

Principles and Instructions:

God's sweetness:

Ge 46:1-4 So Israel set out with all that was his, and when he reached Beersheba, he offered sacrifices to the God of his father Isaac. ² And God spoke to Israel in a vision at night and said, "Jacob! Jacob!"

"Here I am," he replied.

³ "I am God, the God of your father," he said. "Do not be afraid to go down to Egypt, for I will make you into a great nation there. ⁴ I will go down to Egypt with you, and I will surely bring you back again. And Joseph's own hand will close your eyes."

Matthew 6:33

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Ge 46:28

"Jacob sent Judah ahead of him to Joseph to get directions to (to direct his face toward) Goshen." Judah ("Acclamer" – applaud or shout with praise) was 4th son, not first. It is through Judah's line that the Messiah comes, who will direct the faces of all mankind toward the Father.

Jesus said, 32 *"And I, if I should be exalted out of the earth, shall be drawing all to Myself."* (John 12:32)

Jesus did not exalt himself. Neither did Joseph, who also drew "all men" – figuratively – to himself. David drew men to himself, but did not exalt himself.

Look at all the characters in the scriptures. The ones who tooted their own horns or exalted themselves (check out Absalom, Menasseh, Jezebel, Jereboam, Korah).... had troubles-a-plenty, but the ones whom God raised up...whom *He* exalted, they succeeded, lived well and prospered. (Look at Abraham, Noah, Joseph, Daniel...Sampson too, till he messed up w/Delilah).

What's the point? 1) Let God do the exalting 2) Watch to see who is exalting whom. The principle is that when one exalts him or herself, motives may be suspect. If God does it, it'll be pure.

What's the best way to approach God? What does He respect?

Psalms 51

¹⁷ The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart,
O God, you will not despise.

Psalm 32

- ¹ Blessed is he
whose transgressions are forgiven,
whose sins are covered.
- ² Blessed is the man
whose sin the LORD does not count against him
(see 2 Cor 5:19: how that God was in Christ, conciliating the world to Himself, not reckoning their offenses to them, and placing in us the word of the conciliation.)
and in whose spirit is no deceit.
- ³ When I kept silent,
my bones wasted away
through my groaning all day long.
- ⁴ For day and night
your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was sapped
as in the heat of summer.
- ⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you
and did not cover up my iniquity.
I said, "I will confess
my transgressions to the LORD"—
and you forgave
the guilt of my sin.
- ⁶ Therefore let everyone who is godly pray to you
while you may be found;
surely when the mighty waters rise,
they will not reach him.
- ⁷ You are my hiding place;
you will protect me from trouble
and surround me with songs of deliverance.
- ⁸ I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;
I will counsel you and watch over you.
- ⁹ Do not be like the horse or the mule,
which have no understanding
but must be controlled by bit and bridle
or they will not come to you.
- ¹⁰ Many are the woes of the wicked,
but the LORD's unfailing love
surrounds the man who trusts in him.
- ¹¹ Rejoice in the LORD and be glad, you righteous;
sing, all you who are upright in heart!

Acts 17:30

Paul is in Athens, making a case for God to the Greeks there: *"Indeed, then, condoning the times of [the] ignorance, God is now charging mankind that all everywhere are to repent...*

2 Corinthians, Chapter 7

1 Having, then, these promises, beloved, we should be cleansing ourselves from every pollution of flesh and spirit, completing holiness in the fear of God.

2 Make room for us. We injure no one; we corrupt no one; we overreach no one.

...

9 Now I am rejoicing, not that you were made sorry, but that you were made sorry to repentance. For you were made sorry according to God, that in nothing you may suffer forfeit by us.

10 For sorrow according to God is producing repentance for unregretted salvation, yet the sorrow of the world is producing death.

Acts 11

17 If, then, God gives them the equal gratuity as to us also, when believing on the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I -- able to forbid God?"

18 Now, on hearing these things, they are quiet, and glorify God, saying, "Consequently, to the nations also God gives repentance unto life!"

Acts 2

4 Or are you despising the riches of His kindness and forbearance and patience, being ignorant that the kindness of God is leading you to repentance?

2 Timothy 2

22 Now youthful desires flee: yet pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace, with all who are invoking the Lord out of a clean heart.

23 Now stupid and crude questionings refuse, being aware that they are generating fightings.

24 Now a slave of the Lord must not be fighting, but be gentle toward all, apt to teach, bearing with evil,

25 with meekness training those who are antagonizing, seeing whether God may be giving them repentance to come into a realization of the truth,

26 and they will be sobering up out of the trap of the Adversary, having been caught alive by him, for that one's will.

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Barbara's story:

20 years, worldwide ministry, speaking to stadiums full, conventions, mega churches and small ones, pasturing, caring for pastors in crisis, ministering to world leaders (including our own presidents). At the Ministry Center at D.C., she led a program where the top 3 leaders of any country in the world could come, fall off the face of the earth to be saved, healed, delivered and set free. She was part of a 10-member delegation taken to Jordan by King Hussein to see the other side of the holy land (our placemats) and towels...She was part of the American delegation sponsored by Sudanese President Al-Bashir for the first Christian-Muslim Day of Prayer. In March, I met Col. Kenny Cox, who was one of the heroes of 9-11 at the Pentagon, and who saved dozens of men and

women, accompanied by two angels. Kenny and his wife were also part of the Friday night bible studies at the Ministry Center at D.C. and they've been Barbara's friends throughout her adventures. When we met, I sat quietly as Kenny, his wife Candie, and Barbara caught up. Kenny looked at me and said, "What do you have for me?" He had heard in his spirit that the Lord had given me a word for him – and He had, earlier that morning. I gave it to him, and helped him unload the burden he was carrying since Sept. 11, and we became brothers quickly. We're encouraging him to write his story, because it is an astonishing testimony to the detailed and sovereign hand of God on someone during an unspeakable time of terror, death and destruction.

After Barbara and I spoke at length in August, 2007, she decided to step down from public ministry, because what I told her, that I had learned during 14 years of sequestered study of scriptures, called to account any words that would ever be spoken to God's children out of religious tradition and training, and not out of the truth He inspired to be written.

February, 2008 was her last official ministry commitment. She has been "benched" ever since...but here's what someone gave her from the Lord, a man with a genuine prophetic anointing, what explained – and continues to explain, what has happened and what her situation is today: She is set apart. We both are, but I was never out there like she was. I was out there, but in a completely different realm, and it had nothing to do with glorifying God. Barbara's like has been all about God since before He healed her of Muscular Dystrophy over 20 years ago. God took her into amazing public ministry, so, today, it grates sometimes to be set apart. She itches to "get back out there," while she also knows that, when the Lord appoints it, it will likely be "outside the camp," because the trappings of "relig-biz" won't hold her and won't determine where and when she goes out or to whom she's sent.

So, for all that Barbara did for God, He put her on this 3-year track to do something for her: take her to Himself, yes, to heal her (preparation, separation and cleansing)...but at the same time, god has done something for her that was nearest to her heart, and that was to heal and restore her relationship to her daughter. Mikala just turned 40, and she was with Barbara when Barbara locked the door of her athletic apparel stores over 20 years ago and left with a suitcase to follow the Lord's sovereign leading. She went from being a millionaire to standing in a welfare line, and her daughter was right there. Together they went to California and were a night away from having to sleep on the beach when god provided a job that included room and board for both of them. When Barbara left California, Mikala stayed, and they didn't speak for 10 years. Barbara showed up every Mother's

Day at the church where her daughter was the Business Manager, and every year she left empty-handed and empty-hearted.

Somewhere along the way, communication began, Mikala got married and had a daughter of her own. Barbara began to pay visits, always staying in a nearby hotel, whenever she could – once a year or so. After we married, Barbara got to visit more, and when we moved to Nashville a year ago, Barbara was able to get to Indy 3-4 times over 8 months. Then God moved sovereignly to bring us to within two long blocks of her daughter and grand daughter, whom she meets at the school bus stop every morning. She's had more conversation with a daughter who is warming steadily – although more slowly that Barbara would want.

So...two nights ago, when Barbara said, for the umpteenth time, how she longed for the day when God would use her again to minister to His children, and repented for all her choices that have led her to today, figuratively sitting on the bench like a hockey team's captain in the penalty box, I became exercised in my spirit, and God showed me the flip side of it all...

What is the higher honor? Being in the ministry or being set apart for God to take you to Himself, to be totally healed inside from all the wounds suffered during your journey (we both came out of hellish places before we were married) , and heal the "sword in your heart" by restoring your relationship with your daughter. You did for God before. Now He's doing for you.

Do you think Jesus considers His ministry (that led, buy the way to His death on the cross) or His current position seated at the right hand of the Father, as the higher honor?

The God of all creation is taking you to Himself, for Him to sovereignly heal you and restore you to your daughter, and you think you have to repent to Him for the choices you made to lead you here? This is God's own Father's love for you as His daughter to provide a home down the street from your daughter. This is the most important thing to Him in your life.

God does not need our help to save people. He has them all covered by His Eonian plan. There is NOTHING you have to do for Him, and there's everything He is doing for you right now.

This is a God who is interested specifically in you – not the thousands you aren't speaking to today. He'll take care of them too, but Your healing is His first priority. That isn't being benched...that is being elevated to the highest place of honor I can imagine God bestowing on a human being, short of translation directly into a glorified body without tasting death!

Zeph 3:17

The LORD your God is with you,
he is mighty to save.
He will take great delight in you,
he will quiet you with his love,
he will rejoice over you with singing.

John 15:7

7 If ever you should be remaining in Me and My declarations should be remaining in you,
whatever you should be wanting, request, and it will be occurring to you.

Psalms 34:4

⁴ Delight yourself in the LORD
and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Hebrews 6:10

10 For God is not unjust, to be forgetting your work and the love which you display for His name
when you serve the saints, and are serving.

Mat. 10:34 (THE COST):

34 "You should not be inferring that I came to be casting peace on the earth. I did not come to be
casting peace, but a sword. **When she speaks, Barbara brings the sword. – “You gotta cut
deep to get the cancers out.”**

35 For I came to pit a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-
in-law against her mother-in-law.

36 And the enemies of a man are those of his household. **She was disowned by her family
when she left to follow the Lord.**

37 "He who is fond of father or mother above Me is not worthy of Me. And he who is fond of
son or daughter above Me is not worthy of Me.

38 And he who is not taking his cross and following after Me is not worthy of Me.

39 He who is finding his soul will be destroying it, and he who destroys his soul on My account
will be finding it. **She counted the cost and paid it to fulfill the call of God. Now it's HER
TURN to be ministered to.**

40 "He who is receiving you is receiving Me, and he who is receiving Me is receiving Him Who
commissions Me.

41 He who is receiving a prophet in the name of a prophet shall be obtaining a prophet's wages.
And he who is receiving a just man in the name of a just man shall be obtaining a just man's
wages.

42 And whoever should be giving one of these little ones only a cool cup to drink, in the name of
a disciple, verily, I am saying to you, by no means should he be losing his wages." **You may**

never know who Jesus comes as in your life, disguised as someone you know and may have little patience with. Will you be Jesus to others?

John. 20:21-23

21 Jesus, then, said to them again, "Peace to you! According as the Father has commissioned Me, I also am sending you."

22 And saying this, He exhales and is saying to them, "Get holy spirit!

23 If you should be forgiving anyone's sins, they have been forgiven them. If anyone's you should be holding, they are held."

Mark 16:17-20

17 Now these signs shall fully follow in those who believe: In My name they shall be casting out demons; they will be speaking in new languages;

18 they will be picking up serpents; and if they should be drinking anything deadly, it should under no circumstances be harming them; they will be placing hands on those who are ailing, and ideally will they be having it."

19 The Lord, indeed, then, after speaking with them, was taken up into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God.

20 Now they, coming away, herald everywhere, the Lord working together with them and confirming the word by the signs following them up.

Hebrews 4:12-13

12 For the word of God is living and operative, and keen above any two-edged sword, and penetrating up to the parting of soul and spirit, both of the articulations and marrow, and is a judge of the sentiments and thoughts of the heart.

13 And there is not a creature which is not apparent in its sight. Now all is naked and bare to the eyes of Him to Whom we are accountable.

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Genesis 45:4-8

⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come close to me." When they had done so, he said, "I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt! ⁵ **And now, do not be distressed [you must not grieve] and do not be angry with yourselves [do not let it be hot in your eyes] for selling me here, because it was to save lives [preserve life] that God sent me ahead of you.** ⁶ For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years there will not be plowing and reaping. ⁷ **But God sent me ahead of you** to preserve for you a remnant on earth [to constitute you as a remnant] and to save your lives by a great deliverance.

⁸ **"So then, it was not you who sent me here, but God.**

God is SERIOUS!

Exodus 15:26

He said, "If you listen carefully to the voice of **the LORD** your God and do what is right [upright] in his eyes, if you pay attention to his commands [give ear to His instruction] and

keep all his decrees [**observe all His statutes**], I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians [**then all the illnesses which I placed on the Egyptians, I shall not place on you**], for I am **the LORD**, who heals you [**I am Yahweh your Healer**]."

Exodus 23:24-26

²⁴ Do not [**you shall not**] bow down before their gods or worship [**nor be made to serve**] them or follow their practices. You must [**shall**] demolish them and break their sacred stones to pieces [**break down their monuments**]. ²⁵ Worship the LORD your God [**you will serve**], and his blessing will be on your food and water [**He will bless your bread and your water**]. I will take away sickness [**illness**] from among you, ²⁶ and none will miscarry or be barren in your land. I will give you a full life span.

Numbers 11:21-23

²¹ But Moses said, "Here I am among six hundred thousand men on foot, and you say, 'I will give them meat to eat for a whole month!'" ²² Would they have enough if flocks and herds were slaughtered for them? Would they have enough if all the fish in the sea were caught for them?"

²³ **The LORD answered Moses, "Is the LORD's arm too short? You will now see whether or not what I say will come true for you [Now shall you see whether My word shall happen to you or not]."**

Numbers 20:8-13

⁸ "Take the staff, and you and your brother Aaron gather the assembly together. **Speak to that rock** before their eyes and it will pour out its water. You will bring water out of the rock for the community so they and their livestock can drink."

⁹ So Moses took the staff from the LORD's presence, just as he commanded him. ¹⁰ He and Aaron gathered the assembly together in front of the rock and Moses said to them, "Listen, you rebels, must we bring you water out of this rock?" ¹¹ **Then Moses raised his arm and struck the rock twice with his staff.** Water gushed out, and the community [**congregation**] and their livestock drank.

¹² But the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not trust in me enough to honor me as holy in the sight of the Israelites, you will not bring this community into the land I give them."

¹³ These were the waters of Meribah, where the Israelites quarreled with the LORD and where he showed himself holy among them.

Deuteronomy 7:9-16

⁹ Know therefore that **the LORD your God is God; he is the faithful God [the elohim, the El, who is faithful]**, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commands [**keeping the covenant and the kindness to those loving him and to those observing His instructions for a thousand generations**]. ¹⁰ But

those who hate him [**the one who is hating Him right to His face**] he will repay to their face by destruction;

he will not be slow [**He shall not delay**] to repay to their face those who hate him [**right to His face**].

¹¹ Therefore, take care to follow the commands, decrees and laws I give you today [**take care to observe the instruction and the statutes and the judgments which I am enjoining on you**

today, to keep them] (“enjoining on you,” as in an injunction from which one is “enjoined” to do or not to do something – charging or commanding).

¹² If you pay attention to these laws and are careful to follow them [It will come to be insomuch as you hearken to these judgments, and you observe and do them], then the LORD your God will keep his covenant of love [His covenant and the kindness] with you, as he swore to your forefathers. ¹³ He will love you and bless you and increase your numbers. He will bless the fruit of your womb, the crops of your land—your grain, new wine and oil—the calves of your herds and the lambs of your flocks in the land that he swore to your forefathers to give you. ¹⁴ You will be blessed more than any other people; none of your men or women will be childless [no sterile man or barren woman among you], nor any of your livestock without young. ¹⁵ The LORD will keep you free from every disease [Yahweh will take away from you every illness]. He will not inflict on you the horrible diseases you knew in Egypt, but he will inflict them on all who hate you. ¹⁶ You must destroy [you will devour] all the peoples the LORD your God gives over to you. Do not look on them with pity and do not serve their gods, for that will be a snare [a trap] to you.

Deuteronomy 8:1-8

¹ Be careful to follow every command I am giving you today [All the instruction which I am enjoining on you today you shall observe to obey], so that you may live and increase and may enter and possess the land that the LORD promised on oath to your forefathers. ² Remember how the LORD your God led you all the way in the desert these forty years, to humble you and to test [probe] you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands [observe His instructions]. ³ He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your fathers had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD. ⁴ Your clothes did not wear out and your feet did not swell during these forty years. ⁵ Know then in your heart that as a man disciplines his son, so the LORD your God disciplines you. ⁶ Observe the commands of the LORD your God, walking in his ways and revering him [Hence observe the instructions of Yahweh your Elohim so as to walk in His ways and to fear Him].

Deuteronomy 10:12-13, 11:1

¹² And now, O Israel, what does the LORD your God ask of you but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, ¹³ and to observe the LORD's commands and decrees [instructions and statutes] that I am giving you today for your own good?

¹⁴ To the LORD your God belong the heavens, even the highest heavens, the earth and everything in it. ¹⁵ Yet the LORD set his affection on [was attached to] your forefathers and loved them, and he chose you, their descendants, above all the nations, as it is today. ¹⁶ Circumcise your hearts, therefore, and do not be stiff-necked any longer. ¹⁷ For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality and accepts no bribes. ¹⁸ He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the alien [sojourner], giving him food and clothing. ¹⁹ And you are to love those who are aliens, for you yourselves were aliens in Egypt. ²⁰ Fear the LORD your God and serve him. Hold fast to him [to Him shall you cling] and take your oaths in his name. ²¹ He is your praise; he is your God, who performed for you those great and awesome [fear-inspiring] wonders you saw

with your own eyes.²² Your forefathers who went down into Egypt were seventy in all, and now the LORD your God has made you as numerous as the stars in the sky.

¹ Love the LORD your God and keep his requirements [observe his charge], his decrees, his laws [judgments] and his commands [instructions] always.

Deuteronomy 13:4

It is the LORD your God you must follow, and him you must revere. Keep his commands and obey him; serve him and hold fast to him. **[After Yaheweh your Elohim shall you go, and Him shall you fear; His instructions shall you observe, and to His voice shall you hearken; Him shall you serve and to Him shall you cling.]**

Look at the context in which this versus appears:

Deuteronomy 12:1

¹ These are the decrees and laws you must be careful to follow in the land that the LORD, the God of your fathers, has given you to possess—as long as you live in the land **[are alive on the ground]**. ² Destroy completely all the places on the high mountains and on the hills and under every spreading tree where the nations you are dispossessing worship their gods. ³ Break down their altars, smash their sacred stones and burn their Asherah poles in the fire; cut **[hack]** down the idols of their gods and wipe out their names from those places.

⁴ You must not worship the LORD your God in their way **[Not so shall you do to Yahweh your Elohim.]**. ⁵ But you are to seek the place the LORD your God will choose from among all your tribes to put his Name there for his dwelling. To that place you must go; ⁶ there bring your burnt offerings and sacrifices, your tithes and special gifts, what you have vowed to give and your freewill offerings, and the firstborn of your herds and flocks. ⁷ There, in the presence of the LORD your God, you and your families shall eat and shall rejoice in everything you have put your hand to, because the LORD your God has blessed you. ...

²⁸ Be careful to obey all these regulations I am giving you, so that it may always go well with you and your children after you **[“always” = for the eon]**, because you will be doing what is good and right **[upright]** in the eyes of the LORD your God.

²⁹ The LORD your God will cut off before you the nations you are about to invade and dispossess. But when you have driven them out and settled in their land, ³⁰ and after they have been destroyed **[exterminated]** before you, be careful not to be ensnared by inquiring about their gods, saying, "How do these nations serve their gods? We will do the same." ³¹ You must not worship the LORD your God in their way, because in worshiping their gods, they do all kinds of detestable things **[every abhorrence]** the LORD hates. They even burn their sons and daughters in the fire as sacrifices to their gods.

³² See that you do all I command you; do not add to it or take away from it. **[Every (the) word which I am enjoining on you today, you shall observe to obey (do) it. You shall neither add to it, nor shall you take away from it.]**

Deuteronomy 13:1-18

¹ If a prophet, or one who foretells by dreams, appears among you and announces to you a miraculous sign or wonder, ² and if the sign or wonder of which he has spoken takes place, and he says, "Let us follow other gods" (gods you have not known) "and let us worship **[serve]** them," ³ you must not listen to the words of that prophet or dreamer. The LORD your God is testing **[probing]** you to find out whether you love him with all your heart and with all your soul. ⁴ It is the LORD your God you must follow, and him you must revere. Keep his commands and obey him; serve him and hold fast to him. ⁵ That prophet or dreamer must be put to death, because he preached rebellion against **[spoke of defection from]** the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt and redeemed you from the land of slavery **[ransomed you from the house of servants]**; he has tried to turn you from the way the LORD your God commanded you to follow. You must purge **[eradicate]** the evil from among you.

⁶ If your very own brother, or your son or daughter, or the wife you love, or your closest friend secretly entices you, saying, "Let us go and worship other gods" (gods that neither you nor your fathers have known, ⁷ gods of the peoples around you, whether near or far, from one end of the land to the other), ⁸ do not yield to **[comply with]** him or listen to him. Show him no pity. Do not spare him or shield him. ⁹ You must certainly put him to death. Your hand must be the first in putting him to death, and then the hands of all the people. ¹⁰ Stone him to death, because he tried to turn you away from the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. ¹¹ Then all Israel will hear and be afraid, and no one among you will do such an evil thing again.

¹² If you hear it said about one of the towns the LORD your God is giving you to live in ¹³ that wicked men have arisen among you and have led the people of their town astray, saying, "Let us go and worship other gods" (gods you have not known), ¹⁴ then you must inquire, probe and investigate it thoroughly. And if it is true and it has been proved that this detestable thing has been done among you, ¹⁵ you must certainly put to the sword all who live in that town. Destroy it completely, both its people and its livestock. ¹⁶ Gather all the plunder of the town into the middle of the public square and completely burn the town and all its plunder as a whole burnt offering to the LORD your God. It is to remain a ruin forever, never to be rebuilt. ¹⁷ None of those condemned things shall be found in your hands, so that the LORD will turn from his fierce anger; he will show you mercy, have compassion on you, and increase your numbers, as he promised on oath to your forefathers, ¹⁸ because you obey the LORD your God, keeping all his commands that I am giving you today and doing what is right in his eyes.

Proverbs 3:5-6

"Trust in the LORD with all your heart And do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He will make your paths straight."

RENOUNCE:

I seem to have stumbled on a secret "word of power" that, once I spoke it—indeed, anytime I speak it—silences all inner battle in mind and spirit. It's amazing that, after tons of prayer, deliverance, breaking inner vows, severing soul ties, and cancelling unholy

alliances from the past—over and over again—I did not have complete peace and victory over the junk I'd been packing; at least not totally. I've been sleeping peacefully and the things that troubled my mind in the past have fled and there is quite within. How did this happen?

When I asked the Lord about this, I heard this: "When you speak, 'I renounce,' you shut the door. Until then, the door is still open to old thoughts, memories, fantasies, or temptations.. This time, you shut the door."

My wife has taught me that when I was troubled in mind and spirit, a door was open to the realm of trouble and torment. Even though I would not seek anything or anyone, and kept myself clear and clean outwardly, I yet had a door open on the inside to my old nature. I could pray all I wanted, cast out spirits and all the rest. Still, I kept the door open. If even only a crack, it was open and I was fair game for an undisciplined mind.

One day, after having a very troubling dream and unholy, ungodly and unseemly images during the day, Barbara prayed with me...again. When I prayed, this time I used the word "renounce," and from that time on, everything has been different. If ever I even begin to have a stray thought that does not belong in a life lived to and for God Almighty, I simply speak, "I renounce, reject and refuse this...in Jesus' name." Whether audible or silent, it works just as well. Everything goes quiet again, and stays quiet.

I can open the door at any time. It is entirely my choice, but when my renouncing is resolute, there is all quiet and peace from any mind-chatter.

Mark 8:34: *If anyone is wanting to come after Me, let him renounce himself and pick up his cross and follow Me.*

Luke 9:23: *Now He said to all, "If anyone is wanting to come after Me, let him disown himself and pick up his cross daily and follow Me.*

In KJV = "DENY." = *arneomai* = Un-Lamb: go back on a word confirmed by sacrifice...also disown (CLNT)

"RENOUNCE = *ap arneomai* = From - un - Lamb: to affirm that one has no acquaintance or connection with. To forget one's self, to lose sight of one's self and one's own interests. (THAYER)

Matthew 22:33-35: *Yet, answering, Peter said to Him, "And if all shall be snared in Thee, I will never be snared!" Jesus averred to him, "Verily, I am saying to you that in this night, ere a cock crows, thrice will you be renouncing Me." Peter is saying to Him, "And if ever I must die together with*

Thee, I will under no circumstances be renouncing Thee!" Likewise said all the disciples also.

Luke 12:9: *Now he who is disowning Me before men will be renounced before the messengers of God.*

Ezekiel 14: 6: *"Therefore say to the house of Israel, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Repent! Turn from your idols and renounce all your detestable practices!*

Keep READING!

*"When any Israelite or any alien living in Israel separates himself from me and sets up idols in his heart and puts a wicked stumbling block before his face and then goes to a prophet to inquire of me, **I the LORD will answer him myself.**"⁸ I will set my face against that man and make him an example and a byword. I will cut him off from my people. Then you will know that I am the LORD.*

Daniel 4: 27 (Daniel has interpreted Nebuchadnezzar's dream and told him he's about to be made to live like an animal until he gets his priorities straight and acknowledges that the LORD has made him great):
*Therefore, O king, be pleased to accept my advice: **Renounce** your sins by doing what is right, and your wickedness by being kind to the oppressed. It may be that then your prosperity will continue.*

Acts 4:16: *What should we be doing to these men? For, indeed, that a known sign has occurred through them is apparent to all who are dwelling at Jerusalem, and we can not deny it.*

There's a principle in this to pay close attention to (See from the beginning of Chapter 3):

Chapter 3

- 1 Now Peter and John went up into the sanctuary at the hour of prayer, the ninth.
- 2 And a certain man, being inherently lame from his mother's womb, was borne, whom they placed day by day at the door of the sanctuary which is termed "Beautiful," to request alms from those going into the sanctuary,
- 3 who, perceiving Peter and John being about to be passing in into the sanctuary, asked to obtain alms.
- 4 Now Peter, **looking at him intently together with John (notice there are 2 who are looking intently!)**, said, "Look at us!"
- 5 Now he attended to them, hoping to get something from them.
- 6 Yet Peter said, "Silver and gold I do not possess; yet what I have, this I am giving to you.

In the name of Jesus Christ, the Nazarene, walk!"

7 **And seizing his right hand, he raises him up. (No passivity here! Grab it and pull it up!)** Now instantly his insteps and ankles were given stability,

8 and, leaping up, he stood and walked and entered with them into the sanctuary, walking and leaping and praising God.

9 And the entire people perceived him walking and praising God.

10 Now they recognized him, that this was the one sitting for alms at the Beautiful Gate of the sanctuary. And they are filled with awe and amazement at that which has befallen him.

11 Now at his **holding himself to Peter and John (this guy wasn't letting go of them!)**, the entire people ran together to them at the portico called Solomon's, **overawed ("out-awed")**.

12 Now, perceiving it, Peter answers the people: "Men! Israelites! Why are you marveling at this? Or why at us are you looking so intently, as if by our own power or devoutness we had made him walk?

13 The God of Abraham and the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorifies His Boy Jesus, Whom you, indeed, give up and **disown** before the face of Pilate, when he decides to release Him.

14 Now you **disown** the holy and just One, and request a man, a murderer, to be surrendered to you as a favor.

15 Yet the Inaugurator of Life you kill, Whom God rouses from among the dead, of which we are witnesses.

16 And **in the faith of His name, His name gives stability to this man** whom you are beholding, with whom, also, you are acquainted, **and the faith which is through Him, gives him this unimpaired soundness in front of you all.**

17 "And now, brethren, I am aware that in ignorance you commit it, even as your chiefs also.

18 Yet what God announces before through the mouth of all the prophets -- the suffering of His Christ -- He thus fulfills.

19 Repent, then, and turn about for the erasure of your sins, so that seasons of refreshing should be coming from the face of the Lord,

20 and He should dispatch the One fixed upon before for you, Christ Jesus,

21 Whom heaven must indeed receive until the times of restoration of all which God speaks through the mouth of His holy prophets who are from the eon **(here's the kingdom message to God's chosen people...yet ours is an even greater expectation!)**.

22 "Moses, indeed, said that: A Prophet will the Lord your God, be raising up to you from among your brethren, as me. Him you shall hear, according to all, whatsoever He should be speaking to you.

23 Yet it shall be that every soul whatsoever which should not hear that Prophet shall be utterly exterminated from among the people.

24 Now all the prophets also, from Samuel, and consecutively, whoever speak, also announce these days.

25 You are the sons of the prophets and of the covenant which God covenanted with your

fathers, saying to Abraham: And in your seed all the kindreds of the earth shall be blessed.

26 To you **first**, God, raising His Boy, commissions Him to bless you by turning away each of you from your wickedness."

Chapter 4

1 Now at their speaking to the people, the priests and the officer of the sanctuary and the Sadducees stand by them,

2 **being exasperated** because of their teaching the people and announcing in Jesus the resurrection from among the dead. Try preaching that all mankind will be saved and that no one will go to a hell which does not exist, for any time, let alone forever...and see how exasperated people will get. People you know and who may profess that they love you. It's even worse for the religious and those indoctrinated into the unscriptural teachings of Christian religious authority; entirely wrong though it may be." Beware the charge of "HERESY, and welcome it, for they cannot refute the scriptures, but are reduced to name-calling, holding to their beliefs rather than the truth!"

3 And they laid hands on them, and they were placed in custody for the morrow, for it was already dusk.

4 Now many of those who hear the word, believe, and the number of men became about five thousand.

5 Now it occurred on the morrow that their chiefs and the elders and the scribes gathered in Jerusalem,

6 and Hannas, the chief priest, and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and whoever were of the chief priestly race.

7 And, standing them in the midst, they inquired to ascertain, "By what power or in what name do you do this?"

8 **Then Peter, being filled with holy spirit, said to them,** "Chiefs of the people and elders!

9 If we today are being examined as to the benefaction to the infirm man, by what he has been saved,

10 let it be known to you all and to the entire people of Israel, that in the name of Jesus Christ, the Nazarene, Whom you crucify, Whom God rouses from among the dead, in this name, this man stands by before you sound.

11 This is the Stone that is being scorned by you builders, which is becoming the head of the corner.

12 And there is no salvation in any other one, for neither is there any other name, given under heaven among men, in which we must be saved."

Go back to verse 8: "Peter, being filled with holy spirit, said to them,..." When you speak in and anointing of the holy spirit, your words will carry God's power and authority. Lives will change, minds, hearts and bodies will be touched, and people transformed."

13 Now on **beholding the boldness of Peter and John**, and grasping that they are unlettered and plain men, they marveled. Besides, they recognized them, that they were with Jesus.

14 Besides, observing the man who has been cured standing with them, they had nothing to contradict.

15 Now, ordering them to come forth out of the Sanhedrin, they parleyed with one another, **Now we're going into "closed session" 'cuase we're in trouble here!**

16 saying, "What should we be doing to these men? For, indeed, that **a known sign has occurred through them is apparent to all who are dwelling at Jerusalem, and we can not deny it.**

17 **But, lest it may be disseminated more among the people, we should be threatening them** that by no means should they still be speaking in this Name to any man."

18 And calling them, they give them a **sweeping charge**, not to utter aught, nor yet to be teaching in the name of Jesus.

19 Yet Peter and John, answering, said to them, **"If it is just in the sight of God to be hearing you rather than God, you judge;**

20 for we can not but be speaking of what we perceive and hear."

21 Yet those who are **menacing** them release them, **finding nothing how they should be chastening them, because of the people; for all glorified God** for that which has occurred,

22 for the man was of more than forty years, on whom this sign of healing had occurred.

Titus 2:11-12: *For the saving grace of God made its advent to all humanity, training us that, disowning irreverence and worldly desires, we should be living sanely and justly and devoutly in the current eon,*

2 Timothy 2:11-13:

11 Faithful is the saying: "For if we died together, we shall be living together also;

12 if we are enduring, we shall be reigning together also; **if we are disowning, He also will be disowning us;**

13 if we are disbelieving, He is remaining faithful -- **He cannot disown Himself."**

Hebrews 11:24-26:

24 By faith Moses, becoming great, **disowns** the term "son of Pharaoh's daughter,"

25 preferring rather to be maltreated with the people of God than to have a temporary enjoyment of sin,

26 deeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt, **for he looked away to the reward.** Disowning stuff in this world might get you maltreated/persecuted, etc., which is...a temporary

enjoyment of sin! Look “away to the reward.”

Philippians 3:13-14:

13 Brethren, not as yet am I reckoning myself to have grasped, yet one thing -- forgetting, indeed, those things which are behind, yet stretching out to those in front --

14 toward the goal am I pursuing for the prize of God's calling above in Christ Jesus.

2 Peter 2:1-3

1 Yet there came to be false prophets also among the people, as among you also there will be false teachers who will be smuggling in destructive sects, even disowning the Owner Who buys them, bringing on themselves swift destruction.

2 And many will be following out their wantonness, because of whom the glory of the truth will be calumniated,

3 and in greed, with suave words, they will traffic in you,

Jude 4

4 For some men slip in who long ago have been written beforehand for this judgment; irreverent, bartering the grace of our God for wantonness, and disowning our only Owner and Lord, Jesus Christ.

Isaiah 55:8-9

“For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways,” declares the Lord. “For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.”

2 Timothy 3:16-17

16 All scripture is inspired by God, and is beneficial for teaching [**imparting knowledge – in KJV = Doctrine**], for exposure [**making the facts known (Thayer=“that by which a thing is tested”), KJV = reproof = incorrect word, NIV = rebuke (also wrong)**], for correction [**literally, “up-erecting” - restoration to a right state...of life and character (Thayer)**], for discipline [**KJV says “instruction,” literally “hitting” = training**] in righteousness [**the status of one who is justified**], 17 that the man of God may be equipped [**KJV= “perfect”!, Thayer= “fitted, *apparently* ‘special aptitude for given uses’**], fitted out [**Thayer= “furnish perfectly”**] for every good act.

Full context: **2 Timothy 3:1-4:5a**

1 Now this know, that in the last days perilous periods will be present,
2 for men will be **selfish, fond of money, ostentatious, proud, calumniators, stubborn to parents, ungrateful, malign,**
3 **without natural affection, implacable, adversaries, uncontrollable, fierce, averse to the good,**
4 **traitors, rash, conceited, fond of their own gratification rather than fond of God;**
5 **having a form of devoutness, yet denying its power.**
6 **These, also, shun.** For of these are those who are slipping into homes and are leading into captivity little women, heaped with sins, being led by various lusts and gratifications,
7 **always learning and yet not at any time able to come into a realization of the truth.**
8 Now, by the method by which Jannes and Jambres withstand Moses, thus these also are withstanding the truth, men of a depraved mind, disqualified as to the faith.
9 But they shall not be progressing more, for their folly shall be obvious to all, as that of those also became.
10 Now you fully follow me in my teaching, motive, purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance,
11 persecutions, sufferings, such as occurred to me in Antioch, in Iconium, in Lystra: persecutions such as I undergo, and out of them all the Lord rescues me.
12 **And all who are wanting to live devoutly in Christ Jesus shall be persecuted.**
13 Yet wicked men and swindlers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived.
14 Now you be remaining in what you learned **and verified**, being aware **from whom you learned it**,
15 and that from a babe you are acquainted with **the sacred scriptures which are able to make you wise for salvation** through faith which is in Christ Jesus.
16 **All scripture is inspired by God, and is beneficial for teaching, for exposure, for correction, for discipline in righteousness,**
17 that the man of God may be equipped, fitted out for every good act.

Chapter 4

1 I am conjuring [**“certifying” = commonly in Greece, “to call gods and men to witness” – earnestly, religiously charge**] you in the sight of God and Christ Jesus, Who is about to be judging the living and the dead, in accord with His advent and His kingdom:
2 Herald the word. Stand by it, opportunely, inopportunely, expose, rebuke, entreat [**“console” in Greek, = “beside-call”**], with all patience and teaching.
3 For the era will be when **they will not tolerate sound teaching, but, their hearing being tickled, they will heap up for themselves teachers in accord with their own desires,**
4 and, indeed, **they will be turning their hearing away from the truth, yet will be turned aside to myths.**
5 Yet you be sober in all things;

Example of MYTHS, Preacher on radio, Hell is a real place because Jesus went there...

... **1 Peter 3:18-20**

18 seeing that Christ also, for our sakes, once died concerning sins, the just for the sake of the unjust, that He may be leading us to God; being put to death, indeed, in flesh, yet vivified

[made alive] in spirit,

19 in which **[refers to “in spirit” from v.18]**, being gone to the spirits **in jail** **[even KJV has this right!]** also,

20 He heralds to those once stubborn, when the patience of God awaited in the days of Noah while the ark was being constructed,

See **2 Peter 2:4-5**

4 For if God spares not **sinning messengers**, but thrusting them into the gloomy caverns of Tartarus, gives them up to be **kept for chastening judging**;

5 and spares not the ancient world, but guards Noah, an eighth, a herald of righteousness, bringing a deluge on the world of the irreverent;

Also Eph. 4:8-9:

8 Wherefore He is saying, Ascending on high, He captures captivity And gives gifts to mankind.

9 Now the 'He ascended,' what is it except that He first descended also into the lower parts of the earth?

Where does it say Hell?

INDIGNATION – “anger when sinful” sometimes “anger³, wrath³¹, vengeance¹

Mark 3:5

1 And He entered again into the synagogue. And a man was there, having a withered hand.

2 And they scrutinized Him to see if on the sabbaths He will be curing him, that they should be accusing Him.

3 And He is saying to the man having the withered hand, "Rise in the midst."

4 And He is saying to them, "Is it allowed on the sabbaths to do good or to do evil, a soul to save or to kill?" Yet they were silent.

5 **And looking about on them with indignation**, commiserating **[together-sorrow]** the callousness of their hearts, He is saying to the man, "Stretch out your hand." And he stretches it out, and his hand was restored.

6 And, coming out, the Pharisees straightway held a consultation with the Herodians against Him, so that they should be destroying Him.

7 And Jesus, with His disciples, retires to the sea. And a vast multitude from Galilee follows Him.

8 And from Judea, and from Jerusalem, and from Idumea and the other side of the Jordan, and those about Tyre and Sidon, a vast multitude, hearing how much He did, came to Him.

9 And He spoke to His disciples that a boat may be waiting on Him because of the throng, lest they may be crowding Him,

10 for He cures many, so that they are falling on Him, that whoever had scourges should be touching Him.

11 And the unclean spirits, whenever they beheld Him, prostrated to Him and cried, saying that
12 "You are the Son of God!" And much He warned them, lest they should be making Him manifest.

13 And He is ascending into the mountain and is calling to Him whom He would, and they came away to Him.

14 And He makes twelve, whom He also names apostles, that they may be with Him, and that He may be commissioning them to herald,

15 and to have authority to cure diseases, and to cast out demons.

Romans 4:15

14 For if those of law are enjoyers of the allotment, faith has been made void and the promise has been nullified,

15 for **the law is producing indignation**. Now where no law is, neither is there transgression.

Romans 13:4-5, starting tail end of v.3

Do good, and you will be having applause from it.

4 For **it** [good] is God's servant for your good. Now if you should be doing evil, fear, for not feignedly is **it** [good] wearing the sword. For **it** [good] is God's servant, an avenger for **indignation** to him who is committing evil.

5 Wherefore **it is necessary to be subject, not only because of [the] indignation**, but also because of **conscience**.

Eph. 4:31 (anger): Colossians 3:8 (almost identical)

31 Let all bitterness and fury and **anger** and clamor and calumny be taken away from you with all malice,

32 yet become kind to one another, tenderly compassionate, dealing graciously among yourselves, according as God also, in Christ, deals graciously with you.

1 Timothy 2:8-

I am intending, then, that men pray in every place, lifting up benign hands, **apart from anger** and reasoning.

James 1:19-20

Yet let every man be swift to hear, tardy to speak, tardy to **anger**,

20 for the anger of man is not working the righteousness of God.

21 Wherefore, putting off all filthiness and superabundance of evil, receive with meekness the

implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

22 Now **become doers of the word, and not only listeners, beguiling yourselves.**

THE INDIGNATION

John 3:35-36

"The Father is loving the Son and has given all into His hand.

36 He who is believing in the Son has life eonian, yet **he who is stubborn as to the Son** shall not be seeing life, but **the indignation of [the] God** is remaining on him."

Romans 3:5

Now if our injustice is commending God's righteousness, what shall we declare? Not that [the] God Who **is bringing on [the] indignation** is unjust!

Romans 5:9 - 9 Much rather, then, **being now justified in His blood, we shall be saved from [the] indignation**, through Him.

Romans 9:22

Now if God, **wanting to display His [the] indignation and to make His powerful doings known**, carries, with much patience, **the vessels of indignation**, adapted for destruction,

23 it is that He should also be making known the riches of His glory on **the vessels of mercy**, which He makes ready before for glory –

Romans 12:1-2

1 I am entreating you, then, brethren, by the pities of God, to present your bodies a sacrifice, living, holy, well pleasing to God, your logical divine service,

2 and **not to be configured** ("su schem a tizo" – to conform one's mind and character to another pattern) to this eon, but to **be transformed** (meta-morpho-o) by the renewing (**up-newing**) of your mind, **for you to be testing** what is the will of God, good and well pleasing and perfect.

NIV:

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

Romans 12:18-19

Being at peace with all mankind,

19 you are not avenging yourselves, beloved, but **be giving place to His [the] indignation**, for it is written, Mine is vengeance! I will repay! the Lord is saying.

Eph. 5:6-8:

Let no one be seducing you with empty words, for **because of these things the indignation of God is coming on the sons of [the] stubbornness.**

7 Do not, then, become joint partakers with them,

8 for you were once darkness, yet now you are light in the Lord.

Colossians 3:6

4 Whenever Christ, our Life, should be manifested, then you also shall be manifested together with Him in glory.

5 Deaden, then, your members that are on the earth: prostitution, uncleanness, passion (**pathos, aroused feeling**) , evil desire and greed, **which is idolatry,**

6 because of which the [the] indignation of [the] God is coming on the sons of [the] stubbornness --

7 among whom you also once walked, when you lived in these things.

8 Yet now you also be putting away all these: anger, fury, malice, calumny, obscenity out of your mouth.

9 Do not lie to one another, stripping off the old humanity together with its practices,

10 and putting on the young, which is being renewed into recognition, to accord with the Image of the One Who creates it,

11 wherein there is no Greek and Jew, Circumcision and Uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave, freeman, but all and in all is Christ.

12 Put on, then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, pitiful compassions, kindness, humility, meekness, patience,

13 bearing with one another and dealing graciously among yourselves, if anyone should be having a complaint against any. According as the Lord also deals graciously with you, thus also you.

14 Now over all these put on love, which is the tie of maturity.

15 And let the peace of Christ be arbitrating in your hearts, for which you were called also in one body; and become thankful.

16 Let the word of Christ be making its home in you richly, in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing yourselves; in psalms, in hymns, in spiritual songs, singing, with grace in your hearts to God.

17 And everything, whatsoever you may be doing, in word or in act, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, giving thanks to God, the Father, through Him.

1 Thess 1:10

and **to be waiting for His Son out of the heavens**, Whom He rouses from among the dead, Jesus, **our Rescuer out of the coming [the] indignation.**

1 Thess 2:16

For you became imitators, brethren, of the ecclesias of God which are in Judea in Christ Jesus. For you suffered the same, even you by your own fellowtribesmen, according as they also by the Jews,

15 who kill the Lord Jesus as well as the prophets, and banish us, and are not pleasing to God, and are contrary to all men,

16 forbidding us to speak to the nations that they may be saved, to fill up their sins always. Yet **the indignation** outstrips [on]to them [in]to a consummation.

Hebrews 3:8-11 (The Former Indignation)

7 Wherefore, according as the holy spirit is saying, "Today, if ever His voice you should be hearing,

8 You should not be hardening your hearts as in the embitterment, In the day of trial in the wilderness,

9 Where your fathers try Me in the testing, And were acquainted with My acts forty years."

10 Wherefore, "I am disgusted with this generation, and said, 'Ever are they straying in heart; Yet they know not My ways.'

11 As I swear in **My [the] indignation**, 'If they shall be entering into My stopping-!'"

The COMING Indignation:

Revelation (Unveiling) 6:16-17 (after the 6th seal opened)

15 And the kings of the earth, and the magnates, and the captains, and the rich, and the strong, and every slave and freeman, hide themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains.

16 And they are saying to the mountains and to the rocks, "**Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him [the] Who is sitting on the throne, and from the indignation of the Lambkin,**

17 for the great day of Their [the] indignation came, and who is able to stand?"

Revelation (Unveiling) 19:15 (mentioned in 11:18, 14:10, 16:19)

11 And I perceived heaven open, and lo! a white horse. And He Who is sitting on it is called "Faithful and True," and in righteousness is He judging and battling.

12 Now His eyes are a flame of fire, and on His head are many diadems, having names written of which no one except Himself is aware,

13 and He is clothed in a cloak dipped in blood, and His name is called "The Word of God."

14 And the armies in heaven, dressed in cambric, white and clean, followed Him on white horses.

15 And out of His mouth a sharp blade is issuing, that with it He should be smiting the nations. And He will be shepherding them with an iron club. And He is treading the wine trough of the fury of **the indignation of [the] God, the Almighty.**

16 And on His cloak and on His thigh He has a name written: "King of kings and Lord of lords."

.....

A quick lesson in “Correctly Cutting . . .

1 Co. 12:30 Not all are speaking languages.

If we let this stand alone, we might conclude that “speaking in tongues—or languages—is not a prerequisite, and not necessary evidence of the infilling of the holy spirit.

Correctly cutting the word of the truth requires that we look at what is written before and after this piece of one verse—the context—to properly understand and apply the word.

Chapter 12

1 Now concerning the **spiritual endowments**, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant.

2 You are aware that when you were of the nations, you were led away to the voiceless idols, as ever you were led.

3 Wherefore I am making known to you that no one, speaking by God's spirit, is saying, "Anathema is Jesus." And no one is able to say "Lord is Jesus" except by holy spirit.

4 Now there are **apportionments of graces**, yet the same spirit,

5 and there are **apportionments of services**, and the same Lord,

6 and there are **apportionments of operations**, yet the same God Who is operating all in all.

“Endowments” and “apportionments” are what have become most commonly known as “gifts” of the spirit. As we will see, they pertain to functions in the **body of Christ, collectively, as opposed to functions as individuals . . .**

7 Now to each one is being given **the manifestation of the spirit**, with a view to expedience.

This is a SPECIFIC manifestation (“THE”). Notice, it is “given to each one.” What is that? See Acts 2 and on when anyone was filled with the holy spirit.

“EXPEDIENCE” = to bear together or at the same time; to carry with others, to collect or contribute in order to help.

Paul continues . . .

8 For to one, indeed, through the spirit, is being given the word of wisdom, yet to another the word of knowledge, according to the same spirit

9 yet to another faith, by the same spirit, yet to another the graces of healing, by the one spirit,

10 yet to another operations of powerful deeds, yet to another prophecy, yet to another discrimination of spirits, yet to another species of languages, yet to another translation of languages.

11 Now all these one and the same spirit is operating, apportioning to each his own, according as He is intending.

12 For even as the body is one and has many members, yet all the members of the one body, being many, are one body, thus also is the Christ.

...

14 For the body also is not one member, but many.

...

18 Yet now God placed the members, each one of them, in the body according as He wills.

...

27 Now you are the body of Christ, and members of a part,

28 whom also God, indeed, placed in the ecclesia, first, apostles, second, prophets, third, teachers, thereupon powers, thereupon graces of healing, supports, pilotage, species of languages.

29 Not all are apostles. Not all are prophets. Not all are teachers. Not all have powers.

30 Not all have the graces of healing. Not all are speaking languages. Not all are interpreting.

31 Yet be zealous for the greater graces. And still I am showing you a path, suited to transcendence.

Chapter 14:

2 For he who is speaking in a language is not speaking to men, but to God, for no one is hearing, yet in spirit he is speaking secrets.

3 Yet he who is prophesying is speaking to men for edification and consolation and comfort.

4 He who is speaking in a language is edifying himself, yet he who is prophesying is edifying the ecclesia.

5 Now I want you all to be speaking in languages, yet rather that you may be prophesying, for greater is he who is prophesying than he who is speaking in languages, outside and except he may be interpreting, that the ecclesia may be getting edification.

...

13 Wherefore let him who is speaking in a language, pray that he may be interpreting.

14 For if I should be praying in a language, my spirit is praying, yet my mind is unfruitful.

...

18 I thank God that I speak in a language more than all of you.

19 But, in the ecclesia, do I want to speak five words with my mind, that I should be instructing others also, or ten thousand words in a language?

20 Brethren, do not become little children in disposition. But in evil be minors, yet in disposition become mature.

21 In the law it is written that, In different languages and by different lips shall I speak to this people, and neither thus will they be hearkening to Me, the Lord is saying.

22 So that languages are for a sign, not to the believers, but to the unbelievers. Yet prophecy is not for the unbelievers, but for believers.

23 If then, the whole ecclesia should be coming together in the same place, and all should be speaking in languages, yet should plain persons or unbelievers be entering, will they not be declaring that you are mad?

24 Now if all should be prophesying, yet some unbeliever or plain person be entering, he is being exposed by all, he is being examined by all.

25 The hidden things of his heart are becoming apparent, and thus, falling on his face, he will be worshiping God, reporting that God really is among you.

26 What, then, is it, brethren? Whenever you may be coming together, each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a revelation, has a language, has a translation. Let all occur to edification.

27 Besides, if anyone is speaking in a language, by two, or, at the most, three, and by instalments, let one also interpret.

28 Now if there should be no interpreter, let him hush in the ecclesia, yet let him speak to himself and to God.

29 Now, as to prophets, let two or three speak, and let the others discriminate.

30 Yet if it should be revealed to another sitting by, let the first hush,

31 for you can all be prophesying one by one, that all may be learning and all be consoled.

.....

No Other Gods . . .

Exodus 20:3

³ **"You shall have no other gods before me.**

Context, go back to Exodus 20:2...set it up, and read beyond 20:3 to at least v.22 ...**NOTICE the priorities!**

and Deuteronomy 5:7, read from v.1 through 6:9 – Note esp. 6:5 (**Love the Lord your God**)

Deuteronomy 11:1-28

¹ Love the LORD your God and keep his requirements, his decrees, his laws and his commands always.

What are “other Gods?”

Exodus 20:4, 22-23

You shall not make for yourself an **image** in the form of **anything in heaven** above or **on the earth** beneath or **in the waters** below.

²² Then the LORD said to Moses, “Tell the Israelites this: **‘You have seen for yourselves that I have spoken to you from heaven:’** ²³ Do not make any gods to be alongside me; do not make for yourselves **gods of silver or gods of gold.**

Deuteronomy 6:14

¹⁴ Do not follow other gods, the gods of the peoples around you

When we think of the Lord bringing Israel out of Egypt, providing food and water, cloud in the day and heat and light by night, could we not say that he “SAVED” them?

JEALOUS:

1. **[Exodus 20:5](#)**

You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a **jealous God**, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me,
[Exodus 20:4-6](#) (in Context) [Exodus 20](#) (Whole Chapter)

2. **[Exodus 34:14](#)**

Do not worship any other god, for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a **jealous God**.
[Exodus 34:13-15](#) (in Context) [Exodus 34](#) (Whole Chapter)

3. **[Deuteronomy 4:24](#)**

For the LORD your God is a consuming fire, a **jealous God**.
[Deuteronomy 4:23-25](#) (in Context) [Deuteronomy 4](#) (Whole Chapter)

4. **[Deuteronomy 5:9](#)**

You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a **jealous God**, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me,
[Deuteronomy 5:8-10](#) (in Context) [Deuteronomy 5](#) (Whole Chapter)

5. **[Deuteronomy 6:15](#)**

for the LORD your God, who is among you, is a **jealous God** and his anger will burn against you, and he will destroy you from the face of the land.
[Deuteronomy 6:14-16](#) (in Context) [Deuteronomy 6](#) (Whole Chapter)

6. **[Joshua 24:19](#)**

Joshua said to the people, “You are not able to serve the LORD. He is a holy God; he is a **jealous God**. He will not forgive your rebellion and your sins.
[Joshua 24:18-20](#) (in Context) [Joshua 24](#) (Whole Chapter)

What is the consequence of having other Gods?

- Old Testament: famine, plague, conquest, enslavement, exile and near extermination.
- New Testament:

Ephesians 4

17 This, then, I am saying and attesting in the Lord: By no means are you still to be walking according as those of the nations also are walking, in the vanity of their mind,
18 their comprehension being darkened, being estranged from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the callousness of their hearts,
19 who, being past feeling, in greed give themselves up with wantonness to all uncleanness as a vocation.
20 Now you did not thus learn Christ,
21 since, surely, Him you hear, and by Him were taught (according as the truth is in Jesus),
22 to put off from you, as regards your former behavior, the old humanity which is corrupted in accord with its seductive desires

Romans 1

18 For God's indignation is being revealed from heaven on all the irreverence and injustice of men who are retaining the truth in injustice,
19 because that which is known of God is apparent among them, for God manifests it to them.
20 For His invisible attributes are described from the creation of the world, being apprehended by His achievements, besides His imperceptible power and divinity, for them to be defenseless,
21 because, knowing God, not as God do they glorify or thank Him, but vain were they made in their reasonings, and darkened is their unintelligent heart.
22 Alleging themselves to be wise, they are made stupid,
23 and they change the glory of the incorruptible God into the likeness of an image of a corruptible human being and flying creatures and quadrupeds and reptiles.
24 Wherefore God gives them over, in the lusts of their hearts, to the uncleanness of dishonoring their bodies among themselves,
25 those who alter the truth of God into the lie, and are venerated, and offer divine service to the creature rather than the Creator, Who is blessed for the eons! Amen!
26 Therefore God gives them over to dishonorable passions. For their females, besides, alter the natural use into that which is beside nature.
27 Likewise also the males, besides, leaving the natural use of the female, were inflamed in their craving for one another, males with males effecting indecency, and getting back in themselves the retribution of their deception which must be.
28 And according as they do not test God, to have Him in recognition, God gives them over to a disqualified mind, to do that which is not befitting,
29 filled with all injustice, wickedness, evil, greed, distended with envy, murder, strife, guile, depravity, whisperers,
30 vilifiers, detesters of God, outragers, proud, ostentatious, inventors of evil things, stubborn to parents,
31 unintelligent, perfidious, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful:

32 those who, recognizing the just statute of God, that those committing such things are deserving of death, not only are doing them, but are endorsing, also, those who are committing them.

Micah 6:8

He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To **act justly** and to **love mercy** and to **walk humbly with your God**.

Matthew 22:

36 "Teacher, what is the great precept in the law?" ("**precept**" = "**direction**", otherwise translated, "**commandment**")

37 Now He averred (**declare forcefully and confidently**) to him, "You shall be loving the Lord your [the] God with your whole heart, and with your whole soul, and with you whole comprehension.

38 This is the great and foremost precept.

39 Yet the second is like it: 'You shall be loving your associate as yourself.' (**associate = "nigh", anyone with whom there is close contact, CLNT-KC**)

40 On these two precepts is hanging the whole law and the prophets."

Here, Jesus Himself boils down the entire law of Moses into two "precepts" or directions.

The first is from • [Deuteronomy 6:5](#)

Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

READ [Deuteronomy 6](#) (Whole Chapter)

Where did that second precept come from? Jesus didn't make it up.

Leviticus 19:17

Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against one of your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD.

Paul boiled down the fulfillment of the entire law into one precepts:

Galatians 5:14

For the entire law is fulfilled in one word, in this: "You shall love your associate as yourself."

Jesus did the same in

Matthew 7:12

All, then, whatever you should be wanting that men should be doing to you, thus you, also, be doing to them, **for this is the law and the prophets**.

Mark 12: 29-31

29 Jesus answered him that "**The foremost precept of all** is: Hear, Israel! the Lord our God is one Lord. **(Deuteronomy 6:4-5)**

30 And, You shall be loving the Lord God out of your whole heart, and out of your whole soul, and out of your whole comprehension, and out of your whole strength. **This is the foremost precept.**

31 And the second is like it: 'You shall be loving your associate as yourself.' **(Leviticus 19:17)**
Now **greater than these is no other precept.**"

Romans 13:8-10

8 To no one owe anything, except to **be loving one another**, for he who is loving another has **fulfilled law.**

9 For this: "You shall not commit adultery," "you shall not murder," "you shall not steal," "you shall not testify falsely," "you shall not covet," and **if there is any other precept, it is summed up in this saying, in this: "You shall love your associate as yourself."**

10 Love is not working evil to an associate. **The complement, then, of law, is love.**

James 2:8

...if you are discharging the royal law, according to the scripture, "You shall be loving your associate as yourself," you are doing ideally.

1) **LOVE...Agape, not "fondness"...remember what this includes!**
.....

Faith or Faithless ("You shall have no other gods before Me")

"These things should not have happened. These things should have happened differently."

Where is our focus? If it is horizontal – on the past, future, or present, whether to the left or right, God's hand is over us, but not guiding us. When our focus is vertical, on Christ Jesus ONLY – on the Father ONLY – God's hand that is over us is now the hand we follow. He guides us, "into all the truth"

Psalms 139:16 – and my days, all of them were written upon your scroll; the days were formed when there was not one of them.

1 Corinthians 12: – 6 and there are apportionments of operations, yet the same God Who is operating [the] all in all.

Numbers 9:8 – Moses answered them, “**Wait until I find out what the LORD commands concerning you.**”

Numbers 36 - Inheritance of Zelophehad's Daughters

Job 42:2 – “I know that you can do all things; no purpose of yours can be thwarted.”

Philippians 2: –

5 For **let this disposition be in you, which is in Christ Jesus also,**

6 Who, being inherently in the form of God, deems it not pillaging to be equal with God,

7 nevertheless empties Himself, taking the form of a slave, coming to be in the likeness of humanity,

8 and, being found in fashion as a human, He **humbles** Himself, becoming **obedient unto death**, even the death of the cross.

9 Wherefore, also, **God highly exalts Him**, and **graces Him with the name that is above every name**,

10 that in the name of Jesus every knee should be bowing, celestial and terrestrial and subterranean,

11 and every tongue should be acclaiming that Jesus Christ is Lord, for the glory of God, the Father.

Philippians 3: –

7 But things which **were gain** to me, these I have **deemed a forfeit because of Christ**.

8 But, to be sure, I am also deeming **all to be a forfeit** because of the superiority of the knowledge of Christ Jesus, my Lord, **because of Whom** I forfeited all, and am deeming it to be **refuse**, that I should be **gaining Christ**,

9 and may be found in Him, not having my righteousness, which is of law, but that which is **through the faith of Christ**, the **righteousness which is from God for faith**:

10 to know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the **fellowship of His sufferings**, **conforming** to His death,

11 if somehow I should be **attaining to the resurrection** that is out from among the dead.

12 Not that I already obtained, or am already perfected. **Yet I am pursuing**, if I may be grasping also that for which I was grasped also by Christ Jesus.

13 Brethren, not as yet am I reckoning myself to have grasped, yet one thing -- **forgetting**, indeed, those **things which are behind**, yet stretching out to those in front --

14 toward the goal am I pursuing for the prize of **God's calling above in Christ Jesus**.

Ephesians 1:11 – the One Who is operating [the] all in accord with the counsel of **His** will,

Galatians 2:20 – With Christ have I been crucified, yet I am living; no longer I, but living in me is Christ. Now that which I am now living in flesh, **I am living in faith that is of the Son of God**, Who loves me, and gives Himself up for me.

Romans 8:

1 Nothing, consequently, is now condemnation to those in Christ Jesus. **Not according to flesh** are they walking, but **according to spirit**,

...5 For those who are **in accord with flesh** are disposed to that which is of the flesh, yet those who are **in accord with spirit** to that which is of the spirit.

6 For **the disposition of the flesh is death**, yet **the disposition of the spirit is life and peace** (*how do you know whether you're walking focused on God's leading? Life and peace*),

7 because **the disposition of the flesh is enmity to God**, for it is not subject to the law of God, for neither is it able.

8 Now those who are in flesh are not able to please God.

9 Yet **you are** not in flesh, but **in spirit**, if so be that **God's spirit is making its home in you** (*how do you know that? In-filling w/Languages*).

... 13 for if you are living in accord with flesh, you are about to be dying. Yet if, **in spirit**, you are **putting the practices of the body to death, you will be living**.

14 For **whoever are being led by God's spirit, these are sons of God**.

... 20 For to vanity was the creation subjected, not voluntarily, but because of Him Who subjects it, in expectation

21 that the creation itself, also, shall be freed from the slavery of corruption into the glorious freedom of the children of God.

... 23 ...**we** ourselves also, **who have the firstfruit of the spirit**, we ourselves also, are **groaning** in ourselves, **awaiting** the sonship, the **deliverance** of our body.

... 28 Now we are aware that **God is working all together** for the good of those who are loving God, who are called according to the purpose

29 that, whom He **foreknew**, He **designates beforehand**, also, **to be conformed** to the image of His Son, for Him to be Firstborn among many brethren.

30 Now whom He **designates** beforehand (*how do you know you're designated?...read on...*), these He **calls** also (*how do you know you're called?...you know, somewhere in the deep recesses of your mind, that God has called you to something greater than getting up, going to work, going to bed, and getting up to do it all over again. The closer you get to God, you become almost miserable doing anything other than what you're called to do. See Paul in 1 Corinthians 9: 16 For if I should be bringing the evangel, it is not for me to boast in, for necessity is lying upon me, for it were woe to me if I should not be bringing the evangel!*), and whom He calls, these He **justifies** also; now whom He justifies, these He **glorifies** also.

31 What then, shall we declare to these things? **If God is for us, who is against us?**

... 35 What shall be separating us from the love of God in Christ Jesus? **Affliction**, or **distress**, or **persecution**, or **famine**, or **nakedness**, or **danger**, or **sword**? *(We may face ALL of these, as surely as Paul did! There is every possibility...even probability at least of some!)*

36 According as it is written that "On Thy account we are being put to death the whole day, We are reckoned as sheep for slaughter." **(our lives are not our own)**

37 Nay! in all these we are **more than conquering** through Him Who loves us.

38 For I am **persuaded (I have confidence)** that neither death nor life, nor messengers, nor sovereignties, nor the present, nor what is impending, nor powers,

39 nor height, nor depth, nor any other creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

Chapter 9:... 23 All is allowed me, but not all is expedient. All is allowed me, but not all is edifying.

Where is our focus? If it is horizontal – on the past, future, or present, whether to the left or right, God's hand is over us, but not guiding us. When our focus is vertical, on Christ Jesus ONLY – on the Father ONLY – God's hand that is over us we now look to to guide us, "into all the truth"

John 16:

12 "Still much have I to say to you, but you are not able to bear it at present.

13 Yet whenever that may be coming -- **the spirit of truth --it will be guiding you into all the truth**, for it will not be speaking from itself, but whatsoever it should be hearing will it be speaking, and **of what is coming will it be informing you.**

14 That will be glorifying Me, seeing that **of Mine will it be getting, and informing you.**

15 **All, whatever the Father has, is Mine.** Therefore I said to you that of Mine is it getting, and will be informing you.

Nothing is out of order. All is exactly according to the counsel of God's will, who is operating THE all in all. The only

1 Cor. 15:40 – 58 (a peek at the Prize!)

40 There are bodies celestial as well as bodies terrestrial. But a different glory, indeed, is that of the celestial, yet a different that of the terrestrial,

41 another glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars, for star is excelling star in glory.

42 Thus also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is roused in incorruption.

43 It is sown in dishonor; it is roused in glory. It is sown in infirmity; it is roused in power.

44 It is sown a soulish body; it is roused a spiritual body.

45 If there is a soulish body, there is a spiritual also. Thus it is written also, The first man, Adam, "became a living soul:" the last Adam a vivifying Spirit.

46 But not first the spiritual, but the soulish, thereupon the spiritual.

47 The first man was out of the earth, soilish; the second Man is the Lord out of heaven.

48 Such as the soilish one is, such are those also who are soilish, and such as the Celestial One, such are those also who are celestials.

49 And according as we wear the image of the soilish, we should be wearing the image also of the Celestial.

50 Now this I am averring, brethren, that flesh and blood is not able to enjoy an allotment in the kingdom of God, neither is corruption enjoying the allotment of incorruption.

51 Lo! a secret to you am I telling! We all, indeed, shall not be put to repose, yet we all shall be changed,

52 in an instant, in the twinkle of an eye, at the last trump. For He will be trumpeting, and the dead will be roused incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal put on immortality.

54 Now, whenever this corruptible should be putting on incorruption and this mortal should be putting on immortality, then shall come to pass the word which is written, Swallowed up was Death by Victory.

55 Where, O Death, is your victory? Where, O Death, is your sting?

56 Now the sting of Death is sin, yet the power of sin is the law.

57 Now thanks be to God, Who is giving us the victory, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

58 So that, my beloved brethren, become settled, unmovable, superabounding in the work of the Lord always, being aware that your toil is not for naught in the Lord.

Ephesians 1: 27 to whom God wills to make known what are the glorious riches of this secret among the nations, which is: **Christ among you, the expectation of glory** --

.....

The Miracle of ~~Simple Obedience~~ Thanks Giving:

Open and close with this . . .

Psalm 100:

¹ Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

² Worship the LORD with gladness;
come before him with joyful songs.

³ Know that the LORD is God.

It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and praise his name.
⁵ For the LORD is good and his love endures forever;
his faithfulness continues through all generations.

CLV

Raise a joyful shout to Yahweh, al the earth!
Serve Yahweh with rejoicing!
Com to His presence with jubilant song!
Know that Yahweh, He is Elohim;
He it is Who has made us, and we are His.
His people are we and the flock of His pasture.
Enter His gateways with acclamation!
His courts with praise!
Acclaim Him! Bless His name!
For Yahweh is good;
His benignity is eonian,
And His faithfulness unto generation after generation.

Colossians 3:15 - And let **the peace of Christ** be arbitrating [umpiring] in your hearts, *for which you were called* also in one body; and **become thankful**.

1 If, then, you were roused together with Christ, be seeking that which is above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.
2 Be disposed to that which is above, not to that on the earth,
3 for you died, and your life is hid together with Christ in God.
...

A desperate call came in 2 days ago from my mother, on the speakerphone with my sister in PA. Mom was in tremendous pain. "It's terrible," she said.

"When did it start," I asked?

"Last Thursday evening," she said.

"Something happened Thursday afternoon that was a big stress," I said. "What was it?"

The story unfolded that, after attending a luncheon at a church, Mom was dropped off at home by a friend from the luncheon. After she was home a brief time, my sister asked if

she had her purse. She didn't. It was missing. Mom said, "I felt frantic. I had everything in there: all my identification, everything!" The alarm in her voice was apparent as she told the story. Even after Her purse was recovered in the car she rode some in, the "emergency sirens" were still blaring.

Over the next hour, I walked my sister through the procedure to quiet the alarm bells that had gone off in perfect response to the "frantic" feeling Mom had (among others) during the incident. Little by little, her pain lessened and her movement improved. This morning she reported much greater comfort, with only a mild sensation of pain, and significantly improved mobility.

"What should I do now?" she asked.

Here's the principle:

Forgive yourself for getting all weirded out about losing your purse that turned out not to be lost at all. In God's grand purpose, it's unimportant and insignificant. What IS important and significant is seizing the opportunity God has provided, through this experience, to recognize and appreciate His sovereignty and His invitation to lay this and *any other experience* down at His feet, giving thanks to Him for what you learned or are learning from it.

Only by obediently laying down our lives AND ALL THAT THEY CONTAIN—relationships, experiences, and the upbringing and conditioning received at the hands of people every bit as flawed and imperfect as we are—do we have a hope of receiving God's sovereignty that is found in **Romans 8:28-29**

Now we are aware that God is working all together for the good of those who are loving God, who are called **according to the purpose...(29) to be conformed to the image of His Son.**

Ephesians 5:20 – "...giving thanks **always** for **all things**, in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ..."

Romans 8:5-7, 15, 27 – For those who are in accord with flesh are disposed to that which is of the flesh, yet those who are in accord with spirit to that which is of the spirit.

6 For the disposition of the flesh is death, yet the disposition of the spirit is life and peace,

7 because the disposition of the flesh is enmity to God

...

15 For you did not get slavery's spirit to fear again, but you got the spirit of sonship, in which we are crying, "Abba, Father!"

...

27 Now He Who is searching the hearts . . . **WHAT WILL HE FIND IN OURS?**

1 Thessalonians 5:18-24 –

18 **In everything be giving thanks**, for **this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you**.

19 Quench not the spirit. **(How do we do that? See above!)**

20 Scorn not prophecies.

21 Yet be testing all, **retaining the ideal**. **[Throw out that which is less than ideal!]**

22 From **everything wicked*** to the **perception****, abstain.

***poneron = "misery-gush" Thayer** = full of labors, annoyances, hardships, pressed and harassed by labors, in a physical sense: diseased or blind, in an ethical sense: evil wicked, bad

****perceive** is "get knowledge by any or all of the senses

23 Now may the God of peace **Himself** be hallowing you **wholly**; and may your **unimpaired *** spirit **and** soul **and** body be kept **blameless** in **the presence** of our Lord Jesus Christ!

***complete** in all its parts, in no part wanting or unsound, complete, entire, whole

a) of a body without blemish or defect, whether of a priest or of a victim

b) free from sin, faultless

c) complete in all respects, consummate

24 Faithful is He Who is calling you, Who will be doing it also.

Luke 18:8 - at the coming of the Son of Mankind, will He be finding the faith on the earth?

Hebrews 11

1 Now faith is an assumption of what is being expected, a conviction concerning matters which are not being observed

...

6 Now apart from faith it is impossible to be well pleasing

Romans 3:

19 Now we are aware that, whatever the law is saying, it is speaking to those under the law, that every mouth may be barred, and the entire world may become subject to the just verdict of God,

20 because, by works of law, no flesh at all shall be justified in His sight, for through law is the recognition of sin.

21 Yet now, apart from law, a righteousness of God is manifest (being attested by the law and the prophets),

22 yet a righteousness of God through Jesus Christ's faith, for all, and on all who are believing,

for there is no distinction,

23 for all sinned and are wanting of the glory of God.

24 Being justified gratuitously in His grace, through the deliverance which is in Christ Jesus

25 (Whom God purposed for a Propitiatory shelter, through faith in His blood, for a display of His righteousness because of the passing over of the penalties of sins which occurred before in the forbearance of God),

26 toward the display of His righteousness in the current era, for Him to be just and a Justifier of the one who is of the faith of Jesus.

27 Where, then, is boasting? It is debarred! Through what law?

28 Of works? No! But through faith's law. For **we are reckoning a man to be justified by faith apart from works of law.**

MIRACLES of FAITH:

The biggies:

Mary (virgin birth - May it come to be with me according to your declaration! [Luke 1:28]),

Jesus (resurrection from the dead AND Ascension to the right hand of the Father)..and all his miracles!

Noah: around 100 years building an arc, the whole human race is wiped out except for he and 7 others

Abraham: Never mind Issac's birth! What about the Lord Himself appearing to Him and considering Him "the Friend of God!"

Moses: From the wilderness to Egypt and back to the wilderness –

Numbers 9:8-9: Moses answered them, "Wait until I find out what the LORD commands concerning you."

⁹ **Then** the LORD said to Moses...

Sampson: Nazarite...messed up & lost strength, regained before dying

Jehoshaphat:

1 Kings 22:5 – But Jehoshaphat also said to the king of Israel, "First seek the counsel of the LORD."

2 Chronicles 20:3 – Jehoshaphat resolved to inquire of the LORD, and he proclaimed a fast for all Judah. ⁴ The people of Judah came together to seek help from the LORD; indeed, they came from every town in Judah to seek him.

¹⁴ Then the Spirit of the LORD came on Jahaziel son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite and descendant of Asaph, as he stood in the assembly.

¹⁵ He said: “Listen, King Jehoshaphat and all who live in Judah and Jerusalem! This is what the LORD says to you: ‘Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. For the battle is not yours, but God’s. ¹⁶ Tomorrow march down against them. They will be climbing up by the Pass of Ziz, and you will find them at the end of the gorge in the Desert of Jeruel. ¹⁷ You will not have to fight this battle. Take up your positions; stand firm and see the deliverance the LORD will give you, Judah and Jerusalem. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. Go out to face them tomorrow, and the LORD will be with you.’”

²² As they began to sing and praise, the LORD set ambushes against the men of Ammon and Moab and Mount Seir who were invading Judah, and they were defeated. ²³ The Ammonites and Moabites rose up against the men from Mount Seir to destroy and annihilate them. After they finished slaughtering the men from Seir, they helped to destroy one another.

²⁴ When the men of Judah came to the place that overlooks the desert and looked toward the vast army, they saw only dead bodies lying on the ground; no one had escaped. ²⁵ So Jehoshaphat and his men went to carry off their plunder, and they found among them a great amount of equipment and clothing and also articles of value—more than they could take away. There was so much plunder that it took three days to collect it.

²⁹ The fear of God came on all the surrounding kingdoms when they heard how the LORD had fought against the enemies of Israel. ³⁰ And the kingdom of Jehoshaphat was at peace, for his God had given him rest on every side.

And then it all went sour:

³⁵ Later, Jehoshaphat king of Judah made an alliance with Ahaziah king of Israel, whose ways were wicked. ³⁶ He agreed with him to construct a fleet of trading ships. After these were built at Ezion Geber, ³⁷ Eliezer son of Dodavahu of Mareshah prophesied against Jehoshaphat, saying, “Because you have made an alliance with Ahaziah, the LORD will destroy what you have made.” The ships were wrecked and were not able to set sail to trade.

Jonah: An example of what happens when one tries running from God’s call

¹ **The word of the LORD came** to Jonah son of Amittai: ² “Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me.”

³ But Jonah **ran away from the LORD** and headed for Tarshish. He went down to Joppa, where he found a ship bound for that port. After paying the fare, he went aboard and sailed for Tarshish to flee from the LORD.

⁴ **Then the LORD** sent a great wind on the sea, and such a violent storm arose that the ship threatened to break up.

Hebrews 5:

⁷ Who, in the days of His flesh, **offering both petitions and supplications with strong clamor and tears** to Him Who is able to save Him out of death, being hearkened to also for His piety,
⁸ even **He also, being a Son, learned obedience from that which He suffered.**

⁹ And being perfected, He became the cause of eonian salvation to all who are obeying Him,

REPEAT Psalm 100:

¹ Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

² Worship the LORD with gladness;
come before him with joyful songs.

³ Know that the LORD is God.

It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

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

⁵ For the LORD is good and his love endures forever;
his faithfulness continues through all generations.

.....

Living in the Blessing of the Lord

Genesis 12

The Call of Abram

¹ The LORD had said to Abram, “**Go from** your country, your people and your father’s household **to** the land **I will show you.**”

² “I will make you into a great nation, **and I will bless you**; I will make your name great, **and you will be a blessing.**”

³ **I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse**; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”

⁴ **So Abram went**, as the LORD had told him; **and Lot went with him.**

KEYS: “GO...I will show you...and I will bless you...and you will BE a blessing. God takes sides! I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse...So Abram went (you gotta GO or nothing

happens!)...and Lot went with him—Lot wasn't told to go. The blessing had nothing to do with Lot. Look at his life and his end.

Genesis 22:16-18

¹⁵ The angel of the LORD called to Abraham from heaven a second time ¹⁶ and said, “I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷ I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, ¹⁸ and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me.”

Tie to...

Galatians 3:13-14

13 Christ reclaims us from the curse of the law, becoming a curse for our sakes, for it is written, Accursed is everyone hanging on a pole,

14 that **the blessing of Abraham** may be coming to the nations **in Christ Jesus**, that we may be obtaining **the promise of the spirit** through faith.

Ephesians 3:1

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, **Who blesses us with every spiritual blessing among the celestials, in Christ,**

Genesis 39:4-6

⁴ Joseph found favor in his [Potiphar] eyes and became his attendant. Potiphar put him in charge of his household, and he entrusted to his care everything he owned.

⁵ From the time he put him in charge of his household and of all that he owned, **the LORD blessed the household** of the Egyptian *because of Joseph*. **The blessing of the LORD was on everything** Potiphar had, both in the house and in the field.

⁶ So Potiphar **left everything he had in Joseph's care**; with Joseph in charge, he did not concern himself with *anything* except the food he ate.

KEYS: “From the time he put Joseph in charge—NOT BEFORE!—the Lord blessed the household BECAUSE of Joseph! The Blessing of the LORD was on everything...”

Exodus 20:24

²⁴ “...Wherever I cause my name to be honored, I will come to you and bless you.

Exodus 23:25-26

²⁵ **Worship** the LORD your God, **and his blessing will be on your food and water**. I will take away sickness from among you, ²⁶ and none will miscarry or be barren in your land. I will give you a full life span.

KEYS: “Worship God...and [then] His blessing will be **on your food and water**. Where does most sickness and dysfunctional physiology come from? **Think Big Mac!**.”

Leviticus 25:20-22

²⁰ You may ask, “What will we eat in the seventh year if we do not plant or harvest our crops?”

²¹ **I will send you such a blessing** in the sixth year that the land will yield enough for three years. ²² While you plant during the eighth year, you will eat from the old crop and will continue to eat from it until the harvest of the ninth year comes in.

“such a blessing...”

This scripture ties into... **Ephesians 3:20**

20 Now to Him Who is able to do *superexcessively* above all that we are requesting or apprehending, according to the power that is operating in us

Deuteronomy 11:26-28

²⁶ See, I am **setting before you** today a blessing and a curse— ²⁷ **the blessing if** you obey the commands of the LORD your God that I am giving you today; ²⁸ the curse if you disobey the commands of the LORD your God and turn from the way that I command you today by following other gods, which you have not known.

KEYS: “I am setting before you... **CHOOSE**. I give you the options. .the blessing IF...the curse IF...If what? Blessing follows obedience...just do what He says

Luke 11:28

28 "...happy are those who are hearing the word of God and maintaining it!"

John 14:23-24 (New International Version, ©2010)

²³ Jesus replied, “Anyone who **loves** me will **obey** my teaching. **My Father will love them**, and **we will come to them** and **make our home with them**. ²⁴ Anyone who does not love me will not obey my teaching.

John 15:7-14

7 **If ever** you should be remaining in Me **and** My declarations should be remaining in you, whatever you should be wanting, request, and it will be occurring to you.

8 In this is My Father glorified, that you may be bringing forth much fruit, and you shall **become** My disciples.

...

10 **If ever** you should be **keeping** My precepts, you will be remaining in My love, according as I have kept the precepts of My Father and am remaining in His love.

11 These things have I spoken to you, that **My joy** should be remaining in you, and **your joy** may be filled.

12 **"This is My precept**, that you be loving one another, according as I love you.

13 Greater love than this has no one, that anyone may be laying down his soul for his friends.

14 You are My friends, **if** you should be **doing** whatever I am directing you.

Deuteronomy 23:4-6

⁴ ...and they hired Balaam son of Beor from Pethor in Aram Naharaim to pronounce a curse on you. ⁵ However, the LORD your God would not listen to Balaam but turned the curse into a blessing for you, because the LORD your God loves you.

Deuteronomy 28:7-9 (New International Version, ©2010)

⁷ The LORD will grant that the enemies who rise up against you will be defeated before you. They will come at you from one direction but flee from you in seven.

⁸ The LORD will send a blessing on your barns and on everything you put your hand to. The LORD your God will bless you in the land he is giving you.

8 times in Deuteronomy, this was spoken in 2-3 variations:

“the LORD your God will **bless** you in all your work and in everything you put your hand to.”

2 Samuel 7

God’s Promise to David

⁸ “Now then, tell my servant David, ‘This is what the LORD Almighty says: I took you from the pasture, from tending the flock, and appointed you ruler over my people Israel. ⁹ I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your name great, like the names of the greatest men on earth. ¹⁰ And I will provide a place for my people Israel and will plant them so that they can have a home of their own and no longer be disturbed. Wicked people will not oppress them anymore, as they did at the beginning ¹¹ and have done ever since the time I appointed leaders over my people Israel. I will also give you rest from all your enemies.

“‘The LORD declares to you that the LORD himself will establish a house for you: ¹² When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³ He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ¹⁴ I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will punish him with a rod wielded by men, with floggings inflicted by human hands. ¹⁵ But my love will never be taken away from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you. ¹⁶ Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever.’”

¹⁷ Nathan reported to David all the words of this entire revelation.

¹⁸ Then King David went in and sat before the LORD, and he said:

“Who am I, Sovereign LORD, and what is my family, that you have brought me this far? ¹⁹ And as if this were not enough in your sight, Sovereign LORD, you have also spoken about the future of the house of your servant—and this decree, Sovereign LORD, is for a mere human!

²⁰ “What more can David say to you? For you know your servant, Sovereign LORD. ²¹ For the sake of your word and according to your will, you have done this great thing and made it known to your servant.

²² “How great you are, Sovereign LORD! There is no one like you, and there is no God but you, as we have heard with our own ears. ²³ And who is like your people Israel—the one nation on earth that God went out to redeem as a people for himself, and to make a name for himself, and to perform great and awesome wonders by driving out nations and their gods from before your people, whom you redeemed from Egypt? ²⁴ You have established your people Israel as your very own forever, and you, LORD, have become their God.

²⁵ “And now, LORD God, keep forever the promise you have made concerning your servant and his house. Do as you promised, ²⁶ so that your name will be great forever. Then people will say, ‘The LORD Almighty is God over Israel!’ And the house of your servant David will be established in your sight.

²⁷ “LORD Almighty, God of Israel, you have revealed this to your servant, saying, ‘I will build a house for you.’ So your servant has found courage to pray this prayer to you. ²⁸ Sovereign LORD, you are God! Your covenant is trustworthy, and you have promised these good things to your servant. ²⁹ Now be pleased to bless the house of your servant, that it may continue forever in your sight; for you, Sovereign LORD, have spoken, and with your blessing the house of your servant will be blessed forever.”

Psalm 24:4-6 (New International Version, ©2010)

⁴ The **one who has clean hands and a pure heart,
who does not trust in an idol
or swear by a false god.**

⁵ **They will receive blessing from the LORD**
and vindication from God their Savior.

⁶ Such is the generation of those who seek him,
who seek your face, God of Jacob.

Proverbs 10:22

²² The blessing of the LORD brings wealth,
without painful toil for it.

Isaiah 44:2-4 (New International Version, ©2010)

² This is what the LORD says—
he who made you, who formed you in the womb,
and who will help you:

Do not be afraid, Jacob, my servant,
Jeshurun, whom I have chosen.

³ For I will pour water on the thirsty land,
and streams on the dry ground;

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

⁴ They will spring up like grass in a meadow,
like poplar trees by flowing streams.

Jeremiah 16

⁵ For this is what the LORD says: “Do not enter a house where there is a funeral meal; do not go to mourn or show sympathy, because I have withdrawn my blessing, my love and my pity from this people,” declares the LORD. ⁶ “Both high and low will die in this land. They will not be buried or mourned, and no one will cut themselves or shave their head for the dead. ⁷ No one will offer food to comfort those who mourn for the dead—not even for a father or a mother—nor will anyone give them a drink to console them.

Ezekiel 34:25-27

²⁵ “I will make a covenant of peace with them and rid the land of savage beasts so that they may live in the wilderness and sleep in the forests in safety. ²⁶ **I will make them and the places surrounding my hill a blessing.** I will send down showers in season; **there will be showers of blessing.** ²⁷ The trees will yield their fruit and the ground will yield its crops; the people will be

secure in their land. They will know that I am the LORD, when I break the bars of their yoke and rescue them from the hands of those who enslaved them.

Malachi 3:9-11

⁹ You are under a curse—your whole nation—because you are robbing me. ¹⁰ Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the LORD Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it. ¹¹ I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not drop their fruit before it is ripe,” says the LORD Almighty.

1 Peter 3:9

8 Now the finish; Be all of a like disposition, sympathetic, fond of the brethren, tenderly
compassionate, of a humble disposition,

9 not rendering evil for evil, or reviling for reviling, but, on the contrary, **blessing**, seeing that you were called for this, **that you should be enjoying the allotment of blessing**,

10 for He who is wanting to love life and be acquainted with good days, Let his tongue cease from evil And his lips speak no guile.

11 Now let him avoid evil and do good. Let him *seek* peace and *pursue* it,

12 For **the eyes** of the Lord are **on the just** And **His ears** are for their **petition**, Yet the **face** of the Lord is **on evil doers**.

3 John 2:

2 Beloved, concerning all I am wishing that you **be prospering** and sound, according as your soul is prospering.

be prospering = prosper is “well-way,” and refers to granting an expeditious journey, to lead by a direct and easy way; to grant a successful issue, be successful. Not necessarily referring to wealth, but may include it.

Sound = “in health, without disease”

Mark 11:24

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

1 Chronicles 4:10 The Prayer of Jabez

¹⁰ Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, “Oh, that you would bless me and enlarge my territory! Let your hand be with me, and keep me from harm so that I will be free from pain.” And God granted his request.

The point of all this is for us each to look at our lives – every aspect of them, objectively, with nothing to protect or defend, since we are all naked before God anyway! – and honestly assess, where are we living in “The Blessing of The Lord that brings wealth without painful toil for it?” In our health, our relationships, our finances . . . is The Blessing of The Lord in it and over it? If not, why not? If we are falling short of that standard, Where and why?

.....

Matthew 6:

31 "You, then, should not be worrying, saying, 'What may we be eating?' or 'What may we be drinking?' or 'With what may we be clothed?'

32 For for all these the nations are seeking. For **aware is your heavenly Father that you need all of these.**

33 Yet **seek first** the **kingdom** **and** its **righteousness**, **and** these **all shall be added** to you.

34 You should not, then, be worrying about the morrow, for the morrow will be worrying of itself. Sufficient for the day is its own evil.

Are we seeking **First** the kingdom and its righteousness? Are we REALLY? We will know by the unmistakable, overwhelming, mind-blowing, clearly sovereign **"The Blessing of The Lord** that **brings** wealth **without** painful toil for it?" It is the Blessing of the Lord that does the bringing...not us! We must "seek first the kingdom and its righteousness." THAT'S OUR JOB!

And it is in keeping with...in agreement with...all other scripture pertaining to us and what we ought to be thinking, saying, and doing.

.....

Rules Vs. Standards

Rules = **Law**, Commands (directions, charge, bid, order prescribe)

Rules = **Curse**

Standards = **Grace** (an act producing happiness, a benefit bestowed on one deserving the opposite. Sometimes, better rendered, "favor")

Standards = **Blessing**

Noah set a standard. He did what God told Him to do.

Abraham set a standard – he went out not knowing where.

James 2:23: Now "Abraham believes God, and it is reckoned to him for righteousness," and he was called "the friend of God."

Moses set a standard = **Numbers 9:8-9:** Moses answered them, **"Wait** until I find out what the **LORD commands** concerning you." ⁹ **Then** the LORD said to Moses...

David set a Standard = a man after God's own heart.

When Saul repented it was because he got caught. When **David** repented it was because He loved God and wanted only to please Him, to walk in His ways.

Daniel set a standard (and so did his three friends): from the furnace to the Lion's den. All of the prophets set a standard.

All have one thing in common: Obedience to God

Of course, Jesus set the high standard for us all as sons and daughters of God:

Hebrews 5:

7 Who, in the days of His flesh, offering both petitions and supplications with strong clamor and tears to Him Who is able to save Him out of death, being hearkened to also for His piety,

8 even He also, being a Son, learned obedience from that which He suffered.

9 And being perfected, He became the cause of eonian salvation to all who are obeying Him,

Obedience = compliance, submission, literally “under-hear” ...hear and heed...or, hear & **do**!

Finally, there’s Paul, who said:

1 Corinthians, Chapter 11 - 1 Become imitators of me, according as I also am of Christ.

Standard for Salvation:

Romans 10:9-10

9 that, **if** ever you should be **avowing with your mouth the declaration that Jesus is Lord**, and should **be believing in your heart** that God rouses Him from among the dead, you **shall be** saved.

10 For **with the heart it is believed** for righteousness, yet **with the mouth it is avowed** for salvation.

NIV:

⁹ If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

KJV:

if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

¹⁰For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Go back to the CLNT, re-read and define...

Avow = to agree with, give assent, to declare openly, speak out freely, to praise, celebrate

Declaration = rhema, literally “gush-effect” (remember the study with the word WORD, where we saw the two words often used interchangeably but which mean different things: logos or expression and rhema, meaning declaration)

“that which is or has been uttered by the living voice” -

Believe = be convinced by testimony concerning matters outside the sphere of observation. It also carries the sense of being entrusted of persons or things. (Jesus did not entrust himself to them, John 2:

23 Now as He was in Jerusalem at the Passover in the festival, many believe in His name, beholding His signs which He did.

24 Yet Jesus Himself did not entrust Himself to them, because of His knowing all men,

25 for He had no need that anyone should be testifying concerning mankind, for He knew what was in mankind.

See O.C., 11/2 and 3

John 14:15 = “If you love me, you will keep my commands [*directions*]” =

CLNT = If you should be loving Me, you will be keeping My precepts [directions].

when the standard is total love (add obedience born out of proper love), we WILL keep His commands, not because of law, which calls attention to sin and which requires strict adherence to rules; rather, because love—AGAPE love; love for the sake of the truth and ultimate destiny of all, love that expresses God’s own character—leads us into aspiring to and meeting the standards which the rules—or, the law—only illustrate.

What were the “commands” Jesus gave?

John 15:12 – “Love one another as I have loved you.”

Jesus didn’t coo and coddle His disciples. He gave them the word, often unadorned or couched in parables, and told them in no uncertain terms what would happen to them because they followed Him after He died, was raised and ascended.

.....

Grace sustains the Law:

There is a notion, among Christians, that we who are saved in Christ are yet subject to the law...as in the Law of Moses. One writer, Harold smith, parts of whose work I’ve shared before, is a Christian living in Jerusalem. He insists that we are as subject to the Law as Old Testament Hebrews were. A church is perhaps one of many which observes Shabbat on Friday night. Some people come wearing yarmulkes and prayer shawls. The pastor is convinced that Christians are also Jews because of the “grafting in” of “the nations” (gentiles):

Romans 11:

19 You will be declaring, then, "Boughs are broken out **that I may be grafted in.**"

Romans 3:19-31 Now we are aware that, **whatever the law is saying**, it is **speaking to those under the law**, that every mouth may be barred, and the entire world may become subject to the just verdict of God,

20 because, **by works of law, no flesh at all shall be justified in His sight**, for through law is the **recognition** of sin.

21 Yet now, **apart from law, a righteousness of God is manifest** (being attested by the law and the prophets),

22 yet a righteousness of God **through Jesus Christ's faith**, for all, and on all who are believing, for there is no distinction,

23 for **all sinned and are wanting** of the glory of God.

24 Being **justified gratuitously** [without cause] in His grace, **through** the deliverance which is **in Christ Jesus**

25 (Whom God purposed for a Propitiatory shelter, through faith in His blood, for a display of His righteousness because of the passing over of the penalties of sins which occurred before in the forbearance of God),

26 toward the display of His righteousness in the current era, for Him to be just and a Justifier of the one who is of the faith of Jesus.

27 Where, then, is boasting? It is debarred! Through what law?

28 Of works? No! But **through faith's law**. For **we are reckoning a man to be justified by faith apart from works of law**.

29 Or is He the god of the Jews only? Is He not of the nations also?

30 Yes, of the nations also, **if** so be that God is One, Who will be justifying the **Circumcision out of** faith and the **Uncircumcision through** faith.

31 Are we, then, **nullifying** [discard, abolish, make unproductive] law through faith? May it not be coming to that! Nay, we are **sustaining** law.

Sustaining: to cause or make to stand, to place, put, set – to stand by in the presence of others, in the midst, before judges, before members of the Sanhedrin... to make firm, fix establish... to cause a person or a thing to keep his or its place... to stand, be kept intact (of family, a kingdom), to escape in safety... to establish a thing, cause it to stand... to uphold or sustain the authority or force of anything... to set or place in a balance (like weighing precious metals)... to stop, stand still, to stand immovable, stand firm... of the foundation of a building... continue safe and sound, stand unharmed, to stand ready or prepared... to be of a steadfast mind... of quality, one who does not hesitate, does not waiver

Romans 5:

14 For Sin shall not be lording it over you, for **you are not under law, but under grace**.

15 What then? Should we be sinning, seeing that we are not under law, but under grace? May it not be coming to that!

16 Are you not aware that **to whom you are presenting yourselves as slaves for obedience**, his [note lower case "his"] **slaves you are**, whom you are obeying, whether **of Sin** for death, or **of Obedience** for righteousness?

CONTINUE:

17 Now thanks be to God that you **were** slaves of Sin, yet **you obey from the heart** the type of teaching to which you were given over.

18 Now, **being freed from Sin**, you are **enslaved to Righteousness**.

20 For **when you were slaves of Sin**, you were **free as to Righteousness**.

21 What **fruit**, then, had you then? -- **of which you are now ashamed [amen!]**, for, indeed, **the consummation** of those things **is death**.

22 Yet, now, **being freed from Sin, yet enslaved to God**, you have your **fruit for holiness**.

Now **the consummation is life eonian**.

Romans 7:

4 So that, my brethren, **you also were put to death to the law through the body of Christ**, for **you to become Another's**, Who is roused from among the dead, that we should be **bearing fruit to God**.

5 For, when we were **in the flesh**, the **passions of sins**, which were **through the law**, operated in our members to be **bearing fruit to Death**.

Follow that sequence: "in the flesh, passions of sins, thru the law, bearing fruit to death." And why would we want to enslave ourselves to THAT, I ask?

6 Yet now we **were** exempted from the law, dying in that in which we were retained, so that it is for us to be **slaving in newness of spirit and not in oldness of letter [law]**.

7 What, then, shall we declare? That the law is sin? May it not be coming to that! But **sin I knew not except through law**. For besides, I had not been aware of coveting except the law said, "You shall not be coveting."

8 Now **Sin, getting an incentive through the precept [law]**, **produces** in me *all manner* of coveting. For **apart from law Sin is dead**.

...

22 For I am gratified with **the law of God as to the man within**, (gratify = to rejoice or delight with one's self or inwardly)

23 yet I am observing a different **law in my members**, warring with **the law of my mind**, and leading me into captivity to **the law of sin** which is in my members.

24 A wretched man am I! **What will rescue me out of this body of death? Grace!**

25 I thank God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Consequently, then, I myself, with the mind, indeed, am **slaving for God's law**, yet with the flesh for Sin's law.

Chapter 8

1 **Nothing, consequently, is now condemnation to those in Christ Jesus**. Not according to flesh are they walking, but according to spirit,

2 for **the spirit's law of life in Christ Jesus frees you from the law of sin and death**.

3 For **what was impossible to the law**, in which it was infirm through the flesh, did God, sending His own Son in the likeness of sin's flesh and concerning sin, He condemns sin in the flesh,

4 that **the just requirement of the law may be fulfilled in us, who are not walking in accord with flesh, but in accord with spirit**.

5 For those who are in accord with flesh are **disposed** to that which is of the flesh, yet those who are in accord with spirit to that which is of the spirit. (disposed = have understanding, be wise, to be of the same mind i.e. agreed together, cherish the same views, be harmonious, to direct one's mind to a thing, to seek, to strive for, to seek one's interest or advantage, to be of one's party, side with him (in public affairs))

6 For the disposition of the **flesh is death**, yet the disposition of the **spirit is life and peace**,
7 because the disposition of **the flesh is enmity to God**, for it is **not subject to the law of God**,
for neither is it able.

8 Now those who are in **flesh** are **not able to please God**.

9 Yet **you are not in flesh, but in spirit, if** so be that **God's spirit** is making its **home in you**. Now
if anyone has not Christ's spirit, this one is not His.

Paul seems to equate flesh and the law. Being under law is tantamount to being under
the flesh, with all of its misbehaviors and inability to fulfill "God's law."

By virtue of the spirit of God operating in us, we will and work for God's delight:

Philippians 2:13

13 for it is **God** Who is **operating in you** to **will** as well as to **work** for the sake of **His delight**.

Philippians 3:

2 Beware of curs, beware of evil workers. Beware of the **maimcision**, *[this is a made-up
word to convey the moral antithesis of true circumcision]*

3 for we are the circumcision who are offering divine service in the spirit of God, and are
glorying in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in flesh.

4 And am I having confidence in flesh, also? If any other one is presuming to have confidence in
flesh, I rather: *[now Paul gives his pedigree] . . .*

5 in circumcision the eighth day, of the race of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of
Hebrews, in relation to law, a Pharisee,

6 in relation to zeal, persecuting the ecclesia, in relation to the righteousness which is in law,
becoming blameless.

7 But things which **were gain** to me, these **I have deemed a forfeit because of Christ**.

Forfeit = "lost as a penalty. Greek word is "fine

8 But, to be sure, I am also deeming **all to be a forfeit** because of the superiority of the
knowledge of Christ Jesus, my Lord, because of Whom **I forfeited all**, and am deeming it to be
refuse, that I should be gaining Christ,

Refuse = as the excrement of animals, offscourings, rubbish, dregs, **a) of things
worthless and detestable**

9 and may be found in Him, not having **my righteousness, which is of law**, but **that which is
through the faith of Christ** [i.e. "Jesus Christ's faith"], the **righteousness which is from God
for faith**:

10 to know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the **fellowship of His sufferings**,
conforming to His death,

11 if somehow **I should be attaining** to the resurrection that is out from among the dead.

12 Not that I already obtained, or am already perfected. Yet **I am pursuing**, if **I may be
grasping** also that for which I was grasped also by Christ Jesus.

13 Brethren, not as yet am I reckoning myself to have grasped, yet one thing -- **forgetting**,
indeed, those things which are behind, yet **stretching out** to those in front --

14 toward the goal **am I pursuing** for the prize of God's calling above in Christ Jesus.

15 **Whoever, then, are mature, may be disposed to this**, and if in anything you are differently
disposed, this also **shall God reveal to you**.

...

17 **Become imitators together of me, brethren**

As we studied together before, our faith is not passive. We don't just believe and we're saved, as if that's all there is to it!

Paul told the Philippians (2:12): **"be carrying your own salvation into effect"**

Matthew 5:17 - "You should not infer that I came to demolish the law or the prophets. I came **not to demolish, but to fulfill**."

Did Jesus fulfill the law?

John 19:30 "It is accomplished"

In **Chapter 4, v. 3 of Romans**, Paul notes that Abraham, who was not given the law, *"believed God and it was counted as righteousness"* (Romans 4:3)...and this *BEFORE* Abraham was given the sign of circumcision.

In **4:7-8**, Paul cites David, saying: Happy they whose **lawlessnesses** were **pardoned** and whose **sins** were **covered over**! Happy the man to whom **the Lord by no means** should be **reckoning sin**!

2 Corinthians 5:19 - God was in Christ, conciliating the world to Himself, **not reckoning their offenses to them**

Keep going: 5:20-6:2

For Christ, then, are we ambassadors, as of God entreating through us. We are beseeching for Christ's sake, "Be conciliated to God!"

21 For the One not knowing sin, He makes to be a sin offering for our sakes that **we may be becoming God's righteousness in Him**.

Chapter 6

1 Now, working together, we are also entreating you **not to receive the grace of God for naught**.

2 For He is saying, "In a season acceptable I reply to you, And in a day of salvation I help you." Lo! **Now** is a most acceptable era! Lo! **Now is a day of salvation**!

.....

The Necessity of the Holy Spirit IN US!

Luke 11:13

13 If you, then, being inherently wicked, are aware how to give good gifts to your children, how much rather **will the Father** Who is out of heaven, **be giving holy spirit** to those **requesting Him**!"

John 14:16-17

16 "And I shall be asking the Father, and He will be giving you **another consoler**, that it, indeed, may be with you for the eon --

17 **the spirit of truth**, which the world can not get, for it is not beholding it, neither is knowing it. Yet you know it, for **it is remaining with you and will be in you**.

Consoler = **Counselor (NIV), Comforter (KJV)**: Parakeletos= summoned, called to one's side, esp. called to one's aid, a pleader, counsel for the defence, legal assistant, an advocate. "in the widest sense, a helper, succor, aider, assistant.

Beholding = the oreo, "looking upon things as in some respect noteworthy."

Knowing = perceive with the mind

Remaining = "be without change in place, condition, or character...permanent."

Acts Chapter 2

1 And at the fulfillment of the day of Pentecost they were all alike in the same place.

2 And suddenly there came out of heaven a blare, even as of a violent, carrying blast, and it fills the whole house where they were sitting.

3 And seen by them were dividing tongues as if of fire, and one is seated on each one of them.

4 And they are all filled with holy spirit, and they begin to speak in different languages, according as the spirit gave them to declaim.

38 Now Peter is averring to them, "Repent and be baptized each of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the pardon of your sins, and **you shall be obtaining the gratuity of the holy spirit**.

obtaining [getting, passively, as opposed to take actively]

gratuity ["give-gush" what is given freely, but at what price?!]

Acts Chapter 8

14 Now the apostles in Jerusalem, hearing that Samaria has received the word of God, dispatch to them Peter and John,

15 who, descending, pray concerning them, so that they may be **obtaining holy spirit**,

16 for not as yet was it fallen on any of them, yet only, having been baptized, they belonged to the name of the Lord Jesus.

17 Then they place their hands on them, and they **obtained holy spirit**.

Acts. Chapter 19 1-7

1 Now it occurred while Apollos is in Corinth, Paul, passing through the upper parts, comes down to Ephesus and, finding some disciples,

2 said to them, "**Did you obtain holy spirit on believing?**" Yet they to him, "Nay, neither hear

we if there is holy spirit."

3 Yet he said, "**Into what, then, are you baptized?**" Yet they say "Into John's baptism."

4 Yet Paul said, "John baptizes with the baptism of repentance, telling the people that in the One coming after him they should be believing, that is, in Jesus."

5 Now, hearing this, they are baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

6 **And at the placing of Paul's hands on them, the holy spirit came on them. Besides, they spoke languages and prophesied.**

7 Now there were, in all, about twelve men.

Ephesians 1:

12 that we should be for the laud of His glory, who are pre-expectant in the Christ.

13 In Whom you also -- **on hearing the word of truth, the evangel of your salvation** -- in Whom **on believing also**, you are **sealed with the holy spirit of promise**

14 (**which is an earnest of the enjoyment of our allotment**, to the deliverance of that which has been procured) for the laud of His glory!

Ephesians 2:

6 and rouses us together and seats us together among the celestials, in Christ Jesus,

7 that, in the oncoming eons, He should be displaying the transcendent riches of His grace in His kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

8 For in grace, through faith, are you saved, and this is not out of you; it is God's approach present,

9 not of works, lest anyone should be boasting.

10 For His achievement are we, being created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God makes ready beforehand, that we should be walking in them.

2 Corinthians 1:

21 Now He Who is confirming us together with you in Christ, and anoints us, is God,

22 Who also **seals us and is giving the earnest of the spirit in our hearts.**

Chapter 5

1 For we are aware that, if our terrestrial tabernacle house should be demolished, we have a building of God, a house not made by hands, eonian, in the heavens.

2 For in this also we are groaning, **longing to be dressed in our habitation which is out of heaven...**

...5 Now He Who produces us for this same longing is God, **Who is also giving us the earnest of the spirit.**

6 **Being, then, courageous** always, and **aware** that, being at home in the body, we are away

from home from the Lord

7 (for **by faith are we walking, not by perception**),

Galatians 4:

4 Now when the full time came, God delegates His Son, come of a woman, come under law,

5 that He should be reclaiming those under law, that we may be getting the place of a son.

6 Now, seeing that you are sons, God **delegates the spirit of His Son into our hearts**, crying "Abba! Father!"

Romans 8:

15 For you did not get slavery's spirit to fear again, but you got **the spirit of sonship**, in which we are crying, "Abba, Father!"

16 **The spirit itself is testifying together with our spirit that we are children of God.**

17 Yet if children, enjoyers also of an **allotment**, enjoyers, indeed, of an allotment from God, yet **joint enjoyers of Christ's allotment [see Ephesians 1:18-22, below]**, if so be that we are suffering together, that we should be glorified together also.

18 For I am reckoning that the sufferings of the current era do not deserve the glory about to be revealed for us.

19 For the premonition of the creation is awaiting the unveiling of the sons of God.

Read Romans 8 . . .note definite articles and “ifs” regarding God’s spirit “in” us!

Ephesians 1:

18 the eyes of your heart having been enlightened, for you to perceive **what is the expectation of His calling, and what the riches of the glory of the enjoyment of His allotment among the saints,**

19 and what the transcendent greatness of His power for us who are believing, in accord with the operation of the might of His strength,

20 which is operative in the Christ, rousing Him from among the dead and seating Him at His right hand among the celestials,

21 up over every sovereignty and authority and power and lordship, and every name that is named, not only in this eon, but also in that which is impending:

22 and subjects all under His feet, and gives Him, as Head over all, to the ecclesia which is His body, the complement of the One completing the all in all.

Titus 3:

4 Yet when the kindness and fondness for humanity of our Saviour, God, made its advent,
5 not for works which are wrought in righteousness which we do, but according to His mercy,
He saves us, through **the bath of renascence and renewal of holy spirit**,
6 which He pours out on us richly through Jesus Christ, our Saviour,
7 that, being justified in that One's grace, we may be becoming enjoyers, in expectation, of the
allotment of life eonian.

Renascence: Moral renovation, regeneration, the production of a new life consecrated to
God, a radical change of mind for the better. Commonly: the restoration of a thing to its pristine
state, its renovation, as the renewal or restoration of life after death.

Renewal: Making new again

.....

Psalm 103:12

As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us.

Remember

2 Corinthians 5:17,19

Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new
things have come. ... God was in Christ, conciliating the world to Himself, not reckoning their
offenses to them

1 John 4:

18 Fear is not in love, but perfect love is casting out fear, for fear has chastening. Now he who
is fearing is not perfected in love.

Chapter 4

1 Beloved, **do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see if they are of God, for
many false prophets have come out into the world.**

2 In this you know the spirit of God: every spirit which is avowing Jesus Christ, having come
in flesh, is of God,

3 and every spirit which is not avowing Jesus the Lord having come in flesh is not of God.
And this is that of the antichrist, of which you have heard that it is coming, and is now already
in the world.

4 You are of God, little children, and you have conquered them, for **greater is He Who is in
you than he who is in the world.**

5 They are of the world; therefore they are speaking of the world, and the world is hearing them.

6 We are of God. He who knows God is hearing us (*who is “us?” the apostles*). **He who is not of God is not hearing us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of deception.** (*stick to the scriptures, and test everyone you hear by what is written and what bears witness in your spirit*)

Romans 12:2

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

Ephesians 5:22-31

22 Let the wives be subject to their own husbands, as to the Lord,

23 for the husband is head of the wife even as Christ is Head of the ecclesia, and He is the Saviour of the body.

24 Nevertheless, as the ecclesia is subject to Christ, thus are the wives also to their husbands in everything.

NOTE: only 3 verses to wives . . . NOW for the husbands, 7 verses!

25 *Husbands, be loving your wives according as Christ also loves the ecclesia, and gives Himself up for its sake,*

26 that He should be hallowing it, cleansing it in the bath of the water (with His declaration),

27 that He should be presenting to Himself a glorious ecclesia, not having spot or wrinkle or any such things, but that it may be holy and flawless.

28 Thus, the husbands also ought to be loving their own wives as their own bodies. He who is loving his own wife is loving himself.

29 For no one at any time hates his own flesh, but is nurturing and cherishing it, according as Christ also the ecclesia,

30 for we are members of His body.

31 For this “a man shall leave his father and mother and shall be joined to his wife, and the two shall be one flesh.”

The danger is in taking only parts of verses and leaving out others that call us to high accountability, both wife and husband:

- "as to the Lord...
- "as Christ is the head...
- "as... to Christ...."

This section of Paul's letter is pregnant with valuable instruction in which Christ Himself is the standard."

Where this is not true, in any way and to any degree, peace, and harmony cannot reign over the house, and the blessing of the Lord cannot rest.

So...for you, "*Therefore take up the panoply (armor) of God that you may be enabled to withstand in the wicked day, and having effected all, to stand.*" (Eph. 6:13)

What's between Isaiah 11 and 65?