

CHAPTER SIX

1. The Scriptures point to my Beloved; how He must have struggled as He cried out to the Father, knowing He is our Refuge, our Portion in the land of the living; His anguish heard as the One I loved cried aloud, 'Deliver Me Father from My persecutors, for I am brought very low; My spirit grows faint within me; You know how I am feeling, the danger I am in; the path where I walk men have hidden a snare for me; I look all around for someone to come and help Me, **none** are concerned or care for My soul or My welfare (Ps. 142:4&6); all My disciples have deserted Me and fled (Matt. 26:56); Father, You are My last chance, My only hope for life; refuge has failed me, I have no way to flee; Father, You are My place of safety; You are all I need in My life (Ps. 142:5); let Your will be done, Father, not Mine, this is what I want,' (Luke 22:42).
2. Yet, it was God's will to crush the One I love, and He made the Lord's life a guilt offering (Isa. 53:10a); for God so **loved** the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but instead, have eternal life (John 3:16); God knew He would see His offspring, and that His will would **prosper** in the hands of His Son (Isa. 53:10b); so an angel from heaven appeared and strengthened my Beloved, and He prayed more fervently; Jesus was in such agony of spirit that His sweat fell to the ground like great drops of blood (Luke 22:43-44); 'Father, You will bring My life out of death's prison, that I may praise Your name; yes Father, I will confess and praise and give thanks to Your name; and the righteous will surround Me and crown themselves because of Me, for You will deal bountifully with Me,' (Ps. 142:5).

3. Jesus the Nazarene was a Man thoroughly accredited by God – the miracles and wonders and signs that God did through Him were common knowledge; however, God knew what would happen, and His prearranged plan was carried out when the One I love was betrayed; with the help of lawless, godless people, my Beloved was handed over to be nailed to a cross and killed; but God released Him from the horrors of death and raised the Lord back to life, for death could not keep the One I love in its grip; the Scriptures tell us that Jesus knew that God was always with Him; so He would not be shaken, because God was right there beside Him, helping my Beloved; Jesus knew all would be **well** with Him in death, for God would not leave His soul in hell or allow the body of His Holy One to decay; no wonder the Lord's heart was filled with joy, and His tongue shouted God's praises, for God's mighty power was supporting Him; my Beloved knew God would give Him back His life, and fill Him with the wonderful joy of His presence (Acts 2:25-28).

4. Yet, He watched those **by passers** as they acted so insolently, and thought, 'Is it **nothing** to you; look around and see, is any suffering like the suffering that was inflicted on Me; suffering that God brought on Me in this day of His fierce anger; from on high He sent fire, sent it down into My bones, making Me desolate and faint all the day long,' (Lam. 1:12-13); (*His humanity quite evident as my Beloved struggled in the midst of agony and rapture*) He cried out, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me," (Ps. 22:1); (*thoughts being toggled by the weight of despair*) There are many who strive in this battle against Me,' (Ps. 55:18); and the joy set before Him (Heb. 12:2) 'Yet, I see Your righteousness Father, it reaches to the skies; how great the things You have done; there is no one like You; though You have made Me see troubles, many and bitter, I know You will restore My life, and strengthen Me again;

from the depths of the earth You will again bring Me up; You will give Me greater honor than before, and turn again to comfort Me,' (Ps. 71:19-21).

5. Everyone who is saved, is saved by grace through faith; and this is because God is so very rich in **love** and mercy (Eph. 2:4); no one can work to save themselves, for this would make us proud and boastful; salvation is a free gift from God; Who predestined for us to take paths that He prepared; so we can walk as His masterpieces, revealing the excellence of His workmanship; for God works to recreate us in Christ Jesus, to be born anew so we can do the good things He **planned** for us from long ago (Eph. 2:8-10).
6. I will always try to be alert and on my guard, for I have committed myself into God's protection and His care; I entrust myself to the Word of His grace, to build me up, and give me my rightful inheritance as one God has set apart (Acts 20:31-32) by faith, which makes real the things we hope for; faith gives us the confident assurance about the things we cannot see, convicting us of their reality (Heb. 11:1); and those who place their faith and trust in my Beloved though they have yet to see Him, are greatly blessed by our Creator (John 20:29); because through faith the One I love can share His heart with us, making us wise because we choose to come and **seek** His counsel (Prov. 1:23).
7. How important for me to remember, that only through faith can a person be justified and made right with God; not by works; not by trying to be good and keeping legal rituals; only by faith in Christ can you and I be accepted by God (Gal. 2:15); because in order to satisfy the great and wonderful **love** with which He loved us, even when we were dead by our own shortcomings and trespasses, He made us alive together in fellowship with Christ (Eph. 2:4-5); so we could experience the life changing things our God can do in us and for us when we trust Christ Jesus to help us, and He will (Ps. 37:5); for my Beloved has taken up our case to establish our right standing with God; the One I love will

bring us out of our darkness into the light where His goodness and His righteousness can be clearly seen (Micah 7:9).

8. Yes, God has chosen a plan despised by the world, counted as nothing at all, and used it to **bring down** to nothing those the world considers great, so that no one anywhere can ever brag in His presence (12 Cor. 1:28-29); for God has placed a very special Foundation Stone in Jerusalem, a firm and tested Stone that is safe for us to build upon; and everyone who trusts and believes in this precious Cornerstone will never be shaken, nor will they ever be disappointed (Isa. 28:16); however, the Lord of Heaven's Armies has a day of reckoning; a day when He will punish the proud and mighty, and **bring down** everything that is exalted (Isa. 2:12); and just as a worker uses string and a weight to show their work is straight and true, God uses justice as the string and goodness as the weight to check the foundation walls upon which we build; and according to God's plumb line many of our walls have been deemed unsafe places because they are built on lies and deception (Isa. 28:17).

9. The Lord will not deal gently with those who speak with flattering lips and deceitful hearts; people who believe their lips are their own; or that their words are so good, no one can stop them; yet, my Beloved will cut off their lying lips, and silence their boastful tongues; for the One I love has seen the violence done to the helpless; He has heard the groans of the poor; the One I love will arise to **protect** and defend the oppressed, the poor and the needy (Ps. 12:3-5); God will destroy those proud liars and wash them away; again and again trouble will come as a flood and carry them off, until the truth of God's warnings finally dawns on them (Isa. 28:19); for Christ really has been raised from death – the first one of all those who will be raised (1 Cor. 15:20).

10. Since it was through a man, Adam, that death came into the world, it is also through a Man that the resurrection of the dead has come; just as everyone dies because we all belong to Adam, everyone who belongs to Christ will be made alive; God gives us

new life (1 Cor. 15:21-22), so we can **cry** to Him, You are our Father, our God, and the Rock of our salvation (Ps. 89:26); because the One I love gave Himself up for us, a slain offering and sacrifice to God (Eph. 5:2), which has been accepted by Him as a sweet **fragrance** (Ezek. 20:41).

11. Yes, Christ loves us and gave Himself for me and for you (Gal. 2:20); and Jesus will **rule** and reign until He puts all of His enemies under His feet, and the last to be destroyed is Death (1 Cor. 15:25-26); and yes, my Beloved has ransomed me from hell; the One I love has redeemed me from Death (Hosea 13:14); the Lord my God will save me again and again; no evil will harm me; and because my Beloved has saved me from Death, and **protects** me from the Destroyer (Job 5:19-20), I will not be afraid or intimidated by my opponents and adversaries; for such a resolve, will be proof to them of my deliverance and salvation, and of their impending destruction, and both because of God; Who has given me the privilege of trusting Him; however, there is more than trusting in Christ; there is also suffering for Him, and the suffering is as much an honor and privilege as the trusting (Philp. 1:28-29).

12. When my Beloved wins the battle against all His enemies, then He will turn the Kingdom over to God the Father; having put down and destroyed all rulers, authorities, and powers, Jesus will put Himself under God's authority, so that God, Who gave the One I love the power and authority over all things, will be utterly supreme; so we wait for the end to come (1 Cor. 15:24,27-28), however, with the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like a day; my Beloved is not slow in keeping His promise, as some **understand** slowness; the One I love is patient with us, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance (2 Peter 3:8-9).

13. Therefore, think about this, and take it to heart; for this is serious business, remember the former things, the things God has done in the past; there is no other like Him – the only God incomparable, irreplaceable – from the very beginning telling us what the ending will be; telling us things that have not yet happened; assuring us that He is in this for the long haul; all God says will come to pass, and He will do exactly what He set out to do (Isa. 46:8-10); so let the saints **rejoice**, for my Beloved takes delight in His people; the humble He crowns with victory; let the faithful sing for joy, for the One I love has done a wonderful thing, He saved us (Ps. 149:4).

14. How amazing, for my Beloved, Who created me, has cared for me and upheld me since I was conceived (Isa. 46:3a); He **loves** me with an unfailing **love**; the truth and faithfulness of the Lord endures forever (Ps. 117:2); yes, I am my Beloved's and my Beloved is mine (SS 6:1); His intimate **friendship** blesses my house; the Almighty is with me (Job 29:4); my heart and soul are filled with **joy**, because the One I love is so near; and because I know the Lord is always with me, I will not be shaken (Ps.16:8a); for the One I love has made known to me the ways of life; my Beloved

enraptures me (Acts 2:28), as I walk in the light of His presence; blessed because I have learned to acclaim Him (Ps. 89:15); and sing praises to the name of Jesus, for that is so very **pleasant** (Ps. 135:3).

15. My flesh rests in safety (Ps. 16:8b), and dwells in hope (Acts 2:26); a hope that does not disappoint me (Rom. 5:5), for the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in Holy Spirit, and because I serve my Beloved in this way, I am **pleasing** to God (Rom. 14:7); Who pours out the **love** of the Lord my **God** into my heart by His Spirit, Who He has **given** me (Rom. 5:5); and Holy Spirit pours out God's grace on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus (1 Tim.1:14), Who has cared for me and been my God throughout my lifetime – even now when my hair is white with age; my Beloved sustains me; the One I love is my Savior (Isa. 46:3b-4); my name is recorded in the Book of Life of the Lamb that was slain in sacrifice from the foundation of the world; and I will **fall down in adoration** and pay homage to my Beloved (Rev. 13:8).

16. If a perfect fellowship between God and a worshiper was attainable by the Levitical priesthood, under which the Law was given, why was it necessary that another and different kind of Priest should arise; a Priest after the order of Melchizedek, rather than one appointed after the order and rank of Aaron; when there is a change in the priesthood, there is also of necessity an alteration of the law concerning the priesthood as well; for the One of Whom these things are said belonged not to the priestly line, of which no member ever officiated

at the altar serving God; it is **obvious** that my Beloved sprang from the tribe of Judah, and Moses mentioned nothing about priests in connection with that tribe; and this becomes more **plainly** evident when another Priest arises Who bears the likeness of Melchizedek; Who has been constituted a Priest, not on the basis of a bodily legal requirement, but on the basis of the power of an endless and indestructible Life (Heb. 7:11-16).

17. This is what the Scriptures attest about the One I love, You are a Priest forever after the order and with the rank of Melchizedek; so a previous physical regulation and command is cancelled because of its weakness and ineffectiveness and uselessness; for the Law never **made** anything perfect; but instead, a **better hope** is introduced through which we now **come close** to God; and it was not without the taking of an oath that my Beloved was made Priest; for those who formerly became priests received their office without its being confirmed by the taking of an oath by God, but this One was designated and addressed and saluted with an oath, The Lord sworn and will not regret it or change His mind, He is a Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek (Heb. 7:17-21).
18. In keeping with the oath's great **strength** and force, Jesus has become the Guarantee of a better, stronger agreement, a more excellent and more advantageous covenant; again, the former successive line of priests was made up of many, because they were each prevented by death from continuing perpetually in office; but the One I love holds His priesthood unchangeably, because He lives on forever; therefore, my Beloved is able also to the uttermost, completely,

perfectly, finally and for all time and eternity save those who come to God through Him, since He is always living to make petition to God and intercede with Him and intervene for us; Jesus is the High Priest perfectly adapted to our needs, as was fitting – holy, blameless, unstained by sin, separated from sinners, and exalted higher than the heavens (Heb. 7:22-26).

19. I will bless the holy name of my God with all my heart; yes, I will bless the One I love, and not forget the glorious things He does for me; He has forgiven all my sins, and heals my body, heart and soul; my Savior ransomed me from hell; the Lord my God surrounds me with loving-kindness and tender mercies, and fills my life with good things; my Beloved gives justice to me and everyone who is treated unfairly (Ps. 103:1-6); and those who have in fact put my Beloved in charge as Lord in their lives; at that very moment, they have lasting life and will never be condemned for their sins; for they have already passed from death to enjoy life (John 5:24) as the joyful radiant bride; because they have turned to Jesus, the One altogether lovely, the Chief among ten thousand, they have turned with unconcealed eagerness to begin a life of sweet companionship with my Beloved (SS 8:14); they have come to realize we are as aliens and strangers and exiles in this world; once we had no identity as a people, but now we are known as God's chosen people;

once we knew very little of God's compassion and kindness and mercy, but now our lives have been changed by them; therefore, we must view ourselves as temporary residents, and not indulge our ego and our flesh at the expense of our soul; we can't afford to get too cozy, for these worldly desires **rise to wage war** and **fight** against our very souls (1 Pet. 2:20)

20. Those who trust in my Beloved are like Mount Zion, which cannot be shaken but **endures forever**; and just as the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds His people, both now and forevermore (Ps. 125:1-2); the children of God are loved by the Lord, and live in safety beside Him; He surrounds them continuously, and preserves them from every harm (Deut. 33:12); therefore, I am determined not to be afraid of evil circumstances; for my heart is firmly fixed, trusting in the One I love; Who has honored me with victory; yes, I will not be afraid as I wait to see my desires established upon my adversary (Ps. 112:6-8), because I realize my Beloved, Christ Jesus, is in me (2 Cor. 13:5) the One I love is the power of God and the wisdom of God (1 Cor. 1:24); the Lord has counsel and sound knowledge; my Beloved has understanding, insight and strength; because of Him, kings reign, and rulers govern; Jesus loves those who love Him, and everyone

who seeks diligently shall find Him; and when they do they will discover riches and honor are with Him, as well as wealth and righteousness; and the fruit of His righteousness is better than gold (Prov. 8:14-18); making our heart sensitive and responsive to the touch of our God (Ezek. 11:19), Whose benefits are worth more than choice silver (Prov. 8:19); for what a benefit it is, to be able to sit with my Beloved at His right hand, blessed by the Father, to inherit the kingdom He prepared for us from the foundation of the world (Matt. 25:34).

21. I will be glad and rejoice in the love of the Lord my God (Ps. 31:7), and experience His peace, which flows like a river (Isa. 66:12a); for the One I love is a garden fountain, a well of flowing water streaming down (SS 4:15); yes, the glory of the Lord fills the nations like an overflowing stream; and as babies, spiritually immature, we can be nursed by the Word of God, and drink in God's abundant love so we can flourish; for the maternal nature of God is to delight in His children, and to exalt us and carry us as a mother; nurturing us with His truth, so our lives can become well-balanced; God desires to lovingly embrace us, knowing we will be bounced up and down by troubles, instead of on His knee; for as a mother comforts her child, so will God comfort us; and our lives will prosper and grow like green and tender grass (Isa. 66:12-14a), because the gracious hand of God is upon us (Ezra 8:18); and I pray a great number of people will believe and turn to the Lord (Acts 11:21);

that they will begin to understand our prideful nature is only labor and sorrow, and will soon be gone, and we fly away (Ps. 90:10); prayerfully, they will come to know the powerful hand of the Lord has been revealed, and is known to be forever with those He calls His friends (Isa. 66:14b), for my Beloved has set apart the redeemed for Himself (Ps. 4:3); the One I love has breathed life into us, and we will live (Ezek. 37:14), for God Who knows the heart, **has shown** that He accepted us (Acts 15:8); by putting His Spirit in us – Holy Spirit – God within us (Acts 19:2b); because we not only took God into our mind, but we also have embraced Him with our heart (Acts 19:2a).

22. With Holy Spirit in our heart we can receive not only God's nurturing, but also His nature, so people everywhere can see the Lord's hand of blessing is upon His servants (Isa. 66:14c); however it is a fearful and terrible thing to incur the divine penalties and be cast into the hands of the living God (Heb. 10:31); His enemies will be shown His indignation and His anger (Isa. 66:14d); for they could care less about the One I love, wanting nothing to do with His Covenant; and God, Who is compassionate, and forgives sin and hasn't destroyed, because His anger has been reined in; His considerable wrath restrained (Ps. 78:37), because He does not desire any should perish, but that all would turn themselves about to repentance (2 Peter 3:9); however, there are some truths about the Kingdom of God that are hidden from those outside His Kingdom; for though they have sight and hearing, they will not understand or turn to God, or be forgiven for their sins (Mark 4:11-12); the reason being vileness is exalted and baseness is rated high among the sons of men; yes, on every side the wicked walk or

prowl about (Ps. 12:8), refusing **to roll** and repose each care of their load on the Lord, and commit their way to Him (Ps 37:5).

23. Holy Spirit **severely urges** us to pray for all people; ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them; pray this way for all who are in authority so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity, for this is good and pleases God our Savior, Who wants everyone to be saved and to understand the Truth (1 Tim. 2:1-4); for my Beloved is not only a God Who does what is right, and smooths out the path ahead of those who are righteous, so the way is not steep and rough (Isa. 26:7); He is also a God Who will announce His judgment against the people; at that time the Lord will send a burning wind from the desert upon them; it will not be like the gentle wind that is used to separate the grain from the chaff; it will be like a roaring blast, and it will come from God (Jer. 4:11-12).

24. Let us acknowledge the Lord; let us press on to acknowledge the One I love; for as surely as the sun rises, He will appear (Hosea 6:3); the Lord will be coming with fire and with swift chariots to pour out the fury of His anger and His hot rebuke with flames of fire; the Lord of Heaven's Armies will punish the world by fire and by His sword; He will execute judgment upon all flesh, and the slain of the Lord will be many for they are kindred spirits with the prince of darkness (Isa. 66:14b-16); they shall be taken away from the Lord's presence (Prov. 25:5a); there shall no longer be a brier to prick the house of Israel, or a hurting throne of all those scornful neighbors that are around them, who have treated them with contempt; for then they shall know the Lord God is the Sovereign Ruler, Who calls forth loyalty and obedient service (Ezek. 28:24); for the One I love strengthens His redeemed with all His glorious power so we will have all the endurance and patience we need; and be filled with joy, always thanking the Father, for He has enabled us to share

in the inheritance, which belongs to those who choose to live in the light; yes, God has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness (Col. 1:11-13a), which has been weighed on His balances, and **found wanting** (Dan. 5:27); how grateful our hearts, for God has transferred us into the Kingdom of His dear Son, Who purchased our freedom and forgave our sins (Col. 1:11).

25. Yes, God has redeemed my soul from the power of death, my life from the grave, and He will take me to be with Him; but the rich, the proud, the wise – they will not endure; like beasts they shall perish, for this is the fate of those who trust in themselves, and of their **followers**, who approve of their sayings; death will be their shepherd (Ps. 49:10-14).

26. These days speak of that time foretold, when the rebels shall become completely wicked, for they have become morally rotten, and have turned against God; this will happen in the time of wrath; when a stern-faced king, both bold and cruel, will **cause** astounding devastation, and succeed in whatever he does; for he will **rise to** power with great shrewdness and intelligence, but his power will not come from himself; he will be a master of deception, defeating many by catching them off guard as they bask in false security, and without warning he will destroy powerful people – even God's holy people; in his deceit he will greatly prosper, and think he is so important that he will even try to fight the Prince of Princes in battle; but in doing so he will seal his own doom, and he will be destroyed by the hand of God, for no human hand could overpower him (Dan. 8:23-25); the people of the Most High will be handed over to him for a time, times and half a time; he will speak against the Most High and oppress His people, and try to

change their sacred festivals and the laws; but the court will pass judgment, and his power will be taken away and completely destroyed forever (Dan. 7:25-26).

27. The Spirit and the bride say, 'Come; let those who hear say, 'Come; whoever is thirsty, let them come; and whoever wishes, let them take the free gift of the water of life,' (Rev. 22:17); though they sinned against the Lord, my Beloved will **wash away** that sin; though they fought against the One I love, He will forgive them (Jer. 33:8); for there is no other god like the Lord; my Beloved is great, and His name is full of power; making the wisest of men who worship idols **altogether** stupid and foolish, for their teachings come from worthless wooden statues; they use beaten sheets of silver and gold to make their statues; carpenters and metalworkers make the idols; then they clothe these gods in royal purple robes; however, the Lord is the only true God, the everlasting King; the whole earth shall tremble at His anger; the world shall hide before His displeasure; **who** would not fear the King of nations; among all the wise men of the earth and in all the kingdoms of the world there isn't anyone like Jesus (Jer. 10:6-10); Who died for us so that we may live **together** with Him (1 Thess. 5:10).

28. The Lord has sworn by Himself, the word has gone out of His mouth in righteousness and shall not return (Isa. 45:23a) to Him void; when my Beloved sends His word out, it always produces fruit; God's word will accomplish all that He pleases and purposes, and it shall succeed and prosper in doing what He sent it to do; and all who receive His Word shall live in joy and peace (Isa. 55:11-12); for the Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us (John 1:14); to reveal God's mysterious plan, and His reason for sending His Christ, which He purposed to be put into effect when the times reached their fulfillment – to bring all things in heaven and on earth **together** under one Head, under the authority of my Beloved (Eph. 1:9-10).

29. God takes **no** pleasure from the death of people – not even evil people; He doesn't want anyone to die; He wants us to change our ways and live, to turn from wickedness, for why should we die (Ezek. 33:11); for the One I love has not abandoned us, or left us as orphans in the storm; the Lord comes to us, because my Beloved lives and so will those who love Him, and obey Him (John 14:15a&18); why then should you allow wickedness to **deprive** you of God's wonderful blessings; why allow sin to **rob** you of good (Jer. 5:25), of peace; have you forgotten what prosperity truly is (Lam. 3:17).

30. I will praise the Lord, Who is good and give thanks to Him (Ps. 106:1); for my Beloved has plans for me; plans to prosper me and not to harm me, plans to give me hope and a future (Jer. 29:11); that I may prosper in every way and keep well and healthy in body, even as my soul keeps well and my spirit strong (3 John 2); and even though my rebellion and sins once weighed so heavily upon me, and I was **wasting away** (Ezek. 33:10), I now go out into the world with joy; because I am led forth by my Leader, the Lord Himself, with peace; for the One I love has taken me from the spiritual exile that sin and evil caused (Isa. 55:12); the Lord Jesus **brought me out** of darkness (1 Peter 2:9a) with a mighty hand, and secured the renown of His name (Dan. 9:15); yes, my Beloved brings all who believe into His wonderful light (1 Peter 2:9b).

31. God's Anointed One suffered and died, because He was designated to be the First **to rise** from the dead, to declare and show light to all people, by bringing the light of God's saving truth **into** the world (Acts 26:23); so people everywhere could devote their hearts to God, and stretch out their hands to Him; so that they could be **secure**, because there is hope (Job 11:13&18); for God chose to make known to us the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in us, the hope of glory (Col. 1:27); making our future victory sure; so we can be

strong and steady, always abounding in the Lord's work, for nothing we do for my Beloved is ever wasted as it would be if there were no resurrection (1 Cor. 15:58).

32. There is no greater joy than **to walk** in (3 John 4), and follow the truth, being honest about what we really believe (Gal. 2:14); and conducting ourselves in a manner of life worthy of the Gospel of Christ (Philp. 1:27); realizing the Lord will satisfy us in the morning with His unfailing love, so we can sing for joy and be **glad** all our days (Ps. 90:14); knowing we are safe, for the name of my Beloved is a strong tower (Prov. 18:10); for only in the name of Jesus can we say, 'I have righteousness and salvation' (Isa. 45:24a); because the One I love has purchased people unto God from every tribe and language and nation with His blood; the Lord has made us a kingdom and priests to our God, **to reign** as kings over the earth (Rev. 5:9).

33. The One I love has restored us, and caused God's face **to shine** in pleasure and approval and favor upon us, for we are saved (Ps. 80:19); we have been given the victory and the strength to achieve (Isa. 45:24), because God has granted us repentance to change our hearts, so we could accept and come to know the Truth (2 Tim. 2:25); that unto the Lord every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear allegiance; yes, all people shall come, even those who were incensed against Him, and they shall be ashamed; for the Lord God's people have been justified, and all the offspring of His nation Israel, and we shall dwell in His glory (Isa. 45:23-25); and what a privilege we have been given, to

dwell in God's glory; and this decision to turn my life around, to reverse my evil ways was not difficult, for why should I die (Ezek. 33:11b); so I decided to repent and turn to God and prove my repentance by my deeds (Acts 26:20); for God will judge each person in accordance with their deeds (Ezek. 33:20).

34. There are many who have not **dedicated themselves to the Lord** and to His service (Num. 8:11); they complain, and believe their way is **hidden** from the Lord; their cause disregarded by God (Isa. 40:27a); however, it is their doctrine or purpose or undertaking, which is of human origin, that will **fail** and come to nothing (Acts 5:38); for they do not know, or maybe they have not heard (Isa. 40:27b), in an a moment unforeseen ruin and death shall come upon those who believe **all** is well and secure; the day of the return of the Lord will come as unexpectedly and suddenly as a thief in the night; as suddenly as labor pains come upon a woman with child, and there will be no means of escape (1 Thess. 5:2-3); no one to provide relief; people will be left to contemplate God's message in Christ, His Word, how near it always was to them; such a short distance from their lips to their hearts; if only they had been open to receive God's Word of faith, so they too could dwell in peace with God; this plan conceived before time began, to acknowledge and confess with our lips Jesus is Lord, and in our heart believe God raised Him from the dead (Rom. 10:8-9).

35. My Beloved, my exceeding **joy**, sends out His light and His truth to lead us (Ps. 43:3a&4b) to God's amazing gift of salvation; it cannot be purchased or earned; good deeds cannot save those who turn to evil, for in their self-righteousness they will die; but a wicked person who repents and seeks God's help to change, realizing they would die for the evil they have done, God will bestow upon them life; however, many think God is unfair, but they are the ones who are not fair; they are

the ones who must change, so they can see how fair our God truly is; for they believe their walk with God should be determined by the things they say and do (Ezek. 33:17-19); not realizing a heart is justified and becomes **fastened to God**, when a person believes and relies on Christ; and their salvation is confirmed only when with their mouth they confess Jesus to be their Lord and Savior (Rom. 10:10).

36. Just think, if God's old system could cleanse people's bodies from sin by using the blood of animals, then how much more surely the blood of Christ will transform our lives, inside and out; God sacrificed His unblemished Lamb to free us from the worry of works and those lifeless religious observances that lead to **dead-ends**; the blood and ashes of animals could not make bodies pure, but, by the power of the eternal Spirit, Christ, Who willingly offered Himself to God as a perfect sacrifice cleanses us of our sins, and purifies our consciences so we can wholeheartedly worship the living God; Jesus came with this new agreement so people could begin to build up faith, and receive God's invitation to come and forever have **all** the wonders He has promised us (Heb. 9:13-15).

37. The best invitation we will ever receive, to come and familiarize ourselves with the One I love; Who calls us into His presence by His own glory and goodness, and gives us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of Him (2 Peter 1:3); yes,

God wants us to better know the One Who is the Way, the Truth and the Life (John 14:6); the **chief** Cornerstone, Christ Jesus Himself; for we are no longer foreigners and aliens, but **fellow citizens** with God's people and members of God's household (Eph. 2:19); and God wants us to be planted in His land of promise, deep within His Word, so we can grow in love and respect for Him (Jer. 32:37), for we are greatly beloved (Dan. 9:23); for **choosing** the way of truth (Ps, 119:30), and trusting this agreement God has made with us, which is eternal; God will never turn away from us; He is always working for our good; in fact, God finds joy and delight in doing good for us; His Word has the power to give us one heart and one purpose, to establish us in Truth so we may reverently fear Him for our own good and the good of our children; God does all this to stir in our hearts a desire to worship Him, and never want to depart from Him (Jer. 32:37-40).

38. By getting to know the Word of God personally and intimately, God can miraculously give us everything we need to live a life devoted to Him (2 Peter 1:3); for we have been **born** anew, recreated in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God predestined for us, because we are His own workmanship (Eph. 2:10); for it is God Who works in us, giving us the desire and the power to do what pleases Him (Philp. 2:13); giving us faith and love and hope as we hear and study the word of truth, the Gospel (Col. 1:5), which we welcome and accept not as the words of mere men, but as it truly is, the

Word of God; and we believe the Word of God exercises superhuman power in those who adhere to and trust in and rely on the teaching of the Lord (1 Thess. 2:13); because everything that goes into a life of pleasing God has been miraculously given to us by getting to know the One Who invites us to God; if you want more and more of God's kindness and peace, then invest time to get to know Him better; because through His great and **mighty** power, the One I love also **gives us God's rich and wonderful and precious promises**; for these are promises that enable us to share in His divine nature and escape the ruin that comes to people in the world because of corruption and lust that is caused by human desire (2 Peter 2&4).

39. How **blessed** the children of God are, for who else is like us, a people saved by the Lord (Deut. 33:29); a people who can enter through faith into what God has always wanted to do for us, **to set us right** with Him (Rom. 5:1a); therefore, we need to examine ourselves to see if our faith is genuine (2 Cor. 13:5); so we can learn to live a strong, good **life together with God** because of Christ Jesus; and never be left feeling short changed - on the contrary - we will be able to hold our heads high no matter what happens, and know that all is well; for we know how dearly God loves us, and we feel this warm love everywhere within us because God has given us His Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with His love (Rom. 5:1&5); and to reveal Truth, for everyone who sins is a slave to sin; and a slave has **no permanent place** in the family, but a son belongs to the family forever; so when the Son of God sets us free, we will be free indeed (John 8:34-36).

40. Furthermore, my Beloved will not break off from us His loving-kindness, nor allow His faithfulness and loyalty to fail; the One I love will not break His covenant, nor take back a single

word He has said; for He has given His word, His whole and holy Word (Ps. 89:33-34); so we can continue to be joyful and **shout our praise** even when we run into problems and trials, for they help us develop endurance as we learn to be patient (Rom. 5:3); for my Beloved is known to probe for our soft spots; trying the hearts and emotions and thinking power, so He can smooth out our rough edges (Ps. 7:9).

41. Though the One I love, the Mighty One, the Lord my God, speaks and summons all humanity from where the sun rises to its setting, His glorious light shines from the Church, His beautiful Body of believers; and our God is coming with the noise of thunder, surrounded by fire devouring everything in His way; to gather together His saints **who** promised to obey Him; to bring His faithful worshipers around Him, those who have made a covenant with Him (Ps. 50:1); who trust in my Beloved with pure hearts; who stay away from lustful indulgences, to do what is right, and pursue righteous living, faithfulness, love and peace in their times of fellowship with all those who love the **Lord our God** (2 Tim. 2:22).

42. God **looks down** from heaven on the children of men to see if there are any who understand, any who seek

Him (Ps. 53:2); so with grateful praise and affection I will bless my God, my King; and I will extol His name forever and ever (Ps. 145:1); for My Beloved knows me, and knows that my love for Him is genuine and **true**, for it is evidenced with affectionate reverence, prompt obedience and grateful recognition of His blessings; the One I love recognizes me as worthy of His intimacy and love; I belong to Him (1 Cor. 8:3), Who **searches me painstakingly and thoroughly**; He knows what I want to say, before the words leave my mouth; He has beset me and hemmed me in – behind and before; the One I love goes before me and follows me; He has laid His hand upon my head; His presence is so reassuring, too glorious, too wonderful to believe (Ps. 139:4).

43. There is no one like my Beloved, the God of Righteousness, Who rides on the heaven to help me and on the clouds in His majesty (Deut. 33:26); from His waist up He looks like glowing metal, as if full of fire, and from His waist down His appearance is as fire, **brilliant light** surrounds Him (Ezek. 1:27); His head and hair **white** like wool, as **white** as snow, and His eyes like blazing fire; His feet like bronze glowing in a furnace, and His voice like the sound of rushing waters; His face like the sun shining in all its brilliance, and out of His mouth a sharp double-edged sword (Rev. 1:14-16).

44. The One I love came to send fire on the earth; He came to disrupt and confront (Luke 12:51), to bring division and dissension among the people concerning Him (John 7:43), my

46. The message of Christ, the Crucified, will continue to be proclaimed; a message that is a problem for some, and others consider it absurd, because the miraculous is not acknowledged; however, my Beloved, Christ Jesus, is God's ultimate miracle and wisdom all wrapped up in one (1 Cor. 1:22); and this message is meant to bring honor to the One I love, and it can be trusted because no one is speaking their own thoughts, or trying to claim honor for themselves (John 7:18), as the rulers in this world who lord it over their people, and officials who **flaunt** their authority over those who are under them (Matt. 20:25); for the god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so they cannot see the light of the Gospel of the glory of Christ, Who is the image of God (2 Cor. 4:3-5); fire shall **come down** from heaven to devour them (Rev. 20:9); for the wicked are **brought down**, but even in death the righteous have a refuge (Prov. 14:32); and this Refuge is the Lord, Who is our strength and our **Fortress** (Jer. 16:19).

47. Yes, the Lord is good, a Strength and Stronghold in the day of trouble; He knows those who take refuge and trust in Him (Nah. 1:7); and this message is about the divine greatness of Christ, Good News which tells people Jesus Christ is Lord, while myself and others are His servants; for when God said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' He made His light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the **knowledge** of His glory in the face of my Beloved; we have this treasure from God, but we are only like clay jars that hold the treasure; this is to show that the amazing power we have is from God, not from us (2 Cor. 4:4-7); however, a time is steadily approaching when the beast and the rulers and leaders of this world and their armies will gather together and make war against my Beloved, the One mounted on the horse and His army (Rev. 19:19); because they cannot see the glorious light of the Good News (2 Cor. 4:4).

48. Those who gather to make war against the Lamb will be overcome (Rev.17:14a) on that day of anger, which is coming; a day of **revelation** of the righteous judgment of God (Rom. 2:5-6); because the One I love is the Lord of Lords and King of Kings – and with Him will be His called, chosen and faithful followers (Rev. 17:14b); yes, the beast will be seized and overpowered, and with him the false prophet who performed wonders and miracles, when the beast was present; miracles that deceived all who had accepted his **mark**, and chose to worship his statue; they were thrown alive, those two, the beast and the false prophet, into the fiery lake that burns and blazes with sulfur; their entire army will be killed with the sword that came out of the mouth of the Rider on the horse (Rev. 19:19-21).

49. Our God great and mighty; the Lord of hosts is His name; great in counsel and mighty in deed; the eyes of my Beloved are open to all the ways of the sons of men, giving to everyone according to their ways and according to the **fruit** of their deeds (Jer. 32:18-19: and those who belong to the Lord will praise Him for rescuing us from the hand of him who constrains and destroys (Ex. 18:10); who will gather all nations and bring them into the **Valley** of Jehoshaphat where the One I love will deal with and execute judgment upon them (Joel 3:2), the same place which in Hebrew is called Armageddon (Rev. 16:16).

50. All will **see** the glory of the Lord, the majesty and splendor and Excellency of our God (Isa. 35:2); and the briars and thorns that are against Him in battle, He will burn them together; unless they **turn** to my Beloved for help; unless they would make peace with Him; yes, let them make peace with Him; let them turn to the One I love for help; let them take hold of His strength and make complete surrender for His protection (Isa. 27:4b- 5); for my Beloved's called and chosen ones shall willingly be with Him in the day of His power, in the beauty of His holiness and in His holy array; they will join the Lord at the fresh break of day; to my Beloved, will spring forth His young men, who are as the dew, with all the vigor of youth; the One I love will strike down many kings in the day of His anger; He will execute judgment in overwhelming punishment upon the nations, crushing opposition across the whole earth (Ps. 110:3).

51. Though the wicked **spring up** like grass, and all evildoers flourish, they will be forever destroyed (Ps. 92:5-7), thrown down, never **to rise** again (Ps. 36:12); for the senseless ones do not know how great the works of the Lord are; and fools do not understand how profound the thoughts of my Beloved are; so let them come to the Father, Who does what is best for us, training us to live His holy best (Heb. 12:10); for it is easy to ascertain, physical training and workouts in the gym are good, but spiritual training, learning to live a disciplined life in God is useful and of value in everything and in every way, for our hope is in the living God (1 Tim. 4:8-9a), the Root and the Offspring of David, and the **radiant and bright** Morning Star (Rev. 22:16); Who died for all; but in particular for all who believe in Him, and accept the One I love as their Savior (1 Tim. 4:9b-10).

52. Everyone **knows** all good athletes are disciplined and train hard; and they go to all this trouble to win a prize, a prize that fades away or monetary awards that are not lasting; and in a race, everyone runs, but only one will get the prize; but our prize is one that will last forever; so run your race with purpose in every step, giving it everything you have, don't give into sloppy living; just shadow-boxing or playing around, beating the air and striking without an adversary; instead, discipline your body and subdue it, training it to do what it should, not what it wants to do; it's your body, fight to make it do what is pleasing to God; and run straight to the goal, for that heavenly reward that never disappears (1 Cor. 9:24-27), the crown of glory that will never fade away, for this is a crown of eternal blessedness (1 Peter 5:4).

53. Yes, God blesses the **person** who is patient under trial and testing and temptation; for afterwards, they will receive the crown of life that He has promised to those who love Him (James 1:12); who follow the Lord's rules for doing His work, just as an athlete who competes according to the rules that have been laid down, and wins the victor's crown (2 Tim. 2:5); the One I love is disciplined and determined to reveal to us a more excellent way (1 Cor. 12:31), for God did not **appoint** us to suffer wrath, but to receive salvation through the One I love (1 Thess. 5:8), Who diligently teaches Truth; for my Beloved wants us to learn what is vital and of real value, so we can choose what is important; then we too can work determinedly to live a life that is untainted and pure, making the One I love attractive to all, with a heart that is sincere and certain, as we approach the day of Christ without stumbling, or causing another to stumble (Phil. 1:10-11).

impelled to heed His call so they too can be brought before God as one flock, under one Shepherd (John 10:16).

56. The sun will become dark, and the moon will turn blood red before the great and terrible day of the Lord arrives; but, every **person** who calls on the name of Jesus will be saved; for some on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there will be deliverance among the survivors (Joel 2:32); yes, in the last days God will pour out His Spirit on all people; He will show wonders in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke (Acts 2:17&19); however, these are the last days in which we live, so call to the One I love, and He will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know (Jer. 33:3); for my Beloved personally bore our sins in His own body on that tree, as on an altar He offered Himself there, so we might cease to exist to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds we have been healed; and like so many sheep, I too had gone astray, but now I have **come back** to the Shepherd and Guardian of my Soul (1 Peter 2:23-25).

57. I pray for ears to hear, and for eyes to be opened; so hearts can understand and people would turn to the One I love and be healed (Acts 28:27); and learn to trust God with untroubled hearts, for my Beloved has gone to His Father's house, where there are many rooms, to prepare a place for His people (John 14:1-3a); yes, the Lord is at our head, our King has passed through before us; my Beloved will surely gather all God's people and bring them together like sheep in a pen, like a flock in its pasture, and the place will throng with

people; for the One I love has opened the way, the Lord has gone before us to lead us out of exile; the Lord Himself will guide us out through the gates of the enemy cities to a land that is our own (Micah 2:12-13); because the One I love is **coming back**, and will take us with Him so we can be where He is (John 14:3b).

58. Before God made the world, in His love He chose us (Eph. 1:4a); knowing He would be our refuge, a high tower where our enemies could never reach us; God always wanted us to live forever in His sanctuary, **to be safe** beneath the shelter of His wings (Ps. 61:3-4); God actually picked us out for Himself as His own, to be holy in His eyes, in Christ, without a single fault; so we could stand before Him covered with His love; God's unchanging plan has always been to adopt us into His own family by sending His Beloved to die for us; this was what God wanted, and it pleased Him to do it; this brings praise to God because of His wonderful grace, which He **gave** to us freely in Christ, the One He loves (Eph. 1:4b-6).

59. Yes, God took **away** Satan's power to accuse us of sin; with the cross of Jesus, God won the victory over His enemies, over all the spiritual tyrants in the universe, and made a public display of them for the whole world to see, for it was at the cross where the One I love took all our sins away; therefore, I won't let anyone criticize or condemn me for what I eat or drink, or for not celebrating religious feasts or holidays; these rules were only shadows of things that were to come, and they have only a symbolic value; the substance belongs to my Beloved (Col. 2:15); because God anointed Jesus to **bring** good news to the poor and to comfort those who are sad (Isa. 61:1a); by

encouraging our hearts with the knowledge of His love, and by His grace strengthening us in every good deed (2 Thess. 2:16), when we **return** to Him Whom we so greatly revolted against (Isa. 31:6).

60. Indeed, God sent my Beloved to bind up and help the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison and of the eyes of those who are bound (Isa. 61:1b); so we can **behold and gaze** upon the beauty and the delightful loveliness of the Lord (Ps. 27:4); and seek my Beloved Who saved us, and called us to a holy life – not because of anything we have done, but because of His own **purpose** and grace; grace that was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, but has now been revealed through the appearing of the One I love, our Savior, Who broke the power of death and has shown us the way of everlasting life through trusting Him (2 Tim. 1:9-10); this is why God sent my Beloved to tell those who mourn the time of the Lord's favor toward them has come; and with it, the day of God's anger against their enemies (Isa. 61:2).

61. The Son of God came to give us understanding and insight to **perceive** and come to know better and more clearly the true God (1 John 5:20a); for it is from God's abundance we all receive and are all supplied with one grace after another and spiritual blessing upon spiritual blessing and even favor upon favor and gift heaped upon gift (John 1:16); through the One I love, Who came so we could live in **fellowship** with the true God (1 John

5:20b), and embrace and **esteem** godly Wisdom (Prov. 4:8); so our soul can find **rest in God alone**, for our salvation comes from Him (Ps. 62:1), Who made it possible for us *to* live in fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ; because my Beloved is the only true God, and He is eternal life (1 John 5:20b).