will find joy and encouragement in the fellowship of God's people.

(Material from Good News Tracts at <u>www.goodnewstracts.org</u>)