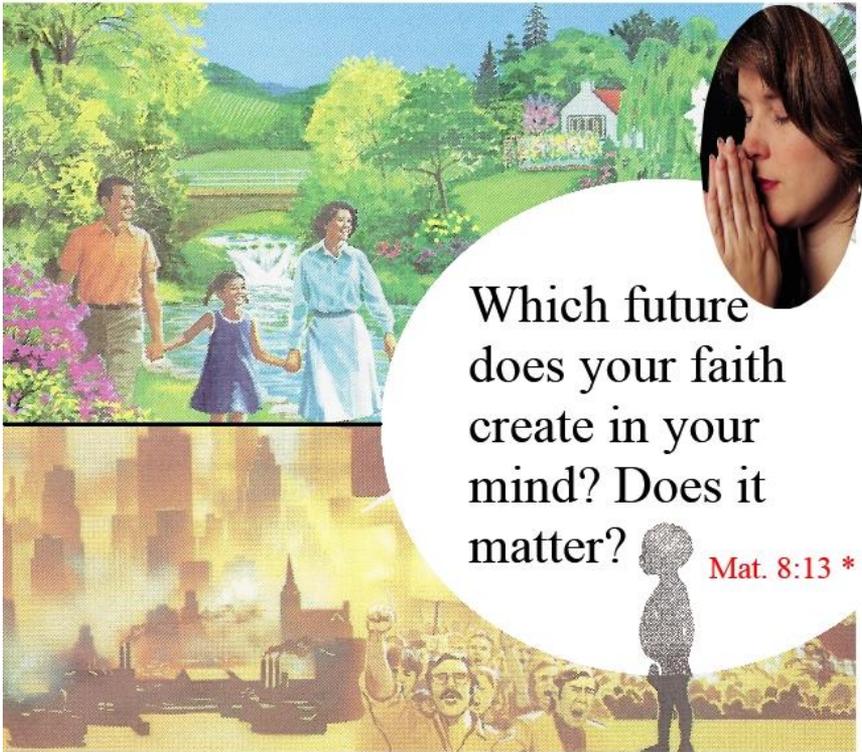


# What is our Future?



Do you control your own destiny?

[Matthew 8:13 Bible in Basic English \[BBE\]](#) And Jesus said to the captain [*centurion*], Go in peace; **as your faith is, so let it be done to you.** And the servant was made well in that hour.

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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

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[justbibletruth.com/WhatsOurFuture.pdf](http://justbibletruth.com/WhatsOurFuture.pdf)

justbibletruth.com exists to accomplish three things:

1. To help people see the absolute need for the truth contained in the Bible. The Bible explains the terrible and worsening conditions we see in the earth in our day.
2. Having recognized the value of at least examining the Bible, the site is to help you realize how very easy it is to understand what the Bible teaches. Would God leave us an instruction book that was hard to understand? Of course not!
3. To help everyone realize: It is the complicated and confusing false religious teachings and interpretations dreamt up by men that make the Bible seem hard. To convey the truth of the Bible, the teller must begin with the sole and pure motive to share that truth. Grounded in that desire, they must attempt to convey only what Jesus Christ said.<sup>(57)</sup> & <sup>(91)</sup> It really is just that simple.<sup>(93)</sup>

Have you considered that what your future holds could actually be based on, or be a result of, your faith? It is important to consider! (See [Mat. 8:13](#) on cover.)

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*"A Gathering of Eagles"* ©  
Luke 17:30 & 37

On Friday, November 8, 2013, news caster Brian Williams stated the most powerful storm known to man hit the Philippines. He said the storm had 235 mile per hour winds and that nothing stands above ground level in such wind. This is just one of many examples indicating the world as we have known it is collapsing under our abuse. ♦ In the first part of 2014, the US government faced a funding deadline that would shut it down, and there is always a group of zealots who are ready to tear down society to further their agenda; often based on what they are convinced is "right." While that deadline passed, others loom. We saw what such unyielding thinking did to Greece (and to other countries). All nations are under assault by arrogant self-righteous thinking. If you live in a nation with a government that still works, embrace it for the good it does, ([Rom 13:1-4](#)) while you await Christ's kingdom (assuming you live in a nation with a government that does work to keep chaos at bay). If you can still live in a home, have a job and go to the grocery, you should give thanks to God for being so fortunate in today's world. ♦ The wealthiest of the wealthy have joined to hold meetings about how they can give to the poor. The first thing they did was ban the poor, and even the press, from those meetings. Many fear their meetings are just another example of the growing power of the wealthy to control, and even maybe their effort to be above, the law. ♦ In February of 2013, a meteor struck a glancing blow against the atmosphere over Russia, injuring thousands. It hit (fortunately) in a rural area but with much greater force than any nuclear blast created by men. Many wonder if most of the world even know what harm was done. ♦ We have already had several nuclear disasters in a world community with 500 aging and expensive to maintain nuclear power stations scattered about

the earth. ◇ Perhaps the most terrifying thing we face, is that mankind has learned to redesign life. We have learned to manipulate the genetic blueprint of life-forms, so as to alter them into self-replicating creatures that should never have existed. You surely know, the best and brightest are being used to try and develop super-weapons from that technology. Some fear that (or other) science will release some new life or technology that will destroy us all. (Now, in 2021, many wonder if that's where Corona virus came from.) ◇ We face one disaster after another, with economic and social collapse a constant threat for everyone. We have seen countries collapse before in mankind's history, but this time it is the whole world in danger!

What if I, even in the face of all these problems, encourage you to [lift your heads high](#)? The reason is these cataclysmic times should remind us all<sup>1</sup> of what Jesus said when speaking about a then future day: (Matthew 24:21-22 Analytical Literal Translation [ALT]) "For then [there] will be great tribulation [or, affliction], such as has not been from [the] beginning of the world until now, nor never at all shall be. (22) "And if those days were not cut short, no flesh would be saved; but because of the chosen ones [*or, the ones being selected*], those days will be cut short." Jesus went on to say: (Luke 21:26 & 28 God's Word [GW]) "People will faint as they fearfully wait for what will happen to the world. Indeed, the powers of the universe will be shaken..." (28) "When these things begin to happen, stand with confidence [*or lift your heads high*]! The time when you will be set free is near." (or "your deliverance is near." – From the International Standard Version. [ISV]) If as Jesus said, these bad conditions are an indication we should "stand with confidence" or should "lift our heads up," because our "deliverance is near," isn't fear of the tribulation rendered moot?

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<sup>1</sup> 1 Corinthians 15:34 Contemporary English Version [CEV] (34) [Be sensible and stop sinning. You should be embarrassed that some people still don't know about God.](#)

We must also, of course, consider the assertion by some people that conditions are no worse than in the past. Their “faith” is we simply have better news coverage of the terrible things happening in the earth. While no single thing being done today is likely worse than things done for thousands of years, often done in the name of religion,<sup>2</sup> it is obvious their frequency and permeation of mankind is greater than in days gone by. It is also obvious many people are so self-righteous and/or self-absorbed in their own life and problems, they don’t care what happens to others.<sup>3</sup> Some among those self-

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<sup>2</sup> Please visit: [justbibletruth.com/DarkAges.html](http://justbibletruth.com/DarkAges.html) (The webpages linked in this document can be viewed by following links presented on the first or second page of justbibletruth.com. They can also be viewed by typing the address just as it appears [being careful to include capital letters] in the address bar of your web browser. The address bar is normally at the top left of the screen and is different from the search bar or window. Sadly, many search engines do not find [or recognize] an exact address typed in their search bar.)

<sup>3</sup> Romans 1:16-32 GNB I have complete confidence in the gospel; it is God's power to save all who believe, first the Jews and also the Gentiles. (17) For the gospel reveals how God puts people right with himself: it is through faith from beginning to end. As the scripture says, "The person who is put right with God through faith shall live." (18) God's anger is revealed from heaven against all the sin and evil of the people whose evil ways prevent the truth from being known. (19) God punishes them, because what can be known about God is plain to them, for God himself made it plain. (20) Ever since God created the world, his invisible qualities, both his eternal power and his divine nature, have been clearly seen; they are perceived in the things that God has made. So those people have no excuse at all! (21) They know God, but they do not give him the honor that belongs to him, nor do they thank him. Instead, their thoughts have become complete nonsense, and their empty minds are filled with darkness. (22) They say they are wise, but they are fools; (23) instead of worshiping the immortal God, they worship images made to look like mortals or birds or animals or reptiles. (24) And so God has given those people over to do the filthy things their hearts desire, and they do shameful things with each other. (25) They exchange the truth about God for a lie; they worship and serve what God has created instead of the Creator himself, who is to be praised forever! Amen. (26) Because they do this, God has given

important (and often religious) individuals and groups will even cause harm to other people, again, judging and/or harming others in a pious conviction in their own [religious beliefs](#). The world of our day seems akin to the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah.<sup>4</sup> (The Sodomites were religious people who worshiped imagined Gods that accepted and/or blessed their depraved behavior. Their whole city was present to rape [or witness the rape] of the men [actually angels] who had come into their city.)<sup>5</sup> It is, of course, for you to

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them over to shameful passions. Even the women pervert the natural use of their sex by unnatural acts. (27) In the same way the men give up natural sexual relations with women and burn with passion for each other. Men do shameful things with each other, and as a result they bring upon themselves the punishment they deserve for their wrongdoing. (28) Because those people refuse to keep in mind the true knowledge about God, he has given them over to corrupted minds, so that they do the things that they should not do. (29) They are filled with all kinds of wickedness, evil, greed, and vice; they are full of jealousy, murder, fighting, deceit, and malice. They gossip (30) and speak evil of one another; they are hateful to God, insolent, proud, and boastful; they think of more ways to do evil; they disobey their parents; (31) they have no conscience; they do not keep their promises, and they show no kindness or pity for others. (32) They know that God's law says that people who live in this way deserve death. Yet, not only do they continue to do these very things, but they even approve of others who do them.

<sup>4</sup> Luke 17:26-30 Good News Bible [GNB] As it was in the time of Noah so shall it be in the days of the Son of Man. (27) Everybody kept on eating and drinking, and men and women married, up to the very day Noah went into the boat and the flood came and killed them all. (28) It will be as it was in the time of Lot. Everybody kept on eating and drinking, buying and selling, planting and building. (29) On the day Lot left Sodom, fire and sulfur rained down from heaven and killed them all. (30) That is how it will be on the day the Son of Man is revealed.

<sup>5</sup> Genesis 19:1-7 & 9 CEV That evening the two angels arrived in Sodom, while Lot was sitting near the city gate. When Lot saw them, he got up, bowed down low, (2) and said, "Gentlemen, I am your servant. Please come to my home. You can wash your feet, spend the night, and be on your way in the morning." They told him, "No,

decide your own activities based on your personal faith. That is part of why this old world system is still functioning (or, why God has allowed all this badness to run its course since Adam's day).<sup>6</sup> The "last days" or "time of the end" Jesus spoke about is surely

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we'll spend the night in the city square." (3) But Lot kept insisting, until they finally agreed and went home with him. He baked some bread, cooked a meal, and they ate. (4) Before Lot and his guests could go to bed, every man in Sodom, young and old, came and stood outside his house (5) and started shouting, "Where are your visitors? Send them out, so we can have sex with them!" (6) Lot went outside and shut the door behind him. (7) Then he said, "Friends, please don't do such a terrible thing!

Genesis 19:9 CEV "Don't get in our way," the crowd answered. "You're an outsider. What right do you have to order us around? We'll do worse things to you than we're going to do to them." The crowd kept arguing with Lot. Finally, they rushed toward the door to break it down.~

The prayers to false gods by the Sodomites rose as cries of complaint before our Creator. Genesis 18:20-21 Literal Version (LITV) And Jehovah said, The cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and their sin is exceedingly heavy. (21) I will go down and see if they have at all done according to the cry coming to Me. And if not, I will know.

<sup>6</sup> John 15:22 GNB They would not have been guilty of sin if I had not come and spoken to them; as it is, they no longer have any excuse for their sin.

coming.<sup>7; 8; 9 & (32)</sup> We are each one [building a faith](#) that displays itself as/or in our response to what Jesus has “spoken to us”<sup>(6)</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> 2 Timothy 3:1-5 GNB Remember that there will be difficult times in the last days. (2) People will be selfish, greedy, boastful, and conceited; they will be insulting, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, and irreligious; (3) they will be unkind, merciless, slanderers, violent, and fierce; they will hate the good; (4) they will be treacherous, reckless, and swollen with pride; they will love pleasure rather than God; (5) they will hold to the outward form of our religion [*Christianity*], but reject its real power. Keep away from such people.

<sup>8</sup> Luke 21:25-31 GNB "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. (28) When these things begin to happen, stand up and raise your heads, because your salvation is near." (29) Then Jesus told them this parable: "Think of the fig tree and all the other trees. (30) When you see their leaves beginning to appear, you know that summer is near. (31) In the same way, when you see these things happening, you will know that the Kingdom of God is about to come.

<sup>9</sup> Ezekiel 21:28-32 GNB "Mortal man, prophesy. Announce what I, the Sovereign LORD, am saying to the Ammonites, who are insulting Israel. Say to them: 'A sword is ready to destroy; It is polished to kill, to flash like lightning. (29) The visions that you see are false, and the predictions you make are lies. You are wicked and evil, and your day is coming, the day of your final punishment. The sword is going to fall on your necks. (30) "'Put up the sword! I will judge you in the place where you were created, in the land where you were born. (31) You will feel my anger when I turn it loose on you like a blazing fire. And I will hand you over to brutal men, experts at destruction. (32) You will be destroyed by fire. Your blood will be shed in your own country, and no one will remember you more.' " The LORD has spoken.

Ezekiel 22:1-16 GNB The LORD [Jehovah] spoke to me. (2) "Mortal man," he said, "are you ready to judge the city that is full of murderers? Make clear to her all the disgusting things she has done. (3) Tell the city what I, the Sovereign LORD, am saying: Because

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(from the Bible). That personal faith, then, reflects what we really worship. We are ~~at~~ *each* choosing whether *our faith* is that "our day" is (or might be) "the time of the end." (Even if we are wrong, and "the time of the end" is yet in the future, our need remains the same: To build personal faith in the teachings of God's son.<sup>(93)</sup> How much [happier](#) it makes every person who can live their life in hope we are living during those last days.) Evidence suggests that is a reasonable hope. (If we are not living in the last days Jesus promised,<sup>(8 – note verse 28)</sup> what looms ahead is unthinkable to many...) It seems unwise to follow those who are sure our day is not "the time of the end."<sup>10</sup> Can having faith that we *are not* living in "the

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you have murdered so many of your own people and have defiled yourself by worshiping idols, your time is coming. (4) You are guilty of those murders and are defiled by the idols you made, and so your day is coming, your time is up! That is why I have let the nations make fun of you and all the countries sneer at you. (5) Countries nearby and countries far away sneer at you because of your lawlessness. (6) All Israel's leaders trust in their own strength and commit murder. (7) None of you in the city honor your parents. You cheat foreigners and take advantage of widows and orphans. (8) You have no respect for the holy places, and you don't keep the Sabbath. (9) Some of your people tell lies about others in order to have them put to death. Some of them eat sacrifices offered to idols. Some are always satisfying their lusts. (10) Some of them sleep with their father's wife. Some force women to have intercourse with them during their period. (11) Some commit adultery, and others seduce their daughters-in-law or their half sisters. (12) Some of your people murder for pay. Some charge interest on the loans they make to other Israelites and get rich by taking advantage of them. They have forgotten me." The Sovereign LORD has spoken. (13) "I will bring my fist down on your robberies and murders. (14) Do you think you will have any courage left or have strength enough to lift your hand when I am finished with you? I, the LORD, have spoken, and I keep my word. (15) I will scatter your people to every country and nation and will put an end to your evil actions. (16) And so the other nations will dishonor you, but you will know that I am the LORD."

<sup>10</sup> Mark 13:32-33 CEV No one knows the day or the time. The angels in heaven don't know, and the Son himself doesn't know. Only the

time of the end," amount to a faith that can preserve you alive if it turns out we actually *are* living in the "last days" and during the [tribulation](#)?<sup>11</sup> & <sup>12</sup>

We don't mention these problems to frighten you, but to help you understand<sup>13</sup> where it is we live in the [6000 year revelation](#) of God's purpose;<sup>14</sup> in the 6000 years of Bible record since Adam's day. That is the most wonderful gift we can have (or share), to possess a living hope based accurately in the teachings of Jesus, and to help others have that hope. An understanding<sup>(13)</sup> of what Jesus taught helps us realize why "the end" (Armageddon)<sup>15</sup> of this

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Father knows. (33) So watch out and be ready! You don't know when the time will come.

Mark 13:32-33 GW "No one knows when that day or hour will come. Even the angels in heaven and the Son don't know. Only the Father knows. (33) Be careful! Watch! You don't know the exact time.

<sup>11</sup> Hebrews 10:35-39 ALT Therefore, you shall not throw off your confidence [*or, joyful sense of freedom*], which has great reward. (36) For you have need of patient endurance, so that having done the will of God, you shall receive the promise. (37) "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 back, My soul has no pleasure in him." [*reference to: Habakkuk 2:3-4 GNB* Put it in writing, because it is not yet time for it to come true. But the time is coming quickly, and what I show you will come true. It may seem slow in coming, but wait for it; it will certainly take place, and it will not be delayed. (4) And this is the message: "Those who are evil will not survive, but those who are righteous will live because they are faithful to God." (39) But we are not of [*the ones*] shrinking back to destruction, but of [*the ones having*] faith to [*the*] preserving of [*the*] soul.

<sup>12</sup> Matthew 9:22 CEV Jesus turned. He saw the woman and said, "Don't worry! You are now well because of your faith." At that moment she was healed.

Luke 17:19 BBE And he said to him, Get up, and go on your way; your faith has made you well.

<sup>13</sup> Visit: [justbibletruth.com/Faith.html#KnowledgeUnderstandingWisdom](http://justbibletruth.com/Faith.html#KnowledgeUnderstandingWisdom)

<sup>14</sup> Visit: [justbibletruth.com/BibleTheme.html](http://justbibletruth.com/BibleTheme.html)

<sup>15</sup> Visit: [justbibletruth.com/TribulationOfTheLastDays.html#Armageddon](http://justbibletruth.com/TribulationOfTheLastDays.html#Armageddon)

wicked system is a good thing rather than something to fear. One man mentioned thunderstorms containing spectacular lightening which blow in off the Gulf in the Florida evenings. He likes to be right on the ocean sitting protected (on a covered balcony) while watching the lightning out over the water... What is fear inspiring can also be awe inspiring, *if you can be confident you are protected.* (Please see Psalms 91 on page 44.)

After that huge storm struck the Philippines, someone expressed those islands are infamous for supporting a wicked sex trade. He said those with money can go there and buy anything they might want, without fear of repercussion (from man's law). Even little children are being abused in our world today. Doesn't that sound exactly like Sodom and Gomorrah? This man's implication was that God struck the Islands because of the wickedness being practiced there. Even though we don't have facts to support his assertion, we note his observation to illustrate another point: We can't ever know which among the things we observe are acts of God, whether we might think we witness his protection or destruction. While we do look for God to act against wickedness, we want to be careful about asserting (trying to judge) what those activities of God are, or will be (beyond what the Bible *clearly and specifically says*, of course). Please allow us to provide some scriptures in explanation:

The Bible tells us that for some period of time God's angels hold back a (the four winds of) destruction prophesied by the Bible, and then they don't: ([Revelation 7:1-3](#) CEV) *After this I saw four angels. Each one was standing on one of the earth's four corners. The angels held back the four winds, so that no wind would blow on the earth or on the sea or on any tree. These angels had also been given the power to harm the earth and the sea. Then I saw another angel come up from where the sun rises in the east, and he was ready to put the mark of the living God on people. He shouted to the four angels, (2) (SEE 7:1) (3) "Don't harm the earth or the sea or any tree! Wait until I have marked the foreheads of the servants of our God."* (Revelation 7:9-10 GW) *'After these things I saw a large crowd from every nation, tribe, people, and language. No one*

was able to count how many people there were. They were standing in front of the throne and the lamb. They were wearing white robes, holding palm branches in their hands, (10) and crying out in a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God,<sup>16</sup> who sits on the throne, and to the lamb!"<sup>(51)</sup>. . . (Revelation 7:14 GW) (14) 'Then he told me, "These are the people who are coming out of the terrible suffering. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the lamb. (Revelation 8:5-6 CEV) After this, the angel filled the incense container with fire from the altar and threw it on the earth. Thunder roared, lightning flashed, and the earth shook. (6) The seven angels now got ready to blow their trumpets.'"

According to those scriptures, God protects the earth for a period of time while a marking of his servants occurs. Then, (~~maybe~~ *likely* in our day) the angels release those four winds. The angels *holding back* that destruction implies those problems (and the destruction they caused) have not been brought about by God, but by mankind's determined course against the will of God. The angels holding back those four winds has been God protecting humanity from destroying themselves, so as to give life to (to give help to) as many as possible. When humanity reaches a tipping point, so as to become so violent there is no protection for even little children, the earth can no longer produce righteous people.<sup>17</sup> At that time, with

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<sup>16</sup> Please visit: [justbibletruth.com/DoesGodHaveAName.html](http://justbibletruth.com/DoesGodHaveAName.html) – Many of the scriptures we quote mention both God and his son. The true God who dealt with mankind for 4000 years before Christ was born [those interactions being recorded in the Old Testament (OT)], called out his name to be יהוה (sounds like Yea•Vah and recorded over 6000 times in the OT). The OT records the promises of God that He would produce a Messiah as the salvation of mankind. Jesus is the fulfillment of those promises. Some of the OT translations we quote use "LORD" to designate where they removed "יהוה," the self-given divine name of the OT God of creation (One attempted English translation: Jehovah). Jesus said he came to make his Father's name known<sup>(57)</sup> so it seems wise to know the name of both יהוה God and his son Christ Jesus.<sup>(88)</sup>

<sup>17</sup> **Genesis 6:9-13 GNB This is the story of Noah. He had three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. Noah had no faults and was the only good man of his time. He lived in fellowship with God, (10) (SEE**

no value of humanity left to produce righteous persons, God can no longer protect those who have chosen to make themselves wicked.<sup>18</sup> There is no reason for him to do so. Mankind has thus brought a destruction (or tribulation) of our own making upon ourselves.<sup>19</sup> We have polluted and ravaged the earth in too many ways to count, causing weather changes and seismic events. We have abused our fellowman, fostering hatred and resentment. All that abuse and pollution by mankind is no doubt the cause of the calamity we face, and is the destruction the angels had been holding back.<sup>20; 21</sup> As the angels release (likely have already done

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6:9) (11) but everyone else was evil in God's sight, and violence had spread everywhere. (12) God looked at the world and saw that it was evil, for the people were all living evil lives. (13) God said to Noah, "I have decided to put an end to all people. I will destroy them completely, because the world is full of their violent deeds.<sup>18</sup> 1 Corinthians 15:33-34 GW (33) Don't let anyone deceive you. Associating with bad people will ruin decent people. (34) Come back to the right point of view, and stop sinning. Some people don't know anything about God. You should be ashamed of yourselves [*that you haven't told them*].

<sup>19</sup> Visit: <http://www.justbibletruth.com/TribulationOfTheLastDays.html>

<sup>20</sup> Galatians 6:7-10 CEV You cannot fool God, so don't make a fool of yourself! You will harvest what you plant. (8) If you follow your selfish desires, you will harvest destruction, but if you follow the Spirit, you will harvest eternal life. (9) Don't get tired of helping others. You will be rewarded when the time is right, if you don't give up. (10) We should help people whenever we can, especially if they are followers of the Lord.

<sup>21</sup> 2 Peter 2:9-13 CEV This shows that the Lord knows how to rescue godly people from their sufferings and to punish evil people while they wait for the day of judgment. (10) The Lord is especially hard on people who disobey him and don't think of anything except their own filthy desires. They are reckless and proud and are not afraid of cursing the glorious beings in heaven. (11) Although angels are more powerful than these evil beings, even the angels don't dare to accuse them to the Lord. (12) These people are no better than senseless animals that live by their feelings and are born to be caught and killed. They speak evil of things they don't know anything about. But their own corrupt deeds will destroy them. (13) They have done evil, and they will be rewarded with evil. They think

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so) the force of our own destructive course, that tribulation will (or has) become a danger to everyone alive. In the chaos during the tribulation, (which is not the result of the angels striking the earth as they will do at Armageddon, but the result of man's activity) wicked men are an ever greater danger for the meek.<sup>22</sup> (You will

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it is fun to have wild parties during the day. They are immoral, and the meals they eat with you are spoiled by the shameful and selfish way they carry on.

<sup>22</sup> Ezekiel 38:10-23 LITV So says the Lord Jehovah: And it shall be in that day, words shall come up into your heart, and you shall devise an evil plan. (11) And you shall say, I will go up to the land of open spaces. I will go to those at ease, who live securely, all of them living with no walls, and there are no bars and gates to them, (12) in order to plunder a plunder, and to steal a prize, to turn your hand on the inhabited waste places, and on the people gathered out of the nations, producing livestock and goods, who dwell in the center of the earth. (13) Sheba and Dedan and the merchants of Tarshish, and all its young lions, shall say to you, Have you come to plunder a plunder? Have you gathered your assembly to steal a prize, to lift up silver and gold, to take away livestock and goods, to plunder a great plunder? (14) So prophesy, son of man, and say to Gog, So says the Lord Jehovah: Shall you not know in that day when My people Israel dwells securely? (15) And you shall come from your place out of the recesses of the north, you and many peoples with you, all of them riding on horses, a great assembly, a mighty army. (16) And you shall come up on My people Israel like a cloud, to cover the land. It shall be in the after days, and I will bring you against My land so that the nations may know Me, when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes, Gog. (17) So says the Lord Jehovah: Are you he of whom I have spoken in former days by the hand of My servants, the prophets of Israel, who prophesied in those days and years, to bring you against them? (18) And it shall be on that day, when Gog comes against the land of Israel, declares the Lord Jehovah, My fury shall come up in My face. (19) And in My jealousy, in the fire of My wrath, I have spoken. Surely, in that day there shall be a great quaking in the land of Israel. (20) And the fish of the sea, and the birds of the heavens, and the beasts of the field, and all creeping things that creep on the earth, and all men on the face of the earth, shall quake at My face. And the mountains shall be thrown down, and the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground. (21) And I shall call a sword against him on

note this and many scriptures reference promises made by God to “Israel” or to “Abraham.” Please know all who follow Christ are adopted as sons and daughters of Abraham (the patriarch of Israel).<sup>23</sup> If you are a Christian, and you read a promise of God made to Abraham and his seed, it is a promise benefiting you.) As the tribulation intensifies, the only protection ~~will be~~ *is* our faith.<sup>24</sup> Remember how Jesus used to say to those he helped: “Go. Just as it has been your faith, so let it come to pass for you.” ([Mat 8:13](#)) or “your faith has made you well.” ([Mat 9:22](#)) Jesus also said: “And in that day YOU will ask me no question at all. Most truly I say to YOU, If YOU ask the Father for anything he will give it to YOU in my name.” ([John 16:23](#))

**It thus appears there is a period of time between the angel's release of the destruction man has brought upon himself (producing the great tribulation<sup>25</sup>), and the time when the angels**

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all My mountains, declares the Lord Jehovah. *Each* man's sword shall be against his brother. (22) And I will judge him with a plague and with blood, and an overflowing shower, and hailstones. I will rain fire and brimstone on him, and on his bands, and on the many peoples who *are* with him. (23) And I will magnify Myself and sanctify Myself. And I will be known in the eyes of the many nations, and they shall know that I *am* Jehovah.

<sup>23</sup> Galatians 3:29 MWT <sup>29</sup> Moreover, if you belong to Christ, you are really Abraham's seed, heirs with reference to a promise.

Galatians 3:6-9 <sup>6</sup> Just as Abraham “put faith in Jehovah,<sup>(16)</sup> and it was counted to him as righteousness.” <sup>7</sup> Surely you know that those who adhere to faith are the ones who are sons of Abraham. <sup>8</sup> Now the Scripture, seeing in advance that God would declare people of the nations righteous due to faith, declared the good news beforehand to Abraham, namely: “By means of you all the nations will be blessed.” <sup>9</sup> Consequently those who adhere to faith are being blessed together with faithful Abraham.

<sup>24</sup> Visit: <http://www.justbibletruth.com/Observations/HowCanFaithHelp.html>

<sup>25</sup> 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

**themselves strike the earth (at Armageddon<sup>26</sup>) to destroy the wicked. During Armageddon (which will likely be brief), those**

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he not done so, nobody would survive. For the sake of his chosen people [*or, those being chosen*], however, God will reduce the days.

<sup>26</sup> Psalms 2:2 GNB Their kings revolt, their rulers plot together against the LORD and against the king he chose.

Acts 4:25-26 GNB By means of the Holy Spirit you spoke through our ancestor David, your servant, when he said, 'Why were the Gentiles furious; why did people make their useless plots? (26) The kings of the earth prepared themselves, and the rulers met together against the Lord and his Messiah.'

Revelation 16:16 GNB Then the spirits brought the kings together in the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon. [Armageddon is not likely a physical location on earth, but a common state of mind and a united stand against the will of God.]

Revelation 19:11-21 GNB (11) Then I saw heaven open, and there was a white horse. Its rider is called Faithful and True; it is with justice that he judges and fights his battles. (12) His eyes were like a flame of fire, and he wore many crowns on his head. He had a name written on him, but no one except himself knows what it is. (13) The robe he wore was covered with blood. His name is "The Word of God." (14) The armies of heaven followed him, riding on white horses and dressed in clean white linen. (15) Out of his mouth came a sharp sword, with which he will defeat the nations. He will rule over them with a rod of iron, and he will trample out the wine in the wine press of the furious anger of the Almighty God. (16) On his robe and on his thigh was written the name: "King of kings and Lord of lords." (17) Then I saw an angel standing on the sun. He shouted in a loud voice to all the birds flying in midair: "Come and gather together for God's great feast! (18) Come and eat the flesh of kings, generals, and soldiers, the flesh of horses and their riders, the flesh of all people, slave and free, great and small!" (19) Then I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies gathered to fight against the one who was riding the horse and against his army. (20) The beast was taken prisoner, together with the false prophet who had performed miracles in his presence. (It was by those miracles that he had deceived those who had the mark of the beast and those who had worshiped the image of the beast.) The beast and the false prophet were both thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur. (21) Their armies were killed

same angels will preserve alive all who are marked as righteous. It seems we are living in the period of tribulation and marking,<sup>(19)</sup> but before Armageddon.<sup>(15)</sup> The tribulation is a judgment period while the righteous are being marked for life by their reaction to Jesus's teachings.<sup>27 & 28</sup> This judgment process has been taking place since

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by the sword that comes out of the mouth of the one who was riding the horse; and all the birds ate all they could of their flesh.

<sup>27</sup> Ezekiel 9:1-6 MWT And He cried in my ears *with* a loud voice, saying, Have those giving their attention to the city draw near, each one *with* his weapon for bringing ruin in his hand. (2) And, behold, six men were coming from the direction of the Upper Gate, which faces north. And each had his weapon for smashing in his hand. And one man in among them *was* clothed in linen, and an ink horn of a scribe at his hips. And they went in and stood beside the bronze altar. (3) And the glory of the God of Israel had gone on, from over the cherub where it was above it, to the threshold of the house. And He called to the man clothed in linen *with* the ink horn of a scribe at his loins. (4) And Jehovah said to him, Pass through in the midst of the city, in the midst of Jerusalem, and mark a mark on the foreheads of the men who are groaning and are mourning over all the abominations that are done in her midst. [*Ancient Jerusalem was the city of God's temple, where his spirit (a miraculous light) resided above the cherubs (on the cover of the ark). That miraculous light indicated God's presence and approval of the temple arrangement. Jerusalem thus represented where God's people lived in that day. In the final days, and the judgment period for the earth, Jehovah's servants will be spread all throughout the different lands.*] (5) And He said to those in my hearing, Pass over in the city after him and strike. Do not let your eye spare, and do not have pity. (6) Slay *the aged men, the young man, and the virgin, even children, and women, all to destruction. But to every man who has the mark on him, do not come near.* And you should begin from My sanctuary. And they began with the aged men who *were* before the house.

<sup>28</sup> John 12:47-48 LITV And if anyone hears My Words and does not believe, I do not judge him; for I did not come that I might judge the world, but that I might save the world. (48) The *one* who rejects Me and does not receive My Words has that judging him: the Word which I spoke, that will judge him in the last Day.

Christ started his preaching in 29 CE, of course, but our day in time is very different. It is different because those alive during our day have the chance of being preserved alive *without ever dying*. As Jesus said in John 11:26, “and **everyone that is living** and exercises faith in me **will never die at all. Do you believe this?**” Those who died before our day are different. They each and all require a resurrection to realize their hope. (Acts 24:15) “and I have hope toward God, which hope these [men] themselves also entertain, that there is going to be a resurrection of both the righteous and the unrighteous.” Those who lived prior to the end times all had to die, meaning they all need to be resurrected.

**During this opportunity for the preservation of life**, which follows the pattern of the days of Noah,<sup>(80)</sup> **it is love shown for God and to other humans (faith in the words of Christ) which marks the righteous for salvation. It is just such a simple truth, and so beautiful and eloquent a solution! [To put it in other words: If you want life, you must tell others about [God](#) and about Jesus,<sup>(1)</sup> because Jesus is God’s provision for life.<sup>(63)</sup> Being a “nice” person isn’t enough! Directing people to this website is a good start. Encourage them to the actual teachings of Jesus (contained in the Bible Gospels – Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.)] You must join in telling people<sup>(1)</sup> what is happening to them and why. You must explain it is a judgment period where every person is judging themselves<sup>(John 12:47-50 on pg 38)</sup> [by building faith in Christ or not]: ([Ezekiel 9:2-6](#) GNB) Then I heard God shout, "Come here, you men who are going to punish the city. Bring your weapons with you." (2) At once six men came from the outer north gate of the Temple, each one carrying a weapon. With them was a man dressed in linen clothes, carrying [a writer's ink-horn] something to write with. They all came and stood by the bronze altar. (3) Then the dazzling light of the presence of the God of Israel rose up from the winged creatures where it had been, and moved to the entrance of the Temple. The [LORD](#) [יהוה]<sup>(16)</sup> called to the man dressed in linen, (4) "Go through the whole city of Jerusalem [*The city of Jerusalem represented God's kingdom on earth in Ezekiel's day – it thus***

*represented God's connection with mankind. Today, it is our asserted faith in Jesus that represents God's connection with mankind, throughout all the earth.] and put a mark on the forehead of everyone who is distressed and troubled because of all the disgusting things being done in the city." (5) And I heard God say to the other men, "Follow him through the city and kill. Spare no one; have mercy on no one. (6) Kill the old men, young men, young women, mothers, and children. **But don't touch anyone who has the mark on his forehead.** Start here at my Temple." **So they began with the [religious] leaders who were standing there at the Temple.***

According to that prophecy by Ezekiel, those marked in their forehead are the people "distressed and troubled" or "sighing and groaning" about the terrible pain and suffering they witness in the earth. They are those who are not overly concerned with pleasing any group of men.<sup>29</sup> Rather, those marked are distressed about the plight of their brothers and sisters in Adam. That mark in their forehead (their concern or love for others) is their protection against being killed by the angels (at Armageddon). Even *before that very selective destruction by the angels begins at Armageddon, however*, Christians need to be protected against the destruction coming upon the earth during this great tribulation (the period after the four angels release the protection they had provided against humanity destroying ourselves). It is that same love for God and our fellowman which promotes obedience to, and faith in, God's word.<sup>30</sup> Our faith then becomes the identifying mark against destruction by the angels at the coming battle of Armageddon.<sup>(15)</sup> Prior to Armageddon, however, that same faith can help us draw

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<sup>29</sup> Ephesians 6:6 ALT not with eye-service as people-pleasers, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from *[the] soul [fig., wholeheartedly]*,

Galatians 1:10 ALT For am I now persuading *[or, seeking the approval of]* people or God? Or am I seeking to be pleasing people? For if I am still trying to please people, I would not be Christ's slave.

<sup>30</sup> 1 John 4:19 CEV We *[are able to]* love because God loved us first.

God's spirit for protection (see John 16:3 on page 13) during the tribulation<sup>(19)</sup> being revealed right now. That seems to be where we exist in the [6000 year revelation](#)<sup>31</sup> of God's purpose for the salvation of his creation.<sup>32 & (98)</sup> The scriptures indicate we are living

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<sup>31</sup> Visit: <http://www.justbibletruth.com/DisplayScroll.html>

<sup>32</sup> 1 Peter 1:10-12 MWT <sup>10</sup> Concerning this very salvation [*in Christ*], a diligent inquiry and a careful search were made by the prophets who prophesied about the undeserved kindness meant for you. <sup>11</sup> They kept on investigating what particular season or what time the spirit in them was indicating concerning Christ when it was bearing witness beforehand about the sufferings of Christ and about the glories that would follow. <sup>12</sup> It was revealed to them that, not to themselves, but to you, they were ministering the things that have now been announced to you through those who have declared the good news to you with holy spirit sent forth from heaven. Into these very things angels are desiring to peer [*or, the angels would like to more clearly understand*].

Romans 1:1-3 CEV From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus. God chose me to be an apostle, and he appointed me to preach the good news (2) that he promised long ago by what his prophets said in the holy Scriptures. (3) This good news is about his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ! As a human, he was from the family of David. But the Holy Spirit proved that Jesus is the powerful Son of God, because he was raised from death.

Colossians 1:9-23 CEV We have not stopped praying for you since the first day we heard about you. In fact, we always pray that God will show you everything he wants you to do and that you may have all the wisdom and understanding that his Spirit gives. (10) Then you will live a life that honors the Lord, and you will always please him by doing good deeds. You will come to know God even better. (11) His glorious power will make you patient and strong enough to endure anything, and you will be truly happy. (12) I pray that you will be grateful to God for letting you have part in what he has promised his people in the kingdom of light. (13) God rescued us from the dark power of Satan and brought us into the kingdom of his dear Son, (14) who forgives our sins and sets us free. (15) Christ is exactly like God, who cannot be seen. He is the first-born Son, superior to all creation. (16) Everything was created by him, everything in heaven and on earth, everything seen and unseen, including all forces and powers, and all rulers and authorities. All things were created by God's Son, and everything was made for him.

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(17) God's Son was before all else, and by him everything is held together. (18) He is the head of his body, which is the church. He is the very beginning, the first to be raised from death, so that he would be above all others. (19) God himself was pleased to live fully in his Son. (20) And God was pleased for him to make peace by sacrificing his blood on the cross, so that all beings in heaven and on earth would be brought back to God. (21) You used to be far from God. Your thoughts made you his enemies, and you did evil things. (22) But his Son became a human and died. So God made peace with you, and now he lets you stand in his presence as people who are holy and faultless and innocent. (23) But you must stay deeply rooted and firm in your faith. You must not give up the hope you received when you heard the good news. It was preached to everyone on earth, and I myself have become a servant of this message.

2 Thessalonians 1:3-10 MWT (3) My dear friends, we always have good reason to thank God for you, because your faith in God and your love for each other keep growing all the time. (4) That's why we brag about you to all the assemblies of God's people. We tell them how patient you are and how you keep on having faith, even though you are going through a lot of trouble and suffering. (5) Your faithfulness shows that God is righteous and judges fairly as he is making you fit to share in his kingdom for which you are suffering. (6) It is just for God to punish everyone who is causing you trouble, (7) but he will give you relief from your troubles. He will do the same for us, when the Lord Jesus comes from heaven with his powerful angels (8) and with a flaming fire. Our Lord Jesus will punish anyone who doesn't know God and won't obey his message. (9) Their punishment will be eternal destruction, and they will be kept far from the presence of our Lord and his glorious strength. (10) This will happen on that day when the Lord returns to be praised and honored by all who have faith in him and belong to him. This includes you, because you believed what we said.

Titus 1:1-4 CEV From Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ. I encourage God's own people to have more faith and to understand the truth about religion. (2) Then they will have the hope of eternal life that God promised long ago. And God never tells a lie! (3) So, at the proper time, God our Savior gave this message and told me to announce what he had said. (4) Titus, because of our faith, you are like a son to me. I pray that God our Father and Christ Jesus our Savior will be kind to you and will bless you with peace!

through the tribulation,<sup>(19)</sup> soon to witness God's war at Armageddon.<sup>(15)</sup> Armageddon is not a place but a mindset.

Most desire (and we all should have absolute) faith in what the Bible teaches. While building our faith, however, we must remain ever vigilant not to build faith in our own reasoning (or that of other men), so as to be misguided to have faith in dogmas going beyond what is clearly written in the Bible.<sup>33</sup> To be protected, we must act with faith in what God is doing, *NOT* what others are telling us God is doing.<sup>34</sup> Such true faith must start in our personal belief God is good.<sup>35</sup> Once we start to seek that good God, it is the Bible (and the teachings of Jesus Christ) that explains who God is, including how and why He is good. Having a balanced view of the Bible theme,<sup>36</sup> then, might prevent us from rushing to judge such things as the destructive force that hit the Philippines to be an act of God. We might reach that conclusion, in part, because Armageddon (which *actually will be* an act of God) will destroy only the wicked. God will never destroy even one righteous person!<sup>37</sup>

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<sup>33</sup> 1 Corinthians 4:5-6 GW Therefore, don't judge anything before the appointed time. Wait until the Lord comes. He will also bring to light what is hidden in the dark and reveal people's motives. Then each person will receive praise from God. (6) Brothers and sisters, I have applied this to Apollos and myself for your sake. You should learn from us not to go beyond what is written in Scripture. Then you won't arrogantly place one of us in opposition to the other.

<sup>34</sup> Matthew 7:21 GW "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord!' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the person who does what my Father in heaven wants.

<sup>35</sup> Hebrews 11:6 GW No one can please God without faith. Whoever goes to God must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

<sup>36</sup> Visit: <http://www.justbibletruth.com/BibleTheme.html>

<sup>37</sup> Isaiah 42:1-12 MWT Behold My Servant; who I am supporting; My chosen one *in whom* My soul delights! I have put My Spirit on Him; He will give knowledge of the true God and bring justice to the nations. (2) He won't shout or yell or cry out in the streets. (3) A bruised reed He shall not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not extinguish; he will bring forth judgment according to truth. (4)

We must also recognize, none of us are judges of who is wicked.<sup>38</sup> Please note: We are not emboldening ourselves to assert God's actions one way or the other in this matter. We wish only to urge caution about rendering a human judgment that God did take some action against some person or group. (Human judgments are really just opinions. Everybody has one and they are all different [and mostly of little value]. Clear and simple Bible truth is what leads all true followers of Christ, and that same truth leads to a unity of

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He will not be discouraged or crushed until he has set up justice on the earth. The coastlands will wait for his teachings. (5) So says Jehovah God. I created the heavens like a tent above. I created the earth and everything that grows on it. I am the source of life for all who live on this earth, so listen to what I say. (6) I, Jehovah, have called You in righteousness. I will take hold of your hand, and will keep you, and through you I will make a covenant with all peoples; through you I will give light to the nations. (7) To open blind eyes, to lead out the prisoner from the dark dungeons; those who sit in darkness from the prison. (8) I *am* Jehovah; that is My name; and I will not give My glory to another, nor My praise to manmade images. (9) Behold, the former things have come to pass, and I declare new things before they happen, I cause you to hear. (10) Tell the whole world to sing a new song to Jehovah; tell those who sail the ocean and those living far away to join in praise. (11) Tell the tribes of the desert and everyone on the tops of the mountains to celebrate and sing. (12) They will give glory to Jehovah and declare His praise in the coastlands.

<sup>38</sup> 1 Corinthians 4:3-5 GW It means very little to me that you or any human court should cross-examine me. I don't even ask myself questions. (4) I have a clear conscience, but that doesn't mean I have God's approval. It is the Lord who cross-examines me. (5) Therefore, don't judge anything before the appointed time. Wait until the Lord comes. He will also bring to light what is hidden in the dark and reveal people's motives. Then each person will receive praise from God.

Hebrews 10:30-31 GW We know the God who said, "I alone have the right to take revenge. I will pay back." God also said, "The Lord will judge his people." (31) Falling into the hands of the living God is a terrifying thing.

mind.)<sup>39</sup> None of us know anything (spiritually) beyond what the Bible makes plain.<sup>40</sup> As one Bible writer was inspired to write: I know nothing except Christ, and him impaled (or crucified)."<sup>41</sup> Remember, God spared (held off destroying) a whole wicked city for the sake of three; as God's angels dragged Lot and his daughters (and He tried to save others) out of the city of Sodom.<sup>42</sup> Not to be

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<sup>39</sup> John 17:11 GW I won't be in the world much longer [*Father*], but they are in the world, and I'm coming back to you. Holy Father, keep them safe by the power of your name, the name that you gave me, so that their unity may be like ours.

<sup>40</sup> 1 Corinthians 8:1-6 GW Now, concerning food offered to false gods: We know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge makes people arrogant, but love builds them up. (2) Those who think they know something still have a lot to learn. (3) But if they love God, they are known by God. (4) Now about eating food that was offered to false gods: We know that the false gods in this world don't really exist and that no god exists except the one God. (5) People may say that there are gods in heaven and on earth-many gods and many lords, as they would call them. (6) But for us, "There is only one God, the Father. Everything came from him, and we live for him. There is only one Lord, Jesus Christ. Everything came into being through him, and we live because of him." Paul goes on to explain that some may choose to eat such food while others choose not to eat. He explains either choice is alright as long as it is done in faith. Don't, however, stumble others by demanding your own freedom in such matters, or applying your rules to others. Have concern for others.

<sup>41</sup> 1 Corinthians 2:2 MWT For I determined not to know any thing among you, except Jesus Christ, and him impaled.

<sup>42</sup> Genesis 18:22-19:17 GW From there the men turned and went on toward Sodom, but Abraham remained standing in front of the LORD [*Jehovah*]<sup>(16)</sup>. (23) Abraham came closer and asked, "Are you really going to sweep away the innocent with the guilty? (24) What if there are 50 innocent people in the city? Are you really going to sweep them away? Won't you spare that place for the sake of the 50 innocent people who are in it? (25) It would be unthinkable for you to do such a thing, to treat the innocent and the guilty alike and to kill the innocent with the guilty. That would be unthinkable! Won't the judge of the whole earth do what is fair?" (26) The LORD [*Jehovah*]<sup>(16)</sup> said, "If I find 50 innocent people

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inside the city of Sodom, I will spare the whole place for their sake." (27) Abraham asked, "Consider now, if I may be so bold as to ask you, although I'm only dust and ashes, (28) what if there are 45 innocent people? Will you destroy the whole city because of 5 fewer people?" The LORD [*Jehovah*]<sup>(16)</sup> answered, "I will not destroy it if I find 45 there." (29) Abraham asked him again, "What if 40 are found there?" He answered, "For the sake of the 40 I will not do it." (30) "Please don't be angry if I speak again," Abraham said. "What if 30 are found there?" He answered, "If I find 30 there, I will not do it." (31) "Look now, if I may be so bold as to ask you," Abraham said. "What if 20 are found there?" He answered, "I will not destroy it for the sake of the 20." (32) "Please don't be angry if I speak only one more time," Abraham said. "What if 10 are found there?" He answered, "I will not destroy it for the sake of the 10." (33) When the LORD [*Jehovah*]<sup>(16)</sup> finished speaking to Abraham, he left. Abraham returned home.

Genesis 19:1-17 GW The two angels came to Sodom in the evening as Lot was sitting in the gateway. When Lot saw them, he got up to meet them and bowed with his face touching the ground. (2) He said, "Please, gentlemen, why don't you come to my home and spend the night? You can wash your feet there. Then early tomorrow morning you can continue your journey." "No," they answered, "we'd rather spend the night in the city square." (3) But he insisted so strongly that they came with him and went into his home. He prepared a special dinner for them, baked some unleavened bread, and they ate. (4) Before they had gone to bed, all the young and old male citizens of Sodom surrounded the house. (5) They called to Lot, "Where are the men who came to stay with you tonight? Bring them out to us so that we can have sex with them." (6) Then Lot went outside and shut the door behind him. (7) "Please, my friends, don't be so wicked," he said. (8) "Look, I have two daughters who have never had sex. Why don't you let me bring them out to you? Do whatever you like with them. But don't do anything to these men, since I'm responsible for them." (9) But the men yelled, "Get out of the way! This man came here to stay awhile. Now he wants to be our judge! We're going to treat you worse than those men." They pushed hard against Lot and lunged forward to break down the door. (10) The men inside reached out, pulled Lot into the house with them, and shut the door. (11) Then they struck all the men who were in the doorway of the house, young and old alike, with blindness so that they gave up trying to find the door. (12) Then the men asked Lot, "Do you have anyone

overlooked, however, is the fact God *did* then destroy that wicked city.<sup>43</sup> The Bible relates He has destroyed others as well.<sup>44</sup> Being

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else here-any in-laws, sons, daughters, or any other relatives in the city? Get them out of here (13) because we're going to destroy this place. The complaints to the LORD [*Jehovah*]<sup>(16)</sup> against its people are so loud that the LORD [*Jehovah*]<sup>(16)</sup> has sent us to destroy it." (14) So Lot went out and spoke to the men engaged to his daughters. He said, "Hurry! Get out of this place, because the LORD [*Jehovah*]<sup>(16)</sup> is going to destroy the city." But they thought he was joking. (15) As soon as it was dawn, the angels urged Lot by saying, "Quick! Take your wife and your two daughters who are here, or you'll be swept away when the city is punished." (16) When he hesitated, the men grabbed him, his wife, and his two daughters by their hands, because the LORD [*Jehovah*]<sup>(16)</sup> wanted to spare Lot. They brought them safely outside the city. (17) As soon as they were outside, one of the angels said, "Run for your lives! Don't look behind you, and don't stop on the plain. Run for the hills, or you'll be swept away!"

<sup>43</sup> Genesis 19:23-26 GW The sun had just risen over the land as Lot came to Zoar. (24) Then the LORD [*Jehovah*]<sup>(16)</sup> made burning sulfur and fire rain out of heaven on Sodom and Gomorrah. (25) He destroyed those cities, the whole plain, all who lived in the cities, and whatever grew on the ground. (26) Lot's wife looked back and turned into a column of salt.

<sup>44</sup> Genesis 6:9-13 GW This is the account of Noah and his descendants. Noah had God's approval and was a man of integrity among the people of his time. He walked with God. (10) He had three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (11) The world was corrupt in God's sight and full of violence. (12) God saw the world and how corrupt it was because all people on earth lived evil lives. (13) God said to Noah, "I have decided to put an end to all people because the earth is full of their violence. Now I'm going to destroy them along with the earth.

Matthew 24:36-39 GW "No one knows when that day or hour will come. Even the angels in heaven and the Son don't know. Only the Father knows. (37) "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.

careful not to set ourselves as judges of the details of what God is doing, then, leaves the same task to each and every one of us: To exercise our own personal faith for salvation. ([Heb 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 back, My soul has no pleasure in him.' [[Hab 2:3-4](#)]\* (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.")"

\*[Habakkuk 2:2-4](#) LITV "And [Jehovah](#) [יְהוָה] answered me and said, Write the vision and engrave it on the tablets, that he who reads it may run [or may do so fluently]. (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 [or the righteous one] shall live by his faith."

It seems clear we can all agree to say one thing: God did not protect the Philippines. (He might well have protected some of the individuals who did survive the storm.) This is about understanding the huge difference between *God destroying* something, and *his not protecting* it. At Armageddon, the wicked will be destroyed by God while every righteous person will be protected. It is foolish to try and be a person existing in between those being destroyed and those being protected. There will be none of those halfhearted individuals surviving Armageddon. During the tribulation, some might imagine they can straddle the fence because the tribulation is not a destruction by God. Such individuals would be choosing to remain lukewarm.<sup>45</sup> Lukewarm persons (those who have not fully made up their mind what their faith is, and thus who they are spiritually) are likely not being protected, and may be in great danger right now. **Our point is this: How to protect the upright while destroying the wicked is what God knows, and He is right**

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<sup>45</sup> [Revelation 3:15-16](#) MWT I have knowledge of your works, that you are not cold or hot: it would be better if you were cold or hot. (16) So because you are not one thing or the other, but lukewarm, I will have no more to do with you [will vomit you out of my mouth].

**now working it all out so as to help as many as will allow themselves to be helped. Your faith is your only hope of protection.** We don't wish bad for anyone. Neither does our heavenly Father.<sup>46</sup> We should also recognize when little children die in such horrible events as this storm, in some cases, such a death might actually serve as a protection against who knows what abuse they were enduring, or would have soon faced. They can sleep until they are soon awakened by a resurrection. Only God can see through all these problems and solve them. (From time to time the news reports on a person who has killed some other person, and then said an angel told them to do it. If you are hearing such voices, you are mentally ill or you are being influenced by a demon. God talks to you and all of us through the Bible, and more specifically through the words of Christ, PERIOD! ([Mat 17:5](#)) Jesus did not teach us to kill anyone, but to wait on the revelation of his Kingdom!)<sup>47</sup> God will resurrect individuals from their sleep in death if they have been killed by the tribulation (and have not made themselves wicked). The Bible explains how God protected Moses by putting him to sleep in death! Moses led the Jews (as God's ancient nation of people) for some 40 years, but had grown old (120 years) and he sinned against God. For some combination of those reasons, Moses was not to be used to lead the Jews into the Promised Land. Rather than allow Moses to live out his last days in sadness, God put him to sleep in death.<sup>48</sup> God's friend Moses surely awaits a

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<sup>46</sup> [2 Peter 3:9 GW](#) 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.

<sup>47</sup> [1 Thessalonians 1:9-10 GW](#) (9) They talk about how you welcomed us when we arrived. They even report how you turned away from false gods to serve the real, living God (10) and to wait for his Son to come from heaven. His Son is Jesus, whom he brought back to life. Jesus is the one who rescues us from God's coming anger.

<sup>48</sup> [Deuteronomy 34:4-7 LITV](#) (4) And Jehovah<sup>(16)</sup> said to him, This is the land which I have sworn to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, I will give it to your seed. I have caused you to see with your

resurrection.<sup>49</sup> All the potentially righteous persons who die will soon be resurrected to a choice for a good life,<sup>50</sup> free from all abuse by wicked people. *Righteously inclined* little children of Sodom, and of Noah's day, may be resurrected into the coming paradise as well.)

The only thing any of us really need to worry about, then, is also the only thing any of us have authority over: Whether we are *personally* doing our best to take in [and share] the teachings of God's son. As Jesus said: ([John 17:3](#) MWT) "This means everlasting life, their taking in knowledge of you, the only true God, and of the

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eyes, but you shall not cross over there. (5) And Moses the servant of Jehovah<sup>(16)</sup> died there in the land of Moab, according to the command of Jehovah. <sup>(16)</sup> (6) And He buried him in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor; and no man knows his grave to this day. (7) And Moses *was* a son of a hundred and twenty years at his death; his eye had not become dim, nor had his natural force abated.

<sup>49</sup> Luke 14:13-14 BBE But when you give a feast, send for the poor and the blind and those who are broken in body: (14) And you will have a blessing, because they will not be able to give you any payment, and you will get your reward when the upright come back from the dead.

Numbers 12:5-8 LITV And Jehovah<sup>(16)</sup> came down in the pillar of the cloud and stood at the tabernacle door, and called Aaron and Miriam. And both of them came out. (6) And He said, Now hear My words, If your prophet is of Jehovah, <sup>(16)</sup> I will make Myself seen by him in an appearance; I will speak to him in a dream. (7) It is not so with My servant Moses! He is faithful in all My house. (8) I speak to him mouth to mouth, and by an appearance, and not in riddles; and he looks upon the form of Jehovah. <sup>(16)</sup> So why have you not been afraid to speak against My servant, against Moses?

<sup>50</sup> Acts 24:15 MWT I am just as sure as these people are that God will raise from death everyone who is righteous or unrighteous [*but not judged wicked by God*].

Psalms 1:6 MWT Jehovah<sup>(16)</sup> protects everyone who follows him, but the wicked follow a road that leads to destruction [*or, their very way will perish*].

one whom you sent forth, Jesus Christ.” ([Proverbs 30:4](#)) “Who has ascended to heaven that he may descend? Who has gathered the wind in the hollow of both hands? Who has wrapped up the waters in a mantle? Who has made all the ends of the earth to rise? What is [his name](#)<sup>(16)</sup> and what the name of his son,<sup>51</sup> in case you know?” ([Ecclesiastes 12:13-14](#)) “The conclusion of the matter, everything having been heard, is: Fear the [true] God and *keep his commandments*. For this is the whole [obligation] of man. 14 For the [true] God himself will bring every sort of work into the judgment in relation to every hidden thing, as to whether it is good or bad.” Help speed<sup>52</sup> us to the coming paradise<sup>53</sup> and bring an end

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<sup>51</sup> Visit: <http://www.justbibletruth.com/IsJesusGod.html>

<sup>52</sup> Visit: <http://www.justbibletruth.com/HomePage.html#JehovahChangePlans>

<sup>53</sup> Isaiah 11:1-12 CEV Like a branch that sprouts from a stump, someone from David's family will someday be king. (2) The Spirit of the LORD [*Jehovah*]<sup>(16)</sup> will be with him to give him understanding, wisdom, and insight. He will be powerful, and he will know and honor the LORD [*Jehovah*]<sup>(16)</sup>. (3) His greatest joy will be to obey the LORD [*Jehovah*]<sup>(16)</sup>. This king won't judge by appearances or listen to rumors. (4) The poor and the needy will be treated with fairness and with justice. His word will be law everywhere in the land, and criminals will be put to death. (5) Honesty and fairness will be his royal robes. (6) Leopards will lie down with young goats, and wolves will rest with lambs. Calves and lions will eat together and be cared for by little children. (7) Cows and bears will share the same pasture; their young will rest side by side. Lions and oxen will both eat straw. (8) Little children will play near snake holes. They will stick their hands into dens of poisonous snakes and never be hurt. (9) Nothing harmful will take place on the LORD's [*Jehovah's*]<sup>(16)</sup> holy mountain. Just as water fills the sea, the land will be filled with people who know and honor the LORD [*Jehovah*]<sup>(16)</sup>. (10) The time is coming when one of David's descendants will be the signal for the people of all nations to come together. They will follow his advice, and his own nation will become famous. (11) When that day comes, the Lord [*Jehovah*]<sup>(16)</sup> will again reach out his mighty arm and bring home his people who have survived in Assyria, Egypt, Pathros, Ethiopia, Elam, Shinar, Hamath, and the land along the coast. (12) He will give a signal to the nations, and he will bring together the refugees from Judah and Israel, who have been scattered all over the earth.

of *all* the suffering. Talk with your family and friends and neighbors about what you learn from the Bible! As Paul told the Corinthians, (1 Cor 15:34 CEV) “Be sensible and stop sinning. **You should be embarrassed that some people still don't know about God.**” They must know! They will be told!<sup>54</sup> Are you helping?

Following Jesus's teachings is *NOT* the same as trying to keep the Jewish Law Code<sup>55</sup> (which was a part of the Old Testament). Rather, Jesus taught us to [love God from our heart](#). Laws attempt to force us to obey while love drives us to do so from our own heart's desire. We must love to serve God because we know it is right, because it is the best way of life, and because serving God blesses everyone; including us. Jesus explained what it means to be “keeping God's commands.” He also explained that is what we need to be doing to gain protection during the end of this system: ([Matthew 22:35-40](#) GNB) ‘and one of them, a teacher of the Law, tried to trap him with a question. (36) “Teacher,” he asked, “which is the greatest commandment in the Law?” (37) Jesus answered, “**Love the Lord your God with all your heart**, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ (38) This is the greatest and the most important commandment. (39) The second most important commandment is like it: “**Love your neighbor as you love yourself.**” (40) **The whole Law of Moses and the teachings of the prophets depend on [or are fulfilled in] these two commandments.**’ There is no command or law that can make you righteous. Your righteousness is for you to decide, and then to demonstrate, based on your knowledge of (and obedience to) what Jesus taught. Your righteousness (your love) is yours alone to give. Being God's friend is what defines you to be righteous.<sup>56</sup> It is up to you to know our [Creator](#)<sup>(16)</sup> well enough to

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<sup>54</sup> [John 15:22 MWT](#) If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not be accountable for their sin. But now they have no excuse to give for their sin.

<sup>55</sup> Visit: [JustBibleTruth.com/Observations/AreUAKeeperOfLaw.html](http://JustBibleTruth.com/Observations/AreUAKeeperOfLaw.html)

<sup>56</sup> [James 2:21-23 CEV](#) Well, our ancestor Abraham pleased God by putting his son Isaac on the altar to sacrifice him. (22) 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

understand how to become and remain his friend. Jesus came to help us know his Father in that way.<sup>57</sup> If you don't know how to be God's friend, it is because you don't really know what Jesus taught. Read the Gospels! The gift of life is not something you can earn.<sup>58</sup> The ability to know and love our Father is a gift that defines what you are as you choose to accept and honor that gift. Put another way: To be protected during the tribulation ~~your worship or your service must be~~ *YOU must be a person of value.* Like Jesus, you must be a person who will not ever fight against God's perfect activity.<sup>59</sup> A group of angels in heaven have demonstrated their

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by saying, "Abraham had faith in God, and God was pleased with him." That's how Abraham became God's friend.

<sup>57</sup> John 17:6-8 CEV You have given me some followers from this world, and I have shown them what you are like. They were yours, but you gave them to me, and they have obeyed you. (7) They know that you gave me everything I have. (8) I told my followers what you told me, and they accepted it. They know that I came from you, and they believe that you are the one who sent me.

Matthew 11:27 CEV My Father has given me everything, and he is the only one who knows the Son. The only one who truly knows the Father is the Son. But the Son wants to tell others about the Father, so that they can know him too.

<sup>58</sup> Psalms 49:5-9 CEV Why should I be afraid in times of trouble, when I am surrounded by vicious enemies? (6) They trust in their riches and brag about all of their wealth. (7) You cannot buy back your life or pay off God! (8) It costs far too much to buy back your life. You can never pay God enough (9) to stay alive forever and safe from death.

Acts 4:10-12 ALT let it be known to you all and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, whom you crucified, whom God raised from [*the*] dead, by Him has this [*man*] stood before you healthy! (11) "This is, 'The stone, the one having been rejected by you the builders, which has become [*the*] head of a corner.' [*Psalms 118:22*] (12) "And [*there*] is no salvation in any other, for neither [*is there*] a different name {under heaven} having been given among people by which it is necessary [*for*] us to be saved!"

<sup>59</sup> Matthew 26:36-39 GNB Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." (37) He took with him Peter and the two sons

righteousness in or by their choice to worship God, both by day and night.<sup>60</sup> Those angels remain in God's very presence. That constant worship is not what God demanded of them. It is what they *want* to give. When Jesus walked the earth, he demonstrated his righteousness by telling everyone who would listen how wonderful

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of Zebedee. Grief and anguish came over him, (38) and he said to them, "The sorrow in my heart is so great that it almost crushes me. Stay here and keep watch with me." (39) He went a little farther on, threw himself face downward on the ground, and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, take this cup of suffering from me! Yet not what I want, but what you want."

Psalms 40:5-8 LITV Many things have You done, O Jehovah<sup>(16)</sup> my God; Your works of wonder and Your purposes toward us; there is none to set *them* in order to You; I will declare and I will speak; they are more than can be counted. (6) Sacrifice and offering You did not desire; You have opened ears to Me. You have not asked burnt offering and sin offering. (7) Then I said, Lo, I come, in the roll of the Book *it is written of Me*; (8) I delight to do Your will, O My God; and Your Law *is within My inmost soul*.

Acts 5:38-39 GNB And so in this case, I tell you, do not take any action against these men. Leave them alone! If what they have planned and done is of human origin, it will disappear, (39) but if it comes from God, you cannot possibly defeat them. You could find yourselves fighting against God!" The Council followed Gamaliel's advice.

<sup>60</sup> Revelation 4:8 LITV And the four living creatures each one had six wings around, and within being full of eyes. And they had no rest day and night, saying, "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty," the *One who was, and is, and is coming!* [*Isaiah 6:1-3 In the year that King Uzziah died, then I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up. And His train filled the temple. (2) Above it stood the seraphs. Each one had six wings; with two he covered his face; and with two he covered his feet; and with two he flew. (3) And one cried to the other and said, Holy, holy, holy is Jehovah of Hosts; all the earth is full of His glory!*]

his Father is.<sup>61</sup> Jesus worked tirelessly<sup>62</sup> to help people know his Father and he was greatly rewarded for his righteousness.<sup>63</sup> The

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<sup>61</sup> John 15:12-15 BBE This is the law I give you: Have love one for another, even as I have love for you. (13) Greater love has no man than this, that a man gives up his life for his friends. (14) You are my friends, if you do what I give you orders to do. (15) No longer do I give you the name of servants; because a servant is without knowledge of what his master is doing: I give you the name of friends, because I have given you knowledge of all the things which my Father has said to me.

Luke 4:42-43 CEV The next morning Jesus went out to a place where he could be alone, and crowds came looking for him. When they found him, they tried to stop him from leaving. (43) But Jesus said, "People in other towns must hear the good news about God's kingdom. That's why I was sent."

1 Peter 2:21-23 BBE This is God's purpose for you: because Jesus himself underwent punishment for you, giving you an example, so that you might go in his footsteps: (22) Who did no evil, and there was no deceit in his mouth: (23) To sharp words he gave no sharp answer; when he was undergoing pain, no angry word came from his lips; but he put himself into the hands of the judge of righteousness:

John 14:12-17 GNB I am telling you the truth: those who believe in me will do what I do---yes, they will do even greater things, because I am going to the Father. (13) And I will do whatever you ask for in my name, so that the Father's glory will be shown through the Son. (14) If you ask me for anything in my name, I will do it. (15) "If you love me, you will obey my commandments. (16) I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, who will stay with you forever. (17) He is the Spirit, who reveals the truth about God. The world cannot receive him, because it cannot see him or know him. But you know him, because he remains with you and is in you.

<sup>62</sup> Luke 6:17-19 GNB When Jesus had come down from the hill with the apostles, he stood on a level place with a large number of his disciples. A large crowd of people was there from all over Judea and from Jerusalem and from the coast cities of Tyre and Sidon; (18) they had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. Those who were troubled by evil spirits also came and were healed. (19) All the people tried to touch him, for power was going out from him and healing them all.

form of worship by those angels, and by Christ Jesus, are both acceptable; and both demonstrate their own individual and personal righteousness. Neither Jesus nor the angels serve God because they are forced, or for the sake of a reward. Jesus unflinchingly proved that beyond question!<sup>64</sup> Those who are righteous serve our Father because it is the right thing to do. It seems, therefore, from all that Christ taught, it is those individuals who are doing their best to show loving concern for others who can have the hope of being protected alive forever. Persons who are so self-centered they don't even notice the pain of other people will likely not be protected. As Jesus said: (Matthew 24:36-39 MWT) “Concerning that day and hour nobody knows, neither the angels in the heavens nor the Son, but only the Father. 37 For just as the days of Noah were, so the presence of the Son of man will be. 38 For as they were in those days before the flood, eating and drinking, men marrying and women being given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark; 39 and they paid no attention to God’s warning, until the flood came and swept them all away, so the presence of the Son of man will be.”

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Mark 1:44-45 GNB after saying to him (the man he had just healed), "Listen, don't tell anyone about this. But go straight to the priest and let him examine you; then in order to prove to everyone that you are cured, offer the sacrifice that Moses ordered." (45) But the man went away and began to spread the news everywhere. Indeed, he talked so much that Jesus could not go into a town publicly. Instead, he stayed out in lonely places, and people came to him from everywhere.

<sup>63</sup> Philippians 2:9-11 GNB For this reason God raised him to the highest place above and gave him the name that is greater than any other name. (10) And so, in honor of the name of Jesus all beings in heaven, on earth, and in the world below will fall on their knees, (11) and all will openly proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God [*Jehovah*]<sup>(16)</sup> the Father.

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

<sup>64</sup> Philippians 2:8 Darby and having been found in figure as a man, humbled himself, becoming obedient even unto death, and *that the death of the cross.*

1 Peter 3:20 ALT . . . “when the patience of God kept eagerly waiting in [the] days of Noah, while an ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water” The effect the suffering of others has on you, or your reaction to the terrible things happening to so many people in our world today, indicates who or what you are in your heart. To illustrate: There was an episode from a TV program that examines people's reactions by placing them in extreme circumstances. In this episode, they put a baby carrier on the roof of a minivan and started down the street, waiting to start up just as another car was passing by. One woman "tested" by their fabricated great danger to an infant, slowed and tried to get their attention as she passed them. Failing that, she stopped her car in the middle of the road, jumped out leaving the door open, and chased frantically down the road on foot trying to get the attention of the van driver. Obviously, that woman cares about people. She didn't just *say* how much she cared, her concern motivated her to action. She just couldn't help herself. She was like a knee that jerks in response to the doctor's little rubber hammer. Her reaction *is* who she is! God is watching, and it is people who care about others that are the individuals acceptable to him<sup>65</sup> and being marked. ([Eze 9:1-7](#)) Their loving

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<sup>65</sup> 2 Chronicles 16:9a Darby (9) For the eyes of Jehovah<sup>(16)</sup> run to and fro through the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of those whose heart is perfect toward him...

1 Peter 3:10-18 CEV "Do you really love life? Do you want to be happy? Then stop saying cruel things and quit telling lies. (11) Give up your evil ways and do right, as you find and follow the road that leads to peace. (12) The Lord watches over everyone who obeys him, and he listens to their prayers. But he opposes everyone who does evil." (13) Can anyone really harm you for being eager to do good deeds? (14) Even if you have to suffer for doing good things, God will bless you. So stop being afraid and don't worry about what people might do. (15) Honor Christ and let him be the Lord of your life. Always be ready to give an answer when someone asks you about your hope. (16) Give a kind and respectful answer and keep your conscience clear. This way you will make people ashamed for saying bad things about your good conduct as a follower of Christ. (17) You are better off to obey God and suffer for doing right than to

concern for other people is the mark identifying them for life.<sup>(Eze 9:4 on pg 16)</sup> Don't be fooled by those who want to assure you it is your membership in their church, or an approved judgment by their sect, that means your life. The identifying and saving mark in your forehead is your love for others based in your personal Bible knowledge<sup>66</sup> of יהוה<sup>(16)</sup> and his Christ.<sup>(51) & 67</sup> [For a brief period (in our day in time) you have an opportunity to prove faithful under test. In all the millennia Jesus spent with his Father before he came to earth (born as a man), he was never tested at cost.<sup>68</sup> There was

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suffer for doing wrong. (18) Christ died once for our sins. An innocent person died for those who are guilty. Christ did this to bring you to God, when his body was put to death and his spirit was made alive.

<sup>66</sup> Visit:

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

<sup>67</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.

1 John 4:19 BBE We have the power of loving, because he first had love for us.

Proverbs 30:4 BBE Who has gone up to heaven and come down? who has taken the winds in his hands, imprisoning the waters in his robe? by whom have all the ends of the earth been fixed? what is his name, and what is his son's name, if you are able to say?

Acts 3:18-20 GW But in this way God made the sufferings of his Messiah come true. God had predicted these sufferings through all the prophets. (19) So change the way you think and act, and turn to God to have your sins removed. (20) Then times will come when the Lord will refresh you. He will send you Jesus, whom he has appointed to be the Christ.

Revelation 11:15 GW When the seventh angel blew his trumpet, there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord [*Jehovah*]<sup>(16)</sup> and of his Messiah, and he will rule as king forever and ever."

<sup>68</sup> Hebrews 5:7-9 GW During his life on earth, Jesus prayed to God, who could save him from death. He prayed and pleaded with loud crying and tears, and he was heard because of his devotion to God. (8) Although Jesus was the Son of God, he learned to be obedient through his sufferings. (9) After he had finished his work, he became the source of eternal salvation for everyone who obeys him.

nothing harmful in God's creation.<sup>69</sup> Service to God by his firstborn son was always a reward for the pre-human Christ. Satan brought test, along with pain and suffering and death. After paradise is restored, no one will ever again be tested under badness.<sup>70</sup> After

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<sup>69</sup> Proverbs 8:22-31 Darby Jehovah possessed me in the beginning of his way [or, created me first of all - GNB], before his works of old. (23) I was set up from eternity, from the beginning, before the earth was. (24) When there were no depths, I was brought forth, when there were no fountains abounding with water. (25) Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I brought forth; (26) while as yet he had not made the earth, nor the fields, nor the beginning of the dust of the world. (27) When he prepared the heavens I was there; when he ordained the circle upon the face of the deep; (28) when he established the skies above, when the fountains of the deep became strong; (29) when he imposed on the sea his decree that the waters should not pass his commandment, when he appointed the foundations of the earth: (30) then I was by him *his* nursling, and I was daily his delight, rejoicing always before him; (31) rejoicing in the habitable part of his earth, and my delights *were* with the sons of men.

Colossians 1:15 Bishops (15) Who is the image of the inuisible God, the first borne of all creatures.

<sup>70</sup> James 1:12 ALT Happy [or, Blessed] [is the] man who endures temptation [or, testing], because having become approved, he will receive the victor's wreath [or, crown] of the life which the Lord promised to the ones loving Him.

Isaiah 11:1-12 LITV And a Shoot goes out from the stump of Jesse, and a Branch will bear fruit out of his roots. (2) And the Spirit of Jehovah shall rest on Him; *He will have* the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and power, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of Jehovah. (3) And He is made to breathe in the fear of Jehovah. But He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes, nor decide by the hearing of His ears. (4) But He shall judge the poor in righteousness, and shall decide rightly for the meek of the earth. And He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, and He shall cause the wicked to die with the breath of His lip. (5) And righteousness shall be the encircler of His loins, and faithfulness the encircler of His reins. (6) And the wolf shall live with the lamb; and the leopard shall lie with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little boy shall lead them. (7) The cow and the bear shall feed, their young shall lie

paradise is restored, because of the everlasting witness by Jesus and those of us who follow him, if any do choose to turn to badness, it will be with full understanding<sup>(13)</sup> of what they are doing. They will be destroyed before they can corrupt or harm others.<sup>71</sup> Those judged by הוהו<sup>(16)</sup> to be his friends will be

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together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. (8) And the infant shall play on the hole of the asp; yea, the weaned child shall put his hand on the viper's den. (9) They shall not do evil, nor destroy in all My holy mountain. For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of Jehovah, as the waters cover the sea. (10) And it shall be in that day, the Root of Jesse stands as a banner of peoples; nations shall seek to Him; and His resting place shall be glory. (11) And it shall be in that day, the Lord shall again set His hand, the second time, to recover the remnant of His people that remains, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Ethiopia, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the coasts of the sea. (12) And He shall lift up a banner for the nations, and shall gather the outcasts of Israel, and gather those dispersed from Judah, from the four wings of the earth.

<sup>71</sup> Acts 5:1-10 GNB But there was a man named Ananias, who with his wife Sapphira sold some property that belonged to them. (2) But with his wife's agreement he kept part of the money for himself and turned the rest over to the apostles. (3) Peter said to him, "Ananias, why did you let Satan take control of you and make you lie to the Holy Spirit by keeping part of the money you received for the property? (4) Before you sold the property, it belonged to you; and after you sold it, the money was yours. Why, then, did you decide to do such a thing? You have not lied to people--you have lied to God!" (5) As soon as Ananias heard this, he fell down dead; and all who heard about it were terrified. (6) The young men came in, wrapped up his body, carried him out, and buried him. (7) About three hours later his wife, not knowing what had happened, came in. (8) Peter asked her, "Tell me, was this the full amount you and your husband received for your property?" "Yes," she answered, "the full amount." (9) So Peter said to her, "Why did you and your husband decide to put the Lord's Spirit to the test? The men who buried your husband are at the door right now, and they will carry you out too!" (10) At once she fell down at his feet and died. The young men came in and saw that she was dead, so they carried her out and buried her beside her husband.

protected eternally<sup>72</sup> because everything about God is perfect, including his judgment.]<sup>73</sup>

The [tribulation](#) of these last days will force every reasonable person to recognize: Each and every one of us is [judging](#) himself (or herself) by their reaction to the words of the Christ. ([John 12:47-50](#))  
“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

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<sup>72</sup> Psalms 61:1-4 GW For the choir director; [*to be accompanied*] on a stringed instrument; by David. Listen to my cry for help, O God. Pay attention to my prayer. (2) From the ends of the earth, I call to you when I begin to lose heart. Lead me to the rock that is high above me. (3) You have been my refuge, a tower of strength against the enemy. (4) I would like to be a guest in your tent forever and to take refuge under the protection of your wings. Selah

Psalms 57:1-3 GW For the choir director; [*set to*] al tashcheth; a miktam by David when he fled from Saul into the cave. Have pity on me, O God. Have pity on me, because my soul takes refuge in you. I will take refuge in the shadow of your wings until destructive storms pass by. (2) I call to God Most High, to the God who does everything for me. (3) He sends his help from heaven and saves me. He disgraces the one who is harassing me. Selah God sends his mercy and his truth!

<sup>73</sup> James 2:23 ALT And [*so*] was fulfilled the Scripture, the one saying, "But Abraham believed [*or, trusted*] God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness." And he was called a friend of God. [*Gen 15:6; Isaiah 41:8*]

Genesis 15:6 LITV And he believed in Jehovah. And He counted it to him for righteousness.

Isaiah 41:8 LITV But you Israel *are* My servant, Jacob whom I have elected; the seed of My friend Abraham;

[them].”<sup>74</sup> Be cautious, then, that your faith is built on what YOU personally know the Bible teaches, and that from having read it yourself. That's only safe and reasonable, isn't it?<sup>(92)</sup> The four short Gospels contain what Jesus came to teach and are only about fifty pages each. Read Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

Jesus made clear we need to verify our faith using the Bible<sup>(93)</sup> & <sup>(91)</sup> because individuals can pick and choose scriptures<sup>75</sup> to make the Bible say anything they want. We must each verify, therefore, whether we have been influenced by the thinking of men who don't know or don't care what the Bible really teaches. Examining whether a scripture is in harmony with the theme of the Bible<sup>76</sup> is

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<sup>74</sup> Hebrews 9:28 GW Likewise, Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of humanity, and after that he will appear a second time. This time he will not deal with sin, but he will save those who eagerly wait for him. [Isa. 53:12]

Isaiah 53:8-12 MWT <sup>8</sup> Because of oppression and of judgment he was taken away; and who among his generation considered that he was cut off for the transgression of my people to whom the stroke was due? <sup>9</sup> And they put his body into the earth with sinners and evil doers, even though he had done no wrong and no deception was found in his mouth. <sup>10</sup> But Jehovah decided his servant would suffer as a sacrifice to take away the sin and guilt of others. When the servant makes an offering for guilt, he will live to see his own descendants. In his hand what is the delight of Jehovah will succeed. <sup>11</sup> After a life of suffering and learning the true meaning of obeying Jehovah, he will again have joy; he will know that he did not suffer in vain. My devoted servant, with whom I am pleased, will bear the punishment of many and for his sake I will forgive them. <sup>12</sup> For that reason Jehovah will reward him with honor and power for sacrificing his life. Others thought he was a sinner, but he suffered for our sins and asked God to forgive us.

2 Peter 3:10 CEV The day of the Lord's return will surprise us like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a loud noise, and the heat will melt the whole universe. Then the earth and everything on it will be seen for what they are.

<sup>75</sup> Visit:

[www.justbibletruth.com/Observations/BibleTruthOrReligiousDoctrine.html](http://www.justbibletruth.com/Observations/BibleTruthOrReligiousDoctrine.html)

<sup>76</sup> Visit: <http://www.justbibletruth.com/BibleTheme.html>

the way we can accurately understand its meaning. We believe what is herein presented to be in complete harmony with the Bible theme, as revealed in its record of the [six thousand years](#)<sup>(31)</sup> since Adam. (We do realize this website is not inspired by God [as only the bible is] but is *a Bible study effort and aid*. The site can help you know the who, what, where, when, why and how, of the Bible books and characters. After you have some background information, you should read and study the Bible itself. [Even then, this website might continue to provide scriptural insight for some time.] If you are personally aware of scriptures which contradict what is herein presented, please let us know by providing scriptural support for your correction. [support (at) justbibletruth.com] We freely admit we are just Bible students, and we are anxious to learn from Christ. Put another way, we strive to be Christians.)<sup>77</sup> It is a most beautiful and exciting time to be alive, as long as you believe from your Bible knowledge you are protected. Please share this knowledge<sup>(13)</sup> with everyone you associate with.<sup>78</sup> Don't let anyone among you be tricked to imagine (as so many people work to convince us all) it is being an approved member of some (religious) group organized by men that defines your relationship with God. Don't submit to any man or group who desire to render their judgment over your faith.<sup>79</sup> The Ark of salvation for our day is our (YOUR) personal faith through personal knowledge<sup>(13)</sup> of what Jesus taught.<sup>80</sup> Jesus teachings are recorded in [Matthew](#), [Mark](#), [Luke](#), and

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<sup>77</sup> Visit: [http://www.justbibletruth.com/Observations/Organized\\_How.html](http://www.justbibletruth.com/Observations/Organized_How.html)

<sup>78</sup> 1 Corinthians 15:34 GW Come back to the right point of view, and stop sinning. Some people don't know anything about God. You should be ashamed of yourselves.

<sup>79</sup> 1 Corinthians 2:15-16 CEV (15) People who are guided by the Spirit can make all kinds of judgments, but they cannot be judged by others. (16) The Scriptures ask, "Has anyone ever known the thoughts of the Lord or given him advice?" But we understand what Christ is thinking. [Reference to Isa 40:13]~

Isaiah 40:13 Darby Who hath directed the Spirit of Jehovah, and, as his counsellor, hath taught him?

<sup>80</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,

**John** .<sup>81</sup> The Bible books following the Gospels exist (and are important) to help us understand and to have faith in those teachings by Christ.<sup>82</sup> & (Jn 12:49-50 on pg 38) & (Mat 22:37-40 on pg 29) This letter is not as simple to understand as some others,<sup>83</sup> but the solid food of the scriptures is very important.<sup>(67)</sup>

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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.

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

<sup>82</sup> Galatians 5:14 GW All of Moses' Teachings are [*all the Law is*] summarized in a single statement, "Love your neighbor as you love yourself."

Romans 13:10 GW Love never does anything that is harmful to a neighbor. Therefore, love fulfills Moses' Teachings.

John 6:65-68 CEV Then Jesus said, "You cannot come to me, unless the Father makes you want to come. That is why I have told these things to all of you." (66) Because of what Jesus said, many of his disciples turned their backs on him and stopped following him. (67) Jesus then asked his twelve disciples if they were going to leave him. (68) Simon Peter answered, "Lord, there is no one else that we can go to! Your words give eternal life.

<sup>83</sup> Hebrews 5:12-14 GW By now you should be teachers. Instead, you still need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word. You need milk, not solid food. (13) All those who live on milk lack the experience to talk about what is right. They are still babies. (14) However, solid food is for mature people, whose minds are trained by practice to know the difference between good and evil.

1 Corinthians 3:1-11 GW (1) Brothers and sisters, I couldn't talk to you as spiritual people but as people still influenced by your corrupt nature. You were infants in your faith in Christ. (2) I gave you milk to drink. I didn't give you solid food because you weren't ready for it. Even now you aren't ready for it (3) because you're still influenced by your corrupt nature. When you are jealous and quarrel among yourselves, aren't you influenced by your corrupt nature and living by human standards? (4) When some of you say, "I follow Paul" and others say, "I follow Apollos," aren't you acting like sinful humans? (5) Who is Apollos? Who is Paul? They are servants who helped you come to faith. Each did what the Lord gave him to do. (6) I planted, and Apollos watered, but God made it

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The potentially terrifying times that have become the essence or norm of our day in time, are a preamble to a beautiful future for those building faith in the son of God. ([Isaiah 11:1-12](#) - NWT) “And there must go forth a twig out of the stump of Jesse; (Jesus<sup>(51)</sup> is a descendant of David, and of David's father Jesse) and out of his roots a sprout will be fruitful. 2 And upon him the spirit of Jehovah<sup>(16)</sup> must settle down, the spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the spirit of counsel and of mightiness, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of [Jehovah](#) (יהוה);<sup>(16)</sup> 3 and there will be enjoyment by him in the fear of Jehovah.<sup>(16)</sup> And he will not judge by any mere appearance to his eyes, nor reprove simply according to the thing heard by his ears. 4 And with righteousness he must judge the lowly ones, and with uprightness he must give reproof in behalf of the meek ones of the earth. And he must strike the earth with the rod of his mouth [*as we judge our-own-selves by our response to his teachings*]; and with the spirit of his lips he will put the wicked one to death. 5 And righteousness must prove to be the belt of his hips, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. 6 And the wolf will actually reside for a while with the male lamb, and with the kid the leopard itself will lie down, and the calf and the maned young lion and the well-fed animal all together; and a mere little boy will be leader over them. 7 And the cow and the bear themselves will feed; together their young ones will lie down. And even the lion will eat straw just like the bull. 8 And the sucking child will certainly play upon the hole of the cobra; and upon the light aperture of a poisonous snake will a weaned child actually put his own hand. 9 They will not do any harm or cause any ruin in all my holy

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grow. (7) So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is important because only God makes it grow. (8) The one who plants and the one who waters have the same goal, and each will receive a reward for his own work. (9) We are God's coworkers. You are God's field. You are God's building. (10) As a skilled and experienced builder, I used the gift that God gave me to lay the foundation for that building. However, someone else is building on it. Each person must be careful how he builds on it. (11) After all, no one can lay any other foundation than the one that is already laid, and that foundation is Jesus Christ.

mountain; because the earth will certainly be filled with the knowledge of Jehovah<sup>(16)</sup> as the waters are covering the very sea. 10 And it must occur in that day that there will be the root of Jesse that will be standing up as a signal for the peoples. [*Prefigured by the serpent being hung on a stake to protect the Jews in the wilderness.*]<sup>84</sup> To him even the nations will turn inquiringly, and his resting-place must become glorious. 11 And it must occur in that day that Jehovah (יהוה)<sup>(16)</sup> will again offer his hand, a second time, to acquire the remnant of his people who will remain over from Assyria and from Egypt and from Pathros and from Cush and from Elam and from Shinar and from Hamath and from the islands of the sea [*Philippine Islands included*]. 12 And he will certainly raise up a signal for the nations and gather the dispersed ones of Israel; and the scattered ones of Judah he will collect together from the four extremities of the earth." These scriptures should *help you see (through eyes of faith) the paradise being established by the presence of the son of God* (help you see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory)!<sup>85</sup> This is the day when the

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<sup>84</sup> John 3:13-18 GW No one has gone to heaven except the Son of Man, who came from heaven. (14) "As Moses lifted up the snake on a pole in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up. (15) Then everyone who believes in him will have eternal life." (16) God loved the world this way: He gave his only Son so that everyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life. (17) God sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but to save the world. (18) Those who believe in him won't be condemned. But those who don't believe are already condemned because they don't believe in God's only Son.

Numbers 21:7-8 Darby And the people came to Moses and said, We have sinned, in that we have spoken against Jehovah, and against thee: pray to Jehovah that he take away the serpents from us. And Moses prayed for the people. (8) And Jehovah said to Moses, Make thee a fiery *serpent*, and set it upon a pole; and it shall come to pass, that every one that is bitten, and looketh upon it, shall live.

<sup>85</sup> Luke 21:25-27 GNB "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

tribulation we have created is [forcing](#) Jesus's message to be heard. The Bible is God's message to gather you for the protection of your very life. Christians are not gathered to a physical location, but gathered to a like faith in our mind and heart.<sup>86</sup> Matthew 24:31 ALT "And He will send out His angels with [the] 'sound of a loud trumpet-blast,' and 'they will gather together' His chosen ones [or, elect] from the four winds, from [the] farthest limits of [the] heavens to [the other] farthest limits of them."<sup>87</sup> Psalms 91:1-16 MKJV "He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall rest under the shadow of the Almighty. (2) I will say of [Jehovah](#) (יהוה),<sup>88</sup>

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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.

2 Kings 6:15-17 GNB Early the next morning Elisha's servant got up, went out of the house, and saw the Syrian troops with their horses and chariots surrounding the town. He went back to Elisha and exclaimed, "We are doomed, sir! What shall we do?" (16) "Don't be afraid," Elisha answered. "We have more on our side than they have on theirs." (17) Then he prayed, "O LORD [*Jehovah*]<sup>(16)</sup>, open his eyes and let him see!" The LORD [*Jehovah*]<sup>(16)</sup> answered his prayer, and Elisha's servant looked up and saw the hillside covered with horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

<sup>86</sup> Colossians 4:12 CEV Your own Epaphras, who serves Christ Jesus, sends his greetings. He always prays hard that you may fully know what the Lord wants you to do and that you may do it completely.

<sup>87</sup> Deuteronomy 30:1-3 CEV I have told you everything the LORD [*יהוה*] your God will do for you, and I've also told you the curses he will put on you if you reject him. He will scatter you in faraway countries, but when you realize that he is punishing you, (2) return to him with all your heart and soul and start obeying the commands I have given to you today. (3) Then he will stop punishing you and treat you with kindness. He may have scattered you to the farthest countries on earth, but he will bring you back

<sup>88</sup> The personal name of the true God is יהוה.<sup>(16)</sup> יהוה dealt with mankind by different means for the four thousand years before Christ was born (dreams, visions, angels, prophets, kings, and for the last fifteen hundred years of that period, with the nation of

my refuge and my fortress; my God; in Him I will trust. (3) Surely He will deliver you from the fowler's trap and from the destroying plague. (4) He shall cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you shall trust. His truth shall be your shield, and buckler. (5) You shall not fear the terror by night; nor because of the arrow that flies by day; (6) nor for the plague that walks in darkness, of the destruction laying waste at noonday. (7) A thousand shall fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand; it shall not come near you. (8) Only with your eyes you shall look and see the reward of the wicked. (9) Because You, O [Jehovah](#), are My refuge; if You have made the Most High Your dwelling-place, (10) no evil shall befall You, nor shall any plague come near Your dwelling. (11) For He shall give His angels charge over You, to keep You in all Your ways. (12) They shall bear You up in their hands, lest You dash your foot against a stone. (13) You shall tread on the lion and adder; the young lion and the jackal You shall trample underfoot. (14) Because He has set His love on Me, therefore I will deliver Him; I will set Him on high, because [He has known My name](#). (15) He shall call on Me, and I will answer Him; I will be with Him in trouble; I will deliver

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Israel [Priests]). Lastly, יהוה deals with us by means of his son.

יהוה had his personal name recorded in the original Hebrew

Scriptures (OT) over six thousand times. [Gods name is יהוה – the four ancient Hebrew characters which translate as YHVH or JHVH and has no approved English translation.] That's not an exaggeration – over six thousand times. If you have a Bible that doesn't use his name, you may note “LORD” in all caps used sometimes, while “Lord” or “lord” is used other times. When you see

LORD, it means the translators removed יהוה and replaced it with LORD. This apparently resulted because of a superstitious fear of pronouncing the divine name; and that from a misapplication of a scriptural warning against misusing the name. God did warn against misusing his name (or taking it for granted), but also having it recorded six thousand times indicates he definitely wanted us to know and use it! Know and use God's personal name (יהוה – sounds like Yea•Vah to English speakers), along with the name of his son Jesus Christ.<sup>(16)</sup>

Him, and honor Him. (16) With long life I will satisfy him, and show him My salvation.”

**Our desire is for you to share in the prophetic hope mentioned above, as well as the one in the book of Job:** (Job 33:24-30 GNB) *“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, and gives him the joy of living.”* [You will note many of the Bible promises for a future paradise are tied to Abraham and to his seed. Abraham was one of the forefathers of Christ. All who express faith in Christ are adopted as sons and daughters of Abraham. If you are a Christian, and you read a promise to Abraham and/or his seed, it is a promise to you.]<sup>89</sup>

**As to your hope for a bright future, then: Don't let any group of men trick you into imagining your future rests in their approval.** Just think logically about the situation that exists in the earth today. Every single religious sect believe they alone are right! The Baptists, Catholics, Mormons, Amish, Jehovah's Witnesses, Buddhists, Islamic and all the others believe they alone are the beacons of truth and light in the world. They all judge others as wrong, and even as unfit for life. Although most of them try to appear tactful about it, that hate is present even among the different sects

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<sup>89</sup> Galatians 3:26-29 GNB **It is through faith that all of you are God's children in union with Christ Jesus. (27) You were baptized into union with Christ, and now you are clothed, so to speak, with the life of Christ himself. (28) So there is no difference between Jews and Gentiles, between slaves and free people, between men and women; you are all one in union with Christ Jesus. (29) If you belong to Christ, then you are the descendants of Abraham and will receive what God has promised.**

claiming to be Christian. If you are part of a group condemning others, and/or, judging that your salvation (your life) depends on your approved membership in their group, you simply have not been listening to Jesus Christ.<sup>90</sup> It is not any membership approved by men that can help you!<sup>91</sup> If you rest your hope in men, and they are wrong, you will pay the price right along with them.<sup>92</sup> *Read your*

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<sup>90</sup> 1 Corinthians 4:5 ALT So then, stop judging anything before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden [*things*] of the darkness and will reveal the counsels [*or, intentions*] of the hearts [*fig., inner selves*], and then the praise will come to each from God.

1 Corinthians 4:5 CEV So don't judge anyone until the Lord returns. He will show what is hidden in the dark and what is in everyone's heart. Then God will be the one who praises each of us.

<sup>91</sup> Matthew 24:23-28 Modern World Translation [MWT] <sup>23</sup> "Then if anyone says to you, 'Look! Here is the Christ,' or, 'There!' do not believe it. <sup>24</sup> For false Christs and false prophets will arise and will give great signs and wonders so as to mislead, if possible, even the chosen ones. <sup>25</sup> Look! I have forewarned you. <sup>26</sup> Therefore, if people say to you, 'Look! He is in the wilderness,' do not go out; 'Look! He is in the inner chambers,' do not believe it. <sup>27</sup> For just as the lightning comes out of eastern parts and shines over to western parts, so the presence of the Son of man will be. <sup>28</sup> Wherever the carcass is [the carcass is the remains of Christ Jesus – his teachings], there the eagles will be gathered together.

<sup>92</sup> Matthew 7:15-24 CEV Watch out for false prophets! They dress up like sheep, but inside they are wolves who have come to attack you. (16) You can tell what they are by what they do. No one picks grapes or figs from thornbushes. (17) A good tree produces good fruit, and a bad tree produces bad fruit. (18) A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot produce good fruit. (19) Every tree that produces bad fruit will be chopped down and burned. (20) You can tell who the false prophets are by their deeds. (21) Not everyone who calls me their Lord will get into the kingdom of heaven. Only the ones who obey my Father in heaven will get in. (22) On the day of judgment many will call me their Lord. They will say, "We preached in your name, and in your name we forced out demons and worked many miracles." (23) But I will tell them, "I will have nothing to do with you! Get out of my sight, you evil

*own Bible!* It will set you free of the danger of being misled by anyone.<sup>93</sup> None of us were born righteous.<sup>94</sup> There is no better time to seek God than now.<sup>95</sup> **If you would be wise, recognize this**

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people!" (24) Anyone who hears and obeys these teachings of mine is like a wise person who built a house on solid rock.

<sup>93</sup> John 8:31-36 MWT Jesus told the people who had faith in him, "If you learn and keep on obeying what I have told you, then you truly are my disciples. (32) You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." (33) The self-righteous answered, "We are Abraham's children [*they believed they were protected by their membership in a group of men*]! We have never been anyone's slaves. How can you say we will be set free?" (34) Jesus replied: I tell you for certain that anyone who sins is a slave of sin! (35) And slaves don't remain in the family forever, though the Son will always be in the family. (36) If the Son gives you freedom, you are actually free!

<sup>94</sup> 1 Timothy 1:12-16 GNB [*These words were penned by the apostle Paul, who had previously been a Pharisee and had persecuted and killed the followers of Jesus.*] I give thanks to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength for my work. I thank him for considering me worthy and appointing me to serve him, (13) even though in the past I spoke evil of him and persecuted and insulted him. But God was merciful to me because I did not yet have faith and so did not know what I was doing. (14) And our Lord poured out his abundant grace on me and gave me the faith and love which are ours in union with Christ Jesus. (15) This is a true saying, to be completely accepted and believed: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. I am the worst of them, (16) but God was merciful to me in order that Christ Jesus might show his full patience in dealing with me, the worst of sinners, as an example for all those who would later believe in him and receive eternal life.

<sup>95</sup> Acts 17:26-31 ESV And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, (27) that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, (28) for "'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, "'For we are indeed his offspring.'" (29) Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. (30) The times of ignorance God

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**simple truth: Any future hope any of us have rests in our personal relationship with our Father יהוה<sup>(16)</sup> through our faith in the teachings of his son<sup>(51)</sup> Christ Jesus.<sup>96 & (67)</sup> It is just so simple and so beautiful!<sup>97</sup> Don't let the teachings of men confuse it for you. Your hope rests in the kingdom of Christ. Jesus has been made king of all creation, so as to undo the works of the devil.<sup>98</sup> When Jesus**

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overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, (31) because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

<sup>96</sup> John 6:44 ALT "No one is able to come to Me unless the Father having sent Me draws [*or, drags*] him, and I will raise him up in the last day.

Luke 10:22 CEV My Father has given me everything, and he is the only one who knows the Son. The only one who really knows the Father is the Son. But the Son wants to tell others about the Father, so that they can know him too.

<sup>97</sup> Matthew 18:1-6 GNB At that time the disciples came to Jesus, asking, "Who is the greatest in the Kingdom of heaven?" (2) So Jesus called a child to come and stand in front of them, (3) and said, "I assure you that unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the Kingdom of heaven. (4) The greatest in the Kingdom of heaven is the one who humbles himself and becomes like this child. (5) And whoever welcomes in my name one such child as this, welcomes me. (6) "If anyone should cause one of these little ones to lose his faith in me, it would be better for that person to have a large millstone tied around his neck and be drowned in the deep sea.

<sup>98</sup> 1 John 3:8 GNB Whoever continues to sin belongs to the Devil, because the Devil has sinned from the very beginning. The Son of God appeared for this very reason, to destroy what the Devil had done.

Genesis 3:15 BBE God's early promise that all this would come to be: And there will be war between you [*Satan*] 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.

Philippians 2:5-11 ALT Indeed, be letting the frame of mind [*or, attitude*] be in you which [*was*] also in Christ Jesus, (6) who existing in the nature of God, did not consider being equal to God something to be held onto, (7) but He emptied Himself, having

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protects alive each individual willing to learn, then resurrects all such individuals who died in the past; *and then, after all that*, freely returns the kingdom to his Father, he will forever prove his Father's goodness.<sup>99</sup> By that act of freely submitting to his Father, doing so even after he is given rulership and eternal life in himself,<sup>100</sup> Jesus

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taken the nature of a slave, having come to be in the likeness of people, (8) and having been found in appearance as a person, He humbled Himself, having become obedient to the point of death—even of death of a cross. (9) And so God highly exalted Him [*or, put Him in the most important position*] and gave to Him a Name, the [*Name*] above every name, (10) so that at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow, of heavenly [*ones*] and of earthly [*ones*] and of [*ones*] under the earth, (11) and every tongue [*fig., person*] shall confess that Jesus Christ [*is*] Lord to [*the*] glory of God [*the*] Father! [*cp. Isaiah 45:23*]

*Isaiah 45:22-25 CEV "I invite the whole world to turn to me and be saved. I alone am God! No others are real. (23) I have made a solemn promise, one that won't be broken: Everyone will bow down and worship me. (24) They will admit that I alone can bring about justice. Everyone who is angry with me will be terribly ashamed and will turn to me. (25) I, the LORD, will give victory and great honor to the people of Israel."*

<sup>99</sup> 1 Corinthians 15:20-28 CEV (20) But Christ has been raised to life! And he makes us certain that others will also be raised to life. (21) Just as we will die because of Adam, we will be raised to life because of Christ. (22) Adam brought death to all of us, and Christ will bring life to all of us. (23) But we must each wait our turn. Christ was the first to be raised to life, and his people will be raised to life when he returns. (24) Then after Christ has destroyed all powers and forces, the end will come, and he will give the kingdom to God the Father. (25) Christ will rule until he puts all his enemies under his power, (26) and the last enemy he destroys will be death. (27) When the Scriptures say that he will put everything under his power, they don't include God. It was God who put everything under the power of Christ. (28) After everything is under the power of God's Son, he will put himself under the power of God, who put everything under his Son's power. Then God will mean everything to everyone.

<sup>100</sup> John 5:26 GW The Father is the source of life, and he has enabled the Son to be the source of life too.

will perfectly *and eternally* establish יהוה's<sup>(16)</sup> right to rule.<sup>101</sup> Our Father's rule, using his son Christ Jesus, will maintain eternal peace over the earth; and among all creation.<sup>102</sup> **The action taken by**

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<sup>101</sup> Revelation 4:11 GW "Our Lord and God, you deserve to receive glory, honor, and power because you created everything. Everything came into existence and was created because of your will."

Isaiah 45:17 ASV *But* Israel shall be saved by Jehovah with an everlasting salvation: ye shall not be put to shame nor confounded world without end.

Revelation 15:3-4 GNB and singing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb: "Lord God Almighty, how great and wonderful are your deeds! King of the nations, how right and true are your ways! (4) Who will not stand in awe of you, Lord? Who will refuse to declare your greatness? You alone are holy. All the nations will come and worship you, because your just actions are seen by all."

<sup>102</sup> Isaiah 11:1-12 YLT And a rod hath come out from the stock of Jesse, And a branch from his roots is fruitful. (2) Rested on him hath the Spirit of Jehovah, The spirit of wisdom and understanding, The spirit of counsel and might, The spirit of knowledge and fear of Jehovah. (3) To refresh him in the fear of Jehovah, And by the sight of his eyes he judgeth not, Nor by the hearing of his ears decideth. (4) And he hath judged in righteousness the poor, And decided in uprightness for the humble of earth, And hath smitten earth with the rod of his mouth, And with the breath of his lips he putteth the wicked to death. (5) And righteousness hath been the girdle of his loins, And faithfulness--the girdle of his reins. (6) And a wolf hath sojourned with a lamb, And a leopard with a kid doth lie down, And calf, and young lion, and fatling *are* together, And a little youth is leader over them. (7) And cow and bear do feed, Together lie down their young ones, And a lion as an ox eateth straw. (8) And played hath a suckling by the hole of an asp, And on the den of a cockatrice Hath the weaned one put his hand. (9) Evil they do not, nor destroy in all My holy mountain, For full hath been the earth with the knowledge of Jehovah, As the waters are covering the sea.

(10) And there hath been, in that day, A root of Jesse that is standing for an ensign of peoples, Unto him do nations seek, And his rest hath been--honour! (11) And it hath come to pass, in that day, The Lord addeth a second time his power, To get the remnant of His people that is left, From Asshur, and from Egypt, And from

**Jesus in clearing the reproach from ~~his~~ *our* Father's name<sup>103</sup> is far greater than even his sacrifice to buy us back the right to life!<sup>104</sup>**

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Pathros, and from Cush, And from Elam, and from Shinar, And from Hamath, and from isles of the sea, (12) And He hath lifted up an ensign to nations, And gathereth the driven away of Israel, And the scattered of Judah He assembleth, From the four wings of the earth.

<sup>103</sup> Matthew 6:9 CEV You should pray like this: Our Father in heaven, help us to honor your name.<sup>(16)</sup>

<sup>104</sup> Galatians 2:15-16 CEV We are Jews by birth and are not sinners like Gentiles. (16) But we know that God accepts only those who have faith in Jesus Christ. No one can please God by simply obeying the Law. So we put our faith in Christ Jesus, and God accepted us because of our faith.

1 Timothy 1:12-14 CEV I thank Christ Jesus our Lord. He has given me the strength for my work because he knew that he could trust me. (13) I used to say terrible and insulting things about him, and I was cruel. But he had mercy on me because I didn't know what I was doing, and I had not yet put my faith in him. (14) Christ Jesus our Lord was very kind to me. He has greatly blessed my life with faith and love just like his own.

Acts 4:8-12 CEV Peter was filled with the Holy Spirit and told the nation's leaders and the elders: (9) You are questioning us today about a kind deed in which a crippled man was healed. (10) But there is something we must tell you and everyone else in Israel. This man is standing here completely well because of the power of Jesus Christ from Nazareth. You put Jesus to death on a cross, but God raised him to life. (11) He is the stone that you builders thought was worthless, and now he is the most important stone of all. (12) Only Jesus has the power to save! His name is the only one in all the world that can save anyone.

Never again will there be any disturbance by anyone challenging our Father's goodness,<sup>105</sup> or his right to rule.<sup>106</sup>

May you have the eternal peace of God.<sup>107</sup>

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<sup>105</sup> Genesis 3:1-6 CEV The snake was sneakier than any of the other wild animals that the LORD [*Jehovah*]<sup>(16)</sup> God had made. One day it came to the woman and asked, "Did God tell you not to eat fruit from any tree in the garden?" (2) The woman answered, "God said we could eat fruit from any tree in the garden, (3) except the one in the middle. He told us not to eat fruit from that tree or even to touch it. If we do, we will die." (4) "No, you won't!" the snake replied. (5) "God understands what will happen on the day you eat fruit from that tree. You will see what you have done, and you will know the difference between right and wrong, just as God does." (6) The woman stared at the fruit. It looked beautiful and tasty. She wanted the wisdom that it would give her, and she ate some of the fruit. Her husband was there with her, so she gave some to him, and he ate it too.

<sup>106</sup> Revelation 4:11 ALT "You are worthy, our Lord and God, the Holy [*One*], to receive the glory and the honor and the power, because You created {all} the [*things*], and because of Your will they are [*fig., exist*] and were created!"

Isaiah 65:25 LITV The wolf and the lamb shall feed as one; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And dust is the food of the snake. They shall not do evil nor destroy in all My holy mountain, says Jehovah.

<sup>107</sup> Matthew 10:12-13 BBE And when you go in, say, May peace be on this house. (13) And if the house is good enough, let your peace come on it: but if not, let your peace come back to you.

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

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