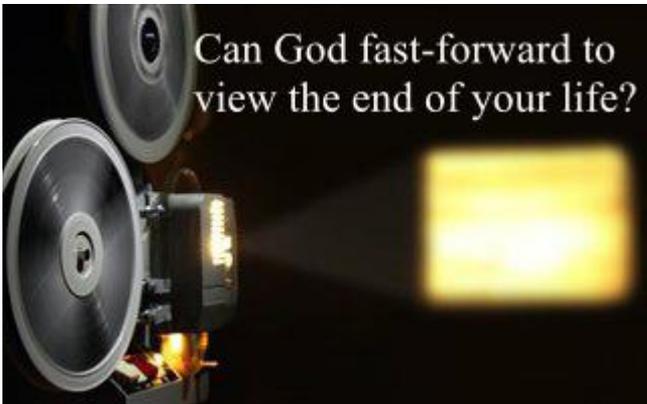


# Can God Foresee Your Future?

Can He foreknow our future? Isn't foreseeing and foreknowing the same thing? Does it matter?



Answers: No. Yes. No. No. It surely does! No.

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Some of the scriptures considered reference ancient Abraham and his seed; saying they are future recipients of the Bible promises made by God. Please know: If you express faith in Jesus Christ, you are adopted as a son or daughter of Abraham. You become an heir of God's promises by means of your faith.<sup>A</sup>

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<sup>A</sup> [Galatians 3:26 & 29](#) GW for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith... (29) If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendants and heirs, as God promised.

## Can God foresee the future?

Simply asking that question evokes an emotional response in some people, as they firmly proclaim the God they worship can do all things. They might want to condemn us for imagining we could place limits on God. I hope you can appreciate they are wrong in thinking the true God can do *all* things. I know, for example, the God I worship cannot tell lies. Could you even ~~worship~~ *love* a God if you had to wonder if He was telling you the truth? You are right to realize we can't place limits on God. We would be foolish not to realize, however, He can choose to limit himself. The God who inspired the Bible stated clearly that he can never lie.<sup>B</sup> The Bible was written by men, but inspired by God.<sup>C</sup> When God says in the words he inspired that he cannot lie, we can take comfort in understanding ***He has limited himself in that way...*** It means we can rely on what He says!

What, then, about foreseeing your future, including what personal choices you will make? It seems God has chosen to limit himself in that way as well? As we begin, please consider the difference between foreseeing and foreknowing the future. For the purpose of our consideration, they are very different. We are considering the

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<sup>B</sup> [Titus 1:1-2 Webster](#) Paul, a servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect, and the acknowledging of the truth which is according to godliness; (2) In hope of eternal life, which God, who cannot lie, promised before the world began; [Numbers 23:19 GW](#) God is not like people. He tells no lies. He is not like humans. He doesn't change his mind. When he says something, he does it. When he makes a promise, he keeps it.

<sup>C</sup> [2 Timothy 3:15-17 GW](#) From infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures. They have the power to give you wisdom so that you can be saved through faith in Christ Jesus. (16) Every Scripture passage is inspired by God. All of them are useful for teaching, pointing out errors, correcting people, and training them for a life that has God's approval. (17) They equip God's servants so that they are completely prepared to do good things.

common understanding of foresee as meaning our future is scripted out like a movie on tape, and someone with the proper power or ability can simply look to see what choices all of us are going to make; just as we might fast forward a movie. To foreknow the future in our consideration, means the ability to know where the creation is headed as a whole; without knowledge about the personal choices of each individual who forms a part of that creation. God can foreknow the future, then, because He has the ability to direct his creation where it needs to go, in part because He knows his Creation is good. Foreknowing where it is going is not the same as foreseeing it. Even we can foreknow a lot about our future, because our Creator told us in his word. ***Please allow us to better explain how foreseeing and foreknowing are different, and why understanding that difference is very important!***

Let us start with declaring which God we are talking about. There are many God's in this world.<sup>D</sup> Anything a person chooses to worship becomes a God to him or her.<sup>E</sup> Any person who seeks to tell other

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<sup>D</sup> 1 Corinthians 8:5-7 CEV (5) Many things in heaven and on earth are called gods and lords, but none of them really are gods or lords. (6) We have only one God, and he is the Father. He created everything, and we live for him. Jesus Christ is our only Lord. Everything was made by him, and by him life was given to us. (7) Not everyone knows these things. In fact, many people have grown up with the belief that idols have life in them. So when they eat meat offered to idols, they are bothered by a weak conscience.

<sup>E</sup> Isaiah 44:14-20 GNB He might cut down cedars to use, or choose oak or cypress wood from the forest. Or he might plant a laurel tree and wait for the rain to make it grow. (15) A person uses part of a tree for fuel and part of it for making an idol. With one part he builds a fire to warm himself and bake bread; with the other part he makes a god and worships it. (16) With some of the wood he makes a fire; he roasts meat, eats it, and is satisfied. He warms himself and says, "How nice and warm! What a beautiful fire!" (17) The rest of the wood he makes into an idol, and then he bows down and worships it. He prays to it and says, "You are my god---save me!" (18) Such people are too stupid to know what they are doing. They close their eyes and their minds to the truth. (19) The maker of idols hasn't the

people how to think, and what is right and wrong, is actually seeking a following (worshippers) for themselves. Whether they realize or not, such people seek to become Gods. (What makes this material different from what you have previously read or heard is this: We are not asserting our own directions, or telling you what is right. We do offer our simple encouragement for you to listen to God, by hearing the son He sent. [\[Mat 17:5\]](#) We are different from all the Churches because we do not seek a following for ourselves. Our only effort is to direct you to the teachings of Jesus Christ, thereby suggesting you place yourself among those individuals who have been choosing to follow him over a period of [some 2000 years.](#)) In speaking of the limits God has placed on himself, then, we are considering the God of the Bible: The [Father](#) of our Lord Jesus Christ.<sup>f</sup> Put another way, we are talking about the God who dealt with mankind for the 4000 years [from Adam until the birth of Christ](#) (and since).<sup>(DD)</sup> The Hebrew

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wit or the sense to say, "Some of the wood I burned up. I baked some bread on the coals, and I roasted meat and ate it. And the rest of the wood I made into an idol. Here I am bowing down to a block of wood!" (20) It makes as much sense as eating ashes. His foolish ideas have so misled him that he is beyond help. He won't admit to himself that the idol he holds in his hand is not a god at all.

<sup>f</sup> Romans 1:1-7 ESV Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, (2) which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, (3) concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh (4) and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, (5) through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, (6) including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, (7) To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.~

Romans 15:5-6 ESV May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, (6) that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.~

1 Corinthians 1:3 Darby (3) Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and *the* Lord Jesus Christ.

Scriptures (the Old Testament, or OT) provide the record of that 4000 year pre-Christian history. God announced himself in that Old Testament as יהוה ([God's name](#) in Hebrew – it sounds like Yea•Vah to English speakers [“yea” go team followed by “vah,” like the first two letters of vault]). Yeshua is the transliteration of Jesus’s name from Hebrew. We who speak English, today use Jesus as the English translation of Yeshua. I feel it is inappropriate, however, to attempt to translate יהוה from Hebrew. The popular King James translation of the Bible uses an attempted English translation to record God’s inspired announcement of his proper [Name](#) as follows: [Exodus 6:3 KJV](#) And I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, by *the name of God Almighty, but by my name JEHOVAH [יהוה]* was I not known to them. - [Psalms 83:18 KJV](#) That *men* may know that thou, whose name alone is JEHOVAH [יהוה], *art* the most high over all the earth. - [Isaiah 12:2 KJV](#) Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the LORD JEHOVAH [יהוה] is my strength and *my* song; he also is become my salvation. - [Isaiah 26:4 KJV](#) Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD [JEHOVAH \[יהוה\]](#) is everlasting strength:

Some modern *revised* translations of the King James Bible, as well as many other translations, chose to replace the divine name with “LORD” to wisely avoid attempting to translate it into English.<sup>6</sup> They

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<sup>6</sup> Some translators of the Bible removed [the divine name](#) “יהוה” from their translation. As “The HOLY BIBLE New international Version” (by Zondervan Bible Publishers, Copyright 1973, 1978, 1984 by International Bible Society), stated in their preface on page ix: “In regard to the divine name YHWH (or JHVH), commonly referred to as the Tetragrammaton (יהוה), the translators adopted the device used by most English versions of rendering that name as “LORD” in (all) capital letters to distinguish it from *Adoni [or Adhonai]*, the Hebrew word meaning and rendered “Lord,” for which small letters are used. Whenever the two names (actually, when the one “name” appeared next to the “title” of lord) stand together in the in the Old Testament as a compound name of God, they are rendered “Sovereign LORD.”” Thus we see, “Adoni יהוה” from the original text should have been rendered “Lord יהוה” rather than “Sovereign LORD.” A more consistent (but obviously foolish) rendering by the “device” they chose to use would have been “Lord LORD.” Please note the name יהוה occurs over 6000 times in the original Hebrew Text. That is not an error, God’s name occurs over 6000 times in the original Bible text. It seems He wants us to know his name. His name is

took that action because of scriptures warning against *misusing* the divine name.<sup>H</sup> Some who removed it from their translation explained in their preface how they replaced it with “LORD” in all capital letters.<sup>(G)</sup> ***It is important to realize “יהוה” was recorded in the original Hebrew language text of the Bible over 6000 times.*** Translations such as *The American Standard Version*, *Young’s Literal Translation*, *The Darby Bible Translation* and *The Modern King James Translation* by J.P. Green, among others, attest to the divine name being used all those thousands of times in the original text. While they chose to translate it Jehovah, it is important for you know God’s name is יהוה. You must know both Jesus Christ and his Father יהוה; knowing God by his given Hebrew name.<sup>I</sup> Many religious groups misuse the names of [Jesus](#) and/or [his Father יהוה](#) when they promote sectarian teachings not found in the Bible.<sup>J</sup> Do not let the use of [God’s name](#) by Jews make you hesitant to know and use the names of both Jesus and his Father יהוה.<sup>K</sup> Jesus used his

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not hidden in a corner! ([Acts 26:26](#)) These common translation and replacement errors can be verified at any public library.

<sup>H</sup> [Exodus 20:7 LITV](#) [Using the attempted English translation for [God’s Hebrew name](#), which is יהוה.] **You shall not take the name of Jehovah your God in vain; for Jehovah will not leave unpunished the one who takes His name in vain.** ~

Note the same Bible verse from a translation whose writers also removed the divine name, but replaced it with LORD in all caps rather than trying to translate it into English. ~

[Exodus 20:7 GW](#) "Never use the name of the LORD your God carelessly. The LORD will make sure that anyone who carelessly uses his name will be punished.

<sup>I</sup> [Proverbs 30:4 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 you know! ~ [John 17:3 CEV](#) Eternal life is to know you, the only true God, and to know Jesus Christ, the one you sent.

<sup>J</sup> About sects: <http://www.justbibletruth.com/JehovahsWitnesses.html>

That webpage addresses JW’s specifically, but the points being made apply to any of the many sectarian groups who sit in judgment over nonmembers based on an approved group membership.<sup>(DDD)</sup>

Father's name. ([John 17:25-26](#)) So then, while considering whether God can foresee your future, we are always referring to the God who taught us about himself in the Bible. Within the pages of the Bible He inspired to be written, the true [God stated his name](#) to be יהוה over six thousand times. We repeatedly draw attention to the number of times God used his name, because, if יהוה used his name six thousand times, He surely wanted you to know. If you have no faith in the Bible, or in its God, the scriptures we present might help you evaluate whether it might be wise to build such faith.

Back to our theme: The reason God cannot foresee your future is because of a wonderful gift He has granted you (and us all). In providing that gift, He has chosen to place another limit on himself in the same sense He has elected never to lie. His gift to you is the liberty to choose to become his son or daughter. ([Deu 30:19-20](#)) That moral freedom amounts to the ability to choose whether we love what is good, and thus are God's true friends.<sup>(FFFF)</sup> Freedom also grants us the ability to misuse it be among those seeking what is bad. Make no mistake, [we are all choosing](#) one or the other! God cannot grant us true freedom, and at the same time retain the ability to see what choices we will make. If such freedom really is *yours*, how could He know what you will choose?

One thing that promotes this confusion is the science fiction idea of time travel: The notion that by some fantastic power or means, we can travel back into the past or ahead into the future. The past is gone so there is nothing to travel to. All that remains is the record of what happened, "once upon a time." Even if you could travel faster than light, out to where you could look back and see the light that once bounced off what happened years in the past, it would amount to no more than a light wave recording of what they did all those years ago. As to the future, it also doesn't exist because it hasn't been created yet. ***God's gift is we are the creators of our own personal future.*** There is no future to travel to because we are right now, in the present, making the choices that determine what our future will be. There is no future until we make our choices and produce it. Your activity in this second will soon be gone and will have become just

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<sup>k</sup> [Proverbs 30:4 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 you know!

another part of our past. Even with our freedom of choice creating the future for us, however, there are limits on what future those choices can create. Or, and thankfully so, there are restrictions by God on what future we can produce. God would not, for example, allow someone to create and unleash a weapon that would destroy all life.<sup>(KKK)</sup> His creation is good!<sup>L</sup> He would never allow it to be destroyed. [God's name](#) means, "He causes to become." He is the one who created all we can see and touch. Doesn't it seem foolish not to recognize our Creator, simply because of his creation?<sup>M</sup> Beyond creating all the universe, about [6000 years in our past](#) (and immediately after sin was introduced), God set in motion (created) his purpose to help every single individual who would accept that help. The Bible thus provides a record of mankind's past, and explains what God has done to help us. So... Though some would actually try to do so, the choices we make can never destroy or undermine what God is doing. That brings us to a consideration of foreknowing (as different from foreseeing). God's foreknowledge that He is going to produce a good future, necessarily limits what He can allow us to do as individuals that will impact that future. What that means is: The only future we can have any real influence on is our own. God is directing us to a good future by providing salvation to all those persons who will listen to what he sent his son to teach.<sup>(S)</sup> We can temporarily hurt or stumble individuals ([Mark 9:42](#)), but we can never change or undermine the help God is providing each person.<sup>N</sup> The difference we *can* cause to the future, and the only real choice we personally have, is whether we will [make the choice](#) to have a part in the good our God is creating. That choice as to our personal future is ours and even God can't see what it will be: Because it rests in our own hand. Refusing to become part of God's good future equates with our choice to refuse to submit to him. God sent Jesus to help us escape our dying state. Refusing God's help is simply remaining among those who are dying,<sup>(TTT)</sup> because they have each chosen to refuse God's help. We may even behave so badly as to force God to

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<sup>L</sup> After speaking of the earth and all He had made, God said: [Genesis 1:31 BBE](#) And God saw everything which he had made and it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

<sup>M</sup> [Hebrews 3:4 GNB](#) Every house, of course, is built by someone--- and God is the one who has built all things.

<sup>N</sup> [2 Chronicles 16:9a Darby \(9\)](#) For the eyes of Jehovah run to and fro through the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of those whose heart is perfect toward him...

destroy us.<sup>o</sup> God can thus foreknow that mankind, as a whole, has a bright and happy future. He can know that is true because He is

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<sup>o</sup> Acts 4:34-37 GW None of them (Jesus's followers) needed anything. From time to time, (some of the) people (by their choice) sold land or houses and brought the money (35) to the apostles. Then the money was distributed to anyone who needed it. (36) Joseph, a descendant of Levi, had been born on the island of Cyprus. The apostles called him Barnabas, which means "a person who encourages." (37) He had some land. He sold it and turned the money over to the apostles. (He was likely well respected for helping God's people.) ~

Acts 5:1-14 GW A man named Ananias and his wife Sapphira sold some property. (2) They agreed to hold back some of the money they had pledged and turned only part of it over to the apostles. (3) Peter asked, "Ananias, why did you let Satan fill you with the idea that you could deceive the Holy Spirit? You've held back some of the money you received for the land. (4) While you had the land, it was your own. After it was sold, you could have done as you pleased with the money. So how could you do a thing like this? You didn't lie to people but to God!" (5) When Ananias heard Peter say this, he dropped dead. Everyone who heard about his death was terrified. (6) Some young men got up, wrapped his body in a sheet, carried him outside, and buried him. (7) About three hours later Ananias' wife arrived. She didn't know what had happened. (8) So Peter asked her, "Tell me, did you sell the land for that price?" She answered, "Yes, that was the price." (9) Then Peter said to her, "How could you and your husband agree to test the Lord's Spirit? Those who buried your husband are standing at the door, and they will carry you outside for burial." (10) Immediately, she dropped dead in front of Peter. When the young men came back, they found Sapphira dead. So they carried her outside and buried her next to her husband. (11) The whole church and everyone else who heard about what had happened were terrified. (12) The people saw the apostles perform many miracles and do amazing things. The believers had a common faith in Jesus as they met on Solomon's Porch. (13) None of the other people dared to join them, although everyone spoke highly of them. (14) More men and women than ever began to believe in the Lord.~

Please understand, Peter was just a man and had no power to take the action described in those Bible verses. God's spirit informed Peter what Ananias and Sapphira did, and had Peter tell them what God was doing. God then destroyed those people because they were right in the midst of the miracles being performed, and yet they esteemed

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placing limits on where our future can go. But, even with that foreknowledge of *humanity's* future, He cannot foresee what choices you personally will make. He thus foreknows good, but cannot foresee whether we individually will choose to have a part of that good. That choice is our freedom as his children, and is a wonderful gift He has given. ***Here is perhaps the most important reason to understand God can foreknow our (mankind's) future, but cannot foresee it:***

The true God is good!<sup>p</sup> If you have any real hope, it is based in your faith in a God who is good.<sup>q</sup> If a good God could really foresee our individual choices, there would be no reason for him to tolerate the badness and resultant pain and suffering that exists in this world because of our bad choices. God has the ability to do all things (with the exception of the limits He has placed on himself). The Bible makes clear God can resurrect us from the dead.<sup>(11)</sup> If He could foresee the good future mankind will have in detail, including who among us will wisely choose to live with him in paradise, He could just look ahead and put us where we will all be. He could do that using some form of resurrection or recreation. If He could foresee the future, He would actually have created or moved us to that bright future right after Adam and Eve sinned in the garden. Because he is

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money of greater value than pleasing God. Perhaps worse, they seemed to think they could fool God. In putting them to death, יהוה used those people who had chosen to make themselves worthless, as a tool or example to convert many people to faith in the teachings of Christ. What God is doing will be done!

<sup>p</sup> Psalms 25:8-15 LITV Good and upright is Jehovah; therefore He will teach sinners in the way. (9) He will guide the meek in justice; and He will teach the meek His way. (10) All the paths of Jehovah are mercy and truth to those keeping His covenant and His testimonies. (11) For Your name's sake, O Jehovah, even pardon my iniquity for it is great. (12) What man is he who fears Jehovah? He teaches him the way he should choose. (13) His soul shall abide in good, and his seed shall inherit the earth. (14) The secret of Jehovah is with those who fear Him; and He will make them know His covenant. (15) My eyes are ever toward Jehovah; for He shall bring my feet out of the net.

<sup>q</sup> Hebrews 11:6 CEV But without faith no one can please God. We must believe that God is real and that he rewards everyone who searches for him.

good and loving, wouldn't He have been compelled to help us in that way? Wouldn't you do that for your children? ([Mat 7:7-11](#)) If he had made us like robots, doing exactly what he programmed us to do, he could make such predictions about us. In that case, of course, sin would never have occurred. God made us free sons and daughters, thus giving us the ability to become his friends.<sup>(FFFF)</sup> God is not responsible for the bad those who chose to become his enemies brought upon themselves, and on all of us as well, by misusing his gift of free will. *Choosing to give that gift imposes God briefly tolerate some of mankind's bad choices, ([Ecc 8:11-13](#)) to give each of us who are descendants of Adam the chance to choose life.* [יְהוָה](#) might have killed Adam and Eve immediately and started over. If he had done that, however, we wouldn't be here. The children of those who replaced Adam and Eve would be here, *but we are sons and daughters of Adam.* Killing Adam and Eve, and then starting over, might also have implied there was something wrong with God's creation. It was is perfect! ([Gen 1:31](#)) In addition, starting over would have required him to redo something. It is not ever necessary for God to redo anything. Everything He does is perfect. God has simply allowed time for the good He created in Adam and Eve to blossom forth. God has not, therefore, abandoned us. [יְהוָה](#) is watching each of us, and no doubt helping and protecting us in ways we can't even imagine.<sup>R</sup> He cannot ever, however, make our personal choice of whether we want to be good. You can't be a friend of God without freedom... When you tell God in prayer that you love him, it has meaning for him because it is your free will choice to give that love. A doll you have with a string to pull to make it say "I love you" has no meaning. Your child saying it, however, can mean everything. That is the great freedom God has granted you. It's up to each one of us to decide if we will accept the life God offers. The greatest way God is helping you is exactly the same help He has made available to each and every person: He sent his son to teach us about *his our* Father.<sup>S</sup>

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<sup>R</sup> [2 Chronicles 16:9 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. Herein thou hast done foolishly; for from henceforth thou shalt have wars.

<sup>S</sup> [Matthew 11:25-30 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

The best way you can hear God, and the only completely safe way you can listen to what He is saying, is by choosing to learn what Jesus came to teach (from your Bible). The teachings by Jesus can redefine who you are in your heart and mind.<sup>T</sup> What is happening, right now, is [you are being divided into one of two groups](#) by how you respond to mankind's visit by God's son and Messiah.<sup>U</sup> Choosing to ignore what the son of God came to teach is one response you can make.<sup>V</sup> That is a foolish and bad choice. To gain the life God intends, you must obey the teachings of Jesus.<sup>W & (MM)</sup> That does, of course, require that you first learn what Jesus taught. Encouraging you to listen to

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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. (29) Take the yoke I give you. Put it on your shoulders and learn from me. I am gentle and humble, and you will find rest. (30) This yoke is easy to bear, and this burden is light.

<sup>T</sup> John 12:46-50 GNB I have come into the world as light, so that everyone who believes in me should not remain in the darkness. (47) If people hear my message and do not obey it, I will not judge them. I came, not to judge the world, but to save it. (48) Those who reject me and do not accept my message have one who will judge them. The words I have spoken will be their judge on the last day! (49) This is true, because I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent me has commanded me what I must say and speak. (50) And I know that his command brings eternal life. What I say, then, is what the Father has told me to say."

<sup>U</sup> Matthew 25:31-34 ESV "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. (32) Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. (33) And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. (34) Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

<sup>V</sup> John 12:48-50 CEV But everyone who rejects me and my teachings will be judged on the last day by what I have said. (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.

<sup>W</sup> John 17:3 BBE And this is eternal life: to have knowledge of you, the only true God, and of him whom you have sent, even Jesus Christ.

Jesus is the whole reason for the existence of this booklet, and the website [justbibletruth.com](http://justbibletruth.com). Please recognize your absolute need to learn what God sent his son to teach.<sup>x</sup> It's recorded in the Gospels by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

***The reason we draw all this attention to whether [God](#) can foresee the future is because it greatly influences how we all (how you) feel about יהוה.*** (If you were directed to this booklet from the midst of another study, for the purpose learning whether יהוה can foresee our personal future, hopefully, you can now return to that study. You might want to mark and complete this study booklet later. What follows might seem a little verbose and repetitive but it is to introduce additional scriptures granting insight.) Whether we believe God can foresee our future choices will most certainly impact whether we truly love him. Believing God can foresee our choices causes people to blame God for the badness that surrounds us. Or, at the very least, such a mistaken “faith” causes people to blame God for allowing badness to exist. Believing a lie about God can cause us to fail to appreciate his goodness and why this wicked world actually needed to be tolerated for a brief period. Turning people away from God is Satan’s reason for creating lies.<sup>y</sup>

When a loving father and mother lose a young child in a painful and drawn out death to some horrible disease, the local preacher may tell them God took their child to be an angel. The preacher might mean well. How, though, does believing God took their child make those parents feel toward יהוה? They know they must accept what God does, of course, and they try and hold faith He is good. How does it

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<sup>x</sup> John 18:37 BBE Then Pilate said to him, Are you then a king? Jesus made answer, You say that I am a king. For this purpose was I given birth, and for this purpose I came into the world, that I might give witness to what is true. Every lover of what is true gives ear to my voice.

<sup>y</sup> John 8:43-45 CEV Why can't you understand what I [*Jesus*] am talking about? Can't you stand to hear what I am saying? (44) Your father is the devil, and you do exactly what he wants. He has always been a murderer and a liar. There is nothing truthful about him. He speaks on his own, and everything he says is a lie. Not only is he a liar himself, but he is also the father of all lies. (45) Everything I have told you is true, and you still refuse to have faith in me.

really make them feel if they believe God took their child? The teachings God provided us in the Bible make it very clear who is responsible for death and suffering.<sup>Z</sup> Our first parents joined Satan in rebelling against God, and so brought the sentence of death upon themselves (and on all of us by their choice).<sup>AA</sup> Thus, we were all born dying among a race of sinful people and without hope.<sup>BB</sup> By their willful sin, Adam and Eve caused a genetic defect in themselves which they passed on to each of us. All the badness and suffering in this world is the direct result of Adam and Eve joining Satan in rebelling against God, and by the badness perpetuated by all of us who have followed after them in a lack of obedience to our Creator. God doesn't kill little children to become angels. Satan killed every child who has ever died.<sup>CC</sup> God does not cause any of the pain and suffering, but rather, has provided us deliverance from the bad we brought upon ourselves. Because that solution has taken many generations (of our human life spans) to complete<sup>DD</sup> does not mean it isn't happening or that it is flawed. Right after sin was brought to birth by Adam and Eve, God promised he would raise up a seed of the woman<sup>EE</sup> who

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<sup>Z</sup> Romans 5:11-12 ESV More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation. (12) Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned ~

Romans 6:23 ESV For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

<sup>AA</sup> Job 14:4 Darby Who can bring a clean *man* out of the unclean? Not one!

<sup>BB</sup> Psalms 49:7-9 ESV Truly no man can ransom another, or give to God the price of his life, (8) for the ransom of their life is costly and can never suffice, (9) that he should live on forever and never see the pit.

<sup>CC</sup> Romans 5:12 Douay-Rheims (12) Wherefore as by one man sin entered into this world and by sin death: and so death passed upon all men, in whom all have sinned. By one man. . .Adam, from whom we all contracted original sin.

<sup>DD</sup> Please see the Time Line insert in the center of the booklet. For more detail, visit: <http://www.justbibletruth.com/DisplayScroll.html>

<sup>EE</sup> Genesis 3:15 BBE And there will be war between you and the woman and between your seed and her seed: by him will your head be crushed and by you his foot will be wounded.

would break up (destroy) the works of the devil.<sup>FF</sup> Following that promise by 4000 years<sup>(DD)</sup> (and now 2000 years in our own past), the seed of the woman (the reason Jesus is also referred to as the “son of man”)<sup>(U)</sup> presented himself as the son of God (and as that promised seed of the woman).<sup>GG</sup> Jesus came to teach us what his Father is doing to help.<sup>HH</sup> Jesus came to give us the opportunity to escape the

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<sup>FF</sup> 1 John 3:8 Douay-Rheims (8) He that committeth sin is of the devil: for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God appeared, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

<sup>GG</sup> John 1:29 & 31 & 34 ESV The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!... (31) I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel."... (34) And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."

<sup>HH</sup> John 8:31-51 ESV So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, (32) and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." (33) They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?" (34) Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. (35) The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. (36) So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. (37) I know that you are offspring of Abraham; yet you seek to kill me because my word finds no place in you. (38) I speak of what I have seen with my Father, and you do what you have heard from your father." (39) They answered him, "Abraham is our father." Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's children, you would be doing the works Abraham did, (40) but now you seek to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. This is not what Abraham did. (41) You are doing the works your father did." They said to him, "We were not born of sexual immorality. We have one Father--even God." (42) Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and I am here. I came not of my own accord, but he sent me. (43) Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot bear to hear my word. (44) You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and has nothing to do with the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies. (45) But because I tell the truth, you

clutches of death gripping each and every one of us; since sin was created by Satan in the Garden of Eden.<sup>(2)</sup> Jesus makes it possible for us to have a good relationship with God through our faith in Jesus (as God's son).<sup>11</sup> Our prayers are heard by God through our faith his son.

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do not believe me. (46) Which one of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me? (47) Whoever is of God hears the words of God. The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God." (48) The Jews answered him, "Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?" (49) Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. (50) Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is One who seeks it, and he is the judge. (51) Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death."

" Acts 10:34-43 ESV So Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, (35) but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. (36) As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), (37) you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: (38) how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. (39) And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree,\*<sup>1</sup> (40) but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, (41) not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. (42) And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. (43) To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."~

\*<sup>1</sup> Some translations of the Bible say Jesus was hanged on a cross, and others on a stake or tree. There are people who will try and make an issue out of such translation differences. The point being made by the Bible is that "religious" leaders killed our Lord. Learn the theme the Bible is teaching rather than allowing religious people to distract you and cause you to sit in judgment other people, because those people don't agree with their view of unimportant details.<sup>(MMMM)</sup> An example is religious sects who argue back and forth about whether Jesus was hung on a cross or a stake or a tree. The point being made

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If you entertain the notion there is a God who is good, don't make the common mistake of feeling you must be too wicked or undeserving to approach him or to have hope, because you at the same time realize you love some of the things God condemns in his word.<sup>JJ</sup> Spiritual

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is, Jesus was resurrected from death by his Father. Don't be drawn into worrying about lesser matters.~

Romans 12:1-5 ESV I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice (by refusing to be led along by the desires of this old world), holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. (2) Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind (by reading the Gospels and learning what Jesus taught), that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. (3) For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. (4) For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, (5) so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.~

Romans 14:13 & 16-19 ESV 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... (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 (by showing love to others) is acceptable to God and approved by men. (19) So then let us pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding.

<sup>JJ</sup> Matthew 9:11-13 ESV And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" (12) But when he heard it, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. (13) Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."~

Luke 19:10 BBE For the Son of man came to make search for those who are wandering from the way, and to be their Saviour.~

1 Timothy 1:12-16 ESV I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, (13) though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted

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maturity is a process of growth, just like our physical growth. A toddler shouldn't think he will never grow up because he can't choose to make it happen right now. Growing to spiritual maturity takes time and knowledge of truth. That is a part of and manifestation of our freedom: The opportunity to choose to gain a knowledge of Jesus's teachings feeding spiritual growth. Sin is enticing for all of us.<sup>KK</sup> When we were little, most all of us loved rollercoasters. As we get older, however, most lose that love. Many older people come to hate the rollercoasters they once "believed" they loved. Sin is somewhat like that. Satan has spread lies that paint sin as pretty and make it seem to glitter. As you persist in the notion that God is always trying to help and protect you, it allows you to start to see sin through God's eyes, and to recognize sin for the ugly and death dealing thing it is.<sup>(KK)</sup> You must start with believing God is good.<sup>(Q)</sup> If you try to do that, and then try to learn more about him by reading what He sent Jesus to teach you (by eating the spiritual food brought in the words of his son),<sup>LL</sup> your spiritual maturity and love for what is good (and your

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ignorantly in unbelief, (14) and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. (15) The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. (16) But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life.

<sup>KK</sup> James 1:12-15 CEV God will bless you, if you don't give up when your faith is being tested. He will reward you with a glorious life, just as he rewards everyone who loves him. (13) Don't blame God when you are tempted! God cannot be tempted by evil, and he doesn't use evil to tempt others. (14) We are tempted by our own desires that drag us off and trap us. (15) Our desires make us sin, and when sin is finished with us, it leaves us dead.

<sup>LL</sup> John 6:26-51 CEV Jesus answered, "I tell you for certain that you are not looking for me because you saw the miracles, but because you ate all the food you wanted. (27) Don't work for food that spoils. Work for food that gives eternal life. The Son of Man will give you this food, because God the Father has given him the right to do so." (28) "What exactly does God want us to do?" the people asked. (29) Jesus answered, "God wants you to have faith in the one he sent." (30) They replied, "What miracle will you work, so that we can have faith in you? What will you do? (31) For example, when our ancestors were in the desert, they were given manna to eat. It happened just as the Scriptures say, 'God gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" (32)

hatred for what is bad) will take care of itself; just like growing to adults from little children does (caused by our eating physical food).

As mentioned, and as most are well aware, we are all born dying. It just takes a few years for our death sentence to overtake us. God has provided the solution to that problem, based on our personal faith in his son. What, though, indicates if we really do have faith in the

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Jesus then told them, "I tell you for certain that Moses wasn't the one who gave you bread from heaven. My Father is the one who gives you the true bread from heaven. (33) And the bread that God gives is the one who came down from heaven to give life to the world." (34) The people said, "Lord, give us this bread and don't ever stop!" (35) Jesus replied: I am the bread that gives life! No one who comes to me will ever be [*spiritually*] hungry. No one who has faith in me will ever be [*spiritually*] thirsty. (36) I have told you already that you have seen me and still do not have faith in me. (37) Everything and everyone that the Father has given me will come to me, and I won't turn any of them away. (38) I didn't come from heaven to do what I want! I came to do what the Father wants me to do. He sent me, (39) and he wants to make certain that none of the ones he has given me will be lost. Instead, he wants me to raise them to life on the last day. (40) My Father wants everyone who sees the Son to have faith in him and to have eternal life. Then I will raise them to life on the last day. (41) The people started grumbling because Jesus had said he was the bread that had come down from heaven. (42) They were asking each other, "Isn't he Jesus, the son of Joseph? Don't we know his father and mother? How can he say that he has come down from heaven?" (43) Jesus told them: Stop grumbling! (44) No one can come to me, unless the Father who sent me makes them want to come.<sup>(R)</sup> But if they do come, I will raise them to life on the last day. (45) One of the prophets wrote, "God will teach all of them." And so everyone who listens to the Father and learns from him will come to me. (46) The only one who has seen the Father is the one who has come from him. No one else has ever seen the Father. (47) I tell you for certain that everyone who has faith in me has eternal life. (48) I am the bread that gives life! (49) Your ancestors ate manna in the desert, and later they died. (50) But the bread from heaven has come down, so that no one who eats it will ever die. (51) I am that bread from heaven! Everyone who eats it will live forever. My flesh is the life-giving bread (Jesus gave his flesh, his very life, to bring the teachings recorded in the Gospels. We must feed on his words.) that I give to the people of this world.

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teachings of the son of God? Jesus made clear *just saying* we have faith does not mean we do.<sup>MM</sup> Jesus taught what demonstrates we really do have faith is our having love for others...<sup>NN</sup>

We hear a lot about “love” from people who are no doubt trying to help. Seemingly, we “hear” it even more recently than in days gone by. Some people seem to think it is a magic word; that if they say it enough, it will stop the badness overtaking our world. In a similar vein, some say if you just love other people, it doesn’t matter what else you do or believe. Do you think that is really true? How can you know if it’s true? Simple, really... If you are going to claim to have faith in the son of God, you must start with learning what Jesus actually did say about love. He *did say* it was important. He said it was most important, actually. He also said, however, more was involved. He said obedience was involved, or, more accurately, that our love is revealed in obedience to our Creator.<sup>(MM)</sup> **Christ there said those who would be his followers would have to obey what his Father taught.** Using what he learned from Christ, John

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<sup>MM</sup> Matthew 7:21-24 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. (24) `Therefore, every one who doth hear of me these words, and doth do them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house upon the rock;

<sup>NN</sup> Romans 13:8-14 ESV Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. (9) For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (10) Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. (11) Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. (12) The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. (13) Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. (14) But put on the Lord Jesus Christ (by knowing what he said in detail), and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

was inspired to write that **we do not love God if we do not obey him.**<sup>oo</sup> How could we really imagine that we love God if we don't obey? If you, even the very least bit, believe in a God who is good, you must also believe he is trying to care for and protect you.<sup>pp</sup> Always

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<sup>oo</sup> 1 John 5:3-4 ESV For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. (4) For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world--our faith.~

Please imagine a loving mother who has a pan of hot syrup cooking on the stove. She has told her child many times to stay away from the stove because it will burn. She sees the child reach out a finger to touch the hot pan. She must allow the child to touch the pan and burn the tip of its finger because it will not obey her. She does so hoping that later, when she is not watching, the child will not turn the pan of hot syrup off into its face. Every single thing God tells us to do is for our own protection and blessing. We can think of this old system as our living through the time when we have burned the tip of our finger. Even if we die, it can be fixed by God using the resurrection, as little more from our perspective than a mother putting a Band-Aid on the tip of a finger. The choice of whether we will learn to be obedient, thus becoming determined that we will not cause harm to ourselves or others, however, that choice is for us alone to make.

<sup>pp</sup> The following verses from Isaiah speak of Israel (Abraham's descendants) because they were the people being used by God to produce the Messiah during Isaiah's days. The hope expressed by Isaiah applies to all who look to God through faith in Christ. (Galatians 3:7-9 GNB You should realize, then, that the real descendants of Abraham are the people who have faith. (8) The scripture predicted that God would put the Gentiles right with himself through faith. And so the scripture announced the Good News to Abraham: "Through you [*your seed*] God will bless all people." (9) Abraham believed and was blessed; so all who believe are blessed as he was. - Galatians 3:14 GNB Christ did this in order that the blessing which God promised to Abraham might be given to the Gentiles by means of Christ Jesus, so that through faith we might receive the Spirit promised by God.) Please note the following translation is one that replaced יהוה's name with LORD in all capital letters.~

Isaiah 40:11-31 GNB He will take care of his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs together and carry them in his arms; he will gently lead their mothers. (12) Can anyone measure the ocean by

remember this as you seek God: Jesus came to teach you what his Father wants you to know.<sup>QQ & (HH)</sup> The four short Gospels of Matthew,

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handfuls or measure the sky with his hands? Can anyone hold the soil of the earth in a cup or weigh the mountains and hills on scales? (13) Can anyone tell the LORD what to do? Who can teach him or give him advice? (14) With whom does God consult in order to know and understand and to learn how things should be done? (15) To the LORD the nations are nothing, no more than a drop of water; the distant islands are as light as dust. (16) All the animals in the forests of Lebanon are not enough for a sacrifice to our God, and its trees are too few to kindle the fire. (17) The nations are nothing at all to him. (18) To whom can God be compared? How can you describe what he is like? (19) He is not like an idol that workers make, that metalworkers cover with gold and set in a base of silver. (20) Anyone who cannot afford silver or gold chooses wood that will not rot. He finds a skillful worker to make an image that won't fall down. (21) Do you not know? Were you not told long ago? Have you not heard how the world began? (22) It was made by the one who sits on his throne above the earth and beyond the sky; the people below look as tiny as ants. He stretched out the sky like a curtain, like a tent in which to live. (23) He brings down powerful rulers and reduces them to nothing. (24) They are like young plants, just set out and barely rooted. When the LORD sends a wind, they dry up and blow away like straw. (25) To whom can the holy God be compared? Is there anyone else like him? (26) Look up at the sky! Who created the stars you see? The one who leads them out like an army, he knows how many there are and calls each one by name! His power is so great--- not one of them is ever missing! (27) Israel, why then do you complain that the LORD doesn't know your troubles or care if you suffer injustice? (28) Don't you know? Haven't you heard? The LORD is the everlasting God; he created all the world. He never grows tired or weary. No one understands his thoughts. (29) He strengthens those who are weak and tired. (30) Even those who are young grow weak; young people can fall exhausted. (31) But those who trust in the LORD for help will find their strength renewed. They will rise on wings like eagles; they will run and not get weary; they will walk and not grow weak.

<sup>QQ</sup> John 5:19-20 ESV So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise. (20) For the Father loves the Son and shows him all that he

Mark, Luke and John contain those Christian teachings. Read your own Bible, with special attention to the teachings of Jesus. The whole of the Bible serves as a tutor leading to Christ.<sup>RR</sup> The whole of the Bible helps us have faith in Christ as the son of God. Once you believe Jesus is God's son, however, focus your reading on what Jesus taught! Jesus himself warned against relying on other people!<sup>SS & (MM)</sup>

As to our being able to help others by showing love, it requires we begin with knowing what love actually is. That presents a problem because none of us are born knowing love. We hear the word, and we know it is a good thing. Some parents are instinctively able to do a good job of showing love for their children. So... While we all want love, and we all want to love others, how can we be sure we even understand what it is? How could we really know if we are showing it? Imagine, as an example, you were born blind. You have never even seen the light of day. When someone starts to tell you about a sunset in a blue sky filled with white billowing clouds, and how beautiful it is, it would make you want to see a sunset. Could you, though, really and fully understand what they were talking about? As they describe in detail about the colors, and tell you about feeling the sun on their face, you might start to enjoy the sunset as well, just from the feel of the sun on your own face while you consider their description. But, no matter how much you hear, you still don't really know what a sunset looks like. Now imagine that you, being born blind and never having even seen the sun, start to tell other blind individuals how wonderful a sunset is. Pretty soon, everybody wants to see a sunset, and maybe even imagine they can enjoy one by the feel of the sun on

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himself is doing. And greater works than these will he show him, so that you may marvel.

<sup>RR</sup> Galatians 3:23-26 GW We were kept under control by Moses' laws until this faith came. We were under their control until this faith which was about to come would be revealed [*in Christ's teachings*]. (24) Before Christ came, Moses' laws served as our guardian [*or tutor leading to Christ*]. Christ came so that we could receive God's approval by [*means of our*] faith. (25) But now that this faith has come, we are no longer under the control of a guardian [*tutor*]. (26) You are all God's children by believing in Christ Jesus.

<sup>SS</sup> Matthew 24:23-25 CEV Someone may say, "Here is the Messiah!" or "There he is!" But don't believe it. (24) False messiahs [*Christs*] and false prophets will come and work great miracles and signs. They will even try to fool God's chosen ones [*the ones being chosen*]. (25) But I have warned you ahead of time.

their face, and all without anyone having really even seeing the light. Understanding love is a little like that. We all want to have it, and to give it, but we don't exactly know how or even what it is. John explained we can't truly love others, or even know what love is, until we first recognize the love God has shown for us.<sup>TT</sup> We must "receive sight" by appreciating the love shown by God through the provision of his son to save us from our dying state. When you realize your need for Jesus Christ to teach you about his Father,<sup>(HH)</sup> and you begin trying to obey God through Christ, you are receiving sight to see your first sunrise (spiritually speaking). You are set free<sup>(HH)</sup> in realizing Christ as the expression of God's love for you. Christ Jesus lived on earth to demonstrate a life of self-sacrifice,<sup>UU</sup> always putting the needs of those he loved, and even of those who thought they hated

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<sup>TT</sup> 1 John 4:15-21 CEV God stays one with everyone who openly says that Jesus is the Son of God. That's how we stay one with God (16) and are sure that God loves us. God is love. If we keep on loving others, we will stay one in our hearts with God, and he will stay one with us. (17) If we truly love others and live as Christ did in this world, we won't be worried about the day of judgment. (18) A real love for others will chase those worries away. The thought of being punished is what makes us afraid. It shows that we have not really learned to love. (19) We love [have the power of loving] because God loved us first. (20) But if we say we love God and don't love each other, we are liars. We cannot see God. So how can we love God, [whom we cannot see,] if we don't love the people we can see? (21) The commandment that God has given us is: "Love God and love each other!"

<sup>UU</sup> Luke 22:24-27 GW Then a quarrel broke out among the disciples. They argued about who should be considered the greatest. (25) Jesus said to them, "The kings of nations have power over their people, and those in authority call themselves friends of the people. (26) But you're not going to be that way! Rather, the greatest among you must be like the youngest, and your leader must be like a servant. (27) Who's the greatest, the person who sits at the table or the servant? Isn't it really the person who sits at the table? But I'm among you as a servant.

him,<sup>vv</sup> above his own needs.<sup>ww</sup> Jesus completed his visit by giving his very life so we could have a relationship with his Father.<sup>xx</sup> Jesus thus

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<sup>vv</sup> Luke 23:33-34a ESV And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. (34) And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." ...

<sup>ww</sup> Matthew 20:25-28 GW Jesus called the apostles and said, "You know that the rulers of nations have absolute power over people and their officials have absolute authority over people. (26) But that's not the way it's going to be among you. Whoever wants to become great among you will be your servant. (27) Whoever wants to be most important among you will be your slave. (28) It's the same way with the Son of Man [*the Christ*]. He didn't come so that others could serve him. He came to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many people."

<sup>xx</sup> John 6:28-51 GW The people asked Jesus, "What does God want us to do?" (29) Jesus replied to them, "God wants to do something for you so that you believe in the one whom he has sent." (30) The people asked him, "What miracle are you going to perform so that we can see it and believe in you? What are you going to do? (31) Our ancestors ate the manna in the desert. Scripture says, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" (32) Jesus said to them, "I can guarantee this truth: Moses didn't give you bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. (33) God's bread is the man who comes from heaven and gives life to the world." (34) They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread all the time." (35) Jesus told them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never become hungry, and whoever believes in me will never become thirsty. (36) I've told you that you have seen me. However, you don't believe in me. (37) Everyone whom the Father gives me will come to me. I will never turn away anyone who comes to me. (38) I haven't come from heaven to do what I want to do. I've come to do what the one who sent me wants me to do. (39) The one who sent me doesn't want me to lose any of those he gave me. He wants me to bring them back to life on the last day. (40) My Father wants all those who see the Son and believe in him to have eternal life. He wants me to bring them back to life on the last day." (41) The Jews began to criticize Jesus for saying, "I am the bread that came from heaven." (42) They asked, "Isn't this man Jesus, Joseph's son? Don't we know his father and mother? How can he say now, 'I came from heaven'?" (43) Jesus responded, "Stop criticizing me! (44) People cannot come to me

becomes the manifestation of true love.<sup>Y</sup> ***Appreciating Jesus, and learning to imitate his love, is the only way you can know what love is.***<sup>Z</sup>

You should understand that people often confuse amore' or eros with agape. All three words are all translated love, but have very different meanings. Amore' and eros represents sexual attraction, and are sometimes referred to as sexual love. Agape, however, represents principled love. Agape [*principled love*] puts the needs of others ahead of our own, while amore' and eros often represent a self-serving interest in another person. A person can have both types of love for another. Because one exists, however, does not mean the other does as well. A person can have love for another person with no

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unless the Father who sent me brings them to me. I will bring these people back to life on the last day. (45) The prophets wrote, 'God will teach everyone.' Those who do what they have learned from the Father come to me. (46) I'm saying that no one has seen the Father. Only the one who is from God has seen the Father. (47) I can guarantee this truth: Every believer has eternal life. (48) "I am the bread of life. (49) Your ancestors ate the manna (the Jews referred to as "bread from heaven") in the desert and died. (50) This is the bread that comes from heaven so that whoever eats it won't die. (51) I am the living bread that came from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. The bread I will give to bring life to the world is my flesh." [Jesus gave his life to teach us what we need to know.<sup>S</sup> We spiritually feed on Christ's earthly existence as we learn what he taught.]

<sup>Y</sup> Luke 6:32-37 CEV (Jesus said:) If you love only someone who loves you, will God praise you for that? Even sinners love people who love them. (33) If you are kind only to someone who is kind to you, will God be pleased with you for that? Even sinners are kind to people who are kind to them. (34) If you lend money only to someone you think will pay you back, will God be pleased with you for that? Even sinners lend to sinners because they think they will get it all back. (35) But love your enemies and be good to them. Lend without expecting to be paid back. Then you will get a great reward, and you will be the true children of God in heaven. He is good even to people who are unthankful and cruel. (36) Have pity on others, just as your Father has pity on you. (37) Jesus said: Don't judge others, and God won't judge you. Don't be hard on others, and God won't be hard on you. Forgive others, and God will forgive you.

<sup>Z</sup> Visit: [justbibletruth.com/BeAGoodNeighbor.pdf](http://justbibletruth.com/BeAGoodNeighbor.pdf)

sexual component. Sadly, the other situation can exist as well. A person can have sexual desires for another, completely detached from any real love for them. When such lust is unleashed, it seldom promotes happiness.<sup>AAA</sup> Some people follow their sexual desires without understanding what they are doing; actually imagining that is

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<sup>AAA</sup> 2 Samuel 13:3-17 ESV But Amnon had a friend, whose name was Jonadab, the son of Shimeah, David's brother. And Jonadab was a very crafty man. (4) And he said to him, "O son of the king, why are you so haggard morning after morning? Will you not tell me?" Amnon said to him, "I love Tamar, my brother Absalom's sister." (5) Jonadab said to him, "Lie down on your bed and pretend to be ill. And when your father comes to see you, say to him, 'Let my sister Tamar come and give me bread to eat, and prepare the food in my sight, that I may see it and eat it from her hand.'" (6) So Amnon lay down and pretended to be ill. And when the king came to see him, Amnon said to the king, "Please let my sister Tamar come and make a couple of cakes in my sight, that I may eat from her hand." (7) Then David sent home to Tamar, saying, "Go to your brother Amnon's house and prepare food for him." (8) So Tamar went to her brother Amnon's house, where he was lying down. And she took dough and kneaded it and made cakes in his sight and baked the cakes. (9) And she took the pan and emptied it out before him, but he refused to eat. And Amnon said, "Send out everyone from me." So everyone went out from him. (10) Then Amnon said to Tamar, "Bring the food into the chamber, that I may eat from your hand." And Tamar took the cakes she had made and brought them into the chamber to Amnon her brother. (11) But when she brought them near him to eat, he took hold of her and said to her, "Come, lie with me, my sister." (12) She answered him, "No, my brother, do not violate me, for such a thing is not done in Israel; do not do this outrageous thing. (13) As for me, where could I carry my shame? And as for you, you would be as one of the outrageous fools in Israel. Now therefore, please speak to the king, for he will not withhold me from you." (They were half brother and sister, and apparently able to marry.) (14) But he would not listen to her, and being stronger than she, he violated her and lay with her. (15) Then Amnon hated her with very great hatred, so that the hatred with which he hated her was greater than the love with which he had loved her. And Amnon said to her, "Get up! Go!" (16) But she said to him, "No, my brother, for this wrong in sending me away is greater than the other that you did to me." But he would not listen to her. (17) He called the young man who served him and said, "Put this woman out of my presence and bolt the door after her."

an expression of love. That doesn't necessarily mean they are deceitful or bad. They often do so in ignorance, simply because they haven't learned from Christ what real love is. That is, in most cases, the reason a man can beat a woman he claims to love; or, a woman can abuse a man she claims to love. One person would never beat or harm another person if they truly love them. It is silly to even think! The sole and only reason people of this world are able to harm other people is because they have not learned to appreciate [יהוה](#)'s love for them. *[We do not refer to governmental or law enforcement agencies. They must attempt to keep peace. Some people force those agencies to do them harm in order to stop them from harming others. Christ's kingdom is being established,<sup>(CCCC)</sup> however, meaning soon no harmful persons will be left. Showing love for other people gives us an eternal home under the rule of that kingdom.]<sup>(DDDD)</sup>* Jesus said simply "saying" we love other people doesn't mean we do. Neither does being sexually involved with someone mean we love them. As Paul explained he had learned about love from Jesus: **1 Timothy 1:1-16 GW** From Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the command of God our Savior and Christ Jesus our confidence. (2) To Timothy, a genuine child in faith. Good will, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord are yours! (3) When I was going to the province of Macedonia, I encouraged you to stay in the city of Ephesus. That way you could order certain people to stop teaching false doctrine *[teachings other than those of Christ]* (4) and occupying themselves with myths and endless genealogies. These myths and genealogies raise a lot of questions rather than promoting God's plan *[as taught by Jesus]*, which centers in faith. (5) ***My goal in giving you this order is for love to flow from a pure heart, from a clear conscience, and from a sincere faith.*** (6) Some people have left these qualities behind and have turned to useless discussions *[abandoning the simple teachings of Jesus]*. (7) They want to be experts in Moses' Teachings. However, they don't understand what they're talking about or the things about which they speak so confidently. (8) We know that Moses' Teachings *[the Law Code]* are good if they are used as they were intended to be used *[as a tutor<sup>(RR)</sup> leading to Christ]*. (9) For example, a person must realize that laws are not intended for people who have God's approval. ***Laws are intended for lawbreakers and rebels, for ungodly people and sinners, for those who think nothing is holy or sacred, for those who kill their fathers, their mothers, or other people.*** (10) ***Laws are intended for people involved in sexual sins, for***

**homosexuals, for kidnappers, for liars, for those who lie when they take an oath, and for whatever else is against accurate teachings.** (11) Moses' Teachings were intended to be used **in agreement with the Good News [the teachings brought by Jesus] that contains the glory of the blessed God.** I was entrusted with that Good News. (12) I thank Christ Jesus our Lord that he has trusted me and has appointed me to do his work with the strength he has given me. (13) In the past I cursed him, persecuted him, and acted arrogantly toward him.<sup>(ZZ)</sup> However, I was treated with mercy because I acted ignorantly in my unbelief. (14) **Our Lord was very kind to me. Through his kindness he brought me to faith and gave me the love that Christ Jesus shows people.** (15) This is a statement that can be trusted and deserves complete acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, and I am the foremost sinner. (16) However, I was treated with mercy so that Christ Jesus could use me, the foremost sinner, to demonstrate his patience. **This patience serves as an example for those who would believe in him and live forever.**

Paul there (and elsewhere) gave clear directions about what love is, as well as about what is unacceptable behavior.<sup>BBB</sup> He tied our choice to leave bad behavior behind to our being able to show love.<sup>CCC</sup> Jesus

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<sup>BBB</sup> 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.

<sup>CCC</sup> Philippians 3:1-9 CEV Finally, my dear friends, be glad that you belong to the Lord. It doesn't bother me to write the same things to you that I have written before (repeating the simple teachings of Jesus). In fact, it is for your own good. (2) Watch out for those people who behave like dogs! They are evil and want to do more than just circumcise you (get you to follow religious doctrines). (3) But we are the ones who are truly circumcised (by leaving traditions of men), because we worship by the power of God's Spirit and take pride in [have faith in] Christ Jesus. We don't brag about what we have done, (4) although I could (if it were something to brag about). Others may

and his early followers said if you are involved in lying, stealing, promoting unscriptural teachings, adultery, homosexuality, or any of the other things condemned by God, you are not showing love. Please take note and consider: That is not what I say, that is what Paul was inspired by God to record in the Bible. Some people imagine themselves judges as they overlook one or two of those “sins,” and then point out other people they know who are practicing the others. Most (probably all) of such judgmental people are practicing some of the other Bible condemned “sins” themselves. They measure (judge) the sins of others to be far more serious than their own.<sup>QQQQ</sup> Christ didn't give us God's teachings as a tool to judge *other people*.<sup>DDD</sup> He gave them to us so we could correct and benefit ourselves.<sup>EEE</sup> Nobody is forcing you to express faith in the Bible, or in its God. If you are claiming to express faith in the Bible, and at the same time practicing what the Bible condemns, don't compound your error by saying what

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brag about themselves, but I have more reason to brag than anyone else. (5) I was circumcised when I was eight days old, and I am from the nation of Israel and the tribe of Benjamin. I am a true Hebrew. As a Pharisee, I strictly obeyed the Law of Moses. (6) And I was so eager that I even made trouble for the church. I did everything the Law demands in order to please God. (7) But Christ has shown me that what I once thought was valuable is worthless. (8) Nothing is as wonderful as knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. I have given up everything else and count it all as garbage. All I want is Christ (9) and to know that I belong to him. I could not make myself acceptable to God by obeying the Law of Moses. God accepted me simply because of my faith in Christ.

<sup>DDD</sup> Luke 9:49-50 ESV John answered, "Master, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he does not follow with us." (50) But Jesus said to him, "Do not stop him, for the one who is not against you is for you."

<sup>EEE</sup> James 1:23-25 GW If someone listens to God's word but doesn't do what it says, he is like a person who looks at his face in a mirror, (24) studies his features, goes away, and immediately forgets what he looks like. (25) However, the person who continues to study God's perfect teachings that make people free and who remains committed to them will be blessed [*or, will be happy in his doing them*]. People like that don't merely listen and forget; they actually do what God's teachings say.

you are doing is good or acceptable.<sup>FFF & (O)</sup> I do not judge you, of course. **If you can please God by carrying on a life style** (lying, stealing, hating, sexual deviance or the other things) **He condemned in his word, it is certainly fine with me.** It does seem unlikely, however, God would approve you if you choose to disregard his counsel. Remember as you consider your course, even if you can convince the whole world what you are doing is OK, it all means nothing without God's approval. We each must avoid judging *other people*. At the same time, however, we must judge ourselves by making certain *we* are living a life approved by God. As Paul stated: **(1 Corinthians 4:1-5)** **4** Let a man so appraise us as being subordinates of Christ and **stewards of the sacred secrets of God [Jesus's teachings].** **2** Besides, in this case, what is looked for in stewards is for a man to be found faithful. **3** Now to me it is a very trivial matter that I should be examined by YOU or by a human tribunal. Even I do not examine myself. **4** For I am not conscious of anything against myself. Yet by this I am not proved righteous, but he that examines me is **the LORD.** **5** Hence do not judge anything before the due time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring the secret things of darkness to light and make the counsels of the hearts obvious to all, and then each one will have his praise come to him from God.

Make no mistake: We are each and every one judging our-own-selves by our personal response to the words that fell from Jesus's lips. **(John 12:46-50)** **46** I have come as a light into the world, in order that everyone putting faith in me may not remain in the darkness. **47** ***But if anyone hears my sayings and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I came, not to judge the world, but to save the world.*** **48** ***He that disregards me and does not receive my sayings has one to judge him. The word that I have spoken is what will judge him in the last day;*** **49** because I have not spoken out of my own impulse, but the Father himself who sent me has given me a commandment as to what to tell and what to speak. **50** Also, I know that his commandment means everlasting life. Therefore the things I speak, just as the Father has told me [them], so I speak [them].”

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<sup>FFF</sup> Isaiah 5:20-21 ESV Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter! (21) Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes, and shrewd in their own sight!

Do you see how Christ's teachings illustrate a kingdom with our Creator at the top, and his son acting as the mediator right below his Father. Below them, all the faithful look to God through their personal faith in Christ.<sup>GGG</sup> Christ forms a bridge that allows our grand and perfect Creator to have dealings with each of us as imperfect creatures. God's arrangement is just perfect!

Rather than focusing on our short 70 or 80 year view onto the timeline of mankind's existence, we need to look at [the big picture](#) and to try and view things from God's perspective.<sup>(DD)</sup> It will be wonderful for you if you can! God gave mankind life, with the intention that we be healthy and happy and live forever. God's enemy was a liar but actually accused God of being the liar; saying we would be better off rejecting God's directives. Sadly, Adam and Eve believed (or went along with) Satan. So... The world we have constructed in our disobedience is falling down on itself like a house of cards. Please realize that decay started [6000 years ago in the Garden of Eden](#). The modern world (with all the bad that exists as part of it) is the ever worsening product of mankind's rebellion against our Father. During all the time that has passed, as we have produced all the bad that has happened, [God has given each of us the opportunity to become his friend](#) by means of our faith in his son. (Those who lived before Christ needed to express faith in God in other ways, such as obedience to the Law Code. That Law Code, however, was only a tutor leading to the Christ.<sup>(RR)</sup> Upon being resurrected, they too [those who died before Christ] will have to put faith in Jesus.) Friendship with God, or we might say love of God, means obedience to him.<sup>(WWW)</sup> That obedience must come from love based in knowledge that God is good.<sup>(Q)</sup> Nothing he ever asks you to do will harm you. Obedience will make you happy.<sup>(EEE)</sup> (We do have to be vigilant that what we hear as being "from God," is actually coming from God. If it is truly from God, it is in Jesus's teachings.)<sup>(SS)</sup> We have all been mired in the badness of this world in one way or another.<sup>(BBB)</sup> Most of us still are in some measure. That is true simply because even the best among us is just a work in progress.<sup>(HHH)</sup> We are all alike in that we are all sinners. The teachings

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<sup>GGG</sup> [1 Timothy 2:5-6 ESV](#) For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, (6) who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.~

Our day is the proper time, and this is the testimony of Jesus Christ.

<sup>HHH</sup> [1 John 1:8-10 BBE](#) If we say that we have no sin, we are false to ourselves and there is nothing true in us. (9) If we say openly that we

of Jesus Christ are the method by which God has chosen to lift us out of our ignorance (and the mire that is this old world). In whatever ways you are involved in this world, [be working to let it go](#). Wash yourself clean in the teachings (or we might say in the blood, since he gave his life to bring us those teachings) of Christ. The reward of doing so is greater than you can imagine.<sup>III</sup> The hope set before us is that desirable sunrise (love) we have never clearly seen, and love out of a heartfelt desire to be obedient to our Creator is how we attain it. Jesus came to teach you how to show love. Simply read your Gospels.

God cannot see what choice you are going to make, but, He is doing everything He can possibly do to help you choose wisely. He wants you to be his friend and to live.<sup>JJJ</sup> It is not too difficult for you to pick up a Bible and read the Gospel accounts of the teachings which יהוה<sup>(G)</sup> sent his son to give to you.<sup>(TTT)</sup> God has filled the world with Bibles. In addition, He allows materials like this booklet to help you

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have done wrong, he is upright and true to his word, giving us forgiveness of sins and making us clean from all evil. (10) If we say that we have no sin, we make him false and his word is not in us.

<sup>III</sup> 1 Corinthians 2:9 GW But as Scripture says: "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined the things that God has prepared for those who love him."

<sup>JJJ</sup> John 6:40 CEV My Father wants everyone who sees the Son to have faith in him and to have eternal life. Then I will raise them to life on the last day.~

2 Peter 3:3-9 GW First, you must understand this: In the last days people who follow their own desires will appear. These disrespectful people will ridicule God's promise (4) by saying, "What's happened to his promise to return? Ever since our ancestors died, everything continues as it did from the beginning of the world." (5) They are deliberately ignoring one fact: Because of God's word, heaven and earth existed a long time ago. The earth appeared out of water and was kept alive by water. (6) Water also flooded and destroyed that world. (7) By God's word, the present heaven and earth are designated to be burned. They are being kept until the day ungodly people will be judged and destroyed. (8) Dear friends, don't ignore this fact: One day with the Lord is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. (9) The Lord isn't slow to do what he promised, as some people think. Rather, he is patient for your sake. He doesn't want to destroy anyone but wants all people to have an opportunity to turn to him and change the way they think and act.

understand the importance of those Gospel teachings. Visit and direct others to [justbibletruth.com](http://justbibletruth.com). The whole intent of the website is to encourage people to learn what Jesus taught as recorded in the Gospels. The Bible as a whole exists as a tutor leading to the Christ, so pay particular attention to the Gospels.<sup>(RR)</sup> They are four parallel accounts of Jesus's life and work. Don't imagine, however, this old world system is going to be made better. It was judged wicked in the Garden of Eden, and has been getting steadily worse (demonstrating the righteousness of God's judgment). It is perishing under the weight of its own badness.<sup>KKK</sup> The harsh environment ([tribulation](#)) caused by the failure of our old world system<sup>LLL</sup> is ~~inspiring~~ *forcing* everyone to make an examination and to [turn to God, or in some people, to turn to something else](#). It can be terrifying to live in a world full of people who seem to be mostly turning to something else. They are becoming so polarized by hate they can no longer function as a

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<sup>KKK</sup> Ecclesiastes 1:14-15 Darby (14) I have seen all the works that are done under the sun, and behold, all is vanity and pursuit of the wind. (15) That which is crooked cannot be made straight; and that which is wanting cannot be numbered.~

Psalms 37:9-15 LITV For evildoers shall be cut off; and the ones waiting on Jehovah, they shall inherit the earth. (10) *It is but a little while* and the wicked shall not be; yea, you shall consider his place, and he is not. (11) But the meek shall inherit the earth; yea, *they* shall delight themselves in abundant peace. (12) The wicked plots against the righteous and gnashes on him with his teeth; (13) the Lord laughs at him, for He sees that his day is coming. (14) The wicked have drawn out the sword and they have trodden their bow, to cause the poor and needy to fall, to kill those who walk uprightly. (15) Their sword shall enter into their heart, and their bows shall be broken.

<sup>LLL</sup> 1 John 2:7-8 LITV Brothers, I do not write a new commandment to you, but an old commandment which you had from *the* beginning. The old commandment is the Word which you have heard from *the* beginning. (8) Again I write a new commandment to you which is true in Him and in you, because the darkness is passing away, and the true Light already shines.~

1 John 2:15-17 LITV Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him, (16) because all that which *is* in the world: the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. (17) And the world is passing away, and its lust. But the *one* doing the will of God abides forever.

society. Even our politicians, the people we pay to have no other purpose in life than to look out for the well-being of society, are so divided and self-righteously [polarized](#) by some perceived solution they have “faith” will help, they can no longer function to get even the basic necessary things done. One of them thinks gun violence is the problem, and we need to remove guns from society. Another thinks gun violence is the problem, and we need to arm more people so they can stop armed radicals when they rise up. Some think big government is the problem, while others think we need more governmental control. Some think the lack of love shown by the killing of unborn children is the problem, while others think it should be a woman’s choice about what happens to her body (especially in extreme circumstances, such as when her own life is put in danger). Many of them are so embittered, and made cynical by all the badness surrounding us, they have dug in their heels being convinced beyond all reason their way alone is right. Many build such great “faith” in what they consider *the solution* they are ready to do harm to those who don’t agree with them. People are radicalized by hate. Their intolerance of others shows it is hate they have rather than love.<sup>MMM</sup> None of them are learning and teaching others what Jesus came to teach. Telling the [people of earth](#) what is happening to them is the best you can do. As in the days of Noah,<sup>NNN</sup> the wicked are being judged and will soon be destroyed.

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<sup>MMM</sup> [Mark 9:38-42 CEV](#) John said, "Teacher, we saw a man using your name to force demons out of people. But he wasn't one of us, and we told him to stop." (39) Jesus said to his disciples: Don't stop him! No one who works miracles in my name will soon turn and say something bad about me. (40) Anyone who isn't against us is for us. (41) And anyone who gives you a cup of water in my name, just because you belong to me, will surely be rewarded. (42) It will be terrible for people who cause even one of my little followers to sin. Those people would be better off thrown into the ocean with a heavy stone tied around their necks.

<sup>NNN</sup> [Matthew 24:37-39 GW](#) "When the Son of Man comes again, it will be exactly like the days of Noah. (38) In the days before the flood, people were eating, drinking, and getting married until the day that Noah went into the ship. (39) They were not aware of what was happening until the flood came and swept all of them away. That is how it will be when the Son of Man comes again.~

The people of Noah’s day didn’t have to be ignorant. Noah told them what was about to happen and they could see him building the ark. The ark of salvation for our day is faith in Christ Jesus.

A few years ago, in a nation being devastated and destroyed by civil war, there were factions that rose up in different areas. Each faction declared their own sovereignty. Each sect had a leader and his “nation” of followers, who often amounted to little more than a gang of men carrying assault rifles. There were some news reporters accompanying a group trying to get through with aid. They came upon a checkpoint with a 55 gallon drum set on each side of the road. There was a dead man lying by one of the barrels. His bowels had been pulled out and stretched up to the top of the one barrel, and then across the road to the top of the other. A man with an AK-47 stopped their vehicle and talked with the driver. He then moved around and pulled the intestine back out of the way so their vehicle could pass. That is just one of the uncountable gross atrocities mankind has been witness to in the days in which we live. When people are exposed to such brutality, it breaks something inside. Or maybe, they just feel compelled to “do something” to try and make it better. *We certainly should feel terrible* ([Eze 9:4](#)) *about the horror of our world.* Many people have seen so much pain and suffering they are ready to just tear it all down, in hopes something better will arise. Several nations have disintegrate as a result of such political unrest. Sadly, the anarchy that results from civil disobedience and chaos never brings better conditions. All of the nations that have crumbled in that way are worse off than before. They are *much* worse off. Do not deceive yourself: If you fight against the establishment<sup>ooo</sup> and do harm to other people, or you give support to those who do, you are a worker of lawlessness<sup>(MM)</sup> and an enemy of Christ. Turn to Christ if you want to avoid dying in your sins.<sup>(TTT)</sup> Please understand, it is not our hope to educate the mass of humanity, those who are choosing badness, so they will do better as a group. If they wouldn't listen to Jesus, they certainly won't listen to us. We are reaching out to every single individual, however, hoping to encourage faith among *those*

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<sup>ooo</sup> [Romans 13:1-3 CEV](#) **Obey the rulers who have authority over you. Only God can give authority to anyone, and he puts these rulers in their places of power. (2) People who oppose the authorities are opposing what God has done, and they will be punished. (3) Rulers are a threat to evil people, not to good people. There is no need to be afraid of the authorities. Just do right, and they will praise you for it.**~

This scripture does not mean governments are made up of Christians, or even good people. They keep anarchy at bay while we learn from Christ how to be citizens of his kingdom.

*individuals* who desire to love God and who look to him for help. (1 Pet 3:10-12) Please realize: Faith in Christ is your only way out.<sup>PPP</sup> World conditions are going to get worse until the people who are making it bad all die or disappear,<sup>(KKK)</sup> while those who love God are preserved.<sup>(AAAA)</sup> Contrary to the sentiments of some people: You do not cause the tribulation (or make it worse) by recognizing or talking about what we see happening. We can foreknow it will continue to get worse because Jesus Christ said it would.<sup>QQQ</sup> When a person

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

<sup>QQQ</sup> Remember, Jesus is here referencing hundreds of years of time, recounting the decay of this old world system leading to its end: Luke 21:7-28 GNB "Teacher," they asked, "when will this be? And what will happen in order to show that the time has come for it to take place?" (8) Jesus said, "Watch out; don't be fooled. Many men [*false religious teachers*], claiming to speak for me, will come and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time has come!' But don't follow them. (9) Don't be afraid when you hear of wars and revolutions; such things must happen first, but they do not mean that the end is near." (10) He went on to say, "Countries will fight each other; kingdoms will attack one another. (11) There will be terrible earthquakes, famines, and plagues everywhere; there will be strange and terrifying things coming from the sky. (12) Before all these things take place, however, you (his followers over the centuries) will be arrested and persecuted; you will be handed over to be tried in synagogues and be put in prison; you will be brought before kings and rulers for my sake. (13) This will be your chance to tell the Good News (what Jesus taught). (14) Make up your minds ahead of time not to worry about how you will defend yourselves, (15) because I will give you such words and wisdom (based on your faith in, and knowledge of, what he taught) that none of your enemies will be able to refute or contradict what you say. (16) You will be handed over by your parents, your brothers, your relatives, and your friends; and some of you will be put to death. (17) Everyone will hate you because of me. (18) But not a single hair from your heads will be lost. (19) Stand firm, and you will save yourselves. (20) "When you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then you will know that it will soon be destroyed. (21) Then those who are in Judea must run away to the hills; those who are in the city must leave, and those who are out in the country must not go into the city. (22) For those will be 'The Days of Punishment,' to make come true all that the Scriptures say (this happened as a minor fulfillment when Rome destroyed Jerusalem in 70 CE – most of that and all that follows have

recognizes the tribulation destroying our world, and gains from the Bible an understanding of why it is happening, that knowledge leads them toward faith in Christ. Faith then leads to hope. What we are promoting, then, is the one true hope through faith in Christ. God could not foresee the future choices of individuals, but, He and his son could foreknow where disobedience to God's guidance would lead mankind. So... God sent Jesus to warn us to watch for and expect all these problems, and much more importantly, to accept the gift of God's solution.<sup>(QQQ)</sup>

The simple reason the problems ([the tribulation](#)) exist, in concert with all the hatred, is because of disobedience to our Father. God gave us the gift of life with the natural expectation we would love and obey him, simply because He is good (and perfect in all He does). He is always looking for the best in each and every one of us. His enemy, inciting disobedience in the Garden, is what brought about the tribulation destroying humanity. God still knew, through it all, his creation was good. ([Gen 1:31](#)) That remained true even while some individuals chose to make themselves bad. So, God has allowed this period of time ([about 6000 years from Adam until our day](#)) for the evidence to mount.<sup>(DD)</sup> The world of our day, then, full of hatred and violence, is the result of humanity's bad choice back in the Garden of Eden. We can and should be glad God did not instantly kill the rebels. He allowed them to live on for a period of time and to have children. We are those children. God immediately, though, while they were still in the Garden, set a salvation in motion that is being completed today, and gives hope to all who were and are looking for a God who

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application to the end of this old world system). (23) How terrible it will be in those days for women who are pregnant and for mothers with little babies! Terrible distress will come upon this land, and God's punishment will fall on this people. (24) Some will be killed by the sword, and others will be taken as prisoners to all countries; and the heathen will trample over Jerusalem until their time is up. (25) "There will be strange things happening to the sun, the moon, and the stars. On earth whole countries will be in despair, afraid of the roar of the sea and the raging tides. (26) People will faint from fear as they wait for what is coming over the whole earth, for the powers in space will be driven from their courses. (27) Then the Son of Man will appear, coming in a cloud with great power and glory (first seen through eyes of faith in these Bible promises). (28) When these things begin to happen, stand up and raise your heads, because your salvation is near."

is good. Right after their sin, God promised he would raise up a seed of the woman who would crush Satan's head. ([Gen 3:15](#)) Christ Jesus said that is precisely what he came to do.<sup>(FF)</sup> The conclusion of this old wicked world system, as the manifestation of help for the righteous by means of their faith in Christ, is what we are witness to at our particular day in time. ([Luke 12:56](#)) It is the most wonderful time to be alive.<sup>RRR</sup>

[If you invest your life's energy](#) in supporting any of the oh-so-many sectarian religious movements, and even if you are able to accomplish some little good, they will not solve world problems. The only real and lasting good you can do is to understand (and help others realize) we must all learn to have absolute faith in what Jesus taught. Mankind cannot fix what has been made crooked.<sup>(KKK)</sup> The problems we face can be made right only by God. Even God, however, cannot fix those who are determined to fight against him. As we all now see from the world as it exists, the wicked must be destroyed for God's good creation to continue. That is happening!<sup>SSS</sup> Christ Jesus is the king God raised up to make it so. Christ is giving birth to a new world society.<sup>(CCC)</sup> In the process of doing so, he must [judge mankind into two groups](#).<sup>(U)</sup> He is doing that by their response to what his Father sent him to teach.<sup>(T)</sup> Which group you are in is the judgment you are rendering over yourself. Everyone who is selected (marked – [Eze 9:4](#)) by their manifest faith in what Jesus taught will live forever.<sup>(LLL)</sup> Those who disregard Christ will continue to die in their sins.<sup>TTT</sup>

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<sup>RRR</sup> [Luke 21:25-28 GW](#) "Miraculous signs will occur in the sun, moon, and stars. The nations of the earth will be deeply troubled and confused because of the roaring and tossing of the sea. (26) People will faint as they fearfully wait for what will happen to the world. Indeed, the powers of the universe will be shaken. (27) "Then people will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud (coming in a cloud apparently means only those with faith can see him) with power and great glory. (28) "When these things begin to happen, stand with confidence! The time when you will be set free is near."

<sup>SSS</sup> [Ecclesiastes 3:14 CEV](#) Everything God has done will last forever; nothing he does can ever be changed. God has done all this, so that we will worship him.

<sup>TTT</sup> [John 8:24-28 CEV](#) That is why I said you will die with your sins unforgiven [*or, you will die in your sins*]. If you don't have faith in me for who I am, you will die [*in your sins*], and your sins will not be forgiven." (25) "Who are you?" they asked Jesus. Jesus answered, "I

A man said about the Florida nightclub attack in 2016 that “hate attacked Orlando, and Orlando responded with love.” While his words were pretty, he didn’t say anything about our need to first learn from Christ what love is. His “nice words” do nothing to provide hope for the loved ones of the nearly fifty people killed in that Orlando club. It offers no solution for the half a million people killed in Syria over the past few years. It does nothing for the 65 million people made homeless in 2015 alone. Perhaps more importantly, it does nothing for the individuals continuing to be harmed by hate right now, in the present, every single day. It does little to stem the worsening avalanche of hate and wickedness. The harm being done in this day in time is too great to recount. ([Psalm 91:7-11](#)) Those who know Christ and recognize his kingdom, as opposed to those who are only trying to talk about love (while being blind, without ever having actually seen it), realize Christ is creating peaceful conditions among a kingdom of people who are looking to our Father for help. Christ’s words are the solution to all our problems. Christ is changing the world one person at a time. Unseen to us, because it happened in heaven, Christ has ridden forth to destroy his enemies.<sup>UUU</sup> You can’t help people by “saying” love, love, love... You must “show” them love. The only way you do that is by directing those who will listen to the teachings of Jesus, so *they* too can gain sight and see love. Those people who recognize and express faith in the kingdom of Christ, by directing other people to his teachings, are actually showing love based on their faith. They will be kept alive right into the paradise being restored.<sup>CCCC</sup> When the righteous are preserved into paradise<sup>VVV</sup> and the wicked are gone,<sup>KKK - [Psalm 37:10](#)</sup> all those from the

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am exactly who I told you at the beginning. (26) There is a lot more I could say to condemn you. But the one who sent me is truthful, and I tell the people of this world only what I have heard from him." (27) No one understood that Jesus was talking to them about the Father. (28) Jesus went on to say, "When you have lifted up the Son of Man [the Messiah and son of God], you will know who I am. You will also know that I don't do anything on my own. I say only what my Father taught me.

<sup>UUU</sup> Revelation 6:2 BBE And I saw a white horse, and he who was seated on it had a bow; and there was given to him a crown: and he went out with power to overcome.

<sup>VVV</sup> Job 33:15-30 GNB At night when people are asleep, God speaks in dreams and visions (in past times, now he speaks to us through the teachings of Christ). (16) He makes them listen to what he says, and

past who have already died, as a result of hate and badness, will be awakened by a resurrection to an opportunity to join in that paradise; forever.

The teachings of Jesus are truth! They explain why our world is destroying itself. You don't have to believe in the [tribulation](#) or even recognize it for it to be happening. Truth remains truth all the same. Jesus came to teach us the truth our God foreknew when he announced 6000 years ago He would raise up a seed of the woman who would crush Satan's head.<sup>(EE)</sup> Your need is simple: [You must decide](#) whether you believe, and then, whether you will express faith in the teachings of Christ. We can *say love* all we want! It is our obedience to God through our faith in his son (obedience to what Jesus taught) that displays whether we really *have love*.<sup>www</sup> Please don't allow Satan to deceive you as he seems to have done with much of mankind: If you want to spread love and to help other people, and

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they are frightened at his warnings. (17) God speaks to make them stop their sinning and to save them from becoming proud. (18) He will not let them be destroyed; he saves them from death itself. (19) God corrects us by sending sickness and filling our bodies with pain. (20) 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 truth with them), and gives him the joy of living.

<sup>www</sup> 1 John 5:1-5 CEV If we believe that Jesus is truly Christ, we are God's children. Everyone who loves the Father will also love his children. (2) If we love and obey God, we know that we will love his children. (3) We show our love for God by obeying his commandments, and they are not hard to follow. (4) Every child of God can defeat the world, and our faith is what gives us this victory. (5) No one can defeat the world without having faith in Jesus as the Son of God.

you believe you are doing so but you are not directing everyone to the teachings of Jesus Christ, you actually remain just another part of the problem.<sup>(MM)</sup> If you have true love, you have learned it from Jesus and will share with other people what Christ taught. Not just calling out Jesus's name to them, mind you, but helping them realize their need to break free of being followers of any of the religious sects of men. You must help them see their need to actually read for themselves what Jesus actually taught.<sup>(MM)</sup> That is the only way we can actually help bring an end to suffering.<sup>XXX</sup>

To summarize: God doesn't kill children (doesn't take them to be angels) or cause any other harm. The wicked are the ones who cause harm. The wicked have been allowed to exist for a brief time ([6000 years from Adam to our day](#)),<sup>(DD)</sup> so the memory of the harm they have caused will provide a touchstone witness<sup>YYY</sup> for all creation and for all eternity: Psalms 83:13-18 KJV O my God, make them like a wheel; as the stubble before the wind. (14) As the fire burneth a wood, and as the flame setteth the mountains on fire; (15) So persecute them with thy tempest, and make them afraid with thy storm. (16) Fill their faces with shame; that they may [seek thy name](#),

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<sup>XXX</sup> Matthew 24:11-14 CEV 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 28:18-20 CEV Jesus came to them and said: I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth! (19) Go to the people of all nations and make them my disciples. Baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, (people are baptized by submitting themselves to follow Christ)\*<sup>2</sup> (20) and teach them to do everything I have told you. I will be with you always, even until the end of the world.~

\*<sup>2</sup> 1 Peter 3:21 GW Baptism, which is like that water [*that saved Noah*], now saves you. Baptism doesn't save by removing dirt from the body. Rather, baptism is a request to God for a clear conscience. It saves you through Jesus Christ, who came back from death to life.

<sup>YY</sup> The wicked will prove to be a touchstone to time indefinite, as the bad they have caused makes clear the simple truth of this scripture: Proverbs 21:30 Darby There is no wisdom, nor understanding, nor counsel against Jehovah.

O LORD [יהוה]. (17) Let them be confounded and troubled for ever; yea, let them be put to shame, and perish: (18) That *men* may know that thou, whose name alone is JEHOVAH [יהוה], *art* the most high over all the earth. Never again will anyone speak lies.<sup>ZZZ</sup>

As Jesus himself told us, if we will just really listen to what he said, the truth is made easy to understand: Luke 10:21-28 ALT In that hour Jesus was very glad in the Spirit [*or, in His spirit*] and said, "I [*publicly*] praise You, Father, Lord of heaven and of the earth, that You hid these [*things*] from wise and intelligent [*people*] and revealed them to young children [*or, to ordinary people*]. Yes, Father, because in this way it became well-pleasing before You." (22) And turning to the disciples, He said, "All [*things*] were handed over to Me by My Father, and ***no one knows who the Son is except the Father, and who the Father is except the Son and to whom [ever] the Son shall be desiring to reveal [Him].***" (23) And having turned to the disciples, He said privately, "Happy [*are*] the eyes, the ones seeing what you see. (24) "For I say to you, that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, and did not see, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear." (25) And look! A certain lawyer stood up, testing Him and saying, "Teacher, [*by*] having done what, will I inherit eternal life?" (26) But He said to him, "What has been written in the Law? How do you read [*it*]?" (27) Then answering, he said, "'You will love the LORD [יהוה] your God with your whole heart [*fig., your entire inner self*] and with your whole soul and with your whole strength and with your whole understanding,' and 'your neighbor as yourself.'" [*Deut 6:5; Lev 19:18*] (28) Then He said to him, "You answered correctly. Do this and you will live."

This world is suffering through the tribulation<sup>AAAA</sup> of its own destruction as a result of having separated itself from God. As it dies,

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<sup>ZZZ</sup> Psalms 5:4-6 LITV For You *are* not a God enjoying wickedness; nor shall evil live with You. (5) The boasters shall not set themselves before Your eyes. You hate all workers of iniquity. (6) You shall destroy those speaking lies; Jehovah will despise the man of blood and deceit.

<sup>AAAA</sup> Matthew 24:7-14 GNB Countries will fight each other; kingdoms will attack one another. There will be famines and earthquakes everywhere. (8) All these things are like the first pains of childbirth.

to God's glory, it gives birth to the Kingdom of Christ.<sup>BBBB</sup> Exercise faith to do what Jesus taught and you can live right on through the end of this old world<sup>CCCC</sup> system and into the paradise being

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(9) "Then you will be arrested and handed over to be punished and be put to death. Everyone will hate you because of me. (10) Many will give up their faith at that time; they will betray one another and hate one another. (11) Then many false prophets will appear and fool many people. (12) Such will be the spread of evil that many people's love will grow cold. (13) But whoever holds out to the end will be saved. (14) And this Good News about the Kingdom will be preached through all the world for a witness to all people; and then the end will come. ~

Matthew 24:21-22 GNB For the trouble at that time will be far more terrible than any there has ever been, from the beginning of the world to this very day. Nor will there ever be anything like it again. (22) But God has already reduced the number of days; had he not done so, nobody would survive. For the sake of his chosen people, however, God will reduce the days.

<sup>BBBB</sup> Romans 8:20-22 ALT For the creation was subjected to futility, not of its will, but because of the One having subjected *[it]* in hope *[or, confident expectation]*, (21) because even the creation itself will be set free from the slavery of the corruption into the liberty of the glory of the children of God. (22) For we know that all the creation groans together and labors together in birth-pains until now. ~

John 12:23-26 CEV Jesus said: The time has come for the Son of Man to be given his glory. (24) I tell you for certain that a grain of wheat that falls on the ground will never be more than one grain unless it dies. But if it dies, it will produce lots of wheat. (25) If you love your life, you will lose it. If you give it up *[consider it less important than serving Christ]* in this world, you will be given eternal life. (26) If you serve me, you must go with me. My servants will be with me wherever I am. If you serve me, my Father will honor you.

<sup>CCCC</sup> 1 Corinthians 15:20-28 GNB (20) But the truth is that Christ has been raised from death, as the guarantee that those who sleep in death will also be raised. (21) For just as death came by means of a man, in the same way the rising from death comes by means of a man. (22) For just as all people die because of their union with Adam, in the same way all will be raised to life (or continue to live if they are alive when he returns) because of their union with Christ. (23) But each one will be raised in proper order: Christ, first of all; then, at the time of his coming, those who belong to him. (24) Then

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restored.<sup>DDDD</sup> All the world's religious people have been wondering when and how the return of Christ will be revealed. It is happening

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the end will come; Christ will overcome all spiritual rulers, authorities, and powers, and will hand over the Kingdom to God the Father (Jesus presents the earth to his Father as God intended it to be when he created it). (25) For Christ must rule until God defeats all enemies and puts them under his feet. (26) The last enemy to be defeated will be death (those alive at that time will no longer die). (27) For the scripture says, "God put *all* things under his feet." It is clear, of course, that the words "all things" do not include God himself, who puts all things under Christ. (28) But when all things have been placed under Christ's rule, then he himself, the Son, will place himself under God, who placed all things under him; and God will rule completely over all.

<sup>DDDD</sup> Isaiah 11:1-12 GNB The royal line of David is like a tree that has been cut down; but just as new branches sprout from a stump, so a new king [*Christ Jesus*] will arise from among David's descendants.

(2) The spirit of the [LORD](#) [יהוה] will give him wisdom and the knowledge and skill to rule his people. He will know the LORD's [יהוה's] will and honor him, (3) and find pleasure in obeying him. He will not judge by appearance or hearsay; (4) he will judge the poor fairly and defend the rights of the helpless. At his command the people will be punished, and evil persons will die. (5) He will rule his people with justice and integrity. (6) Wolves and sheep will live together in peace, and leopards will lie down with young goats. Calves and lion cubs will feed together, and little children will take care of them. (7) Cows and bears will eat together, and their calves and cubs will lie down in peace. Lions will eat straw as cattle do. (8) Even a baby will not be harmed if it plays near a poisonous snake. (9) On Zion, God's sacred hill, there will be nothing harmful or evil. The land will be as full of knowledge of the LORD [יהוה] as the seas are full of water. (10) A day is coming when the new king from the royal line of David will be a symbol to the nations. They will gather in his royal city and give him honor. (11) When that day comes, the Lord will once again use his power and bring back home those of his people who are left in Assyria and Egypt, in the lands of Pathros, Ethiopia, Elam, Babylonia, and Hamath, and in the coastlands and on the islands of the sea. (12) The Lord will raise a signal flag to show the nations that he is gathering together again the scattered people of

right now! You need simply to open your eyes of faith and see.<sup>EEEE</sup> Jesus brought light to free you from the black muck surrounding people of this world,<sup>(T)</sup> and to help you become a friend of his Father.<sup>FFFF</sup> He said his return would be with the clouds,<sup>GGGG</sup> indicating he would be hidden (at first) from those not having eyes of faith. He has given you promises in the Bible so you can provide yourself deliverance based on your faith in those assurances.<sup>(VVV)</sup> Choose life and live!<sup>(MMMM)</sup>

The truth is so simple! With [6000 years having passed](#) since the creation of Adam, it is time for mankind's deliverance. The world is rapidly getting worse and being destroyed by its own wicked choices. Our day is the revelation of the kingdom of Christ. ***A real faith in what you personally know Christ Jesus taught is your only hope.*** Open your eyes and see.<sup>(EEEE)</sup> Express faith and be blessed beyond what you can imagine. God set man and woman in the garden because He had foreknowledge of what mankind would become. He could foreknow a good future for them because his creation was perfect. Satan killed some people who did not love our Father, and changed mankind's path to paradise slightly. Exactly what God purposed with the creation of Adam and Eve, however, is

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Israel and Judah and bringing them back from the four corners of the earth.

<sup>EEEE</sup> 2 Kings 6:15-17 CEV When Elisha's servant got up the next morning, he saw that Syrian troops had the town surrounded. "Sir, what are we going to do?" he asked. (16) "Don't be afraid," Elisha answered. "There are more troops on our side than on theirs." (17)

Then he prayed, "[LORD](#) [יְהוָה], please help him to see." And the LORD let the servant see that the hill was covered with fiery horses and flaming chariots all around Elisha.

<sup>FFFF</sup> James 2:22-24 CEV Now you see how Abraham's faith and deeds worked together. He proved that his faith was real by what he did. (23) This is what the Scriptures mean by saying, "Abraham had faith in God, and God was pleased with him." That's how Abraham became God's friend. (24) You can now see that we please God by what we do and not only by what we believe.

<sup>GGGG</sup> Matthew 24:30 ALT "And then the sign of the Son of Humanity will appear in heaven [*or, the sky*]; and then all the tribes of the earth will beat their breasts [*fig., will mourn*], and they will see the 'Son of Humanity coming on the clouds of heaven [*or, the sky*],' with power and great glory! [*Dan 7:13*]

now being accomplished at the hands of God's own dear son.<sup>(CCCC) & (SSS)</sup>

We are the first generation of mankind for 6000 years who can have the scriptural hope of never having to die. It is appropriate to pray to our Father based on that hope.<sup>(VVV)</sup> How might love impact such a prayer? As you ask [1117](#) for eternal life through your faith in Christ, do you have enough love so that you ask for his will, and not yours, to be done? That is exactly what Jesus Christ did. Jesus knew he came to die for our sins. He knew if there were an "easier" way his Father would have selected it. Even so, his humanity caused Jesus to ask his Father to let the sentence of death pass him by. But, Jesus concluded that prayer by saying: "yet, not as I will, but let what you will take place."<sup>HHHH</sup> Jesus knew what his Father did was right in every single case. He allowed himself to be sacrificed on the basis of that faith.<sup>IIII</sup> Jesus has been rewarded for his faith beyond human comprehension.<sup>JJJJ</sup> You need to build a faith that will preserve you alive,<sup>KKKK</sup> but, you must seek our Father's will above all else; no

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<sup>HHHH</sup> Matthew 26:36-39 ALT Then (just before he was to die) Jesus comes with them to a place being called Gethsemane. And He says to the disciples, "Sit here until which [time], having gone over there, I pray." (37) And having taken Peter and the two sons of Zebedee [James and John], He began to be grieving and to be suffering from distress. (38) Then Jesus says to them, "My soul is deeply grieved to the point of death; stay here and keep watching with Me." (39) And having approached [God] a little [distance away], He fell on His face praying and saying, "My Father! If it is possible, let this cup pass away from Me. Nevertheless, not as I desire, but as You [will]."

<sup>IIII</sup> Matthew 26:53-54 GW Don't you think that I could call on my Father to send more than twelve legions of angels to help me now? (54) How, then, are the Scriptures to be fulfilled that say this must happen?"

<sup>JJJJ</sup> Philippians 2:9-11 ESV Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, (10) so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, (11) and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

<sup>KKKK</sup> Hebrews 10:37-39 ALT "For yet [in] a very little while, the One coming will come and will not delay. (38) "But the [one] righteous by faith will live [or, the righteous will live by faith]; and if he draws

exceptions and no matter what the short term cost might be. Your faith that יהיה is good,<sup>(Q)</sup> and your determination to put his will above even your own desires, is what marks you<sup>LLLL</sup> as a citizen of the

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back, My soul has no pleasure in him." [Hab 2:3,4]<sup>\*4</sup> (39) But we are not of [the ones] shrinking back to destruction, but of [the ones having] faith to [the] preserving [alive] of [the] soul.~

<sup>\*4</sup> Habakkuk 2:2-4 LITV And Jehovah answered me and said, Write the vision and engrave it on the tablets, that he who reads it may run. (3) 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.

<sup>LLLL</sup> Ezekiel 8:17-9:7 MWT <sup>17</sup> And he went on to say to me: "Have you seen [this], O son of man? Is it such a light thing to the house of Judah to do the detestable things that they have done here, that they have to fill the land with violence and that they should offend me again, and here they are thrusting out the shoot to my nose? <sup>18</sup> And I myself also shall act in rage. My eye will not feel sorry, neither shall I feel compassion. And they will certainly call out in my ears with a loud voice, but I shall not hear them." **9** And he proceeded to call out in my ears with a loud voice, saying: "HAVE those giving their attention to the city come near, each one with his weapon in his hand for bringing ruin!" <sup>2</sup> And, look! there were six men coming from the direction of the upper gate that faces to the north, each one with his weapon for smashing in his hand; and there was one man in among them clothed with linen, with a secretary's inkhorn at his hips, and they proceeded to come in and stand beside the copper altar. <sup>3</sup> And as regards the glory of the God of Israel, it was taken up from over the cherubs over which it happened to be to the threshold of the house, and he began calling out to the man that was clothed with the linen, at whose hips there was the secretary's inkhorn. 4 And Jehovah went on to say to him: "Pass through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem (Jerusalem represented God's presence and activity on the earth), and you must put a mark on the foreheads of the men that are sighing and groaning over all the detestable things that are being done in the midst of it." <sup>5</sup> And to these [others] he said in my ears: "Pass through the city after him and strike. Let not your eye feel sorry, and do not feel any compassion. <sup>6</sup> Old man, young man and virgin and little child and women YOU should kill off—to a ruination. But to any man upon whom there is the mark do not go near, and from my sanctuary YOU should start." So they started with

paradise He is restoring on the earth.<sup>(DDDD)</sup> & <sup>(CCCC)</sup> You must be determined to do no harm. You must do all of that, not because you are good, but because you are convinced that God is. Choose life and live.<sup>MMMM</sup> While Jesus taught us to be careful about praying for ourselves and for what we want,<sup>(HHHH)</sup> he taught we should pray for other people, even our enemies.<sup>NNNN</sup> Pray for our enemies in hope they need only to be awakened to truth.<sup>(ZZ)</sup> If we care for and pray for others, we can have faith God will see to our needs as well. If we pray for and show love for others, we can also hope they will pray for us.<sup>OOOO</sup> (People who ask for [or even accept] money in exchange for their prayers in your behalf<sup>PPPP</sup> are probably not people “approved”

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the old men that were before the house. <sup>7</sup> And he said further to them: “Defile the house and fill the courtyards with the slain ones. Go forth!” And they went forth and struck in the city.

<sup>MMMM</sup> Deuteronomy 30:19-20 ESV (19) I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, (20) loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”

<sup>NNNN</sup> Luke 23:33-34 GW When they came to the place called The Skull, they crucified him. The criminals were also crucified, one on his right and the other on his left. (34) Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them. They don't know what they're doing." Meanwhile, the soldiers divided his clothes among themselves by throwing dice.

<sup>OOOO</sup> James 5:16 GW So admit your sins to each other, and pray for each other so that you will be healed. Prayers offered by those who have God's approval are effective.

<sup>PPPP</sup> Acts 8:18-24 GW Simon saw that the Spirit was given to the Samaritans when the apostles placed their hands on them. So he offered Peter and John money (19) and said, "Give me this power so that anyone I place my hands on will receive the Holy Spirit." (20) Peter told Simon, "May your money be destroyed with you because you thought you could buy God's gift. (21) You won't have any share in this because God can see how twisted your thinking is. (22) So change your wicked thoughts, and ask the Lord if he will forgive you for thinking like this. (23) I can see that you are bitter with jealousy and wrapped up in your evil ways." (24) Simon answered, "Pray to the Lord for me that none of the things you said will happen to me."

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by God. The prayers that can help you come from all those people who pray for you simply because they are imitating Jesus Christ.)

Perhaps the hardest thing about helping someone learn what the Bible teaches is helping them realize how easy it really is. Many people, of course, fail even to see the value of the Bible at all. The [tribulation](#) destroying our world in these last days is a powerful impetus for all people to reexamine the Bible.<sup>(AAAA)</sup> We can rest assured: God will be certain all sincere persons see the need for the hope they can receive only from the Bible's record of Christ's teachings. Helping people realize how simple the Bible is to understand can be harder. That is largely because we have so many self-righteous religious sects vehemently asserting we must listen to them and their complicated doctrines; and that we must be approved by their cult in order to please God. How really could we plain and simple folk, as they all imagine everyone who won't follow them to be, sort it out for ourselves?<sup>(S)</sup> They seem to be missing the point! They have all *chosen* to be members of some huge sect of men and women who lock arms and pat each other on the back as they extoll how great it is to be in the cult they are part of.<sup>QQQQ</sup> If you take anything from this booklet, and from our effort to help you, realize this: You don't have to rely on us, or on any other person or sect. ***Helping you understand the Bible is precisely what Jesus Christ came to do for you.***<sup>(X)</sup> ***Just read what he said.*** Realize too, that is easy!<sup>(S)</sup> God would not send his son to teach<sup>RRRR</sup> what it is too difficult for you to

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Matthew 10:8b GNB ...You have received without paying, so give without being paid.

<sup>QQQQ</sup> Luke 18:9-14 BBE And he [*Jesus*] made this story [*illustration*] for some people who were certain that they were good, and had a low opinion of others: (10) Two men went up to the Temple for prayer; one a Pharisee [*highly religious person*], and the other a tax-farmer. (11) The Pharisee, taking up his position, said to himself these words: God, I give you praise because I am not like other men, who take more than their right, who are evil-doers, who are untrue to their wives, or even like this tax-farmer. (12) Twice in the week I go without food [*fast*]; I give [*tithe*] a tenth of all I have. (13) The tax-farmer, on the other hand, keeping far away, and not lifting up even his eyes to heaven, made signs of grief and said, God, have mercy on me, a sinner. (14) I say to you, This man went back to his house with God's approval, and not the other: for everyone who makes himself high will be made low and whoever makes himself low will be made high.

<sup>RRRR</sup> John 5:26-27 & 30 CEV The Father has the power to give life, and he has given that same power to the Son. (27) And he has given his

understand. The hardest part for most people seems to be realizing they can't trust or rely on what other people say Jesus said.<sup>SSSS</sup> Please just consider what an easy thing it is to read the four Gospel accounts of the life and teachings of Jesus Christ, for your-own-self. ***If anyone offers to help you, just ask them to read the Gospels with you.*** There is only about 200 pages in all four Gospels combined. When you're done going through them once, start again. Don't follow along with people who study some other material (which they will assert are Bible study aids), while they pick and peck a few scriptures here and there. Such "selective teachers" are only picking out scriptures to support their organizational doctrine. That is not studying the Bible. Actually reading the Bible is studying the Bible. Get to know Jesus Christ in the one and only reliable way you can do so: Read the Gospels! (Matthew, Mark, Luke or John) Helping you learn what Jesus taught from his own mouth is the absolute and only help anyone can be. Don't be deceived!

If you are like most of us, you are both amazed at how simple the teachings of Jesus are, and at the same time nearly overwhelmed at the complexity of the truth he revealed. The truth is entwined over [the 6000 years since Adam](#). It is perfect! Those who want to put forth the effort to learn what the Bible teaches can easily do so. Those who don't can make that choice as well. Learn and love what Jesus taught. Choose live and live.<sup>TTTT</sup>

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Son the right to judge everyone, because he is the Son of Man... (30) I cannot do anything on my own. The Father sent me, and he is the one who told me how to judge. I judge with fairness, because I obey him, and I don't just try to please myself.<sup>(V)</sup>

<sup>SSSS</sup> Matthew 7:15 GW "Beware of false prophets. They come to you disguised as sheep, but in their hearts they are vicious wolves.

<sup>TTTT</sup> Deuteronomy 30:14-18 LITV (14) For the Word (the teachings of God's son) is very near to you, in your mouth and in your heart, that you may do it. (15) Behold, 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 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 drawn on, even *you will* 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.





**1 Chronicles 29:10-13 MWT** (10) And David blessed יהוה before the eyes of all the congregation; and David said, Blessed *are* You, O יהוה, the God of Israel, our father, for ever and ever. (11) To you, O יהוה, *be* the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and (the beauty and) the majesty; for all in the heavens and in the earth *belongs* to You, O יהוה; *Yours* is the kingdom, and You lift up *Yourself* to all as Head; (12) and the riches, and the honor *come* from before You, and You rule over all; and in Your hand *is* power and might; and *it is* in Your hand to make great, and to give strength to all. (13) And now, our God, we are giving thanks to You, ***and giving praise to Your glorious name;***<sup>(CCCC)</sup>

The following translations may have been quoted in this document:

ALT - Analytical Literal Translation (1999-2001 by Gary F. Zeolla)

ASV - American Standard Version (by the American revision committee in 1897).

Darby - 1884, 1889 Darby Bible (John Nelson Darby)

DRB - 1899 Douay-Rheims Bible

BBE - 1949, 1964 Bible in Basic English (Cambridge Press)

LITV - Literal Translation of the Holy Bible (1976-2000 by J. P. Green)

KJV - King James Version (1769)

MKJV - Modern King James Version (1962-1998 by J. P. Green Sr.)

MWT - Modern World Translation

Webster - 1833 Webster Bible (Noah Webster)

RV - Revised Version (King James Revised Version)

YLT - Young's Literal Translation (1862, 1898)

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**A Gathering of Eagles**

Where the carcass (Christ's remains are his teachings) is, there the eagles will gather. - Mat 24:28

Today we live in the information age. Everyone knows (has heard) everything. What is there left to see or hear? What do you say to someone to help them recognize the wonderful truth that surrounds us?<sup>UUU</sup> They think they have heard it all before. So... They are jaded beyond hearing. They all believe everything anyone says is motivated by some self-interest, and designed to take something from them. Still, we look for that smoldering flicker of hope in the hearts of those we know have been crushed nearly beyond hope. We try and fan that ember of hope by encouraging faith in teachings of God's son. We can't give you faith. No other organization of men can give that to you either. You don't have to agree with us or become our followers. What we encourage that you must do, is pick up a Bible and read Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Then, you can stand on your own two feet by believing in Christ. You can then know you are free of dependence on any sect of men, because you personally have knowledge of what God's son taught. You will then, and only then, be set free.<sup>(HH)</sup>

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<sup>UUU</sup> **Matthew 13:44 CEV** The kingdom of heaven is like what happens when someone finds treasure hidden in a field and buries it again. A person like that is happy and goes and sells everything in order to buy that field.

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