


Bible Principles



can help us know our Creator personally. They can also help us comprehend the immeasurable value in our doing so.

justbibletruth.com©

This booklet and several others are available to read or print from this website (using .pdf document viewers and printers). Take the opportunity afforded by life to learn what God's son came to teach.⁽²³⁾

justbibletruth.com
A Gathering Of Eagles 
Luke 17:30 & 37

*All who come to God must believe that He exists,
and that He is good. Heb 11:6*

What are Bible principles? How can they help?

A principle, as defined for our consideration, is *an understanding from the Bible* of how God feels about something, and *why he feels the way he does*. That is the very definition of knowing God! Having a working knowledge of the Bible's principles equates to an understanding of what God¹ loves and what he hates, *and why*. Principles are intertwined inextricably with our recognizing and really ~~understanding~~ *believing in* a God who is good.² Our coming to really know him will help us discern He *always* has our best interest at heart.³ As we develop a real awareness of his great

¹ We herein consider scriptures from both the Old and New Testaments. Those scriptures will be talking about Jesus Christ and about his Father. Jesus's Father dealt with mankind for the 4000 years between the creation of Adam and the birth of Jesus Christ. The Old Testament (OT) recounts those dealings. They amount to a record of the people and methods God used to produce the Messiah. The God of the Bible had his name recorded in that OT record over 6000 times. That personal name of God is יהוה in Hebrew. The English translation is Jehovah. It is important to understand, the Bible draws a clear distinction between Jehovah and his son Christ Jesus. Otherwise, many of the scriptures we use will make no sense. Some translations of the Bible removed Jehovah's name from their work. Most replaced it with "LORD" in all capital letters. When you see "LORD" in all caps, it means the divine name was in the original text. Where the original text actually used the word for lord, they used "lord" or "Lord."

Please visit: <http://www.justbibletruth.com/DoesGodHaveAName.html>

² Hebrews 11:6 ALT But without faith *[it is]* impossible to please *[Him]*, for it is necessary *[for]* the one approaching God to believe that He is and *[that]* He becomes a rewarder to the ones diligently seeking Him.

³ Isaiah 48:17 MWT Come near to me, YOU people. Hear this. From the start I have spoken publicly and openly. From the time of its occurring I have been there." And now the Sovereign Lord Jehovah⁽¹⁾ himself has sent me, even his spirit. ¹⁷ This is what Jehovah has said, your Repurchaser, the Holy One of Israel: "I, Jehovah, am your God, the One teaching you to benefit yourself, the One causing you to tread in the way in which you should walk. ¹⁸ O if only you would actually pay attention to my commandments! Then your peace would become just like a river, and your righteousness like the waves of the sea. ¹⁹ And your

love for us, we will be driven to guide our lives by the principles He had recorded for us in the Bible.⁴ That is very different from trying to live by laws or self-imposed rules.⁵ Bible principles connect with love⁶ and help us base our lives around this simple truth: **It is eternally in our best interest to be obedient to the one who gave us life.** Bible principles help us understand why that is always and eternally true, *and to actually believe it!*

Let's start in considering two Bible principles that demonstrate both the type of person we should become, and the type we should avoid becoming at all cost. Most principles are taught in the form of a short story or account that conveys a powerful meaning as it paints a mental image. That mental picture, in turn, attaches to the principle in our mind becoming an illustration and/or understanding of it. A subset of the words we use to describe the principle can then become a brief word label (which

offspring would become just like the sand, and the descendants from your inward parts like the grains of it. Your name would not be cut off or be annihilated from before me.”

⁴ Visit: <http://www.justbibletruth.com/CordsOfLove.html>

⁵ Romans 5:20-21 CEV The Law came, so that the full power of sin could be seen. Yet where sin was powerful, God's kindness was even more powerful. (21) Sin ruled by means of death. But God's kindness now rules, and God has accepted us because of Jesus Christ our Lord. This means that we will have eternal life.~ Romans 4:13-16 CEV God promised Abraham and his descendants that he would give them the world. This promise wasn't made because Abraham had obeyed a law, but because his faith in God made him acceptable. (14) If Abraham and his descendants were given this promise because they had obeyed a law, then faith would mean nothing, and the promise would be worthless. (15) God becomes angry when his Law is broken. But where there isn't a law, it cannot be broken. (16) Everything depends on having faith in God, so that God's promise is assured by his great kindness. This promise isn't only for Abraham's descendants who have the Law. It is for all who are Abraham's descendants because they have faith, just as he did. Abraham is the ancestor of us all.⁽⁵⁵⁾

⁶ <http://www.justbibletruth.com/CordsOfLove.html>

we can use to identify the principle). Those labels, representing the principles, become a new language we have learned by reading the Bible. We can then use those principles (that new language) in discussing the Bible, or other matters. After you consider this booklet, for example, you will be able to have a discussion with someone and know what it means if they say you should be a “good neighbor,” or if they say “Doegs” are hateful and useless people (that pertains to Doegs who refuse to change who they are, of course [and that’s one reason we can never judge others - because they may change tomorrow]). *You* will be able to use those principles in a conversation. The two principles under consideration, then, might obviously be referred to as the “good neighbor” principle and as the “Doeg” principle. As mentioned, one will illustrate what we should strive to become, while the other illustrates what we should be cautious to avoid. Being a good neighbor might be thought of as the spiritual opposite of becoming a Doeg.

The first illustration, the one about the Good neighbor, was taught us by Jesus Christ in the Bible book of Luke:

Luke 10:25-37 GNB A teacher of the Law [*of Moses*] came up and tried to trap Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to receive eternal life?" (26) Jesus answered him, "What do the Scriptures say? How do you interpret them?" (27) The man answered,⁷ 'Love the LORD [*Jehovah*]⁽¹⁾ your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind'; and 'Love your neighbor as you love yourself.' " (28) "You are right,"

⁷ This teacher of the Law of Moses gave answer to Jesus by referring to Deuteronomy 6:5 & Leviticus 19:18:

Deuteronomy 6:5 ASV and thou shalt love Jehovah thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

Leviticus 19:18 Darby Thou shalt not avenge thyself, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: I am Jehovah.

Jesus replied; "do this and you will live." (29) But the teacher of the Law wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "Who *[really]* is my neighbor?" (30) Jesus answered, "There was once a man who was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho when robbers attacked him, stripped him, and beat him up, leaving him half dead. (31) It so happened that a priest *[a religious leader of the group this Law teacher was part of]* was going down that road; but when he saw the man, he walked on by on the other side. (32) In the same way a Levite *[another religious leader]* also came there, went over and looked at the man, and then walked on by on the other side. (33) But a Samaritan *[Samaritans were looked down on with contempt as lower class persons by these religious leaders and their followers]* who was traveling that way came upon the man, and when he saw him, his heart was filled with pity. (34) He went over to him, poured oil and wine on his wounds and bandaged them; then he put the man on his own animal and took him to an inn, where he took care of him. (35) The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Take care of him,' he told the innkeeper, 'and when I come back this way, I will pay you whatever else you spend on him.' " (36) And Jesus concluded, "In your opinion, which one of these three acted like a neighbor toward the man attacked by the robbers?" (37) The teacher of the Law answered, "The one who was kind to him." Jesus replied, "You go, then, and do the same."

This Bible principle helps us better understand⁸ what it means to express loving kindness toward others. Once you hear and reflect on this illustration (given by Jesus himself), you will forever have a better understanding of what "being a good neighbor" means and of what God expects of us. You will understand it is not about people thinking you are a nice person, or about your pretending to be one. It is not about caring for those who are close to you. It is about who you actually are inside, in the secret person of your heart.⁹ If you are a good neighbor, it will always manifest itself as

⁸ <http://www.justbibletruth.com/Faith.html#KnowledgeUnderstandingWisdom>

⁹ 1 Peter 3:3-4 GNB You should not use outward aids to make yourselves beautiful, such as the way you fix your hair, or the jewelry you put on, or the dresses you wear. (4) Instead, your beauty should consist of your true inner self *[or, in the secret*

a loving concern for others.¹⁰ If you hear and reflect on this illustration, the mere mention of “good neighbor” will bring a mental picture of the principle to mind. That and other principles, then, help you understand what pleases God. You likely noted some special insight given by the Bible (as it often does). The person who approached Jesus was trying to trap him, and then, trying to justify himself without having to change who he was. Studying the Bible can give knowledge and insight nearly beyond human comprehension.¹¹ You will also learn Jesus experienced

person of your heart], the ageless beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of the greatest value in God's sight.~

Jehovah⁽¹⁾ also has a secret person of his heart (secret place of his person): Psalms 31:17-24 MWT ¹⁷ O Jehovah,⁽¹⁾ may I not be ashamed, for I have called on you. May the wicked ones be ashamed; May they keep silent in Sheol. ¹⁸ May false lips become speechless, that are speaking against the righteous one, unrestrainedly in haughtiness and contempt. ¹⁹ How abundant your goodness is, which you have treasured up for those fearing you! And which you have rendered to those taking refuge in you, In front of the sons of men. ²⁰ You will conceal them in the secret place of your person, from the banding together of men. You will hide them in your booth from the quarreling of tongues. ²¹ Blessed be Jehovah, for he has rendered wonderful loving-kindness to me in a city under stress. ²² As for me, I said when I became panicky: “I shall certainly be exterminated from in front of your eyes.” Surely you have heard the voice of my entreaties when I cried to you for help. ²³ O love Jehovah, all you loyal ones of his. The faithful ones Jehovah is safeguarding, but he is rewarding exceedingly anyone showing haughtiness. ²⁴ Be courageous, and may your heart be strong, all you who are waiting for Jehovah.

¹⁰ 1 John 4:19-21 GNB We love because God first loved us. (20) If we say we love God, but hate others, we are liars. For we cannot love God, whom we have not seen, if we do not love others, whom we have seen. (21) The command that Christ has given us is this: whoever loves God must love others also.

¹¹ James 1:22-25 CEV Obey God's message! Don't fool yourselves by just listening to it. (23) If you hear the message and don't obey it, you are like people who stare at themselves in a mirror (24) and forget what they look like as soon as they leave. (25) But you must never stop looking at the perfect law that sets you free. God will bless you in everything you do [or, you will have great happiness], if you listen and obey, and don't just hear and forget.~

most of his persecution at the hands of the “religious” leaders of his day.¹² That self-righteous and self-serving attitude by “religionists” easily leads us to the need to understand our second principle:

We must be careful never to become a Doeg. This principle was inspired to be recorded by Jehovah⁽¹⁾ as he was dealing with the Jewish nation for a span of about 1500 years before Christ was born. God was at that time using the Jews, as He had used individuals for 2500 years before them, to produce the Messiah.¹³ Jesus was born from Abraham and from the Jewish branch of his descendants (through Abraham’s great grandson Judah – hence, Jews).¹⁴ To gain the principled value of the account about Doeg, you need to start with some basic Bible background. God told Satan (and thereby promised the rest of us) very early in the Old Testament (in Genesis 3:15,¹⁵ or about page three of the

1 Corinthians 13:11-13 CEV (11) When we were children, we thought and reasoned as children do. But when we grew up, we quit our childish ways. (12) Now all we can see of God is like a cloudy picture in a mirror. Later we will see him face to face. We don't know everything, but then we will, just as God completely understands us. (13) For now there are faith, hope, and love. But of these three, the greatest is love.

¹² Matthew 26:59 ALT Now the chief priests and the elders and the whole High Council [*or, Sanhedrin*] were seeking false testimony against Jesus, in order that they should put Him to death,

¹³ Genesis 22:15-16a LITV And the Angel of Jehovah called to Abraham out of the heavens a second time. (16) And He said, I have sworn by Myself, declares Jehovah, that on account of this thing you have done...~

Genesis 22:18 LITV ... [by] your Seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed because you have obeyed My voice.

¹⁴ Matthew 1:1 CEV Jesus Christ came from the family of King David and also from the family of Abraham. And this is a list of his ancestors.

¹⁵ Genesis 3:15 GNB I will make you and the woman hate each other; her offspring and yours will always be enemies. Her

Bible) that he would produce a Messiah who would save mankind from the sin and death Adam and Eve sold us into. God there stated his coming deliverer (the promised seed of the woman) would crush Satan's head.¹⁶ The balance of the OT (or Hebrew Scriptures – the OT was penned *mostly* in the Hebrew language by individuals of the Jewish nation) goes on to explain the process God went about in producing that "seed of promise." The OT records the 4000 year chain of faithful men God used from Able down to Christ¹⁷ (the Messiah). For a time, while God was using the Jewish nation to become ancestors of the promised "seed of the woman," He used kings selected from among their nation as his way of dealing with them. Those kings were appointed (anointed) by him so as to sit representatively on his throne. Remember the reason this knowledge is important: The Jewish nation existed to first produce,¹⁸ and then to lead us all to faith in,

offspring will crush your head, and you will bite her offspring's heel."

¹⁶ 1 John 3:8 CEV Anyone who keeps on sinning belongs to the devil. He has sinned from the beginning, but the Son of God came to destroy all that he has done.

¹⁷ <http://www.justbibletruth.com/DisplayScroll.html>

¹⁸ John 4:19-26 CEV The woman said, "Sir, I can see that you are a prophet. (20) My ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews say Jerusalem is the only place to worship." (21) Jesus said to her: Believe me, the time is coming when you won't worship the Father either on this mountain or in Jerusalem. (22) You Samaritans don't really know the one you worship. But we Jews do know the God we worship, and by using us, God will save the world. (23) But a time is coming, and it is already here! Even now the true worshipers are being led by the Spirit to worship the Father according to the truth. These are the ones the Father is seeking to worship him. (24) God is Spirit, and those who worship God must be led by the Spirit to worship him according to the truth. (25) The woman said, "I know that the Messiah will come. He is the one we call Christ. When he comes, he will explain everything to us." (26) "I am that one," Jesus told her, "and I am speaking to you now."

the Christ¹⁹ (who will be our king forever).⁽²⁹⁾ Saul was the first in that line of Jewish kings, and David was the second. While Saul began his reign as a good king, he abused his freedom of will and choice to make himself bad. Although David loved Jehovah,⁽¹⁾ and was always faithful to King Saul out of his respect for God's having appointed him as king,²⁰ Saul lost his love for Jehovah and became jealous of David. Finally, Saul came to hate David and tried to kill him.

That brings us to the appearance of Doeg in our consideration of this Bible account. David had earlier been forced to flee from King Saul to avoid being killed. As he ran away, David stopped by the

¹⁹ Galatians 3:23-25 ALT But before faith came, we were being guarded [*or, being kept in protective custody*] under [*the*] Law, having been confined to the faith about to be revealed. (24) Therefore, the Law has become our tutor [*to lead us*] to Christ, so that by faith we should be justified [*or, declared righteous*]. (25) But since faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.

²⁰ 1 Samuel 24:8-15 GNB Then David went out after him and called to him, "Your Majesty!" Saul turned around, and David bowed down to the ground in respect (9) and said, "Why do you listen to people who say that I am trying to harm you? (10) You can see for yourself that just now in the cave the LORD [*Jehovah*]⁽¹⁾ put you in my power. Some of my men told me to kill you, but I felt sorry for you and said that I would not harm you in the least, because you are the one whom the LORD [*Jehovah*]⁽¹⁾ chose to be king. (11) Look, my father, look at the piece of your robe I am holding! I could have killed you, but instead I only cut this off. This should convince you that I have no thought of rebelling against you or of harming you. You are hunting me down to kill me, even though I have not done you any wrong. (12) May the LORD [*Jehovah*]⁽¹⁾ judge which one of us is wrong! May he punish you for your action against me, for I will not harm you in the least. (13) You know the old saying, 'Evil is done only by evil people.' And so I will not harm you. (14) Look at what the king of Israel is trying to kill! Look at what he is chasing! A dead dog, a flea! (15) The LORD [*Jehovah*]⁽¹⁾ will judge, and he will decide which one of us is wrong. May he look into the matter, defend me, and save me from you."

temple asking food and a weapon from High Priest Ahimelech. David often went about the business of the King, and the high priest thought nothing unusual about his visit. Ahimelech gave David food and the sword of Goliath.²¹ Doeg was an attendant of King Saul, and he was present at the temple to witness this event! Later, in a fit of rage, Saul accused all of his servants of conspiring with David against him. Doeg was in attendance again, and he freely volunteered to Saul that he had seen High Priest Ahimelech give food and a weapon to David. Saul summoned the High Priest in his unfounded rage. High Priest Ahimelech admitted without

²¹ **1 Samuel 21:1-10 LITV** And David came to Nob, to Ahimelech the priest. And Ahimelech trembled at meeting David, and said to him, Why *are* you by yourself, and no man with you? (2) And David said to Ahimelech the priest, The king has commanded me a matter; and he said to me, Do not let a man know anything of the matter about which I am sending you, and which I told you. And I have directed the young men to such and such a place. (3) And now, what is there under your hand? Give five *loaves* into my hand, or whatever is found. (4) And the priest answered David and said, *There* is no common bread under my hand, but only holy bread, if the young men have only been kept from a woman. (5) And David answered the priest and said to him, Surely, a woman *has been* kept from us as yesterday and the third *day*, since I came out, and the vessels of the young men are holy. And *in* a way the holy *bread* is common; also surely today it is sanctified in the vessels. (6) And the priest gave the holy *bread* to him, for there was no bread there except the Bread of the Presence which is taken from the presence of Jehovah in order to put hot bread in on the day it is taken away. (7) And a man *was* there on that day, of the servants of Saul, detained before Jehovah. And his name *was* Doeg the Edomite, the chief of Saul's shepherds. (8) And David said to Ahimelech, Is there not here under your hand *a* spear or sword? For I have taken neither my sword or my weapons, for the king's matter was urgent. (9) And the priest said, The sword of Goliath the Philistine, whom you struck in the valley of Elah; behold, it *is* wrapped in the cloak behind the ephod. If you desire, take it for yourself; for there is no other here except it. And David said, There is none like it. Give it to me. (10) And David rose up and fled from the face of Saul on that day, and he came to Achish the king of Gath.

hesitation he had given the items to David, and stated he thought David to be on some business of the King. Without sensible reason, Saul ordered his aides to kill Ahimelech. All of Saul's attendants refused the king's order. Not Doeg, however. Doeg presented himself as one pleased to put Ahimelech to death.²²

²² **1 Samuel 22:7-23 LITV** And Saul said to his servants who were standing by him, Now hear, Benjamites. Will the son of Jesse also give to any of you fields and vineyards? Will he make each of you commanders of thousands and commanders of hundreds, (8) that all of you have conspired against me, and no one was revealing *in* my ear when my son cut *a covenant* with the son of Jesse? And not one of you is sorry for me, even *to* reveal in my ear that my son has stirred up my servant against me, to lie in wait, as at this day. (9) And Doeg the Edomite, even he was set over Saul's servants, answered and said, I saw the son of Jesse coming to Nob, to Ahimelech the son of Ahitub. (10) And he asked for him of Jehovah, and gave provisions to him, and gave him the sword of Goliath the Philistine. (11) And the king sent to call Ahimelech the priest, the son of Ahitub, and all his father's house, the priests in Nob. And they came, all of them, to the king. (12) And Saul said, Now hear, son of Ahitub. And he said, I *am* here, my lord. (13) And Saul said to him, Why have you conspired against me, you and the son of Jesse by your giving bread and a sword to him, and to ask of God for him, to rise up against me, to lie in wait, as at this day? (14) And Ahimelech answered the king and said, And who among all your servants *is* as David *the* faithful, and son-in-law of the king; *who* does your bidding, and is honorable in all your house? (15) Have I today begun to ask of God for him? Far be it from me! Do not let the king lay anything against his servant, against any of my father's house, for your servant has known nothing of this, more or less. (16) And the king said, dying you shall die, Ahimelech, you and your father's house. (17) And the king said to the runners that stood by him, Turn and kill the priests of Jehovah, because their hand also *is* with David, and because they knew that he was fleeing, and did not reveal *it in* my ear. But the king's servants were not willing to put forth their hand to fall on the priests of Jehovah. (18) And the king said to Doeg, You turn and fall on the priests. And Doeg the Edomite turned and fell on the priests and killed eighty five men bearing a linen ephod in that day. (19) And he struck Nob, the city of the priests with the mouth of the sword, from man even to woman, from child even

Think about all this Bible drama relates. Saul was the king of God's nation, being anointed with oil to that post by Jehovah's prophet Samuel.²³ Ahimelech was the high priest over God's nation, being anointed to that position to care for the spiritual needs of Jehovah's nation. The obviously mad king ordered his servants, Jehovah's servants, to kill the High Priest; Jehovah's High Priest. All of those stationed about the king refused. They were all well aware Saul could and might put them to death for their refusal. Doeg, however, was pleased to follow his King's orders, putting to death not only Ahimelech, but the other priests and all their wives and their children. The men who refused Saul's order, you see, refused because they loved Jehovah⁽¹⁾ and had faith in his promises. What was important to them was pleasing God. They might not have understood all that was going on, but they knew they were not going to stretch out their hand against the High Priest anointed by Jehovah himself; not even at the order of God's anointed king. They would not bring such harm! Doeg, on the other hand, was only interested in pleasing King Saul (no doubt for the benefits he imagined through currying favor with the powerful earthly King). Doeg demonstrated no interest in pleasing Jehovah, or in showing love for others. Doeg thus displayed himself to be just the opposite of a good neighbor. Doeg might

to suckling, and ox, and ass, and sheep, with the mouth of the sword. (20) And one son escaped of Ahimelech the son of Ahitub. And his name *was* Abiathar, and he fled after David. (21) And Abiathar told David that Saul had killed the priests of Jehovah. (22) And David said to Abiathar, I knew on that day when Doeg the Edomite *was* there, that he certainly would tell Saul. I am turned *to grief* for every life of the house of your father. (23) Stay with me. Do not fear. For he who seeks my life seeks your life. For with me you *will be under* protection.

²³ 1 Samuel 9:27-10:1 LITV They were going down to the edge of the city, and Samuel said to Saul, Say to the young man that he should pass on before us and cross over. And you stand still at this time, and I will cause you to hear the Word of God. 10:1 And Samuel took the flask of oil and poured on his head, and kissed him, and said, *Is it* not because Jehovah has anointed you for a leader over His inheritance?

even have liked Ahimelech. The Bible doesn't comment on how he felt about Ahimelech, and if the Bible doesn't say it, we don't know. What we can know, however, through an understanding of Bible principles, is that Doeg *did not love Jehovah*.⁽¹⁰⁾

About 1100 years after Doeg lived, Jesus Christ was born. In the Gospel accounts of his life and teachings, he identified himself as the seed of promise from Genesis 3:15.⁽¹⁵⁾ He also taught us his father is looking through the earth for every individual who is a potential good neighbor,²⁴ as demonstrated by their having love for God and their fellow humans.²⁵ If you want to know and love our Creator, you *must* pay close attention to the teachings brought us by his Son. Jesus is the only one who can teach you about God.²⁶ Jesus gave us many beautiful word pictures that

²⁴ **2 Chronicles 16:9a ASV** For the eyes of Jehovah run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him...

²⁵ **Matthew 22:34-39 MWT** Now the Pharisees having heard that He put to shame and silenced the Sadducees, gathered together. (35) And one of them, a teacher of Jewish Law, questioned him, testing Him, and saying, (36) "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" (37) Then Jesus said to him, "You will love Jehovah your God with your whole heart [*fig., your entire inner self*] and with your whole soul and with your whole understanding.' [*Deut 6:4,5*] (38) "This is the first and greatest commandment. (39) "But a second is similar to it, 'You will love your neighbor as yourself.' [*Lev 19:18*]-

Deuteronomy 6:4-7 Darby (4) Hear, Israel: Jehovah our God is one Jehovah; (5) and thou shalt love Jehovah thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength. (6) And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thy heart; (7) and thou shalt impress them on thy sons, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thy house, and when thou goest on the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

Leviticus 19:18 Darby Thou shalt not avenge thyself, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: I am Jehovah.

²⁶ **John 6:44a ALT** "No one is able to come to Me unless the Father having sent Me draws [*or, drags*] him...~

relate the principles his Father wants us to know.⁽⁵²⁾ Jesus's life and death present as at least one of those principles. He is the son offered by our loving Father in behalf of those He has affection for.²⁷ He is also the loving and obedient son who willingly offered himself to that task,²⁸ in order to restore peace to the universe, and return an obedient creation to his Father.²⁹ It is simply the most beautiful story every conceived or told.

Matthew 11:25-28 CEV At that moment Jesus said: My Father, Lord of heaven and earth, I am grateful that you hid all this from wise and educated people and showed it to ordinary people. (26) Yes, Father, that is what pleased you. (27) My Father has given me everything, and he is the only one who knows the Son. The only one who truly knows the Father is the Son. But the Son wants to tell others about the Father, so that they can know him too. (28) If you are tired from carrying heavy burdens, come to me and I will give you rest.

²⁷ John 3:16 ALT "For God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten [*or, unique*] Son, so that every [*one*] believing [*or, trusting*] in Him shall not perish, but shall be having eternal life!

²⁸ Psalms 40:6-9 GW You were not pleased with sacrifices and offerings. You have dug out two ears for me. You did not ask for burnt offerings or sacrifices for sin. (7) Then I said, "I have come! (It is written about me in the scroll of the book.) (8) I am happy to do your will, O my God." Your teachings are deep within me. (9) I will announce the good news of righteousness among those assembled for worship. I will not close my lips. You know that, O LORD [*Jehovah*]⁽¹⁾.

²⁹ 1 Corinthians 15:17-28 GW (17) If Christ hasn't come back to life, your faith is worthless and sin still has you in its power. (18) Then those who have died as believers in Christ no longer exist. (19) If Christ is our hope in this life only, we deserve more pity than any other people. (20) But now Christ has come back from the dead. He is the very first person of those who have died to come back to life. (21) Since a man brought death, a man also brought life back from death. (22) As everyone dies because of Adam, so also everyone will be made alive because of Christ. (23) This will happen to each person in his own turn. Christ is the first, then at his coming, those who belong to him will be made alive. (24) Then the end will come. Christ will hand over the kingdom to God the Father as he destroys every ruler, authority, and power.

The principle of Doeg illustrates the difference between those who have religion, and those who have love for God and other humans (the definition of being Christian).⁽²⁵⁾ The difference between having religion and having Christianity might be thought of in the context of submission, and of who we submit to. Many people think and/or talk a lot about submission. There are philosophers who state every human relationship we are involved in is comprised of a dominant and submissive roll by the two parties involved. (That is also the very definition of the animalistic “pecking order.”) Some people even assert being submissive to others brings freedom, and that will make us happy. (That is actually true, but only when the one we submit to is perfect and good. Men are not those things. Only God is good and worthy of our submission!³⁰ Jesus Christ has proven himself to be worthy of our submission as well.)⁽²⁹⁾ Most of us rebel at the thought of submitting to another person, *when we are aware that is what is happening to us*. That is the method by which religion harms people. Religionists trick people into submitting to them, and to their religious sect (their followers thus making themselves responsible for the deeds [or fruit] of the sect), by deceiving the person into believing they are submitting to God.⁽³⁴⁾ All those individuals who have religion, you see, have each one submitted to some sect of men. Conversely, true Christians submit only to

(25) Christ must rule until God has put every enemy under his control. (26) The last enemy he will destroy is death. (27) Clearly, God has put everything under Christ's authority. When God says that everything has been put under Christ's authority, this clearly excludes God, since God has put everything under Christ's authority. (28) But when God puts everything under Christ's authority, the Son will put himself under God's authority, since God had put everything under the Son's authority. Then God will be in control of everything.

³⁰ Luke 18:18-19 ESV And a ruler asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" (19) And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone.

Christ Jesus,^{31 & (40)} and that based on what they personally learn from him by studying the Gospel accounts of his life and teaching.⁽⁸²⁾ The Bible principle of being a good neighbor is one of many teachings by Jesus to help us make our minds over.³² That restructuring of our mind is how we become people worthy of accepting God's gift of life. None of us start out being pleasing to God.³³ Only Jesus can help us change from *remaining* workers of

³¹ Those submitting to Christ do realize they are also submitting to his Father. Christians recognize Jesus to be sent by his Father. He is the only one we can rely on!~

Acts 4:12 GNB Salvation is to be found through him alone; in all the world there is no one else whom God has given who can save us."

³² Romans 12:2 GNB Do not conform yourselves to the standards of this world, but let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind. Then you will be able to know the will of God---what is good and is pleasing to him and is perfect.

³³ 1 John 1:10 GNB If we say that we have not sinned, we make a liar out of God, and his word is not in us.~

1 John 2:1-10 GNB I am writing this to you, my children, so that you will not sin; but if anyone does sin, we have someone who pleads with the Father on our behalf---Jesus Christ, the righteous one. (2) And Christ himself is the means by which our sins are forgiven, and not our sins only, but also the sins of everyone. (3) If we obey God's commands, then we are sure that we know him. (4) If we say that we know him, but do not obey his commands, we are liars and there is no truth in us. (5) But if we obey his word, we are the ones whose love for God has really been made perfect. This is how we can be sure that we are in union with God: (6) if we say that we remain in union with God, we should live just as Jesus Christ did. (7) My dear friends, this command I am writing you is not new; it is the old command, the one you have had from the very beginning. The old command is the message you have already heard. (8) However, the command I now write you is new, because its truth is seen in Christ and also in you. For the darkness is passing away, and the real light is already shining. (9) If we say that we are in the light, yet hate others, we are in the darkness to this very hour. (10) If we love others, we live in the light, and so there is nothing in us that will cause someone else to sin.

lawlessness.³⁴ To transform ourselves (and we are the only ones who can), we must simply, but really and truly, listen to what Jesus said.³⁵ We must become familiar with what he taught! Making our minds over does not mean we are *earning* Life. Life is a gift. Jehovah simply must not, however, grant the gift of eternal life to people who would use it to cause harm and destroy (in the same way rebellious Satan and Adam and Eve did). People who refuse to submit to Jehovah⁽²⁹⁾ would destroy perfection all over again.³⁶ The terrible condition³⁷ we have brought our world to will

³⁴ Matthew 7:21-23 YLT `Not every one who is saying to me Lord, lord, shall come into the reign of the heavens; but he who is doing the will of my Father who is in the heavens. (22) Many will say to me in that day, Lord, lord, have we not in thy name prophesied? and in thy name cast out demons? and in thy name done many mighty things? (23) and then I will acknowledge to them, that--I never knew you, depart from me ye who are working lawlessness.

³⁵ John 8:30-32 ESV As he was saying these things, many believed in him. (31) So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you abide in my word [or, remain in my teachings], you are truly my disciples, (32) and [then,] you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

³⁶ Hebrews 6:1-6 GNB Let us go forward, then, to mature teaching and leave behind us the first lessons of the Christian message. We should not lay again the foundation of turning away from useless works and believing in God; (2) of the teaching about baptisms and the laying on of hands; of the resurrection of the dead and the eternal judgment. (3) Let us go forward! And this is what we will do, if God allows. (4) For how can those who abandon their faith be brought back to repent again? They were once in God's light; they tasted heaven's gift and received their share of the Holy Spirit; (5) they knew from experience that God's word is good, and they had felt the powers of the coming age. (6) And then they abandoned their faith! It is impossible to bring them back to repent again, because they are again crucifying the Son of God and exposing him to public shame.

³⁷ Matthew 24:4-14 CEV Jesus answered: Don't let anyone fool you. (5) Many will come and claim to be me [*will come in my name*]. They will say that they are [*or represent*] the Messiah, and they will fool many people. (6) You will soon hear about wars and threats of wars, but don't be afraid. These things will have to

be remembered as the eternal touchstone proving the absolute need for God to eradicate the wicked. It also proves the need for our submission to God. Becoming a Christian redefines what people are.⁽³⁴⁾ Christianity will ~~stop you~~ help you change from remaining a worker of lawlessness. The group comprising true Christians is made of all the individuals who have submitted themselves to follow Christ Jesus inside their own mind and heart, and then give public witness that is who they are.³⁸ Even though each sectarian religious group proclaim otherwise, none of them can judge or manifest who are on that list.³⁹ Jesus started the

happen first, but that isn't the end. (7) Nations and kingdoms will go to war against each other. People will starve to death, and in some places there will be earthquakes. (8) But this is just the beginning of troubles. (9) You will be arrested, punished, and even killed. Because of me, you will be hated by people of all nations. (10) Many will give up and will betray and hate each other. (11) Many false prophets will come and fool a lot of people. (12) Evil will spread and cause many people to stop loving others. (13) But if you keep on being faithful right to the end, you will be saved. (14) When the good news about the kingdom has been preached all over the world and told to all nations, the end will come.~

Matthew 24:22 ALT "And if those days were not cut short, no flesh would be saved; but because of the chosen ones [*or, the elect*], those days will be cut short.

³⁸ Romans 10:9-10 BBE Because, if you say with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and have faith in your heart that God [*Jehovah*]⁽¹⁾ has made him come back from the dead, you will have salvation: (10) For with the heart man has faith to get righteousness, and with the mouth he says that Jesus is Lord to get salvation.

³⁹ Luke 10:20b MWT ... Be happy that your names are inscribed in the heavens!

group of Christians, and down to this day, he remains its only leader⁴⁰ and our mediator with God...⁴¹

⁴⁰ Matthew 23:1-12 ALT Then Jesus spoke to the crowds and to His disciples, (2) saying, "The scribes and the Pharisees [religious leaders] [*have*] sat on the seat of Moses [presenting themselves as judges over the people who will allow them]. (3) "Therefore, all [*things*], as many as they tell you to be observing, be observing and doing, but stop doing according to their works, for they say and do not do. (4) "For they bind together heavy and hard to carry burdens and lay [*them*] on the shoulders of the people, but they are not willing to move them with their finger. (5) "But all their works they do to be seen by the people, and they enlarge their phylacteries [*i.e. small boxes (they wear) containing Scripture verses*], and they extend the fringes of their robes. (6) "They also affectionately love the first couches [*fig., places of honor*] at the banquets, and the first seats [*fig., most important places*] in the synagogues, (7) and the greetings in the market-places, and to be called, 'Rabbi, Rabbi,' by the people. (8) "But you shall not be called 'Rabbi,' for One is your Master—the Christ, and you are all brothers [*and sisters*]. (9) "And you shall not call [*anyone*] your father on the earth, for one is your Father, the [*One*] in the heavens. (10) "Neither shall you be called 'masters,' for one is your Master—the Christ. (11) "But the greatest of you will be your servant. (12) "And whoever will exalt himself, will be humbled; and whoever will humble himself, will be exalted.

⁴¹ 1 Timothy 2:5 ESV For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus,~ Hebrews 5:4-9 GW No one takes this honor for himself. Instead, God calls him as he called Aaron. (5) So Christ did not take the glory of being a chief priest for himself. Instead, the glory was given to him by God, who said, "You are my Son. Today I have become your Father." (6) In another place in Scripture, God said, "You are a priest forever, in the way Melchizedek was a priest." (7) During his life on earth, Jesus prayed to God, who could save him from death. He prayed and pleaded with loud crying and tears, and he was heard because of his devotion to God. (8) Although Jesus was the Son of God, he learned to be obedient through his sufferings. (9) After he had finished his work, he became the source of eternal salvation for everyone who obeys him.

Principles don't have to be elaborate. Jesus enlarged upon the good neighbor principle when his family came wanting to talk with him. He was talking with a group people, teaching them about God's coming kingdom.⁴² Someone came in and told him his mother and brothers were outside wanting to talk with him. He motioned to those sitting around him, drawing attention to their effort to learn what he had to teach, and said: "see, my mother and brothers! For those who do the will of my Father who is in heaven, these are my brother, and sister, and mother."⁴³ If you devote yourself to the teachings of Christ,⁽⁸²⁾ you make yourself part of his family and are in the midst of good neighbors. The simple truth is, sects of men don't worship God. Individuals worship God.⁽¹⁸⁾

Another important principled word picture we might consider is the account where Peter walked to Jesus on the water.⁴⁴ While

⁴² Matthew 4:23 CEV Jesus went all over Galilee, teaching in the Jewish meeting places and preaching the good news about God's kingdom. He also healed every kind of disease and sickness.

⁴³ Matthew 12:46-50 GNB Jesus was still talking to the people when his mother and brothers arrived. They stood outside, asking to speak with him. (47) So one of the people there said to him, "Look, your mother and brothers are standing outside, and they want to speak with you." (48) Jesus answered, "Who is my mother? Who are my brothers?" (49) Then he pointed to his disciples and said, "Look! Here are my mother and my brothers! (50) Whoever does what my Father in heaven wants is my brother, my sister, and my mother."

⁴⁴ Matthew 14:22-31 GNB Then Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side of the lake, while he sent the people away. (23) After sending the people away, he went up a hill by himself to pray [to his Father]. When evening came, Jesus was there alone; (24) and by this time the boat was far out in the lake, tossed about by the waves, because the wind was blowing against it. (25) Between three and six o'clock in the morning Jesus came to the disciples, walking on the water. (26) When they saw him walking on the water, they were terrified. "It's a ghost!" they said, and screamed with fear. (27) Jesus spoke to them at once. "Courage!" he said. "It is I. Don't be afraid!" (28)

Peter had no doubt, he walked upon the water. When his faith wavered, however, he sank. The mental picture of that account illustrates our absolute *need* for faith. Everyone must understand: That is what the Bible is doing *for* each and every one of us (or *to us* - depending on the choice we make). We are each one building faith in Jesus Christ, or we are refusing to do so. When Jesus helped or healed those who came to him, he would often say, "go in peace, your faith has made you well," or, "just as it has been your faith, so let it come to pass for you."⁴⁵ When a group of people had no faith, he wouldn't help them.⁴⁶ Faith is a powerful gift from our heavenly Father. Throughout his life on earth, Jesus was teaching us something very special about faith. He was

Then Peter spoke up. "Lord, if it is really you, order me to come out on the water to you." (29) "Come!" answered Jesus. So Peter got out of the boat and started walking on the water to Jesus. (30) But when he noticed the strong wind, he was afraid and started to sink down in the water. "Save me, Lord!" he cried. (31) At once Jesus reached out and grabbed hold of him and said, "What little faith you have! Why did you doubt?"

⁴⁵ Mark 5:34 MWT So He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be cured of your grievous sickness."~

Matthew 9:29-30a ALT Then He touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith let it happen to you." (30) And their eyes were opened...

⁴⁶ Matthew 13:53-58 CEV When Jesus had finished telling these stories, he left (54) and went to his hometown. He taught in their meeting place, and the people were so amazed that they asked, "Where does he get all this wisdom and the power to work these miracles? (55) Isn't he the son of the carpenter? Isn't Mary his mother, and aren't James, Joseph, Simon, and Judas his brothers? (56) Don't his sisters still live here in our town? How can he do all this?" (57) So the people were very unhappy because of what he was doing. But Jesus said, "Prophets are honored by everyone, except the people of their hometown and their own family." (58) And because the people did not have any faith, Jesus did not work many miracles there.

teaching us our faith equates to our very life.⁴⁷ Jesus said: "as in the days of Noah, so will the coming of the son of man be."⁴⁸ He was making the point that the ark was used by God to preserve people alive in Noah's day.⁴⁹ In similar fashion, it is our faith in Jesus Christ that will preserve us alive in our day.^{50 & (37)}

⁴⁷ Hebrews 10:37-39 MWT (37) For, yet a very little while, and the one coming will come, and will not delay. [Habakkuk 2:3]* (38) But the just will live by reason of their faith, if he shrinks back to doubt, my soul has no pleasure in him. [Habakkuk 2:4]* (39) Now we are not of the ones who shrink back to destruction, but the ones having faith to the preserving alive of the soul.~

* Habakkuk 2:3-4 LITV For the vision is still for the appointed time, but it breathes to the end, and it does not lie. Though it delays, wait for it, because coming it will come; it will not tarry. (4) Behold, the soul of him is puffed up *and* is not upright; but the just shall live by his faith.

⁴⁸ Luke 17:26-30 ALT "And just as it happened in the days of Noah, so will it be also in the days of the Son of Humanity: (27) they were eating, they were drinking, they were marrying, [*and*] they were being given in marriage, until which day that Noah entered into the ark, and the flood came and destroyed [*them*] all. (28) "Likewise also, as it happened in the days of Lot: they were eating, they were drinking, they were buying, they were selling, they were planting, [*and*] they were building; (29) but [*on the*] day which Lot went out from Sodom, He rained fire and sulfur [*or, brimstone*] from heaven and destroyed [*them*] all. (30) "According to these [*things*] [*fig., In the same way*] it will be in [*the*] day which the Son of Humanity is revealed.

⁴⁹ 1 Peter 3:20b ALT ... when the patience of God kept eagerly waiting in [*the*] days of Noah, while an ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls [*or, eight persons*], were saved through water;

⁵⁰ John 11:25-26 GNB Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me will live, even if they die, they will come back to life; (26) and those who are alive at my return and believe in me, will never die at all. Do you believe this?" Job 33:20-30 GNB Those who are sick lose their appetites, and even the finest food looks revolting. (21) Their bodies waste away to nothing; you can see all their bones; (22) they are about to go to the world of the dead. (23) Perhaps an angel may come to their

aid--- one of God's thousands of angels, who remind us of our duty. (24) In mercy the angel will say, "Release them! They are not to go down to the world of the dead. Here is the ransom to set them free." (25) Their bodies will grow young and strong again; (26) when they pray, God will answer; they will worship God with joy; God will set things right for them again. (27) Each one will say in public, "I have sinned. I have not done right, but God spared me. (28) He kept me from going to the world of the dead, and I am still alive." (29) God does all this again and again; (30) each one saves a person's life [by sharing the truth with them], and gives him the joy of living.

Visit: <http://www.justbibletruth.com/HowCanFaithHelp.pdf>

Will you continue in the course we have all pursued,⁵¹ a course that brings death?⁵² Or, will you seek peace and pursue it⁵³

⁵¹ 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 GW (9) Don't you know that wicked people won't inherit the kingdom of God? Stop deceiving yourselves! People who continue to commit sexual sins, who worship false gods, those who commit adultery, homosexuals, (10) or thieves, those who are greedy or drunk, who use abusive language, or who rob people will not inherit the kingdom of God. (11) That's what some of you were! But you have been washed and made holy, and you have received God's approval in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.

⁵² John 8:22-32 GNB So the Jewish authorities [religious leaders] said, "He says that we cannot go where he is going. Does this mean that he will kill himself?" (23) Jesus answered, "You belong to this world here below, but I come from above. You are from this world, but I am not from this world. (24) That is why I told you that you will die in your sins. And you will die in your sins if you do not believe that 'I Am Who I Am'." (25) "Who are you?" they asked him. Jesus answered, "What I have told you from the very beginning. (26) I have much to say about you, much to condemn you for. The one who sent me, however, is truthful, and I tell the world only what I have heard from him." (27) They did not understand that Jesus was talking to them about the Father. (28) So he said to them, "When you lift up the Son of Man [kill Jesus], you will know that 'I Am Who I Am'; then you will know that I do nothing on my own authority, but I say only what the Father has instructed me to say. (29) And he who sent me is with me; he has not left me alone, because I always do what pleases him." (30) Many who heard Jesus say these things believed in him. (31) So Jesus said to those who believed in him, "If you obey my teaching, you are really my disciples; (32) you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." [The truth sets us free of the religious teachings contrived by men.]

⁵³ Psalms 34:11-22 LITV *My sons, come, listen to Me; I will make known to you the fear of Jehovah. (12) Who is the man who desires life, who loves days in order to see good? (13) Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking guile; (14) depart from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it. (15) The eyes of Jehovah are on the righteous; and His ears are open to their cry. (16) The face of Jehovah is against those who do evil, to cut off their memory from the earth. (17) The righteous cry, and Jehovah*

through an intimate knowledge of the teachings of Christ; thereby gaining life for yourself and everyone who will listen to you.⁽⁵⁰⁾ You have likely noticed many of the promises by God were made

hears; and *He* saves them out of all their distresses. (18) Jehovah is near to the broken of heart; and He saves the crushed of spirit. (19) Many *are* the evils of the righteous, but Jehovah helps him out of them all, (20) keeping all His bones; not one of them is broken. (21) Evil shall slay the wicked; yea, those who hate the righteous shall become guilty. (22) Jehovah is redeeming the soul of His servants; and none of those who trust in Him shall be guilty.~

Isaiah 11:1-12 LITV And a Shoot goes out from the stump of Jesse, and a Branch will bear fruit out of his roots. (2) And the Spirit of Jehovah shall rest on Him; *He will have* the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and power, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of Jehovah. (3) And He is made to breathe in the fear of Jehovah. But He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes, nor decide by the hearing of His ears. (4) But He shall judge the poor in righteousness, and shall decide rightly for the meek of the earth. And He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, and He shall cause the wicked to die with the breath of His lip. (5) And righteousness shall be the encircler of His loins, and faithfulness the encircler of His reins. (6) And the wolf shall live with the lamb; and the leopard shall lie with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little boy shall lead them. (7) The cow and the bear shall feed, their young shall lie together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. (8) And the infant shall play on the hole of the asp; yea, the weaned child shall put his hand on the viper's den. (9) They shall not do evil, nor destroy in all My holy mountain. For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of Jehovah, as the waters cover the sea. (10) And it shall be in that day, the Root of Jesse stands as a banner of peoples; nations shall seek to Him; and His resting place shall be glory. (11) And it shall be in that day, the Lord shall again set His hand, the second time, to recover the remnant of His people that remains, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Ethiopia, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the coasts of the sea. (12) And He shall lift up a banner for the nations, and shall gather the outcasts of Israel, and gather those dispersed from Judah, from the four wings of the earth.

to Israel and to his seed, or to Israel's grandfather Abraham and his seed.⁵⁴ If you are a follower of Christ Jesus, you are an adopted son or daughter of Abraham and an heir of the promises of God.⁵⁵

One last principle we might reflect on is that of judgment. The Christian principle of remaining non-judgmental illustrates another huge failing of all Doeg religious sects. The illustration Jesus gave to help us might be referred to as the "cast the first stone" principle.⁵⁶ In this account, a woman is brought before Christ having been caught in the act of adultery (by persons again trying to find something the religious leaders could use against Jesus). The Law of Moses prescribed she be put to death for her crime. What would Jesus do? He told them to let the person

⁵⁴ Matthew 1:2 LITV Abraham fathered Isaac, and Isaac fathered Jacob, and Jacob fathered Judah and his brothers.~
Genesis 32:27-28a LITV And He said to him, What is your name? And he said, Jacob. (28) And He said, Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel..

⁵⁵ Galatians 3:29 ALT Now since you [are] Christ's, consequently, you are seed [fig., descendants] of Abraham and heirs according to promise.~

Galatians 3:1-7 GNB You foolish Galatians! Who put a spell on you? Before your very eyes you had a clear description of the death of Jesus Christ on the cross! (2) Tell me this one thing: did you receive God's Spirit by doing what the Law requires or by hearing the gospel and believing it? (3) How can you be so foolish! You began by God's Spirit; do you now want to finish by your own power? (4) Did all your experience mean nothing at all? Surely it meant something! (5) Does God give you the Spirit and work miracles among you because you do what the Law requires or because you hear the gospel and believe it? (6) Consider the experience of Abraham; as the scripture says, "He believed God, and because of his faith God accepted him as righteous." (7) You should realize, then, that the real descendants of Abraham are the people who have faith.

⁵⁶ There is some debate by professed Bible scholars about whether this illustration by Jesus should be in the Bible Cannon. It is clearly in harmony with everything Jesus taught, and supported by the other scriptures we herein consider about judgment.

without sin cast the first stone. Made ashamed by the principle Jesus very simply illustrated for them, they all quietly left.⁵⁷ Just the opposite of being non-judgmental, all religious cults want to make rules for their “sheep” so they can judge and identify members of their cult. They consider adherence to their rules as proof their members have group approval (and, they actually imagine, that equates with God’s approval). Jesus wasn’t like that.⁵⁸ He didn’t teach his followers to be like that.⁵⁹ His true

⁵⁷ John 8:1-11 ESV but Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. (2) Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him, and he sat down and taught them. (3) The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery, and placing her in the midst (4) they said to him, "Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery. (5) Now in the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. So what do you say?" (6) This they said to test him, that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. (7) And as they continued to ask him, he stood up and said to them, "Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her." (8) And once more he bent down and wrote on the ground. (9) But when they heard it, they went away one by one, beginning with the older ones, and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. (10) Jesus stood up and said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" (11) She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more."]]

⁵⁸ Luke 9:49-50 GNB John spoke up, "Master, we saw a man driving out demons in your name, and we told him to stop, because he doesn't belong to our group." (50) "Do not try to stop him," Jesus said to him and to the other disciples, "because whoever is not against you is for you."

⁵⁹ Romans 14:1-19 MWT As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not harm him by quarreling over opinions. (2) One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. (3) Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. (4) Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord

followers leave judgment to Jesus and his Father.⁶⁰ The fact of the matter is, Jesus taught we are each one judging our-own-selves by

is able to make him stand. (5) One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. (6) The one who observes the day, observes it to God. The one who eats, eats in honor of God, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of God and gives thanks to God. (7) For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. (8) For if we live, we live to God, and if we die, we die to God. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the God's. (9) For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living. (10) Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; (11) for it is written,^{*A} "As I live, says Jehovah,⁽¹⁾ every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God." (12) So then each of us will give an account of himself to God. (13) Therefore let us not pass judgment on one another any longer, but rather decide never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother [by being judgmental]. (14) I know and am persuaded in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean in itself, but it is unclean for anyone who thinks it unclean. (15) For if your brother is grieved by what you eat, you are no longer walking in love. By what you eat, do not destroy the one for whom Christ died. (16) So do not let what you regard as good be spoken of as evil. (17) For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. (18) Whoever thus serves Christ is acceptable to God and approved by men. (19) So then let us pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding.~

^{*A} Isaiah 45:23-25 LITV I have sworn by Myself, the Word has gone out of My mouth *in* righteousness, and shall not return, that to Me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear. (24) He shall say, Only in Jehovah do I have righteousness and strength; to Him he comes; and they are ashamed, all who are angry with Him. (25) In Jehovah all of the seed of Israel shall be justified, and shall glory.

⁶⁰ 1 Corinthians 4:1-5 CEV (1) Think of us as servants of Christ who have been given the work of explaining God's mysterious ways. (2) And since our first duty is to be faithful to the one we work for, (3) it doesn't matter to me if I am judged by you or even

our response to what he said.⁶¹ It really is just that simple! We build faith in (and live by) what God's son came to teach, or, we refuse to do so. It is not a hard task to have faith in Jesus.⁶² It is a joy of life!⁶³

by a court of law. In fact, I don't judge myself. (4) I don't know of anything against me, but that doesn't prove that I am right. The Lord is my judge. (5) So don't judge anyone until the Lord returns. He will show what is hidden in the dark and what is in everyone's heart. Then God will be the one who praises each of us.

⁶¹ John 12:44-50 MWT In a loud voice Jesus said: Everyone who has faith in me also has faith in the one who sent me. (45) And everyone who has seen me has seen proof of the one who sent me. (46) I am the light that has come into the world. No one who has faith in me will stay in the dark. (47) I have not come to judge those who refuse to obey my teachings. I came to save the people of this world, not to be their judge. (48) Everyone who rejects me and my teachings has one to judge him, the word I have spoken will judge him on the last day. (49) I don't speak on my own. I say only what the Father who sent me has told me to say. (50) I know that his commands will bring eternal life. That is why I tell you exactly what the Father has told me.

⁶² Matthew 11:27-30 GNB "My Father has given me all things. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. (28) "Come to me, all of you who are tired from carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest. (29) Take my yoke and put it on you, and learn from me, because I am gentle and humble in spirit; and you will find rest. (30) For the yoke I will give you is easy, and the load I will put on you is light."

⁶³ James 1:22-25 GNB Do not deceive yourselves by just listening to his word; instead, put it into practice. (23) If you listen to the word, but do not put it into practice you are like people who look in a mirror and see themselves as they are. (24) They take a good look at themselves and then go away and at once forget what they look like. (25) But if you look closely into the perfect law that sets people free, and keep on paying attention to it and do not simply listen and then forget it, but put it into practice---you will be blessed by God in what you do [or, will be happy in your doing it].

It seems we all fall into one of three categories. **1. Religionists, or Doegs.** These are all the different sects of people radicalized to harm others. They harm either physically through warfare, or emotionally through their sectarian judgments nonmembers are disapproved by God. Make no mistake, claiming God's judgment that others are unfit for life is doing them harm. **2. Humanitarians (Do-Gooders):** These are people who want to help, but are not willing (or don't know to) publicly acknowledge they have submitted to the teachings of Jesus Christ. They write or extoll self-help books, which eloquently express the terrible plight of so many people in our world. They recognize and point out the harm being done. The problem is, Do-Gooders never have a lasting solution to make it better. Sometimes they do good works, like feeding the poor. If they never manage to tie what good they do, however, to the importance of the teachings of Jesus Christ (in the minds of those being helped), they provide no real hope or lasting help. They are just polishing the brass on a sinking ship. If people trying to do good don't give glory to Christ, it is because they are only seeking their own glory. **3. People who are Christians.** Distinctly from all others, Christians hear what Jesus said, learn from him to love others, and do what they can to help; *and always*, they make sure everyone they can be fortunate to help is made aware that help comes from the teachings of Jesus Christ. That is the greatest help we can be to anyone: to help them to know the truth. Knowledge of Christ's Kingdom is the greatest treasure ever known.⁶⁴ READ THE GOSPELS! Recognize

⁶⁴ Matthew 13:36-52 GW When Jesus had sent the people away, he went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, "Explain what the illustration of the weeds in the field means." (37) He answered, "The one who plants the good seeds is the Son of Man. (38) The field is the world. The good seeds are those who belong to the kingdom. The weeds are those who belong to the evil one. (39) The enemy who planted them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the world. The workers are angels. (40) Just as weeds are gathered and burned, so it will be at the end of time. (41) The Son of Man will send his angels. They will gather everything in his kingdom that causes people to sin and everyone who does evil.

the established Kingdom of Christ, and its impact...⁶⁵ Everyone needs to be helped to understand who Jesus really is if they are to

(42) The angels will throw them into a blazing furnace. People will cry and be in extreme pain there. (43) Then the people who have God's approval will shine like the sun in their Father's kingdom. Let the person who has ears listen! (44) [Knowledge of] "The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field. When a man discovered it, he buried it again. He was so delighted with it that he went away, sold everything he had, and bought that field." (45) "Also, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant who was searching for fine pearls. (46) When he found a valuable pearl, he went away, sold everything he had, and bought it. (47) "Also, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea. It gathered all kinds of fish. (48) When it was full, they pulled it to the shore. Then they sat down, gathered the good fish into containers, and threw the bad ones away. (49) The same thing will happen at the end of time. The angels will go out and separate the evil people from people who have God's approval. (50) Then the angels will throw the evil people into a blazing furnace. They will cry and be in extreme pain there. (51) "Have you understood all of this?" "Yes," they answered. (52) So Jesus said to them, "That is why every scribe who has become a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a home owner. He brings new and old things out of his treasure chest."

⁶⁵ Isaiah 11:1-12 MWT Then a shoot will come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from its roots will bear fruit. (2) The Spirit of Jehovah will rest on him- the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of advice and power, the Spirit of knowledge and fear of Jehovah. (3) He will find joy in the fear of the Jehovah. He will not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear. (4) He will judge the poor justly. He will make fair decisions for the humble people on earth. He will strike the earth with a rod from his mouth. He will kill the wicked with the breath from his lips.⁽⁶¹⁾ (5) Justice will be the belt around his waist. Faithfulness will be the belt around his hips. (6) Wolves will live with lambs. Leopards will lie down with goats. Calves, young lions, and year-old lambs will be together, and little children will lead them. (7) Cows and bears will eat together. Their young will lie down together. Lions will eat straw like oxen. (8) Infants will play near cobras' holes. Toddlers will put their hands into vipers' nests. (9) They will not hurt or destroy anyone

build a saving faith in him.⁽⁴⁷⁾ Jesus is not a lucky charm, or a help for off in the distant future, or for after you die. (If you do die, you can certainly hope in a resurrection by him.) He is a king, *a real and literal king*, and we here on the earth are living in his kingdom. He is right now ruling in the midst of his enemies as he is sorting those who love righteousness from those who hate it.⁶⁶

anywhere on my holy mountain. The world will be filled with the knowledge of Jehovah like water covering the sea. (10) At that time the root of Jesse (Jesus Christ) will stand as a banner for the people to gather around. The nations will come to him. His resting place will be glorious. (11) At that time the Lord will use his power again to recover what remains of his people in Assyria, Upper and Lower Egypt, Sudan, Elam, Babylonia, Hamath, and the islands of the sea. (12) He will raise a banner for the nations to gather around. He will gather the outcasts of Israel⁽⁵⁵⁾ and bring together the scattered people of Judah from the four corners of the earth.

⁶⁶ Psalms 110:1-2 MWT *A Psalm of David*. The utterance of Jehovah to my Lord is: Sit at My right hand, until I place your enemies as a stool for your feet. (2) Jehovah shall send the rod of your strength out of Zion to rule in the midst of your enemies. Matthew 25:31-41 GNB "When the Son of Man comes as King and all the angels with him, he will sit on his royal throne, (32) and the people of all the nations will be gathered before him. Then he will divide them into two groups, just as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. (33) He will put the righteous people at his right and the others at his left. (34) Then the King will say to the people on his right, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father! Come and possess the kingdom which has been prepared for you ever since the creation of the world. (35) I was hungry and you fed me, thirsty and you gave me a drink; I was a stranger and you received me in your homes, (36) naked and you clothed me; I was sick and you took care of me, in prison and you visited me.' (37) The righteous will then answer him, 'When, Lord, did we ever see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you a drink? (38) When did we ever see you a stranger and welcome you in our homes, or naked and clothe you? (39) When did we ever see you sick or in prison, and visit you?' (40) The King will reply, 'I tell you, whenever you did this for one of the least important of these followers of mine, you did it for me!' (41) "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Away from me, you that are under God's curse!

We are being sorted for life⁽⁵⁰⁾ by our response to the words from his mouth. For right now, that sorting work is recognized only through eyes of faith. It is obvious, however, if you will just look. Soon, Jesus will manifest himself to complete the destruction of all those who refuse to accept his Father's perfect rule.⁶⁷ No faith will be required to see that! Jesus is restoring peace to the earth to bring glory to his Father Jehovah.⁽²⁹⁾ You must know both of them!⁶⁸ Jesus said there would be terrible conditions in the last

Away to the eternal fire which has been prepared for the Devil and his angels!

⁶⁷ Revelation 6:1-2 MWT And I saw that the Lamb opened one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures saying, like a voice of thunder, "Come and see!" (2) And I saw, and look! A white horse, and the one sitting on it having a bow, and a victor's crown was given to him, and he went out conquering, and so that he should complete his conquest.

Revelation 19:11-16 ALT (11) And I saw heaven having been opened. And look! A white horse, and the One sitting on it is being called Faithful and True, and He judges and wages war in righteousness. (12) Now His eyes [are] like a flame of fire, and on His head [are] many royal bands [or, diadems] having names having been written [on them], and a name having been written [on them] which no one knows, except Himself, (13) and having been clothed with a robe having been covered with [or, dipped in] blood, and His name is called, The Word [or, the Expression of the Logic] of God. (14) And the armies, {the, [ones]} in heaven, were following Him on white horses, having clothed themselves with fine linen, bright and clean. (15) And out of His mouth proceeds a sharp, double-edged sword, so that with it He should strike down the nations. And He will shepherd them with an iron staff. And He Himself treads the winepress of the wine of the rage of the wrath of God, the Almighty. (16) And He has on the robe and on His thigh a name having been written, "King of kings and Lord of lords."

⁶⁸ John 17:3 CEV Eternal life is to know you, the only true God, and to know Jesus Christ, the one you sent.~

Proverbs 30:4-6 ESV Who has ascended to heaven and come down? Who has gathered the wind in his fists? Who has wrapped up the waters in a garment? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is his name, and what is his son's name? Surely

days.⁽³⁷⁾ Those days are here!!! Recognizing what is happening does not make you responsible. It is happening! It's all so simple. God's plan of salvation has been playing out and unfolding itself for 6000 years since he promised back in the Garden of Eden He would provide the "seed of the woman."⁽¹⁵⁾ The tribulation we face is a natural consequence of our choosing to live with disregard for our Creator and his principles. Of course these terrible times would come! Failing to realize the tribulation Jesus taught was coming (so we could be able identify the "last days"), is foolish. It can cost you your life. Seek truth and pursue it.

Soon, things will be as they should have been⁶⁹ if Satan and Adam and Eve had never rebelled.⁽⁵³⁾ True faith in Jesus means

you know! (5) Every word of God proves true; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him. (6) Do not add to his words, lest he rebuke you and you be found a liar.

⁶⁹ Revelation 7:9-17 GW After these things I saw a large crowd from every nation, tribe, people, and language. No one was able to count how many people there were. They were standing in front of the throne and the lamb. They were wearing white robes, holding palm branches in their hands, (10) and crying out in a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the lamb!" (11) All the angels stood around the throne with the leaders and the four living creatures. They bowed in front of the throne with their faces touching the ground, worshiped God, (12) and said, "Amen! Praise, glory, wisdom, thanks, honor, power, and strength be to our God forever and ever! Amen!" (13) One of the leaders asked me, "Who are these people wearing white robes, and where did they come from?" (14) I answered him, "Sir, you know." Then he told me, "These are the people who are coming out of the terrible suffering [*tribulation*]. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the lamb [*they exercised faith in Christ*]. (15) That is why they are in front of the throne of God. They serve him day and night in his [*earthly*] temple.^{(*A) & (53)} The one who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. (16) They will never be hungry or thirsty again. Neither the sun nor any burning heat will ever overcome them. (17) The lamb in the center near the throne will be their shepherd.

recognizing him as our powerful ruling king, and letting people know who you have submitted to. Don't try to segregate and categorize and theorize about the truth. Religious sects of men argue and debate about such things as whether Jesus was hung on an upright stake or if it had a cross member. Don't get caught up in such debates. (If you had a loved one shot and killed while bringing the most important message ever heard, would you argue and worry about whether he was shot with an automatic pistol or a revolver? Or, would you remain focused on his message?) Just tell people what Jesus Christ said! Leave the debates about things that don't impact what Jesus said, to the people of this world.⁷⁰ Telling others is a part of how you continue the lifelong (maybe eternal) process of learning for yourself what Jesus taught. At the same time, you please him by sharing the message he came to bring.

Let us conclude by briefly summarizing what Bible principles can do *for you*. Learning the principles Jesus taught can help you to truly know our heavenly Father.⁽²⁶⁾ Knowing him will entice you to

He will lead them to springs filled with the water of life, and God will wipe every tear from their eyes."~

(*A) Psalms 37:29 BBE The upright will have the earth for their heritage, and will go on living there for ever.

⁷⁰ 1 Timothy 6:3-6 ESV If anyone teaches a different doctrine and does not agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching that accords with godliness, (4) he is puffed up with conceit and understands nothing. He has an unhealthy craving for controversy and for quarrels about words, which produce envy, dissension, slander, evil suspicions, (5) and constant friction among people who are depraved in mind and deprived of the truth, imagining that godliness is a means of gain. (6) Now there is great gain in godliness with contentment,

Luke 9:59-60 CEV Jesus told someone else to come with him. But the man said, "Lord, let me wait until I bury my father." [*The man's father was probably still alive.*] (60) Jesus answered, "Let the dead take care of the dead, while you go and tell about God's kingdom."

love him.⁽¹⁰⁾ Loving him will cause you to *want to* obey him.⁷¹ That obedience, in turn, will give you a good conscience.⁷² A good conscience then brings true happiness⁽¹¹⁾ (and it is the only thing that can). That process places you among Christ's family of good neighbors.⁽⁴³⁾ Our desire to possess and preserve the happiness found in a good conscience will then incline us to continually obey God, eternally. And, it all happens by means of our learning the principles Jesus taught.⁷³ The love for God which Jesus displayed,

⁷¹ 1 John 5:3 CEV We show our love for God by obeying his commandments, and they are not hard to follow.

⁷² Hebrews 10:22 GNB So let us come near to God with a sincere heart and a sure faith, with hearts that have been purified from a guilty conscience and with bodies washed with clean water. Hebrews 9:14 CEV But Christ was sinless, and he offered himself as an eternal and spiritual sacrifice to God. That's why his blood is much more powerful and makes our consciences clear. Now we can serve the living God and no longer do things that lead to death.

⁷³ James 1:12-25 MWT Happy are those who remain faithful under trials, because on becoming approved, they will receive as their reward the victor's wreath [or crown of life] which Jehovah⁽¹⁾ has promised to those who love him. (13) If we are tempted by such trials, we must not say, "This temptation comes from God." For God cannot be tempted by evil, and he himself does not tempt anyone. (14) But each person is tempted by being drawn out and enticed by their own desires. (15) Then our evil desires, when they have become fertile, give birth to sin; and sin, when it has been accomplished, brings death. (16) Do not be deceived, my dear friends! (17) Every good gift and every perfect present comes from above; it comes down from God, the Creator of the heavenly lights, who does not change or cause darkness by turning aside. (18) By his own will he brought us into being through the word of truth, so that we should have first place among all his creatures. (19) Remember this, my dear friends! Everyone must be quick to listen, but slow to speak and slow to become angry. (20) Human anger does not achieve God's righteous purpose. (21) So get rid of every filthy habit and all wicked conduct. Submit to God and accept the implanting of the word of Christ in your hearts, which is able to save you. (22) Do not deceive yourselves by just listening to his word; instead, put it into practice. (23) If you listen to the

and taught to us, will drive us to avoid doing anything to separate ourselves from God's love.⁽⁷⁵⁾ Bible teachings help us understand God has been reaching out to us for the 6000 years recorded in the Bible.⁽¹⁷⁾ His principles help us know he is doing all He can to help us. It is, however, our own choice to make. (It must be that way to provide a safe and happy home for people who will forever retain the gift of free moral choice – thus having the ability to be friends of God.)⁷⁴ The only person who can separate you from God, is you!⁷⁵ Don't let anyone deceive you. *You are making that*

word, but do not put it into practice you are like people who look in a mirror and see themselves as they are. (24) They take a good look at themselves and then go away and at once forget what they look like. (25) But if you look closely into the perfect law that sets people free, and keep on paying attention to it and do not simply listen and then forget it, but put it into practice---you will be happy in your doing it.

⁷⁴ Isaiah 41:8-13 GW "But you are my servant Israel, Jacob (Jacobs name was changed to Israel),⁽⁵⁴⁾ whom I have chosen, the descendant of Abraham, my dear friend. (9) I have taken you from the ends of the earth and called you from its most distant places. I said to you, 'You are my servant. I've chosen you; I haven't rejected you.' (10) Don't be afraid, because I am with you. Don't be intimidated; I am your God. I will strengthen you. I will help you. I will support you with my victorious right hand. (11) "Everyone who is angry with you will be ashamed and disgraced. Those who oppose you will be reduced to nothing and disappear. (12) You will search for your enemies, but you will not find them. Those who are at war with you will be reduced to nothing and no longer exist. (13) I, the LORD [*Jehvoah*]⁽⁴⁾ your God, hold your right hand and say to you, 'Don't be afraid; I will help you.'

⁷⁵ Romans 8:35-39 GNB Who, then, can separate us from the love of Christ? Can trouble do it, or hardship or persecution or hunger or poverty or danger or death? (36) As the scripture says, "For your sake we are in danger of death at all times; we are treated like sheep that are going to be slaughtered." (37) No, in all these things we have complete victory through him who loved us! (38) For I am certain that nothing can separate us from his love: neither death nor life, neither angels nor other heavenly rulers or powers, neither the present nor the future, (39) neither the world above nor the world below---there is nothing in all creation that

decision by your response to the Gospel accounts of Jesus's teachings. Learning what Jesus came to teach can protect you from becoming a Doeg by your getting caught up in any one of the oh-so-many religious sects, or it can set you free of them.⁽³⁵⁾ Religious people all want to create and then live by their organizational rules. They are thus placing themselves back under law.^{76 & (36)} When they make their own laws, they are going beyond what is written.⁷⁷ Such rule based religion can only cause them to judge, and fight, and hate others. That is the fruit they bear, and their fruit is how you recognize them.⁷⁸ Christians, on

will ever be able to separate us from the love of God which is ours through *[faith in]* Christ Jesus our Lord.

⁷⁶ Galatians 3:7-13 CEV And so, you should understand that everyone who has faith is a child of Abraham. (8) Long ago the Scriptures said that God would accept the Gentiles because of their faith. That's why God told Abraham the good news that all nations would be blessed because of him. (9) This means that everyone who has faith will share in the blessings that were given to Abraham because of his faith. (10) Anyone who tries to please God by obeying the Law is under a curse. The Scriptures say, "Everyone who doesn't obey everything in the Law is under a curse." (11) No one can please God by obeying the Law. The Scriptures also say, "The people God accepts because of their faith will live." (12) The Law isn't based on faith. It promises life only to people who obey its commands. (13) But Christ rescued us from the Law's curse, when he became a curse in our place. This is because the Scriptures say that anyone who is nailed to a tree is under a curse.

⁷⁷ 1 Corinthians 4:6 GW Brothers and sisters, I have applied this to Apollos and myself for your sake. You should learn from us *[our example]* not to go beyond what is written in Scripture. Then you won't arrogantly place one of us in opposition to the other *[become sectarian in nature]*.

⁷⁸ Matthew 7:15-24 GW "Beware of false prophets. They come to you disguised as sheep, but in their hearts they are vicious wolves. (16) You will know them by what they produce. "People don't pick grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles, do they? (17) In the same way every good tree produces good fruit, but a rotten tree produces bad fruit. (18) A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, and a rotten tree cannot produce good fruit. (19) Any tree that

the other hand, live a life based on principled love. They busy themselves with learning and then telling others what Jesus taught. That is not all they do, of course, and they do enjoy life. That is the fruit *they bare*, however, and their *good fruit* is how you can recognize them.⁷⁹ So... Hear the truth today and choose wisely for yourself, and hopefully, for your loved ones!⁸⁰ They

fails to produce good fruit is cut down and thrown into a fire. (20) So you will know them by what they produce. (21) "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord!' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the person who does what my Father in heaven wants. (22) Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, didn't we prophesy in your name? Didn't we force out demons and do many miracles by the power and authority of your name?' (23) Then I will tell them publicly, 'I've never known you. Get away from me, you evil people.' (24) "Therefore, everyone who hears what I say and obeys it will be like a wise person who built a house on rock.

⁷⁹ Romans 14:13-19 CEV We must stop judging others. We must also make up our minds not to upset anyone's faith. (14) The Lord Jesus has made it clear to me that God considers all foods fit to eat. But if you think some foods are unfit to eat, then for you they are not fit. (15) If you are hurting others by the foods you eat, you are not guided by love. Don't let your appetite destroy someone Christ died for. (16) Don't let your right to eat bring shame to Christ. (17) God's kingdom isn't about eating and drinking. It is about pleasing God, about living in peace, and about true happiness. All this comes from the Holy Spirit. (18) If you serve Christ in this way, you will please God and be respected by people. (19) We should try to live at peace and help each other have a strong faith.

1 Corinthians 1:22-25 GNB (22) Jews want miracles for proof, and Greeks look for wisdom. (23) As for us, we proclaim the crucified Christ, a message that is offensive to the Jews and nonsense to the Gentiles; (24) but for those whom God has called, both Jews and Gentiles, this message is Christ, who is the power of God and the wisdom of God. (25) For what seems to be God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and what seems to be God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

⁸⁰ Deuteronomy 30:15-20 MWT (15) See, I have set before you today life and good and death and evil, (16) in that I *am* commanding you today to love Jehovah your God, to walk in His

must, of course, make their own choice. Hopefully, they will listen as you share with them what Jesus taught. Direct them to the Gospels, and to justbibletruth.com.

ways, and to keep His commands and His statutes, and His judgments, and you shall live and multiply, and Jehovah your God shall bless you in the land where you are going in, to possess it. (17) But if you turn away your heart, and you do not listen and are seduced by and even bow down to other gods, and serve them; (18) I have declared to you today that you shall certainly perish. You shall not prolong your days in the land to which you are crossing the Jordan, to go in there to possess it. (19) I call Heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. Therefore, choose life, that you may live, you and your seed, (20) to love Jehovah your God, to listen to His voice, and to cleave to Him. For He is your life, and the length of your days *so that you may* live in the land which Jehovah has sworn to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give it to them.^{(53) & (55)}

justbibletruth.com

A Gathering Of Eagles

Luke 17:30 & 37



*All who come to God must believe that He exists,
and that He is good. Heb 11:6*

Luke 17:30 BBE So will it be in the day of the revelation of the Son of man.

Luke 17:37 Darby And answering they say to him, Where, Lord? And he said to them, Where the body *is* , there the eagles will be gathered together.

This booklet is available at: justbibletruth.com. The site exists to help you come to personally know our loving Father, through the teachings of his son.⁽²⁶⁾ The truth is not magical or steeped in mysticism. Learning the truth is a simple matter of reading the four short Gospel accounts of the teachings of Jesus Christ. The teachings he came to bring us are recorded in the Bible in books penned by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.⁸¹ Everything else you learn from the Bible will support what you learn from Christ. Our knowing Jesus (and his Father, of course) is the Bible's purpose.⁽²⁹⁾ Don't build your faith on what we say, or on what any sect of men say. Listen for yourself to Jesus Christ.⁸² We can still do that, down to this day, by reading his teachings; just as his Father inspired them to be recorded for us.⁸³ All sectarian religionists want you to believe its rocket science, and that you need them to explain it to you. It ain't. You Don't. Set *yourself* free!!!⁽³⁵⁾

⁸¹ <http://www.justbibletruth.com/biblejohn.pdf>

⁸² Luke 10:38-42 CEV The Lord and his disciples were traveling along and came to a village. When they got there, a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. (39) She had a sister named Mary, who sat down in front of the Lord and was listening to what he said. (40) Martha was worried about all that had to be done. Finally, she went to Jesus and said, "Lord, doesn't it bother you that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her to come and help me!" (41) The Lord answered, "Martha, Martha! You are worried and upset about so many things, (42) but only one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen what is best, and it will not be taken away from her."

⁸³ 2 Timothy 3:16-17 Darby (16) Every scripture is divinely inspired [or, breathed by God], and profitable for teaching, for conviction, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; (17) that the man of God may be complete, fully fitted to every good work.
