

## FAVOR IN THE EYES OF THE LORD

After Noah was 500 years old, he became the father of Shem, Ham and Japheth. When men began to increase in number on the earth and daughters were born to them, the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful, and they married any of them they chose. Then the Lord said:

"My Spirit will not contend with man forever, for he is mortal; his days will be a hundred and twenty years."

The Nephilim were on the earth in those days — and also afterward — when the sons of God went to the daughters of men and had children by them. They were the heroes of old, men of renown.

The Lord saw how great man's wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time. The Lord was grieved that He had made man on the earth, and His heart was filled with pain. So the Lord said:

"I will wipe mankind, whom I have created, from the face of the earth – men and animals, and creatures that move along the ground, and birds of the air – for I am grieved that I have made them."

But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord (Gen 5:32-6:9).



As a layperson, I have been studying Scripture for over 20 Years to gain knowledge of Jesus, and I believe I will be excavating meaning from the depths of God's Word throughout eternity.

The reason I can make such a bold statement God stands alone in His uniqueness as does the Hebrew alphabet. And when we look at words that are synonymous with uniqueness – distinctiveness, oneness, peculiarity, separateness, character, self-identity, nature – it becomes easier to appreciate how necessary it is for us to better understand the vast differences between Good and Evil and between our own prideful natures and God's nature of loving-kindness.

However, we live in a world filled with negativity, and as a result we have been forced to construct beliefs that keep us on a merry-go-round

of ups and downs. Why? Evil has been consumed producing within us mental and emotional instability.



Disobedience not only released all forms of wickedness to overrun the world; our own disobedience – defiance, rebellion, insubordination, perversity, self-will – allows evil desires to invade and assault and wage its war within our soul.

The existence of God may be denied, rejected and ignored, but Truth will always make His presence known. Jesus has told us:

“I say Satan fall like lightning from heaven. How he fell from heaven that morning star, son of the dawn! He has been cast down to the earth because pride caused his heart to say:

I will ascend to heaven

I will raise my throne above the stars of God

I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly

I will ascend above the tops of the clouds

I will make myself like the Most High

“Though this is what his heart desired, he was brought down to the grave, to the depths of the pit.”

Luke 10:18, Isa. 14:12-15



Satan coveted God. He coveted the praise and honor and glory God receives. Disobedience has given him ample opportunity to delight in the advancement of his prideful ways to steal - plunder, seize, abduct; to destroy - deface, cripple, dismantle; and to kill - captivate, dispatch, decimate.

Because that forbidden fruit was bitten, evil has been able to blind our eyes (with desire) and deaden our heart (with pride), so we could neither see with our eyes (Gods' glory) nor understand with our heart (His goodness), nor turn so God could heal us (John 12:40) of the debilitating effects of our carnal nature.

This war between Good and Evil has been and continues to be waged all around us. Sadly, since the fall - and there is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God (Rom. 3:22-23) that same war has been and continues to also rage within us.

How natural (common, customary, habitual) it has become to be reckless and thoughtless and careless. And naturally (as a rule, routinely, matter-of-factly) Satan uses our carnality (self-indulgence) to ensure greed (covetousness, gluttony, selfishness), intemperance (extremism, unreasonableness, excessiveness) and wantonness (ferocity, brutality, inhumanity) results in our demise.



When there is no regard given to our spiritual well-being, and faith and hope and love is placed in self and others we are actually giving the source of pride, the devil, permission to do what he does so very well turn our lives inside out and upside down.

All that pridefulness produces: Self-confidence, self-reliance and self-satisfaction is like death and destruction for the eyes of man are never satisfied (Prov. 27:20). Yes, pride works to pump us up; but also to tear down our esteem so anger and doubt, mistrust and disbelief will grow.

All the negativity we unleash in the world has been and is being unleashed within us. Satan uses pridefulness against us. His desire is

for people to be hurled into the depths of hell for the doubt and dishonor and disbelief they exhibit for God's Word:

“Don't you realize that from the beginning of time, ever since people were first placed on the earth, the triumph of the wicked has been short-lived and the joy of the godless has been only temporary? “

“Though the pride of the godless reaches to the heavens, and their heads touch the clouds, yet they will vanish forever, thrown away like dung. They will fade like a dream and not be found. They will vanish like a vision in the night.”

“They enjoyed the sweet taste of wickedness, letting it melt under their tongue. They savored it, holding it long in their mouth. But suddenly the food in their bellies turns sour, a poisonous venom in their stomach.”

“The viper will kill them. They will never again enjoy streams of olive oil or rivers of milk and honey. Their wealth will not bring them everlasting joy.”

“Their prosperity will not endure. They will run into trouble and be overcome by misery. The arrow is pulled from their back. The terrors of death are upon them. Their treasures will be thrown into deepest darkness.”

“The heavens will reveal their guilt, and the earth will testify against them. God’s anger will descend on them in torrents. This is the reward that God gives the wicked. It is the inheritance decreed by God.”

Job 20:4-29 NLT



It is quite true the way to live a godly life is not an easy matter. But the answer lies in Jesus Who came to earth a man (1 Tim. 3:16 TLB). Yes, Jesus was 100% a man of flesh and blood; however, His nature (constitution, composition, heart and mind-set) was not of a carnal design, for the fullness of God dwelt within Him (Col. 1:19).

It was Holy Spirit Who came upon Mary, and the power of the Most High that overshadowed her. So the baby she birthed was holy and called the Son of God (Luke 1:35 NLT).

Phil. 2:6-8 (NLT) tells us: Jesus being in His very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped; instead, He gave up His divine privileges and took the humble position and nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. Though Jesus was 100% God, He appeared in human form and humbled Himself in obedience to God – even death on a cross!



Jesus placed His faith and hope and love in His Father. And He boldly proclaimed:

“The One Who sent Me is with Me, He has not left me alone, for I always do what pleases Him.”

John 8:29

Jesus died in the weakness of His flesh, but rose in strength and power, might and glory so we could know what Love is (1 John 3:16). The Alpha and the Omega, the One Who is, and Who was and Who is to come, the Almighty (Rev. 1:8) laid His life down. No one took His life from Him, He voluntarily laid it down (John 10:18 AMP).



There are three that testify and are in agreement: the Spirit, the water and the blood (1 John 5:7). God is spirit (John 4:24), and when His kindness and love appeared He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by Holy Spirit (Titus 3:5). This water God gives will become in us a spring of water welling up to eternal life (John 4:14) because of Jesus, Who sacrificed for our sins once for all mankind, when He offered His life blood (Heb. 7:27).



Beloved, please don't allow yourself to be carried about by various and strange doctrines. It is good that the heart be established and strengthened by grace (Heb. 13:9 NKJV). For those committed to God and to His Word of Grace, can be built up and given an inheritance among all who are sanctified (Acts 20:32) by God's Word of Truth (John 17:17).

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever (Heb. 13:8), and by one sacrifice He has made perfect forever those who are being made holy (Heb. 10:14). Those who have chosen to be washed by the water of the Word; who believe they have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of His Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 6:11).

For those sanctified in God's Word of Truth are called to be holy, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of Jesus, as their Lord and Savior (1 Cor. 1:2). By the name of Jesus and by the Spirit of our God we have been justified (1 Cor. 6:11).



Those who have been justified believe God is in the Light, and if we walk in the Light the blood of Jesus, God's Son, purifies us from all sin (1 John 1:7). Why? Because we were chosen for obedience to Christ Jesus, and have been cleansed by the sprinkling of His blood (1 Peter 1:2 NLT).

Our faith and trust, our hope and obedience are given to the One Who carried His own cross. Jesus went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). Here they crucified Him, and with Him two others – one on each side and Jesus in the middle. (John 19:17-18).

Those who are being sanctified believe they could never be saved, for what work could be good enough. One may ask, "Who then can be saved?" These same three crosses will always testify; With man this is impossible, but not with God, with Him all things are possible (Mark 10:26-17).



In the days of the Old Testament the high priest carried the blood of animals into the Most Holy Place as a sin offering, but the bodies were burned outside the camp. Jesus also suffered outside the city gate to make people holy through His own blood (Heb. 13:11-12).

Jesus did not enter the Most Holy Place by means of the blood of goats and calves, He carried His own blood once for all times and secured our redemption forever (Heb. 9:12 NLT).

Jesus made a choice that in every circumstance God would be glorified through His obedience. The consequence of disobedience is death; therefore, man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment (Heb. 9:27).

BUT our heavenly Father, by His grace He saved us from the penalty of disobedience – eternal separation from Him. In His love and kindness He declares those who believe Jesus died a sinless man, and rose up God to judge and to save all the afflicted of the land (Ps. 76:9) have been declared righteous and have been given confidence that we will inherit life eternal (Titus 3:7 NLT).



If under the old system, the sprinkling of the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer were used for the purifying of the flesh, to sanctify, how much more shall the blood of Christ, Who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse our conscience from dead works to serve for the glory of the living God? For this very reason Jesus is the Mediator of the New Covenant, by means of His death and resurrection (Heb. 9:13-15 NKJV).

So you see, there are only two choices – when death has come to take our bodies will we be standing on the right side of Jesus or on His left. When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, He will sit on His throne in heavenly glory.

All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on His right and the goats on His left.

Then the King of Glory will say to those on His right:

“Come, you who are blessed by My Father, take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world.”

However, there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth for those on His left for He will say to them:

“You who are cursed, depart from Me into the darkness, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.”

Matt. 25:30,31&41



We should be training ourselves to look for Jesus everywhere and in everyone. For He said:

“I tell you the truth, when you see the hungry and feed them; when give someone who is thirsty something to drink; when you invite a stranger in; when you give clothes to those in need; when you look after the sick and visit those in prison; whatever you are doing for the least of these brethren of Mine, you have done for Me.”

Matt. 25:37-39



The Light of the World has risen to perpetually shine all His brilliant glory that Truth could be seen in God's Word, that the mighty power of God's Spirit of Grace could be known and God's unfailing love could be personally experienced.

The spotless Lamb of God, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed (Rev. 5:5) and He will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for Him (Heb. 9:27-28) to those who have not allowed themselves to be deceived or misled.



Since the beginning of time the enemy has not changed his tactics. Though our bodies age and die, Satan uses deceit and temptation and fear to cause a prideful heart to face death a second time.

Though Satan thought one bite of that forbidden fruit would cause God's beauties to never wake again; thankfully which seems such a modest offering, for what God purposed (intended, planned, accomplished) so we could once again walk with Him.

However, it has yet to be determined who God will deliver from such a horrendous fate - facing death a second time. Yes, God made atonement for the radical breach sin caused in our unity with Him, which spared the physical lives of His peculiar creations, for life is in the blood (Lev. 17:11).



There is much to understand about this word “atonement” for it expresses this great truth “At - One - Ment.” Because of God’s eternal love and grace and faithfulness, His act of atonement made it possible for mankind to be reinstated to a relationship of at-one-ment with Him, in spite of sin (Nelson’s Illustrated Bible Dictionary).

The Hebrew meaning of this word “atonement” - to “cover”, hence expiate, condone, cancel, placate; to “offer,” or “receive a sin offering,” hence make atonement, appease, propitiate; “effect reconciliation,” i.e. by some conduct, or course of action.

The Greek meaning for “atonement” - “to be,” or “cause to be, friendly,” “to render other,” hence to restore to another (former) condition of harmony; “to leave” and with preposition “off,” i.e. to

leave off enmity, or evil.; “to render holy,” “to set apart for,” hence, of the Deity, to appropriate or accept for Himself.

The basic conception for the biblical doctrine of atonement is God and man are one in life and interests that in all respects share a harmonious relationship, at-one. Therefore, approach God recognizing the breach sin caused needs healing, and so always come with an offering (from International Standard Bible Encyclopedia).

Those who truly come to understand the awesome (amazing, eye opening, incredible) holiness of God’s wrath, and the terrible (dire, intense, thorough) hopelessness that comes from personal sin would not fail to be overwhelmed by the deep love of God which Christ revealed for the world to see, and the wonder of God’s gracious gift of eternal atonement reconciling us to Himself through Jesus (Rom. 5:11).



The word “atonement” infers suffering and death will occur for only by these means is reconciliation brought about. Therefore, making atonement is to make satisfaction for the offense of sin, a means to reconcile, to propitiate (appease, assuage, disarm) the wrath of God in our behalf.



God never intended for us to live with sin and suffering and death. The evil of self-interest ensured that sin and suffering and death would become prominently and publicly displayed in this world because pride infiltrated and took prominence in the very private chambers of our heart.

God's Word tells us to go and learn what it means:

“God desires mercy, not sacrifice!”

Matt. 9:13

Let us glean meaning from this section of Genesis 5:32-6:9. The name of Noah means rest, quiet, to dwell, stay, let fall, place, let alone, withdraw, give comfort, etc.

God knows this world consumed by self-centeredness causes us to become weary and burdened. Throughout the generations He has invited mankind to come to Him. Jesus invites us to take His yoke of Truth upon ourselves and learn from Him. God tells us He is gentle and humble in heart. That we will find rest for our souls because the yoke of Life is easy, not complicated or complex, and His burden of grace is light (radiates, enkindles, ignites) Matt. 11:28-30.



Let us gather meaning from the name of Noah as we would kindling, so the Spirit of Truth can breathe on it until a fire is sparked within our soul:

“Jesus lived on earth as a man of peace and rest, and He gives rest on every side from your enemies. God has established the Lord’s throne forever. May He give you discretion and understanding so that you may heed the teaching of the Lord your God.”

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or discouraged; let not your hands be weak. The Lord your God is in your midst, the Mighty One will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing. Take refuge in the shelter of His wings.”

“Devote your heart to Him and stretch out your hands to Him. If you put away the sin that is in your hand, and allow no evil to dwell in your home, then you will lift up your face

without shame; you will stand firm and without fear. You will surely forget your trouble, recalling it only as waters gone by. Life will be brighter than noonday, and darkness will become like morning. You will be secure, because there is hope. But the eyes of the wicked will fail and escape will elude them; their hope will become a dying gasp.”

“Jesus came into the world as a light, so no one who believes in Him should stay in darkness. He is the Lord, and there is no other. Let fall in showers, you heavens from above, and let the clouds pour down righteousness; let the earth open up and salvation bear fruit, and righteousness – heaven-born possibilities that have their foundation in the holy being of God – spring up with it. Woe to the one who quarrels with His Maker – an earthen vessel among the vessels of the earth.”

“The Lord’s eyes are on the ways of all people, He sees their every step. There is no dark place, no deep shadow, where evildoers can hide. Can anyone draw Leviathan out with a hook? If you laid hands upon that dragon you would long remember the battle that would ensue, and you would never try it again. It is useless to try to capture the enemy of Light.

No one dares to stir him up, let alone try to conquer him. If no one can stand before him, who can stand before God? Who owes no one anything. Everything under the heaven is His.”

“Yet, multitudes, multitudes are in the valley of decision! The day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision. The sun and the moon are darkened and the stars withdraw their shining. The Lord will thunder and roar from Zion and utter His voice from Jerusalem, and the heavens and the earth shall shake. Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe; come, go down and tread the grapes, for the winepress is full; the vats overflow, for the wickedness of the people is great.”

“But the Lord will be a refuge for His people and a stronghold for the children of Israel. The high and lofty One Who inhabits eternity, the Holy One, Who lives where those with contrite, humble spirits dwell. He refreshes the humble, and gives new courage to those with a repentant heart.”

“All mankind would perish – the very souls that He has made. They have gone right on sinning, doing everything

their evil heart desires. Though He has seen what they do; yet, He will heal them. He will lead them and give comfort to them and to those who mourn for them. He will help them mourn and confess their sins. Peace, peace to them both near and far, for the Lord will heal them. But those who still reject Him are like the restless sea, which is never still, but always churns up mire and dirt. There is no peace for them.”

1 Chron. 22:9-13, Zeph. 3:16-17, Job 11:13-20, John 12:46, Isa. 45:6-9, Job 34:21-22, Job 41:8-11, Joel 3:13-16, Isa 57:15-21



From the name Shem we gain this meaning: a definite and conspicuous (bold, prominent, perceptible) position; an appellation (designation, surname, banner), as a mark or memorial of individuality, by implication honor, authority, character; to be lofty.

“Listen My beloved, has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and in their position as believers to inherit the kingdom which He promised those who love Him? Since you have such a hope, you should be very bold as lions. Not like Moses, who

would put a veil over his face to keep the people from gazing at it while the radiance faded away.”

“The first glory that shone from Moses’ face is worth nothing at all in comparison with the overwhelming glory of the New Covenant. If the old system that faded into nothing was full of heavenly glory, the glory of God’s plan for your salvation is certainly far greater, for it is eternal. Even now when Scriptures are read hearts and minds are covered by a thick veil because the real meaning cannot be seen or understood.”

“This veil of misunderstanding can only be removed when a person turns to the Lord. The Lord is the Spirit Who gives them life, and where He is there is freedom. Christians with unveiled faces reflect the Lord’s glory, and are being transformed into His likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes as the Spirit of the Lord works within them.”

“The Lord gives wisdom to those who are confused about life; who don’t know what’s going on. He invites them to come and eat the Bread of Life so they can leave their

impoverished confusion and live. Walk up and receive Life and really live.”

“For He Who comes from above is far above all others. Yes, He Who comes from above is far superior to all others in prominence and in excellence. He bears testimony to what He has actually seen and heard, and those who receive His testimony have set their seal of approval to this: God is true. Those who believe in the Son now possess eternal life.”

“Whoever lives by the Word of Truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen that what they have done has been done through God. Yet there are many who desire and seek perceptible proof of the Christ, Who speaks in and through them. Jesus is not weak and feeble in dealing with His Church. He is a mighty power within them.”

“Though Jesus was crucified in weakness, yet He goes on living by the power of God. And though you too are weak in Him as He was humanly weak, yet you shall show yourself alive and strong in fellowship with Him by the power of God.”

“So examine and test and evaluate your own self to see whether you are holding to your faith and showing the proper fruits of it. Test and prove yourself not Christ. Do you not realize and know Jesus Christ is in you? Or are you a counterfeit who will be disapproved on trial and rejected?”

“One who doesn’t understand Jesus has become a High Priest forever after the order of Melchisedec, the king of Salem; fatherless, motherless, having no genealogy, having no beginning of days nor termination of life, but likened in these respects in the historical record to the Son of God – Who has been given this designation King of Righteousness and King of Peace.”

“The Lord Who made you and formed you from the womb, He will help you. Fear not His servants those He has made upright. For He will pour water upon those who are thirsty, and floods upon this dry ground. He the Lord pours out His Spirit. One will say I am the Lord’s; another will call themselves by the name of Jacob; while another will write



upon their hand – I am the Lord’s, and surname themselves by the honorable name of Israel.”

“They delight to sit in the shade of the Lord, and His fruit is sweet to their taste. He will take them to the banquet hall, and His banner over them is Love. Mark the blameless and behold the upright, for there is a happy end for the ones of peace. As for transgressors, they shall be destroyed together. In the end the wicked will be cut off.”

“The salvation of the consistently righteous is of the Lord. He is their Refuge and secure Stronghold in the time of trouble. The Lord helps them and delivers them. Yes, their salvation and their honor depend on God! He delivers them from the wicked one and saves them for His name sake to prove the righteousness of His character, that He might make His mighty power known.

“Anyone who chooses to worship the beast and his image and receive his mark on the forehead or hand, they too will drink of the wine of God’s fury, which has been poured full strength into the cup of His wrath. They will be tormented

with burning sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and of the Lamb. The smoke of their torment rises forever and ever. There is no rest day or night for those who worship the beast and his image, or for anyone who receives the mark of his name. This calls for patient endurance on the part of God's saints who obey His Word and remain faithful to Christ."

"Those who understand God's works are so great, worth a lifetime of study with endless enjoyment. Splendor and beauty mark His craft. His generosity never gives out. His miracles are His memorial. This God of Grace, this God of Love gives Manna to those who fear Him. He remembered to keep His ancient promise. He paid the ransom for His people. He ordered His Covenant kept forever. He's so personal and holy, worthy of your respect. The good life begins in the fear of God. Do that and you'll know the blessing of God, for His Hallelujah lasts forever!"

"In his vision Daniel saw someone like a son of man coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient One and was led into the presence of Him, Who was given authority, honor and sovereignty over all the nations of the

world, so that people of every race and nation and language would obey God's Word. His rule is eternal – it will never end. His kingdom will never be destroyed.”

“God's secret plan has not been told to you with the use of lofty words or impressive worldly wisdom. It must be your decision to forget all else except Christ Jesus, Who was crucified. The wisdom spoken to you is the mystery of God – His plan that was previously hidden, even though He made it for your ultimate glory before the world began. The rulers of the world did not understand it, if they had, they never would have crucified the Lord. That is what the Scriptures meant, “No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who choose to love Him.”

James 2:5, Prov. 28:1, 2 Cor. 3:12-18, Prov. 9:3-6, John 3:31-36, John 3:19, 2 Cor. 13:2-5, Heb. 6:17-7:1, Isa. 44:2-6, SS 2:3-4, Ps. 37:37-40, Ps. 62:7, Ps. 106:8 AMP, Rev. 14:9-12, Ps. 111:2-10, Dan. 7:13-15, 1 Cor. 2:1-9



What meaning will we gain from God's Word for the name of Ham: hot, enflame-self, get (have) heat, warm.

“Among the people there was much whispered discussion and hot disputes about Jesus. Some said, ‘He is good!’ Others said, ‘No, He misleads and deceives people giving them false ideas.’ However, they were astonished at His learning saying, ‘How is this Man so versed in the sacred Scriptures and in theology when He has never studied?’”

“Jesus answered, “My teaching is not My own, but His Who sent Me. If anyone is willing to do God’s will, they shall know of the teaching, whether it is of God, or whether I speak from Myself. This is why I remind you to stir up – rekindle the embers of, fan the flame of, and keep burning – the gracious gift of God, the inner fire. For God did not give you a spirit of fear, He has given you a spirit of Love and Power and Self-Control.”

“Don’t blush or be ashamed to testify to and for the Lord. Take your share of the suffering, which testifying about the Gospel may expose you to, and do it in the power of God. For it is God Who delivers and saves and calls mankind with a calling that in itself is holy and leading to holiness.”

“God did this not because of anything of merit that a person could have done, but because of and to further His own purpose and grace which is given in Christ Jesus before the world began. It is that purpose and grace which God has made known and has fully disclosed and made real through the appearing of Jesus, Who annulled death and made it of no effect and brought life and immortality (immunity from eternal death) to light through the Gospel.”

“The Lord knows all the things you do. There are those who are neither hot nor cold. His wish is for them to be one or the other. But those who are like lukewarm water, neither hot nor cold, He will spit them out of His mouth. They say, ‘I am rich. I have everything I want. I don’t need a thing.’ They don’t realize they are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked.”

“The Lord advises them to buy gold from Him – gold that has been purified by fire. Then they will be rich. Also buy white garments from Him so they will not be shamed by their nakedness, and ointment for their eyes so they will be

able to see. Jesus corrects and disciplines everyone He loves. So be diligent and turn from indifference.”

“The Lord says, ‘Look! I stand at the door of your heart and knock. If you hear My voice and open the door, I will come in and we will share a meal together as friends.’”

John 7:12-17, 2 Tim. 1:6-10, Rev. 3:15-20



The name Japheth has this meaning: expansion, to open, be (to cause or make) roomy, usually figuratively in a mental or moral sense to be (to cause or make) simple or (in a sinister way) delude; allure, deceive, enlarge, persuade, silly (one). What references can be uncovered in God’s Word through the name of Japheth:

“Many will go here and there for the expansion of knowledge. Let the mind of the prudent ever get knowledge, for the Church to have peace and be edified as the whole of Judea and Galilee and Samaria once were, grow in wisdom and virtue and piety, walk in the respect and reverential fear of the Lord, in the consolation and exhortation of Holy Spirit.”

“A message sent to you by the One Who is holy and true and has the key of David to open what no one can shut and to shut what no one can open. God’s Message sent to open eyes to the true condition of humanity so people may repent and live in God’s Light instead of in the darkness of sin.”

“That forgiveness could be received, along with God’s inheritance for those whose sins are cleansed away, who are set apart by faith in Jesus. For people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned. God has enlarged the nation and increased their joy, they rejoice before the Lord.”

“God will break the chains of their slavery to sin, and lift the heavy burden from their shoulders. He will break the rod of the oppressor. In that glorious day of peace there will no longer be the issuing of battle gear, no more the blood-stained uniforms of war, all such will be burned.”

“For unto you a Child is born; unto you a Son is given. On His shoulders the government will rest. Embrace God’s Word – Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace – for His government and its peace will never end. With fairness and justice He will rule for all eternity from the throne of His ancestor David. This is going to happen because the Lord of Heaven’s Armies has dedicated Himself to do it. Yes, He is passionately committed to make this happen.”

“Let the ear of the wise ever seek knowledge. For though a person’s gift makes room for them, and may even bring them before great people, God’s gifts and His call are irrevocable they will never be withdrawn.”

“This truth I want you to know. Some Jews have set themselves against the Gospel, but this will last only until those from other nations have come to Christ. Then all Israel will be saved.”

“The prophets foretold out of Zion a Deliverer will come, and turn the Jews from all ungodliness. At that time He will



take away their sins, just as God promised. Now many Jews have made themselves an enemy of the Gospel, but this has been a benefit for others, for now God bestows His gifts to all the nations.”

“Because of His promise to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob the Jews are beloved of God, Who had to give all mankind up to sin. O what a wonderful God! How great His wisdom and knowledge and riches! Who among you rebels can know His mind?”

“Who can gain enough knowledge to be His counselor and guide? How impossible for you to understand His decisions, His judgments and His ways. Who could ever offer Him enough to act? For everything comes from God alone. Everything lives by His power, and everything is for His glory.”

“When God’s gifts were refused by the Jewish people, He was merciful and extended them to the nations of the world. Though the nation Israel has also now been disobedient, the

same mercy that is upon all races and tribes and languages and nations they too will share.”

“Leave your foolishness behind, learn to be wise and begin to live. A mocker when rebuked will give a smart retort, and snarl in anger when you try to help them. When a wise person is rebuked they appreciate you all the more for helping them gain more wisdom. And knowing God results in every other kind of understanding, for the reverence and fear of God are basic to all wisdom.”

“Fools turn away from God to death, their own complacency will kill them. Everyone who listens and heeds Truth sent from God shall live in peace and safety with faith greater than their fear. God’s words were written to teach His people how to live, how to act in every circumstance. He wants them to be understanding, just and fair in everything they do.”

“God’s words were written to make the simpleminded wise. He wants to warn young people about problems they will face, for in the heart of youngsters foolishness is bound. God’s words were written so those already wise would be

become wiser and become leaders by exploring the depths of meaning within these nuggets of truth.”

“Only silly ones believe everything their told. A person with prudence understands the need for proof. They won’t believe every spirit; instead, they will test the spirits to see whether they are from God. Many false prophets have gone out into the world. The way to test if their message is from Holy Spirit does it really agree that God sent His Son to share in your humanity? If it does not it is from the one who is against God’s Christ. The “Antichrist” who is going to come, but many throughout the world share this same attitude of enmity against God’s Son.”

“Beloved, when you belong to God, you have already won the fight with those who are antichrist. God has placed Holy Spirit in your heart and He is stronger than any evil teacher in this wicked world. These people belong to the world, so naturally they are concerned about worldly affairs and the world pays attention to them. As children of God, you walk and talk with Him and heed His Word. Others won’t. You

will know if a message is really from God, if it is the world won't listen to it."

"A wise person is cautious and avoids danger, but a fool plunges ahead with great confidence. Don't be deceived and deluded and misled. God will not allow Himself to be sneered at or mocked by mere pretensions or disdained by His precepts being set aside. People inevitably delude themselves when they attempt to delude God. Whatever a person sows, that and that only is what they will reap."

"Those who sow to satisfy their own flesh will from the flesh reap decay and ruin and destruction. Those who sow to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. Yes, the simple are crowned with folly, while the wise are crowned with knowledge. Being sure of this: no person practicing sexual vice or impurity in thought or in life, no one who is covetous or greedy - who are in effect an idolater - has any inheritance in the kingdom of God and His Christ."

"Let no one delude and deceive you with empty excuses and groundless arguments regarding these sins, for through

these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of rebellion and disobedience. My interest is for your heart to be braced and comforted and cheered and encouraged as Holy Spirit is knitting you in Love. My joy - that you would come to have all the abounding wealth and blessings of assured conviction of understanding.”

“My delight - that you become more intimately acquainted with God’s words of Truth so you may know more accurately and thoroughly His secret, which is Christ His Anointed One. All the treasures of divine wisdom and insight into the ways and purposes of God, and all the riches of spiritual knowledge and enlightenment are stored up and lie hidden in God’s Word.”

“My interest is for your soul that no one would mislead and delude you by plausible and persuasive and attractive arguments and with beguiling speech. Those who are short-tempered are fools for being frustrated and annoyed with anyone who is patiently waiting for Christ to come a second time with their full salvation.”

“All these instructions have been laid before the brethren, that they may be worthy stewards and good ministers of Christ, ever nourishing their own selves on the truths and the good instruction they are closely following. They are training themselves toward godliness, keeping spiritually fit. For physical training is of some value, but the spiritual training that results in godliness is useful and of value in everything and in every way, for it holds promise for the present life and also for the life which is to come.”

“Evil people shall bow before the godly; those who are spiritually poor, thoughtless, silly, fascinated and bewitched by the one who deceives. Right before the eyes of the world, Christ, the Messiah, was openly and graphically set forth and portrayed as crucified. No one can receive Holy Spirit as a result of personal accomplishment. When the message of the Gospel is heard and believed then it is God Who bestows His marvelous Spirit and works powerfully and miraculously in and among His people.”

“The time is approaching when there will be a new heaven and new earth, and God will be dwelling with His people.

He will be living with them for the first heaven and the first earth would have passed away. The Holy City, the new Jerusalem, will come down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.”

“God Himself will be with His people, and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying. There shall be no more suffering or pain, for the old order of things will have passed away.”

Dan. 12:4, Acts 9:31, Rev. 3:7, Acts 26:18, Isa. 9:2-3, Isa. 9:4-7, Prov. 18:15-16, Prov. 9:6-11, Prov. 1:32-33, Prov. 1:2-5, Prov. 22:15, 1 John 4:1-6, Gal. 6:7-8, Eph. 5:5-6, Col 2:2-4, 1 Tim. 4:6-8, Gal. 3:1-5, Prov. 14:15-19, Rev. 21:1-4



The Nephilim are only mentioned a few times in the Bible. We are told: The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but the things revealed belong to us, that we may follow God’s Word (Deut. 29:29). The meaning given Nephilim is this: giant, feller (bully or tyrant) (fierce, cruel, bring down), to fall, cast down, cease, die, divide, be judged, lay down, lying, be lost, perish, overwhelm....

“Moses sent twelve scouts into Canaan, the land of promise, ten gave this report, ‘We saw the Nephilim there we seemed like grasshoppers in our own eyes, and we looked the same to them.’”

“Only two, Joshua and Caleb, had a perspective of God that only faith and trust can bring about. ‘The land we passed through and explored is exceedingly good. If the Lord is pleased with us, He will lead us into that land and will give it to us. Only do not rebel against the Lord. Do not be afraid of the people of land, because we will swallow them up. Their protection is gone, but the Lord is with us. Do not be afraid of them.’”

“The whole assembly talked about stoning them. The glory of the Lord fell before the people and He said to Moses, ‘How long will these people treat Me with contempt? How long will they refuse to believe in Me, in spite of all the miraculous signs I have performed among them?’”

“The Lord let His great strength and love be displayed, and He forgave. Though the Lord is slow to anger, and abounds



in love forgiving sin and rebellion, He does not leave the guilty unpunished.”

“Like Joshua and Caleb, David also had a different spirit for His faith in God that soared above the height of the sons of the giant whose bronze spear weighed three hundred shekels or 117 pounds. Yet, David said, “You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the Armies of Israel, whom you have defied. This day the Lord will hand you over to me, and I will strike you down.”

“No one can predict when hard times will come, or know when their hour will arrive. When they may be taken like a fish in the cruel net of anger, or caught up by sudden tragedy as birds taken in a snare. People are trapped by evil times, when wrath like a flood falls unexpectedly. Yet, who can stand before jealousy, for it is much more dangerous.”

“The Lord is jealous for Zion with great jealousy. He is zealous for Her with great wrath against her enemies. The Lord will return to Zion, and dwell in the midst of

Jerusalem. Jerusalem shall be called the City of Truth, the Mountain of the Lord of hosts, The Holy Mountain.”

“God so greatly loved and dearly prized the world that He gave up His only begotten Son, so that whoever believes in – trusts in, clings to, relies on – Him shall not perish – come to destruction or be lost – instead they shall have eternal life.”

“God did not send His Son into the world in order to judge – to reject, to condemn, pass sentence on – the world, but that the world might find salvation and be made safe and sound through Him.”

“Those who believe in Jesus – who cling to, trust in, rely on Him – are not judged. Those who trust in the Son of God never shall come up for judgment, for them there is no rejection, no condemnation – they incur no eternal damnation.”

“Those who do not believe – cleave to, rely on, trust in Jesus – are judged already. They have already been convicted and have already received their sentence because they have not believed in and trusted in the name of the only begotten Son

of God. They are condemned for refusing to let their trust rest in Jesus.”

“Evil will slay the wicked; the foes of the righteous will be condemned. And though a righteous person may have many troubles, the Lord delivers them from them all. The Lord redeems His servants; no one will be condemned who takes refuge in Him.”

“In that wonderful day when the Lord gives His people rest from sorrow and fear, from trouble and slavery and chains, the king of confusion will then be taunted, ‘You **fierce bully!** At last the **cruel tyrant** has what was coming to him! For the Lord has crushed your wicked power and broken your evil rule.”

“You **O Feller!** Who persecuted God’s people with unceasing blows of rage, and held the nations in your angry grip. You were unrestrained in tyranny. At last the whole earth is at rest and is quiet! All the world begins to sing! Even the trees of the woods sing out this joyous song, ‘Your

power is broken; no one will bother us now. At last we have peace!”

“In the place of the dead there is excitement over your arrival. The spirits of world leaders and mighty kings long dead stand up to see you. With one voice they all cry out, ‘Now you are as weak as we are! Your might and power were buried with you. Now maggots are your sheet, and worms are your blanket.’”

“How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! Many have listened and united in kind - equally headstrong, deceitful and vindictive - to be as instruments of cruelty in their habitations. My soul shall stay away from them. Never shall I be a party to their wicked plans.”

“In their anger they murder, maim and disable man and beast. A curse on their anger for it is **fierce**. A curse on their wrath for it is cruel. The sinners among God’s people are rightly terrified. “Who among us, they cry, can live in the presence of this all-consuming, Everlasting Fire?”

“I will tell you who can live here for the answer is simple – those who live right, speak the Truth, despise exploitation, refuse bribes, reject violence, avoid evil. This is how you raise your standard of living! A safe and stable way to live! A nourishing and satisfying way to live!”

“Your eyes will see the King in His beauty and the highlands of heaven. You will not see a fierce people. You will look upon Zion. Your eyes will see Jerusalem, a quiet home at peace. A tabernacle where God is worshiped that will not be taken down. For the Lord is your Judge. The Lord is your Lawgiver. The Lord is your King. He will save those who believe and trust in Him.”

Num. 13:31-14:19, 1 Sam. 17:45-46, 2 Sam. 21:16, Prov. 27:4, Eccl. 9:12, Zech. 8:2-3, John 3:16, Ps. 34:19-22, Isa. 14:3-12, Gen. 49:5-7, Isa. 33:14-34:9



There are times in life when problems arise that are both gigantic and overwhelming. We can be fully armored and prepared for battle having knowledge of God’s Word, for it is the Lord Who enables us to stand our ground. Then after we have done everything we can

possibly do, continue to stand firm in faith, and simply converse with God (Eph. 6:13-18) not with fear or anger or any sort of evil force.

Evil does not nor would it ever support or encourage or uplift; instead, its plan and purpose is to produce within us a negative outlook so we appear inadequate in our own eyes. But God is able to give us everything we need and more so that there will not only be enough, but plenty left over to give joyfully to others. God prizes a cheerful giver  
(2 Cor. 9:7-8 TLB).

So I join with Peter and say, "Silver and gold I do not have, but what I have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk," Acts 3:6. Join me and learn as I am to walk in Love and Truth and Light. Let your soul be still. Stop your anger. Turn off wrath. Don't fret and worry, it only leads to harm. Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for Him to act. Be delighted in the Lord (Ps. 37:4-8 TLB) giving Him praise and gratitude and thanksgiving.

Don't be afraid. Evil intends to injure us in some form or some fashion, but God intends for good to be work out (Gen. 50:19-20 NLT) and

through you. God's Word is making us stronger and bringing us into a deeper and more intimate relationship with Him.



In the book of Job we hear its name-sake saying, "God is unique, and who can make Him change? And whatever His soul desires, that He does, for He performs what is appointed for me. And many such things are with Him. Therefore, I am terrified at His presence. When I consider this, I am afraid of Him. For God made my heart weak. And the Almighty terrifies me; because I was not cut off from the presence of darkness, and He did not hide deep darkness from my face," Job 23:2-17 NKJV.

God did hide deep darkness from our face in His glorious garden. The first indication of evil using fear to prod us into what is unwise and harmful for the welfare of our being - spirit, soul and body - is found in Gen. 3:10, when Adam answered, 'I heard You in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.'"



Adam chose to disregard God's Word. This decision made it impossible for the darkness of evil to be hidden from our faces. Here

are a few synonyms for the word afraid: fearsome, shy, timid, agitated, anxious, apprehensive, craven, disturbed, nervous, uneasy, upset, worried, dismayed, intimidated...

The Amplified Bible offers this translation of 2 Tim. 1:7, "God did not give us a spirit of timidity (of cowardice, of craven and cringing and fawning fear), but He has given us a Spirit of power and of love and of calm and well-balanced mind and discipline and self-control."

Eve told God, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate. He said, 'You will not surely die, for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil,'" Gen. 3:4-5&10. From the very beginning of time in every circumstance there have only been two choices Good and Evil, Life and Death, Love or Fear, Truth or Deception. God has always given us freedom to distinguish and to choose.



But thank God, which is something we ought always to be doing, brothers and sisters loved by the Lord, because from the beginning God chose us to be saved through the sanctifying work of Holy Spirit and through our faith and belief in His Word of Truth. God called us



to this through the Gospel, so we might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Thess. 2:13-14).

Because of our own doing, we may spend a lifetime with darkness not hidden from our face; but praise God, we can spend eternity in God's Light. For God made His choice known:

“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.”

God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. After He drove the man out, He placed on the east side of the Garden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the Tree of Life (Gen. 3:22-24).



You see, God gives the wise their wisdom and scholars their intelligence. He reveals profound mysteries beyond a person's understanding. He knows all hidden things, for He is Light, and darkness is no obstacle to Him. I thank and praise You, O God of my

fathers, for you have given me wisdom and glowing health, and now even this vision of the king's dream and the understanding of what it means (Dan. 2:21-23 TLB).

The Book of Revelation, which the Apostle John wrote to tell of his vision of end times. It is God Who said:

“See, the former things have taken place, and new things I declare; before they spring into being I announce them to you.”

Isa. 42:9

I saw an angel coming down out of heaven, having the key to the Abyss and holding in his hand a great chain. He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil, or Satan, and bound him for a thousand years. He threw him into the Abyss, and locked and sealed it over him, to keep him from deceiving the nations anymore until the thousand years were ended. After that, he must be set free for a short time.

I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been

beheaded because of their testimony for Jesus and because of the Word of God.

They had not worshiped the beast or his image and had not received his mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ a thousand years. (The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended). This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy are those who have part in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years (Rev. 20:1-6).

When the thousand years are over, Satan will be released from his prison and will go out to deceive the nations in the four corners of the earth to gather them for battle. In number they are like the sand on the seashore. They marched across the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of God's people, the city He loves.

But God, fire came down from heaven and devoured them. And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night forever and ever (Rev. 20:7-10). The Lord said to me:

“It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To those who are thirsty I will give drink without cost from the spring of the water of life. Those who overcome will inherit all of God’s Kingdom. I will be their God and they will be My son. But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars – their place will be in the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death.”

“Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with Me, and I will give to everyone according to what they have done. Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the Tree of Life and may go through the gates into the city.”

Rev. 21:6-8, Rev. 22:12-14

He who testifies to these things says:

“Yes, I am coming soon!”

Rev. 22:20



If I were to speak to you about the Hebrew or Greek alphabet it would be challenging as anything new can prove to be. However, when our eyes are opened to new thoughts, new discoveries it can be fascinating.

Here are a few acronyms for Bible:

Believer's Instruction Before Leaving Earth

Basic Instructional Book for Living Everyday

Basic Instruction Book for Living on Earth

Biblical Instruction Before Leaving Earth

In other words, the Bible gives us a synopsis like Cliff Notes to reveal our High Priest and Rabbi, Jesus Christ, a man, a Jewish scholar and teacher. That we may know the only true God, and Jesus Christ, the Word, (Who was with God. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word is God John 1:1), Who was sent by His Father, this is for us Life eternal (John 17:3).

So we can know God's Word shall not return to Him void (without producing any effect, useless). God's Word shall accomplish that

which He pleases and purposes, and shall prosper in the thing for which God sends His Word (Isa. 55:11 AMP).



God has an eternal plan with the sole purpose of salvation for our soul. We have been given a free will to establish temporal plans that may or may not last a lifetime. However, our days on earth are but a shadow (Job 8:9).

God's plan makes it possible for us to go out (from the spiritual exile caused by sin and deception into the homeland) with joy and be led forth by our Leader, the Lord Himself with peace by following God's Word.

His plan makes it possible for us to see what only God can accomplish the impossible. Yes, what is impossible for human flesh, with God all things are possible (Matt. 19:26). The mountains and the hills shall break forth before us into singing, and all the trees of the field clapping their hands. And this shall be to the Lord for a name of renown, for an everlasting sign (of jubilant exaltation) and memorial (to His praise), which shall not be cut off (Isa. 55:11-13 AMP).



That ancient serpent called the devil or Satan, who leads the whole world astray (Rev. 12:9) approached that naïve (inexperienced, childlike, gullible, heedless...) couple to do what God had done to him, hurl them down, so death could seize them (Ps. 55:15 TLB). How could this happen? They were thoughtless and careless with God's Word.

Why? Although we have no idea how long it took before that forbidden fruit was eaten. Fear produces thoughts and beliefs of "not enough." Deception manipulates so as to alter the appearance of "not enough" not only in the eyes but within the heart of every beholder. "Not enough" causes us to focus on our weaknesses, on temptation, on fear and the heart's desires.

God's Word tells us:

"It is enough for the student to be like their teacher, and slaves to be like their master. And since, I the Master of the household, have been called Beelzebub, the prince of demons, the members of My household will be called by even worse names!"

“However, don’t be afraid of those who threaten you. The time is coming when everything that is covered will be revealed, and all that is secret will be made known to all. What I tell you now in the darkness, shout abroad when daybreak comes. What I whisper in your ear, shout from the housetops for all to hear!”

“Don’t be afraid of those who want to kill your body; they cannot touch your soul. Fear only God, Who can destroy both soul and body in hell. You are very valuable to God; the very hairs on your head are all numbered. So don’t be afraid.”

“Everyone who acknowledges Me, the Son of God, publicly here on earth, I will also acknowledge before My Father in heaven. But those who deny Me, will also be denied by Me before My Father (Matt. 10:24-33 NLT).



An additional point should be made about the uniqueness of God’s Word. Scripture is not only pertinent (important, meaningful,



significant) for our spiritual welfare, but also for the well-being of our body and our soul. God's Word is both historical and Biblical, which allows us to view life from three different perspectives: the eyes of the world, the eyes of man and the eyes of the Lord.

The world's perspective is for mankind to be driven by fear. Do you have enough to eat and drink and wear? Can you do enough to prove...? Can there be enough to satisfy desire? This world can't produce enough corruption, immorality, greed, deception or idolatry because it is under the control of the evil one (1 John 5:19) who desires nothing more than to kill, steal and destroy (John 10:10) what God has created.

The perspective of mankind is one of pride, which wants its own way, wanting everything for itself because it wants to appear important (1 John 2:16 Message). Yes, pride wants its cravings for physical pleasure, for all this world has to offer and for fame and fortune to be satisfied (NLT). Sadly, just as death and destruction are never satisfied, neither are the eyes of man (Prov. 27:20).

God's perspective shines forth in the brilliance of unfailing love. God extends His never ending kindness to those who have wandered

hungry and parched in desert wastelands where no thought is given to our spiritual welfare (Ps. 107:4-5). People who draw their sins and calamity with cords of deceit, and bring punishment to themselves with the wickedness they cart along (Isa. 5:18 AMP). Complaining and blaming and criticizing God's judicial acts because consequence could not be diverted.

Misery causes many to earnestly seek God, to admit their guilt and return to the Lord. How many voices have cried out in their trouble and God delivered them from their distress (Ps. 107:6). Because His Word was ignored:

“A person's moral self shall be filled with the fruit of their mouth, and with the consequence of their words they must be satisfied whether good or evil.”

Prov. 18:20 AMP



There are people who have become fools traveling their rebellious ways. As a result, they have suffered affliction and sorrow because they transgressed refusing heaven's Manna, so they drew near the gates of death (Ps. 107:17-21). Dismissing godly Wisdom:

“Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who indulge in it shall eat the fruit of it for death or Life.”

Prov. 18:21 AMP

An unruly child needs discipline. Prayerfully, those who stray from God and His Word will recognize this need and repent when they come to understand God renews and restores those who return to Him. How amazing for God’s heart yearns to pour out His compassion on those humiliated by the shame and disgrace they have born (Jer. 31:18-20).

Yes, the wicked conceive evil! They are pregnant with trouble and give birth to lies. They dig a deep pit to trap others then fall into it themselves. The trouble they make for others backfires on them. The violence they plan falls on their own heads (Ps. 7:14-16 NLT). BUT GOD – if they are willing to repent for the error of their judgments - when they cry out He sends His Word to comfort them, to bring them inner healing, and to rescue them from the grave (Ps. 107:19-21).

~

So why should we fear when evil days come, when wicked deceivers surround us – those who trust in their wealth and boast of their great riches? No one can redeem the life of another or give to God a ransom for them – the ransom for a life is costly, no payment is ever enough – that they should live on forever and not see decay (Ps. 48:5-9).

Though the eye never has enough of seeing, nor the ear its fill of hearing (Eccl. 1:8), everyone can see the wise die, the foolish and the senseless alike perish and leave their wealth to others (Ps. 49:10). So why run after money for those who love it never have enough; yes, those who love wealth are never satisfied with their income (Eccl. 5:10).

Your heavenly Father knows everything you need; seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. So don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own (Matt. 6:32-34).

Pride is like these which are never satisfied – the grave, the barren womb, the land, which is never satisfied with water, and fire, which never says, 'Enough!' Prov. 30:15-16.

Those who rely on and remember God's Word will discover, His grace, His favor and loving-kindness and mercy, is enough for us, sufficient against any danger and enables us to bear trouble. For His strength and power are made perfect, fulfilled and completed, and show themselves most effective in our weakness. Therefore, we too can all the more gladly be thankful in our weaknesses and infirmities, knowing the Lord's strength and power is resting upon us (2 Cor. 12:9 AMP).



Weaknesses, mistakes, failures...not only give evidence to the fact that we are human, they also reveal our need for a hand to lift us up. Sadly, in this fallen world we can find ourselves being kicked even when we are down. No matter our current circumstance, unless we make the decision to look up how would we come to know the arm of the Lord is not too short to save, nor His ear too dull to hear. Sin has caused us to be physically separated from God (Isa. 59:1-2); but praise God, for His Word offers us a spiritual connection.

Though God was speaking to Moses:

“The Lord’s hand (His ability and power) will never become short (thwarted and inadequate). You too shall see whether God’s Word shall come to pass for you or not.”

Num. 11:23 AMP



I can’t imagine why the stories of those with such great faith like Noah and Abraham and Moses are unable to establish the depth of God’s intentionality. The lives of those ancient heroes of the Bible, clearly give evidence to the purpose driven design of God’s Word, Who teaches and trains and raises us up in faith and hope, in love and victory over anything and anyone who would try to bring us down.

The hand we need the most to lift us up belongs to Jesus – the Resurrection and the Life. A spiritual connection to God is essential because everyone and anyone who believes the Word was with God in the beginning, and the Word is (John 1:1-2) the Son of God, they will live even though their bodies die.

Whoever among the living believes in Jesus will never die (John 11:25-26) because the Son of Man stood in the gap that sin made to become the one and only Mediator between the One true God and mankind

(1 Tim. 2:5 ESV).

Do you believe that Jesus is able to do this? Let Him apply ointment to the eyes of your heart, and see what God will do to and for you now because of your faith (Matt. 9:28-19 TLB). We don't have to let death seize us or our relationships or our purpose and potential. Sadly, many have been cut down in their prime because sin is in our homes, and has polluted us to the depths of our souls (Ps. 55:15 TLB).



I pray others will join me to call upon God for the Lord shall save us. That they too will be heard proclaiming God hears my voice for He has redeemed my soul in peace from the tide of the world in which we battle with pride and fear and sin, that runs strongly against us; yet, the Lord will rescue me (Ps. 55:16-18 TLB). But who could possibly fight and win on the battlefield of our minds except by believing that Jesus is truly the Son of God (1 John 5:5 TLB)?

Surely, we can find gratitude and thanksgiving to offer God, for He gives us the victory through our Lord Christ Jesus. God has given us His Word of Truth so we can stand firm and allow nothing to move us (1 Cor. 15:57-18).

With the currency of heaven in our possession - faith - every child of God who obeys Him will receive the strength and power to overcome the world and defeat sin by trusting Christ to help them (1 John 5:4 TLB).

Yes, this is the victory God has given us that has overcome the world, our faith - believing Jesus is the Son of God (1 John 5:4-5 NIV).

Trusting God's Word:

“With man being saved, defeating sin and overcoming the world is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God.”

Mark 10:27



Working to maintain an attitude of Gratitude is definitely a way for God to help us endure any setback that may occur. By applying and reapplying the directives for this eleventh step: Reserving a daily time with God for self-examination, Bible reading, and prayer in order to know God and His will for your life, and to gain the power to follow



His will – you will surely discover gratitude and thankfulness become our eternal offerings to God.

What is so astonishingly amazing, God has given us time and opportunity to receive and grow and offer our faith and hope and love to Him. God's Word of Truth tells us:

“It is not the spiritual life which came first, but the physical and then the spiritual.”

1 Cor. 15:46

God made Adam from the dust of the earth, but Jesus came from heaven above. Every human being has a body just like Adam's, made of dust, but everyone who becomes Christ's shall someday have a body just like His (1 Cor. 15:47-49 TLB).



Though the Scriptures may be searched and alternative teachings and traditions and beliefs followed, eternal life is not received by these means (John 5:39 TLB). God sent His Word full of grace and truth to become flesh and make His dwelling among us (John 1:14). God has given us the freedom to choose whether or not to let His Word, Christ Jesus, dwell within us (Col. 3:16).

Everything we receive from our heavenly Father comes to us through His Word, Christ Jesus, Who says:

“Though God did not appear to you personally, or speak to you directly the Father Himself has testified about Me. The Scriptures point to Me! Yet, those who are not listening to God refuse to believe in His Son – the One God sent to deliver His message of faith and hope and love.”

“The approval or disapproval of those who don’t have faith or hope or love within them for God’s message means nothing to Me. I have come to you representing My Father. Do you refuse to welcome Me? How readily received are those who represent only themselves, who aren’t sent from My Father. No wonder there are so many who can’t believe!”

“Their heart is lifted up with pride, their wisdom corrupted by their love of splendor. Pride sits on the throne of their heart as a god. Though they think they are as wise as a god,

they are but flesh and blood. God opposes the proud of heart, but gives grace and more grace to the humble.”

“God has said, ‘I will destroy all human plans of salvation no matter how wise they seem to be. I will ignore their best ideas, even the most brilliant of them.’”

Ezek 28:17 NLT, Ezek 28:2, James 4:6, 1 Cor. 1:19



God has made scholars these brilliant debaters all look foolish, and has shown their wisdom to be useless nonsense. In His wisdom God saw to it that the world would never find Him through human brilliance. He has stepped in and saved all those who believe His message, which the world calls foolish and silly. Some people consider God’s message foolish His Word insufficient proof that what is being preached is true.

Others find God’s message foolish because they only believe in what agrees with their philosophy and what seems wise to them. So when they hear it preached Christ died to save them some are offended and others say it’s all nonsense.

Though the world is called to receive God’s gift of Life, He knows the eyes that will be opened to see their salvation comes when Christ, Who

is the mighty power of God to save them, is seen and acknowledged as Lord of all. Christ Himself is the center of God's wise plan for our salvation. This so-called "foolish" plan of God is far wiser than the wisest plan of the wisest, and God in His weakness - Christ dying on the cross - is far stronger than anyone (1 Cor. 1:20-25 TLB).



Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall (Prov. 16:18); but praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy God gives us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade - kept in heaven for those, who through faith are shielded by the mighty power of His Word, until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time (1 Peter 1:3-5).

Everyone who exalts themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted (Luke 14:11) raised with Christ. For their heart is set on things above where Christ is seated at the right hand of God; and their mind is set on things above, not on earthly things (Col. 3:1-2).

With Christ always exalted in their body, for they know through prayer and meditation and the help of Holy Spirit everything that happens to them will turn out for their deliverance (Phil. 1:19).

Believing in all things, in every circumstance good is being worked out for us because we love God, and we are earnestly working to fit into His plans.



From the very beginning God decided those who came to Him should become like His Son. God has chosen us and called us to come to Him. Those who choose to accept His invitation are declared:

“Not Guilty!”

God fills us with Christ’s goodness, giving us right standing with Himself, and promises us His glory.

Who else but God could do such wonderful things as these? If God is on our side, who can ever be against us? He didn’t spare His own Son, but gave Him up for all. Won’t He also surely give everyone who receives His gift of Life everything else?

Who would dare accuse those whom God has chosen as His own?



God surely won't because He forgives us and gives us right standing with Himself through Christ Jesus (Rom. 8:28 -33 TLB).

And there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ (Rom. 8:1). So who will condemn those Who believe the Son of God died for the sins of the world? Who can keep Christ's love from us? When we have trouble or calamity, when we are hurled down or destroyed, is it because the Lord doesn't love us anymore? If we are hungry or penniless or in danger or threatened with death, has God deserted us?

No, the Scriptures tell us for His sake we must be ready to face perils and death. Despite all this, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, Who loved us enough to die for us.

I pray you too are convinced, nothing can ever separate us from His love. Death can't, and life can't. The angels won't and all the powers of hell itself cannot keep God's love away. Our fears today, our worries about tomorrow, or where we are - high above the sky or in a deep valley - nothing will ever be able to separate us from the love of God demonstrated by our Lord Jesus Christ when He died for us (Rom. 8:34-39 TLB).



Yes, the arrogance of mankind will be brought low, and the pride of their heart humbled; the Lord alone will be exalted in that day, and the idols will totally disappear (Isa. 2:17-18). Therefore, beloved by God, hold fast the Word of Life obeying Him with deep reverence, fear and awe as you work out your own salvation. For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases Him (Phil. 12:13 NLT).

Therefore, humble yourself under God's mighty hand casting all your anxiety and cares on Him because He loves you. Keep the promises you make to the Most High. Call on Him when you are in trouble, and He will surely rescue you (Ps. 50:14-15 NLT).



We invest money for ourselves with the hope of securing our future; however, the most important investment a person could ever make for themselves is to place their faith in Jesus. For He is the only one Who can turn us from darkness to Light, and from the power of Satan (Acts 26:18) so we can secure our eternity by turning to God in repentance (Acts 20:21).

So I pray the eyes of your heart would be flooded with Light so you can see something of the future God has called you to share with Him, Who Himself has been made rich because those who are Christ's have been given to Him.

I pray that you would begin to understand how incredibly great His power that raised Christ from the dead and seated Him in heaven, the same power He extends to help those who have invested their faith in Jesus (Eph. 1:18-21 TLB).

With God's power working in us, He can do much, much more than anything we can ask or think or imagine. So I ask the Father to give you power and strength through His Spirit so you can be made strong in your spirit with Christ living in your heart because you have invested your time and faith and hope in Christ Jesus.

I ask that your life would be strengthened and built on Love having power to understand the greatness of Christ's love, which is greater than anyone can ever really know (Eph. 17-20 ERV). I ask you to receive from God forgiveness of sins so you too can be sanctified by your faith in the power and authority of His Word (Acts 26:17).





Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God (Rom. 11:33). Though we may be mistreated and ignored by others; yet, we are well-known and recognized by Him. Though our bodies are dying (2 Cor. 6:9 AMP); yet, God makes us alive with Christ (Col. 2:13); though we are chastened by sorrow and suffering; yet, we will not be condemned with the world (1 Cor. 11:32).

Though we may grieve and mourn: yet, we can always rejoice and give praise for God's glorious grace, which He has freely given us in the One He loves. In Jesus we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that He lavishes on us with all Wisdom and Understanding (Eph. 1:6-9).

Does not Wisdom call out? Does not Understanding raise her voice (Prov. 8:1)? If you accept God's Word, and store up His teachings within you; if you turn your ear to wisdom and apply your heart to Understanding (Prov. 2:1-2). If you call out for Insight and cry aloud for Knowledge. If you look for them as for silver, and search for them as for hidden treasure; THEN, you will understand the fear and reverence and awe of the Lord.



For the Lord gives Wisdom, from His mouth comes Knowledge and Understanding. He stores up sound Wisdom and Victory for the upright. He is a shield to those whose walk is blameless, for He guards the course of the just and protects the way of His saints, His faithful ones.

THEN you will understand righteousness and justice, equity and every good path. WHEN Wisdom enters your heart and Knowledge of God is pleasant to your soul, Discretion will preserve you, Understanding will keep you, to deliver you from the way of evil (Prov. 2:3-12 NKJV).

Blessed are those who find Wisdom who gain Understanding for they are more profitable than silver and they yield better returns than gold. Wisdom is more precious than rubies, nothing you desire can compare with her. Long life is in her right hand, and in her left hand are riches and honor. Her ways are pleasant ways, and all her paths are peace. She is a Tree of Life to those who embrace her, those who lay hold of her will be blessed (Prov. 3:13-18).



Join the angels and climb the ladder to heaven by investing your faith and hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love and with Him is full redemption (Ps. 130:7). THEN in each and every circumstance all the glory will be given to God (Ps. 50:14-15 NLT).

And though we may ourselves be poor, God has chosen us to be rich in faith (James 2:5a NKJV) like Moses who choose to suffer affliction with God's people than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin. He esteemed the reproach of Christ to be greater riches than the treasures found in Egypt (Heb. 11:25-26 NKJV).

Yes, he regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ to be of greater value than the treasures of the world, because he was looking ahead to receiving the most priceless reward from God (Heb. 11:26-27). So even though by the standards of the world we appear to have nothing; yet, in reality we possess all things for the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord will give grace and glory. No good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly (Ps. 84:11 NKJV).



We don't need silver or gold to boldly profess, "What I do have I give - Rise up and walk in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth," Acts 3:6

NKJV. For you can be assured of this: God has made Jesus, Whom they crucified, both Lord and Christ (Acts 2:36), and God has chosen those rich in faith to be heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love and respect, honor and obey His Word (James 2:5 NKJV).

God makes no distinction between people. The same Lord is Lord over all of us, and He generously bestows His riches upon anyone who calls upon Him in faith. For everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord, who enter God's covenant to honor and obey His Word, Christ Jesus, as Lord of their life, will be saved (Rom. 10:12-13 AMP).



So I ask God that in the coming days that He might show you the incomparable riches of His grace. God is so rich in mercy, and He loved us so much, that even though we were dead because of our sins, He gave us life when He raised Christ from the dead. For it is by grace that you are saved, through faith – this is not from yourself, it is the gift of God – so that no one can boast because of their own efforts.

Now God can point to us in all future ages as examples of the incredible wealth of His grace and kindness toward us, as shown in all He has done for those who are united with Jesus (Eph. 2:4-9 NLT).

Yes, salvation only comes from trusting Christ. In fact, God's Word is as near as your own heart and mouth. For if you tell others with your mouth that Christ is your Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in our heart that we become right with God; and it is by professing with our mouth telling others of our faith in Jesus, that confirms our salvation.

The Scriptures assure us that no one who believes in Christ will ever be disappointed (Rom. 10:8-11 TLB). We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do (Eph. 2:10).



My heart's desire is for you to grow in knowledge of God and His Word. And, as your faith deepens so too will your trust and hope, and you gain confidence in Jesus and in what He has accomplished so you can draw increasingly nearer to the Father. That Holy Spirit would water the general knowledge you possess so a very specific and intimate relationship with God takes root as you personally experience your heavenly Father's goodness and kindness and unfailing love.

I pray as your faith and hope and love for the Lord increases you will become more than conquerors (Rom. 8:37) prepared and determined to overcome any and all forms of sin and its negative forces.

That it becomes a very natural occurrence for you to receive whatever you need from God. Who knows and gives exactly what you need, as your faith and confidence and trust in His Word – becomes greater and greater and your own personal opinions and beliefs become less and less (John 3:30). As the Word of Life, Christ Jesus, reveals just how beautiful and glorious the Father, and that will be enough for you (John 14:8).



Being committed to this process of renewal and recovery, and by studying the Scriptures Holy Spirit will continually take us into new heights of understanding about ourselves and God and His Word. It will become obvious that through God's Word Holy Spirit is always revealing how earnestly Jesus has been working for us and in us so we can develop spiritual muscles as sons of God as we are learning to walk in Truth (3 John 4).

As Christians, even though God has placed Holy Spirit within us as a foretaste of future glory, we also groan to be released from pain and sin and suffering. We are waiting anxiously with eager hope for the day when God will give us our full rights as His children, including the new bodies He has promised us – bodies that will never be sick again and will never die (Rom. 8:23 TLB).

We were given this hope when we were saved (Rom. 8:24a NLT). And we are saved by trusting. Trusting means looking forward to getting something we don't yet have - for a person who already has something doesn't have to hope and trust that they will get it. But, if we must keep trusting God for something that hasn't happened yet, it teaches us to wait patiently and confidently (Rom. 8:24-25 TLB).

And in the same way – by our faith – Holy Spirit helps us in our weaknesses. He helps us with our daily problems and in our praying. At times we don't even know what we should pray for or how to pray as we should, but Holy Spirit prays for us with such feeling that it cannot be expressed in words.

And the Father Who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying as He pleads for us in harmony with God's own will. Holy Spirit does

this so we can come to know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love Him, and are working with Him to walk in Truth so they can fit into His plans for their life (Rom. 8:26-28 TLB).



- As we continue our journey of renewal and recovery, we are continually growing in our conscious contact with God, and He starts to unfold in our lives
- Working to improve our contact with God means we need to relax, and open our conscious and subconscious minds to His Word
- By incorporating this practice into our lives, we discover that prayer and meditation are powerful recovery and renewal behaviors that work – we need to be patient – the answer is coming
- We discover prayer is how we become transformed, and meditation is how we become renewed – they are beneficial to our well-being, and help us stay on track
- We acknowledge that worrying and fretting, being envious and angry is needless – praying for God’s will, and praying to be empowered to carry that out simplifies our lives



- If we are meant to do something, we will be given the power and ability to do it; if it is not ours to do we don't have to do it
- We realize we can trust God, and be empowered to do that which we need to do – we shall receive the insights, the help, the ability, the growth and the guidance when it is time
- If we can't do it yet, it is not time, and we can quietly go about the course of our life
- We discover that asking for knowledge of God's will for us and the power to carry it through is a prayer that will always be answered "Yes"
- We receive assurance there is a path for our lives – a path that means waiting, giving, feeling - healing, receiving, saying yes, saying no – something is always happening – something good is being worked out, in and around us – something important – we are learning our lessons
- Working these steps helps us acknowledge and believe and trust that God has not gone away even on those darkest, hardest days when we feel everything, but connected to God
- We continue to be reminded that we don't have to punish ourselves when times are hard, and there will certainly be hard times

- We acknowledge we don't have to punish ourselves for our feelings, doubts, concerns and mistakes – and we don't have to punish God
- We realize the need to relax, and go through each day, even when there are days that bring hurt and upset, and we're not certain where it's leading us
- We must encourage ourselves, and remember the hard times will not last forever – the confusion will not last forever – clarity will come – the answer will come – the darkness of our soul will leave, and daylight will come



So we continue to remind ourselves why we began to take these new steps to seek a deeper, more intimate relationship with God. We continue to apply and put into practice the principles for taking these steps toward renewal and recovery so we become more God-dependent instead of being Co-dependent.

- The first key is to maintain an honest view of reality not only considering particular circumstances and events as substantial, but recognizing the substance of Truth – the Life, the Alpha and Omega,

the heart and the spirit as we work on taking steps of faith remembering:

- God exists and I matter to Him – that God could and would if He were sought
- Admitting I am powerless – If God is your co-pilot, switch seats
- Acknowledging in certain areas my life became unmanageable – Sorrow shared is halved; Joy shared is doubled
- Believing God will restore me with Love, a Sound Mind and Power – Success means getting your BUT out of the way
- Believing God will help me stay committed to this decision to put all of who I am into His possession and safekeeping – There is no magic in this process of renewal and recovery only miracles
- Believing the Word of God will encourage, support and strengthen me as I make a searching and fearless moral inventory of myself – There is pain in this process. Misery is optional
- Because of God's loving-kindness I have become willing to admit to God, to myself and another person the exact nature of my wrongs – The road to resentment is paved with expectation
- With Truth as my solid foundation I have become entirely ready to have God remove all my defects of character – Courage is faith that has said its prayers

- Having received faith and hope and love for the Surety God has given I humbly ask Him to remove my shortcomings - F.A.I.T.H. = Fantastic Adventure In Trusting Him
- Having gained knowledge and insight and understanding I have become willing to make a list of anyone I have harmed, and to make an amends to them all - Just for today I will try to live through this day only, and not tackle my whole life problems at once
- Having gained confidence and trust in God's refuge I have become willing to step out with the mindset I am doing this with God and for His glory to make my amends whenever possible unless to do so would cause injury to others - Remembering nothing is going to happen today that you and God can't handle
- I embrace my covenant relationship with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit by continuing to take a personal moral inventory, and when I am wrong being prompt to admit it - We are not human beings having spiritual experiences; we are spiritual beings having human experiences
- I invest in my relationship with God by communicating through prayer and meditation to improve my conscious contact with Him seeking knowledge of His will and the power of grace to carry that out - If God seems far away, who moved?

- I seek Revival, Restoration and Reconciliation, a spiritual awakening, as a result of taking steps to carry God's message to others and to practice these principles in all my affairs – Worry is a conversation you have with yourself about things you cannot change. Prayer is conversation you have with God about things He can change



- By doing this we will most likely discover the hardest part of our prayers and meditation is dealing with our impatience, especially if we want change now
- We learn to lean on God, to trust Him and keep our faith in Him and His will – His process of change:

### ASK - SEEK - KNOCK

- We pray, we talk to God, and we let go and let go some more, the answer will come when we let go of our fear, for we know God has given us His Word, His Promise:

“Ask and it will be given to you; Seek and you will find; Knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks

receives; those who seek will surely find; and to those who knock, the door will be opened.”

Luke 11:9-10

- We learn to trust these behaviors of prayer and meditation even when life is as chaotic when we are finished, as when we began
- We learn to keep practicing these behaviors of prayer and meditation – thinking nothing is happening –that’s an illusion, something is happening we are developing spiritual muscles because our faith and trust and hope in God strengthens us
- As Isaiah discovered so too will we, God gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak (Isa. 40:29)
- This is the go-with- the-flow-of-each-day step, even when we have to overcome obstacles and face challenges; and though we have to put up a fight for what we want, we will be empowered, and given the help we need to break through those barriers
- While working this step praying for knowledge of God’s will, we discover by talking and listening to Him, we can relax, let go, and allow life to happen

- We discover we can trust what is happening, what has happened before, and what will happen tomorrow; we can trust our part in God's plan and His will
- We discover and accept we are safe now; we are cared for; we are protected; we are free now to live our lives and respect ourselves
- Taking this step to make prayer and meditation a portion of our day, gives us permission to let go of our need to control, and our efforts to control others and our lives
- Seeking knowledge of God and His will and ways will help us understand we can do our part by:
  - Setting goals
  - Using affirmations
  - Practicing the basic behaviors of renewal and recovery
    - Being honest with ourselves and others
    - Learning to relax in any situation
    - Keeping a daily journal and gratitude list
    - Developing a strong support network
    - Avoiding high-risk situations
    - Helping others
    - Exercising regularly
  - We can do our part by praying and meditating

- We can let go, and allow ourselves to be guided into truth, health, healing, happiness, joy, freedom and love
- Taking this step to improve our relationship with God helps us understand we can trust what is happening, even when it doesn't look like we can, or feel like we can
- Taking this step to seek God's power helps us understand that all our days count, and we need to
  - Feel our feelings
  - Respect and nurture ourselves as many times as we need to throughout our days
  - Say thank you to everything, because there is wisdom and knowledge to be gained in our life lessons
  - Ask for what we need and want
  - End the process with telling God Your will be done
  - Trust what happens
- This step will help us navigate through the best and worst of times – through difficult and pleasant feelings
- If we work these steps admitting and accepting our powerlessness, turning our will and lives over to God for house cleaning – we will co-labor with Him to be a clean vessel, one that is easily guided



- While working these steps we learn to listen – listen to God – listen to ourselves – trust what we hear
- We may have to let go of many false beliefs – like following God’s will for us means following a rigid set of rules, instructions, and prohibitions – that we need to be perfect
- We realize there may be times we find ourselves making mistakes, doing foolish things, thinking we are doing God’s will – that’s okay – we keep moving forward in this direction anyway – let it go – keep listening and trusting God and ourselves

Our mistakes give proof of our need for God’s saving grace



Father, I pray for Your Word to not only spread to the four corners of the world, but that Truth would infiltrate the four chambers of our heart. For Your saving grace was manifested, and has been revealed, to bring salvation to all people.

Father, I pray that those who are far from You, and that those who are near would grab hold of Your Word and come to realize that what You want is for us turn from

godless living and sinful pleasures to live good, God-fearing lives day-after-day, looking forward to that wonderful time we've been expecting, when the glory of Truth shall be seen – the glory of our great God and Savior Christ Jesus.

Father I pray for eyes and ears and hearts and hands to open and receive what is desperately needed from Your Word of Truth – Knowledge, Understanding, Insight, Wisdom and Discernment.

For this reason Christ Jesus gave Himself for us, that He might ransom us from all lawlessness. That He might purify to Himself a peculiar people, zealous to do good works not eager to do what they want then expect a self-serving heart to be condoned by You.

Lord, I pray for the heart of Your people to be totally committed to doing and serving the only one Who is Good, our heavenly Father. That God's people would set their face like flint as Jesus did to do Your will, the purpose and plan You designed specifically for each

and every person holding hope not just to receive eternal benefits from Your saving grace, but to offer ourselves as living sacrifices starting right now by turning from godless living and sinful, indulgent pleasures. Willing to be humble, and accept Your correction and insight and discipline whenever necessary.

Father, I pray they would be willing to admit wrongdoing promptly so heartfelt amends would be made to You and themselves and others. I pray they would live in the freedom Jesus died to give us from every kind of sin, to cleanse us and make us His very own people. That the authority and power of Your Word would be honored in all we think and say and do.

Thank You Father for loving us!

