God's Loving World Ministries™ Statement of Basic Christian Beliefs



To the Lord Jesus Christ Be the Glory!

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From the Director...

When I first came to Christ, the Lord began teaching me about how to walk with the Holy Spirit. He taught me how to dress and chose new modest clothing for me. The Lord began to worship with me in singing and through the dance (in modest dress). He spiritually cleansed my house. He taught me His ways. He taught me that He has a standard for holiness.

Christ said this to the scribes and Pharisees:

Matthew 23: 15 New King James Version

"15 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel land and sea to win one proselyte, and when he is won, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves." (NKJV)

This ministry does not want to do that.

Like most people, my own life had been such an <u>absolute</u> mess before my coming to Christ that I WANTED to love God with all of my heart, I WANTED to obey Him in every area of my life and I STILL do.

Look at this parable that Christ taught:

Matthew 21: 28 - 32 New King James Version

"28 "But what do you think? A man had two sons, and he came to the first and said, 'Son, go, work today in my vineyard.' ²⁹ He answered and said, 'I will not,' but afterward he regretted it and went. ³⁰ Then he came to the second and said likewise. And he answered and said, 'I *go*, sir,' but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of *his* father?"

They said to Him, "The first."

Jesus said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that tax collectors and harlots enter the kingdom of God before you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him; but tax collectors and harlots believed him; and when you saw *it*, you did not afterward relent and believe him." (NKJV)

The correct answer to Christ's question is this - NEITHER SON OBEYED. The father said "Go" He didn't say delay and show up later. (Matthew 21:28 NKJV) That's why Christ said the tax collectors and harlots would enter the kingdom of God BEFORE the chief priests and elders of that day, because the chief priests and elders didn't know the correct answer. The tax collectors and harlots had previous lives that had been such a mess that they would do anything to obey God and they would GO when He said "GO."

Christ said those with the greater debt (meaning those that have committed the greater sin) have the greater love, because they truly want to TURN AWAY from a life of sin:

Luke 7:40-50 New American Standard Bible

"40 And Jesus responded and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." And he [a]replied, "Say it, Teacher." 41 "A moneylender had two debtors: the one owed five hundred [b]denarii, and the other, fifty. 42 When they were unable to repay, he canceled the debts of both. So which of them will love him more?" 43 Simon answered and said, "I assume the one for whom he canceled the greater debt." And He said to him, "You have judged correctly." 44 And turning toward the woman, He said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has wet My feet with her tears and

wiped them with her hair. ⁴⁵ You ^[c]gave Me no kiss; but she has not stopped kissing My feet since the time I came in. ⁴⁶ You did not ^[d]anoint My head with oil, but she anointed My feet with perfume. ⁴⁷ For this reason I say to you, her sins, which are many, have been forgiven, for she loved much; but the one who is forgiven little, loves little." ⁴⁸ And He said to her, "Your sins have been forgiven." ⁴⁹ And *then* those who were reclining *at the table* with Him began saying ^[e]to themselves, "Who is this *man* who even forgives sins?" ⁵⁰ And He said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."" (NASB)

Luke 13: 22 – 30 New King James Version

"22 And He went through the cities and villages, teaching, and journeying toward Jerusalem. 23 Then one said to Him, "Lord, are there few who are saved?"

And He said to them, ²⁴ "Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able. ²⁵ When once the Master of the house has risen up and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open for us,' and He will answer and say to you, 'I do not know you, where you are from, ²⁶ then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in Your presence, and You taught in our streets.' 27 But He will say, 'I tell you I do not know you, where you are from. Depart from Me, all you workers of iniquity.²⁸ There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves thrust out. ²⁹ They will come from the east and the west, from the north and the south, and sit down in the kingdom of God. 30 And indeed there are last who will be first, and there are first who will be last."" (NKJV)

John 14:15 New King James Version

"15 "If you love Me, [b]keep My commandments." (NKJV)

Matthew 7:13-29 New International Version

"13 "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. ¹⁴ But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.

¹⁵ "Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. ¹⁶ By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? ¹⁷ Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸ A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. ¹⁹ Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰ Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.

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

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. ²⁵ 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. ²⁶ But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who

built his house on sand. ²⁷ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."

²⁸ When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching, ²⁹ because he taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law." (NIV)

2 Timothy 2: 19 – 26 New King James Version

"19 Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: "The Lord knows those who are His," and, "Let everyone who names the name of Christ^[c] depart from iniquity.[,]"²⁰ But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor. ²¹ Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work. ²² Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. 23 But avoid foolish and ignorant disputes, knowing that they generate strife. 24 And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, ²⁵ in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, ²⁶ and *that* they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to *do* his will." (NKJV)

1 Timothy 4: 12 - 16 New King James Version

"12 Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, [b] in faith, in purity. 13 Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. 14 Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership. 15 Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all. 16 Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you." (NKJV)

Christ WANTS people who are going to truly TURN from their iniquities and choose to lead a life of holiness with Him as their leader. Christ has a standard and He wants that standard to be kept. This ministry wants to uphold God's standards and to not waiver from them.

We believe every Christian should know and understand what they believe, that they should be able to teach others what they believe, and that they should be able to prove that what they believe is true. God's Loving World Ministries™ is here to transform lives and create leaders for God's church, now and in the future. It is with this desire that we offer our Statement of Basic Christian beliefs to help others to begin their own path towards righteousness and holiness.

Prophet-Pastor Anita Hiltz

Director

God's Loving World Ministries™

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God's Loving World Ministries Statement of Basic Christian Beliefs

 We believe in Father God, the Lord Jesus Christ - His Son, and in the Holy Spirit - creator of heaven and earth and of all things good.
 (Gen.1:1- Gen. 2:24)

We believe He is the one true living God – three persons in one.
 Christ said this within...

Matthew 28:19 New King James Version

"19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them

in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit," (NKJV)

• We believe that these three persons are each an individual person within the Godhead and that they work in unity together.

Christ says Himself that He and the Father are one (John 10: 29 – 30)

John 10:29-30 New King James Version

"29 My Father, who has given *them* to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch *them* out of My Father's hand. 30 I and My Father are one."" (NKJV)

and in 1 John 5:7-9 (NKJV) He says:

1 John 5:7-9 New King James Version

"7 For there are three that bear witness [a]in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. ⁸ And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one.

⁹ If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater; for this is the witness of [b]God which He has testified of His Son." (NKJV)

"The Word" that scripture is referring to IS Christ.
(John 1: 1-5 NKJV) So, that means that Father God, the
Lord Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit ARE indeed ONE
- the blessed Trinity. This is spoken about in John 1: 1
- 18. Notice in verse 18, it says that Christ IS God.

John 1:1-18 New Living Translation

"1 In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God.

² He existed in the beginning with God.

- ³ God created everything through him, and nothing was created except through him.
- ⁴The Word gave life to everything that was created, [a] and his life brought light to everyone.
- ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it.^[b]
- ⁶ God sent a man, John the Baptist, ^{[c] 7} to tell about the light so that everyone might believe because of his testimony. ⁸ John himself was not the light; he was simply a witness to tell about the light. ⁹ The one who is the true light, who gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.
- ¹⁰ He came into the very world he created, but the world didn't recognize him. ¹¹ He came to his own people, and even they rejected him. ¹² But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God. ¹³ They are reborn—not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God.
- ¹⁴ So the Word became human^[d] and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness.^[e] And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son.
- ¹⁵ John testified about him when he shouted to the crowds, "This is the one I was talking about when I said, 'Someone is coming after me who is far greater than I am, for he existed long before me."
- ¹⁶ From his abundance we have all received one gracious blessing after another. ^{[f] 17} For the law was given through

Moses, but God's unfailing love and faithfulness

came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. But the unique One, who is himself God, ^[9] is near to the Father's heart. He has revealed God to us." (NLT)

In Matthew 28:19 Christ instructs His Apostles to Baptize in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:16-20 New King James Version

"16 Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had appointed for them. 17 When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted.

¹⁸And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Go ^[a]therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age." ^[b]Amen." (NKJV)

Christ prayed to His Father in Heaven:

John 17:19-23 New King James Version

"19 And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth. ²⁰ "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who ^[a] will believe in Me through their word; ²¹ that they all may be one, as You, Father, *are* in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may

believe that You sent Me. ²² And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: ²³ I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me." (NKJV)

Clearly, the Trinity exists and they ARE ALL ONE.

(Matthew 3:13–17, Matthew 11: 27 – 28, Matthew 28: 18 – 20, Mark 1:8, Luke 1:29 – 38, Luke 3:22, John 1:14, John 3:35, John 5:19 - 30, John 6:35 - 40, John 14:9 - 14, John 17:1 - 5, Acts 1: 4 – 5, Acts 2, Romans 8:26 & 27, 1 Cor. 14:1-2)

- We believe in the 100% pure, truthful and Holy Words of God the Father, the Lord Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit.
- We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ existed from the very beginning, but in a spiritual way. Father God, the Lord Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit were there at creation when the Trinity spoke the world into being through Words.

Proverbs 8: 1 - 36 New International Version

"8 Does not wisdom call out?
 Does not understanding raise her voice?

 ² At the highest point along the way,
 where the paths meet, she takes her stand;
 ³ beside the gate leading into the city,
 at the entrance, she cries aloud:

⁴ "To you, O people, I call out;

I raise my voice to all mankind.

- ⁵ You who are simple, gain prudence; you who are foolish, set your hearts on it.^[a]
- ⁶ Listen, for I have trustworthy things to say; I open my lips to speak what is right.
- ⁷ My mouth speaks what is true, for my lips detest wickedness.
- ⁸ All the words of my mouth are just; none of them is crooked or perverse.
- ⁹ To the discerning all of them are right; they are upright to those who have found knowledge.
- ¹⁰ Choose my instruction instead of silver, knowledge rather than choice gold,
- ¹¹ for wisdom is more precious than rubies, and nothing you desire can compare with her.
- ¹² "I, wisdom, dwell together with prudence;
 I possess knowledge and discretion.
 - ¹³ To fear the LORD is to hate evil;I hate pride and arrogance,evil behavior and perverse speech.
 - ¹⁴ Counsel and sound judgment are mine;
 I have insight, I have power.
 - ¹⁵ By me kings reign and rulers issue decrees that are just;
 - ¹⁶ by me princes govern, and nobles—all who rule on earth.^[b]
 - ¹⁷I love those who love me, and those who seek me find me.
 - ¹⁸ With me are riches and honor, enduring wealth and prosperity.
 - ¹⁹ My fruit is better than fine gold;

what I yield surpasses choice silver.

- ²⁰ I walk in the way of righteousness, along the paths of justice,
- ²¹ bestowing a rich inheritance on those who love me and making their treasuries full.
- ²² "The LORD brought me forth as the first of his works, before his deeds of old;
- ²³ I was formed long ages ago, at the very beginning, when the world came to be.
- ²⁴ When there were no watery depths, I was given birth, when there were no springs overflowing with water;
- before the mountains were settled in place, before the hills, I was given birth,
- ²⁶ before he made the world or its fields or any of the dust of the earth.
- ²⁷ I was there when he set the heavens in place, when he marked out the horizon on the face of the deep,
- ²⁸ when he established the clouds above and fixed securely the fountains of the deep,
- ²⁹ when he gave the sea its boundary so the waters would not overstep his command,

and when he marked out the foundations of the earth.

- ³⁰ Then I was constantly^[e] at his side.
- I was filled with delight day after day, rejoicing always in his presence,
- ³¹ rejoicing in his whole world and delighting in mankind.
- ³² "Now then, my children, listen to me;
 blessed are those who keep my ways.
 - ³³ Listen to my instruction and be wise; do not disregard it.

- ³⁴ Blessed are those who listen to me, watching daily at my doors, waiting at my doorway.
- ³⁵ For those who find me find life and receive favor from the LORD.
- ³⁶ But those who fail to find me harm themselves; all who hate me love death."" (NIV)

Genesis 1:1-31 New International Version

- "1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.
- ³ And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴ God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day.
- ⁶ And God said, "Let there be a vault between the waters to separate water from water." ⁷ So God made the vault and separated the water under the vault from the water above it. And it was so. ⁸ God called the vault "sky." And there was evening, and there was morning—the second day.
- ⁹ And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear." And it was so. ¹⁰ God called the dry ground "land," and the gathered waters he called "seas." And God saw that it was good.
- ¹¹ Then God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their

various kinds." And it was so. ¹² The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. ¹³ And there was evening, and there was morning—the third day.

- ¹⁴ And God said, "Let there be lights in the vault of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark sacred times, and days and years, ¹⁵ and let them be lights in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth." And it was so. ¹⁶ God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. ¹⁷ God set them in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth, ¹⁸ to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹ And there was evening, and there was morning—the fourth day.
- ²⁰ And God said, "Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the vault of the sky." ²¹ So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living thing with which the water teems and that moves about in it, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ²² God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth." ²³ And there was evening, and there was morning—the fifth day.
- And God said, "Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: the livestock, the creatures that move along the ground, and the wild animals, each according to its kind." And it was so. ²⁵ God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.

- ²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals,[□] and over all the creatures that move along the ground."
- ²⁷So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.
- ²⁸ God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground."
- ²⁹ Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. ³⁰ And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food." And it was so.
- ³¹ God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day." (NIV)

Genesis 2: 1 - 25 New International Version

- "2 Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array.
- ² By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. ³ Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.

⁴This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created, when the LORD God made the earth and the heavens.

⁵ Now no shrub had yet appeared on the earth and no plant had yet sprung up, for the LORD God had not sent rain on the earth and there was no one to work the ground, ⁶ but streams came up from the earth and watered the whole surface of the ground. 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.

⁸ Now the LORD God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. ⁹ 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.

¹⁰ A river watering the garden flowed from Eden; from there it was separated into four headwaters. ¹¹ The name of the first is the Pishon; it winds through the entire land of Havilah, where there is gold. ¹² (The gold of that land is good; aromatic resin¹² and onyx are also there.) ¹³ The name of the second river is the Gihon; it winds through the entire land of Cush. ¹⁴ The name of the third river is the Tigris; it runs along the east side of Ashur. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

¹⁵ The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. ¹⁶ And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; ¹⁷ but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die."

¹⁸ The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

¹⁹ Now the LORD God had formed out of the ground all the wild animals and all the birds in the sky. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. ²⁰ So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds in the sky and all the wild animals.

But for Adam[®] no suitable helper was found. ²¹ So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs[®] and then closed up the place with flesh. ²² Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib[®] he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

"This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man."

John 1: 1 - 5 New King James Version

"1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. ⁴In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not □comprehend it." (NKJV)

²³ The man said,

²⁴ That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.

²⁵ Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame." (NIV)

• We believe that Adam and Eve disobeyed and sinned against God when they ate from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. When they did - sin entered into the world, and God did not want that to happen. Adam and Eve's sin brought spiritual death to all mankind because Adam and Eve's sin destroyed God's original intent for what mankind was supposed to be exposed to. God didn't want them to have any knowledge of evil. God ALWAYS had a plan to redeem the lives of ALL mankind - that plan was Christ. (Gen. 3:1 - 24)

Genesis 3:1-24 New King James Version

- "3 Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?"
- ² And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden;
- ³ but of the fruit of the tree which *is* in the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die."
- ⁴Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die.
- ⁵ For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."
- ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, that it *was* pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make *one* wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.
- ⁷Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they *were* naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.

⁸ And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

- ¹⁰ So he said, "I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself."
- ¹¹ And He said, "Who told you that you *were* naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?"
- ¹² Then the man said, "The woman whom You gave *to be* with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate."
- ¹³ And the LORD God said to the woman, "What *is* this you have done?"

The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

"Because you have done this,
You are cursed more than all cattle,
And more than every beast of the field;
On your belly you shall go,
And you shall eat dust
All the days of your life.

¹⁵ And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel."

⁹ Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, "Where *are* you?"

¹⁴ So the LORD God said to the serpent:

¹⁶ To the woman He said:

"I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; In pain you shall bring forth children; Your desire *shall be* for your husband, And he shall rule over you."

¹⁷ Then to Adam He said, "Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat of it':

"Cursed *is* the ground for your sake;
In toil you shall eat *of* it
All the days of your life.

18 Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you,
And you shall eat the herb of the field.

19 In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread
Till you return to the ground,
For out of it you were taken;
For dust you *are*,
And to dust you shall return."

- ²⁰ And Adam called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.
- ²¹ Also for Adam and his wife the LORD God made tunics of skin, and clothed them.
- ²² Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil. And now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever"—
- ²³ therefore the LORD God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken.
- ²⁴ So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life." (NKJV)

Now through Adam and Eve's sin – the whole world would know both good and evil. There ARE 2 spiritual worlds – Good and Evil. The GOOD spiritual world is led by God – Father God, Lord Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit. The EVIL spiritual world is led by Satan and the "principalities", the "powers," the "rulers of the darkness of this age," and "spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places." (Ephesians 6:12 NKJV) They ARE NOT more powerful than GOD.

 We believe the Old Testament law preceded the New Testament law as a set of guiding principles for God's people. We also believe the New Testament Commandments changed and only some Old Testament laws remained. The Old Testament required the celebration of certain Feasts and Christ fulfilled ALL of the Feasts. It also required confession of sin, and repentance. The New Testament requires confession of sin and repentance too.

James 5:14-16 New King James Version

"14 Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. 15 And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. 16 [a] Confess *your* trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, [b] fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much." (NKJV)

In the Old Testament, the Tabernacle had a Holy place and a Most Holy Place. The Ark of the Covenant/Testimony with the Mercy seat covering it, was considered God's resting place and both were within the Most Holy Place. (Exodus 25: 10 – 22 NKJV) God spoke to Moses from between the cherubim placed on top of the mercy seat. (Exodus 25:22 NKJV) A veil separated the Most Holy Place and the Holy Place. (Exodus 26: 33 NKJV) The Priests would

draw close to God in the Most Holy Place once a year to make atonement for the people, but the other people couldn't draw near, except Moses. The Priests had to perform certain offerings at the altar. When mankind sinned, they had to suffer a consequence. In the Old Testament, the punishment of death was the result of many sins some of which were: murder (Numbers 35:16), adultery (Deut. 22:20-24), whoredom (Deut. 22: 20-24), a rebellious son or daughter (Deut. 21:20-22), witchcraft (Exodus 22:18), consulting the dead as a medium (Lev. 20:27), cursing God or blaspheming God's name (Lev. 24:16), and breaking the sabbath (Exodus 31:15). Those that stole or caused losses to another person's property had to make restitution which means paying the person back. Other sins required a loss of something of monetary value - like money itself or livestock which also came out of their livelihood. Usually, the sin offerings had to be an animal without defect. This was a high monetary loss, because a perfect male or female animal could be used for breeding stock in the future.

- When a Priest sinned, he had to give a young bull without defect as a sin offering. (Lev. 4:3 NIV)
- When the <u>whole</u> Israelite community sinned unintentionally, they had to give a young bull without defect as a sin offering. (Lev. 4:13-14)
- When a leader sinned unintentionally, he had to bring a male goat without defect. (Lev. 4:22-23)
- When an individual member of the community sinned unintentionally, he had to bring a female goat without defect. (Lev. 4: 27 -28)

Lesser offenses required a sin offering like the ones shown in Leviticus 5: 1 - 13 which were based on the sin, one's position in the community, and their affordability.

In the Old Testament, the loss of material possessions was <u>supposed</u> to act as a <u>deterrent</u> to sin, but the leaders let things slide or would show favoritism and made exceptions for particular people. A good example is the woman caught in the act of adultery. (John 8:2 - 11) She was going to be killed (as she <u>should</u> have been under Old Testament law). The Old Testament required that both <u>the woman and the man</u> be put to death, but the scribes and Pharisees <u>only brought</u> the woman forward which was not equitable or fair. Christ knew this and He let her go based on her conviction of sin and repentant heart. When the OLD way wasn't working, God had to create a NEW way.

 We believe God knew we needed a Savior to do that job and that Christ HAD to come to earth as a baby and grow to be a man to fulfill the many prophecies told about Him in the Old Testament. The Lord Jesus Christ IS the Messiah. He IS the "Immanuel," meaning "God with us" (Matthew 1:23 NKJV) told about in Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 1:23, and Luke 17: 20-21.

Luke 24:44-45 New King James Version

"44 Then He said to them, "These *are* the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and *the* Prophets and *the* Psalms concerning Me."

⁴⁵ And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures." (NKJV)

 We believe in the IMMACULATE conception and God's prophetic fulfillment through Christ. This was prophesied in the Book of Isaiah.

Isaiah 7: 13 - 14 New King James Version

thing for you to weary men, but will you weary my God also? ¹⁴ Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel. ^[6]" (NKJV)

Its fulfillment came in the New Testament.

Neither Mary's egg nor Joseph's sperm produced the Christ. According to the Bible, Christ was conceived <u>into</u> the womb of the virgin Mary <u>by the Holy Spirit.</u> Mary served as a surrogate mother. It WAS a miraculous event that ONLY God could create.

Matthew 1: 18 – 25 confirms that the Christ would be born to a <u>virgin</u> and that His name would be Immanuel.

Matthew 1: 18 - 25 New King James Version

"18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit." ¹⁹ Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. ²⁰ But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. ²¹ And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins."

²² So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: ²³ "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us."

- ²⁴ Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, ²⁵ and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son.^[d] And he called His name JESUS." (NKJV)
- We believe that Christ was born in the Spring to fulfill GOD'S Prophecies and their link to God's natural world and we can prove it! Look at our teaching called:

Christ was Born in the Spring! God IS NOT HONORED by a Lie! A GOD GUIDED STUDY IN 4 PARTS

Notice the scripture above also says that Mary "BEFORE THEY CAME TOGETHER, SHE WAS FOUND WITH CHILD OF THE HOLY SPIRIT" (v 18) (NKJV) Joseph's sperm <u>WAS NOT</u> involved. The genealogies in Luke 3: 23 even say, and I read from Young's Literal Translation (YLT)

^{"23} And Jesus himself was beginning to be about thirty years of age, being, as was supposed, son of Joseph," (YLT)

The Interlinear Bible which is a word for word translation reads:

Luke 3: 23 reads: "And Himself was Jesus <u>beginning about years old</u> <u>thirty</u>, <u>being son as was supposed</u>, of Joseph of Heli," (Interlinear, Biblehub.com)

Retrieved on January 27, 2019 from https://biblehub.com/interlinear/luke/3-23.htm

- meaning He was thought by everyone else to be Joseph's son, but the truth was Joseph was really called to <u>raise God's Son as an adoptive parent</u>. God must have had great trust in him. Christ <u>IS</u> God's Son, but Christ was ADOPTED into the family of man, so that WE could be ADOPTED into the family of God as sons and daughters. This is why in the scriptures Christ often refers to Himself also as the "Son of Man."

(Matthew 8:20, 9:6, 10:23, 11:19, 12:8. 12:32, 12:40. 13:37. 13:41, 16:13, 16:28, 17:9, and 17:12, (NIV) to name a few.)

Galatians 4:3-5 New King James Version

"³ Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world. ⁴ But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born^[a] of a woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons." (NKJV)

The Christ is the priest on His throne!

He put no limits on what He could do and neither should we. I can tell you from personal experience that He came to me at about 2:00 in the morning many years ago and I knew I was doing wrong, needed Him, and repented. Shortly thereafter I received Him as my Savior.

The human genealogical lines Christ was adopted into were filled with sin all the way back to Adam. He made the redemption of all mankind possible and offered all mankind the opportunity to be cleansed of all unrighteousness. It speaks to all mankind saying, "It doesn't matter what kind of family you've had. It doesn't matter what kind of life you've lived up until now. You may have been a prostitute in your past, an adulterer, a thief, a liar, a drug addict, an alcoholic, whatever - it doesn't matter. If you confess your sins and repent of them and TRULY want to TURN from them – then you too can be saved. You can be MORE than what you have been in the past, more than what your family was – you can be God's son or daughter, but it DOES require a change in your lifestyle and behaviors.

Over and over again in the Old Testament God speaks prophetically about the Son He will raise up and the future kingdom that His Son will establish:

1 Samuel 2:35-36 New International Version

"35 I will raise up for myself a faithful priest, who will do according to what is in my heart and mind. I will firmly establish his priestly house, and they will minister before my anointed one always. 36 Then everyone left in your family line will come and bow down before him for a piece of silver and a loaf of bread and plead, "Appoint me to some priestly office so I can have food to eat.""" (NIV)

1 Chronicles 17:8-12 New International Version

"8 I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your name like the names of the greatest men on earth. 9 And I will provide a place for my people Israel and will plant them so that they can have a home of their own and no longer be disturbed. Wicked people will not oppress them anymore, as they did at the beginning 10 and have done ever since the time I appointed leaders over my people Israel. I will also subdue all your enemies.

"I declare to you that the LORD will build a house for you: ¹¹ When your days are over and you go to be with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, one of your own sons, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹² He is the one who will build a house for me, and I will establish his throne forever." (NIV)

Jeremiah 23:4-6 New International Version

"4 I will place shepherds over them who will tend them, and they will no longer be afraid or terrified, nor will any be missing," declares the LORD.

The days are coming," declares the LORD,
 "when I will raise up for David^[a] a righteous Branch,
 a King who will reign wisely
 and do what is just and right in the land.
 f In his days Judah will be saved
 and Israel will live in safety.
 This is the name by which he will be called:
 The LORD Our Righteous Savior." (NIV)

Jeremiah 30:8-10 New International Version

"8" "In that day,' declares the LORD Almighty, 'I will break the yoke off their necks and will tear off their bonds; no longer will foreigners enslave them. ⁹ Instead, they will serve the LORD their God and David their king, whom I will raise up for them.

"So do not be afraid, Jacob my servant; do not be dismayed, Israel,' declares the LORD.

'I will surely save you out of a distant place, your descendants from the land of their exile. Jacob will again have peace and security, and no one will make him afraid." (NIV) In the Name of the LORD Jesus Christ ALL MANKIND will be saved by the LORD Jesus Christ. Amen.

Christ had to experience what it meant to be fully human, to be tempted in the same ways we are tempted, yet He committed no sins during His lifetime. All during His lifetime He had the Father's help inside of Him to accomplish this.

John 17:20-23 New King James Version

- "20 "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word;
- ²¹ that they all may be one, as You, Father, *are* in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.
- ²² And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one:
- ²³ I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me." (NKJV)

This next scripture uses the word "rich" to describe Christ, but the word DOES NOT mean monetary wealth.

That word "rich" in the Greek I "plousios" (pronounced ploosee- ah-s) (Strong's G – 4145, BLB)

meaning: "of Christ, 'although as he formerly abounded in the riches of a heavenly condition, by assuming human nature he entered into a state of (earthly) poverty," (Strong's G – 4145, BLB)

G4145 - plousios - Strong's Greek Lexicon (KJV). Retrieved on 5/24/21 from:

https://www.blueletterbible.org//lang/Lexicon/Lexicon.cfm?S trongs=G4145&t=KJV

2 Corinthians 8: 8-9 New King James Version

"8 I speak not by commandment, but I am testing the sincerity of your love by the diligence of others. 9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich." (NKJV)

Meaning YOU would receive the "riches of a heavenly condition" later when you die and go to be with Him in heaven. (Strong's G4145,BLB)

If you've ever heard anyone speak of a near-death experience - they speak of a beautiful place. They can't even put it into words it's so beautiful. They even communicate that they did not want to come back to earth even if God said, "It's not your time yet." Some even say that they were angry that they had to come back to earth. Imagine Christ, leaving a beautiful place like heaven, peaceful, love filled in every way. Then He lays down His life in heaven for approximately 33 earth years to come to earth as a human being to suffer and die on a cross for our sins. It WAS indeed a sacrifice in MANY ways!

Christ had been a carpenter prior to His coming into His ministry:

Mark 6:3 New International Version

"Isn't this the carpenter? Isn't this Mary's son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren't his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him." (NIV)

That word "carpenter" is defined as "tektōn" (Pronounced teck – tone) in the Greek. (Strong's G-5045, BLB)

It means: "a worker in wood, a carpenter, joiner, builder." (Strong's G 5045, BLB)

G5045 - tektōn - Strong's Greek Lexicon (KJV). Retrieved from https://www.blueletterbible.org//lang/Lexicon/Lexicon.cfm?Strongs=G5 045&t=KJV

When Christ came into His ministry at about 30 years of age, He laid down any wealth that He had, because He made the statement:

Luke 9:57-58 New International Version

"57 As they were walking along the road, a man said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go."

⁵⁸ Jesus replied, "Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head."" (NIV)

Yet, He had heavenly access to money through miracles.

Matthew 17:24-27 New International Version

"24 After Jesus and his disciples arrived in Capernaum, the collectors of the two-drachma temple tax came to Peter and asked, "Doesn't your teacher pay the temple tax?"

²⁵ "Yes, he does," he replied.

When Peter came into the house, Jesus was the first to speak. "What do you think, Simon?" he asked. "From whom do the kings of the earth collect duty and taxes—from their own children or from others?"

²⁶ "From others," Peter answered.

"Then the children are exempt," Jesus said to him. ²⁷ "But so that we may not cause offense, go to the lake and throw out your line. Take the first fish you catch; open its mouth and you will find a four-drachma coin. Take it and give it to them for my tax and yours."" (NIV)

Obviously, He CHOSE NOT to live with His widowed mother while He was in ministry. He traveled mainly on foot from place to place for about 3 years healing people, and feeding people through miracles and bringing people to Salvation through Christ Jesus. He knew He had only about 3 years to accomplish His goals and He DID achieve them!

Christ said, all that was needed to enter into His kingdom was to believe in Him.

John 6: 28 – 59 New International Version

"28 Then they asked him, "What must we do to do the works God requires?"

²⁹ Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent."

³⁰ So they asked him, "What sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do? ³¹ Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.' [6]"

³² Jesus said to them, "Very truly I tell you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³ For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

³⁴ "Sir," they said, "always give us this bread."

Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. But as I told you, you have seen me and still you do not believe. All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away. For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all those he has given me, but raise them up at the last day. For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day."

⁴¹ At this the Jews there began to grumble about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." ⁴² They said, "Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I came down from heaven'?"

⁴³ "Stop grumbling among yourselves," Jesus answered. ⁴⁴ "No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them, and I will raise them up at the last day. ⁴⁵ It is written in the Prophets: 'They will all be taught by God.'^[d] Everyone who has heard the Father and learned from him comes to me. ⁴⁶ No one has seen the Father except the

one who is from God; only he has seen the Father. ⁴⁷ Very truly I tell you, the one who believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸ I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹ Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, yet they died. ⁵⁰ But here is the bread that comes down from heaven, which anyone may eat and not die. ⁵¹ I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world."

⁵² Then the Jews began to argue sharply among themselves, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?"

Jesus said to them, "Very truly I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴ Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day. ⁵⁵ For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. ⁵⁶ Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷ Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me. ⁵⁸ This is the bread that came down from heaven. Your ancestors ate manna and died, but whoever feeds on this bread will live forever." ⁵⁹ He said this while teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum." (NIV)

When Christ spoke about eating His flesh and drinking His blood He was speaking about communion - one of the things He requested that His disciples do in remembrance of Him. (See the scriptures below.)

• We believe that ALL of the Feasts are now celebrated through communion. We believe that communion should be taken with unleavened bread and grape juice. Why? On the night of the Last Supper they were celebrating Passover and they were eating unleavened bread. Christ was unleavened – meaning without sin. We do not believe Christ

drank alcohol. We teach this in our warning to the nation in the chapter called "The Sin of Using Alcohol."

1 Corinthians 5: 6 – 8 New King James Version

"6 Your glorying is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? Therefore dipurge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed differ us. Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth." (NKJV)

The Apostle Paul equated leaven with sin, because the <u>impurities</u> in grain create yeast. This is what makes bread rise – or become puffed up. When Wine is made, it <u>also</u> creates yeast which causes fermentation – turning it to alcohol. Again, Christ was without leaven/sin so He would not have served fermented wine on that night nor any other night. Christ DID NOT drink alcohol.

In Luke 22: 18 Christ said,

"18 for I say to you, [b] I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." (Luke 22:18 NKJV)

The "fruit of the vine" is not fermented - it is juice. (Luke 22: 18 NKJV)

It says in Isaiah 65:8

^{"8} Thus says the LORD:

"As the new wine is found in the cluster," (NKJV)

Meaning a cluster of fresh grapes – which means juice.

Luke 22: 14 – 23 New King James Version (NKJV)

- "14 When the hour had come, He sat down, and the twelve^[a]apostles with Him.
- ¹⁵ Then He said to them, "With *fervent* desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer;
- ¹⁶ for I say to you, I will no longer eat of it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God."
- ¹⁷ Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, "Take this and divide *it* among yourselves;
- ¹⁸ for I say to you,^[b] I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes."
- ¹⁹ And He took bread, gave thanks and broke *it,* and gave *it* to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me."
- ²⁰ Likewise He also *took* the cup after supper, saying, "This cup *is* the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you.
- ²¹ But behold, the hand of My betrayer *is* with Me on the table.
- ²² And truly the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom He is betrayed!"
- ²³ Then they began to question among themselves, which of them it was who would do this thing." (NKJV)

1 Corinthians 11: 23 – 25 New King James Version

- For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread;
- ²⁴ and when He had given thanks, He broke *it* and said, "Take, eat;^[b] this is My body which is broken^[c]for you; do this in remembrance of Me."
- ²⁵ In the same manner *He* also *took* the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink *it*, in remembrance of Me."" (NKJV)
- We believe the reason the Lord Jesus Christ came to save us and that He dwells within us (Luke 17:20 21 NKJV) was to thoroughly judge mankind's sins from God's standpoint so that it would be equitable and fair for all. Through Christ "...³⁹ and by Him everyone who believes is justified from all things from which you could not be justified by the law of Moses." (Acts 13:39, NKJV)

Luke 17:20-21 New King James Version (NKJV)

- "20 Now when He was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, He answered them and said, "The kingdom of God does not come with observation;
- ²¹ nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you" (NKJV)
- We believe that all believers who try to obey the Lord Jesus Christ are Christians and God is the one who judges if they are Christian or not.

Acts 11:25-26 New International Version (NIV)

²⁶ and when he found him, he brought him to Antioch. So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul met with the church and taught great numbers of people. The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch." (NIV)

Matthew 7:21-23 New King James Version (NKJV)

- "21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.
- ²² Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?'
- ²³ And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!" (NKJV)
- We believe God is not a respecter of persons and that every person is treated the same way by God in Christ Jesus.

Colossians 3:11 New International Version

"11 Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all." (NIV)

The Old Testament is a history book about God's people and it prophesies of the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ as the Messiah. Since the beginning of creation, all mankind has had a problem with obedience to God and they have been a sinful people in the past. God is hopeful that this will change and He's always helping us to change. The Old

^{"25}Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul,

Testament is God's record of just how sinful mankind has been and what God did about it up until the New Testament. The Old Testament can be read as a testimony of God's faithfulness even though His people have not been faithful to Him in the past. Malachi 3 prophesies of Christ's coming to be a refiner's fire:

Malachi 3: 1 – 18 (New King James Version)

"3 "Behold, I send My messenger,
And he will prepare the way before Me.
And the Lord, whom you seek,
Will suddenly come to His temple,
Even the Messenger of the covenant,
In whom you delight.
Behold, He is coming,"
Says the LORD of hosts.

² "But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He *is* like a refiner's fire And like launderers' soap.

³ He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver; He will purify the sons of Levi, And ^[a] purge them as gold and silver, That they may offer to the LORD An offering in righteousness.

4"Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem Will be [b] pleasant to the LORD,
As in the days of old,
As in former years.

5 And I will come near you for judgment;
I will be a swift witness
Against sorcerers,
Against adulterers,
Against perjurers,

Against those who exploit wage earners and widows and orphans,

And against those who turn away an alien—

Because they do not fear Me,"

Says the LORD of hosts.

8 "Will a man rob God?

⁶ "For I *am* the LORD, I do not change;
Therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob.

⁷ Yet from the days of your fathers
You have gone away from My ordinances
And have not kept *them*.
Return to Me, and I will return to you,"
Says the LORD of hosts.

"But you said,
'In what way shall we return?'

Yet you have robbed Me!
But you say,
'In what way have we robbed You?'
In tithes and offerings.

9 You are cursed with a curse,
For you have robbed Me,

Even this whole nation.

10 Bring all the tithes into the storehouse,
That there may be food in My house,
And try Me now in this,"
Says the Lord of hosts,
"If I will not open for you the windows of heaven
And pour out for you such blessing
That there will not be room enough to receive it.

¹¹ "And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, So that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, Nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field," Says the LORD of hosts;

¹² "And all nations will call you blessed,

For you will be a delightful land," Says the LORD of hosts.

¹³ "Your words have been ^[c]harsh against Me,

Says the Lord,

"Yet you say,

'What have we spoken against You?'

¹⁴ You have said,

'It is useless to serve God;

What profit is it that we have kept His ordinance,

And that we have walked as mourners

Before the LORD of hosts?

¹⁵ So now we call the proud blessed,

For those who do wickedness are [d]raised up;

They even tempt God and go free.' "

¹⁶ Then those who feared the LORD spoke to one another, And the LORD listened and heard *them;*So a book of remembrance was written before Him For those who fear the LORD And who ^[e]meditate on His name.

¹⁷ "They shall be Mine," says the LORD of hosts,

"On the day that I make them My jewels.[1]

And I will spare them

As a man spares his own son who serves him."

¹⁸ Then you shall again discern

Between the righteous and the wicked,

Between one who serves God

And one who does not serve Him." (NKJV)

Christians are no longer under the Old Testament law, but the Old Testament is still of value.

The Old Testament can be used:

- To prove that Christ IS the fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecies concerning the Messiah and to learn the prophecies.
- * To teach God's sacred calendar and how it relates to Christ and His crucifixion, entombment, and resurrection.
- * To teach how Christ fulfilled the Old Testament law.
- To learn about creation.
- To learn the history of God's people.
- * To learn what idolatry <u>really is in God's opinion, because this is</u> still a sin in the New Testament.
- ❖ To compare commandments in the Old and New Testaments and to find similarities and differences.
- * To see what the Old Testament law contained, the kinds of sins that have been committed in the past, and God's response to them.
- ❖ To teach discernment about the differences between good and evil.
- * To teach how obedience to God can change the course of one's life for the better.
- ❖ To teach how sin can change the course of events in one's life for the worse.
- ❖ To learn how to handle certain life situations.
- **❖** To learn about God's nature and personality.
- ❖ To see how God has disciplined His children in the past, because believe me – He is STILL disciplining His children NOW.
- ❖ To see how God deals with His enemies.
- **❖** To learn that God is a promise keeper
- ❖ To learn how powerful God really is and that all things really are possible with God.
- * To learn about how to deal with certain people.
- * To learn how merciful God is
- * To learn how trustworthy God is
- **❖ To learn how loving God is**
- **❖ To increase wisdom for example through Proverbs**
- To use Psalms to praise God.

- ❖ To build faith based on God's past faithfulness to others so that you too can grow in your faith and learn that God will be faithful to you.
- ❖ To heal

2 Corinthians 5:16-21 New International Version

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

Once the Lord Jesus Christ died on the cross for our sins, was resurrected, and brought the baptism of the Holy Spirit - MANY THINGS CHANGED. All of these events gave the assurance that those who diligently try to obey the Lord Jesus Christ will have eternal life and go to heaven with Him when they die. God's resting place was no longer in the Tabernacle – it was in the physical bodies of all believers. Christ said the kingdom would be taken away from the Jews and be given to another nation – a nation of believers in Christ in whom the kingdom of God would dwell, that's because once they repent and receive Christ all Jews will be converted into believers in Christ Jesus and enter into the new nation of Christians themselves. Without belief in Christ, the Jews are the same as every other unbeliever. They will not go to heaven

without Him. Christ said there was only one way to Father God – through Christ Jesus.

John 14:6 New King James Version (NKJV)

"6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." (NKJV)

Matthew 21: 42- 44 New King James Version

"42 Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures:

'The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone. This was the LORD's doing, And it is marvelous in our eyes'?[i]

⁴³ "Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a nation bearing the fruits of it. ⁴⁴ And whoever falls on this stone will be broken; but on whomever it falls, it will grind him to powder."" (NKJV)

Luke 17: 20 -21 New King James Version

"20 Now when He was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, He answered them and said, "The kingdom of God does not come with observation; 21 nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you."" (NKJV)

All believers were supposed to become part of a "holy priesthood." (2 Peter 2: 5 NKJV) It became possible, because now just as Christ had

the Father's help to remain sin free – we have Christ's help and the Holy Spirit's help to stay sin free IF we obey Him.

1 Peter 2: 1 - 10 New King James Version

"2 Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking,

² as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby,^[a]

⁴Coming to Him *as to* a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God *and* precious,

⁵you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

"Behold, I lay in Zion
A chief cornerstone, elect, precious,
And he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame."[b]

⁷ Therefore, to you who believe, *He is* precious; but to those who are disobedient,^[c]

"The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone," [d]

"A stone of stumbling
And a rock of offense."[e]

They stumble, being disobedient to the word, to which they also were appointed.

⁹ But you *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the

³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord *is* gracious.

⁶ Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture,

⁸ and

praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

¹⁰ who once *were* not a people but *are* now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy." (NKJV)

1 Timothy 6:12-16 New King James Version

- "12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.
- ¹³ I urge you in the sight of God who gives life to all things, and *before* Christ Jesus who witnessed the good confession before Pontius Pilate,
- ¹⁴ that you keep *this* commandment without spot, blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ's appearing,
- ¹⁵ which He will manifest in His own time, *He who is* the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords,
- ¹⁶ who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom *be* honor and everlasting power. Amen." (NKJV)

Revelation 1:4-6 New King James Version

⁴⁴ John, to the seven churches which are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne,

⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth.

To Him who loved us and washed^[a] us from our sins in His own blood,

⁶ and has made us kings^[b] and priests to His God and Father, to Him *be* glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen." (NKJV)

This is the choice that every individual has – to draw near or to rebel. The choice to draw near requires confession, repentance, and asking Christ into your heart and life and coming into a relationship with Him.

Now, if you have led a life that you know is not right, that has been unGodly and self-destructive, if you are at the brink and you do not know what to do - if you are tired of lies, if you are tired of hypocrisy, abuse, neglect, addictions, sexual sin, and self- destruction and you want a way out of that life. There is only one way to get it. That is to draw near to God and ask the Lord Jesus Christ to come into your heart and life and to change it, but you have to be willing to cooperate with Him and obey Him. He's going to help you to obey, just like the Father helped Him. He's going to change everything about your life and all you have to do is take the first step towards Christ. This prayer is written with the pronoun "we," because when you say "Amen" to it - we are coming into agreement with your prayer.

Lord Jesus Christ,

We confess all the times and ways we've used our spirit, souls, and bodies, mind, will, and emotions in opposition to the Lord Jesus the Christ - His kingdom, His Word, and His will, either knowingly or unknowingly. We repent, and we renounce, all evil forces that have attached themselves to those sins. We ask that you tear down every and all evil strongholds, break every evil yoke, tie, and curse, and cleanse us of all unrighteousness. Lord Jesus Christ, we believe that you are the Son of God and that you died on the cross to save us from our sins. We believe in your resurrection, and your resurrection life for ourselves. We ask that you come into our hearts - into our lives - as our Lord and our

Savior. We ask for the baptism of the Holy Spirit, and the baptism by Holy fire. We ask that you would guide and direct our paths, protect us all the days of our lives, and help us to fulfill YOUR plans for our lives in Christ Jesus. We ask that you destroy what needs to be destroyed, keep what needs to be kept, change what needs to be changed, and create what needs to be created. We ask that nothing would be added to or taken away from your plans for our lives in Christ Jesus. We thank you Lord Jesus, we believe that we've already received the answers to our prayers. In the MIGHTY name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Just as Christ had His Father's help to prevent sin – WE also now have the help of Father God, the Lord Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit to prevent sinning too. We also receive the gift of eternal life IF we try to obey and follow Him, BUT remember I said that there are STILL consequences for sin.

Romans 6:23 New King James Version (NKJV)

^{"23}For the wages of sin *is* death, but the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (NKJV)

Now when we disobey God, and sin, we allow the devil to come into our lives. The devil comes "to steal, and to kill, and to destroy." (John 10:10 NKJV) If you create an entry point for the devil through sin, the Lord allows demons, devils, and unclean spirits to enter your body as a punishment for your sin. You see, you get an immediate consequence for your sins and it is NOT pleasant. If sin is left unconfessed, those forces can create torment, confusion, sickness, and disease. It is not pleasant, but it is a deterrent. As a believer, YOU have ALL authority over these evil forces so that they cannot get the upper hand, but if you don't know what your sins are – YOU HAVE TO FAST AND PRAY TO FIND OUT. Then confession of sin one to another is essential. You don't have

to do it with a priest – just another person. (James 5: 14 -16) All true believers in Christ are all members of a holy priesthood. (1 Peter 2:5)

Luke 10:19 New King James Version

"19 Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you." (NKJV)

James 5:14-16 New King James Version

"14 Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. 15 And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. 16 Confess *your* trespasses 10 one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much." (NKJV)

Now, everyone is treated the same way with no exceptions, because Christ is the one making the judgment call, instead of man. It is for this reason that Christ says He came to fulfill the law. (Matthew 5:17) He CAN put you into torment and confusion to PUSH you into coming to Christ for help and to lead you to repentance and deliverance. It's like God's way of saying, "O.K. if you prefer the devil's way to mine – then live with the devil for a while and see how you like it." This is not spiteful. God sets boundaries and He expects you to follow them. THIS IS WHY CONDONING SIN IS NOT A HELP TO PEOPLE – IT HURTS THEM. THE CONDONING OF SIN - IS A SIN IN AND OF ITSELF. (1 Timothy 1: 19-20, John 13:27, Acts 26: 15-18, 1 Cor. 5: 4-5, 2 Cor. 12:6-7)

God wants you to choose HIS way. It is God's intent that you will not continue to sin, but instead that you will learn from your mistakes and CHANGE. Without a heart that is willing to try to obey – no change can take place._ (1 Thessalonians 4: 1 - 8) If you want to do things YOUR way He will let you go to learn a lesson, but He will not be responsible for what happens – you will. Eventually, everyone comes to God's way of thinking and behaving. When you confess your sins before God and one to another (James 5: 14 – 16), you are showing that you prefer God's way and want to draw near to God and to live HIS way. He forgives you and He cleanses you of all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9) and you are brought into right relationship with God again. This is not meant to be an excuse for purposely sinning. We would not advise purposely walking in rebellion to the Lord.

Hebrews 9:24-28 New International Version

"24 For Christ did not enter a sanctuary made with human hands that was only a copy of the true one; he entered heaven itself, now to appear for us in God's presence. ²⁵ Nor did he enter heaven to offer himself again and again, the way the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood that is not his own. ²⁶ Otherwise Christ would have had to suffer many times since the creation of the world. But he has appeared once for all at the culmination of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of himself. ²⁷ Just as people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, ²⁸ so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him."(NIV)

Philippians 4:13 New King James Version (NKJV)

^{"13}I can do <u>all</u> things through Christ^[a] who strengthens me." (NKJV)

John 3:16-21 New King James Version (NKJV)

- For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.
- ¹⁷ For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.
- ¹⁸ "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.
- ¹⁹ And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.
- ²⁰ For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.
- ²¹ But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God."" (NKJV)

READ OR LISTEN TO THE WHOLE CHAPTERS OF HEBREWS 7 - 10.

Through Christ's sacrifice – God drew close to us – but WE need to draw close to Him.

Romans 5:14-21 New International Version

"14 Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who is a pattern of the one to come.

¹⁵ But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! ¹⁶ Nor can the gift of God be compared with the result of one man's sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. ¹⁷ For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!

¹⁸ Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people. ¹⁹ For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

²⁰ The law was brought in so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, grace increased all the more, ²¹ so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (NIV)

We believe ...

Romans 10:9-10 New King James Version

"9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

¹⁰ For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." (NKJV)

We believe

Romans 3:23-24 New King James Version

"23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

²⁴ being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,..." (NKJV)

- We believe in...
 - the baptism by immersion, (Matthew 3:13 17, Mark 1:4 8,
 Luke 3:16, Acts 1:5, Acts 8:36 40)
 - the baptism of the Holy Spirit, (Luke 3:16, Acts 2)
 - and the baptism by Holy fire. (Luke 3:16, Acts 2)

- We believe the Lord Jesus Christ will come again and He is the judge of the living and the dead. (Acts 10:42, 2 Tim. 4:1, and 1 Peter 4:5)
- We believe a FULL 3 days and 3 nights were spent in the tomb by Christ just as it says in Matthew 12:40.

Matthew 12:40 New International Version

"40 For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth." (NIV)

The days ran from evening to evening NOT midnight to midnight in the Old Testament. It was a full 3 days in the tomb NOT what has been incorrectly taught.

 We believe in a 14th Abib crucifixion and that the 3-day entombment of Christ began at the sealing of the tomb by Pilate on the following day – on the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread the 15th Abib - to fulfill the requirements for the Day of Atonement in Lev. 16:17 and we can prove it!

Leviticus 16:17 New King James Version

"17 There shall be no man in the tabernacle of meeting when he goes in to make atonement in the Holy *Place*, until he comes out, that he may make atonement for himself, for his household, and for all the assembly of Israel." (NKJV)

Do this bible study that appears on our website under the same menu heading as our Statement of Beliefs:

"God is NOT Honored by a Lie How the 3 Day Count in the Tomb to the Resurrection was Fulfilled"

We believe in giving a 10% tithe to help others.

All giving to help others (as long as it is not sinful or does not contribute to sin or condone sin) is included as a tithe to God. If you do not tithe you are missing the blessings that come through the tithe.

Matthew 23:22-24 New International Version

throne and by the one who sits on it.

23 "Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices—mint, dill and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law—justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the

"22 And anyone who swears by heaven swears by God's

former. ²⁴ You blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel." (NIV)

Notice it says the "latter," MEANING WHAT CAME LATER should have been practiced - or performed - BECAUSE CHRIST brought "justice, mercy, and faithfulness." The "former," meaning giving the tithe (Malachi Chapter 3) which was REQUIRED should not have been neglected or stopped either. (NIV)

Malachi 3: 6-12 New International Version

⁶ "I the LORD do not change. So you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed. ⁷ Ever since the time of your ancestors you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you," says the LORD Almighty.

"But you ask, 'How are we to return?'

8 "Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me.

"But you ask, 'How are we robbing you?'

"In tithes and offerings. ⁹ You are under a curse—your whole nation—because you are robbing me. ¹⁰ 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 there will not be room enough to store it. ¹¹ I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not drop their fruit before it is ripe," says the LORD Almighty. ¹² "Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land," says the LORD Almighty.

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ is a healer. The New Testament
is filled with testimonies of how He healed the sick, raised the dead,
gave sight to the blind, made the lame walk, and how He cleansed
those who had been possessed by demons and unclean spirits.
Especially read about evidence of these healings in all four of the
gospels and throughout the New Testament. New testimonies
continue into the present day through the voices of Christians
everywhere.

- We believe the Lord Jesus Christ can heal every individual, every family, every marriage, every relationship, every government, and every nation.
- We believe that the one true living God Father God, the Lord Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit ALWAYS wants what is best for us. His plans for mankind are ALWAYS good. We believe to get the blessings that He wants for every individual – you have to stay within His will.

Jeremiah 29:11 New King James Version

"11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope." (NKJV)

Romans 6:10-17 New King James Version

- "10 For *the death* that He died, He died to sin once for all; but *the life* that He lives, He lives to God.
- ¹¹ Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
- ¹² Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts.
- ¹³ And do not present your members *as* instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness to God.
- ¹⁴ For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

¹⁵ What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not!

¹⁶ Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin *leading* to death, or of obedience *leading* to righteousness?

¹⁷ But God be thanked that *though* you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered." (NKJV)

2 Timothy 2: 19 – 26 New King James Version

^{"19} Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: "The Lord knows those who are His," and, "Let everyone who names the name of Christ^[c] depart from iniquity."²⁰ But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor. 21 Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work. 22 Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. 23 But avoid foolish and ignorant disputes, knowing that they generate strife. 24 And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, ²⁵ in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, ²⁶ and *that* they may come their senses *and escape* the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to *do* his will." (NKJV)

1 Timothy 4: 12 - 16 New King James Version

"12 Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity. 13 Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. 14 Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership. 15 Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all. 16 Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you." (NKJV)

Luke 13:22-30 New International Version

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

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

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

²⁶ "Then you will say, 'We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.'

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

²⁸ "There will be weeping there, and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God,

but you yourselves thrown out. ²⁹ People will come from east and west and north and south, and will take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God. ³⁰ Indeed there are those who are last who will be first, and first who will be last."" (NIV)

Romans 6: 1 - 23 New International Version

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

⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, ¹⁰ that we should no longer be slaves to sin— ⁷ because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.

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

¹¹ In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. ¹² Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. ¹³ Do not offer 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. ¹⁴ For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace.

¹⁵ What then? Shall we sin because we are not under the law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶ Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one you obey—whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷ But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you have come to obey from your heart the pattern of teaching that has now claimed your allegiance. ¹⁸ You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.

¹⁹ I am using an example from everyday life because of your human limitations. Just as you used to offer yourselves as slaves to impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness, so now offer yourselves as slaves to righteousness leading to holiness. ²⁰ When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the control of righteousness. ²¹ What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are now ashamed of? Those things result in death! ²² But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. ²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (NIV)

Galatians 5:19-26 New International Version

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

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

Resources

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Luke 3:23 Retrieved on January 27, 2019 from https://biblehub.com/interlinear/luke/3-23.htm

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