

# *Have One Mind (in Christ) - Philippians 2:5*

## *A Monthly Magazine*

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### *The Most Powerful Texts — Jerry O'Donnell*

Those who promote the notion that all a person has to do to be saved is believe do not realize the verses that they think support their theory actually are the most powerful verses in the Bible. We say that because when an “only believe” Christian is confronted with Bible truth and it crosses their lifestyle, they immediately dismiss it by saying, “What does it matter? I’m already saved!” In essence, they are saying that by a handful of verses, the whole Bible is done away with. That really does not make any sense. In fact, that sounds quite a bit satanic – use verses of the Bible to do away with the Bible.

The Bible states that God is the Author (1 Corinthians 14:33). The forty individuals involved in contributing to the scriptures are mere writers. That means that God has gone through an awful lot of work constructing the contents of the Bible for it to be simply dismissed by a handful of verses. If that were the case, why did He not just have a single prophet write a single page with the handful of verses that declare, “Just believe”? That is because it is not

just a matter of belief alone, for “the devils also believe, and tremble” (James 2:19), but they are not saved.

Additionally, the Bible was not meant for unbelievers. In fact, when unbelievers read the Bible, it is then criticized, for “the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know [them], because they are spiritually discerned” (1 Corinthians 2:14). The actual purpose is told to us by Jesus: “Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth” (John 17:17). It is to make a born-again Christian into a holy being able to dwell within a sinless realm for eternity with angels who have never fallen, God Who does not sin, and all the redeemed who have repented and ceased from their sins. Although at “the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent” (Acts 17:30), meaning that we, assuming that no sin is being held onto, are sanctified at conversion despite knowing little to nothing in what God expects of us “but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified

in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God” (1 Corinthians 6:11).

Now, just as “the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear” (Mark 4:28), we are to grow in the sanctification process. Although, we are perfect at every stage as long as we remain submissive to the light, keep in mind that purposeful ignorance is not permitted. “And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved” (John 3:19-20). At the same time, sanctification is not about making sure every box is checked and when all of them are checked we have crossed the finish line. In other words, there are Christians who know a whole lot more than other Christians and also practice what they know; that does not mean we have to be at that point immediately, for the moment we believe honestly and

**A Publication By Bible Believing Christians  
For Bible Believing Christians**

if a mishap were to occur, we would be saved without the list being completed. In other words, we need to stop comparing ourselves with ourselves in both directions. Those who do not know as much as others feel inadequate and should not. At the same time, those who are far advanced should not see a fellow Christian far behind in the growth process and lighten up on the seriousness of growing in sanctification, thinking they are so far ahead in the process and if that poor soul is going to go to Heaven, why should further effort be put forth? Both attitudes are wrong. When it comes to “the check-boxes”, it is a matter of willingness to learn and submit to all additional light at the pace that God reveals to us His truths.

So, if the Bible is not for Christians, according to the “just believe” crowd, and unbelievers have no interest in it, then who was the Bible written for? Of course, it is for the Christian, which means that the “just believe” crowd are in error. They are not “rightly dividing the word of truth” (2 Timothy 2:15).

For instance, they say that John 10:28-29 shows that once we are

in God’s hands, we can never be removed: “And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any [man] pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave [them] me, is greater than all; and no [man] is able to pluck [them] out of my Father’s hand.” That is because they ignore the lead-in verse: “My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.” (John 10:27). The colon (:) is an implied “if”. Basically, the protection only occurs if Christians hear the voice or Word of God and follow it. That is not a single date in time but a daily relationship. In fact, Paul was upset with the “just believe once” crowd thinking now one is eternally saved. “I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily” (1 Corinthians 15:31), which is connected to Jesus’ statement, “If any [man] will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me” (Matthew 16:24). So, to deny oneself is to die to self and it is done daily, therefore, it is not one moment in time that makes one saved for eternity. We are even told, “he that endureth to the end shall be saved” (Matthew 10:22, Matthew 24:13, Mark 13:13).

Of course, Luke penned, “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house” (Acts 16:31). It does look like belief alone on one day does save, however we are also told, “He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned” (Mark 16:16). Now which is it? Does one just believe or does a person believe and is baptized to be saved, implying that if a person is not baptized, they are lost? We ask, “How long is one to believe?” If it is one day being sufficient, as the “just believe” crowd want people to, well, believe, then we have a problem since there is a contradiction here.

Like we started out with, we are dealing with powerful verses of the Bible, which seem to cancel out scripture and in fact, the whole Bible. But, if the word “believe” actually meant, which it does, a continuous belief, then we have no contradiction for as we grow in the knowledge of the expectations set forth for Christians to obey, then it all fits. We are expected to keep following the progressive light. The light of scripture is not stagnant. “And this

*(Continued on page 4)*

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The mission of *Have One Mind (in Christ)* is to encourage the desire of “Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat” (2 Peter 3:12), “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth” (2 Timothy 2:15), and to “abideth in the doctrine of Christ” (2 John 1:9) by following the words of Jesus, “If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him” (John 14:23).

#### Editor and Founder

Jerry O'Donnell

#### About Have One Mind (in Christ) Ministry

This ministry is founded upon the necessity of raising the standard higher and higher. It is a non-profit, volunteer group of Christians who love God's Word and love people so much so that we do not want to see a single person lost.

#### Subscription and Donations

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is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reprov'd. But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God" (John 3:19-21).

Keep in mind, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: [it is] the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man

should boast" (Ephesians 2:8-9). However, it is "not the hearers of the law [are] just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified" (Romans 2:13). This is not contradictory. Doing the law does not contribute to our being saved. We are saved wholly and completely by Jesus Christ's merits. What it means though, is that God's grace or application of Jesus' meritorious work does not get placed upon willful sinners. It is like painting over rust on a car. It may look fine for a moment, but quickly the rust will reappear. We ought not waste the paint on the

rust, but deal with the rust and then paint.

We cannot make up for a single sin. Only "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us [our] sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). But that is just it. We must recognize our sin; then not want to do it again; and forsake it.

So, we do encourage people to believe, but continue to believe. It is like the devil to dismiss God's Word by using God's Word. Let us not fall for such a deception.



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# Be In Health — 3 John 1:2

## What Is Health?

Before we spend a lot of time delving into a subject that is so important that it has its own set of laws and encompasses every aspect of our lives, we need to have a good understanding of what it is and we all need to be in close agreement. To give us a good foundation I am going to start off with the first definition from Webster's 1828 Dictionary, which says that health is: "That state of an animal or living body, in which the parts are sound, well organized and disposed, and in which they all perform freely their natural functions. In this state the animal feels no pain. This word is applied also to plants." I think that definition is easy to understand and accept, but let us also take in some defining words from the Bible in a moment.

Realize that health is a treasure, which lets us know that it is something of great value and high importance, to be guarded and protected, kept safe from harm, and we do not want to risk losing it, which is sin. And since it is considered sin to lose it, then there must be some involvement of the Holy Spirit to reinstate it in our lives through forgiveness, and strengthen us to maintain it. If we profess to be

Christians, we cannot be indifferent to the health of the body or we are transgressing the laws of God.

Health is morality as well as the restoration of the physical and spiritual side of mankind. We are to be forever raising the standard in every area of our Christian walk. We cannot continue to advance on that ladder in our journey (2 Peter 1:5-7) without good health.

In referencing the Bible's uses of health, Strong's offers such words as safe, well, happy, friendly, prosperous, peace; but the last one says it all – wholly. To be in health is to be whole and we cannot add anything to that in Heaven's language. To be whole is to be complete in all areas of our lives – mental and spiritual as well as physical. Now we might look at ourselves and say I am nowhere near whole or complete. But when we have dedicated our lives to Jesus and continue on that ladder in full surrender, God does not look at us as a sinner, He looks at us the same way He looks at Jesus – as whole. This does not mean we give up and let Jesus and God do all the work, no, we have a part, and that part is to care diligently for the entire life we have been given to the best of our ability. Jesus tells us Himself

that to be whole is to be healthy in Luke 5:31, "And Jesus answering said unto them, They that are whole need not a physician;"

You may have heard about someone being found "safe and sound" – this is actually the very term used to describe the prodigal son on his return home in Luke 15:27, "And he said unto him, Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound", which meant by the use of the word "sound" that the young man was found to be "Entire; unbroken; Healthy; not diseased; Whole; entire; unhurt; un mutilated; as a sound body." Another place where the word "sound" is used as a descriptive of health is in 2 Tim. 1:7, "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind", which addresses the condition of our thinking, spiritual nature.

John, in 3 John 1:2, links health with general success in all affairs of life – "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth." We see from this that not one interconnected aspect of our lives can be defective if we are in true health.

As we go on to study further each month in this topic we will discover that the more light is shed on the subject of health, like any other, it gets even broader, higher and deeper, and even extends into future eternity, making a full circle from whence it came – eternity past.



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# Healthy and Delicious Recipes

## Smoky Chickpea, Lentil & Cabbage Stew with Kale

### Ingredients:

- 2 tablespoons avocado or olive oil
- 1 medium yellow onion, small diced
- 2 medium carrots, diced
- ½ teaspoon smoked paprika
- 1 tablespoon fresh thyme leaves, minced
- 4 cloves of garlic, minced
- 2 tablespoons tomato paste
- sea salt to taste
- ¾ cup French OR brown lentils, rinsed
- 4 cups finely chopped green cabbage (about ½ small savoy/ green cabbage)
- 1 15- oz can chickpeas, drained & rinsed (or 1 ½ cups cooked chickpeas)
- 1 28- oz can crushed tomatoes (I prefer fire-roasted)
- 6 cups vegetable stock

- 2 cups chopped kale, lightly packed
- 2 teaspoons gluten-free tamari soy sauce [water, soybeans, salt, and sweetener]
- 3-4 drops vegan liquid smoke (optional)

### Instructions

1. Heat a large, heavy-bottomed pot over medium heat. Once heated, pour in the oil. Add the onions and carrots to the pot and stir. The vegetables should sizzle, but just barely. Continue to saute until the onions are very soft and starting to break down, about 5 minutes. If vegetables begin to brown too fast, lower the heat a bit.
2. Add the paprika, thyme, and garlic to the pot and stir until fragrant, about 1 minute. Add the tomato paste to the pot and continue to stir until the raw flavor of the tomato paste is cooked out, about 1 minute. Season everything with salt.

3. Add the lentils, cabbage, and chickpeas to the pot and stir to coat in the spices and oil. Season everything again with salt. Add the crushed tomatoes and vegetable stock to the pot and stir.
4. Place a lid on the pot and bring the soup to a boil. Once boiling, lower the heat to a simmer, remove the lid, and cook uncovered until lentils are tender, stirring occasionally, for about 25 minutes.
5. Once the lentils are tender, stir in the chopped kale and bring the soup back up to a boil. Cook until kale is bright green and tender, about 1 minute. Stir in the tamari and liquid smoke (if using). Check the soup for seasoning and adjust if necessary. Serve the smoky chickpea, lentil, and cabbage soup hot!



## Natural Vitamins

### Benefits of Quinoa

1. Promotes weight loss
2. Helps prevent osteoporosis
3. Protects the heart
4. Improves skin health
5. Fights inflammation
6. Helps fight cancer
7. Helps fight diabetes and hypertension
8. Improves metabolism
9. Aids in anemia treatment
10. Enhances digestive health
11. Promotes longevity
12. Aids tissue repair and growth

13. Strengthens hair follicles

14. Helps treat dandruff when used as paste applied for 15

minutes



## Be Ye Holy — 1 Peter 1:15

1 Timothy 1:8-11 states, “But we know that the law [is] good, if a man use it lawfully; Knowing this, that the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, for unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers, For whoremongers, for them that defile themselves with mankind, for menstealers, for liars, for perjured persons, and if there be any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine; According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust.” For those that think the law of the Ten Commandments has been done away with, if a person commits a sin, these verses clearly teach that the law is intended for that person. Once we receive the blessings of the gospel as a free gift (justification), we are to become righteous people (sanctification). In other words, we are to be people who have been sanctified by the Word and made holy. We become righteous. The law then is no longer for us because when a person obeys the law, there is no condemnation (Romans 8:1), but if we sin, the law is for us to point out our guilt and need of a Savior. That is all the law can do. The law cannot save us, but for sinners, it has a purpose to direct us to the Savior,

who will freely forgive us upon the confession of our sins (1 John 1:9). So, are you sinning thinking the law has been nailed to the cross not realizing that that law reveals what a righteous person is like, or have you gone to the Savior, entered into a saving relationship, and now walk before Him in a righteous manner avoiding sin?

2 Timothy 1:9 says, “Who hath saved us, and called [us] with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began.” Obviously, the word “grace” is the reference to the free gift of justification. The word “holy” is in reference to sanctification, but things become unclear when followed up with the words “not according to our works”. Many Christians misunderstand this to refer to being holy in title only but we shall continue in works of sin. That contradicts the number of times that Jesus commanded, “sin no more” (John 5:14). The reason it is not our own works is because even in sanctification, it is not us gritting our teeth and working at it. First, “his divine power hath given unto us all things that [pertain] unto life and godliness” (2 Peter 1:3). Second, Jesus “is able to keep you from falling”

(Jude 1:24). Third, “we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works” (Ephesians 2:10). In other words, the works are the result of a saving relationship, and it is Christ's righteousness showing forth because, of ourselves, “I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing” (Romans 7:18). It is not natural for us to do “good works” unselfishly, but once we are connected with Heaven, we have “the power that worketh in us” (Ephesians 3:20). So, do you have the power from Heaven to be holy, or are you “denying the power” (2 Timothy 3:5)?

Titus 1:7-9 tells us, “For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre; But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate; Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.” A list of dos and don'ts is clearly outlining a holy and sanctified life, but many skim over the verse and say, “I'm not desiring to be a bishop, so it does not apply to me.” There are two problems with that. First, the reason a bishop is to be blameless is because he is to

set the example for the church to follow, to obey. The second is that, unlike today, a bishop was simply chosen from the congregation, and these instructions were given to search among the congregation for one that fits this description. Today, people attend a religious school and upon graduation, they are put into positions automatically despite the unconverted character they may have. So, are you following the example blamelessly, which means that there are no practiced transgression towards God, or are you carelessly being a Christian in name only but not “in deed and in truth” (1 John 3:18)?

Hebrews 2:1 says, “Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let [them] slip.” If we were saved by justification alone, there would be no need for earnest heed. The earnest heed to the things heard is sanctification. When we hear that “your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost [which is] in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own” (1 Corinthians 6:19), we treat it as a temple. To be careless and treat our bodies with gluttony, watching garbage TV, listening to worldly and suggestive music, enjoying life to all hours of the night, etc., we are not taking heed and shall be lost. There are many more verses in the Bible to take earnest heed over to become a holy and sanctified Christian which we are to become, for we are commanded “be ye holy” (1 Peter 1:15), and remember, “holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord” (Hebrews 12:14). So, are

you taking earnest heed of the things you hear, or are you still stuck on 'justification (grace) lets you sin'?

James 1:13 states, “Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.” What are people tempted to do? According to Hebrews 4:15, it is to sin. Therefore, to sin is to give in to the temptation. The expectation of a Christian is not to give in to temptation. Therefore, we are not to sin. And that is the sanctified and holy life of a Christian because we are not just saved but Jesus “shall save his people from their sins” (Matthew 1:21) and has. So, do you just sin thinking there is no such thing as temptation? Do you think that giving in to temptation is no big deal? Or do you overcome temptations by the power of God living the holy life?

1 Peter 1:6-9 says, “Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see [him] not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: Receiving the end of your faith, [even] the salvation of [your]

souls.” Before we get started, the phrase “end of your faith” means “result of your faith”, which equates to faith being something exercised and not simply something we possess. It goes through trials and temptations, as previously stated. A temptation is that of seeing if we are going to sin or not. If the consequence were not to be able to lose eternal salvation by giving in to sin, the devil would not tempt us. It is like a game. No one wants to play if one particular person is always going to win and win big. That is what these trials, these temptations are all about. It is to see if we shall give up the faith to enjoy the sinning, but if we continuously “Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you” (James 4:7), the result of exercising our faith will be salvation. That is the sanctified or holy living of a Christian. So, just how much faith do you have, or even exercise? Enough to resist giving in to temptations? Able to endure trials that try to make you crack and give up the faith? “He that endureth to the end shall be saved” (Matthew 10:22).

Supposed Christians say, “I’m saved by faith; not of works!” Yet Peter says, “And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity” (2 Peter 1:5-7). We are to move from justification through the steps of sanctification. Virtue is an



expressed character trait. Godliness is clearly holy living, as well as temperance. So, are you adding onto your faith a holy life, or are you a stagnant Christian that will decay?

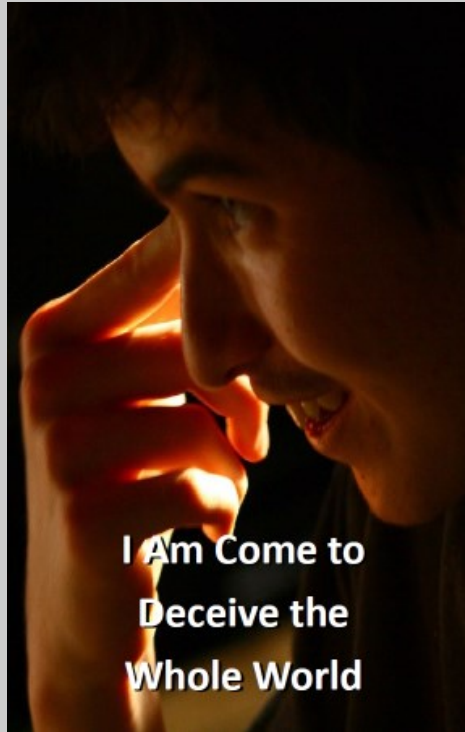
1 John 1:7 tells us, "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." To be cleansed of all sins is the free gift of justification, but it is all contingent upon our response to salvation – "if we walk" or obey "what light" or knowledge we have, then the promises are ours. That is a holy and a sanctified life. There are so many Christians who are deceived because their pastors have not informed them of the whole gospel where there are conditions on this relationship with God. So, are you obeying the gospel message, which is to keep the commandments (Proverbs 6:23) and His Word (Psalms 119:105), or are you just claiming the forgiveness part, ignoring the conditions?

Jude 1:4 says, "For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ." So, ministers would come along and take the definition of grace to permit lasciviousness. If one were to look at all six uses of the word "lasciviousness", it is always in the list of sins. "Sin is the transgression of the law" (1 John 3:4). Now if grace would be taught

as permitting the transgression of the law, and that is a bad thing, that means grace does not permit transgressing of the law. In other words, "Shall we sin, because we

are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid" (Romans 6:15). "Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law" (Romans 3:31).

## ***I Am Come to Deceive The Whole World***



***How Satan, from his perspective, is distracting so many Christians while his agenda marches on.***

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**Do you think the attack on gas stoves is by chance?**

**Do you think high fuel prices are typical of up and down prices?**

**Do you think inflation is just the normal highs and lows over the economic timeline?**

**While people are distracted by sports, politics, Hollywood idols, etc., the march towards the agenda is already upon us and increasing in intensity.**

Basically, grace helps us to live a holy and sanctified life. So, are you listening to the many ministers that teach grace permits sinning and does away with the law, or do you reject such teaching by living a holy and sanctified life that God expects and even empowers us to do so (2 Peter 1:3)?

2 John 1:6 says, “And this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it.” And to walk in His commandments is to live a holy and sanctified life. We are up to 90 verse references now that show that there is more than just claiming saved by grace – there is

a way a Christian lives. Will you walk after His commandments and not after whatever you feel is right?

Revelation 2:11 says, “He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.” The “second death” is the permanent end to the devil and the wicked for “the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death” (Revelation 21:8). To escape the second death, a person is to be an

overcomer. It does not state any exceptions. That means that those who believe they are already saved while still sinning, believing they do not have to overcome their sins are actually misled, because if a person is still committing adultery, a person has not overcome adultery. If a person is still stealing, they have not overcome stealing. And the same is true with all of the commandments. To overcome is a holy and sanctified life, and that is what this verse expects from everyone who claims the name of Christ. So, are you an overcomer or are you claiming a title of Christian that does not belong to you?



## *Study to Shew Thyself Approved Unto God—(2 Timothy 2:15)*

### **The Light that Shines**

1. What did Jesus refer to His followers as, including His followers today? **Matthew 5:14**
2. With lights in people’s homes being on at night inside a city that has been built on a hill, what can they not be? **Matthew 5:14**
3. When people light a candle, where do they not put it?

### **Matthew 5:15**

4. Where is it placed instead? **Matthew 5:15**
5. What can happen to candlesticks, referring to human beings, if we stay in a backslidden state? **Revelation 2:5**

6. What are we commanded to do with our light? **Beginning of Matthew 5:16**
7. What two reasons are provided as we follow that command? **End of Matthew 5:16**
8. What body part is affected most by light? **Luke 11:34**

9. Light that is not good for us to view will lead to what? **Luke 11:35**
  10. If the body is full of light, what will it not partake in? **Luke 11:36**
- September 2023**
- What Groups See the Second Coming?**
1. What does the beginning of **1 Thessalonians 4:17** state? **“Then we which are alive [and] remain”**
  2. What does the end of **1 Thessalonians 4:16** tell us? **“the dead in Christ shall rise first”**
  3. What do the dead in Christ participate in to see the second coming? **John 5:28-29 “the resurrection of life”**
  4. What group is identified right after the word “clouds” in **Revelation 1:7**? **“every eye shall see him”**
  5. What group is identified in the middle of **Revelation 1:7**? **“they [also] which pierced him”**
  6. Regarding that answer in Revelation 1:7, who was Jesus referring to? **Matthew 26:63-64 “the high priest”**
  7. Who else fulfills the verse of Revelation 1:7 based upon the word “pierced”? **John 19:33-34 “one of the soldiers”**
  8. Who are destroyed with the brightness of Christ’s appearing? **2 Thessalonians 2:8-10 “that Wicked”**
  9. What are those that are slain eating right up to the second coming? **Isaiah 66:15-17 “swine’s flesh, and the abomination, and the mouse”**
  10. What are the saved people doing that allows them to have confidence to stand at the second coming and not be destroyed? **1 John 2:28 “abide in him”**



## *Questions & Answers*

**QUESTION:** Do evil angels die?

**ANSWER:** According to Jude 1:6, the Bible says, “And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.” Their death does not occur until the execution of the judgment, which is hellfire.

It appears the best that can be done with evil angels is to cast them out. Jesus “cast out the spirits with [his] word” (Matthew 8:16); “when the devil was cast out, the dumb spake” (Matthew 9:33); and Jesus “had called unto [him] his twelve disciples, he gave them power [against] unclean spirits, to cast them out” (Matthew 10:1). That is just a small sample of the references we

could supply about confrontation with demons or fallen angels.

It is the movies, television, even books that provide the implication that the devils fight against each other to their death or encounter the good angels, lose in battle, and die.

In fact, the Bible reveals an incident that reveals that no sooner than that time shall the evil angels be dealt with. “And when he was come to the other side into the country of the Gergesenes, there met him two possessed with devils, coming out of the tombs, exceeding fierce, so that no man might pass by that way. And, behold, they cried out, saying, What have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? art thou come hither to torment us before the time? And there was a good way off from them an herd of many swine feeding. So

the devils besought him, saying, If thou cast us out, suffer us to go away into the herd of swine” (Matthew 8:28-31). The torment spoken of is that of the promised punishment at the time of judgment, but instead, Jesus simply cast them out into the swine. He had power to destroy them right there and then, but He did not.

**QUESTION:** Who is taken first – the saved or the lost?

**ANSWER:** When you combine Proverbs 3:25-26 with 1 Thessalonians 4:17, we see that the wicked are taken out of the way first. “Be not afraid of sudden fear, neither of the desolation of the wicked, when it cometh. For the LORD shall be thy confidence, and shall keep thy foot from being taken. Then we

which are alive [and] remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord." To be kept from being taken is not the death at the hands of other humans for history reveals that there have been many martyrs. This "foot from being taken" is about standing for God, and He shall keep us from being lost or taken out of the way. In other words, if we are successful, while the lost are being taken out of the way, our foot shall remain, which is brought out in the Thessalonian verse. The use of the word "remain" in Thessalonians strongly implies that others are being taken out of the way, and they are, while the saved person remains. We want to be part of those who remain or are left behind.

Let us put it this way, when the vast majority of Christians are being taught that they do not want to be left behind, we can count on the fact that we indeed do want to be left behind because the vast majority are usually wrong. Further, when the movies portray the same thing, of wanting to be taken, we know that they misalign God's character and encourage people to root for the rebellious side instead of the obedient side. Therefore, they would indeed encourage the wrong desire when it comes to one being taken and the other being left behind. Since the movies and books encourage people to be taken, it must be wrong.

But let us investigate the verses themselves because some Seventh-day Adventists have challenged the conclusion in past encounters. Looking at Luke 17:34-36, where are the people? In verse 34, two men are in bed. They have retired for the night. And no, there is nothing encouraging a relationship here as it is customary to share the same bed. In verse 35 as well as in Matthew 24:41, we see two women hard at work grinding at the mill. In verse 36, we see two men in the field working. We know where all six people happen to be. So, when the disciples ask, "Where, Lord?" in verse 37, it does not make sense to be asking, "Where are the ones left behind at?" No. The logical question is, "Where do the ones taken happen to be going to?"

Now, Jesus' answer is a little vague when He states, "Whosoever the body [is], thither will the eagles be gathered together" in verse 37. Without comparing scripture to scripture, which would break the rule for proper Bible study according to Isaiah 28:9-10, people have concluded that this is the secret rapture or at the very least, these are the ones taken to Heaven because the eagles soar in the sky and so shall the saved be for they "shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord" (1 Thessalonians 4:17).

The hint to understanding what Jesus meant happens to be in the use of the word "body". Bodies will

be taken to the eagles. And in doing a proper Bible study, we compare scripture and find out that "whosoever the carcass is, there will the eagles be gathered together" (Matthew 24:28). In other words, this fulfills Revelation 19:17-18, which says, "And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all [men, both] free and bond, both small and great."

So, the "taken" are the lost and they are dealt with first. Even Matthew 13:29-30 reveals this in a different probable. "But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn." The use of the word "first" means that the lost are dealt with first. Back in the other parable, the ones being taken are being dealt with first. We equate the two together and come to the same conclusion. The lost are taken first to be feasted upon by the eagles, or fowl.



## News and Comments

### July 4—Telegraph

**'I left my dream job to home school my kids because I was afraid of their screen addictions'**

Praise the Lord that there are still parents who place a child ahead of self desires. The Bible tells parents, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not

depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6). The Bible does not say to drop them in daycare or public school system. Now, there is a place for daycare and schools, so please, for those that have

circumstances that necessitate that need, do not get irked, but those who simply use daycare just for career oriented purposes, living comfortably, saving up for family vacations, and other worldly sought after distractions from parental duty, the advice is to follow the example of this mother. Even time together in the evening as a family is not necessarily a reason to throw a child into the daycare and public school pathway. Many parents used to tag-team employment where, though it is hard to do, one worked the day shift while the other a night shift or a modified second shift. Ease is not an excuse with God.

#### July 4—Fox News

##### **(name withheld) likely violated First Amendment during COVID-19 pandemic, federal judge says**

This is not a political shot, hence why the name of the violator was removed. The constitution does not allow for a crisis to usurp citizen's rights. Even forbidding the assembly of people for church, technically, was a violation. Just confirmation of what was stated over the past few years, freedom of speech and other constitutional rights being voided is an example of the United States gearing up to "spake as a dragon" (Revelation 13:11). The Supreme Court decision will not deter these leaders. It took a few years to strike things down. The damage has long been done, and there will be no apology, correction, or even compensation towards those that were violated. They simply stop one tactic and move onto the next.

#### July 10—Benzinga

##### **Bud Light Plummets To 14th Place Among Beers As Anheuser-Busch CEO Pleads For Consumers To Think Of The 65,000 Employees Impacted By Boycotts**

Maybe they should have thought about their employees before pursuing the agenda. To blame the

boycotters is a serious gaslighting move, but that is typical in this day and age. "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!" (Isaiah 5:20). "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap" (Galatians 6:7).

#### July 10—PC Gamer

##### **Bizarroland UN press stunt sees AI robots lined up to promise they won't kill humans, before one says 'let's get wild and make this world our playground'**

The reference in the article after the "get wild" comment was a quote from the movie "Terminator": "I need your clothes, your boots, and your motorcycle." That was a movie set in the future in which AI was eliminating all humans for a better future in AI's mind. Many fear that is a predictive movie in which AI will eliminate humans, but that does not match the Bible: "Then we which are alive [and] remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord" (1 Thessalonians 4:17).

#### July 13—CBS News

##### **Millions of Gen-Xers have almost nothing saved for retirement, researchers say**

The article uses phrases like: "woefully unprepared financially for retirement", "some 40% don't have a penny saved for retirement", "data indicate that the vast majority are not even close to having enough savings to retire", "The American Dream of retirement is going to be a nightmare for too many Gen-Xers", "they'll need savings of at least \$1 million to retire comfortably", "The status quo means we are looking at elder poverty for many Gen-Xers and pressure on their families for support", and others. This is what the Bible states regarding planning for retirement ... (nothing).

As the article admitted, it is "the American dream". What the article failed to state was the option of not retiring. If a person is able to work, why are they forced to retire because of reaching a certain age? Those who can afford life in retirement living the "the American dream", what a blessing! But it is unnecessary to worry or belittle any group of people because they chose to intentionally or unintentionally not chase "the American dream". Gen Xers that are seeing events unfolding may be doing their best to get out of debt and prepare for Jesus to return in their life time – "the Heavenly hope!" "And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure" (1 John 3:3).

#### July 13—CNN

##### **Man acquitted of assault as grope lasted less than 10 seconds, sparking outrage**

Yet another country and another class of evil permitted to reign. People who loot under a certain dollar amount usually are not brought to court. Many officers are informed to wait until after the crime is completed before showing up so as to lower the risk of being sued. And now molestation being permitted as long as it is under ten seconds is very much encouraging to other gropers. "Woe unto them that call evil good" (Isaiah 5:20)!

#### July 23—US News

##### **Say Goodbye to Bodypainting Day, New York City's Annual Celebration of Nudity and Artistry**

Although body painting on nude models is legal in New York, it is not appreciated by God. Nudity is to be shared between husband and wife and not to be an experience with the public. "When thou seest the naked, that thou cover him" (Isaiah 58:7). "And when Moses saw that the people [were] naked; (for Aaron had

made them naked unto [their] shame among their enemies:) Then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, Who [is] on the LORD'S side? [let him come] unto me. And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together unto him" (Exodus 32:25-26). Much of the art world is an excuse to be naked, obscene, and to indulge in other rebellious actions.

### July 23—Your Tango

#### **Woman's Husband Asks For An Open Marriage, Then Gets Jealous When His Wife Gets Tons Of Tinder Matches**

Open marriages, living together, "modern dating", etc. is nothing more than an attack on the purpose of marriage. Let us face it, those that sleep around and then decide to "settle down" with one partner, what do you really bring to the marriage? There is nothing special. It is just an agreement to only have one intimate partner for the rest of your life with the one you decided to settle down with and evidently, that is not even true with open marriages. There is no wonder of why people refer to marriage as a piece of paper and many choose to not get one. And no wonder many marriages are dull, boring, a feeling like friends sharing a life together instead of actually being a married couple. No wonder it is easy to fight with a spouse. If the fight goes too far, just get a new spouse or go back to playing the field again. The specialty of marriage is mostly gone in this "modern world". If you are single, never been married, and have not had intimacy, continue to hold out and be patient to find that other special partner. The blessings of God will be tremendous. Those who have already fallen, repent and be celibate. We cannot lie but that special blessing of marriage is lost. A person cannot pretend it did not happen. The experience has already happened. By remaining celibate, it will help the future marriage but it will not be perfect. Besides, when a person

actually engages in such activity, technically before God, they are married: "And Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent, and took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her: and Isaac was comforted after his mother's [death]" (Genesis 24:67). Isaac and Rebekah went into the tent as a couple and came out husband and wife. We are pretty sure there was no minister hiding in the tent with them. Let us teach our youth the sanctity of marriage. Do not simply teach them that intimacy is for marriage; teach them that it is marriage. The public marriage ceremony is like baptism. It is a public display of a commitment. A person is not a Christian on the day of baptism. It is an outward commitment to being a Christian. And by the way, when we state the word "intimacy", that includes things leading up to it. It may sound old-fashioned but that is because society has changed. The intent of God is that at the ceremony, the couple finally get to kiss. So even "making out" should be off the table before the eyes of God. No wonder Joseph was ready to divorce Mary even before being married. That shows that all of the modern aspects of "dating" are wrong.

### July 25—Telegraph

#### **'The only way to treat obesity is to make people understand that it is a self-inflicted wound'**

Although there are some medical exceptions, choice is a big contributor to weight gain. It takes discipline, endurance, and a commitment to making healthy choices. "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God" (1 Corinthians 10:31) and not for the glory of the tastebuds.

### July 25—CBS News

#### **Popular weight loss drugs Ozempic and Wegovy may cause stomach paralysis, doctors warn**

This goes to show that "FDA Approved" does not always mean that it is safe. On top of that, the happy and cheerful commercials that pushed this stuff show that it is all about making a profit. And the sad part is about what lengths people will go to in order to deal with weight loss. "Whose end [is] destruction, whose God [is their] belly, and [whose] glory [is] in their shame, who mind earthly things" (Philippians 3:19).

### July 26—Buzz Feed

#### **The 6 Most Shocking Claims Made About UFOs At Congress's Hearing About UFOs**

It does not matter what they claim because we know that it is the work of demons for they are making "fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven" (Luke 21:11). Since the nations are on board with all of these UFO sightings, we know the time is near for God to work mightily.

### July 30—(Source Withheld)

#### **(blank) Bares It All in 'Empowering and Freeing' Photos**

The person this time around, as it is a daily occurrence with celebrities, especially as they age in an attempt to state that they are still sexy and relevant, has been withheld on purpose so as not to arouse curiosity. But why is becoming naked before the entire world empowering? The first encounter with "empowerment" and "nakedness" goes way back in time to the Garden of Eden. Eve was told, "ye shall be as gods" (Genesis 3:5) and the result was that "they knew that they [were] naked" (Genesis 3:7). Only today, people put the nakedness first in blatant disregard to God and His ways that by this means of nakedness, they experience "knowing good and evil" (Genesis 3:5). Basically, these are people who have not learned the lesson of Adam and Eve fulfilling the quite often stated "modern day Eves".

## August 2—Popular Mechanics

### **An Aging Expert Thinks Humans Can Live for 20,000 Years. He's Not Crazy.**

So, in the area of "oppositions of science falsely so called" (1 Timothy 6:20), this guy thinks he is better than God. God's best model that was not tainted with sin at the start lived only "nine hundred and thirty years" (Genesis 5:5). The longest living person was Methuselah and he lived "nine hundred sixty and nine years" (Genesis 5:27). Humans are always looking for the way to undo God's curse. Oh, that is because most of them do not believe in God.

## August 7—Business Insider

### **An ancient skull unlike any human ever seen is baffling scientists and could rewrite the story of our evolution**

Why does anyone still believe in evolution? It keeps changing. Christians may have various understanding of Genesis 1 and 2, but without human interpretation, God's Word still stands. The fact that even Jesus, the Son of God, makes reference to creation week (Matthew 19:4), tells us what the literal interpretation is stands true. "Oppositions of science falsely so called" (1 Timothy 6:20) is what the problem is.

## August 10—9 News

### **Man says he was 'compelled' to expose himself to women on Jeffco trails, affidavit says**

We cannot use the argument, "The devil made me do it" or even, "I was compelled." "Because the carnal mind [is] enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be" (Romans 8:7). The way society and justice are going today, do not be surprised if "being compelled" is going to be an allowable excuse one of these days.

## August 12—NY Post

### **Japanese man who spent \$14K to become a collie says his family accepts it**

Despite the news misreporting that this man wanted to live like a dog but simply wears the costume once a week and the family is alright with it, does not negate the fact that he literally acts like a dog and interacts with other dogs. Of course, the fact that he makes a decent amount of money off it, paying off the \$14K investment, does encourage him a bit. What people will do for money. "Riches profit not in the day of wrath: but righteousness delivereth from death" (Proverbs 11:4).

## August 15—The Gateway Pundit

### **UMM, WHAT? Museum in Minneapolis Holds 'Family Friendly' Event to Summon a Demon**

There is nothing "family friendly" regarding demons, for they destroy families! "Yea, they sacrificed their sons and their daughters unto devils" (Psalms 106:37).

## August 22—Huff Post

### **5-Year-Old Killed In Drive-By Shooting Between Teens Fighting Over A Girl, Police Say**

The precept or principle set forth in James 2:10 still stands today. "For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one [point], he is guilty of all." In highlighting the obvious commandment breaking keeping in mind that the others were broken as well, we have selfishness breaks the first commandment; idolizing a girl is the second; murder attempt as well as accidentally murdering is the sixth. Uncontrolled anger easily escalates, and sadly, the innocent usually get hurt.

## August 26—Telegraph

### **Do not heat your homes in the evenings, net zero quango tells public**

When "net zero carbon emissions" is the goal and basically a god, then even human life has no value and ought to be sacrificed for this god. Interestingly, they are hypocrites. Even the article reveals that various subgroups, like the CCC (The Climate Change Committee) has its own people not abiding by the "no gas boiler" policy. It is easy to make up policies, even enforce them upon others, but harder to follow by one's own self. The adage of "lead by example" comes to mind. Again, forced compliance is of the devil. Invitation is God's way. "When the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn" (Proverbs 29:2).

## August 28—Insider

### **I've studied more than 5,000 near death experiences. My research has convinced me without a doubt that there's life after death.**

Something spiritual surely happens with NDEs, but getting a glimpse of Heaven and hovering over the operation room, basically having the conscience separate from the body, are all conclusions of the senses but the Bible says otherwise. "For the living know that they shall die: but the dead know not any thing, neither have they any more a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten" (Ecclesiastes 9:5). No one considers that evil angels can plant observations and details of things into people's heads while on the operating table. As for glimpses of Heaven or another realm, the mind can easily create those things but that does not make the experience a reality. The fact that no two stories are the same regarding what people see reveals that each of us has different perceptions as opposed to reality. In other words, if everyone received a glimpse of Heaven during and NDE, then they would be very much similar at the very least. All of the people visit the same destination here on earth coming back to tell similar stories. Yes, the details of the experience may

be different, but the main attractions will be factual. Heaven is not going to be an individual experience. The visions given to the prophets reveal facts of what Heaven will be like. The NDEs should reflect that and not some other experience.

**August 29—Independent**

**Teenage girl, 16, stabbed to death in fight over sweet and sour sauce at Washington DC McDonald's**

When people are willing to fight and kill over things like this goes beyond it even being an idol. "Hear the word of the LORD, ye children of Israel: for the LORD hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because

[there is] no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land. By swearing, and lying, and killing, and stealing, and committing adultery, they break out, and blood toucheth blood" (Hosea 4:1-2).



## Natural Remedies

### Relief from Fever Blisters

When that itchy, tingling, burning sensation is first noticed on the lip is the time to act to stop the pain. Usually if you wrap an ice cube in

a thin cloth and hold it directly on the affected lip area for 30 to 60 minutes, the fever blister can be completely eradicated before it

even gets started with this simple procedure.

