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# Bible Verses Help



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Translations; unlabeled verses use the New King James [NKJ]; other translations used are the Amplified Bible [AMP], the English Standard Version [ESV], the New Living Translation [NLT], and the Holman Christian Standard Bible [HCSB].

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## **God loves you,**

He knew you from the womb and has a plan for you, to give you a future and a hope.

He says if you draw near to Him, He'll draw near to you.

He has an abundant store house full of blessings for you if only you would choose first to seek His kingdom and His righteousness with all of your heart. Then, His blessings will follow.

This involves turning from your life of sin (which only brings death) and following God's path for your life which is revealed to us by His word in the Bible.

God paid the fine for your sins through the blood of His only son Jesus.

By believing in Him and confessing your sins to Him you will be made righteous being set free from the bondage of sin and able to do great and mighty works through Him and for His kingdom.

Since Jesus died for all, then all died; and Jesus died for you and me, that we should live no longer for ourselves, but for Him who died for us and rose again.

God says if you choose to put His desires above your own, if you lose your life for His sake, you will find it.

You'll be a part of God's family and He'll lead you beside the still waters, He'll give you rest and let you lie down in green pastures, and He'll restore your soul.

He'll be your good shepherd and do what good shepherds do, take care of all your needs.

*"Oh, what joy for those whose disobedience is forgiven, whose sin is put out of sight! Yes, what joy for those whose record the Lord has cleared of guilt, whose lives are lived in complete honesty! When I refused to confess my sin, my body wasted away, and I groaned all day long. Day and night Your hand of discipline was heavy on me. My strength evaporated like water in the summer heat. Finally, I confessed all my sins to You and stopped trying to hide my guilt. I said to myself, 'I will confess my rebellion to the Lord.' And You forgave me! All my guilt is gone. Therefore, let all the godly pray to You while there is still time, that they may not drown in the floodwaters of judgment. For You are my hiding place; You protect me from trouble. You surround me with songs of victory. The Lord says, 'I will guide you along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you. Do not be like a senseless horse or mule that needs a bit and bridle to keep it under control.' Many sorrows come to the wicked, but unfailing love surrounds those who trust the Lord. So rejoice in the Lord and be glad, all you who obey Him! Shout for joy, all you whose hearts are pure!" Psalm 32 [NLT]*

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# THE POWER OF GOD

“The teaching of your word gives light, so even the simple can understand.” Psalm 119:130 **[NLT]**

“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.” 2 Timothy 3:16-17

“knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.”

2 Peter 1:20-21

“But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ.”

Galatians 1:11-12

## God's ways:

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“Show me Your ways, O Lord; teach me Your paths. Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation; on You I wait all the day.” Psalm 25:4-5

“Now therefore, I pray, if I have found grace in Your sight, show me now Your way, that I may know You and that I may find grace in Your sight. And consider that this nation is Your people.” Exodus 33:13

“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.” Jeremiah 29:11

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Isaiah 55:8-9

“The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but those things which are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law.” Deuteronomy 29:29

# Faith in God's power & wisdom, not the worlds:

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"And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God." Romans 12:2

"For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God." 1 Corinthians 3:19

"O Timothy, guard the deposit entrusted to you. Avoid the irreverent [ungodly] babble and contradictions of what is falsely called 'knowledge,'" 1 Timothy 6:20 **[ESV]**

"But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned." 1 Corinthians 2:14

"Your commands make me wiser than my enemies, for they are my constant guide."

Proverbs 119:98 **[NLT]**

"And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God." 1 Corinthians 2:4-5

"Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe." 1 Corinthians 1:20-21

"One of them was Lydia from Thyatira, a merchant of expensive purple cloth, who worshiped God. As she listened to us, the Lord opened her heart, and she accepted what Paul was saying." Acts 16:14 **[NLT]**

"Is not My word like a fire?" says the Lord, 'And like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?'"

Jeremiah 23:29

"For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." Hebrews 4:12

"And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the Spirit by which he spoke." Acts 6:10

"The entrance of Your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple." Psalm 119:130

"But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory, which none of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory, but as it is written: 'Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.' But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. For what



man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him: nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one. For 'who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?' But we have the mind of Christ." 1 Corinthians 2:7-16

## Strength in God, not our flesh:

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"[I pray] that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God." Ephesians 3:16-19 **[ESV]**

"For the eyes of the Lord run to and from throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him." 2 Chronicles 16:9

"Even though the fig trees have no blossoms, and there are no grapes on the vines; even though the olive crop fails, and the fields lie empty and barren; even though the flocks die in the fields, and the cattle barns are empty, yet I will rejoice in the LORD! I will be joyful in the God of my salvation! The Sovereign LORD is my strength! He makes me as surefooted as a deer, able to tread upon the heights."

Habakkuk 3:17-19 **[NLT]**

"But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint." Isaiah 40:31

"We think you ought to know, dear brothers and sisters, about the trouble we went through in the province of Asia. We were crushed and overwhelmed beyond our ability to endure, and we thought we would never live through it. In fact, we expected to die. But as a result, we stopped relying on ourselves and learned to rely only on God, who raises the dead. And he did rescue us from mortal danger, and he will rescue us again. We have placed our confidence in him, and he will continue to rescue us."

2 Corinthians 1:8-10 **[NLT]**

"Then the Lord took hold of me and said, 'Get up and go out into the valley, and I will speak to you there.' So I got up and went, and there I saw the glory of the Lord, just as I had seen in my first vision by the Kebar River. And I fell face down on the ground. Then the Spirit came into me and set me on my feet." Ezekiel 3:22-24 **[NLT]**

## THE POWER OF GOD: Strength in God, not our flesh

“And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;”

Ephesians 6:17

“No weapon formed against you shall prosper,” Isaiah 54:17

“Be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart, all you who hope in the Lord.” Psalm 31:24

“Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart; wait, I say, on the Lord!”

Psalm 27:14

“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” Philippians 4:13

“In the day when I cried out, You answered me, and made me bold with strength in my soul.”

Psalm 138:3

“Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.” 2 Timothy 1:6-7

“For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.” 2 Corinthians 10:4-6

“We use God’s mighty weapons, not worldly weapons, to knock down the strongholds of human reasoning and to destroy false arguments. We destroy every proud obstacle that keeps people from knowing God. We capture their rebellious thoughts and teach them to obey Christ.”

2 Corinthians 10:4-5 **[NLT]**

“For the weapons of our warfare are not physical [weapons of flesh and blood], but they are mighty before God for the overthrow and destruction of strongholds, [inasmuch as we] refute arguments and theories and reasonings and every proud and lofty thing that sets itself up against the [true] knowledge of God; and we lead every thought and purpose away captive into the obedience of Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One). 2 Corinthians 10:4-5 **[AMP]**

“Give us help from trouble, for the help of man is useless. Through God we will do valiantly, for it is He who shall tread down our enemies.” Psalm 60:11-12

“With men it is impossible, but not with God; for with God all things are possible.” Mark 10:27

“Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.” Ephesians 6:10

“With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.” Matthew 19:26

“The things which are impossible with men are possible with God.” Luke 18:27

“The Lord will give strength to His people; the Lord will bless His people with peace.” Psalm 29:11

“But the salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; He is their strength in the time of trouble. And the Lord shall help them and deliver them; He shall deliver them from the wicked, and save them, because they trust in Him.” Psalm 37:39-40

“Whom have I in heaven but You? And there is none upon earth that I desire besides You. My flesh and my heart fail; but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. For indeed, those who are far from You shall perish; You have destroyed all those who desert You for harlotry. But it is good for me to draw near to God; I have put my trust in the Lord God. That I may declare all Your works.”

Psalm 73:25-28

## Prophecies:

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### [70 years of captivity]

“This entire land will become a desolate wasteland. Israel and her neighboring lands will serve the king of Babylon for seventy years. Then, after the seventy years of captivity are over, I will punish the king of Babylon and his people for their sins,’ says the Lord. ‘I will make the country of the Babylonians a wasteland forever. I will bring upon them all the terrors I have promised in this book—all the penalties announced by Jeremiah against the nations. Many nations and great kings will enslave the Babylonians, just as they enslaved my people. I will punish them in proportion to the suffering they cause my people.”

Jeremiah 25:11-14 **[NLT]**

“For thus says the Lord, When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will visit you and keep My good promise to you, causing you to return to this place.” Jeremiah 29:10 **[AMP]**

“I will come like a lion from the thickets of the Jordan, leaping on the sheep in the pasture. I will chase Babylon from its land, and I will appoint the leader of my choice. For who is like me, and who can challenge me? What ruler can oppose my will?” Jeremiah 50:44 **[NLT]**

“Sharpen the arrows! Lift up the shields! For the LORD has inspired the kings of the Medes to march against Babylon and destroy her. This is his vengeance against those who desecrated his Temple.”

Jeremiah 51:11 **[NLT]**

“When I say of Cyrus, ‘He is my shepherd,’ he will certainly do as I say. He will command, ‘Rebuild Jerusalem’; he will say, ‘Restore the Temple.’” Isaiah 44:28 **[NLT]**

“This is what the Lord says to Cyrus, his anointed one, whose right hand he will empower. Before him, mighty kings will be paralyzed with fear. Their fortress gates will be opened, never to shut again. This is what the Lord says: ‘I will go before you, Cyrus, and level the mountains. I will smash down gates of bronze and cut through bars of iron. And I will give you treasures hidden in the darkness—secret riches. I will do this so you may know that I am the Lord, the God of Israel, the one who calls you by name. And

why have I called you for this work? Why did I call you by name when you did not know me? It is for the sake of Jacob my servant, Israel my chosen one.” Isaiah 45:1-4 **[NLT]**

“I will raise up Cyrus to fulfill my righteous purpose, and I will guide his actions. He will restore my city and free my captive people—without seeking a reward! I, the LORD of Heaven’s Armies, have spoken!”

Isaiah 45:13 **[NLT]**

“Have any of your idols ever told you this? Come, all of you, and listen: The Lord has chosen Cyrus as his ally. He will use him to put an end to the empire of Babylon and to destroy the Babylonian armies. I have said it: I am calling Cyrus! I will send him on this errand and will help him succeed.” Isaiah 48:14-15 **[NLT]**

## **[Absence of God’s word]**

“‘The time is surely coming,’ says the Sovereign LORD, ‘when I will send a famine on the land— not a famine of bread or water but of hearing the words of the LORD. People will stagger from sea to sea and wander from border to border searching for the word of the LORD, but they will not find it.’”

Amos 8:11-12 **[NLT]**

## **God’s unfailing Word:**

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“Remember the former things of old, for I *am* God, and *there is* no other; I *am* God, and *there is* none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times *things* that are not *yet* done, saying, ‘My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure,’ calling a bird of prey from the east, the man who executes My counsel, from a far country. Indeed I have spoken *it*; I will also bring it to pass. I have purposed *it*; I will also do it.” Isaiah 46:9-11

“For You have magnified Your word above all Your name.” Psalm 138:2

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” John 1:1

“Every word of God *is* pure; He *is* a shield to those who put their trust in Him. Do not add to His words, lest He rebuke you, and you be found a liar.” Proverbs 30:5-6

“let God be true but every man a liar.” Romans 3:4

“My covenant I will not break, nor alter the word that has gone out of My lips.” Psalm 89:34

“According to the word that I covenanted with you when you came out of Egypt, so My Spirit remains among you: do not fear!” Haggai 2:5

“For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled.” Matthew 5:18

## THE POWER OF GOD: God's unfailing word

"For truly I tell you, until the sky and earth pass away and perish, not one smallest letter nor one little hook [identifying certain Hebrew letters] will pass from the Law until all things [it foreshadows] are accomplished." Matthew 5:18 **[AMP]**

"God is not a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good? Behold, I have received a command to bless; He has blessed, and I cannot reverse it." Numbers 23:19-20

"So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it." Isaiah 55:11

"For I am the LORD. I speak, and the word which I speak will come to pass; it will no more be postponed; for in your days, O rebellious house, I will say the word and perform it,' says the Lord GOD." Ezekiel 12:25

"For the vision *is* yet for an appointed time; but at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries [lingers in expectation], wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry [delay]."

Habakkuk 2:3

"The Lord of hosts has sworn, saying, 'Surely, as I have thought, so it shall come to pass, and as I have purposed, so it shall stand:'" Isaiah 14:24

"For every purpose of the Lord shall be performed ..." Jeremiah 51:29

"By the word of the Lord the heavens were made. And all the host of them by the breath of His mouth."

Psalms 33:6

"For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast." Psalm 33:9

"For the Lord has both devised and done what He spoke ..." Jeremiah 51:12

"Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth I tell you of them." Isaiah 42:9 **[ESV]**

"The former things I declared of old; they went out from my mouth, and I announced them; then suddenly I did them, and they came to pass." Isaiah 48:3 **[ESV]**

"Forever, O Lord, Your word is settled in heaven. Your faithfulness endures to all generations;"

Psalm 119:89-90

"Lord God of Israel, there is no God in heaven above or on earth below like You, who keep Your covenant and mercy with Your servants who walk before You with all their hearts. You have kept what You promised Your servant David my father; You have both spoken with Your mouth and fulfilled it with Your hand, as it is this day." 1 Kings 8:23-24

"Then the Lord said to me, 'You have seen well, for I am ready to perform My word.'" Jeremiah 1:12

## THE POWER OF GOD: God's unfailing word

"Then said the Lord to me, You have seen well, for I am alert and active, watching over My word to perform it." Jeremiah 1:12 **[AMP]**

"I, the Lord, have spoken it, and I will do it." Ezekiel 36:36

"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." Luke 24:44

"Surely the Lord God does nothing, unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets." Amos 3:7

"...in hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began, but has in due time manifested His word through preaching,..." Titus 1:2-3

"Long ago I told you what was going to happen. Then suddenly I took action, and all my predictions came true. For I know how stubborn and obstinate you are. Your necks are as unbending as iron. Your heads are as hard as bronze. That is why I told you what would happen; I told you beforehand what I was going to do. Then you could never say, 'My idols did it. My wooden image and metal god commanded it to happen!' You have heard my predictions and seen them fulfilled, but you refuse to admit it. Now I will tell you new things, secrets you have not yet heard. They are brand new, not things from the past. So you cannot say, 'We knew that all the time!'" Isaiah 48:3-7 **[NLT]**

"For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, saying, 'Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you.' And so, after he had patiently endured [waited], he obtained the promise. For men indeed swear by the greater, and an oath for confirmation is for them an end of all dispute. Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability [unchanging nature] of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, that by two immutable [unchangeable] things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us." Hebrews 6:13-18

"The words of the Lord are pure words, like silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times."  
Psalm 12:6

"For the word of the Lord is right, and all His work is done in truth." Psalm 33:4

## Faith:

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"And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow Him. Let your roots grow down into Him, and let your lives be built on Him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness." Colossians 2:6-7 **[NLT]**

"Unless your faith is firm, I cannot make you stand firm." Isaiah 7:9 **[NLT]**

## THE POWER OF GOD: Faith

"I would have lost heart, unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living." Psalm 27:13

"So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Romans 10:17

"For we walk by faith, not by sight" 2 Corinthians 5:7

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Hebrews 11:1

"By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were **not** made of things which are visible." Hebrews 11:3

"So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever."

2 Corinthians 4:18 **[NLT]**

"Overhearing but ignoring what they said, Jesus said to the ruler of the synagogue, Do not be seized with alarm and struck with fear; only keep on believing." Mark 5:36 **[AMP]**

"And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God." 1 Corinthians 2:4-5

"For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?"

1 John 5:4-5

"above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one." Ephesians 6:16

"And the apostles said to the Lord, 'Increase our faith.' So the Lord said, 'If you have faith as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, "Be pulled up by the roots and be planted in the sea," and it would obey you. And which of you, having a servant plowing or tending sheep, will say to him when he has come in from the field, "Come at once and sit down to eat"? But will he not rather say to him, "Prepare something for my supper, and gird yourself and serve me till I have eaten and drunk, and afterward you will eat and drink"? Does he thank that servant because he did the things that were commanded him? I think not. So likewise you, when you have done all those things which you are commanded, say, 'We are unprofitable [worthless] servants. We have done what was our duty to do [obligation].'" Luke 17:5-10

"The kingdom of heaven [and our faith] is like a mustard seed, which a man took and sowed in his field, which indeed is the least of all the seeds; but when it is grown it is greater than the herbs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and nest in its branches." Matthew 13:31-32

## THE POWER OF GOD: Faith

“So Jesus said to them, ‘Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, “Move from here to there” and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.” Matthew 17:20

“Then Joshua spoke to the Lord in the day when the Lord delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel: ‘Sun, stand still over Gibeon; and Moon, in the Valley of Aijalon.’ So the sun stood still, and the moon stopped, till the people had revenge upon their enemies. *Is this not written in the Book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and did not hasten to go down* for about a whole day.” Joshua 10:12-13

“And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith.” Matthew 21:22 **[ESV]**

“And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, ‘I believed and therefore I spoke,’ we also believe and therefore speak,” 2 Corinthians 4:13

“Therefore it is of faith that it might be according to grace, so that the promise might be sure to all the seed, not only to those who are of the law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all (as it is written, ‘I have made you a father of many nations’) in the presence of Him whom he believed-God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did; who, contrary to hope, in hope believed, so that he became the father of many nations, according to what was spoken, ‘So shall your descendants be.’ And not being weak in faith, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah’s womb. He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform.”

Romans 4:16-21

“For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working through love.” Galatians 5:6

“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God.”

Ephesians 2:8

“Don’t speak evil against each other, dear brothers and sisters. If you criticize and judge each other, then you are criticizing and judging God’s law. But your job is to obey the law [God’s word], not to judge whether it applies to you. God alone, who gave the law, is the Judge. He alone has the power to save or to destroy. So what right do you have to judge your neighbor?” James 4:11-12 **[NLT]**

## Believing:

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“If you will not believe, surely you shall not be established.” Isaiah 7:9



## THE POWER OF GOD: Believing

“Jesus answered them, ‘This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.’”

John 6:29 [ESV]

“‘For with God nothing will be impossible.’ Then Mary said, ‘Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word.’ And the angel departed from her.” Luke 1:37-38

“Blessed is she who believed, for there will be a fulfillment of those things which were told her from the Lord.” Luke 1:45

“So Jesus answered and said to them, ‘Have faith in God. For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says.” Mark 11:22-23

“Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.”

Mark 11:24 [ESV]

“Jesus said to him, ‘If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.” Mark 9:23

“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. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.” Romans 10:9-10

“He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.” Mark 16:16-18

## Why we don't receive God's promises:

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### [Praying to the wrong person]

“At that time you won't need to ask Me [Jesus] for anything. I tell you the truth, you will ask **the Father** directly, and He will grant your request because you use My name.” John 16:23 [NLT]

“And in that day [when Jesus is with the Father] you will ask Me [Jesus] nothing. Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask **the Father** in My name He will give you.” John 16:23

“So He [Jesus] said to them, ‘When you pray, say: **Our Father** in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us day by day our daily bread. And

## THE POWER OF GOD:

forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.” Luke 11:2-4

“Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by **My Father** in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.” Matthew 18:19-20

### [Receiving false teachings, the traditions of men]

“Jesus replied, ‘You hypocrites! Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you, for he wrote, “These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. Their worship is a farce, for they teach man-made ideas as commands from God.” Mark 7:6-7 **[NLT]**

“For you ignore God’s law and substitute your own tradition.” Mark 7:8 **[NLT]**

“Don’t let anyone capture you with empty philosophies and high-sounding nonsense that come from human thinking [traditions of men] and from the spiritual powers [principles] of this world, rather than from Christ.” Colossians 2:8 **[NLT]**

“Thus you are nullifying *and* making void *and* of no effect [the authority of] the Word of God through your tradition, which you [in turn] hand on. And many things of this kind you are doing.”

Mark 7:13 **[AMP]**

### [Lack of patience for God’s promises]

“If you faint in the day of adversity, your strength is small.” Proverbs 24:10

“Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift each of you like wheat. But I have pleaded in prayer for you, Simon, that your faith should not fail.” Luke 22:31-32 **[NLT]**

“And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.”

Galatians 6:9

“So do not throw away this confident trust in the Lord. Remember the great reward it brings you! Patient endurance is what you need now, so that you will continue to do God’s will. Then you will receive all that He has promised.” Hebrews 10:35-36 **[NLT]**

“But, beloved, we are confident of better things concerning you, yes, things that accompany salvation, though we speak in this manner.” ... “And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end, that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.” Hebrews 6:9, 11-12

### [Not using the authority given to us by Jesus]

## THE POWER OF GOD: Why we don't receive God's promises

"Look, I [Jesus] have given **you** authority over all the power of the enemy, and **you** can walk among snakes and scorpions and crush them. Nothing will injure **you**." Luke 10:19 [NLT]

"A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on all of God's armor so that **you** will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. For **we** are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places." Ephesians 6:10-12 [NLT]

"[**You**] resist the devil and he will flee from you." James 4:7

"Stay alert! Watch out for **your** great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. [**You**] stand firm against him, and be strong in your faith." 1 Peter 5:8-9 [NLT]

"Therefore, put on every piece of God's armor so **you** will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm. Stand **your** ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God's righteousness. For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News [Gospel] so that you will be fully prepared. In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop [all] the fiery arrows of the devil. Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God." Ephesians 6:13-18 [NLT]

### [Giving place to the Devil]

"Leave no [such] room or foothold for the devil [give no opportunity to him]." Ephesians 4:27 [AMP]

### [Being ignorant of Satan's devices]

"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge." Hosea 4:6

"lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices." 2 Corinthians 2:11

### [Satan's devices]

#### *Satan himself steals the word:*

"The sower sows the word, and these are the ones by the wayside where the word is sown. When they hear, **Satan comes immediately and takes away the word that was sown in their hearts.**" Mark 4:14-15

"The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have *it* more abundantly." John 10:10

#### *Satan uses outside circumstances [people problems] to steal the word:*

"These likewise are the ones sown on stony ground who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with gladness; and they have no root in themselves, and so endure only for a time. Afterward, **when tribulation or persecution arises for the word's sake, immediately they stumble.**" Mark 4:16-17

***Satan uses internal issues to steal the word:***

“Now these are the ones sown among thorns; they are the ones who hear the word, and **the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things entering in choke the word**, and it becomes unfruitful.” Mark 4:18-19

“And even when you ask, you don't get it because your motives are all wrong—you want only what will give you pleasure.” James 4:3 **[NLT]**

## **[Unbelief - doubt - divided mind]**

“Now He did not do many mighty works there because of their unbelief.” Matthew 13:58

“Now He could do no mighty work there, except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed them. And He marveled because of their unbelief. Then He went about the villages in a circuit, teaching.”  
Mark 6:5-6

“If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind.” James 1:5-6

“But they sinned even more against Him by rebelling against the Most High in the wilderness. And they tested God in their heart by asking for the food of their fancy.” ... “Therefore the Lord heard this and was furious; so a fire was kindled against Jacob. And anger also came up against Israel, because they did not believe in God, and did not trust in His salvation.” Psalm 78:18,21-22

### ***A Boy Is Healed...***

“And when they had come to the multitude, a man came to Him, kneeling down to Him and saying, ‘Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and suffers severely; for he often falls into the fire and often into the water. So I brought him to Your disciples, but they could not cure him.’ Then Jesus answered and said, ‘O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him here to Me.’ Matthew 17:14-17

“Then they brought him to Him. And when he saw Him, immediately the spirit convulsed him, and he fell on the ground and wallowed, foaming at the mouth. So He asked his father, ‘How long has this been happening to him?’ And he said, ‘From childhood. And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.’ Jesus said to him, ‘If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.’ Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, ‘Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!’ When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it: ‘Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!’ Then the spirit cried out, convulsed him

## THE POWER OF GOD: Why we don't receive God's promises

greatly, and came out of him. And he became as one dead, so that many said, 'He is dead.' But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose." Mark 9:20-27

"And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him; and the child was cured from that very hour. Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, 'Why could we not cast it out?' So Jesus said to them, 'Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you. However, this kind [that doesn't seem to obey God's word] does not go out except by [preparation through] prayer and fasting [in order to build your faith and confidence in God's word]."

Matthew 17:18-21

# PRAYER AND WORSHIP

“Because of Christ and our faith in him, we can now come boldly and confidently into God’s presence.”  
Ephesians 3:12 **[NLT]**

## When you pray...

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### ***(1) Be right with God, set apart from the world:***

“The effective [active, working] prayer of a righteous person has great power.” James 5:16b **[ESV]**

### ***(2) Humble yourself before God:***

“Then he said, “Don’t be afraid, Daniel. **Since the first day you began to pray for understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your request has been heard in heaven.** I have come in answer to your prayer.” Daniel 10:12 **[NLT]**

“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything **by prayer and supplication [humble pleading], with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God,** which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:6-7

### ***(3) Ask God the Father directly:***

“So He [Jesus] said to them, ‘**When you pray, say: Our Father** in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.’” Luke 11:2-4

“At that time you won’t need to ask Me [Jesus] for anything. I tell you the truth, **you will ask the Father directly, and He will grant your request because you use My name.**” John 16:23 **[NLT]**

### ***(4) Ask in the name of Jesus, by Jesus’ authority:***

“And in that day [when Jesus is with the Father] you will ask Me [Jesus] nothing. Most assuredly, I say to you, **whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you.**” John 16:23

***(5) Ask only for things that are pleasing to God, that He wills to do:***

“Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, 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 the petitions [requests] that we have asked of Him.” 1 John 5:14-15

***(6) Ask in agreement with another:***

“Again I say to you that **if two of you agree** on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in My [Jesus’] name, I am there in the midst of them.” Matthew 18:19-20

***(7) Ask in faith, believing that it has been given:***

“Therefore I tell you, **whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.**”  
Mark 11:24 [ESV]

“Jesus said to him, **‘If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.’**” Mark 9:23

“And **the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick**, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed.” James 5:15-16a [ESV]

***(8) Give thanks to God for answering your prayers:***

“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, **in everything give thanks**; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

“And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, **giving thanks through him [Jesus] to God the Father.**” Colossians 3:17 [NLT]

“Be anxious for nothing, but **in everything by prayer and supplication [humble pleading], with thanksgiving**, let your requests be made known to God.” Philippians 4:6

***(9) Pray without ceasing, trust in God’s timing:***

“**Pray without ceasing.**” 1 Thessalonians 5:17

“I say to you, though he will not rise and give to him because he is his friend, yet **because of his persistence he will rise and give him as many as he needs.**” Luke 11:8

“Then He spoke a parable to them, that **men always ought to pray and not lose heart**, saying: ... And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them? I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?” Luke 18:1, 7-8

## Praying for others: (personalize the underlined words)

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“So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found no one.” Ezekiel 22:30

“Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.” 1 Timothy 2:1-4

“Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth.” Psalm 54:2

“No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me **draws him**; and I will raise him up at the last day.” John 6:44

“I will give you a **new heart** and put a **new spirit** within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. **I will put My Spirit within you** and **cause you to walk in My statutes**,...” Ezekiel 36:26-27

“...Now Cornelius was waiting for them (Peter and his brethren), and had **called together his relatives and close friends**.” Acts 10:24

“Brethren, **my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel (my relatives and close friends)** is that they may be saved.” Romans 10:1

“So they said, ‘Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, **you and your household**.’”  
Acts 16:31

“And the Lord restored Job’s losses **when he prayed for his friends**. Indeed the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before.” Job 42:10

I pray, ‘that the God of my Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to me the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of my understanding being enlightened; that I may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in me, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward me who believes, according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.’ Ephesians 1:17-21

I pray “that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy; giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light.” Colossians 1:9-12



## PRAYER AND WORSHIP: Praying for others

I pray, “Lord God give me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him who is weary, awaken me morning by morning, awaken my ear to hear as the learned. Lord God open my ear; that I may not be rebellious, nor turn away. That I may keep my back to those who strike me, and my cheeks to those who pluck out my beard; that I may not hide my face from shame and spitting.” Isaiah 50:4-6

“Now may the God of hope fill me with all joy and peace in believing, that I may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” Romans 15:13

Lord, ‘You are my family and friends refuge and our fortress; our God, in You we will trust. Surely You shall deliver us from the snare of the fowler and from the perilous pestilence. You shall cover us with Your feathers, and under Your wings we shall take refuge; Your truth shall be our shield and buckler. We shall not be afraid of the terror by night, nor of the arrow that flies by day, nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness, nor of the destruction that lays waste at noonday. A thousand may fall at our side, and ten thousand at our right hand; but it shall not come near us. Only with our eyes shall we look, and see the reward of the wicked. Because we have made the Lord, who is our refuge, even the Most High, our dwelling place, no evil shall befall us, nor shall any plague come near our dwelling; for You shall give Your angels charge over us, to keep us in all our ways. In their hands they shall bear us up, lest we dash our foot against a stone. We shall tread upon the lion and the cobra, the young lion and the serpent we shall trample underfoot. Because we have set our love upon You, therefore You will deliver us; You will set us on high, because we have known Your name. We shall call upon You, and You will answer us; You will be with us in trouble; You will deliver us and honor us. With long life You will satisfy us, and show us Your salvation.’ Psalm 91:2-16

## Our prayers are incense to God:

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“Let my prayer be set before You *as* incense.” Psalm 141:2a

“Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.” Revelation 5:8

“Then another angel with a gold incense burner came and stood at the altar. And a great amount of incense was given to him to mix with the prayers of God’s people as an offering on the gold altar before the throne. The smoke of the incense, mixed with the prayers of God’s holy people, ascended up to God from the altar where the angel had poured them out.” Revelation 8:3-4 **[NLT]**

## Worship lyrics in the bible:

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“Your mercy, O Lord, is in the heavens; Your faithfulness reaches to the clouds. Your righteousness is like the great mountains; Your judgments are a great deep;” Psalm 36:5-6

“For Your mercy reaches unto the heavens, and Your truth unto the clouds.” Psalm 57:10

“How lovely is Your tabernacle, O Lord of hosts! My soul longs, yes, even faints for the courts of the Lord; My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.” Psalm 84:1-2

“For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand.” Psalm 84:11

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

“saying with a loud voice: ‘Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom, and strength and honor and glory and blessing!’” Revelation 5:12

“Blessing and honor and glory and power *be* to Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, forever and ever!” Revelation 13b

# HEALING

## God's will is to heal us:

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"He sent His word and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions." Psalm 107:20

"Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit [those who love to talk will reap the consequences (NLT)]." Proverbs 18:21

"Through faith in the name of Jesus, this man was healed—and you know how crippled he was before. Faith in Jesus' name has healed him before your very eyes." Acts 3:16 **[NLT]**

"O Lord my God, I cried out to You, and You healed me." Psalm 30:2

"There is no one to help you or to bind up your injury. No medicine can heal you. ... 'I will give you back your health and heal your wounds,' says the LORD. 'For you are called an outcast—"Jerusalem [Zion] for whom no one cares.'" Jeremiah 30:13, 17 **[NLT]**

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord."

Luke 4:18-19

"how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him." Acts 10:38

"And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people." Matthew 4:23

"And behold, a leper came and worshiped Him, saying, 'Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean.' Then Jesus put out His hand and touched him, saying, 'I am willing; be cleansed.' Immediately his leprosy was cleansed." Matthew 8:2-3

"Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people." Matthew 9:35

"He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease." Matthew 10:1

"Then He called His twelve disciples together and gave them power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases. He sent them to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick." Luke 9:1-2

## HEALING: God's will is to heal us

"These twelve Jesus sent out and commanded them, saying: 'Do not go into the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter a city of the Samaritans. But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And as you go, preach, saying, "The kingdom of heaven is at hand" Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.'" Matthew 10:5-8

"Who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness-by whose stripes you were healed." 1 Peter 2:24

"If you diligently heed the voice of the Lord your God and do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians. For I am the Lord who heals you." Exodus 15:26

"So you shall serve the Lord your God, and He will bless your bread and your water. And I will take sickness away from the midst of you. No one shall suffer miscarriage or be barren in your land; I will fulfill the number of your days." Exodus 23:25-26

"Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed." Isaiah 53:4-5

"Surely He has borne our griefs (sicknesses, weaknesses, and distresses) and carried our sorrows and pains [of punishment], yet we [ignorantly] considered Him stricken, smitten, and afflicted by God [as if with leprosy]." [Matt. 8:17] Isaiah 53:4 **[AMP]**

"When evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: 'He Himself took our infirmities and bore our sicknesses.'" Matthew 8:16-17

"He sent His word and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions." Psalm 107:20

"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits: who forgives all your iniquities, who heals all your diseases," Psalm 103:2-3

"My son, give attention to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. Do not let them depart from your eyes; keep them in the midst of your heart; for they are life to those who find them, and health to all their flesh." Proverbs 4:20-22

"Is this not the fast that I have chosen: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, to let the oppressed go free, and that you break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and that you bring to your house the poor who are cast out; when you see the naked, that you cover him, and not hide yourself from your own flesh? Then your light shall break forth like the morning, your healing shall spring forth speedily, and your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry, and He will say, 'Here I am.'" Isaiah 58:6-9

# Faith and healing:

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“Through faith in the name of Jesus, this man was healed—and you know how crippled he was before. Faith in Jesus’ name has healed him before your very eyes.” Acts 3:16 **[NLT]**

“Be of good cheer, daughter; your faith has made you well” Matthew 9:22

“Do you believe that I am able to do this?’ They said to Him, ‘Yes, Lord.’ Then He touched their eyes, saying, ‘According to your faith let it be to you.’” Matthew 9:29

“When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, ‘Son, your sins are forgiven you.’” Mark 2:5

“Then Jesus said to him, ‘Go your way; your faith has made you well.’ And immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus on the road.” Mark 10:52

“Then she came and worshiped Him, saying, ‘Lord, help me!’ But He answered and said, ‘It is not good to take the children’s bread and throw it to the little dogs.’ And she said, ‘Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters’ table.’ Then Jesus answered and said to her, ‘O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire.’ And her daughter was healed from that very hour.”

Matthew 15:25-28

“When she heard about Jesus, she came behind Him in the crowd and touched His garment. For she said, ‘If only I may touch His clothes, I shall be made well.’ Immediately the fountain of her blood was dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of the affliction. And Jesus, immediately knowing in Himself that power had gone out of Him, turned around in the crowd and said, ‘Who touched My clothes?’ ...” And He said to her, ‘Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction.’” Mark 5:27-30,34

“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. 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. Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.” James 5:14-16

# Believing and healing:

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“The centurion answered and said, ‘Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed.’ ...” When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!’ ...” Then Jesus said to the centurion, ‘Go your way; and as you have believed, so let it be done for you.’ And his servant was healed that same hour.” Matthew 8:13

# GOD RESTORES OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM

## Our restoration was from the beginning:

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“Remember the former things of old, for I *am* God, and *there is* no other; *I am* God, and *there is* none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times *things* that are not yet done, saying, ‘My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure,’ calling a bird of prey from the east, the man who executes My counsel, from a far country. Indeed I have spoken *it*; I will also bring it to pass. I have purposed *it*; I will also do it.” Isaiah 46:9-11

““Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.” John 17:24 [ESV]

“All who dwell on the earth will worship him [the beast], whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.” Revelation 13:8

“God chose him as your ransom long before the world began, but he has now revealed him to you in these last days.” 1 Peter 1:20 [NLT]

“No, the wisdom we speak of is the mystery of God—his plan that was previously hidden, even though he made it for our ultimate glory before the world began.” 1 Corinthians 2:7 [NLT]

“[God], who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began.” 2 Timothy 1:9

“Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the sake of the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth, which accords with godliness, in hope of eternal life, which God, who never lies, promised before the ages began and at the proper time manifested in his word through the preaching with which I have been entrusted by the command of God our Savior.” Titus 1:1-3 [ESV]

“For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God when they believe that Jesus sacrificed his life, shedding his blood. This sacrifice shows that God was being fair when he held back and did not punish those who sinned in times past, for he was looking ahead and including them in

GOD RESTORES OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM: Our restoration was from the beginning

what he would do in this present time. God did this to demonstrate his righteousness, for he himself is fair and just, and he declares sinners to be right in his sight when they believe in Jesus.”

Romans 3:25-26 [NLT]

## Jesus foretold throughout the scriptures:

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“the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.” Revelation 19:10

“Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that He may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before, whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began.” Acts 3:19-21

“Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.’ And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.” Revelation 19:7-8

“So the Lord God said to the serpent: ‘Because you have done this, .... 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.’ Genesis 3:14-15

“Take your son, your only son—yes, Isaac, whom you love so much—and go to the land of Moriah. Go and sacrifice him as a burnt offering on one of the mountains, which I will show you.” Genesis 22:2 [NLT]

“ And Abraham said, ‘My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering.’” Genesis 22:8

“Then the Angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time out of heaven, and said: ... ‘In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.’” Genesis 22:18

“Oh, that the salvation of Israel *would come* out of Zion! When the LORD brings back the captivity of His people, let Jacob rejoice *and* Israel be glad.” Psalm 14:7

“In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious. In that day the Lord will extend his hand yet a second time to recover the remnant that remains of his people, from Assyria, from Egypt, from Pathros, from Cush, from Elam, from Shinar, from Hamath, and from the coastlands of the sea.” Isaiah 11:10-11 [ESV]

“The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh comes; and to Him *shall be* the obedience of the people. Binding his donkey to the vine, and his donkey’s colt to the choice vine, He washed his garments in wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes.” Genesis 49:10-11

“I am the vine, you *are* the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.” John 15:5

GOD RESTORES OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM: Jesus foretold throughout the scriptures

“Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, lowly and riding on a donkey, a colt, the foal of a donkey.” Zechariah 9:9

“Your lamb shall be without blemish” (12:5) “you shall not break any of its bones.” (12:46) “The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.” Exodus 12:13 **[ESV]**

“They shall leave none of it until morning, nor break one of its bones. According to all the ordinances of the Passover they shall keep it.” Numbers 9:12

“They pierced My hands and My feet; I can count all My bones. They look *and* stare at Me. They divide My garments among them, and for My clothing they cast lots.” Psalm 22:16b-18

“He guards all his bones; not one of them is broken.” Psalm 34:20

“And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on Me, on Him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over Him, as one weeps over a firstborn.”

Zechariah 12:10 **[ESV]**

“But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.” Isaiah 53:5 **[ESV]**

“Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock in Horeb [Mount Sinai]; and you shall strike the rock, and water will come out of it, that the people may drink.” Exodus 17:6

“*I have found David* the son of Jesse, *a man after My own heart*, who will do all My will. From the man’s seed, according to the promise, God raised up for Israel a Savior-Jesus.” Acts 13:22

“I see Him, but not now; I behold Him, but not near; A Star shall come out of Jacob; A Scepter shall rise out of Israel.” ... “Out of Jacob One shall have dominion.” Numbers 24:17, 19

“Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations [Gentiles]. He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be discouraged till he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law.” Isaiah 42:1-4 **[ESV]**

“If there is a messenger for him, a mediator, one among a thousand, to show man His uprightness, then He is gracious to him, and says, ‘Deliver him from going down to the Pit; I have found a ransom’; his flesh shall be young like a child’s, he shall return to the days of his youth. He shall pray to God, and He will delight in him, he shall see His face with joy, for He restores to man His righteousness.” ... “He will redeem his soul from going down to the Pit, and his life shall see the light.” Job 33:23-26, 28



## GOD RESTORES OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM: Jesus foretold throughout the scriptures

“But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.”

Micah 5:2 **[ESV]**

“For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name 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, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.” Isaiah 9:6-7

“There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots. The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.” Isaiah 11:1-2

“So Solomon began to build the Temple of the LORD in Jerusalem on Mount Moriah, where the LORD had appeared to David, his father. The Temple was built on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite, the site that David had selected.” 2 Chronicles 3:1 **[NLT]**

“Thus says the Lord of hosts; ‘I am zealous for Zion with great zeal; with great fervor I am zealous for her.’ Thus says the Lord; ‘I will return to Zion, and dwell in the midst of Jerusalem. Jerusalem shall be called the City of Truth, the Mountain of the Lord of hosts, the Holy Mountain.’” Zechariah 8:2-3

“I am the good shepherd; I know my own sheep, and they know me, just as my Father knows me and I know the Father. So I sacrifice my life for the sheep. I have other sheep, too, that are not in this sheepfold. I must bring them also. They will listen to my voice, and there will be one flock with one shepherd.” John 10:14-16 **[NLT]**

## God’s plan to reunite us with Him:

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“He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.” 1 John 3:8

“We know that God’s children do not make a practice of sinning, for God’s Son holds them securely, and the evil one cannot touch them.” 1 John 5:18 **[NLT]**

“But as for me, God will redeem my life. He will snatch me from the power of the grave.”

Psalm 49:15 **[NLT]**

“Make me walk along the path of Your commands, for that is where my happiness is found.”

Psalm 119:35 **[NLT]**

“I will walk in freedom, for I have devoted myself to Your commandments.” Psalm 119:45 **[NLT]**

## GOD RESTORES OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM: God's plan to reunite us with Him

"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." John 3:16

"Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.'" John 14:6

"The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance." 2 Peter 3:9

"A father of the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in His holy habitation. God sets the solitary in families; He brings out those who are bound into prosperity; but the rebellious dwell in a dry land."

Psalm 68:5-6

"And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly." Romans 16:20

"Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of the world will be cast out." John 12:31

"I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming, and he has nothing in Me."  
John 14:30

"These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." John 16:33

"So think clearly and exercise self-control. Look forward to the gracious salvation that will come to you when Jesus Christ is revealed to the world." 1 Peter 1:13 **[NLT]**

"So Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God.'" Mark 10:18

## God returns earths dominion back to man through the God-man: [Why is heaven so good? God's in control. Why is earth so bad? man's in control.]

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"The heavens belong to the LORD, but he has given the earth to all humanity." Psalm 115:16 **[NLT]**

"Then God said, 'Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over... all the earth...'" Genesis 1:26

"For You have made him [man] a little lower than the angels, and You have crowned him with glory and honor. You have made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands;" Psalm 8:5-6

"Then the devil, taking Him up on a high mountain, showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. And the devil said to Him, 'All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for this has

GOD RESTORES OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM:  
God returns earth's dominion back to man through the God-man

been delivered to me (by man - from choosing to follow Satan's word and not God's word), and I give it to whomever I wish. Therefore, if you will worship before me, all will be yours.' And Jesus answered and said to him, 'Get behind Me, Satan! For it is written, "You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve."'" Luke 5:6-8

## God lets US choose for ourselves life or death, it's free will:

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"I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live: that you may love the Lord your God, that you may obey His voice, and that you may cling to Him, for He *is* your life and the length of your days;" Deuteronomy 30:19

"But I did find this: God created people to be virtuous, but they have each turned to follow their own downward path." Ecclesiastes 7:29 **[NLT]**

"And if wicked people turn from their wickedness, obey the law, and do what is just and right, **they** will save **their** lives. **They** will live because they thought it over and decided to turn from their sins. Such people will not die." Ezekiel 18:27-28 **[NLT]**

"They wouldn't obey my regulations even though obedience would have given them life."

Ezekiel 20:13 **[NLT]**

"And yet the people of Israel keep saying, 'The Lord isn't doing what's right!' O people of Israel, it is you who are not doing what's right, not I. Therefore, I will judge each of you, O people of Israel, according to your actions, says the Sovereign LORD. Repent, and turn from your sins. Don't let them destroy you! I don't want you to die, says the Sovereign LORD. Turn back and live!" Ezekiel 18:29-30, 32 **[NLT]**

## All sin (disobeying God), brings death (separation from God):

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"It's your sins that have cut you off from God. Because of your sins, he has turned away and will not listen anymore." Isaiah 59:2 **[NLT]**

"You say, 'I am allowed to do anything'—but not everything is good for you. And even though 'I am allowed to do anything,' I must not become a slave to anything." 1 Corinthians 6:12 **[NLT]**

GOD RESTORES OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM:  
All sin (disobeying God) brings death (separation from God)

“If you do well [what is right] will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well [what is right], sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it.” Genesis 4:7

“Don’t be fooled by those who try to excuse these sins, for the anger of God will fall on all who disobey him.” Ephesians 5:6 **[NLT]**

“Israel has sinned and broken my covenant [God’s command]! ... That is why the Israelites are running from their enemies in defeat. ... Get up! Command the people to purify themselves ... You will never defeat your enemies until you remove these things [accursed things] from among you.”

Joshua 7:11a, 12a, 13a,c **[NLT]**

“But all the sinners will die by the sword—all those who say, ‘Nothing bad will happen to us.’”

Amos 9:10 **[NLT]**

“For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Romans 6:23 **[NLT]**

“When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the obligation to do right. And what was the result? You are now ashamed of the things you used to do, things that end in eternal doom.”

Romans 6:20-21 **[NLT]**

“For sin is the sting that results in death, and the law gives sin its power. But thank God! He gives us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ.” 1 Corinthians 15:56-57 **[NLT]**

“The way of the godly leads to life; that path does not lead to death.” Proverbs 12:28 **[NLT]**

“As righteousness leads to life, so he who pursues evil pursues it to his own death.” Proverbs 11:19

“Does not calamity [justly] befall the unrighteous, and disaster the workers of iniquity?” Job 31:3 **[AMP]**

“For that [lust, sin] *would be* wickedness; yes, it *would be* iniquity *deserving of* judgment. For that *would be* a fire *that* consumes to destruction, and would root out all my increase.” Job 31:11-12

“I have sinned, and perverted *what was* right, and it did not profit me.” Job 33:27

“Thus, knowing their works, He overturns them in the night, and they are crushed. He strikes them for their wickedness in a place for all to see, because they turned aside from following Him and had no regard for any of His ways.” Job 34:25-27 **[ESV]**

“Therefore, they must eat the bitter fruit of living their own way, choking on their own schemes.”

Proverbs 1:31 **[NLT]**

“For evil people have no future; the light of the wicked will be snuffed out.” Proverbs 24:20 **[NLT]**

“The wicked die and disappear, but the family of the godly stands firm.” Proverbs 12:7 **[NLT]**

GOD RESTORES OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM:  
All sin (disobeying God) brings death (separation from God)

“And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, ‘Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it [sin, disobey Me] you shall surely die [dying (in your flesh) you shall die (in your spirit)].” Genesis 2:16-17

“...the fleeting enjoyment of a sinful life.” Hebrews 11:25 **[AMP]**

“But the widow who lives only for pleasure is spiritually dead even while she lives.” 1 Timothy 5:6 **[NLT]**

“The heart is deceitful above all things, and it is exceedingly perverse and corrupt and severely, mortally sick! Who can know it [perceive, understand, be acquainted with his own heart and mind]?”

Jeremiah 17:9 **[AMP]**

“There is a way which seems right to a man and appears straight before him, but at the end of it is the way of death.” Proverbs 14:12 **[AMP]**

“But every person is tempted when he is drawn away, enticed and baited by his own evil desire (lust, passions). Then the evil desire, when it has conceived, gives birth to sin, and sin, when it is fully matured, brings forth death.” James 1:14-15 **[AMP]**

“Do you think that I like to see wicked people die? says the Sovereign LORD. Of course not! I want them to turn from their wicked ways and live. However, if righteous people turn from their righteous behavior and start doing sinful things and act like other sinners, should they be allowed to live? No, of course not! All their righteous acts will be forgotten, and they will die for their sins.” Ezekiel 18:23-24 **[NLT]**

“When righteous people turn from their righteous behavior and start doing sinful things, they will die for it. Yes, they will die because of their sinful deeds.” Ezekiel 18:26 **[NLT]**

“They offer superficial treatments for my people’s mortal wound.” Jeremiah 8:11 **[NLT]**

“Don’t you see what they are doing throughout the towns of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem? No wonder I am so angry! ... Am I the one they are hurting?’ asks the LORD. ‘Most of all, they hurt themselves, to their own shame.” Jeremiah 7:17-19 **[NLT]**

## Judgment:

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“It’s your sins that have cut you off from God. Because of your sins, he has turned away and will not listen anymore.” Isaiah 59:2 **[NLT]**

“*What* if God, wanting to show *His* wrath and to make His power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath prepared for destruction” Romans 9:22

“The LORD is slow to get angry, but his power is great, and he never lets the guilty go unpunished.”

Nahum 1:3a **[NLT]**

## GOD RESTORES OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM: Judgment

“The wicked will go down to the grave. This is the fate of all the nations who ignore God.”

Psalm 9:17 **[NLT]**

“But he will pour out his anger and wrath on those who live for themselves, who refuse to obey the truth and instead live lives of wickedness. There will be trouble and calamity for everyone who keeps on doing what is evil—for the Jew first and also for the Gentile.” Romans 2:8-9 **[NLT]**

“For the time has come for judgment, and it must begin with God’s household. And if judgment begins with us, what terrible fate awaits those who have never obeyed God’s Good News? And also, ‘If the righteous are barely saved, what will happen to godless sinners?’ So if you are suffering in a manner that pleases God, keep on doing what is right, and trust your lives to the God who created you, for he will never fail you.” 1 Peter 4:17-19 **[NLT]**

“I placed her [Jerusalem] at the center of the nations, but she has rebelled against my regulations and decrees and has been even more wicked than the surrounding nations. She has refused to obey the regulations and decrees I gave her to follow. Therefore, this is what the Sovereign Lord says: You people have behaved worse than your neighbors and have refused to obey my decrees and regulations. You have not even lived up to the standards of the nations around you. Therefore, I myself, the Sovereign Lord, am now your enemy. I will punish you publicly while all the nations watch.” Ezekiel 5:5b-8 **[NLT]**

“Nevertheless I have a few things against you, because you allow that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, to teach and seduce My servants to commit sexual immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols. And I gave her time to repent of her sexual immorality, and she did not repent. Indeed I will cast her into a sickbed, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of their deeds. I will kill her children with death, and all the churches shall know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts. And I will give to each one of you according to your works.” Revelation 2:20-23

“And the LORD said to Moses: ‘Behold, you will rest with your fathers; and this people will rise and play the harlot with the gods of the foreigners of the land, where they go *to be* among them, and they will forsake Me and break My covenant which I have made with them. Then My anger shall be aroused against them in that day, and I will forsake them, and I will hide My face from them, and they shall be devoured. And **many evils and troubles shall befall them**, so that they will say in that day, “Have not these evils come upon us because our God *is* not among us?” And I will surely hide My face in that day because of all the evil which they have done, in that they have turned to other gods.’”

Deuteronomy 31:16-18

### **[Early sign of God’s judgment - Romans 1:18-32]**

“<sup>18</sup> For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. <sup>19</sup> For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. <sup>20</sup> For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, <sup>[a]</sup> in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. <sup>21</sup> For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give

thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

<sup>22</sup> Claiming to be wise, they became fools, <sup>23</sup> and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

<sup>24</sup> Therefore **God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves,** <sup>25</sup> because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.

<sup>26</sup> For this reason **God gave them up to dishonorable passions.** For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; <sup>27</sup> and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error.

<sup>28</sup> And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, **God gave them up to a debased [unapproved, rejected] mind to do what ought not to be done.** <sup>29</sup> They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, <sup>30</sup> slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, <sup>31</sup> foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. <sup>32</sup> Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them. [ESV]

## [Warnings]

“Son of man, suppose the people of a country were to sin against me [by persistent unfaithfulness], and I lifted my fist to crush them, cutting off their food supply and sending a famine to destroy both people and animals. Even if Noah, Daniel, and Job were there, their righteousness would save no one but themselves, says the Sovereign LORD.” Ezekiel 14:13-14 [NLT]

“For thus says the Lord GOD: ‘How much more it shall be when I send My four severe judgments on Jerusalem—the **sword** and **famine** and **wild beasts** and **pestilence**—to cut off man and beast from it?’”  
Ezekiel 4:21

## [God's judgments - *Leviticus 26:14-33*]

<sup>14</sup> ‘But if you do not obey Me, and do not observe all these commandments, <sup>15</sup> and if you despise My statutes, or if your soul abhors My judgments, so that you do not perform all My commandments, *but* break My covenant, <sup>16</sup> I also will do this to you:

### *Stage I,*

<sup>16</sup> I will even appoint terror over you, **wasting disease and fever** which shall consume the eyes and cause sorrow of heart. And you shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it. <sup>17</sup> I will set My face against you, and you shall be defeated by your enemies. Those who hate you shall reign over you, and you shall flee when no one pursues you.

<sup>18</sup> 'And after all this, if you do not obey Me, then I will punish you seven times more for your sins.

### ***Stage II,***

<sup>19</sup> I will break the pride of your power; I will make your heavens like iron and your earth like bronze.

<sup>20</sup> And your strength shall be spent in vain; for **your land shall not yield its produce**, nor shall the trees of the land yield their fruit.

<sup>21</sup> 'Then, if you walk contrary to Me, and are not willing to obey Me, I will bring on you seven times more plagues, according to your sins.

### ***Stage III,***

<sup>22</sup> I will also send **wild beasts** among you, which shall rob you of your children, destroy your livestock, and make you few in number; and your highways shall be desolate.

<sup>23</sup> 'And if by these things you are not reformed by Me, but walk contrary to Me, <sup>24</sup> then I also will walk contrary to you, and I will punish you yet seven times for your sins.

### ***Stage IV,***

<sup>25</sup> And I will bring a **sword** against you that will execute the vengeance of the covenant; when you are gathered together within your cities I will send **pestilence** among you; and you shall be delivered into the hand of the enemy. <sup>26</sup> When I have **cut off your supply of bread**, ten women shall bake your bread in one oven, and they shall bring back your bread by weight, and you shall eat and not be satisfied.

<sup>27</sup> 'And after all this, if you do not obey Me, but walk contrary to Me, <sup>28</sup> then I also will walk contrary to you in fury; and I, even I, will chastise you seven times for your sins.

### ***Stage V,***

<sup>29</sup> You shall eat the flesh of your sons, and you shall eat the flesh of your daughters. <sup>30</sup> I will destroy your high places, cut down your incense altars, and cast your carcasses on the lifeless forms of your idols; and My soul shall abhor you. <sup>31</sup> I will lay your cities waste and bring your sanctuaries to desolation, and I will not smell the fragrance of your sweet aromas. <sup>32</sup> I will bring the land to desolation, and your enemies who dwell in it shall be astonished at it. <sup>33</sup> I will scatter you among the nations and draw out a sword after you; your land shall be desolate and your cities waste.

## **[Hope of salvation]**

“So that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; for in Him we live and move and have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, ‘For we are also His offspring.’ Therefore, since we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, something shaped by art and man’s



## GOD RESTORES OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM: Judgment

devising. Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.”

Acts 17:27-31

“The Lord is not slack concerning *His* promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.” 2 Peter 3:9

“Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is not fair.” Hear now, O house of Israel, is it not My way which is fair, and your ways which are not fair? When a righteous *man* turns away from his righteousness, commits iniquity, and dies in it, it is because of the iniquity which he has done that he dies. Again, when a wicked *man* turns away from the wickedness which he committed, and does what is lawful and right, he preserves himself alive. Because he considers and turns away from all the transgressions which he committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is not fair.” O house of Israel, is it not My ways which are fair, and your ways which are not fair? Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways,’ says the Lord God. ‘Repent, and turn from all your transgressions, so that iniquity will not be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions which you have committed, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit. For why should you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of one who dies,’ says the Lord God. ‘Therefore turn and live!’” Ezekiel 18:25-32

“But your iniquities [sins] have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden *His* face from you, so that He will not hear.” Isaiah 59:2

“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 I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”

2 Chronicles 7:14

## Hell:

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“But I’ll tell you whom to fear. Fear God, who has the power to kill you and then throw you into hell [γέεννα (Gehenna)]. Yes, he’s the one to fear.” Luke 12:5 **[NLT]**

“He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.” John 3:36

“And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment [κρίσις (krisis)],” Hebrews 9:27

“Don’t be so surprised! Indeed, the time is coming when all the dead in their graves will hear the voice of God’s Son, and they will rise again. Those who have done good will rise to experience eternal life, and those who have continued in evil will rise to experience judgment.” John 5:28-29 **[NLT]**

## GOD RESTORES OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM: Hell

“But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”

Revelation 21:8

“Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is *the Book of Life*. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death [θάνατος (thanatos)] and Hades [ᾗδης] delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death (thanatos). And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.” Revelation 20:11-15

“He answered and said to them: ‘He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the sons of the wicked *one*. The enemy who sowed them is the devil, the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are the angels. Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age. The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!” Matthew 13:37-43

“When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides *his* sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left.” ... “Then He will also say to those on the left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:’ ... “Then He will answer them, saying, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.’ And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

Matthew 25:31-33, 41, 45-46

“If your hand or foot causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you. It is better for you to enter into life lame or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet, to be cast into the everlasting fire.”

Matthew 18:8

“since it is a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you, and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power, when He comes, in that Day, to be glorified in His saints and to be admired among all those who believe, because our testimony among you was believed.”

2 Thessalonians 1:6-10

## GOD RESTORES OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM: Hell

“as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.” Jude 1:7

“At that time Michael shall stand up, the great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting contempt.” Daniel 12:1-2

## Jesus died for our sins:

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“But thank God! He gives us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

1 Corinthians 15:57 **[NLT]**

“For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul.” Leviticus 17:11

“Now the blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you *are*. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you; and the plague shall not be on you to destroy *you* when I strike the land of Egypt.”

Exodus 12:13

“Behold, when we come into the land, you shall tie this scarlet cord in the window through which you let us down, and you shall gather into your house your father and mother, your brothers, and all your father's household. Then if anyone goes out of the doors of your house into the street, his blood shall be on his own head, and we shall be guiltless. But if a hand is laid on anyone who is with you in the house, his blood shall be on our head.” Joshua 2:18-19 **[ESV]**

“For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?”

Hebrews 9:13-14

“And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, ‘Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?’ that is, ‘My God, My God, why have you forsaken Me?’ ...” And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit.” Matthew 27:46,50

“For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit, by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison, who formerly were disobedient,” 1 Peter 3:18

GOD RESTORES OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM: Jesus died for our sins

“Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.” 1 Corinthians 6:9-11

“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.” John 3:16

“The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.” Psalm 118:22

“If a man has committed a sin deserving of death, and he is put to death, and you hang him on a tree, his body shall not remain overnight on the tree, but you shall surely bury him that day, so that you do not defile the land which the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance; for he who is hanged is accursed of God.” Deuteronomy 21:22-23

“Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, ‘Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree’)” Galatians 3:13

“Who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness-by whose stripes you were healed.” 1 Peter 2:24

“For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.” 2 Corinthians 5:21

“And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins,” Ephesians 2:1

“And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses,” Colossians 2:13

“For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; or if we are of sound mind, it is for you. For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus; that if One died for all, then all died; and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again.”

2 Corinthians 5:13-15

“I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.”

Galatians 2:20

“But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, ‘Abba, Father!’ Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.”

Galatians 4:4-7

## GOD RESTORES OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM: Jesus died for our sins

“Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin. But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe, for there is no difference; for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.” Romans 3:20-26

“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 6:23

“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life. Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live.” John 5:24-25

## Repentance:

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“Now this is what the Lord says to the family of Israel: ‘Come back to me and live!’” Amos 5:4 **[NLT]**

“Do what is good and run from evil so that you may live! Then the LORD God of Heaven’s Armies will be your helper, just as you have claimed. Hate evil and love what is good; turn your courts into true halls of justice. Perhaps even yet the LORD God of Heaven’s Armies will have mercy on the remnant of his people.” Amos 5:14-15 **[NLT]**

“Turn from evil and do good, and you will live in the land forever.” Psalm 37:27 **[NLT]**

“In those days there appeared John the Baptist, preaching in the Wilderness (Desert) of Judea and saying, ‘Repent (think differently; change your mind, regretting your sins and changing your conduct), for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.’” Matthew 3:1-2 **[AMP]**

“From that time Jesus began to preach, crying out, Repent (change your mind for the better, heartily amend your ways, with abhorrence of your past sins), for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Matthew 4:17 **[AMP]**

“And Peter answered them, Repent (change your views and purpose to accept the will of God in your inner selves instead of rejecting it) and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of and release from your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

Acts 2:38 **[AMP]**

“Then Peter said to them, ‘Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.’” Acts 2:38

## GOD RESTORES OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM: Repentance

“Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.” Acts 3:19

“The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.” 2 Peter 3:9

“Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?” Romans 2:4

“He who covers his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy.”  
Proverbs 28:13

“Now I rejoice, not that you were made sorry, but that your sorrow led to repentance. For you were made sorry in a godly manner, that you might suffer loss from us in nothing. For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death.  
2 Corinthians 7:9-10

“As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent. Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.” Revelation 3:19-20

“Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: ‘Amend your ways and your doings, and I will cause you to dwell in this place.’” Jeremiah 7:3

“Thus says the Lord: ‘Stand in the court of the Lord’s house, and speak to all the cities of Judah, which come to worship in the Lord’s house, all the words that I command you to speak to them. Do not diminish a word. Perhaps everyone will listen and turn from his evil way, that I may relent concerning the calamity which I purpose to bring on them because of the evil of their doings.’” Jeremiah 26:2-3

“‘Now, therefore,’ says the Lord, ‘Turn to Me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning.’ So rend your heart, and not your garments; return to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness; and He relents from doing harm.” Joel 2:12-13

“The Lord has been very angry with your fathers. Therefore say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord of hosts; “Return to Me,” says the Lord of hosts, “and I will return to you,” says the Lord of hosts.’”  
Zechariah 1:2-3

“*Now the just shall live by faith; but if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him.*”  
Hebrews 10:38

“But if wicked people turn away from all their sins and begin to obey my decrees and do what is just and right, they will surely live and not die. All their past sins will be forgotten, and they will live because of the righteous things they have done. Do you think that I like to see wicked people die? says the Sovereign Lord. Of course not! I want them to turn from their wicked ways and live. However, if righteous people turn from their righteous behavior and start doing sinful things and act like other

## GOD RESTORES OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM: Repentance

sinners, should they be allowed to live? No, of course not! All their righteous acts will be forgotten, and they will die for their sins.” Ezekiel 18:21-24 **[NLT]**

“And if wicked people turn from their wickedness, obey the law, and do what is just and right, they will save their lives. They will live because they thought it over and decided to turn from their sins. Such people will not die.” Ezekiel 18:27-28 **[NLT]**

“Repent, and turn from your sins. Don’t let them destroy you! Put all your rebellion behind you, and find yourselves a new heart and a new spirit. For why should you die, O people of Israel? I don’t want you to die, says the Sovereign LORD. Turn back and live!” Ezekiel 18:30B-32 **[NLT]**

“Let the wicked change their ways and banish the very thought of doing wrong. Let them turn to the LORD that he may have mercy on them. Yes, turn to our God, for he will forgive generously.”

Isaiah 55:7 **[NLT]**

“The high and lofty one who lives in eternity, the Holy One, says this: ‘I live in the high and holy place with those whose spirits are contrite and humble. I restore the crushed spirit of the humble and revive the courage of those with repentant hearts.’” Isaiah 57:15 **[NLT]**

“No man repented of his wickedness, saying, ‘What have I done?’ Everyone turned to his own course, as the horse rushes into the battle.” Jeremiah 8:6

“‘Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? No! They were not at all ashamed; nor did they know how to blush. Therefore they shall fall among those who fall; at the time I punish them, they shall be cast down,’ says the Lord. Thus says the Lord: ‘Stand in the ways and see, and ask for the old paths, where the good way is, and walk in it; then you will find rest for your souls.’”

Jeremiah 6:15-16

“As surely as I live, says the Sovereign LORD, I take no pleasure in the death of wicked people. I only want them to turn from their wicked ways so they can live. Turn! Turn from your wickedness, O people of Israel! Why should you die?” Ezekiel 33:11 **[NLT]**

“Again, when I say to the wicked, ‘You shall surely die,’ if he turns from his sin and does what is lawful and right, if the wicked restores the pledge, gives back what he has stolen, and walks in the statutes of life without committing iniquity, he shall surely live; he shall not die. None of his sins which he has committed shall be remembered against him; he has done what is lawful and right; he shall surely live.”

Ezekiel 33:14-16

“The instant I speak concerning a nation and concerning a kingdom, to pluck up, to pull down, and to destroy it, if that nation against whom I have spoken turns from its evil, I will relent of the disaster that I thought to bring upon it. And the instant I speak concerning a nation and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant it, if it does evil in My sight so that it does not obey My voice, then I will relent concerning the good with which I said I would benefit it.” Jeremiah 18:7-10

## GOD RESTORES OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM: Repentance

“But while in deep distress, Manasseh sought the LORD his God and sincerely humbled himself before the God of his ancestors. And when he prayed, the LORD listened to him and was moved by his request. So the LORD brought Manasseh back to Jerusalem and to his kingdom. Then Manasseh finally realized that the LORD alone is God!” 2 Chronicles 33:12-13 **[NLT]**

“Brethren, if anyone among you wanders from the truth, and someone turns him back, let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins.” James 5:19-20

“The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, and He delights in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down; for the Lord upholds him with His hand.” Psalm 37:23-24

“**Now it shall come to pass**, when all these things come upon you, the blessing and the curse which I have set before you, and you call them to mind among all the nations where the Lord your God drives you, and you return to the Lord your God and obey His voice, according to all that I command you today, you and your children, with all your heart and with all your soul, **that the Lord your God will bring you back from captivity, and have compassion on you, and gather you again** from all the nations where the Lord your God has scattered you. If any of you are driven out to the farthest parts under heaven, from there the Lord your God will gather you, and from there He will bring you.” Deuteronomy 30:1-4

“The Lord your God will make you abound in all the work of your hand, in the fruit of your body, in the increase of your livestock, and in the produce of your land for good. For the Lord will again rejoice over you for good as He rejoiced over your fathers, if you obey the voice of the Lord your God, to keep His commandments and His statutes which are written in this Book of the Law, and if you turn to the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul.” Deuteronomy 30:9-10

“Obey My voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be My people. And walk in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well with you.” Jeremiah 7:2

“I pondered the direction of my life, and I turned to follow Your laws.” Psalm 119:59 **[NLT]**

“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. 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.” 2 Timothy 2:20-21

“... if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, 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.”  
2 Timothy 2:25-26

“I was [ready to be] inquired of by those who asked not; I was [ready to be] found by those who sought Me not. I said, Here I am, here I am [says I Am] to a nation [Israel] that has not called on My name. I have spread out My hands all the day long to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, after their own thoughts.” Isaiah 65:1-2 **[AMP]**



## GOD RESTORES OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM: Repentance

“Go now to the place at Shiloh where I once put the Tabernacle that bore my name. See what I did there because of all the wickedness of my people, the Israelites. While you were doing these wicked things, says the LORD, I spoke to you about it repeatedly, but you would not listen. I called out to you, but you refused to answer. So just as I destroyed Shiloh, I will now destroy this Temple that bears my name, this Temple that you trust in for help, this place that I gave to you and your ancestors. And I will send you out of my sight into exile, just as I did your relatives, the people of Israel” Jeremiah 7:12-15 **[NLT]**

“Then when they are exiled among the nations, they will remember me. They will recognize how hurt I am by their unfaithful hearts and lustful eyes that long for their idols. Then at last they will hate themselves for all their detestable sins. They will know that I alone am the Lord and that I was serious when I said I would bring this calamity on them.” Ezekiel 6:9-10 **[NLT]**

“He said to him, ‘Walk through the streets of Jerusalem and put a mark on the foreheads of all who weep and sigh because of the detestable sins being committed in their city.’ Then I heard the Lord say to the other men, ‘Follow him through the city and kill everyone whose forehead is not marked. Show no mercy; have no pity!’ Ezekiel 9:4-5 **[NLT]**

## Confession:

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“If I had not confessed the sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.” Psalm 66:18 **[NLT]**

“Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.” James 5:16

“He who covers his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy.”  
Proverbs 28:13

“This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.” 1 John 1:5-10

“Oh, what joy for those whose disobedience is forgiven, whose sin is put out of sight! Yes, what joy for those whose record the Lord has cleared of guilt, whose lives are lived in complete honesty! When I refused to confess my sin, my body wasted away, and I groaned all day long. Day and night your hand of discipline was heavy on me. My strength evaporated like water in the summer heat. Finally, I confessed all my sins to you and stopped trying to hide my guilt. I said to myself, ‘I will confess my rebellion to the Lord.’ And you forgave me! All my guilt is gone. Therefore, let all the godly pray to you while there is still

time, that they may not drown in the floodwaters of judgment. For you are my hiding place; you protect me from trouble. You surround me with songs of victory. The Lord says, 'I will guide you along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you. Do not be like a senseless horse or mule that needs a bit and bridle to keep it under control.' Many sorrows come to the wicked, but unfailing love surrounds those who trust the Lord. So rejoice in the Lord and be glad, all you who obey him! Shout for joy, all you whose hearts are pure!" Psalm 32 **[NLT]**

## His grace and forgiveness:

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"For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more." Jeremiah 31:34

"He has removed our sins as far from us as the east is from the west." Psalm 103:12 **[NLT]**

"All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out."  
John 6:37

"When God saw what they had done and how they had put a stop to their evil ways, he changed his mind and did not carry out the destruction he had threatened." Jonah 3:10 **[NLT]**

"But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins'-then He said to the paralytic, 'Arise, take up your bed, and go to your house.' And he arose and departed to his house. Now when the multitudes saw it, they marveled and glorified God, who had given such power to men."  
Matthew 9:6-8

"Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need." Hebrews 4:16

"You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus." 2 Timothy 2:1

"Is anyone thirsty? Come and drink—even if you have no money! Come, take your choice of wine or milk—it's all free! Why spend your money on food that does not give you strength? Why pay for food that does you no good? Listen to me, and you will eat what is good. You will enjoy the finest food."  
Isaiah 55:1-2 **[NLT]**

"God's law was given so that all people could see how sinful they were. But as people sinned more and more, God's wonderful grace became more abundant." Romans 5:20 **[NLT]**

"Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more, so that as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 5:20-21

"My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous." 1 John 2:1

“Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the Angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at his right hand to oppose him. And the Lord said to Satan, ‘The Lord rebuke you, Satan! The Lord who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is this not a brand plucked from the fire?’ Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and was standing before the Angel. Then He answered and spoke to those who stood before Him, saying, ‘Take away the filthy garments from him.’ And to him He said, ‘See, I have removed your iniquity from you, and I will clothe you with rich robes.’” Zechariah 3:1-4

“And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses. But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses.” Mark 11:25-26

## God’s promise of heaven:

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### *Our new bodies!*

“But concerning the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was spoken to you by God, saying, ‘I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living.” Matthew 22:31-32

“We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.”  
2 Corinthians 5:8

“For we know that when this earthly tent we live in is taken down (that is, when we die and leave this earthly body), we will have a house in heaven, an eternal body made for us by God himself and not by human hands. We grow weary in our present bodies, and we long to put on our heavenly bodies like new clothing. For we will put on heavenly bodies; we will not be spirits without bodies. While we live in these earthly bodies, we groan and sigh, but it’s not that we want to die and get rid of these bodies that clothe us. Rather, we want to put on our new bodies so that these dying bodies will be swallowed up by life. God himself has prepared us for this, and as a guarantee he has given us his Holy Spirit. So we are always confident, even though we know that as long as we live in these bodies we are not at home with the Lord. For we live by believing and not by seeing. Yes, we are fully confident, and we would rather be away from these earthly bodies, for then we will be at home with the Lord. So whether we are here in this body or away from this body, our goal is to please him.” 2 Corinthians 5:1-9 [NLT]

“But those who die in the Lord will live; their bodies will rise again! Those who sleep in the earth will rise up and sing for joy! For your life-giving light will fall like dew on your people in the place of the dead!”  
Isaiah 26:19 [NLT]

“And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame *and* everlasting contempt.” Daniel 12:2

## GOD RESTORES OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM: God's promise of heaven

“And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also.” John 14:3

“Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.” John 17:24 **[ESV]**

“For to me, living means living for Christ, and dying is even better. But if I live, I can do more fruitful work for Christ. So I really don't know which is better. I'm torn between two desires: I long to go and be with Christ, which would be far better for me. But for your sakes, it is better that I continue to live.”

Philippians 1:21-24 **[NLT]**

“It is the same way with the resurrection of the dead. Our earthly bodies are planted in the ground when we die, but they will be raised to live forever. Our bodies are buried in brokenness, but they will be raised in glory. They are buried in weakness, but they will be raised in strength. They are buried as natural human bodies, but they will be raised as spiritual bodies. For just as there are natural bodies, there are also spiritual bodies.” 1 Corinthians 15:42-44 **[NLT]**

“And after my skin is destroyed, this *I know*, that in my flesh I shall see God.” Job 19:26

“But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus” 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14

“Good people pass away; the godly often die before their time. But no one seems to care or wonder why. No one seems to understand that God is protecting them from the evil to come. For those who follow godly paths will rest in peace when they die.” Isaiah 57:1-2 **[NLT]**

### ***Returning to our first love, Christ!***

“Nevertheless I have *this* against you, that you have left your first love. Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place—unless you repent.” Revelation 2:4-5

“For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels of God in heaven.” Matthew 22:30

“Accordingly, she will be called an adulteress if she lives with another man while her husband is alive. But if her husband dies, she is free from that law, and if she marries another man she is not an adulteress.” Romans 7:3 **[ESV]**

“For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.’ This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.”

Ephesians 5:31-32

## GOD RESTORES OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM: God's promise of heaven

“Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife [the saints] has made herself ready.’ And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.” Revelation 19:7-8

“But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him.” 1 Corinthians 6:17

### ***New heavens and a new earth!***

“For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; and the former shall not be remembered or come to mind.” Isaiah 65:17

“But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.” 2 Peter 3:13 **[ESV]**

“And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.’ Then He who sat on the throne said, ‘Behold, I make all things new.’ And He said to me, ‘Write, for these words are true and faithful.’ And He said to me, ‘It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts.’” Revelation 21:4-6

“On that day I will make a covenant with all the wild animals and the birds of the sky and the animals that scurry along the ground so they will not harm you. I will remove all weapons of war from the land, all swords and bows, so you can live unafraid in peace and safety.” Hosea 2:18 **[NLT]**

“No longer will babies die when only a few days old. No longer will adults die before they have lived a full life. No longer will people be considered old at one hundred! Only the cursed will die that young! In those days people will live in the houses they build and eat the fruit of their own vineyards. Unlike the past, invaders will not take their houses and confiscate their vineyards. For my people will live as long as trees, and my chosen ones will have time to enjoy their hard-won gains. They will not work in vain, and their children will not be doomed to misfortune. For they are people blessed by the LORD, and their children, too, will be blessed. I will answer them before they even call to me. While they are still talking about their needs, I will go ahead and answer their prayers! The wolf and the lamb will feed together. The lion will eat hay like a cow. But the snakes will eat dust. In those days no one will be hurt or destroyed on my holy mountain. I, the LORD, have spoken!” Isaiah 65:20-25 **[NLT]**

“For as the new heavens and the new earth which I will make shall remain before Me,’ says the Lord, ‘So shall your descendants and your name remain. And it shall come to pass that from one New Moon to another, and from one Sabbath to another, all flesh shall come to worship before Me,’ says the Lord. ‘And they shall go forth and look upon the corpses of the men who have transgressed against Me. For their worm does not die, and their fire is not quenched. They shall be an abhorrence to all flesh.’”

Isaiah 66:22-24

# JESUS PASSES US THE BATON

## Jesus, the God-man:

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### [Stripped Himself of his Godly attributes]

“Let this same attitude and purpose and [humble] mind be in you which was in Christ Jesus: [Let Him be your example in humility:] who, although being essentially one with God and in the form of God [possessing the fullness of the attributes which make God God], did not think this equality with God was a thing to be eagerly grasped or retained, but stripped Himself [of all privileges and rightful dignity], so as to assume the guise of a servant (slave), in that He became like men and was born a human being.”

Philippians 2:5-7 **[AMP]**

“made Himself of no reputation” **[NKJV]** “emptied himself “ **[ESV]** “he gave up his divine privileges” **[NLT]** “he made himself nothing” **[NIV]** Philippians 2:7A

“And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.” John 17:5 **[ESV]**

“After saying all these things, Jesus looked up to heaven and said, ‘Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son so he can give glory back to you. For you have given him authority over everyone. He gives eternal life to each one you have given him. And this is the way to have eternal life—to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, the one you sent to earth. I brought glory to you here on earth by completing the work you gave me to do. Now, Father, bring me into the glory we shared before the world began.” John 17:1-5 **[NLT]**

### [Stripped Himself of being all-knowing (omniscient)]

“And Jesus, recognizing in Himself that the power proceeding from Him had gone forth, turned around immediately in the crowd and said, Who touched My clothes? And the disciples kept saying to Him, You see the crowd pressing hard around You from all sides, and You ask, Who touched Me? Still He kept looking around to see her who had done it.” Mark 5:30-32 **[AMP]**

“Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.”  
Luke 22:42

“And seeing from afar a fig tree having leaves, He [Jesus] went to see if perhaps He would find something on it. When He came to it, He found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs.”  
Mark 11:13

“But immediately, when Jesus perceived in His spirit that they reasoned thus within themselves, He said to them, ‘Why do you reason about these things in your hearts?’” Mark 2:8

“But when Jesus perceived their thoughts, He answered and said to them, ‘Why are you reasoning in your hearts?’” Luke 5:22

“I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.” John 5:30

“Jesus answered them and said, ‘My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me.’” John 7:16

## **[Stripped Himself of being all-powerful (omnipotent)]**

“And he will stand to lead his flock with the Lord’s strength, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.” Micah 5:4 **[NLT]**

“Then Jesus went back full of and under the power of the [Holy] Spirit into Galilee, and the fame of Him spread through the whole region round about.” Luke 4:14 **[AMP]**

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.”  
Luke 4:18-19

“Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner.” John 5:19

## **Jesus empowers us to do His works:**

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“how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.” Acts 10:38

“I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. You are already

JESUS PASSES US THE BATON: Jesus empowers us to do His works

clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.” John 15:1-4

“He [the Spirit of truth] will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare *it* to you. All things that the Father has are Mine.” John 16:14-15a

“Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”  
Matthew 20:28

“No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me **draws him**; and I will raise him up at the last day.” John 6:44

“You did not choose Me, but I **chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit**, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.” John 15:16

“Then He said to His disciples, ‘The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. **Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.**’” Matthew 9:37-38

“And He said to them, ‘**Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.** He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.’” Mark 16:15-16

“I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth. As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world.” John 17:15-18

“So Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.’” John 20:21

“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.” John 14:12-14

“**The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do**, and the God of peace will be with you.” Philippians 4:9

“Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God, who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.” 2 Corinthians 3:5-6

“And He said to them, ‘**Go** into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. ... And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; **they will** speak with new tongues; **they will** take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; **they will** lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.’” Mark 16:15-18

“Then He called His twelve disciples together and **gave them power and authority** over all demons, and to cure diseases. **He sent them** to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick.” Luke 9:1-2



## JESUS PASSES US THE BATON: Jesus empowers us to do His works

“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. **(You) 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, **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.” Matthew 28:19-20

“Don’t let anyone think less of you because you are young. Be an example to all believers in what you say, in the way you live, in your love, your faith, and your purity.” 1 Timothy 4:12 **[NLT]**

“Deliver those who are drawn toward death, and hold back those stumbling to the slaughter.”

Proverbs 24:11

“While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word.”

Acts 10:44

## Power of laying on of the hands:

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“Do you believe that I am able to do this?’ They said to Him, ‘Yes, Lord.’ Then He touched their eyes, saying, ‘According to your faith let it be to you.’” Matthew 9:29

“So He touched her hand, and the fever left her. “ Matthew 8:15

“Come and lay Your hands on her, that she may be healed, and she will live.’ So Jesus went with him, and a great multitude followed Him and thronged Him”.....“When He came in, He said to them, ‘Why make this commotion and weep? The child is not dead, but sleeping.’”...“Then He took the child by the hand, and said to her, ‘Talitha, cumi,’ which is translated, ‘Little girl, I say to you, arise.’ Immediately the girl arose and walked,...” Mark 5:23,39,41

“Now He could do no mighty work there, except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed them. And He marveled because of their unbelief.” Mark 6:5-6

“And he took him by the right hand and lifted him up, and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.” Acts 3:7

“And through the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people.”

Acts 5:12

“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.” 1 Timothy 4:14

“Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.” 2 Timothy 1:6-7

## JESUS PASSES US THE BATON: Power of laying on of the hands

“And Ananias went his way and entered the house; and laying his hands on him he said, ‘Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.’ Immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he received his sight at once; and he arose and was baptized.” Acts 9:17-18

“He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.” Mark 16:16-18

“Wherever He entered, into villages, cities, or the country, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged Him that they might just touch the hem of His garment. And as many as touched Him were made well.” Mark 6:56

“And He came down with them and stood on a level place with a crowd of His disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem, and from the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, who came to hear Him and be healed of their diseases, as well as those who were tormented with unclean spirits. And they were healed. And the whole multitude sought to touch Him, for power went out from Him and healed them all.” Luke 6:17-19

## The Holy Spirit living within us:

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“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” Acts 1:8 **[ESV]**

“But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.” Jeremiah 31:33

“But the word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, that you may do it.”

Deuteronomy 30:14

“Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?”

1 Corinthians 3:16

“Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.” 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

“Now he who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.” 1 John 3:24

## JESUS PASSES US THE BATON: The Holy Spirit living within us

“We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.” 1 John 4:6

“No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit.” 1 John 4:12-13

“Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.” 1 John 4:15

“On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, ‘If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’ But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.” John 7:37-39

“But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.” 1 John 2:27

“knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.”

2 Peter 1:20-21

“For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.” Romans 8:14

“But as it is written: ‘Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.’ But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. These things we also speak, not in words which man’s wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one. For ‘who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?’ But we have the mind of Christ.” 1 Corinthians 2:9-16

“But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him.” 1 Corinthians 6:17

“The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.” Romans 8:16

“Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.” 1 Corinthians 2:12

“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.” John 14:26

## JESUS PASSES US THE BATON: The Holy Spirit living within us

“If you love Me, keep My commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.”

John 14:15-17

“Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.” John 16:7

“However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak, and He will tell you things to come.”

John 16:13

“[I pray] that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.” Ephesians 3:16-19 [ESV]

“When all the people were baptized, it came to pass that Jesus also was baptized; and while He prayed, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him, and a voice came from heaven which said, ‘You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased.’” Luke 3:21-22

## Walking according to the Spirit:

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“I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.” Galatians 5:16

“And those who are Christ’s have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.”

Galatians 5:24-26

“Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.” Colossians 3:2

“For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, (set their minds on) the things of the Spirit.” Romans 8:5

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.” Galatians 5:22-23

“Therefore, brethren, we are debtors—not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.” Romans 8:12-14

## JESUS PASSES US THE BATON: Walking according to the Spirit

“There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death.” Romans 8:1-2

“For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like: of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.” Galatians 5:17-21

“Walk as children of light (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them.” Ephesians 5:9-11

“The spirit of a man is the lamp of the Lord, searching all the inner depths of his heart.” Proverbs 20:27

“Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.” Romans 8:27

## God gives us His will and desires:

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“Those who accept my commandments and obey them are the ones who love me. And because they love me, my Father will love them. And I will love them and reveal myself to each of them”

John 14:21 **[NLT]**

“They will be My people, and I will be their God. And I will give them one heart and one purpose: to worship [reverently fear] Me forever, for their own good and for the good of all their descendants. And I will make an everlasting covenant with them: I will never stop doing good for them. I will put a desire in their hearts to worship [reverently fear] Me, and they will never leave Me.” Jeremiah 32:38-40 **[NLT]**

“Having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself.” Ephesians 1:9

“Roll your works upon the Lord [commit and trust them wholly to Him; He will cause your thoughts to become agreeable to His will, and] so shall your plans be established *and* succeed.” Proverbs 16:3 **[AMP]**

“In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will.” Ephesians 1:11

“Delight yourself also in the LORD, and He shall give you the desires of your heart.” Psalm 37:4

JESUS PASSES US THE BATON: God gives us His will and desires

“For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases Him.”

Philippians 2:13 **[NLT]**

“For it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.” Philippians 2:13

“[God], who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began.” 2 Timothy 1:9

“No, a true Jew is one whose heart is right with God. And true circumcision is not merely obeying the letter of the law; rather, it is a change of heart produced by God’s Spirit. And a person with a changed heart seeks praise from God, not from people.” Romans 2:29 **[NLT]**

“Circumcision [*which is a change of heart produced by God’s Spirit*] was a sign that Abraham already had faith and that God had already accepted him and declared him to be righteous—even before he was circumcised.” Romans 4:11a **[NLT]**

“If you cling to your life, you will lose it; but if you give up your life [and your desires] for Me, you will find it [life in Him and His desires].” Matthew 10:39 **[NLT]**

“Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God’s will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.” Romans 12:2 **[NLT]**

“Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean. Your filth will be washed away, and you will no longer worship idols. And I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart [a heart of flesh]. And I will put my Spirit in you so that you will follow my decrees and be careful to obey my regulations.”

Ezekiel 36:25-27 **[NLT]**

“Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes.” Ephesians 4:23 **[NLT]**

“So get rid of all the filth and evil in your lives, and humbly accept the word God has planted in your hearts, for it has the power to save your souls.” James 1:21 **[NLT]**

“When we were controlled by our old nature [our flesh], sinful desires were at work within us, and the law aroused these evil desires that produced a harvest of sinful deeds, resulting in death. But now we have been released from the law, for we died to it and are no longer captive to its power. Now we can serve God, not in the old way of obeying the letter of the law, but in the new way of living in the Spirit.”

Romans 7:5-6 **[NLT]**

# God's desires in us should guide our planning:

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"The plans of the mind and orderly thinking belong to man, but from the Lord comes the [wise] answer of the tongue." Proverbs 16:1 **[AMP]**

"Roll your works upon the Lord [commit and trust them wholly to Him; He will cause your thoughts to become agreeable to His will, and] so shall your plans be established and succeed." Proverbs 16:3 **[AMP]**

"Commit your way to the Lord, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass." Psalm 37:5

"We can make our plans, but the LORD determines our steps." Proverbs 16:9 **[NLT]**

"We may throw the dice, but the LORD determines how they fall." Proverbs 16:33 **[NLT]**

"Many plans are in a man's mind, but it is the Lord's purpose for him that will stand."

Proverbs 19:21 **[AMP]**

"May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven." Matthew 6:10 **[NLT]**

"I know, LORD, that our lives are not our own. We are not able to plan our own course. So correct me, LORD, but please be gentle. Do not correct me in anger, for I would die." Jeremiah 10:23-24 **[NLT]**

"For the Lord shall be your confidence, firm and strong, and shall keep your foot from being caught [in a trap or some hidden danger]." Proverbs 3:26 **[AMP]**

## How does God see me?

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"Whoever has been born of God [the Spirit] does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he [our spirit] cannot sin, because he has been born of God." 1 John 3:9

"Jesus answered, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit.'" John 3:5-8

"Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened." 1 Corinthians 5:6-7

JESUS PASSES US THE BATON: How does God see me?

“For [God] made [Christ] who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in [Christ]: [so that we could be made right with God through Christ.]” 2 Corinthians 5:21

“Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.” Romans 6:4

“But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, ‘Abba, Father!’ Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.”

Galatians 4:4-7

“But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.” 2 Corinthians 3:18

“for in Him we live and move and have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, ‘For we are also His offspring.’” Acts 17:28

“For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.” Romans 8:29

“Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes.” Ephesians 1:4 **[NLT]**

“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.” Ephesians 2:20

“Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church.” Ephesians 4:15 **[NLT]**

“For you were once darkness, but now *you are* light in the Lord. Walk as children of light” Ephesians 5:8

“Don’t lie to each other, for you have stripped off your old sinful nature and all its wicked deeds. Put on your new nature, and be renewed as you learn to know your Creator and become like him.”

Colossians 3:9-10 **[NLT]**

“The Scriptures tell us, ‘The first man, Adam, became a living person.’ But the last Adam—that is, Christ—is a life-giving Spirit. What comes first is the natural body, then the spiritual body comes later. Adam, the first man, was made from the dust of the earth, while Christ, the second man, came from heaven. Earthly people are like the earthly man, and heavenly people are like the heavenly man. Just as we are now like the earthly man, we will someday be like the heavenly man.”

1 Corinthians 15:45-49 **[NLT]**

“So brace up your minds; be sober (circumspect, morally alert); set your hope wholly and unchangeably on the grace (divine favor) that is coming to you when Jesus Christ (the Messiah) is revealed. [Live] as children of obedience [to God]; do not conform yourselves to the evil desires [that governed you] in



## JESUS PASSES US THE BATON: How does God see me?

your former ignorance [when you did not know the requirements of the Gospel]. But as the One Who called you is holy (set apart), you yourselves also be holy (set apart) in all your conduct and manner of living. For it is written, 'You shall be holy (set apart), for I am holy (set apart).'" 1 Peter 1:13-16 **[AMP]**

"Are we beginning to praise ourselves again? Are we like others, who need to bring you letters of recommendation, or who ask you to write such letters on their behalf? Surely not! The only letter of recommendation we need is you yourselves. Your lives are a letter written in our hearts; everyone can read it and recognize our good work among you. Clearly, you are a letter from Christ showing the result of our ministry among you. This 'letter' is written not with pen and ink, but with the Spirit of the living God. It is carved not on tablets of stone, but on human hearts." 2 Corinthians 3:1-3 **[NLT]**

"Now the Angel of the LORD came and sat under the terebinth tree which was in Ophrah, which belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, while his son Gideon threshed wheat in the winepress, in order to hide it from the Midianites. And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him, and said to him, "The LORD is with you, you mighty man of valor!" Judges 6:11-12

## Leadership:

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"And you shall teach them the statutes and the laws, and show them the way in which they must walk and the work they must do. Moreover you shall select from all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place *such* over them *to be* rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens. And let them judge the people at all times. Then it will be *that* every great matter they shall bring to you, but every small matter they themselves shall judge. So it will be easier for you, for they will bear *the burden* with you. If you do this thing, and God *so* commands you, then you will be able to endure, and all this people will also go to their place in peace."

Exodus 18:20-23

"In those days Israel had no king; all the people did whatever seemed right in their own eyes."

Judges 17:6 **[NLT]**

"Where there is no revelation [divine guidance, prophetic vision], the people cast off restraint [are discouraged, run wild, perish]; but happy is he who keeps the law." Proverbs 29:18

"He must increase, but I must decrease." John 3:30

"Do not add to His words, or He may rebuke you and expose you as a liar." Proverbs 30:6 **[NLT]**

"You shall not use or repeat the name of the Lord your God in vain [that is, lightly or frivolously, in false affirmations or profanely]; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain."

Exodus 20:7 **[AMP]**

## JESUS PASSES US THE BATON:

“No discipline is enjoyable while it is happening—it’s painful! But afterward there will be a peaceful harvest of right living for those who are trained in this way. So take a new grip with your tired hands and strengthen your weak knees. Mark out a straight path for your feet so that those who are weak and lame will not fall but become strong.” Hebrews 12:11-13

“Then he added, ‘Son of man, let all my words sink deep into your own heart first. Listen to them carefully for yourself. Then go to your people in exile and say to them, “This is what the Sovereign LORD says!” Do this whether they listen to you or not.” Ezekiel 3:10-11 **[NLT]**

“An elder [leader] must not be a new believer, because he might become proud, and the devil would cause him to fall.” 1 Timothy 3:6 **[NLT]**

“Don’t let anyone think less of you because you are young. Be an example to all believers in what you say, in the way you live, in your love, your faith, and your purity.” 1 Timothy 4:12 **[NLT]**

“For you are all children of the light and of the day; we don’t belong to darkness and night. So be on your guard, not asleep like the others. Stay alert and be clearheaded. Night is the time when people sleep and drinkers get drunk. But let us who live in the light be clearheaded, protected by the armor of faith and love, and wearing as our helmet the confidence of our salvation.” 1 Thessalonians 5:5-8 **[NLT]**

“But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God’s very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.” 1 Peter 2:9 **[NLT]**

“Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. Beloved, I urge you as sojourners [temporary residents] and exiles [foreigners] to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. Keep your conduct among the Gentiles [your unbelieving neighbors] honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.” 1 Peter 2:10-12 **[ESV]**

“For this is the will of God, that by **doing good** you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men.”  
1 Peter 2:15

“In the same way, you wives must accept the authority [be submissive] of your husbands. Then, even if some refuse to obey the Good News [the Word], your godly lives will speak to them without any words. They will be won over by observing your pure and reverent lives.” 1 Peter 3:1-2 **[NLT]**

“Don’t you see how wonderfully kind, tolerant, and patient God is with you? Does this mean nothing to you? Can’t you see that his kindness is intended to turn you from your sin? [the goodness of God leads you to repentance(KJV)]” Romans 2:4 **[NLT]**

“Care for the flock that God has entrusted to you. Watch over it willingly, not grudgingly—not for what you will get out of it, but because you are eager to serve God. Don’t lord it over the people assigned to your care, but lead them by your own good example.” 1 Peter 5:2-3 **[NLT]**

## JESUS PASSES US THE BATON: Leadership

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your **good works** and glorify your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5:16

“For what credit is it if, when you are beaten for your faults, you take it patiently? But when you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently, this is commendable before God.” 1 Peter 2:20

“And let us not grow weary while **doing good**, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.”  
Galatians 6:9

“Also, people outside the church must speak well of him so that he will not be disgraced and fall into the devil’s trap.” 1 Timothy 3:7 **[NLT]**

“Practice these things [to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching], immerse yourself in them, so that all may see your progress [that your progress may be evident to all]. Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers.” 1 Timothy 4:15-16 **[ESV]**

“but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect.”  
1 Peter 3:15 **[ESV]**

“Of course, your former friends are surprised when you no longer plunge into the flood of wild and destructive things they do. So they slander you.” 1 Peter 4:4 **[NLT]**

“Therefore I write these things being absent, lest being present I should use sharpness, according to the authority which the Lord has given me for edification and not for destruction.” 2 Corinthians 13:10

“Dear brothers and sisters, if another believer is overcome by some sin, you who are godly [spiritual] should gently and humbly help that person back onto the right path. And be careful not to fall into the same temptation yourself.” Galatians 6:1 **[NLT]**

“Do not admit a charge against an elder except on the evidence of two or three witnesses. As for those [elders, leaders] who persist in sin, rebuke them in the presence of all, so that the rest may stand in fear.”  
1 Timothy 5:19-20 **[ESV]**

“So guard yourselves and God’s people. Feed and shepherd God’s flock—His church, purchased with His own blood—over which the Holy Spirit has appointed you as elders [overseers]. I know that false teachers, like vicious wolves, will come in among you after I leave, not sparing the flock. Even some men from your own group will rise up and distort the truth in order to draw a following.” Acts 20:28-30 **[NLT]**

“Then this message came to me from the LORD: ‘Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds, the leaders of Israel. Give them this message from the Sovereign LORD: What sorrow awaits you shepherds who feed yourselves instead of your flocks. Shouldn’t shepherds feed their sheep? You drink the milk, wear the wool, and butcher the best animals, but you let your flocks starve. You have not taken care of the weak. You have not tended the sick or bound up the injured. You have not gone looking for those

who have wandered away and are lost. Instead, you have ruled them with harshness and cruelty. So my sheep have been scattered without a shepherd, and they are easy prey for any wild animal. They have wandered through all the mountains and all the hills, across the face of the earth, yet no one has gone to search for them.” Ezekiel 34:1-6 **[NLT]**

## Being a godly father:

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“But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.” Joshua 24:15

“The godly walk with integrity; blessed are their children who follow them.” Proverbs 20:7 **[NLT]**

“I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.” 3 John 4

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.”

Deuteronomy 6:5-9

“Children are a gift from the LORD; they are a reward from Him.” Psalm 127:3 **[NLT]**

“Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged.” Colossians 3:21

“And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.” Ephesians 6:4

“Do not withhold correction from a child, for if you beat him with a rod, he will not die. You shall beat him with a rod, and deliver his soul from hell.” Proverbs 23:13-14

“My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, nor detest His correction; for whom the Lord loves He corrects, just as a father the son in whom he delights.” Proverbs 3:11-12

“When a crime is not punished quickly, people feel it is safe to do wrong.” Ecclesiastes 8:11 **[NLT]**

“Direct your children onto the right path, and when they are older, they will not leave it.”

Proverbs 22:6 **[NLT]**

“This is the thing which the LORD has commanded: ‘Let every man gather it according to each one’s need, one omer for each person, according to the number of persons; let every man take for those who are in his tent.’” Exodus 16:16

JESUS PASSES US THE BATON:

“But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.” 1 Timothy 4:8

“Now for the third time I am ready to come to you. And I will not be burdensome to you; for I do not seek yours, but you. For the children ought not to lay up for the parents, but the parents for the children. And I will very gladly spend and be spent for your souls; though the more abundantly I love you, the less I am loved.” 2 Corinthians 12:14-15

“Leave your fatherless children, I will preserve them alive; and let your widows trust in Me.”

Jeremiah 49:11

“A father of the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in His holy habitation. God sets the solitary in families; He brings out those who are bound into prosperity; but the rebellious dwell in a dry land.”

Psalms 68:5-6

# GOD'S BLESSINGS

## Seek God putting Him first and He will bless you:

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“He also opens their ear to instruction, and commands that they turn from iniquity. If they obey and serve *Him*, they shall spend their days in prosperity, and their years in pleasures.” Job 36:10-11

“Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You. Then the earth shall yield her increase; God, our own God, shall bless us. God shall bless us, and all the ends of the earth shall fear Him.”

Psalm 67:5-7

“The Lord looks down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there are any who understand, who seek God.” Psalm 14:2

“I have not departed from his commands, but have treasured his words more than daily food.”

Job 23:12 [NLT]

“For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.”

Matthew 16:25

“And those who know Your name will put their trust in You; for You, Lord, have not forsaken those who seek You.” Psalm 9:10

“Blessed are those who keep His testimonies, who seek Him with the whole heart! They also do no iniquity; they walk in His ways.” Psalm 119:2-3

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.” Proverbs 3:5-6

“Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You. Then the earth shall yield her increase; God, our own God, shall bless us.” Psalm 67:5-6

“Honor the Lord with your possessions, and with the firstfruits of all your increase; so your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow with new wine.” Proverbs 3:9-10

“Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ for after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these

GOD'S BLESSINGS: Seek God putting Him first and He will bless you

things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you." Matthew 6:31-33

"Oh, fear the Lord, you His saints! There is no want to those who fear Him. The young lions lack and suffer hunger; but those who seek the Lord shall not lack any good thing." Psalm 34:9-10

"For evildoers shall be cut off; but those who wait on the Lord, they shall inherit the earth." Psalm 37:9

"He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it."

Matthew 10:37-3

## Keep God's ways and He will bless you:

"Jesus replied, 'But even more blessed are all who hear the word of God and put it into practice.'"

Luke 11:28 **[NLT]**

"And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever."

1 John 2:17

"Then it shall come to pass, because you listen to these judgments, and keep and do them, that the Lord your God will keep with you the covenant and the mercy which He swore to your fathers."

Deuteronomy 7:12

"The Lord your God will make you abound in all the work of your hand, in the fruit of your body, in the increase of your livestock, and in the produce of your land for good. For the Lord will again rejoice over you for good as He rejoiced over your fathers, if you obey the voice of the Lord your God, to keep His commandments and His statutes which are written in this Book of the Law, and if you turn to the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul." Deuteronomy 30:9-10

"For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments." Exodus 20:5-6

"Truly God is good to Israel, to such as are pure in heart." Psalm 73:1

"Blessed is every one who fears the Lord, who walks in His ways." Psalm 128:1

"The Lord will give grace and glory; no good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly."

Psalm 84:11

GOD'S BLESSINGS: Keep God's ways and He will bless you

"And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose." Romans 8:28

"Blessed are those who keep justice, and he who does righteousness at all times!" Psalm 106:3

"Commit your way to the Lord, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass." Psalm 37:5

"The Lord rewarded me according to my righteousness; according to the cleanness of my hands He has recompensed me. For I have kept the ways of the Lord, and have not wickedly departed from my God."

Psalm 18:20-21

"Moreover by them (the law, testimony, statutes, commandment, fear, and judgments of the Lord) Your servant is warned, and in keeping them there is great reward. Who can understand his errors? Cleanse me from secret faults. Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me." Psalm 19:11-13

"And the humble He teaches His way. All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth, to such as keep His covenant and His testimonies." Psalm 25:9-10

"This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success." Joshua 1:8

"My son, do not forget my law, but let your heart keep my commands; for length of days and long life and peace they will add to you. Let not mercy and truth forsake you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart, and so find favor and high esteem in the sight of God and man."

Proverbs 3:1-4

"My son, give attention to my words; incline your ear to my sayings, do not let them depart from your eyes; keep them in the midst of your heart; for they are life to those who find them, and health to all their flesh. Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life." Proverbs 4:20-24

"Lord God of Israel, there is no God in heaven above or on earth below like You, who keep Your covenant and mercy with Your servants who walk before You with all their hearts. You have kept what You promised Your servant David my father; You have both spoken with Your mouth and fulfilled it with Your hand, as it is this day." 1 Kings 8:23-24

"Therefore know that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments;" Deuteronomy 7:9

"If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land." Isaiah 1:19

"If they obey and serve Him, they shall spend their days in prosperity, and their years in pleasures."

Job 36:11



GOD'S BLESSINGS: Keep God's ways and He will bless you

"The wicked man does deceptive work, but he who sows righteousness will have a sure reward."

Proverbs 11:18

"For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it." Mark 8:35

"Keep justice, and do righteousness, for My salvation is about to come, and My righteousness to be revealed. Blessed is the man who does this, and the son of man who lays hold on it;" Isaiah 56:1-2

"Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness. Delight yourself also in the Lord, and He shall give you the desires of your heart." Psalm 37:3-4

"Whoever offers praise glorifies Me; and to him who orders his conduct aright I will show the salvation of God." Psalm 50:23

"So He humbled you, allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the Lord." Deuteronomy 8:3

"But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear Him, and His righteousness to children's children, to such as keep His covenant, and to those who remember His commandments to do them." Psalm 103:17-18

"Those who are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God. They shall still bear fruit in old age; they shall be fresh and flourishing, to declare that the Lord is upright; He is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in Him." Psalm 92:13-15

"Oh, that My people would listen to Me, that Israel would walk in My ways! I would soon subdue their enemies, and turn My hand against their adversaries. The haters of the Lord would pretend submission to Him, but their fate would endure forever. He would have fed them also with the finest of wheat; and with honey from the rock I would have satisfied you." Psalm 81:13-16

"Praise the Lord! Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who delights greatly in His commandments. His descendants will be mighty on earth; the generation of the upright will be blessed. Wealth and riches will be in his house, and his righteousness endures forever." Psalm 112:1-3

"The way of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord, but He loves him who follows righteousness."

Proverbs 15:9

"He stores up sound wisdom for the upright; He is a shield to those who walk uprightly; He guards the paths of justice, and preserves the way of His saints." Proverbs 2:7-8

"The curse of the Lord is on the house of the wicked, but He blesses the home of the just." Proverbs 3:33

"Blessings are on the head of the righteous, but violence covers the mouth of the wicked."

Proverbs 10:6

## GOD'S BLESSINGS: Keep God's ways and He will bless you

"The blessing of the Lord makes one rich, and He adds no sorrow with it." Proverbs 10:22

"In the house of the righteous there is much treasure, but in the revenue of the wicked is trouble."  
Proverbs 15:6

"The wicked man does deceptive work, but he who sows righteousness will have a sure reward."  
Proverbs 11:18

"The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he who wins souls is wise." Proverbs 11:30

"A good man obtains favor from the Lord, but a man of wicked intentions He will condemn."  
Proverbs 12:2

"In the way of righteousness is life, and in its pathway there is no death." Proverbs 12:28

"If his sons forsake My law and do not walk in My judgments, if they break My statutes and do not keep My commandments, then I will punish their transgression with the rod, and their iniquity with stripes. Nevertheless My lovingkindness I will not utterly take from him, nor allow My faithfulness to fail."  
Psalm 89:30-33

## Bless others as God has blessed you:

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"From what the Lord your God has blessed you with, you shall give to him." Deuteronomy 15:14

"Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God which He has given you." Deuteronomy 16:17

"And if you give even a cup of cold water to one of the least of my followers, you will surely be rewarded." Matthew 10:42 **[NLT]**

"But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:6-7

"Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you."  
Luke 6:38

"Cast your bread upon the waters, for you will find it after many days." Ecclesiastes 11:1

"And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work." 2 Corinthians 9:8

GOD'S BLESSINGS: Bless others as God has blessed you

"You shall surely give to him, and your heart should not be grieved when you give to him, because for this thing the Lord your God will bless you in all your works and in all to which you put your hand."

Deuteronomy 15:10

"For the Lord your God will bless you just as He promised you; you shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow; you shall reign over many nations, but they shall not reign over you."

Deuteronomy 15:6

"There is one who scatters, yet increases more; and there is one who withholds more than is right, but it leads to poverty. The generous soul will be made rich, and he who waters will also be watered himself."

Proverbs 11:24-25

"He who gives to the poor will not lack, but he who hides his eyes will have many curses."

Proverbs 28:27

"Those who shut their ears to the cries of the poor will be ignored in their own time of need."

Proverbs 21:13 **[NLT]**

"Some people are always greedy for more, but the godly love to give!" Proverbs 21:26 **[NLT]**

"Blessed are those who are generous, because they feed the poor." Proverbs 22:9 **[NLT]**

"If you help the poor, you are lending to the LORD— and he will repay you!" Proverbs 19:17 **[NLT]**

"They encouraged us to keep preaching to the Gentiles, while they continued their work with the Jews. Their only suggestion was that we keep on helping the poor, which I have always been eager to do."  
Galatians 2:9b-10 **[NLT]**

"These twelve Jesus sent out and commanded them, saying: 'Do not go into the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter a city of the Samaritans. But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And as you go, preach, saying, "The kingdom of heaven is at hand" Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.'" Matthew 10:5-8

"while, through the proof of this ministry, they glorify God for the obedience of your confession to the gospel of Christ, and for your liberal sharing with them and all men, and by their prayer for you, who long for you because of the exceeding grace of God in you." 2 Corinthians 9:13-14

"As a result of your ministry, they will give glory to God. For your generosity to them and to all believers will prove that you are obedient to the Good News of Christ." 2 Corinthians 9:13 **[NLT]**

"Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness, while you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God." 2 Corinthians 9:10-11

"For God is the one who provides seed for the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, he will provide and increase your resources and then produce a great harvest of generosity in you. Yes, you will

GOD'S BLESSINGS: Bless others as God has blessed you

be enriched in every way so that you can always be generous. And when we take your gifts to those who need them, they will thank God." 2 Corinthians 9:10-11 **[NLT]**

"Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor; working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need." Ephesians 4:28

"Be hospitable to one another without grumblings. As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God." 1 Peter 4:9-10

"But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:" 1 Corinthians 12:7

"For I do not mean that others should be eased and you burdened; but by an equality, that now at this time your abundance may supply their lack, that their abundance also may supply your lack-that there may be equality. As it is written, 'He who gathered much had nothing left over, and he who gathered little had no lack.'" 2 Corinthians 8:13-15

"We then who are strong ought to bear with the scruples of the weak, and not to please ourselves."  
Romans 15:1

"I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" Acts 20:35

"When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not wholly reap the corners of your field, nor shall you gather the gleanings of your harvest. And you shall not glean your vineyard, nor shall you gather every grape of your vineyard; you shall leave them for the poor and the stranger: I am the Lord your God." Leviticus 19:9-10

"Is this not the fast that I have chosen: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, to let the oppressed go free, and that you break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and that you bring to your house the poor who are cast out; when you see the naked, that you cover him, and not hide yourself from your own flesh? Then your light shall break forth like the morning, your healing shall spring forth speedily, and your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry, and He will say, 'Here I am.'" Isaiah 58:6-9

"You, O God, provided from Your goodness for the poor." Psalm 68:10

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God." 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

"Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy. Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share, storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life." 2 Timothy 6:17-19

GOD'S BLESSINGS: Bless others as God has blessed you

"Then he turned to his host. 'When you put on a luncheon or a banquet,' he said, 'don't invite your friends, brothers, relatives, and rich neighbors. For they will invite you back, and that will be your only reward. Instead, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. Then at the resurrection of the righteous, God will reward you for inviting those who could not repay you.'" Luke 14:12-14 **[NLT]**

## Bless your community

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"Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."  
Matthew 20:28

"Don't be concerned for your own good but for the good of others." 1 Corinthians 10:24 **[NLT]**

"By the blessing of the upright the city is exalted." Proverbs 11:11

"Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people." Proverbs 14:34

"You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men." Matthew 5:13

"Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, 'I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.'" John 8:12

"You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."

Matthew 5:14-16

"So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found no one." Ezekiel 22:30

"I looked for someone who might rebuild the wall of righteousness that guards the land. I searched for someone to stand in the gap in the wall so I wouldn't have to destroy the land, but I found no one."

Ezekiel 22:30 **[NLT]**

"Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth." 1 Timothy 2:1-4

"So they said, 'Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household.'"

Acts 16:31

# The function of the church:

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“For you are all children of the light and of the day; we don’t belong to darkness and night. So be on your guard, not asleep like the others. Stay alert and be clearheaded. Night is the time when people sleep and drinkers get drunk. But let us who live in the light be clearheaded, protected by the armor of faith and love, and wearing as our helmet the confidence of our salvation.” 1 Thessalonians 5:5-8 **[NLT]**

“But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God’s very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.” 1 Peter 2:9 **[NLT]**

“Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. Beloved, I urge you as sojourners [temporary residents] and exiles [foreigners] to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. Keep your conduct among the Gentiles [your unbelieving neighbors] honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.” 1 Peter 2:10-12 **[ESV]**

“As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend.” Proverbs 27:17 **[NLT]**

“Even so you, since you are zealous for spiritual *gifts*, *let it be* for the edification of the church *that* you seek to excel.” 1 Corinthians 14:12 **[NLT]**

“Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise. Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.” Hebrews 10:23-25 **[NLT]**

“Care for the flock that God has entrusted to you. Watch over it willingly, not grudgingly—not for what you will get out of it, but because you are eager to serve God. Don’t lord it over the people assigned to your care, but lead them by your own good example.” 1 Peter 5:2-3 **[NLT]**

“God says, ‘Rebuild the road! Clear away the rocks and stones so my people can return from captivity.’”  
Isaiah 57:14 **[NLT]**

“‘Sing, O childless woman, you who have never given birth! Break into loud and joyful song, O Jerusalem, you who have never been in labor. For the desolate woman now has more children than the woman who lives with her husband,’ says the LORD. ‘Enlarge your house; build an addition. Spread out your home, and spare no expense! For you will soon be bursting at the seams. Your descendants will occupy other nations and resettle the ruined cities.’” Isaiah 54:1-3 **[NLT]**

“Know (perceive, recognize, and understand with approval) that the Lord is God! It is He Who has made us, not we ourselves [and we are His]! We are His people and the sheep of His pasture.”

Psalm 100:3 **[AMP]**

## GOD'S BLESSINGS: The function of the church

“Our people must learn to do good by meeting the urgent needs of others; then they will not be unproductive [unfruitful].” Titus 3:14 **[NLT]**

“I always thank my God when I pray for you, Philemon, because I keep hearing about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all of God’s people. And I am praying that you will put into action the generosity that comes from your faith as you understand and experience all the good things we have in Christ.” Philemon 1:4-6 **[NLT]**

“If you claim to be religious but don’t control your tongue, you are fooling yourself, and your religion is worthless. Pure and genuine religion in the sight of God the Father means caring for orphans and widows in their distress and refusing to let the world corrupt you.” James 1:26-27 **[NLT]**

“Dear brothers and sisters, if another believer is overcome by some sin, you who are godly [spiritual] should gently and humbly help that person back onto the right path. And be careful not to fall into the same temptation yourself.” Galatians 6:1 **[NLT]**

“Bear (carry, take away) one another’s *burdens* [baros (βάρη)] (weight), and so fulfill the law of Christ.”  
Galatians 6:2

“For each one shall bear (carry, take away) his own *load* [phortion (φορτίον)] (a burden which must be carried by the individual and not transferrable).” Galatians 6:5

“For My yoke is easy and My *burden* [phortion (φορτίον)] is light.” Matthew 11:30

“Now, son of man, I am making you a watchman for the people of Israel. Therefore, listen to what I say and warn them for me. If I announce that some wicked people are sure to die and you fail to tell them to change their ways, then they will die in their sins, and I will hold you responsible for their deaths. But if you warn them to repent and they don’t repent, they will die in their sins, but you will have saved yourself.” Ezekiel 33:7-9 **[NLT]**

“And the remnant of Jacob shall be among the nations in the midst of many peoples like a lion among the beasts of the forest,” Micah 5:8 **[AMP]**

“For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruit from my labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell. For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better. Nevertheless to remain in the flesh is more needful for you.” Philippians 1:21-24

“And He Himself gave some *to be* apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ— from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to

## GOD'S BLESSINGS: The function of the church

the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love." Ephesians 4:11-16

"And they steadfastly persevered, devoting themselves constantly to the instruction and fellowship of the apostles, to the breaking of bread [including the Lord's Supper] and prayers. And a sense of awe (reverential fear) came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were performed through the apostles (the special messengers). And all who believed (who adhered to and trusted in and relied on Jesus Christ) were united and [together] they had everything in common; and they sold their possessions (both their landed property and their movable goods) and distributed the price among all, according as any had need. And day after day they regularly assembled in the temple with united purpose, and in their homes they broke bread [including the Lords Supper]. They partook of their food with gladness and simplicity and generous hearts, constantly praising God and being in favor and goodwill with all the people; and the Lord kept adding [to their number] daily those who were being saved [from spiritual death]." Acts 2:42-47 **[AMP]**

## Give God what's His (Tithing):

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"You shall not delay to offer the first of your ripe produce and your juices. The firstborn of your sons you shall give to Me." Exodus 22:29

"The best [the first] of the firstfruits of your ground you shall bring into the house of the LORD your God."  
Exodus 23:19 **[ESV]**

"But there is an order to this resurrection: Christ was raised as the first of the harvest; then all who belong to Christ will be raised when he comes back." 1 Corinthians 15:23 **[NLT]**

"All the firstborn are Mine. On the day that I struck all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, I sanctified to Myself all the firstborn in Israel, both man and beast. They shall be Mine: I am the Lord." Numbers 3:13

"The hardworking farmer must be first to partake of the crops." 2 Timothy 2:6

"So [Abram] brought back all the goods [taken from Sodom and Gomorrah], and also brought back his brother Lot and his goods, ... Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was the priest of God Most High. And [Melchizedek] blessed [Abram], ... And [Abram] gave [Melchizedek] a tithe of all [the goods]. Genesis 14:16, 18-20

"And this stone which I [Jacob] have set as a pillar shall be God's house, and of all that You give me I will surely give a tenth to You." Genesis 28:22

"So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase."  
1 Corinthians 3:7



## GOD'S BLESSINGS: Give God what's His (Tithing)

"You shall truly tithe all the increase of your grain that the field produces year by year."

Deuteronomy 14:22

"Honor the Lord with your possessions, and with the firstfruits of all your increase; so your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow with new wine." Proverbs 3:9-10

"'Cursed is the cheat who promises to give a fine ram from his flock but then sacrifices a defective one to the Lord. For I am a great king,' says the LORD of Heaven's Armies, 'and my name is feared among the nations!'" Malachi 1:14 **[NLT]**

"Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you."

Luke 6:38

"Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, 'In what way have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings. You are cursed with a curse, for you have robbed Me, even this whole nation. 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. '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; 'And all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a delightful land,' says the LORD of hosts." Malachi 3:8-12

## Finances:

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"Those who love money will never have enough. How meaningless to think that wealth brings true happiness!" Ecclesiastes 5:10 **[NLT]**

"Give me an eagerness for your laws rather than a love for money!" Psalm 119:36 **[NLT]**

"Jesus replied, "But even more blessed are all who hear the word of God and put it into practice."

Luke 11:28 **[NLT]**

"No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other; you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money." Matthew 6:24 **[NLT]**

"Because you have trusted in your wealth and skill, you will be taken captive." Jeremiah 48:7 **[NLT]**

"Teach those who are rich in this world not to be proud and not to trust in their money, which is so unreliable. Their trust should be in God, who richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment. Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and generous to those in need, always being ready to share with others. By doing this they will be storing up their treasure as a good foundation for the future so that they may experience true life." 1 Timothy 6:17-19 **[NLT]**

## GOD'S BLESSINGS: Finances

“Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, ‘How hard it is for the rich to enter the Kingdom of God!’”  
Mark 10:23 **[NLT]**

“For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. And some people, craving money, have wandered from the true faith and pierced themselves with many sorrows.” 1 Timothy 6:10 **[NLT]**

“There is another serious problem I have seen under the sun. Hoarding riches harms the saver.”  
Ecclesiastes 5:13 **[NLT]**

“Then He said, ‘Beware! Guard against every kind of greed. Life is not measured by how much you own.’”  
Luke 12:15 **[NLT]**

“But these people set an ambush for themselves; they are trying to get themselves killed. Such is the fate of all who are greedy for money; it robs them of life.” Proverbs 1:18-19 **[NLT]**

“but all too quickly the message is crowded out by the worries of this life, the lure of wealth, and the desire for other things, so no fruit is produced.” Mark 4:19 **[NLT]**

“Yes, you will be enriched in every way so that you can always be generous. And when we take your gifts to those who need them, they will thank God.” 2 Corinthians 9:11 **[NLT]**

“Don’t wear yourself out trying to get rich. Be wise enough to know when to quit. In the blink of an eye wealth disappears, for it will sprout wings and fly away like an eagle.” Proverbs 23:4-5 **[NLT]**

“And if your wealth increases, don’t make it the center of your life.” Psalm 62:10B **[NLT]**

“Those who love money will never have enough. How meaningless to think that wealth brings true happiness!” Ecclesiastes 5:10 **[NLT]**

“For because you have trusted in your works and your treasures, you also shall be taken.” Jeremiah 48:7

“For my people have done two evil things: They have abandoned me— the fountain of living water. And they have dug for themselves cracked cisterns that can hold no water at all!” Jeremiah 2:13

“The wise have wealth and luxury, but fools spend whatever they get.” Proverbs 21:20 **[NLT]**

“True humility and fear of the LORD lead to riches, honor, and long life.” Proverbs 22:4 **[NLT]**

“Those who love pleasure become poor; those who love wine and luxury will never be rich.”  
Proverbs 21:17 **[NLT]**

“The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender.” Proverbs 22:7

“But divide your investments among many places, for you do not know what risks might lie ahead.”  
Ecclesiastes 11:2 **[NLT]**

“The humble will see their God at work and be glad. Let all who seek God’s help be encouraged.”  
Psalm 69:32 **[NLT]**

## GOD'S BLESSINGS: Finances

“Jesus told them, ‘Go back to John and tell him what you have heard and seen— the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised to life, and *the Good News is being preached to the poor*. And tell him, ‘God blesses those who do not turn away because of me.’”

Matthew 11:4-6 **[NLT]**

# GODLY LIVING

## Live like Jesus, not like the world:

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“Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God’s will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.” Romans 12:2 **[NLT]**

“But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.” Joshua 24:15

“You say, ‘I am allowed to do anything’—but not everything is good for you. And even though ‘I am allowed to do anything,’ I must not become a slave to anything.” 1 Corinthians 6:12 **[NLT]**

“I hate all your show and pretense— ... Instead, I want to see a mighty flood of justice, an endless river of righteous living.” Amos 5:21,24 **[NLT]**

“Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ, ... and not in any way terrified by your adversaries,” Philippians 1:27-28

“Don’t let anyone think less of you because you are young. Be an example to all believers in what you say, in the way you live, in your love, your faith, and your purity.” 1 Timothy 4:12 **[NLT]**

“I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.”

Galatians 2:20

“For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; or if we are of sound mind, it is for you. For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus; that if One died for all, then all died; and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again.”

2 Corinthians 5:13-15

“The way of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord, but He loves him who follows righteousness.”

Proverbs 15:9

“Show me Your ways, O Lord; teach me Your paths. Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation; on You I wait all the day.” Psalm 25:4-5

“These are the things you shall do: Speak each man the truth to his neighbor; give judgment in your gates for truth, justice, and peace; let none of you think evil in your heart against your neighbor; and do not love a false oath. For all these are things that I hate,’ says the Lord.” Zechariah 8:16-17

GODLY LIVING: Live like Jesus, not like the world

“Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same.” Romans 13:2-3

“But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth.” Colossians 3:8

“For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world.” 1 John 2:16

“But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints; neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks. For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore do not be partakers with them.” Ephesians 5:3-7

“Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: I am the Lord your God, who teaches you to profit, who leads you by the way you should go.” Isaiah 48:17

“And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, ‘Speak to all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say to them: “You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.”’” Leviticus 19:2

“...bear fruits worthy of repentance,” ...” “And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.” Luke 3:8-9

“Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect?”  
James 2:22

“Woe to you, Scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone.” Matthew 23:23

“Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, submitting to one another in the fear of God.” Ephesians 5:17-21

“But I say to you who hear: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you.” Luke 6:27-28

“For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality; that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, not in passion of lust, like the Gentiles who do not know God; that no one should take advantage of and defraud his brother in this

matter, because the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also forewarned you and testified. For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness. Therefore he who rejects this does not reject man, but God, who has also given us His Holy Spirit.” 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8

“Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin.” James 4:17

## Sex, cutting the covenant of marriage:

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“I made you thrive like a plant in the field; and you grew, matured, and became very beautiful. Your breasts were formed, your hair grew, but you were naked and bare. When I passed by you again and looked upon you, indeed your time was the time of love; so I spread My wing over you and covered your nakedness. Yes, I swore an oath to you and entered into a covenant with you, and you became Mine,” says the Lord God.” Ezekiel 16:7-8

“Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah’s tent; and he took Rebekah and she became his wife, and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother’s death.” Genesis 24:67

“For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.”

Ephesians 5:31-32

“Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For ‘the two,’ He says, ‘shall become one flesh.’ But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him.” 1 Corinthians 6:16-17

“And He answered and said to them, ‘Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning ‘made them male and female.’ And said, ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’? So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate.” Matthew 19:4-6

“And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery.” Matthew 19:9

“Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah-not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the Lord.” Jeremiah 31-32

“If a man entices a virgin who is not betrothed, and lies with her, he shall surely pay the bride-price for her to be his wife. If her father utterly refuses to give her to him, he shall pay money according to the bride-price of virgins.” Exodus 22:16-17

“If a man finds a young woman who is a virgin, who is not betrothed, and he seizes her and lies with her, and they are found out, then the man who lay with her shall give to the young woman’s father fifty shekels of silver, and she shall be his wife because he has humbled her; he shall not be permitted to divorce her all his days.” Deuteronomy 22:28-29

## Pro life, it’s God’s will!:

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“And it happened, when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, that the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. Then she spoke out with a loud voice and said, ‘Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! But why is this granted to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For indeed, as soon as the voice of your greeting sounded in my ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy.” Luke 1:41-44

“For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother’s womb. I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; marvelous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well.”

Psalm 139:13-14

“Even so it is not the will of your Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.”

Matthew 18:14

“If men fight, and hurt a woman with child, so that she gives birth prematurely, yet no harm follows, he shall surely be punished accordingly as the woman’s husband imposes on him; and he shall pay as the judges determine. But if any harm follows, then you shall give life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, burn for burn, wound for wound, stripe for stripe.” Exodus 21:22-25

“Open your mouth for the dumb [those unable to speak for themselves], for the rights of all who are left desolate and defenseless;” Proverbs 31:8 **[AMP]**

“Open your mouth for the speechless, in the cause of all who are appointed to die. Open your mouth, judge righteously, and plead the cause of the poor and needy.” Proverbs 31:8-9

## God’s will:

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“And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.”

1 John 2:17

“Therefore do not be unwise, but **understand what the will of the Lord is**. And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but **be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another** in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, **singing and making melody** in your heart to the Lord, **giving thanks always for all**

## GODLY LIVING: God's will

**things** to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, **submitting to one another** in the fear of God." Ephesians 5:17-21

**"Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers.** For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?" ... "For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: 'I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people.' Therefore, 'Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you. I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.' Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God." 2 Corinthians 6:14,16-18, 7:1

"But now I have written to you **not to keep company with anyone named a brother, who is sexually immoral, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or an extortioner**-not even to eat with such a person. For what have I to do with judging those also who are outside? Do you not judge those who are inside? But those who are outside God judges. Therefore '*put away from yourselves the evil person.*'" 1 Corinthians 5:11-13

"For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should **abstain from sexual immorality;...**"  
1 Thessalonians 4:3

**"In everything give thanks;** for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"For this is the will of God, that **by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men- ...**"  
1 Peter 2:15

"And behold, a leper came and worshiped Him, saying, '**Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean.**' Then Jesus put out His hand and touched him, saying, '**I am willing; be cleansed.**' Immediately his leprosy was cleansed." Matthew 8:2-3

"And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that **everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life;** and I will raise him up at the last day." John 6:40

"The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. **I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.**" John 10:10



# CALL TO GOD FOR HELP

## Ask (according to God's will) and Receive (what God is willing to give):

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"If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples." John 15:7-8

"Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, 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 the petitions that we have asked of Him." 1 John 5:14-15

"Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God. And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight. And this is His commandment: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, as He gave us commandment. Now he who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us."

1 John 3:21-24

"Is this not the fast that I have chosen: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, to let the oppressed go free, and that you break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and that you bring to your house the poor who are cast out; when you see the naked, that you cover him, and not hide yourself from your own flesh? Then your light shall break forth like the morning, your healing shall spring forth speedily, and your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry, and He will say, 'Here I am.'" Isaiah 58:6-9

"So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you." Luke 11:9

"If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind." James 1:5-6

"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you."

Matthew 7:7

CALL TO GOD FOR HELP: Ask (according to God's will) and receive (what God is willing to give)

"If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!" Matthew 7:11

"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in My name, I will do it." John 14:12-14

"...Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you. Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full." John 16:23-24

"If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!" Luke 11:13

## Cast your cares on God, He will provide:

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"O Israel, stay away from idols! I am the one who answers your prayers and cares for you. I am like a tree that is always green; all your fruit comes from me. Let those who are wise understand these things. Let those with discernment listen carefully. The paths of the Lord are true and right, and righteous people live by walking in them. But in those paths sinners stumble and fall." Hosea 14:8-9 **[NLT]**

"Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for Him." Psalm 37:7

"Such people will not be overcome by evil. Those who are righteous will be long remembered. They do not fear bad news; they confidently trust the Lord to care for them. They are confident and fearless and can face their foes triumphantly." Psalm 112:6-8 **[NLT]**

"But I am deaf to all their threats. I am silent before them as one who cannot speak. I choose to hear nothing, and I make no reply. For I am waiting for You, O Lord. You must answer for me, O Lord my God."  
Psalm 38:13-15 **[NLT]**

"I waited patiently for the Lord to help me, and He turned to me and heard my cry." Psalm 40:1 **[NLT]**

"'God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.' Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care [worry, anxiety] upon Him, for He cares [is concerned] for you. Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith." 1 Peter 5:5-9

"If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:31-32

"Cast your burden on the Lord, and He shall sustain you; He shall never permit the righteous to be moved." Psalm 55:22

CALL TO GOD FOR HELP: Cast your cares on God, He will provide

“No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other; you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.” Matthew 6:24 **[NLT]**

“Ho! Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat. Yes, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.” Isaiah 55:1

“Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ for after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.” Matthew 6:31-33

“And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:19

“Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My sake and the gospel’s, who shall not receive a hundredfold now in this time-houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions-and in the age to come, eternal life.” Mark 10:29-30

“You visit the earth and water it, You greatly enrich it; The river of God is full of water; You provide their grain, for so You have prepared it. You water its ridges abundantly, You settle its furrows; You make it soft with showers, You bless its growth. You crown the year with Your goodness, and Your paths drip with abundance.” Psalm 65:9-11

“Blessed is the man You choose, and cause to approach You, that he may dwell in Your courts. We shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house, of Your holy temple.” Psalm 65:4

“Blessed be the Lord, who daily loads us with benefits.” Psalm 68:19

“What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?”

Romans 8:31-32

## Call to God and He will answer you:

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“For I said in my haste, ‘I am cut off from before Your eyes’; nevertheless You heard the voice of my supplications when I cried out to You.” Psalm 31:22

“And He was withdrawn from them about a stone’s throw, and He knelt down and prayed, saying, ‘Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.’ Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him.” Luke 22:41-43

“Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.”

Jeremiah 33:3

CALL TO GOD FOR HELP: Call to God and He will answer you

“The moment you began praying, a command was given. And now I [Gabriel] am here to tell you what it was, for you are very precious to God.” Daniel 9:23 **[NLT]**

“Then he said, “Don’t be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day you began to pray for understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your request has been heard in heaven. I have come in answer to your prayer.” Daniel 10:12 **[NLT]**

“In the day when I cried out, You answered me, and made me bold with strength in my soul.”  
Psalm 138:3

“In the day of my trouble I will call upon You, for You will answer me.” Psalm 86:7

“He does not forget the cry of the humble.” Psalm 9:12

“O Lord my God, I cried out to You, and You healed me.” Psalm 30:2

“I sought the Lord, and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.” Psalm 34:4

“In my distress I cried to the Lord, and He heard me.” Psalm 120:1

“This poor man cried out, and the Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles.” Psalm 34:6

“The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and His ears are open to their cry.” Psalm 34:15

“The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles. The Lord is near to those who have a broken heart, and saves such as have a contrite spirit.” Psalm 34:17-18

“I cried out to You, O Lord; and to the Lord I made supplication: ‘What profit is there in my blood, when I go down to the pit? Will the dust praise You? Will it declare Your truth? Hear, O Lord, and have mercy on me; Lord, be my helper!’” Psalm 30:8-10

“Offer to God thanksgiving, and pay your vows to the Most High. Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me.” Psalm 50:14-15

“They called upon the Lord, and He answered them. He spoke to them in the cloudy pillar; they kept His testimonies and the ordinance He gave them.” Psalm 99:6-7

“The people asked, and He brought quail, and satisfied them with the bread of heaven.” Psalm 105:40

“Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble, and He delivered them out of their distresses. And He led them forth by the right way,” Psalm 107:6-7

“The Lord is far from the wicked, but He hears the prayer of the righteous.” Proverbs 15:2

# Trust in God, in His peace and comfort:

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“Though I walk in the midst of trouble, You will revive me; You will stretch out Your hand against the wrath of my enemies, and Your right hand will save me.” Psalm 138:7

“When a man’s ways please the LORD, He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.”

Proverbs 16:7

“Cause me to hear Your lovingkindness in the morning, for in You do I trust; cause me to know the way in which I should walk, for I lift up my soul to You.” Psalm 143:8

“But the LORD watches over those who fear Him, those who rely on His unfailing love. He rescues them from death and keeps them alive in times of famine. We put our hope in the LORD. He is our help and our shield. In Him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in His holy name. Let your unfailing love surround us, LORD, for our hope is in You alone.” Psalm 33:18-22 **[NLT]**

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.” Proverbs 3:5-6

“And those who know Your name will put their trust in You; for You, Lord, have not forsaken those who seek You.” Psalm 9:10

“But he who trusts in the Lord, mercy shall surround him.” Psalm 32:10

“Trust in Him at all times, you people; pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us.”

Psalm 62:8

“But the salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; He is their strength in the time of trouble. And the Lord shall help them and deliver them; He shall deliver them from the wicked, and save them, because they trust in Him.” Psalm 37:39-40

“Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides forever. As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds His people from this time forth and forever. For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest on the land allotted to the righteous, lest the righteous reach out their hands to iniquity. Do good, O Lord, to those who are good, and to those who are upright in their hearts. As for such as turn aside to their crooked ways, the Lord shall lead them away with the workers of iniquity.” Psalm 125:1-5

“As for God, His way is perfect; the word of the Lord is proven; He is a shield to all who trust in Him.”

Psalm 18:30

“O You who save those who trust in You from those who rise up against them.” Psalm 17:7

“Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him.” Psalm 2:12

CALL TO GOD FOR HELP:

“Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, and whose hope is the Lord.” Jeremiah 17:7

“Be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart, all you who hope in the Lord.” Psalm 31:24

“But I have trusted in Your mercy; my heart shall rejoice in Your salvation.” Psalm 13:5

“Preserve me, O God, for in You I put my trust.” Psalm 16:1

“I will say of the Lord, ‘He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust.’” Psalm 91:2

“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:6-7

“In the multitude of my anxieties within me, Your comforts delight my soul.” Psalm 94:19

“Do not be afraid of sudden terror, nor of trouble from the wicked when it comes; for the Lord will be your confidence, and will keep your foot from being caught.” Proverbs 3:25-26

“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.” Jeremiah 29:11

“I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.”  
John 10:9

“‘The glory of this latter temple shall be greater than the former,’ says the Lord of hosts. ‘And in this place I will give peace,’ says the Lord of hosts.” Haggai 2:9

“These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.” John 16:33

“The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name’s sake.” Psalm 23:1-3

“Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” Romans 15:13

“casting all your care [worry, anxiety] upon Him, for He cares [is concerned] for you.” 1 Peter 5:7

“Cast your burden on the Lord, and He shall sustain you; He shall never permit the righteous to be moved.” Psalm 55:22

“Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” Matthew 11:28

“For I, the Lord your God, will hold your right hand, saying to you, ‘Fear not, I will help you.’”  
Isaiah 41:13

CALL TO GOD FOR HELP: Trust in God, in His peace and comfort

“Even to your old age, I am He, and even to gray hairs I will carry you! I have made, and I will bear; even I will carry, and will deliver you.” Isaiah 46:4

“The fear of man brings a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord shall be safe.” Proverbs 29:25

“For He satisfies the longing soul, and fills the hungry soul with goodness.” Psalm 107:9

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.” 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

“Thus says the Lord: Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart departs from the Lord.”...”Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, and whose hope is the Lord, for he shall be like a tree planted by the waters, which spreads out its roots by the river, and will not fear when heat comes; but its leaf will be green, and will not be anxious in the year of drought, nor will cease from yielding fruit.” Jeremiah 17:5,7-8

“Then He said to His disciples, ‘Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; nor about the body, what you will put on. Life is more than food, and the body is more than clothing. Consider the ravens, for they neither sow nor reap, which have neither storehouse nor barn; and God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds? And which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? If you then are not able to do the least, why are you anxious for the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. If then God so clothes the grass, which today is in the field and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will He clothe you, O you of little faith? And do not seek what you should eat or what you should drink, nor have an anxious mind. For all these things the nations of the world seek after, and your Father knows that you need these things. But seek the kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added to you.’” Luke 12:22-31

“So David and his men came to the city, and there it was, burned with fire; and their wives, their sons, and their daughters had been taken captive. Then David and the people who were with him lifted up their voices and wept, until they had no more power to weep.”...”Now David was greatly distressed, for the people spoke of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and his daughters. But David strengthened himself in the Lord his God.”...”So David inquired of the Lord, saying, ‘Shall I pursue this troop? Shall I overtake them?’ And He answered him, ‘Pursue, for you shall surely overtake them and without fail recover all.’” 1 Samuel 30:3-4,6,8

# WORK FOR GOD, NOT FOR MEN

## Everything good is from God: [Our harvest, promotion, and reward is from Him alone]

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“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.” James 1:17

“A man can receive nothing unless it has been given to him from heaven.” John 3:27

“Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for ‘God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.’ Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care [worry, anxiety] upon Him, for He cares [is concerned] for you. Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. *Resist him*, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.” 1 Peter 5:5-9

“But when you are invited, go and sit down in the lowest place, so that when he who invited you comes he may say to you, ‘Friend, go up higher.’ Then you will have glory in the presence of those who sit at the table with you. For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.” Luke 14:10-11

“This is what the LORD says: ‘Don’t let the wise boast in their wisdom, or the powerful boast in their power, or the rich boast in their riches. But those who wish to boast should boast in this alone: that they truly know me and understand that I am the LORD who demonstrates unfailing love and who brings justice and righteousness to the earth, and that I delight in these things. I, the LORD, have spoken!’”  
Jeremiah 9:23-24 **[NLT]**

“For exaltation comes neither from the east nor from the west nor from the south. But God is the Judge: He puts down one, and exalts another.” Psalm 75:6-7

“So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase.”  
1 Corinthians 3:7

“Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it; unless the Lord guards the city, the watchman stays awake in vain.” Psalm 127:1



## WORK FOR GOD, NOT FOR MEN: Everything good is from God

“The king’s heart is in the hand of the Lord, like the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes.”

Proverbs 21:1

“This decision is by the decree of the watchers, and the sentence by the word of the holy ones, in order that the living may know that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, gives it to whomever He will, and sets over it the lowest of men.” Daniel 4:17

“And note this: Some who seem least important now will be the greatest then, and some who are the greatest now will be least important then.” Luke 13:30 **[NLT]**

“Evil people may have piles of money and may store away mounds of clothing. But the righteous will wear that clothing, and the innocent will divide that money.” Job 27:16-17 **[NLT]**

“I have given you a land for which you did not labor, and cities which you did not build, and you dwell in them; you eat of the vineyards and olive groves which you did not plant.” Joshua 24:13

“And you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day” Deuteronomy 8:18

“But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.” 1 Corinthians 15:10

“It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves.” Psalm 100:3

“But whatever I am now, it is all because God poured out his special favor on me—and not without results. For I have worked harder than any of the other apostles; yet it was not I but God who was working through me by his grace.” 1 Corinthians 15:10 **[NLT]**

“[Not in your own strength] for it is God who is all the while effectually at work in you [energizing and creating in you the power and desire], both to will and to work for His good pleasure and satisfaction and delight.” Philippians 2:13 **[AMP]**

“for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.” Philippians 2:13

“For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.” Romans 11:36

## Work for God and not for men:

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“And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.” Colossians 3:23-24

WORK FOR GOD, NOT FOR MEN: Work for God and not for men

“And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.” Colossians 3:17

“I have given him the land of Egypt for his labor, because they worked for Me,” says the Lord God.”

Ezekiel 29:20

“Son of man, the army of King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon fought so hard against Tyre that the warriors’ heads were rubbed bare and their shoulders were raw and blistered. Yet Nebuchadnezzar and his army won no plunder to compensate them for all their work. Therefore, this is what the Sovereign LORD says: I will give the land of Egypt to Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon. He will carry off its wealth, plundering everything it has so he can pay his army. Yes, I have given him the land of Egypt as a reward for his work, says the Sovereign LORD, because he was working for me when he destroyed Tyre.”

Ezekiel 29:18-20 **[NLT]**

“I say, ‘Keep the king’s commandment for the sake of your oath to God.’” Ecclesiastes 8:2

“Bondservants, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in sincerity of heart, as to Christ; not with eye service, as men-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, with goodwill doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men, knowing that whatever good anyone does, he will receive the same from the Lord, whether he is a slave or free.” Ephesians 6:5-8

“The labor of the righteous leads to life,...” Proverbs 10:16

“You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier.”

2 Timothy 2:3-4

“For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ. But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ.” Galatians 1:10-12

“Commit your works to the Lord, and your thoughts will be established.” Proverbs 16:3

“Let the Lord be magnified, who has pleasure in the prosperity of His servant.” Psalm 35:27

“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.” 1 Corinthians 15:58

“Also to You, O Lord, belongs mercy; for You render to each one according to his work.” Psalm 62:12

“But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.” 2 Corinthians 9:6-7

## WORK FOR GOD, NOT FOR MEN: Work for God and not for men

“Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.” Galatians 6:7-9

“According to their deeds, accordingly He will repay,” Isaiah 59:1

“Whoever keeps the fig tree will eat its fruit; so he who waits on his master will be honored.”  
Proverbs 27:18

“He who tills his land will be satisfied with bread, but he who follows frivolity is devoid of understanding.”  
Proverbs 12:11

“Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might; for there is no work or device or knowledge or wisdom in the grave where you are going.” Ecclesiastes 9:10

“For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.” Romans 11:36

## Longsuffering without complaining:

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“In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” 1 Thessalonians 5:18

“You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.” 2 Timothy 2:3

“My suffering was good for me, for it taught me to pay attention to Your decrees.” Psalm 119:71 **[NLT]**

“My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.” James 1:2-4

“Do all things without complaining and disputing, that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.” Philippians 2:14-16

“That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day. For our present troubles are small and won’t last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! So we don’t look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.” 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 **[NLT]**

## WORK FOR GOD, NOT FOR MEN: Longsuffering without complaining

“Now when the people complained, it displeased the Lord; for the Lord heard it, and His anger was aroused. So the fire of the Lord burned among them, and consumed some in the outskirts of the camp.”  
Numbers 11:1

“And the people spoke against God and against Moses: ‘Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and our soul loathes this worthless bread.’ So the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and many of the people of Israel died.” Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, ‘We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord that He take away the serpents from us.’ So Moses prayed for the people.” Numbers 21:5-7

“Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for ‘God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.’ Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care [worry, anxiety] upon Him, for He cares [is concerned] for you.” 1 Peter 5:5-7

“Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.”  
Hebrews 13:17

“Servants, be submissive to your masters with all fear, not only to the good and gentle, but also to the harsh. For this is commendable, if because of conscience toward God one endures grief, suffering wrongfully. For what credit is it if, when you are beaten for your faults, you take it patiently? But when you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently, this is commendable before God.” 1 Peter 2:18-20

“And who is he who will harm you if you become followers of what is good? But even if you should suffer for righteousness’ sake, you are blessed. ‘And do not be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled.’ But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear; having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed. For it is better, if it is the will of God, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.” 1 Peter 3:13-17

## Don't procrastinate:

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“Do not withhold good from those who deserve it when it's in your power to help them.”  
Proverbs 3:27 **[NLT]**

“Do not say to your neighbor, ‘Go, and come back, and tomorrow I will give it,’ when you have it with you.” Proverbs 3:28

## WORK FOR GOD, NOT FOR MEN: Don't procrastinate

"You shall not cheat your neighbor, nor rob him. The wages of him who is hired shall not remain with you all night until morning." Leviticus 19:13

"Pain has come to the people like the pain of childbirth, but they are like a child who resists being born. The moment of birth has arrived, but they stay in the womb!" Hosea 13:13 **[NLT]**

"Farmers who wait for perfect weather never plant. If they watch every cloud, they never harvest."  
Ecclesiastes 11:4 **[NLT]**

## The lazy and diligent man:

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"Plant your seed in the morning and keep busy all afternoon, for you don't know if profit will come from one activity or another—or maybe both." Ecclesiastes 11:6 **[NLT]**

"The soul of a lazy man desires, and has nothing; but the soul of the diligent shall be made rich."  
Proverbs 13:4

"He who loves pleasure will be a poor man; he who loves wine and oil will not be rich." Proverbs 21:17

"For the drunkard and the glutton will come to poverty, and drowsiness will clothe a man with rags."  
Proverbs 23:21

"He who tills his land will be satisfied with bread, but he who follows frivolity is devoid of understanding."  
Proverbs 12:11

## Being faithful:

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"A faithful man will abound with blessings, but he who hastens to be rich will not go unpunished."  
Proverbs 28:20

"He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much." Luke 16:10

"Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect?"  
James 2:22

"And He said, 'The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground, and should sleep by night and rise by day, and the seed should sprout and grow, he himself does not know how. For the earth yields crops by itself: first the blade, then the head, after that the full grain in the head. But when the grain ripens, immediately he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.'" Mark 4:26-29

## WORK FOR GOD, NOT FOR MEN: Being faithful

“Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My sake and the gospel’s, who shall not receive a hundredfold now in this time-houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions-and in the age to come, eternal life.” Mark 10:29-30

“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.” James 1:22

“For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.” James 2:26

“Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.” Mark 10:43-45

## Be content:

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“Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.” Philippians 4:11-12

“He who is greedy for gain troubles his own house,...” Proverbs 15:27

“So are the ways of everyone who is greedy for gain; it takes away the life of its owners.” Proverbs 1:19

“Now godliness with contentment is great gain.” 1 Timothy 6:6

“He who trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous will flourish like foliage.” Proverbs 11:28

“Children, how hard it is for those who trust in riches to enter the kingdom of God!” Mark 10:24

“But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.” 1 Timothy 6:9-10

“A satisfied soul loathes the honeycomb, but to a hungry soul every bitter thing is sweet.” Proverbs 27:7

“The eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor the ear filled with hearing.” Ecclesiastes 1:8

“A sound heart is life to the body, but envy is rottenness to the bones.” Proverbs 14:30

“Better is a little with the fear of the Lord, than great treasure with trouble. Better is a dinner of herbs where love is, than a fatted calf with hatred.” Proverbs 15:16-17

WORK FOR GOD, NOT FOR MEN: Be content

“Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.” Philippians 2:3-4

“For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there.” James 3:16

“Blessed is the man You choose, and cause to approach You, that he may dwell in Your courts. We shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house, of Your holy temple.” Psalm 65:4

# PROTECTING YOUR HEART

## Protect your heart:

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“But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king’s delicacies, nor with the wine which he drank; therefore he requested of the chief of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.” Daniel 1:8

“You say, ‘I am allowed to do anything’—but not everything is good for you. And even though ‘I am allowed to do anything,’ I must not become a slave to anything.” 1 Corinthians 6:12 **[NLT]**

“My son, do not forget my law, but let **your heart** keep my commands; for length of days and long life and peace they will add to you. Let not mercy and truth forsake you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart, and so find favor and high esteem in the sight of God and man.”

Proverbs 3:1-4

“My son, give attention to my words; incline your ear to my sayings, do not let them depart from your eyes; keep them in the midst of your heart; for they are life to those who find them, and health to all their flesh. Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life.” Proverbs 4:20-23

“My son, keep your father’s command, and do not forsake the law of your mother. Bind them continually upon your heart; tie them around your neck. When you roam, they will lead you; when you sleep, they will keep you; and when you awake, they will speak with you. For the commandment is a lamp, and the law a light;” Proverbs 6:20-23

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Matthew 6:19-21

“If riches increase, do not set your heart on them.” Psalm 62:10

“My eyes shall be on the faithful of the land, that they may dwell with me;” Psalm 101:6



# Your heart/soul controls your actions:

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“For as he thinks in his heart, so is he.” Proverbs 23:7

“As a face is reflected in water, so the heart reflects the real person.” Proverbs 27:19 **[NLT]**

“A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things.” Matthew 12:35

“Brood of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.” Matthew 12:34

“Not what goes into the mouth defiles a man; but what comes out of the mouth, this defiles a man.”  
Matthew 15:11

“A person without self-control is like a city with broken-down walls.” Proverbs 25:28 **[NLT]**

“Its walls are patrolled day and night against invaders, but the real danger is wickedness within the city.”  
Psalm 55:10 **[NLT]**

“When there is moral rot within a nation, its government topples easily. But wise and knowledgeable leaders bring stability.” Proverbs 28:2 **[NLT]**

“Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit.” Matthew 7:17

“So get rid of all the filth and evil in your lives, and humbly accept the word God has planted in your hearts, for it has the power to save your souls.” James 1:21 **[NLT]**

“I said, ‘Plant the good seeds of righteousness, and you will harvest a crop of love. Plow up the hard ground of your hearts, for now is the time to seek the Lord, that he may come and shower righteousness upon you.’” Hosea 10:12 **[NLT]**

“Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God’s will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.” Romans 12:2 **[NLT]**

“Remove the impurities from silver, and the sterling will be ready for the silversmith.”  
Proverbs 25:4 **[NLT]**

“Do you not yet understand that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and is eliminated? But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies.”  
Matthew 15:17-19

“Blind Pharisee, first cleanse the inside of the cup and dish, that the outside of them may be clean also.”  
Matthew 23:26

“A merry heart makes a cheerful countenance, but by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.”  
Proverbs 15:13

## Stay far from temptation and sin:

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“So get rid of all the filth and evil in your lives, and humbly accept the word God has planted in your hearts, for it has the power to save your souls.” James 1:21 **[NLT]**

“You say, ‘I am allowed to do anything’—but not everything is good for you. And even though ‘I am allowed to do anything,’ I must not become a slave to anything.” 1 Corinthians 6:12 **[NLT]**

“Then He came to the Disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, ‘What! Could you not watch with Me one hour? Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.’” Matthew 26:40-41

“Then He said to them, ‘Why do you sleep? Rise and pray, lest you enter into temptation.’” Luke 22:46

“You who love the Lord, hate evil! He preserves the souls of His saints; He delivers them out of the hand of the wicked.” Psalm 97:10

“A wise man fears and departs from evil, but a fool rages and is self-confident.” Proverbs 14:16

“Blessed are those who fear to do wrong, but the stubborn are headed for serious trouble.”  
Proverbs 28:14 **[NLT]**

“A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself; the simple pass on and are punished.” Proverbs 27:12

“Do not enter the path of the wicked, and do not walk in the way of evil. Avoid it, do not travel on it; turn away from it and pass on.” Proverbs 4:14-15

“Walk as children of light (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them.” Ephesians 5:9-11

“Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and depart from evil. It will be health to your flesh, and strength to your bones.” Proverbs 3:7-8

“You shall surely rebuke your neighbor, and not bear sin because of him.” Leviticus 19:17

“Evil people try to drag me into sin, but I am firmly anchored to Your instructions.” Psalm 119:61 **[NLT]**

## PROTECTING YOUR HEART: Stay far from temptation and sin

“The righteous should choose his friends carefully, for the way of the wicked leads them astray.”

Proverbs 12:26

“Do not be deceived: ‘Evil company corrupts good habits.’” 1 Corinthians 15:33

“Nor shall you bring an abomination into your house, lest you be doomed to destruction like it. You shall utterly detest it and utterly abhor it, for it is an accursed thing.” Deuteronomy 7:26

“But now I have written to you **not to keep company with anyone named a brother, who is sexually immoral, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or an extortioner**-not even to eat with such a person. For what have I to do with judging those also who are outside? Do you not judge those who are inside? But those who are outside God judges. Therefore ‘*put away from yourselves the evil person.*’” 1 Corinthians 5:11-13

“He who works deceit shall not dwell within my house; he who tells lies shall not continue in my presence.” Psalm 101:7

“Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life.” Proverbs 4:23

“And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.” Romans 12:2

“Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.” James 4:7-8

“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.” 1 Peter 5:8-9

“Remove your way far from her, and do not go near the door of her house.” Proverbs 5:8

“My son, keep my words, and treasure my commands within you. Keep my commands and live,” ...“that they may keep you from the immoral woman, from the seductress who flatters with her words.” ...“With her enticing speech she caused him to yield, with her flattering lips she seduced him.” ...“He did not know it would cost his life.” ...“Do not let your heart turn aside to her ways, do not stray into her paths.”

Proverbs 7:1,2,5,21,23,25

## Fighting temptation:

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“Then He came to the Disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, ‘What! Could you not watch with Me one hour? Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.’” Matthew 26:40-41

## PROTECTING YOUR HEART: Fighting temptation

“Then He said to them, ‘Why do you sleep? Rise and pray, lest you enter into temptation.’” Luke 22:46

“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.”

Romans 6:13

“Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him. Let no one say when he is tempted, ‘I am tempted by God’; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.” James 1:12-14

“No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.” 1 Corinthians 10:13

“then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment,” 2 Peter 2:9

“For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.” Romans 6:14

“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.” Luke 10:19

“For he who has died has been freed from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him. For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts.” Romans 6:7-12

“Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.” Romans 12:21

“A man who isolates himself seeks his own desire; he rages against all wise judgment.” Proverbs 18:1

## You must be bound first before sin can control you:

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“Or how can one enter a strong man’s house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? And then he will plunder his house.” Matthew 12:29

“And when they had bound Him, they led Him away and delivered Him to Pontius Pilate the governor.” Matthew 27:2

PROTECTING YOUR HEART: You must be bound first before sin can control you

“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.” 2 Timothy 2:26

“for by whom a person is overcome, by him also he is brought into bondage.” 2 Peter 2:19

“You say, ‘I am allowed to do anything’—but not everything is good for you. And even though ‘I am allowed to do anything,’ I must not become a slave to anything.” 1 Corinthians 6:12 **[NLT]**

“... if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, 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.” 2 Timothy 2:25-26

“Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.” James 1:15

## The Devil seeks to destroy us:

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“Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift each of you like wheat. But I have pleaded in prayer for you, Simon, that your faith should not fail.” Luke 22:31-32 **[NLT]**

“And he (the serpent) said to the woman, ‘Has God indeed said, “You shall not eat of every tree of the garden”?.... Then the serpent said to the woman, ‘You will not surely die.’” Genesis 3:2,4

“And the Lord God said to the woman, ‘What is this you have done?’ The woman said, ‘The serpent deceived me, and I ate.’” Genesis 3:13

“So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.” Revelation 12:9

“And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.” Revelation 12:17

“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.” 1 Peter 5:8-9

“Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them. And the Lord said to Satan, ‘From where do you come?’ So Satan answered the Lord and said, ‘From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it.’” Job 1:6-7

“So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord, and struck Job with painful boils from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head.” Job 2:7

## PROTECTING YOUR HEART: The Devil seeks to destroy us

“The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.” John 10:10

“We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one.” 1 John 5:19

“But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of the age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.” 2 Corinthians 4:3-4

“For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.” 2 Corinthians 11:13-15

“He who scatters has come up before your face, man the fort! Watch the road! Strengthen your flanks! Fortify your power mightily. For the Lord will restore the excellence of Jacob like the excellence of Israel, for the emptiers have emptied them out and ruined their vine branches.” Nahum 2:1-2

“And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of the world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.” Ephesians 2:1-3

“Jesus said to them, ‘If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me. Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word. You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.’”

John 8:42-44

“Therefore we wanted to come to you-even I, Paul, time and again- but Satan hindered us.”

1 Thessalonians 2:18

## Who is Satan [the devil]?

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“<sup>11</sup>Moreover the word of the Lord came to me, saying, <sup>12</sup>“Son of man, take up a lamentation for the king of Tyre, and say to him, ‘Thus says the Lord God: “You *were* the seal of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. <sup>13</sup>You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone *was* your covering: the sardius, topaz, and diamond, beryl, onyx, and jasper, sapphire, turquoise, and emerald with gold. The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes was prepared for you on the day you were created. <sup>14</sup>“You

## PROTECTING YOUR HEART: Who is Satan [the devil]?

were the anointed cherub who covers; I established you; you were on the holy mountain of God; you walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones. <sup>15</sup> You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, till iniquity was found in you. <sup>16</sup> “By the abundance of your trading you became filled with violence within, and you sinned; therefore I cast you as a profane thing out of the mountain of God; and I destroyed you, O covering cherub, from the midst of the fiery stones. <sup>17</sup> “Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor; I cast you to the ground, I laid you before kings, that they might gaze at you. <sup>18</sup> “You defiled your sanctuaries by the multitude of your iniquities, by the iniquity of your trading; therefore I brought fire from your midst; it devoured you, and I turned you to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all who saw you. <sup>19</sup> All who knew you among the peoples are astonished at you; you have become a horror, and shall be no more forever.”

Ezekiel 28:11-19

“So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.” Revelation 12:9

“And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day;” Jude 6

“For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast *them* down to hell and delivered *them* into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment;” 2 Peter 2:4

“And He said to them, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.” Luke 10:18

“Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time.” Revelation 12:12b

” Then He will also say to those on the left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:’” Matthew 25:41

“And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.” 2 Corinthians 11:14

“Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them.” Job 1:6

“Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the Angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to oppose him. And the LORD said to Satan, “The LORD rebuke you, Satan! The LORD who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! *Is this not a brand plucked from the fire?”*” Zechariah 3:1-2

# CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART

“You say, ‘I am allowed to do anything’—but not everything is good for you. And even though ‘I am allowed to do anything,’ I must not become a slave to anything.” 1 Corinthians 6:12 **[NLT]**

“So get rid of all the filth and evil in your lives, and humbly accept the word God has planted in your hearts, for it has the power to save your souls.” James 1:21 **[NLT]**

“To reject the law is to praise the wicked; to obey the law is to fight them.” Proverbs 28:4 **[NLT]**

“We know that God’s children do not make a practice of sinning, for God’s Son holds them securely, and the evil one cannot touch them.” 1 John 5:18 **[NLT]**

“Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us.” 1 Corinthians 5:6-7

“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. 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.” 2 Timothy 2:20-21

“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.” Psalm 51:10-1

“But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.” Joshua 24:15

## Rid yourself of hypocrisy:

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“Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious.” 1 Peter 2:1-3

“Hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy about you, saying: ‘These people draw near to Me with their mouth, and honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me, and in vain they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’” Matthew 15:7-9



## CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART: Rid yourself of hypocrisy

“For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, nor hidden that will not be known.” Luke 12:2

“And do you think this, O man, you who judge those practicing such things, and doing the same, that you will escape the judgment of God?” Romans 2:3

“having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!” 2 Timothy 3:5

“He who says, ‘I know Him,’ and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.”  
1 John 2:4

“If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.”  
1 John 1:6

“If anyone thinks himself to be religious (piously observant of the external duties of his faith) and does not bridle his tongue but deludes his own heart, this person’s religious service is worthless (futile, barren).” James 1:26 **[AMP]**

“To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled. They profess to know God, but in works they deny Him, being abominable, disobedient, and disqualified for every good work.” Titus 1:15-16

## Rid yourself of fear:

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“The fears of the wicked will be fulfilled; the hopes of the godly will be granted.” Proverbs 10:24 **[NLT]**

“There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love.” 1 John 4:18

“Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.” John 14:27

“And who is he who will harm you if you become followers of what is good? But even if you should suffer for righteousness’ sake, you are blessed. ‘And do not be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled.’”  
1 Peter 3:13-14

“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.” Joshua 1:9

“Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, ‘I will never leave you nor forsake you.’ So we may boldly say, ‘The Lord is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?’” Hebrews 13:5-6

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART: Rid yourself of fear

“Now the Lord spoke to Paul in the night by a vision, ‘Do not be afraid, but speak, and do not keep silent; for I am with you, and no one will attack you to hurt you; for I have many people in this city.’”

Acts 18:9-10

“For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, ‘Abba, Father.’” Romans 8:15

“And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.” Matthew 10:28

“For I, the Lord your God, will hold your right hand, saying to you, ‘Fear not, I will help you.’”

Isaiah 41:13

“Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.” Isaiah 41:10

“I, even I, am He who comforts you. Who are you that you should be afraid of a man who will die, and of the son of a man who will be made like grass?” Isaiah 51:12

“Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You. In God (I will praise His word), in God I have put my trust; I will not fear. What can flesh do to me?” Psalm 56:3-4

“And David said to his son Solomon, ‘Be strong and of good courage, and do it; do not fear nor be dismayed, for the Lord God -my God- will be with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you, until you have finished all the work for the service of the house of the Lord.’” 1 Chronicles 28:20

“Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the Lord your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you.” Deuteronomy 31:6

“You must not fear them, for the Lord your God Himself fights for you.” Deuteronomy 3:22

“For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.” 2 Timothy 1:7

“The fear of man brings a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord shall be safe.” Proverbs 29:25

“The Lord is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me?” Psalm 118:6

“The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?” Psalm 27:1

“Yea, 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.” Psalm 23:4

# Rid yourself of evil company:

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“Do not be deceived: ‘Evil company corrupts good habits.’” 1 Corinthians 15:33

“They shall not dwell in your land, lest they make you sin against Me. For *if* you serve their gods, it will surely be a snare to you.” Exodus 23:33

“Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us.” 1 Corinthians 5:6-7

“My son, if sinners entice you, do not consent.” Proverbs 1:10

“Evil people try to drag me into sin, but I am firmly anchored to Your instructions.” Psalm 119:61 **[NLT]**

“You shall surely rebuke your neighbor, and not bear sin because of him.” Leviticus 19:17

“The righteous should choose his friends carefully, for the way of the wicked leads them astray.”  
Proverbs 12:26

“Nor shall you bring an abomination into your house, lest you be doomed to destruction like it. You shall utterly detest it and utterly abhor it, for it is an accursed thing.” Deuteronomy 7:26

“Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them.” Romans 16:17

“But we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you withdraw from every brother who walks disorderly and not according to the tradition which he received from us.”  
2 Thessalonians 3:6

“And if anyone does not obey our word in this epistle, note that person and do not keep company with him, that he may be ashamed. Yet do not count him as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother.”  
2 Thessalonians 3:14-15

“But now I have written to you **not to keep company with anyone named a brother, who is sexually immoral, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or an extortioner**-not even to eat with such a person. For what have I to do with judging those also who are outside? Do you not judge those who are inside? But those who are outside God judges. Therefore ‘*put away from yourselves the evil person.*’” 1 Corinthians 5:11-13

“But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: for men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away! For of this sort are those who creep into households and make captives of

## CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART: Rid yourself of evil company

gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts, always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.” 2 Timothy 3:1-7

“He who works deceit shall not dwell within my house; he who tells lies shall not continue in my presence.” Psalm 101:7

“You who love the Lord, hate evil! He preserves the souls of His saints; He delivers them out of the hand of the wicked.” Psalm 97:10

“A wise man fears and departs from evil, but a fool rages and is self-confident.” Proverbs 14:16

“Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and depart from evil. It will be health to your flesh, and strength to your bones.” Proverbs 3:7-8

“A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself; the simple pass on and are punished.” Proverbs 27:12

“Do not enter the path of the wicked, and do not walk in the way of evil. Avoid it, do not travel on it; turn away from it and pass on.” Proverbs 4:14-15

“Walk as children of light (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them.” Ephesians 5:9-11

## Rid yourself of drunkenness:

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“Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.” 1 Corinthians 6:9-11

“Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, submitting to one another in the fear of God.” Ephesians 5:17-21

“For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like: of which I tell you beforehand,

just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God." Galatians 5:17-21

"But now I have written to you not to keep company with anyone named a brother, who is sexually immoral, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or an extortioner-not even to eat with such a person. For what have I to do with judging those also who are outside? Do you not judge those who are inside? But those who are outside God judges. Therefore *'put away from yourselves the evil person.'*" 1 Corinthians 5:11-13

"For the drunkard and the glutton will come to poverty, and drowsiness will clothe a man with rags."  
Proverbs 23:2

## Rid yourself of covetousness:

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"For the commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery,' 'You shall not murder,' 'You shall not steal,' 'You shall not bear false witness,' 'You shall not covet,' and if there is any other commandment, are all summed up in this saying, namely, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law." Romans 13:9-10

"You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor's."  
Exodus 20:17

"Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, 'I will never leave you nor forsake you.' So we may boldly say: 'The Lord is my helper; I will not fear: What can man do to me?'" Hebrews 13:5-6

"And He said to them, 'Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses.'" Luke 12:15

"You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures." James 4:2-3

"Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth; fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them." Colossians 3:5-7

"And He said, 'What comes out of a man, that defiles a man. For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within and defile a man." Mark 7:20-23

“But now I have written to you **not to keep company with anyone named a brother, who is sexually immoral, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or an extortioner**-not even to eat with such a person. For what have I to do with judging those also who are outside? Do you not judge those who are inside? But those who are outside God judges. Therefore *‘put away from yourselves the evil person.’*” 1 Corinthians 5:11-13

“Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.”

1 Corinthians 6:9-10

“But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints; neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks. For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore do not be partakers with them.” Ephesians 5:3-7

“A ruler who lacks understanding is a great oppressor, but he who hates covetousness will prolong his days.” Proverbs 28:16

## Rid yourself of lust:

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“For all that is in the world-the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life-is not of the Father but is of the world.” 1 John 2:16

“I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.” Galatians 5:16

“I dictated a covenant (an agreement) to my eyes; how then could I look [lustfully] upon a girl?”

Job 31:1 **[AMP]**

“Do not lust after her beauty in your heart, nor let her allure you with her eyelids. For by means of a harlot a man is reduced to a crust of bread; and an adulteress will prey upon his precious life.”

Proverbs 6:25-26

“If my heart has been deceived and I made a fool by a woman, or if I have [covetously] laid wait at my neighbor’s door [until his departure], then let my wife grind [meal, like a bonds slave] for another, and let others bow down upon her. For [adultery] is a heinous and chief crime, an iniquity [to demand action by] the judges and punishment. For [uncontrolled passion] is a fire which consumes to Abaddon (to destruction, ruin, and the place of final torment): [that fire once lighted would rage until all is consumed] and would burn to the root all my [life’s] increase.” Job 31:9-12 **[AMP]**

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART: Rid yourself of lust

“But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.” 1 Timothy 6:9-10

“For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like: of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.” Galatians 5:17-21

“For he who has died has been freed from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him. For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts.”

Romans 6:7-12

“For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality; that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, not in passion of lust, like the Gentiles who do not know God; that no one should take advantage of and defraud his brother in this matter, because the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also forewarned you and testified. For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness. Therefore he who rejects this does not reject man, but God, who has also given us His Holy Spirit.” 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8

“**6:12** You say, ‘I am allowed to do anything’—but not everything is good for you. And even though ‘I am allowed to do anything,’ I must not become a slave to anything.<sup>13</sup> You say, ‘Food was made for the stomach, and the stomach for food.’ (This is true, though someday God will do away with both of them.) But you can’t say that our bodies were made for sexual immorality. They were made for the Lord, and the Lord cares about our bodies.<sup>14</sup> And God will raise us from the dead by his power, just as he raised our Lord from the dead.<sup>15</sup> Don’t you realize that your bodies are actually parts of Christ? Should a man take his body, which is part of Christ, and join it to a prostitute? Never!<sup>16</sup> And don’t you realize that if a man joins himself to a prostitute, he becomes one body with her? For the Scriptures say, “The two are united into one.”<sup>17</sup> But the person who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with him.<sup>18</sup> Run from sexual sin! No other sin so clearly affects the body as this one does. For sexual immorality is a sin against your own body.<sup>19</sup> Don’t you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself,<sup>20</sup> for God bought you with a high price. So you must honor God with your body. **7:1** Now regarding the questions you asked in your letter. Yes, it is good to abstain from sexual relations [for a man not to touch a woman].<sup>2</sup> But because there is so much sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife, and each woman should have her own husband.<sup>3</sup> The husband should fulfill his wife’s sexual needs, and the wife should fulfill her husband’s needs.<sup>4</sup> The wife

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gives authority over her body to her husband, and the husband gives authority over his body to his wife.  
<sup>5</sup> Do not deprive each other of sexual relations, unless you both agree to refrain from sexual intimacy for a limited time so you can give yourselves more completely to prayer. Afterward, you should come together again so that Satan won't be able to tempt you because of your lack of self-control. <sup>6</sup> I say this as a concession, not as a command. <sup>7</sup> But I wish everyone were single, just as I am. Yet each person has a special gift from God, of one kind or another. <sup>8</sup> So I say to those who aren't married and to widows—it's better to stay unmarried, just as I am. <sup>9</sup> But if they can't control themselves, they should go ahead and marry. It's better to marry than to burn with lust." 1 Corinthians 6:12-19; 7:1-9

"And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of the world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others." Ephesians 2:1-3

"But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: for men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away! For of this sort are those who creep into households and make captives of gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts, always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth." 2 Timothy 3:1-7

"You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures." James 4:2-3

"as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance; but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, 'Be holy, for I am holy'"  
1 Peter 1:14-16

## Rid yourself of roving eyes:

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"Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life." Proverbs 4:23

"Turn my eyes from worthless things, and give me life through Your word." Psalm 119:37 **[NLT]**

"Turn away my eyes from looking at worthless things, and revive me in Your way." Psalm 119:37

"I dictated a covenant (an agreement) to my eyes; how then could I look [lustfully] upon a girl?"

Job 31:1 **[AMP]**



## CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART: Rid yourself of roving eyes

“But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.” James 1:12-14

“Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.”  
James 1:15

“I will set nothing wicked before my eyes; I hate the work of those who fall away; it shall not cling to me. A perverse heart shall depart from me; I will not know wickedness.” Psalm 101:3-4

“Let your eyes look straight ahead, and your eyelids look right before you.” Proverbs 4:25

“The lamp of the body is the eye. Therefore, when your eye is good, your whole body also is full of light. But when your eye is bad, your body also is full of darkness. Therefore take heed that the light which is in you is not darkness.” Luke 11:34-35

“The eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor the ear filled with hearing.” Ecclesiastes 1:8

“For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world.” 1 John 2:16

“I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.” Galatians 5:16

“For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.” Romans 8:5

“Remove your way far from her, and do not go near the door of her house.” Proverbs 5:8

“Do not lust after her beauty in your heart, nor let her allure you with her eyelids. For by means of a harlot a man is reduced to a crust of bread; and an adulteress will prey upon his precious life.”  
Proverbs 6:25-26

“A wise man fears and departs from evil, but a fool rages and is self-confident.” Proverbs 14:16

“A man who isolates himself seeks his own desire; he rages against all wise judgment.” Proverbs 18:1

“As a ring of gold in a swine’s snout, so is a lovely woman who lacks discretion.” Proverbs 11:22

“A satisfied soul loathes the honeycomb, but to a hungry soul every bitter thing is sweet.” Proverbs 27:7

## Rid yourself of fornication:

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“For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality; that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, not in passion of lust, like the Gentiles who do not know God; that no one should take advantage of and defraud his brother in this matter, because the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also forewarned you and testified. For God did

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not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness. Therefore he who rejects this does not reject man, but God, who has also given us His Holy Spirit.” 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8

“If a man entices a virgin who is not betrothed, and lies with her, he shall surely pay the bride-price for her to be his wife. If her father utterly refuses to give her to him, he shall pay money according to the bride-price of virgins.” Exodus 22:16-17

“But if the thing is true, and evidences of virginity are not found for the young woman, then they shall bring out the young woman to the door of her father’s house, and the men of her city shall stone her to death with stones, because she has done a disgraceful thing in Israel, to play the harlot in her father’s house. So you shall put away the evil from among you.” Deuteronomy 22:20-21

“Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth; fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them.” Colossians 3:5-7

“Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.”  
Hebrews 13:4

“Let marriage be held in honor (esteemed worthy, precious, of great price, and especially dear) in all things. And thus let the marriage bed be undefiled (kept undishonored); for God will judge and punish the unchaste [all guilty of sexual vice] and adulterous.” Hebrews 13:4 **[AMP]**

“Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.”

1 Corinthians 6:9-10

“For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like: of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.” Galatians 5:17-21

“But we know that the law is good if one uses it lawfully, knowing this: that the law is not made for a righteous person, but for the lawless and insubordinate, for the ungodly and for sinners, for the unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers, for fornicators, for sodomites, for kidnappers, for liars, for perjurers, and if there is any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine, according to the glorious gospel of the blessed God which was committed to my trust.”

1 Timothy 1:8-11

“But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints; neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving

of thanks. For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore do not be partakers with them.” Ephesians 5:3-7

“Do you not yet understand that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and is eliminated? But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies.”

Matthew 15:17-19

## Sexual immorality:

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“Do not lust after her beauty in your heart, nor let her allure you with her eyelids. For by means of **a harlot** a man is reduced to a crust of bread; and an adulteress will prey upon his precious life.”

Proverbs 6:25-26

“**...A companion of harlots wastes his wealth.**” Proverbs 29:3

“This is the way of an adulterous woman: She eats and wipes her mouth, and says, ‘I have done no wickedness.’” Proverbs 30:20

“**Whoever commits adultery** with a woman lacks understanding; he who does so destroys his own soul.”

Proverbs 6:32

“**6:12** You say, ‘I am allowed to do anything’—but not everything is good for you. And even though ‘I am allowed to do anything,’ I must not become a slave to anything.”<sup>13</sup> You say, ‘Food was made for the stomach, and the stomach for food.’ (This is true, though someday God will do away with both of them.) But you can’t say that our bodies were made for sexual immorality. They were made for the Lord, and the Lord cares about our bodies.<sup>14</sup> And God will raise us from the dead by his power, just as he raised our Lord from the dead.<sup>15</sup> Don’t you realize that your bodies are actually parts of Christ? Should a man take his body, which is part of Christ, and join it to a prostitute? Never!<sup>16</sup> And don’t you realize that if a man joins himself to a prostitute, he becomes one body with her? For the Scriptures say, “The two are united into one.”<sup>17</sup> But the person who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with him.<sup>18</sup> Run from sexual sin! No other sin so clearly affects the body as this one does. For sexual immorality is a sin against your own body.<sup>19</sup> Don’t you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself,<sup>20</sup> for God bought you with a high price. So you must honor God with your body. **7:1** Now regarding the questions you asked in your letter. Yes, it is good to abstain from sexual relations [for a man not to touch a woman].<sup>2</sup> But because there is so much sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife, and each woman should have her own husband.<sup>3</sup> The husband should fulfill his wife’s sexual needs, and the wife should fulfill her husband’s needs.<sup>4</sup> The wife gives authority over her body to her husband, and the husband gives authority over his body to his wife.

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<sup>5</sup> Do not deprive each other of sexual relations, unless you both agree to refrain from sexual intimacy for a limited time so you can give yourselves more completely to prayer. Afterward, you should come together again so that Satan won't be able to tempt you because of your lack of self-control. <sup>6</sup> I say this as a concession, not as a command. <sup>7</sup> But I wish everyone were single, just as I am. Yet each person has a special gift from God, of one kind or another. <sup>8</sup> So I say to those who aren't married and to widows—it's better to stay unmarried, just as I am. <sup>9</sup> But if they can't control themselves, they should go ahead and marry. It's better to marry than to burn with lust." 1 Corinthians 6:12-19; 7:1-9

## Homosexuality:

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"You shall not lie with a male as with a woman. It is an abomination." Leviticus 18:22

"If a man lies with a male as he lies with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination. They shall surely be put to death. Their blood shall be upon them." Leviticus 20:13

"Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, *nor homosexuals, nor sodomites*, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God."

1 Corinthians 6:9-10

"Professing to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man- and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things. Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due. " Romans 1:22-27

"But we know that the law is good if one uses it lawfully, knowing this: that the law is not made for a righteous person, but for the lawless and insubordinate, for the ungodly and for sinners, for the unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers, for fornicators, *for sodomites*, for kidnappers, for liars, for perjurers, and if there is any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine, according to the glorious gospel of the blessed God which was committed to my trust."

1 Timothy 1:8-11

# Rid yourself of perversity:

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“**A perverse man sows strife**, and a whisperer separates the best of friends.” Proverbs 16:28

“Whoever walks blamelessly will be saved, but **he who is perverse in his ways will suddenly fall.**”  
Proverbs 28:18

“He who walks in his uprightness fears the Lord, but **he who is perverse in his ways despises Him.**”  
Proverbs 14:2

“For **the perverse person is an abomination to the Lord.**” Proverbs 3:23

“Those who are of **a perverse heart are an abomination to the Lord.**” Proverbs 11:20

“But he who is of **a perverse heart will be despised.**” Proverbs 12:8

“When wisdom enters your heart, and knowledge is pleasant to your soul, discretion will preserve you; understanding will keep you, to deliver you from the way of evil, from the man **who speaks perverse things.**” Proverbs 2:10-12

“He who has a deceitful heart finds no good, and he who has **a perverse tongue falls into evil.**”  
Proverbs 17:20

“Put away from you a deceitful mouth, and put **perverse lips** far from you.” Proverbs 4:24

“A worthless person, a wicked man, walks with a **perverse mouth;**” Proverbs 6:12

“The fear of the Lord is to hate evil; pride and arrogance and the evil way and the **perverse mouth I hate.**”  
Proverbs 8:13

“The mouth of the righteous brings forth wisdom, but **the perverse tongue will be cut out.** The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable, but the mouth of the wicked what is perverse.”  
Proverbs 10:31-32

“The integrity of the upright will guide them, but **the perversity of the unfaithful will destroy them.**”  
Proverbs 11:3

“A wholesome tongue is a tree of life, but **perverseness in it breaks the spirit.**” Proverbs 15:4

“He winks his eye to devise perverse things; he purses his lips and brings about evil.” Proverbs 16:30

# Control your speech:

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“The tongue can bring death or life; those who love to talk will reap the consequences.” Proverbs 18:21

“He who loves purity and the pure in heart and who is gracious in speech—because of the grace of his lips will he have the king for his friend.” Proverbs 22:11 **[AMP]**

“I have purposed that my mouth shall not transgress.” Psalm 17:3

“...For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.” Matthew 12:34

“Not what goes into the mouth defiles a man; but what comes out of the mouth, this defiles a man.” Matthew 15:11

“For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.” Matthew 12:37

“For we all stumble in many things. If anyone does not stumble in word, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body.” James 3:2

“Even so the tongue is a little member and boasts great things. See how great a forest a little fire kindles!” James 3:5

“From the fruit of their lips people are filled with good things, and the work of their hands brings them reward.” Proverbs 12:14 **[NIV]**

“A man’s stomach shall be satisfied from the fruit of his mouth; from the produce of his lips he shall be filled. Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.”

Proverbs 18:20-21

“He who guards his mouth preserves his life, but he who opens wide his lips shall have destruction.”

Proverbs 13:3

“Walk in wisdom toward those who are outside, redeeming the time. Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.” Colossians 4:5-6

“Anxiety in the heart of man causes depression, but a good word makes it glad.” Proverbs 12:25

“A wholesome tongue is a tree of life, but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.” Proverbs 15:4

“Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring forth.” Proverbs 27:1

“He who rebukes a man will find more favor afterward than he who flatters with the tongue.”

Proverbs 28:23

“A fool vents all his feelings, but a wise man holds them back.” Proverbs 29:11

## CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART: Control your speech

“A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.” Proverbs 15:1

“Do you see a man hasty in his words? There is more hope for a fool than for him.” Proverbs 29:20

“And you shall not swear by My name falsely, nor shall you profane the name of your God: I am the Lord.” Leviticus 19:12

“If a man makes a vow to the Lord, or swears an oath to bind himself by some agreement, he shall not break his word; he shall do according to all that proceeds out of his mouth.” Numbers 30:2

“Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the bones.” Proverbs 16:24

“There is one who speaks like the piercings of a sword, but the tongue of the wise promotes health.” Proverbs 12:18

“Workers of iniquity, who speak peace to their neighbors, but evil is in their hearts.” Psalm 28:3

“May the Lord cut off all flattering lips, and the tongue that speaks proud things,” Psalm 12:3

“The words of his mouth were smoother than butter, but war was in his heart; his words were softer than oil, yet they were drawn swords.” Psalm 55:21

## Rid yourself of pride:

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“But when you had eaten and were satisfied, you became proud and forgot Me.” Hosea 13:6 **[NLT]**

“But when he had become powerful, he also became proud, which led to his downfall.”

2 Chronicles 26:16 **[NLT]**

“The most proud shall stumble and fall, and no one will raise him up.” Jeremiah 50:32

“He who trusts in his own heart is a fool, but whoever walks wisely will be delivered.” Proverbs 28:26

“The wicked in his proud countenance does not seek God; God is in none of his thoughts.” Psalm 10:4

“He who is of **a proud heart** stirs up strife. But he who trusts in the Lord will be prospered.”

Proverbs 28:25

“Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for ‘God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.’ Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care [worry, anxiety] upon Him, for He cares [is concerned] for you.” 1 Peter 5:5-7

“**A man’s pride** will bring him low, but the humble in spirit will retain honor.” Proverbs 29:23

## CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART: Rid yourself of pride

**"Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall."** Proverbs 16:18

**"The Lord will destroy *the house of the proud*, but He will establish the boundary of the widow."**

Proverbs 15:25

**"The fear of the Lord is to hate evil; *Pride* and arrogance and the evil way and the perverse mouth I hate."**

Proverbs 8:13

**"*Everyone proud in heart* is an abomination to the Lord; though they join forces, none will go unpunished."** Proverbs 16:5

**"In the mouth of a fool is a rod of pride,"** Proverbs 14:3

**"For all that is in the world-the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and *the pride of life*-is not of the Father but is of the world."** 1 John 2:16

**"...for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."**

Luke 18:14

**"Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up."** James 4:10

**"Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing'-and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked"** Revelation 3:17

## Rid yourself of anger:

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**"Don't sin by letting anger control you. Think about it overnight and remain silent."** Psalm 4:4 **[NLT]**

**"Make no friendship with an angry man, and with a furious man do not go, lest you learn his ways and set a snare for your soul."** Proverbs 22:24-25

**"Cease from anger, and forsake wrath; Do not fret-it only causes harm."** Psalm 37:8

**"A wrathful man stirs up strife, but he who is slow to anger allays contention."** Proverbs 15:18

**"An angry man stirs up strife, and a furious man abounds in transgression."** Proverbs 29:22

**"For as the churning of milk produces butter; and wringing the nose produces blood, so the forcing of wrath produces strife."** Proverbs 30:33

**"A quick-tempered man acts foolishly, and a man of wicked intentions is hated."** Proverbs 14:17

**"He who is slow to wrath has great understanding, but he who is impulsive exalts folly."** Proverbs 14:29



CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART: Rid yourself of anger

“The discretion of a man makes him slow to anger, and his glory is to overlook a transgression.”

Proverbs 19:11

“Do not hasten in your spirit to be angry, for anger rests in the bosom of fools.” Ecclesiastes 7:9

“So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God.” James 1:19-20

“Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.” Ephesians 4:29-30

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.” Galatians 5:22

“But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth.” Colossians 3:8

“Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.”

Ephesians 4:31-32

“For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,” 2 Corinthians 10:4-5

# GODLY GUIDANCE

## Trust in what God tells you, not what the world tells you:

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“But Peter and John answered and said to them, ‘Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge.’” Acts 4:19

“For what if some did not believe? Will their unbelief make the faithfulness of God without effect? Certainly not! Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar.” Romans 3:3-4

“Send men to spy out the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the children of Israel;” Numbers 13:2

“Then I said, ‘I will not make mention of Him, nor speak anymore in His name.’ But His word was in my heart like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I was weary of holding it back, and I could not.”

Jeremiah 20:9

“... I told no one what my God had put in my heart to do at Jerusalem; ... Then I said to them, ‘You see the distress that we are in, how Jerusalem lies waste, and its gates are burned with fire. Come and let us build the wall of Jerusalem, that we may no longer be a reproach. And I told them of the hand of my God which had been good upon me, and also of the king’s words that he had spoken to me. So they said, ‘Let us rise up and build.’ Then they set their hands to this good work. But when Sanballat the Horonite, Tobiah the Ammonite official, and Geshem the Arab heard of it, they laughed at us and despised us, and said, ‘What is this thing that you are doing? Will you rebel against the king?’ So I answered them, and said to them, ‘The God of heaven Himself will prosper us; therefore we His servants will arise and build, but you have no heritage or right or memorial in Jerusalem.’” Nehemiah 2:12,17-20

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.” Proverbs 3:5-6

## Let God be your guide:

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“Whoever abandons the right path [the way] will be severely disciplined; whoever hates correction will die.” Proverbs 15:10 **[NLT]**

GODLY GUIDANCE: Let God be your guide

“For His eyes *are* on the ways of man, and He sees all his steps.” Job 34:21

“Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path.” Psalm 119:105 **[NLT]**

“You crown the year with Your goodness, and Your paths drip *with* abundance.” Psalm 65:11

“Uzziah sought God during the days of Zechariah, who taught him to fear God. And as long as the king sought guidance from the LORD, God gave him success.” 2 Chronicles 26:5 **[NLT]**

“So now it was not you who sent me here, but God; and He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt.” Genesis 45:8

“[Not in your own strength] for it is God who is all the while effectually at work in you [energizing and creating in you the power and desire], both to will and to work for His good pleasure and satisfaction and delight.” Philippians 2:13 **[AMP]**

“for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.” Philippians 2:13

“But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.” 1 Corinthians 15:10

“But as God has distributed to each one, as the Lord has called each one, so let him walk.”

1 Corinthians 7:17

“For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age,”

Titus 2:11-12

“Cause me to hear Your lovingkindness in the morning, for in You do I trust; cause me to know the way in which I should walk, for I lift up my soul to You.” Psalm 143:8

“Direct my steps by Your word, and let no iniquity have dominion over me.” Psalm 119:133

“Commit your way to the Lord, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass.” Psalm 37:5

“The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, and He delights in his way.” Psalm 37:23

“I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye.” Psalm 32:8

“I will bless the Lord who has given me counsel; my heart also instructs me in the night seasons.”

Psalm 16:7

“He who trusts in his own heart is a fool, but whoever walks wisely will be delivered.” Proverbs 28:26

“All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, but the Lord weighs the spirits (the thoughts and intents of the heart).” Proverbs 16:2 **[AMP]**

“There are many plans in a man’s heart, nevertheless the Lord’s counsel-that will stand.” Proverbs 19:21

## GODLY GUIDANCE: Let God be your guide

“Uphold my steps in Your paths, that my footsteps may not slip.” Psalm 17:5

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.” Proverbs 3:5-6

“A man’s heart plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps.” Proverbs 16:9

“A man’s steps are of the Lord; how then can a man understand his own way?” Proverbs 20:24

“The preparations of the heart belong to man, but the answer of the tongue is from the Lord.”

Proverbs 16:1

“I will stand my watch and set myself on the rampart, and watch to see what He will say to me, and what I will answer when I am corrected.” Habakkuk 2:1

“But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night.” Psalm 1:2

“But forget all that—it is nothing compared to what I am going to do. For I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it? I will make a pathway through the wilderness. I will create rivers in the dry wasteland.” Isaiah 43:18-19 **[NLT]**

## Led by the Holy Spirit:

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“Then Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness,” ... “Then Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and news of Him went out through all the surrounding region.” Luke 4:1,14

“As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, ‘Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.’” Acts 13:2

“Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there.” Acts 17:16-17 **[ESV]**

“it seems good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write to you an orderly account, most excellent Theophilus.” Luke 1:3

“And after they had stayed there for a time, they were sent back with greetings from the brethren to the apostles. However, it seemed good to Silas to remain there. Paul and Barnabas also remained in Antioch, teaching and preaching the word of the Lord, with many others also.” ... “Then the contention became so sharp that they parted from one another. And so Barnabas took Mark and sailed to Cyprus; but Paul chose Silas and departed, being commended by the brethren to the grace of God. And he went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.” Acts 15:33-35,39-41

“After they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit did not permit them.”

Acts 16:7

## Test Prophecies:

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“Do not despise prophecies, but test everything; hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil.”

1 Thessalonians 5:20-22 **[ESV]**

“Dear friends, do not believe everyone who claims to speak by the Spirit. You must test them to see if the spirit they have comes from God. For there are many false prophets in the world.” 1 John 4:1 **[NLT]**

“Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already.” 1 John 4:1-3 **[ESV]**

“You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? So, every healthy [inherently good] tree bears good fruit, but the diseased [corrupt, rotten, useless] tree bears bad fruit.” Matthew 7:16-17 **[ESV]**

“Let two or three people prophesy, and let the others evaluate what is said.” 1 Corinthians 14:29 **[NLT]**

“And the people of Berea were more open-minded than those in Thessalonica, and they listened eagerly to Paul’s message. They searched the Scriptures day after day to see if Paul and Silas were teaching the truth.” Acts 17:11 **[NLT]**

“Son of man, prophesy against the prophets of Israel, who are prophesying, and say to those who prophesy from their own hearts [*who are inventing their own prophecies (NLT)*]: ‘Hear the word of the LORD!’ Thus says the Lord GOD, Woe to the foolish prophets who follow their own spirit [*their own imaginations (NLT)*], and have seen nothing!” Ezekiel 13:2-3 **[ESV]**

“For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw— each one’s work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. <sup>15</sup> If anyone’s work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire [*like someone barely escaping through a wall of flames (NLT)*].”

1 Corinthians 3:11-15 **[ESV]**

## Do not grieve the Holy Spirit:

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“But they rebelled and grieved His Holy Spirit; so He turned Himself against them as an enemy, and He fought against them.” Isaiah 63:10

“But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession. And he kept back part of the proceeds, his wife also being aware of it, and brought a certain part and laid it at the apostles’ feet. But Peter said, ‘Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself? While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God. Then Ananias, hearing these words, fell down and breathed his last.” Acts 5:1-5

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

Ephesians 4:30

## How not to be led:

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“Give no regard to mediums and familiar spirits; do not seek after them, to be defiled by them: I am the Lord your God.” Leviticus 19:31

“When you come into the land which the Lord your God is giving you, you shall not learn to follow the abominations of those nations. There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, or one who practices witchcraft, or a soothsayer, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer, or one who conjures spells, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead. For all who do these things are an abomination to the Lord, and because of these abominations the Lord your God drives them out from before you.” Deuteronomy 18:9-12

“There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.” Proverbs 16:25

“The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?” Jeremiah 17:9

## Don't sign notes of debt for others:

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“A man devoid of understanding shakes hands in a pledge, and becomes surety for his friend.

Proverbs 17:18

## GODLY GUIDANCE: Don't sign notes of debt for others

"My son, if you become surety for your friend, if you have shaken hands in pledge for a stranger, you are snared by the words of your mouth;" Proverbs 6:1-2

"He who is surety for a stranger will suffer, but one who hates being surety is secure." Proverbs 11:15

## Wise counsel:

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"Where there is no counsel, the people fall; but in the multitude of counselors there is safety."

Proverbs 11:14

"Without counsel, plans go awry, but in the multitude of counselors they are established."

Proverbs 15:22

"For by wise counsel you will wage your own war, and in a multitude of counselors there is safety."

Proverbs 24:6

## Wisdom:

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"But *there is* a spirit in man, and the breath of the Almighty gives him understanding." Job 32:8

"[Wisdom] was [God's] constant delight, rejoicing always in [God's] presence." Proverb 8:30 **[NLT]**

"Joyful are those who listen to [wisdom]." Proverbs 8:34

"For whoever finds [wisdom] finds life and receives favor from the Lord." Proverbs 8:35

"A wise man is strong, yes, a man of knowledge increases strength" Proverbs 24:5

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom" Psalm 111:10

"Because God deprived her of wisdom, and did not endow her with understanding." Job 39:17

"For God may speak in one way, or in another, *yet man* does not perceive it. In a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falls upon men, while slumbering on their beds, then He opens the ears of men, and seals their instruction. In order to turn man *from his* deed, and conceal pride from man, He keeps back his soul from the Pit, and his life from perishing by the sword." Job 33:14-18

"The wise have wealth and luxury, but fools spend whatever they get." Proverbs 21:20 **[NLT]**

"True humility and fear of the LORD lead to riches, honor, and long life." Proverbs 22:4 **[NLT]**

## GODLY GUIDANCE: Wisdom

"She [Wisdom] offers you long life in her right hand, and riches and honor in her left."

Proverbs 3:16 **[NLT]**

"And David behaved wisely in all his ways, and the LORD *was* with him." 1 Samuel 18:14

"Then the princes of the Philistines went out *to war*. And so it was, whenever they went out, *that* David behaved more wisely than all the servants of Saul, so that his name became highly esteemed."

1 Samuel 18:30

"So God replied, "Because you have asked for wisdom in governing my people with justice and have not asked for a long life or wealth or the death of your enemies— I will give you what you asked for! I will give you a wise and understanding heart such as no one else has had or ever will have! And I will also give you what you did not ask for—riches and fame! No other king in all the world will be compared to you for the rest of your life!" 1 Kings 3:11-13 **[NLT]**

"But the wisdom from above is first of all pure. It is also peace loving, gentle at all times, and willing to yield to others. It is full of mercy and good deeds. It shows no favoritism and is always sincere. And those who are peacemakers will plant seeds of peace and reap a harvest of righteousness."

James 3:17-18 **[NLT]**

"Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom He gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father."

Colossians 3:16-17 **[NLT]**

"For jealousy and selfishness are not God's kind of wisdom. Such things are earthly, unspiritual, and demonic. For wherever there is jealousy and selfish ambition, there you will find disorder and evil of every kind." James 3:15-16 **[NLT]**

## Our minds:

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***Phroneo – φρονέω: to direct the mind to, to seek for. "Essentially equates to personal opinion fleshing itself out in action (see J. Thayer)."***

"For those who live according to the *flesh* [sarka (σάρκα)] *set their minds on* [phronousin (φρονοῦσιν)] the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the *Spirit* [neuma (πνεῦμα)] , (*set their minds on*) the things of the Spirit." Romans 8:5

"*Set your mind on* [phroneite (φρονεῖτε)] things above, not on things on the earth." Colossians 3:2



## GODLY GUIDANCE: Our minds

“Now He who searches the *hearts* [kardias (καρδίας)] knows what the *mind* [phronema (φρόνημα)] of the *Spirit* [pneumatōs (πνεύματος)] is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.” Romans 8:27

“For God has not given us a spirit of *fear* [deilias (δειλιάς)], but of *power* [dynamēos (δυνάμεως)] and of *love* [agapēs (ἀγάπης)] and of a *sound mind* [sophronismou (σωφρονισμού)].” 2 Timothy 1:7

### ***Noos – νοός: frame of mind, thought, understanding, reason, intellect.***

“And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your *mind* [noos (νοός)], that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.” Romans 12:2

“To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their *mind* [nous (νοῦς)] and *conscience* (as the inward moral and spiritual frame) [syneidesis (συνείδησις)] are defiled.” Titus 1:15

“And He opened their *understanding* [noun (νοῦν)], that they might comprehend the Scriptures.”  
Luke 24:45

“And so, since they did not see fit to acknowledge God or approve of Him or consider Him worth the knowing, God gave them over to a base and condemned *mind* [noun (νοῦν)] to do things not proper or decent but loathsome,” Romans 1:28 [AMP]

### ***Noema – νόημα (N): perception, (thought, purpose, design) understanding, mind.***

***[Noeo – νοέω (V): to intend, to perceive, to see, to understand.]***

“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all *understanding* [noun (νοῦν)], will guard your *hearts* [kardias (καρδίας)] and *minds* [noemata (νοήματα)] through Christ Jesus.”  
Philippians 4:6-7

“But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose *minds* [noemata (νοήματα)] the god of the age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.” 2 Corinthians 4:3-4

### ***Dianoia – διανοία: mind, thinking, understanding; this is a part of the inner person that thinks and processes information into understanding, including the making of choices, the seat of which is the heart.***

“Jesus said to him, ‘*You shall love* [agapeseis (Ἀγαπήσεις)] the Lord your God with all your *heart* [kardia (καρδίᾳ)], with all your *soul* [psyche (ψυχῆ)], and with all your *mind* [dianoia (διανοίᾳ)].’ This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: ‘*You shall love* [agapeseis (Ἀγαπήσεις)] your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

Matthew 22:37-40

“And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of the world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the *flesh* [sarkos (σαρκός)] and of the *mind* [dianoion (διανοιῶν)], and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.” Ephesians 2:1-3

## Fear:

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***Eulabetheis – εὐλαβηθεῖς: conducting oneself carefully, cautiously, and circumspectly with reverence towards God.***

“As He also says in another place: ‘You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek’; who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His *godly fear* [eulabeias (εὐλαβείας)], though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered.”

Hebrews 5:6-8

“By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with *godly fear* [eulabetheis (εὐλαβηθεῖς)], prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.” Hebrews 11:7

***Deilia – δειλία: cowardice, timidity.***

“Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither *let it be afraid* [deiliato (δειλιάτω)].” John 14:27

“For God has not given us a spirit of *fear* [deilias (δειλίας)], but of *power* [dynameos (δυνάμεως)] and of *love* [agapes (ἀγάπης)] and of a *sound mind* [sophronismou (σωφρονισμοῦ)].” 2 Timothy 1:7

***Phobos – φόβος: panic flight, terror.***

## GODLY GUIDANCE: Fear

“And as we live in God, our love grows more perfect. So we will not be afraid on the day of judgment, but we can face him with confidence because we live like Jesus here in this world. Such *love* [agape (ἀγάπη)] has no *fear* [phobos (φόβος)], because perfect love expels all fear. If we are afraid, it is for fear of punishment, and this shows that we have not fully experienced his perfect love.” 1 John 4:17-18 **[NLT]**

“Do not *fear* [phobou (φοβοῦ)] any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw *some* of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.” Revelation 2:10

“And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather *fear* [phobeisthe (φοβεῖσθε)] Him who is able to destroy both *soul* [psyche (ψυχήν)] and *body* [soma (σῶμα)] in hell.” Matthew 10:28

“Those [elders who rule] who are sinning rebuke in the presence of all, that the rest also may *fear* [phobon (φόβον)]” 1 Timothy 5:20

“*Honor* [timesate (τιμήσατε)] all people. *Love* [agapate (ἀγαπάτε)] the brotherhood. *Fear* [phobeisthe (φοβεῖσθε)] God. *Honor* [timate (τιμάτε)] the king.” 1 Peter 2:17

“And His mercy *is* on those who *fear* [phoboumenois (φοβουμένοις)] Him from generation to generation.” Luke 1:50

“Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so *love* [agapato (ἀγαπάτω)] his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects [phobetai (φοβῆται)] her husband.” Ephesians 5:33

## Love:

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“And this hope [of salvation] will not lead to disappointment. For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love.” Romans 5:5 **[NLT]**

“For love is as strong as death; ardent love is as unrelenting as Sheol. Love’s flames are fiery flames—the blaze of the Lord.” Song of Solomon 8:6 **[HCSB]**

“For the LORD your God is living among you. He is a mighty savior. He will take delight in you with gladness. With His love, He will calm all your fears. He will rejoice over you with joyful songs.”

Zephaniah 3:17 **[NLT]**

“And as we live in God, our love grows more perfect. So we will not be afraid on the day of judgment, but we can face him with confidence because we live like Jesus here in this world. Such *love* [agape (ἀγάπη)] has no *fear* [phobos (φόβος)], because perfect love expels all fear. If we are afraid, it is for fear of punishment, and this shows that we have not fully experienced his perfect love.” 1 John 4:17-18 **[NLT]**

## [In the Greek]

***Agape – ἀγάπη: an action, sacrificial, unconditional love, the highest form of love.***

“But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is *love* [agape (ἀγάπη)].” 1 John 4:8 **[NLT]**

“This is My commandment, that *you love* [agapate (ἀγαπάτε)] one another as *I have loved* [egapesa (ἠγάπησα)] you. Greater *love* [agapen (ἀγάπην)] has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends. You are My friends if you do whatever I command you.” John 15:12-14

“Husbands, *love* [agapate (ἀγαπάτε)] your wives, just as Christ also *loved* [egapesen (ἠγάπησεν)] the church and gave Himself for her.” Ephesians 5:25

“Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so *love* [agapato (ἀγαπάτω)] his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects [phobetai (φοβῆται)] her husband.” Ephesians 5:33

“Jesus said to him, ‘*You shall love* [agapeseis (Ἀγαπήσεις)] the Lord your God with all your *heart* [kardia (καρδίᾳ)], with all your *soul* [psyche (ψυχῆ)], and with all your *mind* [dianoia (διανοίᾳ)].’ This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: ‘*You shall love* [agapeseis (Ἀγαπήσεις)] your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

Matthew 22:37-40

“I pray that your *love* [agape (ἀγάπη)] will overflow more and more, and that you will keep on growing in knowledge and understanding.” Philippians 1:9 **[NLT]**

“Let no one seek his own, but each one the other’s well-being.” 1 Corinthians 10:24

“Let *love* [agape (ἀγάπη)] be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good.” Romans 12:9

“*Love* [agape (ἀγάπη)] suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.” 1 Corinthians 13:4-8

“And now abide faith, hope, *love* [agape (ἀγάπη)], these three; but the greatest of these is love.”

1 Corinthians 13:13

“So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, ‘Simon, son of Jonah, do you *love* [agapas (ἀγαπάς)] Me more than these?’ He said to Him, ‘Yes, Lord; You know that I *love* [philo (φιλω)] You.’ He said to him, ‘Feed My lambs.’ He said to him again a second time, ‘Simon, son of Jonah, do you *love* [agapas (ἀγαπάς)] Me?’ He said to Him, ‘Yes, Lord; You know that I *love* [philo (φιλω)] You.’ He said to him, ‘Tend My sheep.’ He said to him the third time, ‘Simon, son of Jonah, do you *love* [phileis (φιλεῖς)] Me?’ Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, ‘Do you *love* [phileis (φιλεῖς)] Me?’ And he said to Him, ‘Lord, You know all things; You know that I *love* [philo (φιλω)] You.’ Jesus said to him,

## GODLY GUIDANCE: Love

‘Feed My sheep. Most assuredly, I say to you, when you were younger, you girded yourself and walked where you wished; but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will gird you and carry you where you do not wish.’” John 21:15-18

***Phileo – φιλέω: a feeling of friendship. to love, cherish, regard with affection, be fond of, delight in a thing.***

“For the Father *loves* [philei (φιλεῖ)] the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself does; and He will show Him greater works than these, that you may marvel.” John 5:20

“Therefore the sisters sent to Him, saying, ‘Lord, behold, he whom *You love* [phileis (φιλεῖς)] is sick.’”  
John 11:3

“He who *loves* [philon (φιλῶν)] father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.” Matthew 10:37

“Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere *love of the brethren* [philadelphian (φιλαδελφίαν)], *love* [agapesate (ἀγαπήσατε)] one another fervently with a pure heart.”  
1 Peter 1:22

“Be *kindly affectionate* [philostorgoi (φιλόστοργοι)] to one another with *brotherly love* [philadelphia (φιλαδελφία)], in honor giving preference to one another;” Romans 12:10

***Storgous – στόργους: a feeling of natural or instinctive affection, affection to kindred.***

“And so, since they did not see fit to acknowledge God or approve of Him or consider Him worth the knowing, God gave them over to a base and condemned mind to do things not proper or decent but loathsome,” Romans 1:28 **[AMP]** ... to be “*unloving (without natural affection)* [astorgous (ἀστόργους)].”

Romans 1:31

## [In the Hebrew]

***Aheb – אָהַב: to like, to love.***

*(Closely related to the Greek word Phileo – φιλέω: a mental love, a feeling of friendship. to love, cherish, regard with affection, be fond of, delight in a thing.)*

## GODLY GUIDANCE: Love

“And he [Jacob] went and got *them* and brought *them* to his mother [Rebekah], and his mother made savory food, such as his father [Issac] loved.” Genesis 27:14

“How long, you simple ones, will you love simplicity?” Proverbs 1:22

“Then the LORD said to me, ‘Go again, love a woman *who is loved* by a [*friend, companion, or neighbor*] and is committing adultery, just like the love of the LORD for the children of Israel, who look to other gods and love the raisin cakes of the pagans.’” Hosea 3:1

“But you, Israel, *are* My servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the descendants of Abraham My friend [אַהֲבָי]” Isaiah 41:8

“I am distressed for you, my brother Jonathan; you have been very pleasant to me; your love to me was wonderful, surpassing the love of women.” 2 Samuel 1:26

“Now when he had finished speaking to Saul, the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul.” 1 Samuel 18:1

“So David came to Saul and stood before him. And he loved him greatly, and he became his armorbearer.” 1 Samuel 16:21

*(Closely related to the Greek word Agape – ἀγάπη: an action, sacrificial, unconditional love, the highest form of love.)*

“You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I *am* the LORD.” Leviticus 19:18

*(Closely related to the Greek word Storgous – στόργους: a feeling of natural or instinctive affection, affection to kindred.)*

“Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he *was* the son of his old age. Also he made him a tunic of *many* colors.” Genesis 37:3

“Then He said, ‘Take now your son, your only *son* Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.’” Genesis 22:2

*(Possibly related to the Greek word Eros – ἔρως: a physical passionate love, with sensual desire and longing.)*

“But King Solomon loved many foreign women, as well as the daughter of Pharaoh: women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Sidonians, *and* Hittites—” 1 Kings 11:1

## GODLY GUIDANCE: Love

“Promise me, O women of Jerusalem, by the gazelles and wild deer, not to awaken love until the time is right.” Song of Solomon 3:5 **[NLT]**

“Now Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, ‘I will serve you seven years for Rachel your younger daughter.’”  
Genesis 29:18

“Come, let us take our fill of love [טִיט] until morning; let us delight ourselves with love.” Proverbs 7:18

“Live joyfully with the wife whom you love all the days of your vain [fleeting] life which He has given you under the sun, all your days of vanity; for that *is* your portion in life, and in the labor which you perform under the sun.” Ecclesiastes 9:9

### ***Agabim – אַגָּבִים: a sensuous love, lust, to have an excessive affection.***

*(Closely related to the Greek word Eros – ἔρως: a physical passionate love, with sensual desire and longing.)*

“So they come to you as people do, they sit before you *as* My people, and they hear your words, but they do not do them; for with their mouth they show much love, *but* their hearts pursue their *own* gain.”  
Ezekiel 33:31

“Thus she committed her harlotry with them, all of them choice men of Assyria; and with all for whom she lusted, with all their idols, she defiled herself.” Ezekiel 23:7

### ***Checed – חֶסֶד: favor; a deliberate choice of mercy, kindness, faithfulness, and goodness.***

*(Closely related to the Greek word Agape – ἀγάπη: an action, sacrificial, unconditional love, the highest form of love.)*

“but showing mercy [חֶסֶד] to thousands, to those who love [אַהֲבָה] Me and keep My commandments.”  
Exodus 20:6

“And you [David] shall not only show me [Jonathan] the kindness of the LORD while I still live, that I may not die;” 1 Samuel 20:14

“For your faithfulness [goodness] is like a morning cloud, and like the early dew it goes away” Hosea 6:4

### ***Dod – דָּד: beloved, love.***

## GODLY GUIDANCE: Love

“His mouth *is* most sweet, yes, he *is* altogether lovely [desirable]. This *is* my beloved, and this *is* my friend.” Song of Solomon 5:16

“Eat, O friends! Drink, yes, drink deeply, O beloved ones!” Song of Solomon 5:1

“Come, let us take our fill of love until morning; let us delight ourselves with love [אָהַב].” Proverbs 7:18

“When I passed by you again and looked upon you, indeed your time *was* the time of love; so I spread My wing over you and covered your nakedness. Yes, I swore an oath to you and entered into a covenant with you, and you became Mine,” says the Lord GOD.” Ezekiel 16:8

“And the Babylonians came to her into the bed of love, and they defiled her with their evil desire; and when she was polluted by them, she [Jerusalem] broke the relationship *and* pushed them away from her in disgust.” Ezekiel 23:17 **[AMP]**

### **Chabab** – אָהַב: *to love. (only occurrence)*

“Yes, He loves the people; all His saints *are* in Your hand; they sit down at Your feet; everyone receives Your words.” Deuteronomy 33:3

## Choosing a mate, marriage:

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“His mouth is sweetness itself; he is desirable in every way. Such, O women of Jerusalem, is my lover, my friend.” Song of Solomon 5:16 **[NLT]**

“Let your wife be a fountain of blessing for you. Rejoice in the wife of your youth. She is a loving deer, a graceful doe. Let her breasts satisfy you always. May you always be captivated by her love.”

Proverbs 5:18-19 **[NLT]**

“He who finds a wife finds a good thing, and obtains favor from the Lord.” Proverbs 18:22

“For three things the earth is perturbed, Yes, for four it cannot bear up: for a servant when he reigns, a fool when he is filled with food, a hateful woman when she is married, and a maidservant who succeeds her mistress.” Proverbs 30:21-23

“A gracious woman retains honor....” Proverbs 11:16

“As a ring of gold in a swine’s snout, so is a lovely woman who lacks discretion.” Proverbs 11:22

“A satisfied soul loathes the honeycomb, but to a hungry soul every bitter thing is sweet.” Proverbs 27:7



## GODLY GUIDANCE: Choosing a mate, marriage

“Through wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established; by knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches.” Proverbs 24:3-4

“What is desired in a man is kindness, and a poor man is better than a liar.” Proverbs 19:22

“Who can find a virtuous wife? For her worth is far above rubies. The heart of her husband safely trusts her; so he will have no lack of gain.”.....“She opens her mouth with wisdom, and on her tongue is the law of kindness.”....“Charm is deceitful and beauty is passing, but a woman who fears the Lord, she shall be praised. Give her the fruit of her hands, and let her own works praise her in the gates.”

Proverbs 31:10-11,26,30-31

“Do not let your adornment be merely outward—arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel—rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God.” 1 Peter 3:3-4

“Prepare your outside work, make it fit for yourself in the field; and afterward build your house.”

Proverbs 24:27

“Promise me, O women of Jerusalem, by the gazelles and wild deer, not to awaken love until the time is right.” Song of Solomon 3:5 **[NLT]**

“Do not lay hands on anyone hastily, nor share in other people’s sins; keep yourself pure.”

1 Timothy 5:22

“Run from anything that stimulates youthful lusts. Instead, pursue righteous living, faithfulness, love, and peace. Enjoy the companionship of those who call on the Lord with pure hearts.”

2 Timothy 2:22 **[NLT]**

“A continual dripping on a very rainy day and a contentious woman are alike; whoever restrains her restrains the wind, and grasps oil with his right hand.” Proverbs 27:15-16

“An excellent wife is the crown of her husband, but she who causes shame is like rotteness in his bones.” Proverbs 12:4

“**6:12** You say, ‘I am allowed to do anything’—but not everything is good for you. And even though ‘I am allowed to do anything,’ I must not become a slave to anything.<sup>13</sup> You say, ‘Food was made for the stomach, and the stomach for food.’ (This is true, though someday God will do away with both of them.) But you can’t say that our bodies were made for sexual immorality. They were made for the Lord, and the Lord cares about our bodies.<sup>14</sup> And God will raise us from the dead by his power, just as he raised our Lord from the dead.<sup>15</sup> Don’t you realize that your bodies are actually parts of Christ? Should a man take his body, which is part of Christ, and join it to a prostitute? Never!<sup>16</sup> And don’t you realize that if a man joins himself to a prostitute, he becomes one body with her? For the Scriptures say, “The two are united into one.”<sup>17</sup> But the person who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with him.<sup>18</sup> Run from sexual sin! No other sin so clearly affects the body as this one does. For sexual immorality is a sin against your own body.<sup>19</sup> Don’t you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given

## GODLY GUIDANCE: Choosing a mate, marriage

to you by God? You do not belong to yourself, <sup>20</sup> for God bought you with a high price. So you must honor God with your body. 7:1 Now regarding the questions you asked in your letter. Yes, it is good to abstain from sexual relations [for a man not to touch a woman]. <sup>2</sup> But because there is so much sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife, and each woman should have her own husband. <sup>3</sup> The husband should fulfill his wife's sexual needs, and the wife should fulfill her husband's needs. <sup>4</sup> The wife gives authority over her body to her husband, and the husband gives authority over his body to his wife. <sup>5</sup> Do not deprive each other of sexual relations, unless you both agree to refrain from sexual intimacy for a limited time so you can give yourselves more completely to prayer. Afterward, you should come together again so that Satan won't be able to tempt you because of your lack of self-control. <sup>6</sup> I say this as a concession, not as a command. <sup>7</sup> But I wish everyone were single, just as I am. Yet each person has a special gift from God, of one kind or another. <sup>8</sup> So I say to those who aren't married and to widows—it's better to stay unmarried, just as I am. <sup>9</sup> But if they can't control themselves, they should go ahead and marry. It's better to marry than to burn with lust." 1 Corinthians 6:12-19; 7:1-9

"Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,"..."So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church." Ephesians 5:24-25,28-29

"Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband." Ephesians 5:33

"Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and do not be bitter toward them." Colossians 3:18-19

"To the woman He said: ... Your desire *shall be* for your husband, and he shall rule over you." [Before the fall, both husband and wife desired God and He ruled over them, leading them, and guiding them.]  
Genesis 3:16

"For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation [the wall of hostility that separated us. (NLT)], ... so as to create in Himself one new man *from* the two, *thus* making peace." Ephesians 2:14, 15b

"Together as one body, Christ reconciled both groups to God by means of his death on the cross, and our hostility toward each other was put to death." Ephesians 2:16 [NLT]

"Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?" 2 Corinthians 6:14

"Can two people walk together without agreeing on the direction?" Amos 3:3 [NLT]

# Monogamy:

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“Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.” Genesis 2:24

“Neither shall he multiply wives for himself, lest his heart turn away; nor shall he greatly multiply silver and gold for himself.” Deuteronomy 17:17

“Nor shall you take a woman as a rival to her sister, to uncover her nakedness while the other is alive.”  
Leviticus 18:18

“Let deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling *their* children and their own houses well.”  
1 Timothy 3:12

“This *is* a faithful saying: If a man desires the position of a bishop, he desires a good work. A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach; not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous; one who rules his own house well, having *his* children in submission with all reverence (for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?); not a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the *same* condemnation as the devil.”

1 Timothy 3:1-6

# GOD USES EVERYONE

## Female prophets:

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“Then, after doing all those things, **I will pour out my Spirit upon all people**. Your sons and **daughters will prophesy**.” Joel 2:28 **[NLT]** (Acts 2:17)

### ***Miriam:***

“For I brought you out of Egypt and redeemed you from slavery. **I sent Moses, Aaron, and Miriam to help you**.” Micah 6:4 **[NLT]**

“Then **Miriam the prophet**, Aaron’s sister, took a tambourine and led all the women as they played their tambourines and danced. And Miriam sang this song: ‘Sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; he has hurled both horse and rider into the sea.’” Exodus 15:20-21 **[NLT]**

### ***Deborah:***

“**Deborah, the wife of Lappidoth, was a prophet who was judging Israel at that time**. She would sit under the Palm of Deborah, between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim, and the Israelites would go to her for judgment.” Judges 4:4-5 **[NLT]**

“Barak told her, ‘I will go, but only if you go with me.’ ‘Very well,’ she replied, ‘I will go with you. But you will receive no honor in this venture, for the Lord’s victory over Sisera will be at the hands of a woman.’ So Deborah went with Barak to Kedesh.” Judges 4:8-9 **[NLT]**

### ***Huldah:***

“So Hilkiah the priest, Ahikam, Acbor, Shaphan, and Asaiah went to the New Quarter of Jerusalem to consult with **the prophet Huldah**. **She was the wife of Shallum son of Tikvah, son of Harhas, the keeper of the Temple wardrobe**.” ... “So they took her message back to the king.” 2 Kings 22:14,20 **[NLT]**

### *Isaiah's wife:*

"Then I went to **the prophetess**, and she conceived and bore a son. Then the LORD said to me, "Call his name Maher-Shalal-Hash-Baz" Isaiah 8:3

### *Anna:*

"**Anna, a prophet**, was also there in the Temple. She was the daughter of Phanuel from the tribe of Asher, and she was very old. Her husband died when they had been married only seven years. Then she lived as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the Temple but stayed there day and night, worshiping God with fasting and prayer. She came along just as Simeon was talking with Mary and Joseph, and she began praising God. She talked about the child to everyone who had been waiting expectantly for God to rescue Jerusalem." Luke 2:36-38 *[NLT]*

### *Philip's daughters:*

"On the next *day* we who were Paul's companions departed and came to Caesarea, and entered the house of Philip the evangelist, who was *one* of the seven, and stayed with him. Now this man had **four virgin daughters who prophesied.**" Acts 21:8-9

## Women in the early church:

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"Some of the Jews who listened **were persuaded and joined Paul** and Silas, along with many God-fearing Greek men and **quite a few prominent women.**" Acts 17:4 *[NLT]*

"As a result, many Jews believed, as did **many of the prominent Greek women** and men."

Acts 17:12 *[NLT]*

"I [Paul] commend to you **our sister Phoebe, who is a deacon [servant, minister] in the church** in Cenchrea. Welcome her in the Lord as one who is worthy of honor among God's people. Help her in whatever she needs, for she has been helpful to many, and especially to me." Romans 16:1-2 *[NLT]*

"Then Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. There he became acquainted with a Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, who had recently arrived from Italy with **his wife, Priscilla.**" Acts 18:1-2 *[NLT]*

"Afterward Paul remained many days longer, and then told the brethren farewell and sailed for Syria; and he was **accompanied by Priscilla** and Aquila." Acts 18:18 *[AMP]*

"Now a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man *and* mighty in the Scriptures, came to Ephesus. This man had been instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he

## GOD USES EVERYONE: Women in the early church

spoke and taught accurately the things of the Lord, though he knew only the baptism of John. So he began to speak boldly in the synagogue. **When Aquila and Priscilla heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.**" Acts 18:24-26