General Appendix

Futile Discussions

Futile discussions with evil people are foolish. Why have a discussion with evil, will that discussion remove the evil in that person? NO. Will that futile discussion bring to salvation? NO. So why have that discussion? It is a waist of their and your time.

Only discussions that bring out the Gospel will have power and meaning. Only discussions that reflect Jesus, God and the grace of God will be useful and wise.

All it does is waist your precious time.

EPH 5:1 "Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children [2] and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God."

EPH 5:3 "But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people. [4] Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving. [5] For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person--such a man is an idolater--has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. [6] Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient. [7] Therefore do not be partners with them."

EPH 5:8 "For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light [9] (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) [10] and find out what pleases the Lord. [11] Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. [12] For it is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. [13] But everything exposed by the light becomes visible, [14] for it is light that makes everything visible. This is why it is said:

> "Wake up, O sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.""

EPH 5:15 **"Be very careful, then, how you live--<u>not as unwise but as</u> <u>wise, [16] making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.</u> [17] Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. [18] Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit. [19] Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing** and make music in your heart to the Lord, [20] always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Why appease the devil? All he is doing is distracting you from doing the calling that God has for you. And when he wins battle, you get discouraged. So he wins the war.

No, be wise people and turn on the light.

2PE 3:17 "Therefore, dear friends, since you already know this, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of lawless men and fall from your secure position. [18] But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen."

1JN 1:1 "That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched--this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. [2] The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. [3] We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. [4] We write this to make our joy complete."

1JN 1:5 "This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. [6] If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. [7] But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin."

When we discuss the problems of movies like Harry Potter, you are appeasing the devil. When you discuss pornography you are appeasing the devil. In any of these discussions is Jesus being brought to light, is the Gospel being preached of discussed? NO.

You are trying to drive out the dark. You cannot drive out the dark, you only need to turn on the Light of God, Jesus and salvation, and then God will use his power to destroy evil. That is His job not ours.

Our only job is the great commission: the spreading of the Gospel.

1CO 4:18 "Some of you have become arrogant, as if I were not coming to you. [19] But I will come to you very soon, if the Lord is willing, and then I will find out not only how these arrogant people are talking, but what power they have. [20] **For the kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power.** [21] What do you prefer? Shall I come to you with a whip, or in love and with a gentle spirit?" And the power of God is in the Gospel, not empty discussions that do nothing but appease the devil of which the discussion is about.

1PE 3:8 "Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble. [9] Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult, but with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing. [10] For,

> "Whoever would love life and see good days must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from deceitful speech.

1PE 3:11 "He must turn from evil and do good; he must seek peace and pursue it."

1PE 3:12 "For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.""

1PE 3:13 "Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? [14] But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. "Do not fear what they fear; do not be frightened." [15] But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, [16] keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. [17] It is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. [18] For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit, [19] through whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison [20] who disobeyed long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, [21] and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also--not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a good conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, [22] who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand--with angels, authorities and powers in submission to Him."

1PE 4:1 "Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because he who has suffered in his body is done with sin. [2] As a result, he does not live the rest of his earthly life for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God. [3] For you have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do--living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry. [4] They think it strange that you do not plunge with them into the same flood of dissipation, and they heap abuse on you. [5] But they will have to give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the

dead. [6] For this is the reason the gospel was preached even to those who are now dead, so that they might be judged according to men in regard to the body, but live according to God in regard to the spirit."

1PE 4:7 "The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray. [8] Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. [9] Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. [10] Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. [11] If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen."

2PE 1:3 "His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and goodness. [4] Through these He has given us His very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires."

2PE 1:16 "We did not follow cleverly invented stories when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of His majesty. [17] For He received honor and glory from God the Father when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is My Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased." [18] We ourselves heard this voice that came from heaven when we were with Him on the sacred mountain."

Those that are His, that are the children of God will be protected by God so that those that are His will be kept save from evil of what they see and experience. So why fret about Harry Potter. It will not corrupt them, for God will protect them, but the do need to have the power of God, so they do need the Gospel. Anything else is futile.

1PE 1:3 "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, [4] and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade--kept in heaven for you, [5] who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. [6] In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. [7] These have come so that your faith--of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire-may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. [8] Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, [9] for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls."

EPH 1:15 "For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, [16] I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. [17] I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know Him better. [18] I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which He has called you, the riches of His glorious inheritance in the saints, [19] and His incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of His mighty strength, [20] which He exerted in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly realms, [21] far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. [22] And God placed all things under His feet and appointed Him to be head over everything for the church, [23] which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills everything in every way."

1TI 6:20 "Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to your care. Turn away from godless chatter and the opposing ideas of what is falsely called knowledge, [21] which some have professed and in so doing have wandered from the faith.

Grace be with you."

2TI 2:14 "Keep reminding them of these things. Warn them before God against quarreling about words; it is of no value, and only ruins those who listen. [15] Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth. [16] Avoid godless chatter, because those who indulge in it will become more and more ungodly. [17] Their teaching will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus, [18] who have wandered away from the truth. They say that the resurrection has already taken place, and they destroy the faith of some. [19] Nevertheless, God's solid foundation stands firm, sealed with this inscription: "The Lord knows those who are his," and, "Everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness.""

2TI 2:22 "Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. [23] **Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels.** [24] And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. [25] Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, [26] and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will." 2TI 3:1 "But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. [2] People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, [3] without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, [4] treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God-- [5] having a form of godliness but denying its power. **Have nothing to do with them.**"

2TI 3:6 "They are the kind who worm their way into homes and gain control over weak-willed women, who are loaded down with sins and are swayed by all kinds of evil desires, [7] always learning but never able to acknowledge the truth. [8] Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so also these men oppose the truth--men of depraved minds, who, as far as the faith is concerned, are rejected. [9] **But they will not get very far because, as in the case of those men, their folly will be clear to everyone**."

2TI 3:10 "You, however, know all about my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance, [11] persecutions, sufferings--what kinds of things happened to me in Antioch, Iconium and Lystra, the persecutions I endured. Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them. [12] In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, [13] while evil men and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. [14] But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, [15] and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. [16] All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, [17] so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."

2TI 4:1" In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of His appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: [2] **Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage--with great patience and careful instruction.** [3] For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. [4] They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. [5] But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry."

TIT 1:10 "For there are many rebellious people, mere talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision group. [11] They must be silenced, because they are ruining whole households by teaching things they ought not to teach--and that for the sake of dishonest gain. [12] Even one of their own prophets has said, "Cretans are always liars, evil brutes, lazy gluttons." [13] This testimony is true. Therefore, rebuke them sharply, so that they will be sound in the faith [14] and will pay no attention to Jewish myths or to the commands of

those who reject the truth. **[15] To the pure, all things are pure, but to those who are corrupted and do not believe, nothing is pure. In fact, both their minds and consciences are corrupted**. **[16]** They claim to know God, but by their actions they deny him. They are detestable, disobedient and unfit for doing anything good."

TIT 3:3 "At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. [4] But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, [5] He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of His mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, [6] whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, [7] so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. [8] **This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone."**

TIT 3:9 "But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and arguments and quarrels about the law, because these are unprofitable and useless. [10] Warn a divisive person once, and then warn him a second time. After that, have nothing to do with him. [11] You may be sure that such a man is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned."

People discuss and fight a futile fight against these obvious sinful things fearing that seeing, hearing or being exposed to these evil things will corrupt and entice and finally lead their children away from God and worse, they will seduce them to falling into and so becoming evil.

Well the truth is that God protects His own, I am a witness to that. He kept me out of becoming evil, not just a lost soul, but being on the side of the devil. He protected me and brought me to Him and saved me.

He used these evil things to show me the truth of the world and that He was the only way to stay safe. It was by His Spirit and His power that kept me safe. So it will be with all of God's own, all of God's children and all of God's sons and daughter.

But this evil in the world will entice those of it. All of those that are not God's children will relish and cherish and love these evil things. But discussing, protesting and fighting these evil things is futile, for unless this fight was ordained by God you will not have the power to do anything about it.

So be wise and foolish people, and be obedient in what He has called all people to do, turn on the Light. Spend you time in prayed seeking revelation on how to spread the Gospel using the power of the Kingdom of God, and then have meaningful discussions full of power of God.

Remembering that in all things we must talk like we are talking for God.

1PE 4:7 "The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and selfcontrolled so that you can pray. [8] Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. [9] Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. [10] Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. [11] If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen."

Sexual and Other Perversions

Many people have said that the bible does not say anything about such things like homosexuality and fortune-tellers and the such. Well hare are a few scriptures that actually do. NO, it does not use the word homosexuality, but it does use the definition of that word.

LEV 20:1 "The LORD said to Moses, [2] "Say to the Israelites: `Any Israelite or any alien living in Israel who gives any of his children to Molech (Moloch) must be put to death. The people of the community are to stone him. [3] I will set My face against that man and I will cut him off from his people; for by giving his children to Molech, (Moloch) he has defiled my sanctuary and profaned My holy name. [4] If the people of the community close their eyes when that man gives one of his children to Molech (Moloch) and they fail to put him to death, [5] I will set my face against that man and his family and will cut off from their people both him and all who follow him in prostituting themselves to Molech (Moloch).

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Mo·loch 🤨 🐠 (mō'lŏk', mŏl'ək) Pronunciation Key

n.

- 1. In the Bible, the god of the Canaanites and Phoenicians to whom children were sacrificed.
- 2. Something possessing the power to exact severe sacrifice.

LEV 20:6 " `I will set my face against the person who turns to mediums and spiritists to prostitute himself by following them, and I will cut him off from his people. (Fortune-tellers-soothsayers)

LEV 20:7 " `Consecrate yourselves and be holy, because I am the LORD your God. [8] Keep My decrees and follow them. I am the LORD, who makes you holy.

LEV 20:9 "`If anyone curses his father or mother, he must be put to death. He has cursed his father or his mother, and his blood will be on his own head.

LEV 20:10 "`If a man commits adultery with another man's wife--with the wife of his neighbor--both the adulterer and the adulteress must be put to death.

LEV 20:11 "`If a man sleeps with his father's wife, he has dishonored his father. Both the man and the woman must be put to death; their blood will be on their own heads.

LEV 20:12 "`If a man sleeps with his daughter-in-law, both of them must be put to death. What they have done is a perversion; their blood will be on their own heads.

LEV 20:13 " `If a man lies with a man as one lies with a woman, both of them have done what is <u>detestable</u>. They must be put to death; their blood will be on their own heads. (homosexuality—gays and lesbians)

LEV 20:14 "`If a man marries both a woman and her mother, it is wicked. Both he and they must be burned in the fire, so that no wickedness will be among you.

LEV 20:15 "`If a man has sexual relations with an animal, he must be put to death, and you must kill the animal.

LEV 20:16 "`If a woman approaches an animal to have sexual relations with it, kill both the woman and the animal. They must be put to death; their blood will be on their own heads.

LEV 20:17 " `If a man marries his sister, the daughter of either his father or his mother, and they have sexual relations, it is a disgrace. They must be cut off before the eyes of their people. He has dishonored his sister and will be held responsible. (Incest)

LEV 20:18 "`If a man lies with a woman during her monthly period and has sexual relations with her, he has exposed the source of her flow, and she has also uncovered it. Both of them must be cut off from their people.

LEV 20:19 " `Do not have sexual relations with the sister of either your mother or your father, for that would dishonor a close relative; both of you would be held responsible. (Incest)

LEV 20:20 " `If a man sleeps with his aunt, he has dishonored his uncle. They will be held responsible; they will die childless. (Incest)

LEV 20:21 "`If a man marries his brother's wife, it is an act of impurity; he has dishonored his brother. They will be childless.

LEV 20:22 " 'Keep all my decrees and laws and follow them, so that the land where I am bringing you to live may not vomit you out. [23] You must not live according to the customs of the nations I am going to drive out before you. Because they did all these things, I abhorred them. [24] But I said to you, "You will possess their land; I will give it to you as an inheritance, a land flowing with milk and honey." I am the LORD your God, who has set you apart from the nations.

LEV 20:25 " 'You must therefore make a distinction between clean and unclean animals and between unclean and clean birds. Do not defile yourselves by any animal or bird or anything that moves along the ground--those which I have set apart as unclean for you. [26] You are to be holy to me because I, the LORD, am holy, and I have set you apart from the nations to be my own.

LEV 20:27 " `A man or woman who is a medium or spiritist among you must be put to death. You are to stone them; their blood will be on their own heads.' " (Witch, wizard, fortune teller, psalmist, tarot cards, black and white magic)

Here is the New Testament version of some perversions.

RO 1:26 "Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. [27] In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion." (Homosexuality)

RO 1:28 "Furthermore, since they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, he gave them over to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done. [29] They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, [30] slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; [31] they are senseless, faithless, heartless, ruthless. [32] Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them."

Religious Misconceptions

What is a religion? God once told me this, "Religion is man's idea of how to worship God." Where worship means all things relating to God. We have many religions, both

General Appendix

Christian based and non-Christian based. A religions is when the origination is controlled by the religious spirit. It may seem Godly, but that church can be controlled by the religious spirit, which is why God requires that all of God's children by full of the Spirit so that they may not be deceived.

Different Religions

Christian based religions are: Catholic based, protestant based, and biblical based.

A denominational church is one that is like a corporation in that it has a corporate structure with rules and regulations, restrictions and penalties, it has a headquarter and, usually but not always, it has churches all over. Each church must run the way the headquarters says. They are all like the Catholic Church in that the Pope runs everything and there is a specific structure, rules and control of everyone who is a member of that organization. Here man is in complete control and not necessarily God. When man is in charge, all members are, usually but not always, living a lie.

These churches believe in God and His salvation, but they do not have faith in God for Him to help everyone, so they put lots of rules and regulations, requirements that everyone must be committed to the church, and that is then their commitment to God. This is a general statement, all are different and all have different problems, but in essence this is the problem of most good Christian churches.

Catholic-based religions are those that have a Catholic type of services (or Mass), which are like Catholics, Episcopalians, Presbyterian, Methodists and Lutherans.

Protestant based religions are those like the Baptists, Southern Baptists, Pentecostal, Assembly of God, Church of Christ, 4 Square and Full Gospel.

Biblical-based religions usually are non-denominational churches. Some one believed that God has called them to start a new independent church.

The non-Christian based religions are like Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Shinto, Confucianism, New Age, Unitarian, Bahai, New Age, and many others.

Next we have the Christian based cults: This is a group of churches that may call themselves Christians, use the Bible as their Sacred Scripture, and may even have the name of Christ in the title of their church... but they say that "Jesus is not God", or that Jesus Christ is god as much as you and I are god, like the Mormons.

- Mormons. The Church of Jesus Christ of the of Latter-day Saints
- Jehovah's Witnesses
- Moonies. Unification of Christianity...
- Christian Science Church.
- Church of Scientology.
- Children of God, Family of Love.

- Worldwide Church of God, of Armstrong.
- Spiritualism.
- Church Universal and Triumphant.
- Unitarianism... Universalism.
- Gnosticism, Neo-Gnosticism.
- Way International.
- Holy Order of MANS.
- Church of the Living God

Then of course we have the devil worship religions:

Satanism, witchcraft, Astrology, sorcery, voodoo, and many others. These of course we do not need to talk much about.

EX 22:18 "Do not allow a sorceress (witch) to live.

GAL 5:13 "You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love. [14] The entire law is summed up in a single command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." [15] If you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other."

GAL 5:16 "So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. [17] For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. [18] But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law."

GAL 5:19 "The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; [20] idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions [21] and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God."

Do not be deceived

All religions claim to be following the one true God. This claim has been going on since Adam and Eve. The devil told them that at the beginning of man and it was his down fall. Lets look at what God says happened, and the out come of their failure.

GE 2:25 "The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

GE 3:1 "Now the **serpent** was **more crafty** than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

GE 3:2 "The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, [3] but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'"

GE 3:4 "You will not surely die," the **serpent** said to the woman. [5] "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and **you will be like God**, knowing good and evil."

GE 3:6 "When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. [7] Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves."

GE 3:8 "Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. [9] But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?""

GE 3:10 "He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.""

GE 3:11 "And He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?""

GE 3:12 "The man said, "The woman you put here with me--she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.""

GE 3:13 "Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?"

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

GE 3:14 "So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this,

"Cursed are you above all the livestock and all the wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life."

GE 3:15 "And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."" GE 3:16 "To the woman he said,"I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing; with pain you will give birth to children.Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you.""

GE 3:17 "To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat of it,'

"**Cursed** is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life."

GE 3:18 "It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field."

GE 3:19 "By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return."

GE 3:20 "Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living."

GE 3:21 "The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them. [22] And the LORD God said, "The man has now become like one of Us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever." [23] So the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. [24] After He drove the man out, He placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.""

There was only 1 lie, and that is to be like God. This has been the theme of many religions. This is usually the heart of all non-Christian religions: To be like God. But as you can see here, that believing the deception of the devil, serpent, did not make it real or not. The only real thing is what God does or not. He is the creator not the devil or us.

She believed the devil, not God, and so they paid the price for all of us. They caused God to curse all of us. It is not belief as if it is magic that saves us. It is the belief in God and His gift that saves us. It is allowing God to replace our cursed evil spirit from Adam with a new, born again pure and holy spirit from God that makes us saved.

If the religion that you are in does not teach this and bring you to the place of repentance that allows God to replace your evil spirit with a new spirit that is holy and pure, then you are going to Hell not matter what you believe.

You can be the best person in the world, never sin, you give all of your money to the poor but if you are not Born Again, you are going to Hell.

EPH 2:1 "As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, [2] in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. [3] All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. [4] But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, [5] made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions--it is by grace you have been saved. [6] And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, [7] in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. [8] For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God--[9] not by works, so that no one can boast. [10] For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

You cannot buy this gift. You cannot believe this gift to you like magic. You cannot chant this gift, or use special prayers or whip yourself to death for this gift. Do not get me wrong. We need, we must do good works, but these works to not buy His gift, it is because we have the gift of life that we do good works as James says:

JAS 2:14 "What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? [15] Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. [16] If one of you says to him, "Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? [17] In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead."

JAS 2:18 "But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds (works)." Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do. [19] You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that--and shudder."

JAS 2:20 "You foolish man, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is useless? [21] Was not our ancestor Abraham considered righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? [22] You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did. [23] And the scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness," and he was called God's friend. [24] You see that a person is justified by what he does and not by faith alone." JAS 2:25 "In the same way, was not even Rahab the prostitute considered righteous for what she did when she gave lodging to the spies and sent them off in a different direction? [26] As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead.""

The Gift of Life is His to give and His to take away.

EX 33:17 "And the LORD said to Moses, "I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by name."

EX 33:18 Then Moses said, "Now show me Your glory."

EX 33:19 "And the LORD said, "I will cause all My goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim My name, the LORD, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. [20] But," He said, "you cannot see my face, for no one may see Me and live.""

And

RO 9:10 "Not only that, but Rebekah's children had one and the same father, our father Isaac. [11] Yet, before the twins were born or had done anything good or bad--in order that God's purpose in election might stand: [12] **not by works but by Him who calls**--she was told, "The older will serve the younger." [13] Just as it is written: "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated."

RO 9:14 "What then shall we say? Is God unjust? Not at all! [15] For He says to Moses,

"I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.""

RO 9:16 "It does not, therefore, depend on man's desire or effort, but on God's mercy. [17] For the Scripture says to Pharaoh: "I raised you up for this very purpose, that I might display My power in you and that My name might be proclaimed in all the earth." [18] Therefore God has mercy on whom He wants to have mercy, and He hardens whom He wants to harden."

RO 9:19 "One of you will say to me: "Then why does God still blame us? For who resists His will?" [20] But who are you, O man, to talk back to God? "Shall what is formed say to Him who formed it, `Why did you make me like this?! " [21] Does not the potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for noble purposes and some for common use?" RO 9:22 "What if God, choosing to show His wrath and make His power known, bore with great patience the objects of his wrath--prepared for destruction? [23] What if He did this to make the riches of His glory known to the objects of His mercy, whom He prepared in advance for glory-- [24] even us, whom He also called, not only from the Jews but also from the Gentiles? [25] As He says in Hosea:

> "I will call them `My people' who are not My people; and I will call her `My loved one' who is not My loved one,"

RO 9:26 and,

"It will happen that in the very place where it was said to them, 'You are not My people,'

they will be called `sons of the living God.' "

RO 9:27 "Isaiah cries out concerning Israel:"Though the number of the Israelites be like the sand by the sea, only the remnant will be saved."

RO 9:28 "For the Lord will carry out His sentence on earth with speed and finality."

RO 9:29 "It is just as Isaiah said previously: "Unless the Lord Almighty had left us descendants, we would have become like Sodom, we would have been like Gomorrah." "

God will do what is right for those He loves and for those who love Him. But you know the truth, because the Holy Spirit lives with the new Spirit that Lord has given you because you have received His gift of life.

Do not be despondent over others that have not seen the truth, because God is taking care of them too. For He knows them just like He knew Cain and Able and so He works accordingly with each of us.

But He warns us over and over in the Bible to not be deceived.

GAL 6:7 "Do not be **deceived**: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. [8] The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. [9] Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. [10] Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers." 1CO 5:12 "What business is it of mine to judge those outside the church? Are you not to judge those inside? [13] God will judge those outside. "Expel the wicked man from among you."

1CO 6:1 "If any of you has a dispute with another, dare he take it before the ungodly for judgment instead of before the saints? [2] Do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if you are to judge the world, are you not competent to judge trivial cases? [3] Do you not know that we will judge angels? How much more the things of this life! [4] Therefore, if you have disputes about such matters, appoint as judges even men of little account in the church! [5] I say this to shame you. Is it possible that there is nobody among you wise enough to judge a dispute between believers? [6] But instead, one brother goes to law against another--and this in front of unbelievers!"

1CO 6:7 "The very fact that you have lawsuits among you means you have been completely defeated already. Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be cheated? [8] Instead, you yourselves cheat and do wrong, and you do this to your brothers."

1CO 6:9 "Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be **deceived**: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders [10] nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. [11] And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God."

1CO 6:12 "Everything is permissible for me"--but not everything is beneficial. "Everything is permissible for me"--but I will not be mastered by anything. [13] "Food for the stomach and the stomach for food"--but God will destroy them both. The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. [14] By His power God raised the Lord from the dead, and He will raise us also. [15] Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never! [16] Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, "The two will become one flesh." [17] But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with him in spirit."

1CO 6:18 "Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. [19] Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; [20] you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body." MT 24:3 "As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately. "Tell us," they said, "when will this happen, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?""

MT 24:4 "Jesus answered: "Watch out that no one **deceives** you. [5] For many will come in My name, claiming, 'I am the Christ, ' and will **deceive** many. [6] You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. [7] Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. [8] All these are the beginning of birth pains."

MT 24:9 "Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of Me. [10] At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, [11] and many **false prophets** will appear and **deceive many people**. [12] Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, [13] **but he who stands firm to the end will be saved**. [14] And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come."

MT 24:15 "So when you see standing in the holy place `the abomination that causes desolation,' spoken of through the prophet Daniel--let the reader understand-- [16] then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. [17] Let no one on the roof of his house go down to take anything out of the house. [18] Let no one in the field go back to get his cloak. [19] How dreadful it will be in those days for pregnant women and nursing mothers! [20] Pray that your flight will not take place in winter or on the Sabbath. [21] For then there will be great distress, unequaled from the beginning of the world until now--and never to be equaled again. [22] If those days had not been cut short, no one would survive, but for the sake of the elect those days will be shortened. [23] At that time if anyone says to you, `Look, here is the Christ!' or, `There He is!' do not believe it. [24] For false Christs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and miracles to deceive even the elect--if that were possible. [25] See, I have told you ahead of time."

MT 24:26 "So if anyone tells you, `There He is, out in the desert,' do not go out; or, `Here He is, in the inner rooms,' do not believe it. [27] For as lightning that comes from the east is visible even in the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. [28] Wherever there is a carcass, there the vultures will gather."

MT 24:29 "Immediately after the distress of those days

`the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.'" MT 24:30 "At that time the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and all the nations of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory. [31] And He will send His angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other."

MT 24:32 "Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. [33] Even so, when you see all these things, you know that it is near, right at the door. [34] I tell you the truth, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. [35] Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away."

MT 24:36 "No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. [37] As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. [38] For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; [39] and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. [40] Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. [41] Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left."

MT 24:42 "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. [43] But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. [44] So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him."

MT 24:45 "Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom the master has put in charge of the servants in his household to give them their food at the proper time? [46] It will be good for that servant whose master finds him doing so when he returns. [47] I tell you the truth, he will put him in charge of all his possessions. [48] But suppose that servant is wicked and says to himself, 'My master is staying away a long time,' [49] and he then begins to beat his fellow servants and to eat and drink with drunkards. [50] The master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he is not aware of. [51] He will cut him to pieces and assign him a place with the hypocrites, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Lets look at a couple principle Christian religious misconceptions that are used to drive Christians apart.

Baptized in Water

General Appendix

One of these missed concepts is that if a person is baptized in water, he is automatically saved and a Christian. However, a person is not a Christian just because they are baptized in water. Anyone can do that. They do not have to be Born Again to be baptized in water. So the act itself does not constitute being Born Again. Baptism is a symbol to you and to the world. It is a symbol to show everyone that you are Born Again and so a Christian. Remember that you are saved by Grace it is a gift of God.

EPH 2:1 "As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, [2] in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. [3] All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. [4] But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, [5] made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions--it is by grace you have been saved. [6] And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, [7] in order that in the coming ages He might show the incomparable riches of His grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God--[9] not by works, so that no one can boast. [10] For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do?"

Not by Works!!!!! So baptism without faith (this is to receive the gift) is worthless. We do good works for God because we are saved; we do not do works to get saved. So if out of obedience to God, you are baptized then that is a good show of your faith.

Many churches believe in many strange and non-biblical things. This is a problem. But regardless of what they say or do, the Bible is the final say as to what God is really doing. If they are doing or requiring things that are not really Biblical, then you need to pray and seek God to find out if that is what He wants you to do.

But if there is a conflict, always go with the Bible first, for then God will shine His love, grace and mercy on you. For if you are led by the Spirit as in John 14, 15, and 16 (as in chapter 1 of this book) then, God will not condemn you. God will never leave or forsake you, but that does not mean you are in His perfect will and so that does not mean that He will answer your prayers (see chapter 7). The devil has many evil people in the church who have changed many things of God to trap you into believing a lie. Beware of these evil religious people in and out of the church.

Once Saved, Always Saved

Another missed concept is that once a person is saved then they are always saved. This is just not so. Beware of the consequences of not being like Jesus because contrary to many religions beliefs and customs, we can loose our salvation. We are not once saved always saved.

Again do not get me wrong. The Bible says:

DT 31:1 "Then Moses went out and spoke these words to all Israel: [2] "I am now a hundred and twenty years old and I am no longer able to lead you. The LORD has said to me, 'You shall not cross the Jordan.' [3] The LORD your God Himself will cross over ahead of you. He will destroy these nations before you, and you will take possession of their land. Joshua also will cross over ahead of you, as the LORD said. [4] And the LORD will do to them what He did to Sihon and Og, the kings of the Amorites, whom He destroyed along with their land. [5] The LORD will deliver them to you, and you must do to them all that I have commanded you. [6] Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; **He will never leave you nor forsake you."**

DT 31:7 Then Moses summoned Joshua and said to him in the presence of all Israel, "Be strong and courageous, for you must go with this people into the land that the LORD swore to their forefathers to give them, and you must divide it among them as their inheritance. [8] The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; **He will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.**"

HEB 12:28 "Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, [29] for our "God is a consuming fire."

HEB 13:1 "Keep on loving each other as brothers. [2] Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some people have entertained angels without knowing it. [3] Remember those in prison as if you were their fellow prisoners, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering."

HEB 13:4 "Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral. [5] Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said,

> "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.""

HEB 13:6 "So we say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?"" HEB 13:7 "Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith. [8] Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."

So if God will never leave or forsake you, then that means that He will guarentee that all of those who called on His will be saved. Right? Wrong. That is negating the idea of our free will. We have the right to reject God and all that He has done for us. We have the right to turn to evil and enjoy the pleasures of it. We have the free will to follow others even if they are wrong. We have our free will; we are not robots.

And to tell you the truth this is why much of the New Testament was written, to show us the how to live with God and keep our Crown of Life.

MT 7:13 "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. [14] **But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.**"

MT 7:15 "Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. [16] By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thorn bushes, or figs from thistles? [17] Likewise every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. [18] A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. [19] Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. [20] Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them."

MT 7:21 "Not everyone who says to me, `Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven. [22] Many will say to Me on that day, `Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' [23] Then I will tell them plainly, `I never knew you. Away from Me, you evildoers!'"

MT 7:24 "Therefore everyone who hears these Words of Mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. [25] The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. [26] But everyone who hears these Words of Mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. [27] **The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.**"

Here are a few scriptures to start with that shows that just because you now believe in God and that you have received your gift, does not mean that you can keep that gift. God has not problem in reclaiming His gift because you are not worthy of keeping it.

So before you continue, lets consider one very important thing: God is holy and pure. The purpose of Jesus sacrifice was to legally give God the right to forgive us and allow Him to purify and sanctify us to make us holy and pure. God wants us to live with Him. But He cannot and will not live with evil. The whole purpose is to remove all evil in us so that we can live with Him. If we sin after we are saved, then how can we be pure and holy. All sinning is evil. It is caused by evil and so if we sin we still have evil living in us. If evil is living in us, how can He live in us? NOT!! He cannot and will not live with evil.

JAS 1:2 "Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, [3] because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. [4] Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. [5] If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. [6] But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. [7] That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; [8] he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does."

JAS 1:9 "The brother in humble circumstances ought to take pride in his high position. [10] But the one who is rich should take pride in his low position, because he will pass away like a wild flower. [11] For the sun rises with scorching heat and withers the plant; its blossom falls and its beauty is destroyed. In the same way, the rich man will fade away even while he goes about his business."

JAS 1:12 "Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him."

REV 2:8 "To the angel of the church in Smyrna write:

These are the words of him who is the First and the Last, who died and came to life again. [9] I know your afflictions and your poverty--yet you are rich! I know the slander of those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. [10] Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. **Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life.**"

HEB 10:32 "Remember those earlier days after you had received the Light, when you stood your ground in a great contest in the face of suffering. [33] Sometimes you were publicly exposed to insult and persecution; at other times you stood side by side with those who were so treated. [34] You sympathized with those in prison and joyfully accepted the confiscation of your property, because you knew that you yourselves had better and lasting possessions." HEB 10:35 "So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded. [36] You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised. [37] For in just a very little while,

"He who is coming will come and will not delay.

HEB 10:38 "But My righteous one will live by faith. And if he shrinks back, I will not be pleased with him."

HEB 10:39 "But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who believe and are saved."

1PE 1:3 "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, [4] and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade--kept in heaven for you, [5] who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. [6] In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. [7] These have come so that your faith--of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire--may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. [8] Though you have not seen Him, you love Him; and even though you do not see Him now, you believe in Him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, [9] for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

1PE 1:10 "Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, [11] trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. [12] It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things."

1PE 1:13 "Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed. [14] As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. [15] But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; [16] for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy.""

1PE 3:8 "Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble. [9] Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult, but with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing. [10] For, "Whoever would love life and see good days must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from deceitful speech."

1PE 3:11 "He must turn from evil and do good; he must seek peace and pursue it."

1PE 3:12 "For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and His ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."

2PE 2:13 "They will be paid back with harm for the harm they have done. Their idea of pleasure is to carouse in broad daylight. They are blots and blemishes, reveling in their pleasures while they feast with you. [14] With eyes full of adultery, they never stop sinning; they seduce the unstable; they are experts in greed--an accursed brood! [15] **They have left the straight way and wandered off to follow the way of Balaam son of Beor, who loved the wages of wickedness.** [16] But he was rebuked for his wrongdoing by a donkey--a beast without speech--who spoke with a man's voice and restrained the prophet's madness."

2PE 2:17 "These men are springs without water and mists driven by a storm. Blackest darkness is reserved for them. [18] For they mouth empty, boastful words and, by appealing to the lustful desires of sinful human nature, they entice people who are just escaping from those who live in error. [19] They promise them freedom, while they themselves are slaves of depravity--for a man is a slave to whatever has mastered him. [20] If they have escaped the corruption of the world by knowing our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and are again entangled in it and overcome, they are worse off at the end than they were at the beginning. [21] It would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than to have known it and then to turn their backs on the sacred command that was passed on to them. [22] Of them the proverbs are true: "A dog returns to its vomit," and, "A sow that is washed goes back to her wallowing in the mud.""

2PE 3:1 "Dear friends, this is now my second letter to you. I have written both of them as reminders to stimulate you to wholesome thinking. [2] I want you to recall the words spoken in the past by the holy prophets and the command given by our Lord and Savior through your apostles."

2PE 3:3 "First of all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. [4] They will say, "Where is this `coming' He promised? Ever since our fathers died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation." [5] But they deliberately forget

that long ago by God's word the heavens existed and the earth was formed out of water and by water. [6] By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. [7] By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men."

2PE 3:8 "But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. [9] The Lord is not slow in keeping His promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance."

2PE 3:10 "But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare."

2PE 3:11 "Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives [12] as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. [13] But in keeping with His promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness."

2PE 3:14 "So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with Him. [15] Bear in mind that our Lord's patience means salvation, just as our dear brother Paul also wrote you with the wisdom that God gave him. [16] He writes the same way in all his letters, speaking in them of these matters. **His letters contain some things that are hard to understand, which ignorant and unstable people distort, as they do the other Scriptures, to their own destruction.**"

2PE 3:17 "Therefore, dear friends, since you already know this, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of lawless men and fall from your secure position. [18] But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen."

So if we are saved and yet we still sin, how can we be pure and holy? NOT. We are not saved. You will see that most of the New Testament is about keeping your crown of life. If God spends most of the New Testament writing about keeping your crown of life, then it is obvious that you can loose it and of course if you loose your crown of life you cannot go to heaven and you are not saved.

That is why you need and, to be very blunt, you must read the Bible, specifically the New Testament. For it tells you what you need to know about how to keep your crown of life.

To finish lets look at 2 more scriptures as a summary.

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MT 13:1 "That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. [2] Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. [3] Then He told them many things in parables, saying: "A farmer went out to sow his seed. [4] As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. [5] Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. [6] But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. [7] Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. [8] Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop--a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. [9] He who has ears, let him hear."

MT 13:10 The disciples came to him and asked, "Why do you speak to the people in parables?"

MT 13:11 He replied, "The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them. [12] Whoever has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him. [13] This is why I speak to them in parables:

"Though seeing, they do not see; though hearing, they do not hear or understand."

MT 13:14 "In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah: " `You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving."

MT 13:15 "For this people's heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them."

MT 13:16 "But blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear. [17] For I tell you the truth, many prophets and righteous men longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it."

MT 13:18 "Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: [19] When anyone hears the Message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is the seed sown along the path. [20] The one who received the seed that fell on rocky places is the man who hears the Word and at once receives it with joy. [21] But since he has no root, he lasts only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, he quickly falls away. [22] The one who received the Seed that fell among the thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke it, making it unfruitful. [23] But the one who received the Seed that fell on good soil is the man who hears the Word and understands it. He produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown."

MT 13:24 "Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. [25] But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. [26] When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared."

MT 13:27 "The owner's servants came to him and said, `Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?'

MT 13:28 " `An enemy did this,' he replied. "The servants asked him, `Do you want us to go and pull them up?'

MT 13:29 " 'No,' He answered, 'because while you are pulling the weeds, you may root up the wheat with them. [30] Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.' "

So the seed is the Word and Message from God of salvation. When the seed sprouts, is the same as someone being saved? Then if the sprout dies, that means the person has lost his salvation for the various reasons Jesus gives here.

Finally, here is what we need to always do.

REV 3:7 "To the angel of the church in Philadelphia write:

These are the Words of Him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What He opens no one can shut, and what He shuts no one can open. [8]1 know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut. I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept My Word and have not denied My name. [9] I will make those who are of the synagogue of Satan, who claim to be Jews though they are not, but are liars--I will make them come and fall down at your feet and acknowledge that I have loved you. [10] Since you have kept My command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come upon the whole world to test those who live on the earth.

REV 3:11 I am coming soon. <u>Hold on to what you have, so that no</u> <u>one will take your crown.</u> [12] <u>Him who overcomes I will make a pillar in the</u> temple of My God. Never again will he leave it. I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the new Jerusalem, which is coming down out of heaven from My God; and I will also write on him My new name. [13] He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

Finally always remember:

JAS 1:12 "Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love Him."

This is also what the rest the Bible is about; how to keep your crown of LIFE.

There are many others such as Baptism of the Holy Spirit and what He does today; are there Prophets and Apostles and healers. Baptism for the dead, the list goes on. There are many good books written on non-Christian cults and Christian cults.

Inner Healing

Once you are healed by God you are healed and of the things from the past. That does not mean that you are healed for all things to come.

But once you are healed then we need to look forward and stop thinking of the past, for it is gone and forgiven. If you continue to try to get inner healing then, how can you say you were healed when you are going it again and again. If you constantly are doing this then you cannot tell me you have faith, for it seems that in constantly doing this, you do not believe that God has healed you.

2PE 1:5 "For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; [6] and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; [7] and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. [8] For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. [9] But if anyone does not have them, he is nearsighted and blind, and has forgotten that he has been cleansed from his past sins."

1CO 13:8 "Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. [9] For we know in part and we prophesy in part, [10] but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears. [11] When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. **When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me.** [12] Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known."

1CO 13:13 "And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love."

1CO 14:1 "Follow the way of love and eagerly desire spiritual gifts, especially the gift of prophecy. [2] For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God. Indeed, no one understands him; he utters mysteries with his spirit. [3] But everyone who prophesies speaks to men for their strengthening, encouragement and comfort. [4] He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church. [5] I would like every one of you to speak in tongues, but I would rather have you prophesy. He who prophesies is greater than one who speaks in tongues, unless he interprets, so that the church may be edified."

PHP 3:7 "But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. [8] What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ [9] and be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ--the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith. [10] I want to know Christ and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in His sufferings, becoming like Him in his death, [11] and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead".

PHP 3:12 "Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. [13] Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, [14] I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

PHP 3:15 "All of us who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you. [16] Only let us live up to what we have already attained."

HEB 12:4 "In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. [5] And you have forgotten that word of encouragement that addresses you as sons:

"My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when He rebukes you,

HEB 12:6 because the Lord disciplines those He loves, and He punishes everyone he accepts as a son." HEB 12:7 "Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as sons. For what son is not disciplined by his father? [8] If you are not disciplined (and everyone undergoes discipline), then you are illegitimate children and not true sons. [9] Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of our spirits and live! [10] Our fathers disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, that we may share in His holiness. [11] No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it."

HEB 12:12 "Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees. [13] "Make level paths for your feet," so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed."

ISA 43:24 'You have not bought any fragrant calamus for me, or lavished on me the fat of your sacrifices. But you have burdened me with your sins and wearied me with your offenses."

ISA 43:25 "I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions, for My own sake, and remembers your sins no more."

ISA 43:26 "Review the past for Me, let us argue the matter together; state the case for your innocence."

HEB 10:15 "The Holy Spirit also testifies to us about this. First He says:

HEB 10:16 "This is the covenant I will make with them after that time, says the Lord.I will put My laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds."

HEB 10:17 Then He adds:

"Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more."

HEB 10:18 "And where these have been forgiven, there is no longer any sacrifice for sin."

HEB 10:19 "Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, [20] by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, [21] and since we have a great priest over

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the house of God, [22] let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. [23] Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful. [24] And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. [25] Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

HEB 10:26 "If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, [27] but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God. [28] Anyone who rejected the law of Moses died without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. [29] How much more severely do you think a man deserves to be punished who has trampled the Son of God under foot, who has treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant that sanctified him, and who has insulted the Spirit of grace? [30] For we know him who said, "It is Mine to avenge; I will repay," and again, "The Lord will judge His people." [31] It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God."

HEB 10:32 "Remember those earlier days after you had received the light, when you stood your ground in a great contest in the face of suffering. [33] Sometimes you were publicly exposed to insult and persecution; at other times you stood side by side with those who were so treated. [34] You sympathized with those in prison and joyfully accepted the confiscation of your property, because you knew that you yourselves had better and lasting possessions."

HEB 10:35 "So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded. [36] You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised. [37] For in just a very little while,

"He who is coming will come and will not delay.

HEB 10:38 "But my righteous one will live by faith. And if he shrinks back, I will not be pleased with him."

HEB 10:39 "But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who believe and are saved."

Finally, this is the whole purpose of being Born again. Once you are Born again, then you have the total inner healing, and to go back and do it again is like Lot's wife who turned into a pillar of salt.

At this point you need to do as Paul says

PHP 3:12 "Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. [13] Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, [14] I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

Conclusion

But the Key is what Paul says in Galatians:

GAL 5:16 "So I say, **live by the Spirit**, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. [17] For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. [18] But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law."

This means that everyone who lives by the law lives by works and not faith. And without faith you cannot receive the Gift of life and so you will receive the gift of death, in Hell instead.

This is why we discussed in such detail about John 14, 15, and 16. See Chapter **3** God's Great Secret is: The Holy Spirit.

For it will be by the Holy Spirit in you that will tell the difference between Godly People or not.

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