

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

## *A Monthly Magazine*

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### *Proving That the Antichrist, the Little Horn, The Man of Sin, and the Beast of Revelation 13 Are One and the Same Entity!*

*Jerry O'Donnell*

If those four entities can become separated, that paints a whole different picture about the Antichrist and its historical links impacting the future awareness as well as the present day acknowledgment of who the Antichrist really is.

So, despite knowing that all four of these references point to the same being as the Antichrist, if you were challenged to prove how they are linked together, could you explain the links? That is the purpose of this article, and sermon that is provided by this ministry.

We begin at the easiest point and that is where the word "Antichrist" appears in the Bible. It appears by one writer in four places. On purpose, let us look at them in reverse order of mention.

2 John 1:7-9 says, "For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist. Look to

yourself, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward. Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son." From this reference, please focus upon the fact there are two different doctrines. Either we have the doctrine of Jesus Christ, or Antichrist. That will become important to link with one of the other titles.

1 John 4:1-6 tells us, "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that [spirit] of antichrist, whereof ye have heard

that it should come; and even now already is it in the world. Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world. They are of the world: therefore speak they of the world, and the world heareth them. We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error." Please take note that we either have the spirit of truth, being the side of Jesus Christ, or the spirit of error, being Antichrist. Again, this is necessary to link with one of the other titles.

1 John 2:21-22 informs us that, "I have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the truth. Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son." The reference to truth as opposed

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to a lie is our next link to keep in the back of the mind to connect to one of the other titles.

Finally, 1 John 2:18 is very revealing by stating, "Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time." This is the most outstanding verse of the four that helps us link to another title. Many try to say that John is referring to Jesus' words spoken of in Matthew 24:5 and Matthew 24:23-24 referring to "false Christs". That may be true when John said, "even now are there many antichrists"; however, John also said, "that antichrist shall come", which points to a single entity. The logical question is where did John hear that, for it is not from Jesus?

Daniel speaks of an entity that would "stand up against the Prince of princes" (Daniel 8:25), "speak marvellous things against the God of gods" (Daniel 11:36), and "speak [great] words against the most High" (Daniel 7:25). Daniel did not know the Messiah by the name of Jesus Christ, so he resorted to a description, and the ultimate description that points to Jesus Christ is that of "Prince of princes".

Who is this entity that Daniel speaks of? "I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn [were] eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things" (Daniel 7:8). "Therefore the he goat waxed very great: and when he was strong, the great horn was broken; and for it came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven. And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant [land]" (Daniel 8:8-9). In both cases, it is the "little horn". So far, we now have one very strong link between the term Antichrist of John, and the "little horn" of Daniel being the same entity. But let us make some more connections to solidify this relationship.

Let us examine one of the doctrines of Jesus. "If ye love me, keep my commandments" (John 14:15). "If thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments" (Matthew 19:17). "Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do

and teach [them], the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 5:19). He uplifted the Ten Commandments, which is also known as the law.

So, what does the "little horn" power think to do? He shall "think to change times and laws" (Daniel 7:25). And of course, those laws are nothing short of God's Ten Commandments. It has nothing to do with governmental changes in laws of the land, as many antagonists try to use as an argument.

But while we are at it, what is another activity of the "little horn" power? "It cast down the truth to the ground" (Daniel 8:12). And if the truth is cast down, that means lies and errors are promoted, which are two more connections from John's Antichrist description. Overall, we have four connections between John and the little horn: against the Prince of princes, attacking the truth, promoting lies and errors, as well as thinking to change God's laws.

Now, let us connect the "little horn" or antichrist to the beast of Revelation 13. Let us look at the four characteristics of the "little horn" as compared to the beast of Revelation 13. According to Daniel, the "little horn" would

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## **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.

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“speak [great] words against the most High” (Daniel 7:25) while the beast would have “a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies” (Revelation 13:5). According to Daniel, the “little horn” “shall wear out the saints of the most High” (Daniel 7:25) while the beast would “make war with the saints, and to overcome them” (Revelation 13:7). According to Daniel, the “little horn” would have the saints “given into his hand” (Daniel 7:25) while the beast would have “power ... given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations” (Revelation 13:7), as well as “leadeth into captivity” (Revelation 13:10). Finally, according to Daniel, the “little horn” would operate pretty much unchallenged for “a time and times and the dividing of time” (Daniel 7:25), equating to a year, two years, and a half year as the word “time” refers to a year, and “times” is more than one year, and without specifying how many times, it defaults to two years. Including the divided, or half a year, that is three and half symbolic years in total. Well, the beast period of time is “forty [and] two months” (Revelation 13:5) with twelve months in a year that equals a period of the same symbolic period of three and a half years. There are four connections between the “little horn” and the beast of Revelation 13.

All we have now is the man of sin to connect with. According to 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4, the Bible says, “Let no man deceive you by any means: for [that day shall not come], except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth

himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.” First off, according to 1 John 3:4, “sin is the transgression of the law”, therefore, the “man of sin” is connected with thinking it can change “times and laws” of God, leading everyone astray from Jesus’ doctrine, and Who uplifted the Ten Commandments as originally written.

On top of that, the “man of sin” tries to usurp “worship” (2 Thessalonians 2:4). According to Revelation 13, “they worshipped the beast” (Revelation 13:4) and “all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him” (Revelation 13:8).

If that is not enough of a connection, “the man of sin” would “exalteth himself above all that is called God” (2 Thessalonians 2:4). Using just a handful of items that are called God, we encounter John 17:17, which says, “Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.” Of course, the “little horn” would “cast down the truth to the ground” (Daniel 8:12).

Nehemiah 10:29 clarifies that the Ten Commandments are not Moses’, but God’s, and the “little horn” would “think to change times and laws” (Daniel 7:25).

According to Psalms 111:9, “holy and reverend [is] his name”, and neither the blasphemous “little horn”, nor beast of Revelation 13 is allowed to have the title “holy”, or “reverend”, but they claim those titles for themselves.

According to Daniel 9:9, “To the Lord our God [belong] mercies and forgivenesses”. Mark 2:7 tells us

bluntly, “Why doth this [man] thus speak blasphemies? who can forgive sins but God only?” So, the “man of sin” puts himself above God’s prerogative to forgive sins by offering confessionals, which is blasphemous, of which both the “little horn” and the beast of Revelation 13 speak.

And one more thing that is God’s is His tabernacle that the “man of sin” thinks he is above, for the beast “opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle” (Revelation 13:6). That means, all of the operation happening in the heavenly sanctuary is blasphemed. And here is what is going on up there: “Now of the things which we have spoken [this is] the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man” (Hebrews 8:1-2). So, the “man of sin”, the “little horn”, the beast of Revelation 13, and even the Antichrist, all have the doctrine to blaspheme the tabernacle, sacrifice Jesus over and over during the mass, and even “sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God” (2 Thessalonians 2:4).

Overall, the reference in 1 John and 2 John about the Antichrist connects to Daniel 7 and 8 because of the doctrine of Jesus Christ Who uplifted the law while the “little horn” thinks to change it. 1 John heard of a specific Antichrist or the “little horn” that is “against the Prince of princes” (Daniel 8:25). 1 John tells of a battle between truth and

error while the “little horn” cast it down (Daniel 8:12). Daniel 7:25 has 4 characteristics matches the beast of Revelation 13. The “man of Sin” (2 Thessalonians 2:3-4) means a man against God’s law like the “little horn” power. 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4 states that the “man of sin” is above all that is called God which includes worship just like the beast demands, the Word of Truth that the “little horn” cast down, as well as the

fact that the Antichrist fights against pitting error against the truth, and even lies against the truth, offering the blasphemous act of forgiveness that the “little horn” and the beast of Revelation 13 practice, and God’s tabernacle that the beast of Revelation 13 blasphemes.

In short, the case has been proven that all four entities are one and

the same, and all are qualified to be called Antichrist.

So, may we go forth equipped to face any challenge presented to us that tries to unlink these four entities away from identifying the Antichrist power. It is Antichrist, the “man of sin”, the beast of Revelation 13, and the “little horn” power.



## Heavenly Health

### The Keeping of Your Personal Atmosphere

Last month we briefly covered the interesting topic of the atmosphere which surrounds each of us and how the atmosphere of others, and ourselves, affects anyone around us, but now we need to go a bit further into what might be the defining origin of that atmosphere, and how to keep it clean.

What if, in our free time, we would pick up our Bibles and do a quick random study, rather than turning on that ubiquitous “device” – the TV or computer or cell phone, to be entertained by the world? Or to call a friend to chat for hours on end about nothing profitable? How much happier and more fulfilled we would be if we changed one simple thing in our everyday lives! And just think how much cleaner our own atmosphere would be.

The apostle Peter sought to teach the believers how important it is to keep the mind from wandering to forbidden themes or from

spending its energies on trifling subjects which fill most of the conversations of today. The mind must not be left to dwell at random upon every subject that the enemy of souls may suggest which seem to come to us in rapid fire most of the time. The heart must be faithfully guarded, or evils from the world will awaken evils within, and the soul will be left to wander in darkness. “Gird up the loins of your mind,” Peter wrote, “be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; ... not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: but as He which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.” 1 Pet. 1:13-16.

Have you really gotten away from, and out of, your “former lusts”? Have you cut off interaction with old acquaintances or friends or even certain family members who are unbelievers who still keep you

engaged in unprofitable communication? Are you still reading the same worldly materials, watching the same programs, listening to the same music, eating the same wrong foods at the wrong times? Staying up late? Dressing the same as before you became a Christian? And then you wonder why your life is so unfulfilling? If we put a check mark by any one of those things, we have a work to do within ourselves in our hearts and minds. Even if our minds tend to drift longingly in any of those directions, there is trouble.

How do we lasso the mind to get it back in line and keep it in line? Every time it wanders, it must be brought back, but not in our own strength. Just like the sheep that wander from their shepherd and become lost, we are headed for that same fate if we are not disciplined and trusting in the office of the Holy Spirit, for we cannot do the work ourselves. We must surrender everything that we

thought we had control of, to that Spirit.

We should not allow our feelings to be easily wounded, either by real or imagined slights, or perceived wrong words or actions from others, as we did in the past. That is a trap that puts us right in Satan's territory. Self is our worst enemy. Our mission from the Lord is simply to save souls; we are to live, not to guard our feelings or our reputation, but to save souls. It really is that simple. As we become interested in the salvation of souls, we stop nit-picking others' so-called intentions that so often arise in our association with one another. Whatever others may think of us, it should not alter or upset our mission or relationship with Jesus. "What glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God." The whole of chapter 2 of 1 Peter should be diligently studied.

We all have a work to do to resist any temptation. Those who would not fall a prey to Satan's devices must guard well the avenues of the soul; they must avoid reading, seeing, or listening to anything that leads one back to

pre-Christian living. Says Paul, "Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." With earnest prayer and unceasing watchfulness, we are to be watchmen on the walls of our minds. We must be helped by the constant influence of the Holy Spirit, which will lead the mind to the Word of God.

What a comfort when we realize that the divine Presence is constantly by our side. Christ has said, "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." Remember that He hears every unkind word, every harsh, cutting expression. If you could visibly see Jesus standing by your side, would you speak such words? Then guard carefully every word and action. Walk in all lowliness of mind, cherishing a spirit of meekness and kindness. Live so that others may see that there is a difference between the disposition of a Christian, and the disposition of those who make no claim to be Christ's followers.

Do not confuse anyone's mind with ideas from your speech or your actions that do not harmonize with the Word. Consider that even under the teaching of Christ many of the disciples were pitifully ignorant; but when the Holy Spirit that Jesus promised came upon them and made the vacillating Peter the champion of faith, what a transformation took place in his character! We are to be consistent, calm, deep, and solid – the same in public as at home, and vice-versa. Do not go to any extreme in anything, but keep your feet always on the firm foundation of the Word.

So, I believe we can see that a healthy Christ-like mind is the determining factor to having a clean personal atmosphere, and remember, our mind is exactly what Satan wants from each of us, for if he has our mind, then he has our allegiance. It is obvious that guarding our mind must be a priority in our lives. These are all ways to keep our influence clean and to protect us from the persuasions from the darkness of others. May we all strive to develop and maintain a pure spiritual surrounding.



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# Healthy and Delicious Recipes

## One Pot Spinach and Artichoke Pasta

### Ingredients

- 1 (14 oz.) can artichoke hearts
- 4 cloves garlic
- 1 medium yellow onion
- 5 cups vegetable broth
- 2 Tbsp olive oil
- 12 oz. fettuccine
- 1 tsp dried oregano
- ½ tsp dried thyme
- 4 oz. frozen cut spinach

### Instructions

1. Drain the can of artichoke hearts and roughly chop them into bite-sized pieces.

2. Thinly slice the onion and garlic (you can mince the garlic if you prefer it that way).
3. Place the vegetable broth, olive oil, artichoke hearts, onions, and garlic in a large pot.
4. Break the fettuccine in half and add it to the pot along with the oregano and thyme.
5. Push the ingredients down under the broth as much as possible.
6. Place a lid on the pot and bring it up to a rolling boil over high heat.
7. As soon as it reaches a boil, stir the pot to evenly distribute the ingredients and prevent the pasta from sticking.
8. Turn the heat down to low so that the pot is just simmering.
9. Allow the pot to simmer, with the lid on, for 10-15 minutes, or until the pasta is tender and most of the liquid has been absorbed.
10. Give the pot a stir every few minutes to prevent the pasta from sticking.
11. Once the pasta is cooked through, add the frozen spinach.
12. Allow the heat from the pasta to thaw the spinach.
13. Stir the pot to help break up the clumps of spinach as they melt.

Serve hot.



## Natural Vitamins

### Benefits of Asparagus

Asparagus is a nutrient-rich vegetable that offers a wide range of health benefits. Here are some of the key benefits of eating asparagus:

#### Nutritional Benefits

1. Low in Calories, High in Nutrients
- High in fiber, folate, and vitamins A, C, E, and K
  - Contains essential minerals like iron, potassium, and phosphorus
  - 2. Rich in Antioxidants
  - Contains flavonoids and polyphenols that help fight oxidative stress
  - Helps reduce inflammation and support overall cellular health
  - 3. Good Source of Folate (Vitamin B9)
  - Crucial for pregnant women to help prevent neural tube defects
  - Supports cell growth and DNA formation

#### Digestive and Metabolic Health

4. High in Fiber

- Promotes healthy digestion and regular bowel movements
  - May help lower cholesterol levels
5. Natural Diuretic
- Increases urine production, helping the body eliminate excess salt and fluid
  - Can be beneficial for people with high blood pressure or edema

6. Supports Gut Health
- Contains inulin, a prebiotic fiber that feeds beneficial gut bacteria

#### Other Health Benefits

7. May Support Brain Health
- Folate and antioxidants in asparagus may reduce cognitive decline
8. May Help Regulate Blood Sugar

- Fiber and antioxidants help improve insulin sensitivity
9. May Help with Weight Management
- Low in calories and high in water and fiber, which helps you feel full

#### Easy to Incorporate into Meals

- Asparagus can be steamed, grilled, or roasted



## Be Ye Holy — 1 Peter 1:15

To be a Christian includes avoiding certain things. Though this is not all we ought to avoid, it covers the topics that were discussed in a counsel and handed down; so minimally, this is part of the expected sanctified and holy life when it comes to eating and keeping oneself pure. Acts 21:25 states, “As touching the Gentiles which believe, we have written [and] concluded that they observe no such thing, save only that they keep themselves from [things] offered to idols, and from blood, and from strangled, and from fornication.” So, are you eating meat with the blood still in it, or participating physically or mentally in fornication, sexual perversion, or have you avoided such meats, and keep yourself from the sensualization that is found everywhere in our society?

Ephesians 5:8 says, “For ye were sometimes darkness, but now [are ye] light in the Lord: walk as

children of light.” To walk as children of light, knowledge is the holy and sanctified life. So, are you walking, living as a child in the light and knowledge of the gospel, or in darkness of sin?

Hebrews 12:5-8 discusses the chastening of the Lord upon us and not to resist, for it is for our good, and then ends with, “But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons” (Hebrews 12:8). Bastards will not inherit the kingdom! Therefore, there are expected rules to follow. Those rules are the holy and sanctified life. Now, when you do not follow those rules do you accept the chastening of God to bring you back to the rules, or do you ignore the rules and ignore God’s promptings to stop breaking them?

James 5:19-20 says, “Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.” Please note that James is addressing the brethren. These are supposed “saved” Christians who are subject to the possibility of erring in the truth and in need of conversion. Further, that conversion saves them from the death sentence, hell. Even “sins” are involved, which, by definition, “sin is the transgression of the law” (1 John 3:4) and if not repented of, causes one to lose out on eternal life, hence the message of Jesus being, “repent ye, and believe the gospel” (Mark 1:15). Therefore, the Ten Commandments are still expected to be followed, truth is to be submitted to, and we are not “once saved, always saved”, all of which adds up to the fact that Christians, once they are

born-again and have been forgiven of all their sins, are expected to live the holy and sanctified life. So, are you converted, keeping the commandments and obeying the truth, or are you in need of conversion as you participate in the worldly ways?

1 Peter 4:17 states again, that it is clear that when a person is born-again, saved, that person is expected to live a holy and sanctified life. "For the time [is come] that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if [it] first [begin] at us, what shall the end [be] of them that obey not the gospel of God?" Obedience is what we do with the gospel as it frees us from sin. And all those who claim to be saved are going to be judged first according to the fruit of their belief. If the fruit is not in giving up sin and obeying the commandments, they will be cast out just as Matthew foresees, "Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity" (Matthew 7:22-23). So, do you obey the gospel, or do you think belief in Jesus is sufficient as you live in disobedience because you think the commandments have been nailed to the cross, are under grace alone, under faith alone?

1 John 5:3 defines the love towards God – It is not the feeling

in the heart. It is not singing songs or yelling "Praise be to God!" "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous." It is living the holy and sanctified life. They really are not that hard if one truly loves God, keeping in mind that it is a revelation of the heart and not a means for becoming saved. So, how are you doing in keeping the Ten Commandments?

Revelation 21:7 says, "He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son." Overcoming is the expected holy and sanctified life. We are told that "For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, [even] our faith. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?" (1 John 5:4-5). That faith, that belief is not just an intellectual acknowledgment of Jesus being the Son of God, but it is faith and belief in what that title means. "Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present [you] faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy" (Jude 1:24). He will keep us from sinning, even from participating in worldly attractions. Now that is strong faith and belief, but rarely found among Christians instead of that fluffy stuff people try to pass off as being a Christian – "just say the words 'I believe' and you're saved!" So, are you overcoming the ways of the world or going right along with it?

Matthew 7:22-23 reveals a group of Christians going to hell: "Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity." Work of iniquity, being lawless, being without the commandments, doing whatever they want and yet claiming to be saved, thinking that they are saved because of being able to prophesy, cast out devils, and do many other miracles. Keeping one's self from iniquity, following the law, obeying the commandments is the expected holy and sanctified life. So, are you dismissing the commandments, or living them as the fruit of Christ is saving you?

Ephesians 5:9 states that "(For the fruit of the Spirit [is] in all goodness and righteousness and truth;)". Without the fruit of the Spirit we shall not be saved, because we will not have the Spirit, and without the Spirit, we are dead. We only have the fruit of the Spirit in all goodness, righteousness, and truth, which is the holy and sanctified life. Therefore, we do not have the fruit of the spirit in selfishness, unrighteousness called sin, and believing lies. So, does the fruit of the Spirit exist in you, or do you reject the fruit through your own selfishness, unrighteousness, and purposeful ignorance of the truth?

John 11:26 is for those who understand sentence structure

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the normal  
highs and lows  
over the  
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idols, etc., the  
march towards**

which points to an expected holy and sanctified life. "And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?" The fact that we are to live and believe is the focus. This is not simply about belief, and this is not just about those who are alive that believe, because the scriptures state that "the dead know not any thing, neither have they any more a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten" (Ecclesiastes 9:5). Now, to make this plain, let us show the sentence structure, as intended. "And whosoever liveth in me and believeth in me shall never die". Did you catch that? We are to "live in Christ" and "believe in Christ", which then equates to "live and believe in Christ". Both separate statements and the joined statement say the same thing. It is like saying, "The ball is red" and "The car is red" or simply saying that "The ball and the car are red". Now, to confirm this, Paul said, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me" (Galatians 2:20). The direct point is that we are to "live in Christ", "walk, even as he walked" (1 John 2:6), etc. That is the expected sanctified life. So, do you not only believe, but do you also live in Christ?

Romans 7:1-6 keeps mentioning about being married to the law, but through Christ, "now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not [in] the oldness of

the letter” (Romans 7:6). It may appear at first to do away with the holy and sanctified life of obedience to the law, but quite the opposite. Read carefully, in the flesh we break the law by sinning and are condemned by the law. In the flesh, there is a thought that as long as we keep the letter, we will be okay, but that is not right either, for that is legalism. We declare because we obey the law at some point, forgetting that we already sinned and are in need of a Savior, legally we ought to be granted Heaven by also negating Jesus’ sacrifice, which is a type of earning Heaven. Please note in the

summary verse provided, we still “serve” according to the “law”, only we serve by the “spirit” of the law now. The “spirit” of the law does not do away with the “letter”. The “spirit” of the law goes beyond the “letter”. Instead of just avoiding the physical act of committing adultery, we avoid “looking on a woman to lust after her” (Matthew 5:28) in the heart. Instead of just avoiding physically killing someone, we also avoid being “angry with his brother without a cause” (Matthew 5:22). In other words, the “spirit” of the law includes the “letter”; it does not do away with the law. So, has

Jesus been able to declare of you, “I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts” (Hebrews 8:10), or have you nailed the law to the cross claiming you are spiritual now?

Ephesians 5:10 says, “Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord.” That is the expected holy and sanctified lifestyle. So, everything you do or say, do you make sure God will accept it, or are you just careless, thinking it does not matter?



## Questions & Answers

**Question:** Since God can see the future, why did God not just skip over the creation of Lucifer? And God does seem to control outcomes.

**Answer:** As for control, though God sets up kings and takes them down, that is not the same as controlling the creation of beings. For instance, God brought the flood, which would appear as controlling, but it was to allow evil to go no further, or every righteous person would have been gone. According to the Bible, that was a just act of God. To refuse to create a being is not a just act of God. In effect, He would have been creating robots of good only, even though they would think they have free will.

Remember, when it comes to kings, just because God may set them up

and remove them, does not mean they are good kings. Pharaoh rose up to enslave the Israelites in Egypt. If there had not been an evil Pharaoh, the Israelites would have stayed in Egypt and there would have been no Israel. At the same time, the Pharaoh that knew Joseph was kind enough to save Joseph and his family. Satan would have chosen an evil Pharaoh for the time of Joseph to wipe out the beginnings of Israel, but God prevented it with a good Pharaoh, hence, God ultimately chose the leader of the country. Likewise, prophecy of the 400-year captivity was at hand and the Israelites were no closer to leaving, so Satan was permitted by God to choose his Pharaoh – an evil one – however, it was still by the allowance of God. God was ultimately responsible for

setting him up by allowing him to come into power. God also took him down in the Red Sea.

Likewise, in the opposite direction, we have the bad kingship, at least at first, of King Nebuchadnezzar who was used to punish Israel; however, under Cyrus, Darius, and Artaxerxes, the outcome was turned to good in that they financed the rebuilding of Jerusalem. Satan did not want that, but could not stop them from coming into power, so God prevented Satan’s wipe-out attempt by bringing Israel’s friendly leaders to power.

Keeping in mind that every creature, including Lucifer himself, was created perfect and there was no evil being actually created; if some being were to find out that

God created only good creatures that obeyed Him and He had rejected all the moments that an evil being could have come into existence, that would have led to the concept of free will being tainted. Even if no being found out, to live with that secret would actually tear God's heart. It was free will that allowed the evil to happen. To go through eternity with only the surety of good beings would be like controlling the outcome of a game – every game. What enjoyment does that bring knowing you will win every game even though the opponents would never know that the outcome was fixed? God could never really say that every being has free will; everyone that would have used their free will inappropriately would have been squashed. That is a dictator. That is not love. Love permits real free will.

Think of it this way: A woman wants many children but does not wish to go the natural route for conception, but instead chooses to have it done in a lab. Now taking science fiction a step further, she is able to see the outcome of each of the 12 lives that have been produced; would she, out of love, accept every child, or would she choose only the three 'good' children, which would result in destroying the lives of the remaining nine? She never has to tell the three that they potentially had nine other siblings, but she would forever have to live with that decision. That would be miserable.

God knew the future of each created being. He has "overcome

evil with good" (Romans 12:21). Yes, sin was permitted to enter the universe, but the demonstration of the willingness to send His Son to save us has been performed. If there were never any sin, all created beings would just have *heard* about what a loving God He really is, but through sin, we are able to *see* the love.

**Question:** What are we to do with lazy people? It seems they just continuously take advantage of those who work hard trying to take care of everything while not being grateful. No amount of coaxing seems to change them as they think they are fine as is.

**Answer:** As regard to dealing with lazy people, Proverbs 15:19 tells us that such a person is not saved, for they are the opposite of being righteous. "The way of the slothful [man is] as an hedge of thorns: but the way of the righteous [is] made plain." Therefore, it is our duty to not encourage slothfulness for we would be encouraging sin. In other words, doing for others what they should do for themselves is the rule to follow. "If any would not work, neither should he eat" (2 Thessalonians 3:10). With that said, if they are people we live with, it becomes quite difficult to do nothing for them that encourages slothfulness. Not picking things up that are left lying around can create a safety hazard, even potentially a bug infestation. Either be on their case constantly, expecting to be on their case forever, or do it yourself. Proverbs 26:4-5 tells us that there is no winning against a fool. And "The way of a fool [is] right in his own eyes" (Proverbs 12:15).

Unfortunately, there is not a better solution. We can only do that which is right, say that which is right, and go about our business despite how right they think they are. As best as possible, ignore those lies. We cannot change unconverted people.

**Question:** Can a person be in God's service one minute and the next be possessed of the devil? Does he jump in and out of people?

**Answer:** There are quite a few people who think that as long as you are connected with the church, you are saved. This was the argument that Jews made in Jesus' day too – "We be Abraham's seed!" (John 8:33).

But, in a practical sense, if we are unchristian for a moment, but having a bad day and in an unusual manner decide to blow up and lose self-control, that is not of God. That only leaves one other being – Satan. And if we take it out on someone, we can really injure a soul. That is why repentance and trying to make things right with others is so important. Ignoring the incident, thinking that the other person will eventually just forget about it, has caused many souls to leave the church, leave the faith. It may not be a conscious effort to be an agent of Satan. All of us ought to be perfect, but in reality, every one of us has had bad days in being servants of God and has acted in an un-Christlike manner.



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

## What To Pray For

1. What ought we to pray that we do not enter into? **Matthew 26:41**
2. What ought we to pray to turn from? **Daniel 9:13**
3. What ought we to pray to understand? **Daniel 9:13**
4. In the future, we may have to flee, but we are to pray now so that it does not happen at which two events? **Matthew 24:20**
5. Who ought we to pray for? **James 5:16**
6. There are many snares in the world, but what are we to pray to be accounted worthy of? **Luke 21:36**
7. And if successful in not succumbing to the snares, what are we to pray regarding the “Son of man”? **Luke 21:36**
8. What are we to pray for regarding the harvest? **Luke 10:2**
9. Which human beings are we to specifically pray for? **Luke 6:28**
10. While the enemy may be closing in, what ought we to pray to God regarding our life? **Psalms 64:1**
3. What other version of the word, or name, could be used? **Acts 26:28 “Christian”**
4. What is one category of deceivers? **Matthew 24:11 “false prophets”**
5. What group, if it were possible, could be deceived, showing that being on guard always is important? **Matthew 24:24 “very elect”**
6. What is another category of deceivers? **Middle of 2 Peter 2:1 “false teachers”**
7. What shall be a primary tool of these deceivers? **Mark 13:22 “signs and wonders”**
8. How are we to determine if they are of God? **1 John 4:1 “try the spirits”**
9. What should our attitude be towards those that claim to prophesy? **1 Thessalonians 5:20 “Despise not”**
10. How do we test for the true ones? **Isaiah 8:20 “To the law and to the testimony”**

## August 2025

### Be Not Deceived

1. What are we to do to prevent being deceived? **Matthew 24:4 “Take heed”**
2. What will some claim to be that will deceive many? **Matthew 24:5 “I am Christ”**



# News and Comments

None to be reported this month.



## Who Is the Real Antichrist?

### Who Is the Real Antichrist?



*All of the people and even an object at one point or another has been labeled as being the antichrist, but what does the Bible really reveal?*

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# Departure Considerations

## Matthew 7:21-23

21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

## Matthew 25:41-46

41 Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:

42 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink:

43 I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not.

44 Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee?

45 Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did [it] not to one of the least of these, ye did [it] not to me.

46 And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

## James 2:15-17

15 If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food,

16 And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be [ye] warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what [doth it] profit?

17 Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

## Psalms 119:102

102 I have not departed from thy judgments: for thou hast taught me.

## Psalms 119:115

115 Depart from me, ye evildoers: for I will keep the commandments of my God.

## Proverbs 16:17

17 The highway of the upright [is] to depart from evil: he that keepeth his way preserveth his soul.

## Proverbs 3:7

7 Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.

## Proverbs 3:21

21 My son, let not them depart from thine eyes: keep sound wisdom and discretion:

## Proverbs 4:20-21

20 My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings.

21 Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart.

## Proverbs 5:7

7 Hear me now therefore, O ye children, and depart not from the words of my mouth.

## Proverbs 16:6

6 By mercy and truth iniquity is purged: and by the fear of the LORD [men] depart from evil.

## Proverbs 17:13

13 Whoso rewardeth evil for good, evil shall not depart from his house.

## Proverbs 22:6

6 Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.



## Natural Remedies

### Circulatory Disorders

The lemon is a rich source of vitamin P, otherwise known as bioflavonoids, found in both the juice and peel. Vitamin P strengthens the entire arterial system and is of value in many

circulatory disorders and in heart weakness. It also helps lower blood pressure, reduces cholesterol levels, and improves blood vessel function. Leviticus 17:11 tells us "... the life of the

flesh [is] in the blood: ..." so it is imperative to keep the thoroughfare of the blood free from any interference.

