

The Rules to the Game of Life

By

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(Emphasis added)

One of the things that I have noticed in my time of walking closer to the Lord is that the more I get deeper into God's Word, the more I find that the modern Church lacks true Godly inspired understanding about the way things really work here on earth and the plan of God for mankind. Even those who do have some understanding do not really do what God wants them to do. Recently God showed me that I should do a teaching on the 'rules to the game of life'. In this teaching we will examine these rules and how one should learn to play by them in order to be victorious in this life and to prepare for eternity. In previous teachings we have seen that the reason God created humans was in order to obtain 'replacements' for the angels that He lost in Lucifer's rebellion, (see the handouts, 'Christianity 101', 'Who's Your Daddy?' and 'Why the Flesh?'). Since God wants us to 'prove' ourselves worthy of immortality BEFORE He grants it to us, we need to take care to follow what He says exactly in order to be certain that we will make it into His eternal kingdom.

*The **First Rule** to the 'game of life' is that we must **FEAR God and Him alone**. We must not fear anything else. As we have said before in previous teachings, most people fear the devil, loss of material things, what other people think, etc. more than they fear God, (see Genesis 22:9-18 and 26:23-25, Joshua 1:1-9, Psalm 111:10, Proverbs 1:7, Vv. 29-33, 10:27, 14:26-27, 15:16, 19:23, 22:4 and 23:17-18, Isaiah 11:1-4 and Acts 9:31).*

Genesis 22:9-18 - *(speaking of Abraham and Isaac his son)*

⁹Then they came to the place of which God had told him. And Abraham built an altar there and placed the wood in order; and he bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, upon the wood. ¹⁰And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. ¹¹But the Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" So he said, "Here I am." ¹²And He said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for **now I know that you fear God**, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me." ¹³Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind *him* was a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴And Abraham called the name of the place, The-LORD-WILL-PROVIDE; as it is said *to* this day, "In the Mount of The LORD it shall be provided."

¹⁵Then the Angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time out of heaven, ¹⁶and said: "By Myself I have sworn, says the LORD, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son— ¹⁷"blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which *is* on the

seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. ¹⁸“In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.”¹

Genesis 26:23-25 - (*speaking of Isaac, Abraham’s son*)

²³Then he went up from there to Beersheba. ²⁴And the LORD appeared to him the same night and said, “I *am* the God of your father Abraham; **do not fear, for I *am* with you.** I will bless you and multiply your descendants for My servant Abraham’s sake.”²⁵So he built an altar there and called on the name of the LORD, and he pitched his tent there; and there Isaac’s servants dug a well.²

Joshua 1:1-9 -

¹After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, it came to pass that the LORD spoke to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses’ assistant, saying: ²“Moses My servant is dead. Now therefore, arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them—the children of Israel. ³“Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you, as I said to Moses. ⁴“From the wilderness and this Lebanon as far as the great river, the River Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and to the Great Sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your territory. ⁵“No man shall *be able to* stand before you all the days of your life; as I was with Moses, *so* I will be with you. I will not leave you nor forsake you. ⁶“**Be strong and of good courage**, for to this people you shall divide as an inheritance the land which I swore to their fathers to give them. ⁷“**Only be strong and very courageous**, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go. ⁸“This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. ⁹“**Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God *is* with you wherever you go.**”³

Psalm 111:10 -

¹⁰ **The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of wisdom;**
A good understanding have all those who do *His commandments*.
His praise endures forever.⁴

1*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

2*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

3*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

4*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

Proverbs 1:7 -

⁷ **The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge,**
But fools despise wisdom and instruction.⁵

Proverbs 1:29-33 - (wisdom speaks)

²⁹ Because they hated knowledge
And did not choose the fear of the LORD,
³⁰ They would have none of my counsel
And despised my every rebuke.
³¹ Therefore they shall eat the fruit of their own way,
And be filled to the full with their own fancies.
³² For the turning away of the simple will slay them,
And the complacency of fools will destroy them;
³³ **But whoever listens to me will dwell safely,**
And will be secure, without fear of evil.”⁶

Proverbs 10:27 -

²⁷ **The fear of the LORD prolongs days,**
But the years of the wicked will be shortened.⁷

Proverbs 14:26-27 -

²⁶ **In the fear of the LORD *there is* strong confidence,**
And His children will have a place of refuge.
²⁷ **The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life,**
To turn one away from the snares of death.⁸

Proverbs 15:16 -

¹⁶ Better *is* a little with the fear of the LORD,
Than great treasure with trouble.⁹

⁵*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁶*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁷*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁸*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

Proverbs 19:23 -

²³ **The fear of the LORD leads to life,**
 And *he who has it* will abide in satisfaction;
He will not be visited with evil.¹⁰

Proverbs 22:4 -

⁴ By humility *and* the fear of the LORD
Are riches and honor and life.¹¹

Proverbs 23:17-18 -

¹⁷ Do not let your heart envy sinners,
 But *be zealous* for the fear of the LORD all the day;
¹⁸ For surely there is a hereafter,
And your hope will not be cut off.¹²

Isaiah 11:1-4 -

¹ There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse,
 And a Branch shall grow out of his roots.
² The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him,
 The Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
 The Spirit of counsel and might,
 The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.
³ His delight *is* in the fear of the LORD,
 And He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes,
 Nor decide by the hearing of His ears;
⁴ But with righteousness He shall judge the poor,
 And decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
 He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth,
And with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked.¹³

⁹*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

¹⁰*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

¹¹*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

¹²*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

¹³*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

Acts 9:31 -

³¹Then the churches throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and were edified. **And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, they were multiplied.**¹⁴

The **Second Rule** of life in the earth is that we must **OBEY God in ALL things**. This is a result of the operation of rule number one. If we fear God, then we will obey Him. This is the way that we show our love for God. However, we need Jesus in our lives and help from the Holy Spirit in order to be able to obey God. **It is primarily through suffering that we learn obedience.** This will lead us into the third rule, (see the handout, 'SUFFERING - the Key to Obedience', Genesis 6:22, Deuteronomy chapter 8, I Samuel chapter 15, Isaiah 30:18-22, 48:10, Romans 1:1-7, chapter 6, 8:5-17, II Corinthians 10:1-6, Colossians 2:6-7, Hebrews 5:5-11, James 1:2-4, I Peter 1:1-21 and chapter 4).

Genesis 6:22 -

²²So Noah did **everything exactly** as God had commanded him.¹⁵

Deuteronomy Chapter 8 -**Chapter 8**

¹“Every commandment which I command you today you must be careful to observe, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land of which the LORD swore to your fathers. ²“**And you shall remember that the LORD your God led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness, to humble you and test you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not.** ³“**So He humbled you, allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the LORD.** ⁴“Your garments did not wear out on you, nor did your foot swell these forty years. ⁵“You should know in your heart that as a man chastens his son, so the LORD your God chastens you. ⁶“Therefore you shall keep the commandments of the LORD your God, to walk in His ways and to fear Him. ⁷“For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, that flow out of valleys and hills; ⁸“a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive oil and honey; ⁹“a land in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing; a land whose stones are iron and out of whose hills you can dig copper. ¹⁰“When you have eaten and are full, then you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land which He has given you.

¹⁴*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

¹⁵*Holy Bible, New Living Translation*, (Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.) 1996.

¹¹“Beware that you do not forget the LORD your God by not keeping His commandments, His judgments, and His statutes which I command you today, ¹²“lest— *when* you have eaten and are full, and have built beautiful houses and dwell *in them*; ¹³“and *when* your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and your gold are multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied; ¹⁴“when your heart is lifted up, and you forget the LORD your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage; ¹⁵“who led you through that great and terrible wilderness, *in which were* fiery serpents and scorpions and thirsty land where there was no water; who brought water for you out of the flinty rock; ¹⁶“who fed you in the wilderness with manna, which your fathers did not know, that He might humble you and that He might test you, to do you good in the end— ¹⁷“then you say in your heart, ‘My power and the might of my hand have gained me this wealth.’ ¹⁸“And you shall remember the LORD your God, for *it is* He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as *it is* this day. ¹⁹“Then it shall be, if you by any means forget the LORD your God, and follow other gods, and serve them and worship them, I testify against you this day that you shall surely perish. ²⁰“As the nations which the LORD destroys before you, so you shall perish, because you would not be obedient to the voice of the LORD your God.¹⁶

I Samuel Chapter 15 -

Chapter 15

¹Samuel also said to Saul, “The LORD sent me to anoint you king over His people, over Israel. Now therefore, heed the voice of the words of the LORD. ²“Thus says the LORD of hosts: ‘I will punish Amalek *for* what he did to Israel, how he ambushed him on the way when he came up from Egypt. ³“Now go and attack Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and do not spare them. But kill both man and woman, infant and nursing child, ox and sheep, camel and donkey.’ ” ⁴So Saul gathered the people together and numbered them in Telaim, two hundred thousand foot soldiers and ten thousand men of Judah. ⁵And Saul came to a city of Amalek, and lay in wait in the valley.

⁶Then Saul said to the Kenites, “Go, depart, get down from among the Amalekites, lest I destroy you with them. For you showed kindness to all the children of Israel when they came up out of Egypt.” So the Kenites departed from among the Amalekites. ⁷And Saul attacked the Amalekites, from Havilah all the way to Shur, which is east of Egypt. ⁸He also took Agag king of the Amalekites alive, and utterly destroyed all the people with the edge of the sword. ⁹But Saul and the people spared Agag and the best of the sheep, the oxen, the fatlings, the lambs, and all *that was* good, and were unwilling to utterly destroy them. But everything despised and worthless, that they utterly destroyed.

¹⁰Now the word of the LORD came to Samuel, saying, ¹¹“I greatly regret that I have set up Saul *as* king, for he has turned back from following Me, and has not performed My commandments.” And it grieved Samuel, and he cried out to the LORD all night. ¹²So when Samuel rose early in the morning to meet Saul, it was told Samuel, saying, “Saul went to Carmel, and indeed, he set up a monument for himself; and he has gone on

¹⁶*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

around, passed by, and gone down to Gilgal.”¹³ Then Samuel went to Saul, and Saul said to him, “Blessed *are* you of the LORD! I have performed the commandment of the LORD.”

¹⁴But Samuel said, “What then *is* this bleating of the sheep in my ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?”¹⁵ And Saul said, “They have brought them from the Amalekites; for the people spared the best of the sheep and the oxen, to sacrifice to the LORD your God; and the rest we have utterly destroyed.”¹⁶ Then Samuel said to Saul, “Be quiet! And I will tell you what the LORD said to me last night.” And he said to him, “Speak on.”

¹⁷So Samuel said, “When you *were* little in your own eyes, *were* you not head of the tribes of Israel? And did not the LORD anoint you king over Israel?”¹⁸ “Now the LORD sent you on a mission, and said, ‘Go, and utterly destroy the sinners, the Amalekites, and fight against them until they are consumed.’”¹⁹ “Why then did you not obey the voice of the LORD? Why did you swoop down on the spoil, and do evil in the sight of the LORD?”

²⁰And Saul said to Samuel, “But I have obeyed the voice of the LORD, and gone on the mission on which the LORD sent me, and brought back Agag king of Amalek; I have utterly destroyed the Amalekites.”²¹ “But the people took of the plunder, sheep and oxen, the best of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice to the LORD your God in Gilgal.”²² Then Samuel said:

**“Has the LORD *as great* delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices,
As in obeying the voice of the LORD?
Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice,
And to heed than the fat of rams.**

²³ **For rebellion *is as* the sin of witchcraft,
And stubbornness *is as* iniquity and idolatry.
Because you have rejected the word of the LORD,
He also has rejected you from *being* king.”**

²⁴Then Saul said to Samuel, “I have sinned, for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD and your words, because I feared the people and obeyed their voice.”²⁵ “Now therefore, please pardon my sin, and return with me, that I may worship the LORD.”²⁶ But Samuel said to Saul, “I will not return with you, for you have rejected the word of the LORD, and the LORD has rejected you from being king over Israel.”²⁷ And as Samuel turned around to go away, *Saul* seized the edge of his robe, and it tore.²⁸ So Samuel said to him, “The LORD has torn the kingdom of Israel from you today, and has given it to a neighbor of yours, *who is* better than you.”²⁹ “And also the Strength of Israel will not lie nor relent. For He *is* not a man, that He should relent.”³⁰ Then he said, “I have sinned; *yet* honor me now, please, before the elders of my people and before Israel, and return with me, that I may worship the LORD your God.”³¹ So Samuel turned back after Saul, and Saul worshiped the LORD.

³²Then Samuel said, “Bring Agag king of the Amalekites here to me.” So Agag came to him cautiously. And Agag said, “Surely the bitterness of death is past.”³³ But Samuel said, “As your sword has made women childless, so shall your mother be childless among women.” And Samuel hacked Agag in pieces before the LORD in Gilgal.

³⁴Then Samuel went to Ramah, and Saul went up to his house at Gibeah of Saul.
³⁵And Samuel went no more to see Saul until the day of his death. Nevertheless Samuel mourned for Saul, and the LORD regretted that He had made Saul king over Israel.¹⁷

Isaiah 30:18-22 -

¹⁸ Therefore the LORD will wait, that He may be gracious to you;
And therefore He will be exalted, that He may have mercy on you.
For the LORD *is* a God of justice;
Blessed *are* all those who wait for Him.
¹⁹ For the people shall dwell in Zion at Jerusalem;
You shall weep no more.
He will be very gracious to you at the sound of your cry;
When He hears it, He will answer you.
²⁰ **And though the Lord gives you
The bread of adversity and the water of affliction,
Yet your teachers will not be moved into a corner anymore,
But your eyes shall see your teachers.**
²¹ **Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying,
“This is the way, walk in it,”**
Whenever you turn to the right hand
Or whenever you turn to the left.
²² You will also defile the covering of your graven images of silver,
And the ornament of your molded images of gold.
You will throw them away as an unclean thing;
You will say to them, “Get away!”¹⁸

Isaiah 48:10 -

¹⁰ Behold, I have refined you, but not as silver;
I have tested you in the furnace of affliction.¹⁹

Romans 1:1-7 -

¹Paul, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, called *to be* an apostle, separated to the gospel of God ²which He promised before through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures, ³concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh, ⁴and declared *to be* the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead. ⁵**Through Him we have received grace and apostleship for**

¹⁷*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

¹⁸*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

¹⁹*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

obedience to the faith among all nations for His name,⁶ among whom you also are the called of Jesus Christ;⁷ To all who are in Rome, beloved of God, called *to be* saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.²⁰

Romans Chapter 6 -

Chapter 6

¹What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? ²Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? ³Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? ⁴Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. ⁵For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be *in the likeness* of His resurrection, ⁶knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. ⁷For he who has died has been freed from sin. ⁸**Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him,** ⁹knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him. ¹⁰For *the death* that He died, He died to sin once for all; but *the life* that He lives, He lives to God. ¹¹Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord. ¹²Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. ¹³And do not present your members *as* instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness to God. ¹⁴For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

¹⁵What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not! ¹⁶Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin *leading* to death, or of obedience *leading* to righteousness? ¹⁷But God be thanked that *though* you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. ¹⁸And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹I speak in human *terms* because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members *as* slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness *leading* to *more* lawlessness, so now present your members *as* slaves of righteousness for holiness. ²⁰For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things *is* death. ²²But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life. ²³For the wages of sin *is* death, but the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.²¹

Romans 8:5-17 -

²⁰*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

²¹*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁵ Those who are dominated by the sinful nature think about sinful things, but those who are controlled by the Holy Spirit think about things that please the Spirit. ⁶ If your sinful nature controls your mind, there is death. But if the Holy Spirit controls your mind, there is life and peace. ⁷ For the sinful nature is always hostile to God. It never did obey God's laws, and it never will. ⁸ That's why those who are still under the control of their sinful nature can never please God.

⁹ **But you are not controlled by your sinful nature. You are controlled by the Spirit if you have the Spirit of God living in you. (And remember that those who do not have the Spirit of Christ living in them are not Christians at all.)** ¹⁰ Since Christ lives within you, even though your body will die because of sin, your spirit is alive because you have been made right with God. ¹¹ The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as he raised Christ from the dead, he will give life to your mortal body by this same Spirit living within you.

¹² So, dear brothers and sisters, you have no obligation whatsoever to do what your sinful nature urges you to do. ¹³ For if you keep on following it, you will perish. But if through the power of the Holy Spirit you turn from it and its evil deeds, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.

¹⁵ So you should not be like cowering, fearful slaves. You should behave instead like God's very own children, adopted into his family—calling him "Father, dear Father." ¹⁶ For his Holy Spirit speaks to us deep in our hearts and tells us that we are God's children. ¹⁷ And since we are his children, we will share his treasures—for everything God gives to his Son, Christ, is ours, too. But if we are to share his glory, we must also share his suffering.²²

II Corinthians 10:1-6 -

¹ Now I, Paul, myself am pleading with you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ—who in presence *am* lowly among you, but being absent *am* bold toward you. ² But I beg *you* that when I am present I may not be bold with that confidence by which I intend to be bold against some, who think of us as if we walked according to the flesh. ³ For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. ⁴ **For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,** ⁵ casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, ⁶ and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.²³

Colossians 2:6-7 -

²² *Holy Bible, New Living Translation*, (Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.) 1996.

²³ *The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁶ And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to live in obedience to him. ⁷ Let your roots grow down into him and draw up nourishment from him, so you will grow in faith, strong and vigorous in the truth you were taught. Let your lives overflow with thanksgiving for all he has done.²⁴

Hebrews 5:5-11 -

⁵ So also Christ did not glorify Himself to become High Priest, *but it* was He who said to Him:

“You are My Son,
Today I have begotten You.”

⁶ As *He* also says in another *place*:

“You *are* a priest forever
According to the order of Melchizedek”;

⁷ **who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear, ⁸though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. ⁹And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him,** ¹⁰ called by God as High Priest “according to the order of Melchizedek,” ¹¹ of whom we have much to say, and hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing.²⁵

James 1:2-4 -

² My brethren, **count it all joy when you fall into various trials,** ³ knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. ⁴ But let patience have *its* perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.²⁶

I Peter 1:1-21 -

¹ Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,

To the pilgrims of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, ² elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace be multiplied.

³ Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade

²⁴ *Holy Bible, New Living Translation*, (Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.) 1996.

²⁵ *The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

²⁶ *The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

away, reserved in heaven for you, ⁵who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. **⁶In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷that the genuineness of your faith, *being* much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, ⁸whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see *Him*, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, ⁹receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of *your* souls. ¹⁰Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace *that would come* to you, ¹¹searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. ¹²To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—things which angels desire to look into.**

¹³Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest *your* hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; ¹⁴as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, *as* in your ignorance; ¹⁵but as He who called you *is* holy, you also be holy in all *your* conduct,

¹⁶because it is written, “Be holy, for I am holy.” ¹⁷And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one’s work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay *here* in fear; ¹⁸knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, *like* silver or gold, from your aimless conduct *received* by tradition from your fathers, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. ²⁰He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you ²¹who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.²⁷

I Peter Chapter 4 -

Chapter 4

¹Therefore, since Christ suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same mind, for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, ²that he no longer should live the rest of *his* time in the flesh for the lusts of men, but for the will of God. ³For we *have spent* enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles—when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries. ⁴In regard to these, they think it strange that you do not run with *them* in the same flood of dissipation, speaking evil of *you*. ⁵They will give an account to Him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. ⁶For this reason the gospel was preached also to those who are dead, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh, but live according to God in the spirit.

⁷But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers. ⁸And above all things have fervent love for one another, for “love will cover a multitude

²⁷*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

of sins.” ⁹Be hospitable to one another without grumbling. ¹⁰As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. ¹¹If anyone speaks, *let him speak* as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, *let him do it* as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

¹²**Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; ¹³but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ’s sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy. ¹⁴If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed *are you*, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified. ¹⁵But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or as a busybody in other people’s matters. ¹⁶Yet if *anyone suffers* as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this matter. ¹⁷For the time *has come* for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if *it begins* with us first, what will *be* the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God?**

¹⁸ Now **“If the righteous one is scarcely saved,
Where will the ungodly and the sinner appear?”**

¹⁹**Therefore let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls to Him in doing good, as to a faithful Creator.**²⁸

*Again, this leads us into the **Third Rule** of life, which is that we need to **repent of our sins, put our faith in God and RECEIVE Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. By this we will be BORN AGAIN of the Spirit from above for salvation and must then continually ABIDE in Jesus in order to STAY SAVED**, (i.e., have and keep our names written in the ‘Book of Life’). Jesus is the **ONLY** way to salvation and we abide in Jesus by **OBEYING Him in everything and taking COMMUNION DAILY**, as He is our **DAILY BREAD**. However, we should **NOT** take communion unless we repent each day and have a right heart toward God and our fellow man, including our enemies. If someone has strife in their life and takes communion, then God may make them sick or they may even die! In cases such as these, they are ‘eating and drinking God’s judgment upon themselves, because they are not obeying God and forgiving the other party. Apart from Jesus, we can do nothing, especially obey God. We have to **CONTINUE** in obedience to God until either Jesus comes back or we die in Christ. Receiving Jesus as our Lord and Savior is a command from God and anyone who says otherwise does not know God or His plan for humankind, (see the handouts, ‘Life in Christ’ and ‘The Path to Perfection’, Isaiah 7:14-15, 9:6-7, Matthew 1:18-25, 3:1-3 and Vv. 13-17, 5:43-48, 6:5-13, 10:22, 17:1-5, Mark 1:14, Luke 6:37, 13:1-5, John 3:1-21, 6:25-71, 14:1-6, 15:1-8, chapter 17, Acts 4:10-12, Romans 10:4-13, I Corinthians chapters 10-11, Hebrews 6:1-12, 10:26-39, Revelation 3:1-6 and 20:11-15).*

Isaiah 7:14-15 -

²⁸*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

¹⁴“Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: **Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.** ¹⁵“Curds and honey He shall eat, that He may know to refuse the evil and choose the good. ²⁹

Isaiah 9:6-7 -

⁶ For unto us a Child is born,
 Unto us a Son is given;
 And the government will be upon His shoulder.
 And **His name will be called**
Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
⁷ Of the increase of *His* government and peace
There will be no end,
 Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom,
 To order it and establish it with judgment and justice
 From that time forward, even forever.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.³⁰

Matthew 1:18-25 -

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Then Joseph her husband, being a just *man*, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. ²⁰But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. ²¹“And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins.” ²²**So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying:** ²³“**Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,**” which is translated, “**God with us.**” ²⁴Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, ²⁵and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name JESUS.³¹

Matthew 3:1-3 -

²⁹*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

³⁰*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

³¹*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

¹In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ²and saying, **“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!”** ³For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah, saying:

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the LORD;

Make His paths straight.’ ”³²

Matthew 3:13-17 -

¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. ¹⁴And John *tried to* prevent Him, saying, “I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?” ¹⁵But Jesus answered and said to him, **“Permit *it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.*”** Then he allowed Him. ¹⁶When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. ¹⁷**And suddenly a voice *came from heaven, saying, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”***³³

Matthew 5:43-48 -

⁴³“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ ⁴⁴**“But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,** ⁴⁵**“that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.** ⁴⁶“For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? ⁴⁷“And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more *than others*? Do not even the tax collectors do so? ⁴⁸**“Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.”**³⁴

Matthew 6:5-13 -

⁵“And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. ⁶“But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who *is* in the secret *place*; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly. ⁷“And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen *do*. For they think that they will be heard for

³²*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

³³*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

³⁴*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

their many words. ⁸“Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him. ⁹“In this manner, therefore, pray:

Our Father in heaven,
 Hallowed be Your name.
 10 Your kingdom come.
 Your will be done
 On earth as *it is* in heaven.
 11 **Give us this day our daily bread.**
 12 And forgive us our debts,
 As we forgive our debtors.
 13 And do not lead us into temptation,
 But deliver us from the evil one.

For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.³⁵

Matthew 10:22 -

²²“And you will be hated by all for My name’s sake. But **he who endures to the end will be saved.**³⁶

Matthew 17:1-5 -

¹Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves; ²and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light. ³And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him. ⁴Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, let us make here three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” ⁵While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and **suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!”** ³⁷

Mark 1:14 -

¹⁴Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, ¹⁵and saying, **“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.”**³⁸

Luke 6:37 -

³⁵*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

³⁶*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

³⁷*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

³⁸*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

³⁷“Judge not, and you shall not be judged. Condemn not, and you shall not be condemned. **Forgive, and you will be forgiven.** **39**

Luke 13:1-5 -

¹There were present at that season some who told Him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ²And Jesus answered and said to them, “Do you suppose that these Galileans were worse sinners than all *other* Galileans, because they suffered such things? ³**I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish.** ⁴“Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them, do you think that they were worse sinners than all *other* men who dwelt in Jerusalem? ⁵**I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish.”**⁴⁰

John 3:1-21 -

¹There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ²This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, “Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.” ³Jesus answered and said to him, “**Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.**” ⁴Nicodemus said to Him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵Jesus answered, “**Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.**” ⁶“That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.” ⁷“Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’” ⁸“The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit.” ⁹Nicodemus answered and said to Him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰Jesus answered and said to him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and do not know these things? ¹¹“**Most assuredly, I say to you, We speak what We know and testify what We have seen, and you do not receive Our witness.**” ¹²“If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³“No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, *that is*, the Son of Man who is in heaven. ¹⁴“And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵“that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁶**For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.**” ¹⁷“For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. ¹⁸“He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. ¹⁹“And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather

³⁹*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁴⁰*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

than light, because their deeds were evil. ²⁰“For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. ²¹“But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God.”⁴¹

John 6:25-71 -

²⁵And when they found Him on the other side of the sea, they said to Him, “Rabbi, when did You come here?” ²⁶Jesus answered them and said, “**Most assuredly, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw the signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled.** ²⁷“Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him.” ²⁸Then they said to Him, “What shall we do, that we may work the works of God?” ²⁹Jesus answered and said to them, “**This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent.**” ³⁰Therefore they said to Him, “What sign will You perform then, that we may see it and believe You? What work will You do? ³¹“Our fathers ate the manna in the desert; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” ³²Then Jesus said to them, “**Most assuredly, I say to you, Moses did not give you the bread from heaven, but My Father gives you the true bread from heaven.** ³³“**For the bread of God is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.**” ³⁴Then they said to Him, “**Lord, give us this bread always.**” ³⁵And Jesus said to them, “**I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.** ³⁶“**But I said to you that you have seen Me and yet do not believe.** ³⁷“**All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.** ³⁸“**For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.** ³⁹“**This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day.** ⁴⁰“**And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.**”

⁴¹The Jews then complained about Him, because He said, “**I am the bread which came down from heaven.**” ⁴²And they said, “Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How is it then that He says, ‘I have come down from heaven?’” ⁴³Jesus therefore answered and said to them, “**Do not murmur among yourselves.** ⁴⁴“**No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.** ⁴⁵“It is written in the prophets, ‘And they shall all be taught by God.’ Therefore everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Me. ⁴⁶“Not that anyone has seen the Father, except He who is from God; He has seen the Father. ⁴⁷“**Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life.** ⁴⁸“**I am the bread of life.** ⁴⁹“**Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and are dead.** ⁵⁰“**This is the bread which comes down from heaven, that one may eat of it and not die.** ⁵¹“**I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world.**” ⁵²The Jews therefore quarreled among themselves, saying, “How can this *Man* give us

⁴¹*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

His flesh to eat?” ⁵³Then Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴“Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. ⁵⁵“For My flesh is food indeed, and My blood is drink indeed. ⁵⁶“He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him. ⁵⁷“As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on Me will live because of Me. ⁵⁸“This is the bread which came down from heaven—not as your fathers ate the manna, and are dead. He who eats this bread will live forever.” ⁵⁹These things He said in the synagogue as He taught in Capernaum.

⁶⁰Therefore many of His disciples, when they heard *this*, said, “This is a hard saying; who can understand it?” ⁶¹When Jesus knew in Himself that His disciples complained about this, He said to them, “Does this offend you? ⁶²“What then if you should see the Son of Man ascend where He was before? ⁶³“It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and *they* are life. ⁶⁴“But there are some of you who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who would betray Him. ⁶⁵**And He said, “Therefore I have said to you that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him by My Father.”** ⁶⁶From that *time* many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more. ⁶⁷Then Jesus said to the twelve, “Do you also want to go away?” ⁶⁸But Simon Peter answered Him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹“Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” ⁷⁰Jesus answered them, “Did I not choose you, the twelve, and one of you is a devil?” ⁷¹He spoke of Judas Iscariot, *the son* of Simon, for it was he who would betray Him, being one of the twelve.⁴²

John 14:1-6 -

¹“Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. ²“In My Father’s house are many mansions; if *it were* not *so*, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. ³“And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also. ⁴“And where I go you know, and the way you know.” ⁵Thomas said to Him, “Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?” ⁶**Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.**⁴³

John 15:1-8 -

¹“I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. ²“Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every *branch* that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³“You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. ⁴“Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in

⁴²*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁴³*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. ⁵**“I am the vine, you *are* the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.** ⁶“If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw *them* into the fire, and they are burned. ⁷“If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. ⁸“By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.⁴⁴

John Chapter 17 -

Chapter 17

¹Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: “Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, ²“as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. ³**“And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.** ⁴“I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. ⁵“And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.

⁶“I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. ⁷“Now they have known that all things which You have given Me are from You. ⁸“For I have given to them the words which You have given Me; and they have received *them*, and have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have believed that You sent Me. ⁹“I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours. ¹⁰“And all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them. ¹¹“Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as *We are*. ¹²“While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³“But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves. ¹⁴“I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁵“I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one. ¹⁶“They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁷“Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth. ¹⁸“As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. ¹⁹“And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth.

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

⁴⁴*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

loved Me. ²⁴“Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. ²⁵“O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me. ²⁶“And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare *it*, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.”⁴⁵

Acts 4:10-12 -

¹⁰“let it be known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man stands here before you whole. ¹¹“This is the ‘stone which was rejected by you builders, which has become the chief cornerstone.’ ¹²“**Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.**”⁴⁶

Romans 10:4-13 -

⁴For Christ *is* the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes. ⁵For Moses writes about the righteousness which is of the law, “The man who does those things shall live by them.” ⁶But the righteousness of faith speaks in this way, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ down *from above*) ⁷or, “‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith which we preach): ⁹that **if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.** ¹⁰For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. ¹¹For the Scripture says, “Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.” ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. ¹³For “whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.”⁴⁷

I Corinthians Chapters 10-11 -

Chapter 10

¹Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, ²all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ. ⁵But with most

⁴⁵*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁴⁶*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁴⁷*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

of them God was not well pleased, for *their bodies* were scattered in the wilderness. ⁶Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted. ⁷And do not become idolaters as *were* some of them. As it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.” ⁸Nor let us commit sexual immorality, as some of them did, and in one day twenty-three thousand fell; ⁹nor let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed by serpents; ¹⁰nor complain, as some of them also complained, and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come. ¹²Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. ¹³No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God *is* faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear *it*.

¹⁴Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry. ¹⁵**I speak as to wise men; judge for yourselves what I say.** ¹⁶**The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?** ¹⁷**For we, though many, are one bread and one body; for we all partake of that one bread.** ¹⁸Observe Israel after the flesh: Are not those who eat of the sacrifices partakers of the altar? ¹⁹What am I saying then? That an idol is anything, or what is offered to idols is anything? ²⁰Rather, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice they sacrifice to demons and not to God, and I do not want you to have fellowship with demons. ²¹You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the Lord’s table and of the table of demons. ²²Or do we provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than He?

²³All things are lawful for me, but not all things are helpful; all things are lawful for me, but not all things edify. ²⁴Let no one seek his own, but each one the other’s *well-being*. ²⁵Eat whatever is sold in the meat market, asking no questions for conscience’ sake; ²⁶for “the earth *is* the LORD’s, and all its fullness.” ²⁷If any of those who do not believe invites you *to dinner*, and you desire to go, eat whatever is set before you, asking no question for conscience’ sake. ²⁸But if anyone says to you, “This was offered to idols,” do not eat it for the sake of the one who told you, and for conscience’ sake; for “the earth *is* the LORD’s, and all its fullness.” ²⁹“Conscience,” I say, not your own, but that of the other. For why is my liberty judged by another *man’s* conscience? ³⁰But if I partake with thanks, why am I evil spoken of for *the food* over which I give thanks? ³¹Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. ³²Give no offense, either to the Jews or to the Greeks or to the church of God, ³³just as I also please all *men* in all *things*, not seeking my own profit, but the *profit* of many, that they may be saved.

Chapter 11

¹Imitate me, just as I also *imitate* Christ.

²Now I praise you, brethren, that you remember me in all things and keep the traditions just as I delivered *them* to you. ³But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman *is* man, and the head of Christ *is* God. ⁴Every man praying or prophesying, having *his* head covered, dishonors his head. ⁵But every woman who prays or prophesies with *her* head uncovered dishonors her head, for that is one and the same as if her head were shaved. ⁶For if a woman is not covered, let her also be shorn.

But if it is shameful for a woman to be shorn or shaved, let her be covered. ⁷For a man indeed ought not to cover *his* head, since he is the image and glory of God; but woman is the glory of man. ⁸For man is not from woman, but woman from man. ⁹Nor was man created for the woman, but woman for the man. ¹⁰For this reason the woman ought to have *a symbol of authority* on *her* head, because of the angels. ¹¹Nevertheless, neither is man independent of woman, nor woman independent of man, in the Lord. ¹²For as woman *came* from man, even so man also *comes* through woman; but all things are from God. ¹³Judge among yourselves. Is it proper for a woman to pray to God with her head uncovered? ¹⁴Does not even nature itself teach you that if a man has long hair, it is a dishonor to him? ¹⁵But if a woman has long hair, it is a glory to her; for *her* hair is given to her for a covering. ¹⁶But if anyone seems to be contentious, we have no such custom, nor *do* the churches of God.

¹⁷Now in giving these instructions I do not praise *you*, since you come together not for the better but for the worse. ¹⁸For first of all, when you come together as a church, I hear that there are divisions among you, and in part I believe it. ¹⁹For there must also be factions among you, that those who are approved may be recognized among you. ²⁰Therefore when you come together in one place, it is not to eat the Lord's Supper. ²¹For in eating, each one takes his own supper ahead of *others*; and one is hungry and another is drunk. ²²What! Do you not have houses to eat and drink in? Or do you despise the church of God and shame those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you in this? I do not praise *you*.

²³**For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the *same* night in which He was betrayed took bread; ²⁴and when He had given thanks, He broke *it* and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me."** ²⁵In the same manner *He* also *took* the cup after supper, saying, "**This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.**" ²⁶For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes.

²⁷Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks *this* cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. ²⁸But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. ²⁹For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. ³⁰For this reason many *are* weak and sick among you, and many sleep. ³¹For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged. ³²But when we are judged, we are chastened by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world. ³³Therefore, my brethren, when you come together to eat, wait for one another. ³⁴But if anyone is hungry, let him eat at home, lest you come together for judgment. And the rest I will set in order when I come.48

Hebrews 6:1-12 -

¹Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary *principles* of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith

48*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

toward God, ²of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. ³And this we will do if God permits. **⁴For *it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit, ⁵and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, ⁶if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put *Him* to an open shame. ⁷For the earth which drinks in the rain that often comes upon it, and bears herbs useful for those by whom it is cultivated, receives blessing from God; ⁸but if it bears thorns and briars, *it is rejected and near to being cursed, whose end is to be burned.****

⁹But, beloved, we are confident of better things concerning you, yes, things that accompany salvation, though we speak in this manner. **¹⁰For *God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister.* ¹¹And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end, ¹²that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.**⁴⁹

Hebrews 10:26-39 -

²⁶For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, ²⁷but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. ²⁸Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. ²⁹Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace? ³⁰For we know Him who said, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. And again, "The LORD will judge His people." ³¹It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. ³²But recall the former days in which, after you were illuminated, you endured a great struggle with sufferings: ³³partly while you were made a spectacle both by reproaches and tribulations, and partly while you became companions of those who were so treated; ³⁴for you had compassion on me in my chains, and joyfully accepted the plundering of your goods, knowing that you have a better and an enduring possession for yourselves in heaven. ³⁵Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward. ³⁶For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise:

³⁷ **"For yet a little while,
And He who is coming will come and will not tarry.**
³⁸ **Now the just shall live by faith;
But if *anyone* draws back,
My soul has no pleasure in him."**

⁴⁹The Holy Bible, New King James Version, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

³⁹**But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.**⁵⁰

Revelation 3:1-6 -

¹“And to the angel of the church in Sardis write,

“These things says He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars: “I know your works, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead. ²“Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die, for I have not found your works perfect before God. ³“Remember therefore how you have received and heard; hold fast and repent. Therefore if you will not watch, I will come upon you as a thief, and you will not know what hour I will come upon you. ⁴“You have a few names even in Sardis who have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with Me in white, for they are worthy. ⁵“He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and **I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life**; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels. ⁶“He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”’⁵¹

Revelation 20:11-15 -

¹¹Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. ¹²And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is *the Book of Life*. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. ¹³The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. ¹⁴Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. ¹⁵**And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.**⁵²

*The **Fourth Rule** of life is that we need to be **baptized in water in the name of the Father, the Son Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit**. We need water baptism because we were not around when God ‘washed away’ the sin of the world with the flood of Noah. Water baptism is symbolic of the flood of Noah and does the same work of individually washing our sin away. It also breaks the power of sin in our lives. If someone is addicted to anything and is properly water baptized, then the power of that addiction, or any other sin that they struggle with, will be broken off of them. **It is important to note here that after being baptized the person MUST NOT then present themselves to that sin again or they will have an even greater difficulty coming out of it after that**, (see the handout*

⁵⁰*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁵¹*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁵²*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

'Doctrine of Baptisms' and 'Christianity 101', Romans chapter 6 above, Matthew 3:4-17, Acts 2:29-47, 19:1-5, 22:16, I Corinthians 12:12-13 and Galatians 3:26-29).

Matthew 3:4-17 -

⁴And John himself was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then Jerusalem, all Judea, and all the region around the Jordan went out to him ⁶and were baptized by him in the Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸"Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, ⁹"and do not think to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as *our* father.' For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones. ¹⁰"And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹¹"**I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.** ¹²"His winnowing fan *is* in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. ¹⁴And John *tried to* prevent Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?" ¹⁵But Jesus answered and said to him, "**Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.**" Then he allowed Him. ¹⁶When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. ¹⁷And suddenly a voice *came* from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."⁵³

Acts 2:29-47 -

²⁹"Men *and* brethren, let *me* speak freely to you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰"Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne, ³¹"he, foreseeing this, spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption. ³²"This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses. ³³"Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear. ³⁴"For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself:

"The LORD said to my Lord,
"Sit at My right hand,
³⁵ Till I make Your enemies Your footstool." '

⁵³*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

³⁶“Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.” ³⁷Now when they heard *this*, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Men *and* brethren, what shall we do?” ³⁸**Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.** ³⁹“**For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.”**

⁴⁰And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, “Be saved from this perverse generation.” ⁴¹Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added *to them*. ⁴²And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. ⁴³Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. ⁴⁴Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, ⁴⁵and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need. ⁴⁶So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, ⁴⁷praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.⁵⁴

Acts 19:1-5 -

¹And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples ²he said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” So they said to him, “We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.” ³And he said to them, “Into what then were you baptized?” So they said, “Into John’s baptism.” ⁴Then Paul said, “John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.” ⁵**When they heard *this*, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.**⁵⁵

Acts 22:16 -

¹⁶“And now why are you waiting? Arise and **be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.**”⁵⁶

I Corinthians 12:12-13 -

¹²For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also *is* Christ. ¹³**For by one Spirit we were all baptized**

⁵⁴*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁵⁵*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁵⁶*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.⁵⁷

Galatians 3:26-29 -

²⁶For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. ²⁷**For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.** ²⁸There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you *are* Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.⁵⁸

*The **Fifth Rule** of life is that we need to **GET WISDOM from God, through Jesus**. There are two types of wisdom that operate in the earth, one is the wisdom of God from above and one is the human wisdom of the earth, which ultimately comes from Satan. MOST people operate in human wisdom, which is earthly, sensual and demonic. This second type of wisdom is motivated by bitter envy and self-seeking in the heart of the person in whom it operates. Human wisdom causes people to proudly boast and lie against the truth. Earthly, **human wisdom is rooted and grounded in PRIDE, which is stealing God's glory. Pride is the root of every evil on earth**. Where this human wisdom operates there is confusion and every evil thing, because it is directed by Satan. However, the wisdom of God that is from above is pure, peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality or hypocrisy. People who operate in the wisdom of God are peacemakers. Satan wants disorder and anarchy, but those who wish to please God want the opposite. Therefore, those who truly want to obey God will apply the wisdom of God in their lives to bring order according to the Word of God in all that they do.*

*The wisdom from above is the first and most important foundational attribute that we need to get from God. This wisdom represents Jesus and comes from the Holy Spirit through Him. The wisdom of God is 'foolishness' to the people who operate in the human wisdom of the world. If we need the wisdom of God, then we must ask Him for it in faith and He will freely give it to us. **However, God will NOT give His wisdom to people who do not operate in the first two rules of life**. In other words, we must fear God and through that fear obey Him in order to open the door for us to receive His wisdom, (see the handout, 'Pride', Psalm 111:10 above, Proverbs 3:7-8, 4:7, 9:10, I Corinthians 1:18-2:16, James 1:5-8 and 3:13-18).*

Proverbs 3:7-8 -

⁷ **Do not be wise in your own eyes;**
Fear the LORD and depart from evil.

⁵⁷The Holy Bible, New King James Version, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁵⁸The Holy Bible, New King James Version, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁸ It will be health to your flesh,
And strength to your bones.⁵⁹

Proverbs 4:7 -

⁷ **Wisdom is the principal thing;**
Therefore get wisdom.
And in all your getting, get understanding.⁶⁰

Proverbs 9:10 -

¹⁰ **“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom,**
And the knowledge of the Holy One *is* understanding.⁶¹

I Corinthians 1:18-2:16 -

¹⁸For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written:

**“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
And bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent.”**

²⁰Where *is* the wise? Where *is* the scribe? Where *is* the disputer of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. ²²For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom; ²³but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

²⁶For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, *are called*. ²⁷**But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; ²⁸and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, ²⁹that no flesh should glory in His presence. ³⁰But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption— ³¹that, as it is written, “He who glories, let him glory in the LORD.”**

Chapter 2

⁵⁹*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁶⁰*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁶¹*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

¹And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the testimony of God. ²For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. ³I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling. ⁴And my speech and my preaching *were* not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

⁶However, we speak wisdom among those who are mature, yet not the wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. ⁷But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden *wisdom* which God ordained before the ages for our glory, ⁸which none of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But as it is written:

**“Eye has not seen, nor ear heard,
Nor have entered into the heart of man
The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.”**

¹⁰But God has revealed *them* to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. ¹¹For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. ¹²Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. ¹³These things we also speak, not in words which man’s wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. ¹⁴But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is *rightly* judged by no one. ¹⁶For “who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?” But we have the mind of Christ.⁶²

James 1:5-8 -

⁵If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. ⁶But let him ask in faith, with no **doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. ⁷For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; ⁸*he is* a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.⁶³**

James 3:13-18 -

¹³Who *is* wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct *that* his works *are done* in the meekness of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth. ¹⁵This wisdom does not descend from above, but *is* earthly, sensual, demonic. ¹⁶For where envy and self-seeking

⁶²*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁶³*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

exist, confusion and every evil thing are there. ¹⁷**But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy.** ¹⁸Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.⁶⁴

*The **Sixth Rule** of life is that we need to receive from Jesus the baptism of the Holy Spirit of God. Once we receive Jesus as our Lord and Savior, the next step is that we need to get baptized in water in order to cleanse our flesh of sin and to break the power of sin in our lives. After that, we need to receive from Jesus the baptism of the Holy Spirit. With the baptism of the Holy Spirit we receive the power of God and GIFTS to enable us to overcome the devil and his demons. The baptism of the Holy Spirit also opens the door for us to UNDERSTAND the deeper things of God, which will lead us into eternity. Once we receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit, then we will go immediately into the 'spiritual wilderness' and will be there at least 40 days and nights, just like Jesus. During the time in the spiritual wilderness we learn to obey God and stop complaining, (see Deuteronomy chapter 8 above). If, by the grace and help of God, we can control our tongues during the wilderness experience, then when we come out of the spiritual wilderness God will allow us to operate in His power through the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Also God will give us His power in order confirm our preaching of repentance and salvation through Christ, IF our preaching is accurate according to God's Word. **The baptism of the Holy Spirit is also a baptism of FIRE.** Thus, the Holy Spirit working in us will be the 'Spirit of Judgment' that will 'burn up' all the garbage that is in our hearts in order to purify our hearts before God so that we will not end up in the lake of fire, which is the second, eternal death, (see I Peter 1:7, Matthew 3:10-12 and John 15:6 above). The Holy Spirit will also begin to open our minds and show us the deeper things of God both through His scriptures and by direct revelation, so that it will be easier to obey Him, (see the handout 'Doctrine of Baptisms', 'Holy Spirit', 'Life in Christ', 'UNDERSTANDING - the Key to Eternity', Matthew 3:13-17 and Romans chapter 6 and Deuteronomy chapter 8 above, Proverbs 18:20-21, Isaiah 4:3-6, Matthew 4:1-17, Mark 1:4-15, 16:14-20, Luke 4:1-15, Acts 8:9-40, 10:1-11:18, 19:6, I Corinthians 12:1-11, James 3:1-12, Revelation 2:11, chapter 20 and 21:7-8).*

Proverbs 18:20-21 -

²⁰ A man's stomach shall be satisfied from the fruit of his mouth,
From the produce of his lips he shall be filled.

²¹ **Death and life are in the power of the tongue,
And those who love it will eat its fruit.**⁶⁵

Isaiah 4:3-6 -

⁶⁴The Holy Bible, New King James Version, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁶⁵The Holy Bible, New King James Version, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

³And it shall come to pass that *he who is* left in Zion and remains in Jerusalem will be called holy—everyone who is recorded among the living in Jerusalem. ⁴**When the Lord has washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and purged the blood of Jerusalem from her midst, by the spirit of judgment and by the spirit of burning,** ⁵then the LORD will create above every dwelling place of Mount Zion, and above her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day and the shining of a flaming fire by night. For over all the glory there *will be* a covering. ⁶And there will be a tabernacle for shade in the daytime from the heat, for a place of refuge, and for a shelter from storm and rain.⁶⁶

Matthew 4:1-17 -

¹Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry. ³Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, “If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.” ⁴But He answered and said, “**It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.’**” ⁵Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶and said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written:

‘He shall give His angels charge over you,’

and,

‘In *their* hands they shall bear you up,
Lest you dash your foot against a stone.’”

⁷Jesus said to him, “**It is written again, ‘You shall not tempt the LORD your God.’**” ⁸Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹And he said to Him, “All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me.” ¹⁰Then Jesus said to him, “**Away with you, Satan! For it is written, ‘You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.’**” ¹¹Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him.

¹²Now when Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, He departed to Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth, He came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the regions of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying:

¹⁵ “The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
By the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan,
Galilee of the Gentiles:

¹⁶ The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light,
And upon those who sat in the region and shadow of death
Light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, **“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”**⁶⁷

Mark 1:4-15 -

⁴John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. ⁵Then all the land of Judea, and those from Jerusalem, went out to him and were all baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel’s hair and with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷And he preached, saying, “There comes One after me who is mightier than I, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to stoop down and loose. ⁸“I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

⁹It came to pass in those days *that* Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And immediately, coming up from the water, He saw the heavens parting and the Spirit descending upon Him like a dove. ¹¹Then a voice came from heaven, “You are My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”

¹²Immediately the Spirit drove Him into the wilderness. ¹³And He was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan, and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered to Him.

¹⁴Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, ¹⁵and saying, **“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.”**⁶⁸

Mark 16:14-20 -

¹⁴Later He appeared to the eleven as they sat at the table; and He rebuked their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they did not believe those who had seen Him after He had risen. ¹⁵And He said to them, **“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. ¹⁶“He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. ¹⁷“And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; ¹⁸“they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.”**

¹⁹So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God. ²⁰And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with *them* and confirming the word through the accompanying signs. Amen.⁶⁹

Luke 4:1-15 -

⁶⁷*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁶⁸*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁶⁹*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

¹Then Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, ²being tempted for forty days by the devil. And in those days He ate nothing, and afterward, when they had ended, He was hungry. ³And the devil said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread.” ⁴But Jesus answered him, saying, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.’ ” ⁵Then the devil, taking Him up on a high mountain, showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. ⁶And the devil said to Him, “All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for *this* has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish. ⁷“Therefore, if You will worship before me, all will be Yours.” ⁸And Jesus answered and said to him, “Get behind Me, Satan! For it is written, ‘You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.’ ” ⁹Then he brought Him to Jerusalem, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down from here. ¹⁰“For it is written:

‘He shall give His angels charge over you,
To keep you,’

¹¹“and,

‘In their hands they shall bear you up,
Lest you dash your foot against a stone.’ ”

¹²And Jesus answered and said to him, “It has been said, ‘You shall not tempt the LORD your God.’ ” ¹³Now when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from Him until an opportune time.

¹⁴Then Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and news of Him went out through all the surrounding region. ¹⁵And He taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all.⁷⁰

Acts 8:9-40 -

⁹But there was a certain man called Simon, who previously practiced sorcery in the city and astonished the people of Samaria, claiming that he was someone great, ¹⁰to whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, “This man is the great power of God.” ¹¹And they heeded him because he had astonished them with his sorceries for a long time. ¹²But when they believed Philip as he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were baptized. ¹³Then Simon himself also believed; and when he was baptized he continued with Philip, and was amazed, seeing the miracles and signs which were done.

¹⁴Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, ¹⁵who, when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. ¹⁶For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ¹⁷Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit. ¹⁸And when Simon saw that through the laying on of the apostles’ hands the Holy Spirit was

⁷⁰*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

given, he offered them money, ¹⁹saying, “Give me this power also, that anyone on whom I lay hands may receive the Holy Spirit.” ²⁰But Peter said to him, “Your money perish with you, because you thought that the gift of God could be purchased with money! ²¹“You have neither part nor portion in this matter, for your heart is not right in the sight of God. ²²“Repent therefore of this your wickedness, and pray God if perhaps the thought of your heart may be forgiven you. ²³“For I see that you are poisoned by bitterness and bound by iniquity.” ²⁴Then Simon answered and said, “Pray to the Lord for me, that none of the things which you have spoken may come upon me.” ²⁵So when they had testified and preached the word of the Lord, they returned to Jerusalem, preaching the gospel in many villages of the Samaritans.

²⁶Now an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, “Arise and go toward the south along the road which goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is desert. ²⁷So he arose and went. And behold, a man of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under Candace the queen of the Ethiopians, who had charge of all her treasury, and had come to Jerusalem to worship, ²⁸was returning. And sitting in his chariot, he was reading Isaiah the prophet. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go near and overtake this chariot.” ³⁰So Philip ran to him, and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah, and said, “Do you understand what you are reading?” ³¹And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he asked Philip to come up and sit with him. ³²The place in the Scripture which he read was this:

“He was led as a sheep to the slaughter;
And as a lamb before its shearer *is* silent,
So He opened not His mouth.

³³ In His humiliation His justice was taken away,
And who will declare His generation?
For His life is taken from the earth.”

³⁴So the eunuch answered Philip and said, “I ask you, of whom does the prophet say this, of himself or of some other man?” ³⁵Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him. ³⁶Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, “See, *here is* water. What hinders me from being baptized?” ³⁷Then Philip said, “If you believe with all your heart, you may.” And he answered and said, “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.” ³⁸So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him. ³⁹Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip was found at Azotus. And passing through, he preached in all the cities till he came to Caesarea.⁷¹

Acts 10:1-11:18 -

Chapter 10

¹There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of what was called the Italian Regiment, ²a devout *man* and one who feared God with all his household, who

⁷¹*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

gave alms generously to the people, and prayed to God always. ³About the ninth hour of the day he saw clearly in a vision an angel of God coming in and saying to him, "Cornelius!" ⁴And when he observed him, he was afraid, and said, "What is it, lord?" So he said to him, "Your prayers and your alms have come up for a memorial before God. ⁵"Now send men to Joppa, and send for Simon whose surname is Peter. ⁶"He is lodging with Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the sea. He will tell you what you must do." ⁷And when the angel who spoke to him had departed, Cornelius called two of his household servants and a devout soldier from among those who waited on him continually. ⁸So when he had explained all *these* things to them, he sent them to Joppa.

⁹The next day, as they went on their journey and drew near the city, Peter went up on the housetop to pray, about the sixth hour. ¹⁰Then he became very hungry and wanted to eat; but while they made ready, he fell into a trance ¹¹and saw heaven opened and an object like a great sheet bound at the four corners, descending to him and let down to the earth. ¹²In it were all kinds of four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, creeping things, and birds of the air. ¹³And a voice came to him, "**Rise, Peter; kill and eat.**" ¹⁴But Peter said, "Not so, Lord! For I have never eaten anything common or unclean." ¹⁵And a voice *spoke* to him again the second time, "**What God has cleansed you must not call common.**" ¹⁶This was done three times. And the object was taken up into heaven again.

¹⁷Now while Peter wondered within himself what this vision which he had seen meant, behold, the men who had been sent from Cornelius had made inquiry for Simon's house, and stood before the gate. ¹⁸And they called and asked whether Simon, whose surname was Peter, was lodging there. ¹⁹While Peter thought about the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Behold, three men are seeking you. ²⁰"Arise therefore, go down and go with them, doubting nothing; for I have sent them." ²¹Then Peter went down to the men who had been sent to him from Cornelius, and said, "Yes, I am he whom you seek. For what reason have you come?" ²²And they said, "Cornelius *the* centurion, a just man, one who fears God and has a good reputation among all the nation of the Jews, was divinely instructed by a holy angel to summon you to his house, and to hear words from you." ²³Then he invited them in and lodged *them*. On the next day Peter went away with them, and some brethren from Joppa accompanied him.

²⁴And the following day they entered Caesarea. Now Cornelius was waiting for them, and had called together his relatives and close friends. ²⁵As Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him and fell down at his feet and worshiped *him*. ²⁶But Peter lifted him up, saying, "Stand up; I myself am also a man." ²⁷And as he talked with him, he went in and found many who had come together. ²⁸Then he said to them, "You know how unlawful it is for a Jewish man to keep company with or go to one of another nation. But God has shown me that I should not call any man common or unclean. ²⁹"Therefore I came without objection as soon as I was sent for. I ask, then, for what reason have you sent for me?" ³⁰So Cornelius said, "Four days ago I was fasting until this hour; and at the ninth hour I prayed in my house, and behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing, ³¹"and said, 'Cornelius, your prayer has been heard, and your alms are remembered in the sight of God. ³²'Send therefore to Joppa and call Simon here, whose surname is Peter. He is lodging in the house of Simon, a tanner, by the sea. When he comes, he will speak to you.' ³³"So I sent to you immediately, and you have done well to come. Now therefore, we are all present before God, to hear all the things commanded you by God."

³⁴Then Peter opened *his* mouth and said: “In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality. ³⁵“But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him. ³⁶“The word which *God* sent to the children of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ—He is Lord of all— ³⁷“that word you know, which was proclaimed throughout all Judea, and began from Galilee after the baptism which John preached: ³⁸“how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him. ³⁹“And we are witnesses of all things which He did both in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem, whom they killed by hanging on a tree. ⁴⁰“Him God raised up on the third day, and showed Him openly, ⁴¹“not to all the people, but to witnesses chosen before by God, *even* to us who ate and drank with Him after He arose from the dead. ⁴²“And He commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is He who was ordained by God *to be* Judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³“To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins.”

⁴⁴**While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word. ⁴⁵And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. ⁴⁶For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God. Then Peter answered, ⁴⁷“Can anyone forbid water, that these should not be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we *have*?” ⁴⁸And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then they asked him to stay a few days.**

Chapter 11

¹Now the apostles and brethren who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also received the word of God. ²And when Peter came up to Jerusalem, those of the circumcision contended with him, ³saying, “You went in to uncircumcised men and ate with them!” ⁴But Peter explained *it* to them in order from the beginning, saying: ⁵“I was in the city of Joppa praying; and in a trance I saw a vision, an object descending like a great sheet, let down from heaven by four corners; and it came to me. ⁶“When I observed it intently and considered, I saw four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, creeping things, and birds of the air. ⁷“And I heard a voice saying to me, ‘**Rise, Peter; kill and eat.**’ ⁸“But I said, ‘Not so, Lord! For nothing common or unclean has at any time entered my mouth.’ ⁹“But the voice answered me again from heaven, ‘**What God has cleansed you must not call common.**’ ¹⁰“Now this was done three times, and all were drawn up again into heaven. ¹¹“At that very moment, three men stood before the house where I was, having been sent to me from Caesarea. ¹²“Then the Spirit told me to go with them, doubting nothing. Moreover these six brethren accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. ¹³“And he told us how he had seen an angel standing in his house, who said to him, ‘Send men to Joppa, and call for Simon whose surname is Peter, ¹⁴‘who will tell you words by which you and all your household will be saved.’ ¹⁵“And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them, as upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶“**Then I remembered the word of the Lord, how He said, ‘John indeed baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’** ¹⁷“If therefore God gave them the same gift as *He gave* us when we believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could withstand God?” ¹⁸When they heard these things they became silent; and they

glorified God, saying, “Then God has also granted to the Gentiles repentance to life.”⁷²

Acts 19:6 -

⁶And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.⁷³

I Corinthians 12:1-11 -

¹Now concerning spiritual *gifts*, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant: ²You know that you were Gentiles, carried away to these dumb idols, however you were led. ³Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit. ⁴There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. ⁵There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. ⁶And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. **⁷But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: ⁸for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, ¹⁰to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another *different* kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.**⁷⁴

James 3:1-12 -

¹My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment. **²For we all stumble in many things. If anyone does not stumble in word, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body.** ³Indeed, we put bits in horses' mouths that they may obey us, and we turn their whole body. ⁴Look also at ships: although they are so large and are driven by fierce winds, they are turned by a very small rudder wherever the pilot desires. ⁵Even so the tongue is a little member and boasts great things. See how great a forest a little fire kindles! ⁶And the tongue *is* a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell. ⁷For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and creature of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by mankind. ⁸But no man can tame the tongue. *It is* an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹With it we bless our God and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the similitude of God. ¹⁰Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought

⁷²*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁷³*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁷⁴*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

not to be so. ¹¹Does a spring send forth fresh *water* and bitter from the same opening?
¹²Can a fig tree, my brethren, bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Thus no spring yields both salt water and fresh.⁷⁵

Revelation 2:11 -

³⁷“Judge not, and you shall not be judged. Condemn not, and you shall not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven.”⁷⁶

Revelation Chapter 20 -

Chapter 20

¹Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. ²He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is *the Devil and Satan*, and bound him for a thousand years; ³and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while.

⁴And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then *I saw* the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received *his* mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. ⁵But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This *is* the first resurrection. **⁶Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.**

⁷Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison ⁸and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number *is* as the sand of the sea. ⁹They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them. ¹⁰**The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet *are*. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.**

¹¹Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. ¹²And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is *the Book of Life*. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. ¹³The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. ¹⁴**Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of**

⁷⁵*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁷⁶*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

fire. This is the second death. ¹⁵And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.⁷⁷

Revelation 21:7-8 -

⁷“He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son. ⁸“**But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.**”⁷⁸

*The **Seventh Rule** of life is that to the wisdom of God we must add and **receive UNDERSTANDING from God**. Understanding is the second of three characteristics of God that He uses to do everything in the universe, (wisdom being the first). As we mentioned above, **understanding represents and comes from the Holy Spirit**. As with wisdom, there are two types of understanding that operate in the earth, one from God and one through the natural human mind, which is influenced by Satan. The latter of the two is limited and incapable of receiving the understanding of God. Thus the natural human mind is not able to grasp the deeper things of God, but is easily influenced by the devil. In order for us to truly comprehend the deeper things of God, we must receive this understanding from the Holy Spirit. **The understanding from God will also help us to obey Him, which is again the way that we express our love for Him. By obeying God and finishing the work that God has set forth for us to do, we will glorify God, which is one of the main reasons that He created us. Obeying God will lead us into eternal life through Jesus, (see rule number eight below, the handouts ‘UNDERSTANDING - the Key to Eternity’ and ‘Holy Spirit’, Psalm 111:10 above, Psalm 119:34, Vv. 130 and 144, Proverbs 3:5-6 and Vv. 19-20, 24:3-4, Isaiah 11:1-5, 40:28-31, Jeremiah 51:15, John 14:26, 17:4 and I John 2:27).***

Psalm 119:34 -

³⁴ **Give me understanding, and I shall keep Your law;**
Indeed, I shall observe it with my whole heart.⁷⁹

Psalm 119:130 -

¹³⁰ The entrance of Your words gives light;
It gives understanding to the simple.⁸⁰

⁷⁷*The Holy Bible, New King James Version, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.*

⁷⁸*The Holy Bible, New King James Version, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.*

⁷⁹*The Holy Bible, New King James Version, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.*

⁸⁰*The Holy Bible, New King James Version, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.*

Psalm 119:144 -

¹⁴⁴ The righteousness of Your testimonies *is* everlasting;
Give me understanding, and I shall live.⁸¹

Proverbs 3:5-6 -

⁵ Trust in the LORD with all your heart,
And **lean not on your own understanding;**
⁶ In all your ways acknowledge Him,
And He shall direct your paths.⁸²

Proverbs 3:19-20 -

¹⁹ The LORD by **wisdom** founded the earth;
By **understanding** He established the heavens;
²⁰ By His **knowledge** the depths were broken up,
And clouds drop down the dew.⁸³

Proverbs 24:3-4 -

³ Through **wisdom** a house is built,
And by **understanding** it is established;
⁴ By **knowledge** the rooms are filled
With all precious and pleasant riches.⁸⁴

Isaiah 11:1-5 - (*speaking of Jesus, which applies to those who abide in Him*)

¹ There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse,
And a Branch shall grow out of his roots.
² **The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him,
The Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
The Spirit of counsel and might,
The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.**
³ His delight *is* in the fear of the LORD,
And He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes,

⁸¹*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁸²*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁸³*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁸⁴*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

Nor decide by the hearing of His ears;
 4 But with righteousness He shall judge the poor,
 And decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
 He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth,
 And with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked.
 5 Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins,
 And faithfulness the belt of His waist.⁸⁵

Isaiah 40:28-31 -

28 Have you not known?
 Have you not heard?
 The everlasting God, the LORD,
 The Creator of the ends of the earth,
 Neither faints nor is weary.
His understanding is unsearchable.
 29 He gives power to the weak,
 And to *those who have* no might He increases strength.
 30 Even the youths shall faint and be weary,
 And the young men shall utterly fall,
 31 But those who wait on the LORD
 Shall renew *their* strength;
 They shall mount up with wings like eagles,
 They shall run and not be weary,
 They shall walk and not faint.⁸⁶

Jeremiah 51:15 - (*knowledge is power and the glory of God*)

15 He has made the earth by His **power**;
 He has established the world by His **wisdom**,
 And stretched out the heaven by His **understanding**.⁸⁷

John 14:26 -

²⁶“**But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.**⁸⁸

⁸⁵*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁸⁶*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁸⁷*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁸⁸*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

John 17:4 -

4^cI have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do.⁸⁹

I John 2:27 - (the anointing is the Holy Spirit)

²⁷But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as **the same anointing teaches you concerning all things**, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.⁹⁰

*The **Eighth Rule** to the game of life is that we must **get revelatory KNOWLEDGE from the God the Father so that we will have the mind of Christ**. Again, it is through wisdom, (Jesus), understanding, (the Holy Spirit) and knowledge, (the Father) that God does everything. It is also through these three characteristics that we should do everything as well, (see Proverbs 3:19-20 and 24:3-4 above). However, there are again two types of knowledge that operate in the earth as well as the two types of wisdom and understanding. One type of knowledge comes from God and the other is human knowledge, which is influenced by the devil. **If we walk according to the Spirit of God and not according to the flesh, then we will operate only in the wisdom, understanding and knowledge of God**. We will discount and leave alone the demonically directed human wisdom, understanding and knowledge that the world has to offer. **It is only through truly knowing God the Father and Jesus Christ that we have eternal life**. Wisdom, which represents Jesus, understanding, which represents the Holy Spirit and knowledge, which represents God the Father are all intertwined and inseparable, just as is the trinity. The order of these three characteristics of God is that one begins with wisdom and through understanding ends with the receipt of the knowledge of the Father, (i.e., the mind of Christ). Wisdom, understanding and knowledge that come from God are only given to those who fear God and seek after Him. The knowledge that comes from God the Father through the Holy Spirit will enlighten or illuminate our minds by the Spirit. In this sense the knowledge of God is the same as His glory. This will help us to **KNOW** the right thing to do in any given situation and use the wisdom and understanding that we have already received in order to be able to use the knowledge correctly. Through these three characteristics used properly and in order, by the grace or power of God from the Holy Spirit through Jesus, we will be able to actually **DO** the right thing. This is why it was a sin for Eve and Adam to eat of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, because it was out of God's order - they did not yet have the wisdom and understanding to use the knowledge 'rightly' or the power from the Holy Spirit to do the right thing. Thus, they were 'stealing' God's glory or knowledge, which is pride and this led to their destruction. Receiving the revelations from God, (i.e., the knowledge of the Father, which is in this case His glory) that lead us into knowing what He is doing in*

⁸⁹*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁹⁰*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

the earth is what leads us into perfection, (or maturity) in Christ. Even once we have received this revelatory knowledge of God in its proper order, it is imperative that we continue in obedience to God until either we die or Jesus comes back in order to stay saved. Only those who persevere in operating in the wisdom, understanding and knowledge of God will escape the great tribulation by being led into the wilderness, (i.e., 'Zion') all others will be exposed to the destruction of the great tribulation during which many Christians will be put in prison or killed, but even they must endure until the end in order to be saved. It is during the great tribulation that many believers, even some of those with understanding, will be refined and purified by the tribulation, (see the handouts, 'KNOWLEDGE - the Key to Perfection' and 'The Trouble That Lies Just Ahead' and the book, Who Said That You Should be Perfect?, Hebrews 10:26-39 above, Proverbs 1:20-2:22, 15:2 and v. 7, Jeremiah 3:14-15, 4:19-22, Daniel 2:20-23, 11:31-35, Matthew 10:16-42, chapter 24, John 15:5, 17:3 and Vv. 20-26, II Corinthians chapter 2, Revelation 3:10, chapter 7, 12:6 and Vv. 13-17 and 13:1-10).

Proverbs 1:20-2:22 - (wisdom speaks)

20 Wisdom calls aloud outside;
She raises her voice in the open squares.
21 She cries out in the chief concourses,
At the openings of the gates in the city
She speaks her words:
22 "How long, you simple ones, will you love simplicity?
For scorners delight in their scorning,
And fools hate knowledge.
23 Turn at my rebuke;
Surely I will pour out my spirit on you;
I will make my words known to you.
24 Because I have called and you refused,
I have stretched out my hand and no one regarded,
25 Because you disdained all my counsel,
And would have none of my rebuke,
26 I also will laugh at your calamity;
I will mock when your terror comes,
27 When your terror comes like a storm,
And your destruction comes like a whirlwind,
When distress and anguish come upon you.
28 "Then they will call on me, but I will not answer;
They will seek me diligently, but they will not find me.
29 Because they hated knowledge
And did not choose the fear of the LORD,
30 They would have none of my counsel
And despised my every rebuke.
31 Therefore they shall eat the fruit of their own way,
And be filled to the full with their own fancies.
32 For the turning away of the simple will slay them,

33 And the complacency of fools will destroy them;
But whoever listens to me will dwell safely,
And will be secure, without fear of evil.”

Chapter 2

1 My son, if you receive my words,
2 And treasure my commands within you,
3 So that you incline your ear to wisdom,
4 *And* apply your heart to understanding;
5 Yes, if you cry out for discernment,
6 *And* lift up your voice for understanding,
7 If you seek her as silver,
8 And search for her as *for* hidden treasures;
9 Then you will understand the fear of the LORD,
10 And find the knowledge of God.
11 **For the LORD gives wisdom;**
12 **From His mouth *come* knowledge and understanding;**
13 He stores up sound wisdom for the upright;
14 *He is* a shield to those who walk uprightly;
15 He guards the paths of justice,
16 And preserves the way of His saints.
17 Then you will understand righteousness and justice,
18 Equity *and* every good path.
19 When wisdom enters your heart,
20 And knowledge is pleasant to your soul,
21 Discretion will preserve you;
22 Understanding will keep you,
23 To deliver you from the way of evil,
24 From the man who speaks perverse things,
25 From those who leave the paths of uprightness
26 To walk in the ways of darkness;
27 Who rejoice in doing evil,
28 *And* delight in the perversity of the wicked;
29 Whose ways *are* crooked,
30 *And who are* devious in their paths;
31 To deliver you from the immoral woman,
32 From the seductress *who* flatters with her words,
33 Who forsakes the companion of her youth,
34 *And* forgets the covenant of her God.
35 For her house leads down to death,
36 *And* her paths to the dead;
37 None who go to her return,
38 Nor do they regain the paths of life—
39 So you may walk in the way of goodness,
40 *And* keep *to* the paths of righteousness.
41 For the upright will dwell in the land,

And the blameless will remain in it;
²² But the wicked will be cut off from the earth,
And the unfaithful will be uprooted from it.⁹¹

Proverbs 15:2 -

² **The tongue of the wise uses knowledge rightly,**
But the mouth of fools pours forth foolishness.⁹²

Proverbs 15:7 -

⁷ **The lips of the wise disperse knowledge,**
But the heart of the fool *does not do* so.⁹³

Proverbs 16:18 -

¹⁸ **Pride goes before destruction,**
And a haughty spirit before a fall.⁹⁴

Jeremiah 3:14-15 -

¹⁴“Return, O backsliding children,” says the LORD; “for I am married to you. I will take you, one from a city and two from a family, and I will bring you to Zion. ¹⁵“**And I will give you shepherds according to My heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.**⁹⁵

Jeremiah 4:19-22 -

¹⁹ O my soul, my soul!
I am pained in my very heart!
My heart makes a noise in me;
I cannot hold my peace,
Because you have heard, O my soul,
The sound of the trumpet,
The alarm of war.

⁹¹*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁹²*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁹³*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁹⁴*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁹⁵*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

20 **Destruction upon destruction is cried,
For the whole land is plundered.
Suddenly my tents are plundered,
And my curtains in a moment.**

21 **How long will I see the standard,
And hear the sound of the trumpet?**

22 **“For My people *are* foolish,
They have not known Me.
They *are* silly children,
And they have no understanding.
They *are* wise to do evil,
But to do good they have no knowledge.”**⁹⁶

Daniel 2:20-23 -

²⁰Daniel answered and said:

“Blessed be the name of God forever and ever,
For wisdom and might are His.

21 And He changes the times and the seasons;
He removes kings and raises up kings;
**He gives wisdom to the wise
And knowledge to those who have understanding.**

22 He reveals deep and secret things;
He knows what *is* in the darkness,
And light dwells with Him.

23 “I thank You and praise You,
O God of my fathers;
You have given me wisdom and might,
And have now made known to me what we asked of You,
For You have made known to us the king’s demand.”⁹⁷

Daniel 11:31-35 - (*speaking of the Antichrist*)

³¹“And forces shall be mustered by him, and they shall defile the sanctuary fortress; then they shall take away the daily *sacrifices*, and place *there* the abomination of desolation.
³²“Those who do wickedly against the covenant he shall corrupt with flattery; but the people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out *great exploits*.
³³“And those of the people who understand shall instruct many; yet *for many* days they shall fall by sword and flame, by captivity and plundering.
³⁴“Now when they fall, they shall be aided with a little help; but many shall join with them by intrigue.
³⁵“**And some of those of**

⁹⁶*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

⁹⁷*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

understanding shall fall, to refine them, purify *them*, and make *them* white, until the time of the end; because *it is still for the appointed time.*⁹⁸

Matthew 10:16-42 -

¹⁶“Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves. ¹⁷“But beware of men, for they will deliver you up to councils and scourge you in their synagogues. ¹⁸“You will be brought before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles. ¹⁹“But when they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you should speak. For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak; ²⁰“for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you. ²¹“Now brother will deliver up brother to death, and a father *his* child; and children will rise up against parents and cause them to be put to death. ²²“And you will be hated by all for My name’s sake. **But he who endures to the end will be saved.** ²³“When they persecute you in this city, flee to another. For assuredly, I say to you, you will not have gone through the cities of Israel before the Son of Man comes. ²⁴“A disciple is not above *his* teacher, nor a servant above his master. ²⁵“It is enough for a disciple that he be like his teacher, and a servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more *will they call* those of his household! ²⁶“Therefore do not fear them. For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known.

²⁷“Whatever I tell you in the dark, speak in the light; and what you hear in the ear, preach on the housetops. ²⁸“And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹“Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father’s will. ³⁰“But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. ³¹“Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.

³²“Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. ³³“But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.

³⁴“Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword. ³⁵“For I have come to ‘set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law’; ³⁶“and ‘a man’s enemies will be those of his *own* household.’ ³⁷“He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. ³⁸“And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. ³⁹“He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it.

⁴⁰“He who receives you receives Me, and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me. ⁴¹“He who receives a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet’s reward. And he who receives a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man’s reward. ⁴²“And whoever gives one of these little ones only a

cup of cold *water* in the name of a disciple, assuredly, I say to you, he shall by no means lose his reward.”⁹⁹

Matthew Chapter 24 -

Chapter 24

¹Then Jesus went out and departed from the temple, and His disciples came up to show Him the buildings of the temple. ²And Jesus said to them, “Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not *one* stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down.”

³Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, “Tell us, when will these things be? And what *will be* the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?” ⁴And Jesus answered and said to them: “Take heed that no one deceives you. ⁵“For many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and will deceive many. ⁶“And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all *these things* must come to pass, but the end is not yet. ⁷“For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. ⁸“All these *are* the beginning of sorrows. ⁹“Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name’s sake. ¹⁰“And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. ¹¹“Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. ¹²“And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. ¹³“**But he who endures to the end shall be saved.** ¹⁴“And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.

¹⁵“Therefore when you see the ‘abomination of desolation,’ spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place” (whoever reads, let him understand), ¹⁶“then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. ¹⁷“Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. ¹⁸“And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. ¹⁹“But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! ²⁰“And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath. ²¹“**For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be.** ²²“And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect’s sake those days will be shortened. ²³“Then if anyone says to you, ‘Look, here *is* the Christ!’ or ‘There!’ do not believe *it*. ²⁴“For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. ²⁵“See, I have told you beforehand. ²⁶“Therefore if they say to you, ‘Look, He is in the desert!’ do not go out; *or* ‘Look, *He is* in the inner rooms!’ do not believe *it*. ²⁷“For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. ²⁸“For wherever the carcass is, there the eagles will be gathered together.

²⁹“Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ³⁰“Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the

⁹⁹*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. ³¹“And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

³²“Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer *is* near. ³³“So you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near—at the doors! ³⁴“Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place. ³⁵“Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.

³⁶“But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only. ³⁷“But as the days of Noah *were*, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. ³⁸“For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, ³⁹“and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. ⁴⁰“Then two *men* will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. ⁴¹“Two *women* will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. ⁴²“Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. ⁴³“But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. ⁴⁴“Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

⁴⁵“Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season? ⁴⁶“Blessed *is* that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing. ⁴⁷“Assuredly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all his goods. ⁴⁸“But if that evil servant says in his heart, ‘My master is delaying his coming,’ ⁴⁹“and begins to beat *his* fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunkards, ⁵⁰“the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for *him* and at an hour that he is not aware of, ⁵¹“and will cut him in two and appoint *him* his portion with the hypocrites. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ¹⁰⁰

John 15:5 -

⁵“I am the vine, you *are* the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; **for without Me you can do nothing.** ¹⁰¹

John 17:3 -

³“And this is eternal life, that they may **know** You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. ¹⁰²

¹⁰⁰*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

¹⁰¹*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

¹⁰²*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

John 17:20-26 - (the *GLORY* of God here is in this instance the same as the *KNOWLEDGE* of the Father)

²⁰“I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; ²¹“that they all may be one, as You, Father, *are* in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. ²²“**And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one:** ²³“**I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.** ²⁴“Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. ²⁵“O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me. ²⁶“And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare *it*, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.”¹⁰³

II Corinthians Chapter 2 -

Chapter 2

¹And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the testimony of God. ²For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. ³I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling. ⁴And my speech and my preaching *were* not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

⁶**However, we speak wisdom among those who are mature, yet not the wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing.** ⁷**But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden *wisdom* which God ordained before the ages for our glory,** ⁸**which none of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.** ⁹But as it is written:

“Eye has not seen, nor ear heard,
Nor have entered into the heart of man
The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.”

¹⁰But God has revealed *them* to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. ¹¹For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. ¹²**Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.** ¹³**These things we also speak, not in words which man’s wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.** ¹⁴But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵But he who is

¹⁰³*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is *rightly* judged by no one. ¹⁶**For “who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?” But we have the mind of Christ.**¹⁰⁴

Revelation 3:10 -

¹⁰**“Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.** ¹⁰⁵

Revelation Chapter 7 -

Chapter 7

¹After these things I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, on the sea, or on any tree. ²Then I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God. And he cried with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea, ³saying, **“Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads.”** ⁴And I heard the number of those who were sealed. One hundred *and* forty-four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel *were* sealed:

- ⁵ of the tribe of Judah twelve thousand *were* sealed;
of the tribe of Reuben twelve thousand *were* sealed;
of the tribe of Gad twelve thousand *were* sealed;
- ⁶ of the tribe of Asher twelve thousand *were* sealed;
of the tribe of Naphtali twelve thousand *were* sealed;
of the tribe of Manasseh twelve thousand *were* sealed;
- ⁷ of the tribe of Simeon twelve thousand *were* sealed;
of the tribe of Levi twelve thousand *were* sealed;
of the tribe of Issachar twelve thousand *were* sealed;
- ⁸ of the tribe of Zebulun twelve thousand *were* sealed;
of the tribe of Joseph twelve thousand *were* sealed;
of the tribe of Benjamin twelve thousand *were* sealed.

⁹After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰and crying out with a loud voice, saying, “Salvation *belongs* to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!” ¹¹All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²saying:

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom,

¹⁰⁴*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

¹⁰⁵*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

Thanksgiving and honor and power and might,
Be to our God forever and ever.
Amen.”

¹³Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, “Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?” ¹⁴And I said to him, “Sir, you know.” So he said to me, “These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵“Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them. ¹⁶“They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; ¹⁷“for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”¹⁰⁶

Revelation 12:6 -

⁶Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days.¹⁰⁷

Revelation 12:13-17 -

¹³Now when the dragon saw that he had been cast to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male *Child*. ¹⁴But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent. ¹⁵So the serpent spewed water out of his mouth like a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away by the flood. ¹⁶But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed up the flood which the dragon had spewed out of his mouth. ¹⁷And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.¹⁰⁸

Revelation 13:1-10 -

¹Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name. ²Now the beast which I saw was like a leopard, his feet were like *the feet of* a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority. ³And *I saw* one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast. ⁴So they

¹⁰⁶*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

¹⁰⁷*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

¹⁰⁸*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who *is* like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?" ⁵**And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months.** ⁶Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven. ⁷**It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation.** ⁸All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. ⁹If anyone has an ear, let him hear. ¹⁰**He who leads into captivity shall go into captivity; he who kills with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.**¹⁰⁹

*The **Ninth Rule** and the final rule to the game of life is that we must put all of the rules of life into operation so that we can learn to continually walk in perfect love. Love is the ultimate culmination of ALL that God is doing in the earth through human beings. This is the message of the cross of Jesus Christ: love God and love our neighbor. These two things are the summation of God's commands. The vertical component of the cross represents our loving relationship with God. As we said, we show our love for God primarily by obeying Him. If we fear God more than we fear anything else, then we will put Him first in our lives and promptly do whatever He says. God commanded that we show love for our fellow man. **If we want to be perfect, then we need to show loving respect even to our enemies, (see Matthew 5:48 above).** Thus, once we receive and operate in the love of God, we can give that love back to God, (as represented by the vertical component of the cross) and only then can we operate in love towards our fellow human beings, (as represented by the horizontal component of the cross). We must first receive in the love of God, because we cannot give away something that we do not have. This is the main objective for every child of God on the planet. If we want to live forever in the presence of God, then we need to be like Him. That is we need to be perfect! This is not an option but rather is a directive of God, (see Matthew 5:48 above). However, God made humans in such a way that it is impossible for them to be perfect in and of themselves. He put in every human being the innate inability to obey Him perfectly. Thus, we need help to become perfect in God's eyes. God sent us that help in the form of His Son Jesus the Christ. It is only through our faith in and by abiding in Jesus, with the help of the Holy Spirit, that we can become perfect in God's sight. Jesus gives each of us one or more 'ministry gifts' in order to help us grow up together into perfection as a body or church. It will be necessary for the church at large to receive this truth and begin to operate in these gifts the way that God intended in order for the church to become perfected and allow the return of Jesus Christ for His 'bride'. The two ways for us to become perfected, as far as God is concerned, is to either to 'die in Jesus' or 'live in Him'. The latter we call the life in Christ, (i.e., 'dwelling in the secret place of the Most High'). If someone gets to the place of perfection in Jesus in this life, then they will have the advantage of all the promises of God in the Bible working automatically for them, especially those in Psalm 91. God will also give them great rewards in the next life, if*

¹⁰⁹*The Holy Bible, New King James Version, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.*

they faithfully do the work of the ministry in spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ, (see the handouts 'Life in Christ', 'The Path to Perfection', the book, Who Said That You Should be Perfect?, Hebrews 6:1-12 above, Psalm chapter 91, Matthew 22:34-40, I Corinthians 3:5-17, 12:31-14:1, Ephesians chapter 4, Colossians chapter 3, I John 2:3-11, chapters 3-5 and Revelation 19:6-16).

Psalm Chapter 91 -

Psalm 91

1 He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High
Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

2 I will say of the LORD, "*He is my refuge and my fortress;*
My God, in Him I will trust."

3 Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler
And from the perilous pestilence.

4 He shall cover you with His feathers,
And under His wings you shall take refuge;
His truth *shall be your* shield and buckler.

5 You shall not be afraid of the terror by night,
Nor of the arrow *that* flies by day,

6 *Nor* of the pestilence *that* walks in darkness,
Nor of the destruction *that* lays waste at noonday.

7 A thousand may fall at your side,
And ten thousand at your right hand;
But it shall not come near you.

8 Only with your eyes shall you look,
And see the reward of the wicked.

9 **Because you have made the LORD, *who is my refuge,***
Even the Most High, your dwelling place,

10 **No evil shall befall you,**
Nor shall any plague come near your dwelling;

11 For He shall give His angels charge over you,
To keep you in all your ways.

12 In *their* hands they shall bear you up,
Lest you dash your foot against a stone.

13 You shall tread upon the lion and the cobra,
The young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot.

14 "Because he has set his love upon Me, therefore I will deliver him;
I will set him on high, because he has known My name.

15 He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him;
I *will be* with him in trouble;
I will deliver him and honor him.

16 With long life I will satisfy him,

And show him My salvation.”¹¹⁰

Matthew 22:34-40 -

³⁴But when the Pharisees heard that He had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. ³⁵Then one of them, a lawyer, asked *Him a question*, testing Him, and saying, ³⁶“Teacher, which *is* the great commandment in the law?” ³⁷**Jesus said to him, “ ‘You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’** ³⁸**“This is *the* first and great commandment.** ³⁹**“And *the* second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’** ⁴⁰**“On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”**¹¹¹

I Corinthians 3:5-17 -

⁵Who then is Paul, and who *is* Apollos, but ministers through whom you believed, as the Lord gave to each one? ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. ⁷So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase. ⁸Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor. ⁹For we are God’s fellow workers; you are God’s field, *you are* God’s building. ¹⁰According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. **But let each one take heed how he builds on it.** ¹¹**For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.** ¹²**Now if anyone builds on this foundation *with* gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw,** ¹³**each one’s work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one’s work, of what sort it is.** ¹⁴**If anyone’s work which he has built on *it* endures, he will receive a reward.** ¹⁵**If anyone’s work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.** ¹⁶Do you not know that you are the temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you? ¹⁷If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which *temple* you are.¹¹²

I Corinthians 12:31-14:1 -

³¹But earnestly desire the best gifts. And yet **I show you a more excellent way.**

Chapter 13

¹Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. ²And though I have *the gift of* prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I

¹¹⁰*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

¹¹¹*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

¹¹²*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. ³And though I bestow all my goods to feed *the poor*, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing. ⁴**Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; ⁵does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; ⁶does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; ⁷bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.** ⁸Love never fails. But whether *there are* prophecies, they will fail; whether *there are* tongues, they will cease; whether *there is* knowledge, it will vanish away. ⁹For we know in part and we prophesy in part. ¹⁰But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away. ¹¹When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things. ¹²For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known. ¹³And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these *is* love.

Chapter 14

¹**Pursue love**, and desire spiritual *gifts*, but especially that you may prophesy. 113

Ephesians Chapter 4 -

Chapter 4

¹I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, ²with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, ³endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴*There is* one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism; ⁶one God and Father of all, who *is* above all, and through all, and in you all.

⁷**But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift.**
⁸**Therefore He says:**

**“When He ascended on high,
 He led captivity captive,
 And gave gifts to men.”**

⁹(Now this, “He ascended”—what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.) ¹¹And He Himself gave some *to be* apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, ¹²for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, ¹³till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; ¹⁴that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, ¹⁵but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is

113 *The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

the head—Christ—¹⁶from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

¹⁷This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, ¹⁸having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart; ¹⁹who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. ²⁰But you have not so learned Christ, ²¹if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: ²²that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, ²³and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, ²⁴and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

²⁵Therefore, putting away lying, “Let each one *of you* speak truth with his neighbor,” for we are members of one another. ²⁶“Be angry, and do not sin”: do not let the sun go down on your wrath, ²⁷nor give place to the devil. ²⁸Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with *his* hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need. ²⁹Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers. ³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. ³²And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ forgave you. 114

Colossians Chapter 3 -

Chapter 3

¹If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. ²Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. ³For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ *who is* our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory. ⁵Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, ⁷in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them. ⁸But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. ⁹Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, ¹⁰and have put on the new *man* who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, ¹¹where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave *nor* free, but Christ *is* all and in all.

¹²Therefore, as *the* elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; ¹³bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ

114 *The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

forgave you, so you also *must do*. ¹⁴But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. ¹⁵And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. ¹⁷And *whatever* you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

¹⁸Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. ¹⁹Husbands, love your wives and do not be bitter toward them. ²⁰Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord. ²¹Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged. ²²Bondservants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh, not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but in sincerity of heart, fearing God. ²³And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, ²⁴knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ. ²⁵But he who does wrong will be repaid for what he has done, and there is no partiality.115

I John 2:3-11 -

³Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. ⁴He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. ⁵But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. ⁶He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked. ⁷Brethren, I write no new commandment to you, but an old commandment which you have had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which you heard from the beginning. ⁸Again, a new commandment I write to you, which thing is true in Him and in you, because the darkness is passing away, and the true light is already shining. ⁹He who says he is in the light, and hates his brother, is in darkness until now. ¹⁰He who loves his brother abides in the light, and there is no cause for stumbling in him. ¹¹But he who hates his brother is in darkness and walks in darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.116

I John Chapters 3-5 -

Chapter 3

¹Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. ²Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see

115*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

116*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

Him as He is. ³And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

⁴Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness. ⁵And you know that He was manifested to take away our sins, and in Him there is no sin. ⁶Whoever abides in Him does not sin. Whoever sins has neither seen Him nor known Him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous. ⁸He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil. ⁹Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God.

¹⁰In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is he who does not love his brother. ¹¹For this is the message that you heard from the beginning, that we should love one another, ¹²not as Cain *who* was of the wicked one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his works were evil and his brother's righteous. ¹³Do not marvel, my brethren, if the world hates you. ¹⁴We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love *his* brother abides in death. ¹⁵Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

¹⁶By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down *our* lives for the brethren. ¹⁷But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him? ¹⁸My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth. ¹⁹And by this we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before Him. ²⁰For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things. ²¹Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God. ²²And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight. ²³And this is His commandment: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, as He gave us commandment.

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

Chapter 4

¹Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world. ²By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, ³and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the *spirit* of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world. ⁴**You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.** ⁵**They are of the world. Therefore they speak *as* of the world, and the world hears them.** ⁶**We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.**

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸He who does not love does not know God, for God is

love. ⁹In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

¹²No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us. ¹³By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son *as* Savior of the world. ¹⁵Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.

¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love. ¹⁹We love Him because He first loved us.

²⁰If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen? ²¹And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God *must* love his brother also.

Chapter 5

¹Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. ³For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome. ⁴For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. ⁵Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶This is He who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not only by water, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth. ⁷For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. ⁸And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one. ⁹If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater; for this is the witness of God which He has testified of His Son. ¹⁰He who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself; he who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of His Son. ¹¹And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. ¹²He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. ¹³These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may *continue* to believe in the name of the Son of God.

¹⁴Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. ¹⁵And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him. ¹⁶If anyone sees his brother sinning a sin *which does not lead* to death, he will ask, and He will give him life for those who

commit sin not *leading* to death. There is sin *leading* to death. I do not say that he should pray about that. ¹⁷All unrighteousness is sin, and there is sin not *leading* to death.

¹⁸**We know that whoever is born of God does not sin; but he who has been born of God keeps himself, and the wicked one does not touch him.** ¹⁹**We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies *under the sway of the wicked one.*** ²⁰**And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.** ²¹Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen. 117

Revelation 19:6-16 -

⁶And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, "Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns!" ⁷"Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready." ⁸And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. ⁹Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed *are* those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!'" And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God." ¹⁰And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "See *that you do not do that!* I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

¹¹Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. ¹²His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. ¹³He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. ¹⁴And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. ¹⁵Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. ¹⁶And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. 118

Thus the rules to the game of life are as follows:

1. **Fear God and nothing else.**
2. **Obey God promptly in ALL things, (for this we will need the help of Jesus and the Holy Spirit).**
3. **Repent of our sins, put our faith in God and receive salvation through Jesus Christ in order to be 'born again'.**
4. **Be baptized in water in the name of Jesus to symbolize the death of our 'old man' and our resurrection as a 'new creation' in Christ Jesus.**

117The Holy Bible, New King James Version, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

118The Holy Bible, New King James Version, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

5. ***Receive the wisdom of God which comes from the Holy Spirit through Jesus to help give us the answers to all the questions in life.***
6. ***Receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit and of fire from Jesus and go through the 'spiritual wilderness' in order to come out in the power of God and be able to walk according to the Spirit of God.***
7. ***Receive Understanding from the Holy Spirit so we can follow God's plan for us and can better cooperate with God to get His work done and thereby glorify Him.***
8. ***Receive the revelatory knowledge of God the Father with the mind of Christ for illumination from the Father, which is the key to moving into perfection into the life in Christ.***
9. ***Put all the above rules together and use ONLY the wisdom, understanding and knowledge that come from God, (not the human wisdom, understanding and knowledge of the world) in order to dwell or abide in the secret place of God, which is Jesus Christ. With the help of Jesus and by the power of the Holy Spirit, using the illumination of the Father, walk in perfect love - love for God and our fellow man. This is the message of the cross of Jesus Christ and IS the perfected 'life in Christ'.***

Though most people will never make it to the perfected state in Christ in this life, they can still make it into heaven, (which will be here on earth in the New Jerusalem) as long as they continually walk toward that goal and die 'in Christ', faithfully trying to fulfill that goal. This is the plan of God for His children as outlined in the Bible, but it is really not taught in its fullness in most Christian churches today. God is bringing back this message for our time. Let us believe and live by the rules of life that God has made for us so that we can move into perfection in Jesus Christ.