



What does God ~~expect of us~~ *expect of YOU.*

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A Gathering Of Eagles 
Luke 17:30 & 37

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

The Bible teaches our loving Creator holds out the prospect of Eternal life in perfection.¹

If we are to hope in those Bible promises, and then have a real expectation of receiving the reward of that hope, wouldn't we be wise to start with learning what God expects of us in return? You have no doubt heard the answer and encouragement commonly

¹ Psalms 37:27-29 Contemporary English Version (CEV) If you stop sinning and start doing right, you will keep living and be secure forever. (28) The LORD [Jehovah]⁽²⁾ loves justice, and he won't ever desert his faithful people. He always protects them, but destroys the children of the wicked. (29) God's people will own the land and live here forever.

Psalms 37:7-15 Modern World Translation (MWT) ⁷ Keep silent before Jehovah⁽²⁾ And wait longingly for him. Do not show yourself heated up at anyone making his way successful by devious means; at the man carrying out his own ideas. ⁸ Let anger alone and leave rage; do not show yourself heated up only to do evil. ⁹ For evildoers themselves will be cut off, but those hoping in Jehovah are the ones that will possess the earth. ¹⁰ And just a little while longer, and the wicked one will be no more; and you will certainly give attention to his place, and he will not be. ¹¹ But the meek ones themselves will possess the earth, and they will indeed find their exquisite delight in the abundance of peace. ¹² The wicked one is plotting against the righteous one, and at him he is grinding his teeth. ¹³ Jehovah himself will laugh at him, for he certainly sees that his day will come. ¹⁴ The wicked ones have drawn a sword itself and have bent their bow, to cause the afflicted and poor ones to fall, to slaughter those who are upright in their going. ¹⁵ Their own sword will enter into their own heart, and their own bows will be broken.~

Isaiah 11:6-9 LITV And the wolf shall live with the lamb; and the leopard shall lie with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little boy shall lead them. (7) The cow and the bear shall feed, their young shall lie together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. (8) And the infant shall play on the hole of the asp; yea, the weaned child shall put his hand on the viper's den. (9) They shall not do evil, nor destroy in all My holy mountain. For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of Jehovah, as the waters cover the sea.

given by so many who claim to have faith in the Bible: That we must have faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and get saved. Others will stretch that so far as to say just knowing Jesus's name is all we need. What the first group says is true. All who come to God²

² Visit: <http://www.justbibletruth.com/DoesGodHaveAName.html>

Since we will consider several Old Testament Scriptures, some written hundreds of years before Christ, we will need to consider the God who dealt with mankind for the 4000 years between Adam and the birth of Jesus Christ (about 2000 years ago). [That's the recorded span of the Bible, 6000 years from Adam to our day⁽⁴²⁾ (the Bible's record actually indicates 1975 (about) as the end of 6000 years from Adam).] God used angels and visions to deal with individuals from among mankind for about the first 2500 years, and then, starting about 1500 years before Christ was born, He used the Jewish nation and their priesthood. Through it all, since the sin in the garden, his purpose has been to produce the Messiah he first promised as the "seed of the woman" in Genesis 3:15.*^A The God of the Hebrew scriptures (or, Old Testament) inspired his divine name to be recorded as יהוה. Jehovah is the common English translation of that name. Jehovah is not a title. God and Lord are titles and can apply to any person or object deified by men. The Bible says there are many Gods.*^{AA} Jehovah is a personal name and applies only to the God who represented himself in the Old Testament of the Bible. It was recorded in the Hebrew Scriptures over 6000 times. Allah, Buddha, Dagon and Baal (and many others) are also personal names of Gods.*^B Some people want you to imagine all the named God's, each one of them, are just different representations of the one true God. If that were true, the God of the Bible would be a liar.*^C Do not confuse other Gods with the God who exposes himself by the Bible (that is, if you want to express faith in the Scriptures, of course). The only way you can come to know Jehovah God is by reading for yourself the message He provided us. That is the Bible, and only the Bible! He is wondrous and knowing him will make you happier than you can imagine. All the

benefit this booklet can be is to direct you to and help you understand that Bible record of what God wants you to know. The Bible contains the teachings of Christ, and those teachings are your food for life.~

*^A Genesis 3:15 Bible in Basic English (BBE) [God is herein speaking to and about Satan.] And there will be war between you and the woman and between your seed and her seed: by him will your head be crushed and by you his foot will be wounded.~

*^{AA} 1 Corinthians 8:5-6 CEV (5) Many things in heaven and on earth are called gods and lords, but none of them really are gods or lords. (6) We have only one God, and he is the Father. He created everything, and we live for him. Jesus Christ is our only Lord. Everything was made by him, and by him life was given to us.~

*^B 1 Corinthians 8:3-7a CEV (3) But God has no doubts about who loves him. (4) Even though food is offered to idols, we know that none of the idols in this world are alive. After all, there is only one God. (5) Many things in heaven and on earth are called gods and lords, but none of them really are gods or lords. (6) We have only one God, and he is the Father. He created everything, and we live for him. Jesus Christ is our only Lord. Everything was made by him, and by him life was given to us. (7) Not everyone knows these things. In fact, many people have grown up with the belief that idols have life in them...~

*^C Isaiah 42:8 Darby I am Jehovah, that is my name; and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images.~ Psalms 115:1-8 LITV Not to us, O Jehovah, not to us, but to Your name give glory; on account of Your mercy, on account of Your truth. (2) Why do the nations say, Where is their God now? (3) But our God *is* in Heaven; He has done all that He has pleased. (4) Their idols *are* silver and gold, the work of man's hands; (5) they *have* mouths, but they do not speak; they *have* eyes, but they do not see; (6) they *have* ears, but they do not hear; they *have* a nose, but they do not smell; (7) their hands do not feel; their feet do not walk; they do not mutter through their throat. (8) The ones who make them are like them, *and* everyone trusting in them. Psalms 115:11 LITV [*The*] Ones fearing Jehovah, trust in Jehovah; He *is* their help and their shield.

must express faith in his son.³ What does that statement really mean, though, for us to *express true faith* in Jesus Christ? And what about the second assertion that all we need is to know Jesus's name? Let us allow the Bible to provide us sound reason to make certain we understand what having faith in Jesus really means, and to realize just knowing his name is not enough. Jesus himself said at [Matthew 7:21-23 \(Young's Literal Translation of 1862 – YLT\)](#): `Not every one who is saying to me Lord, lord, shall come into the reign of the heavens; but he who is doing the will of my Father who is in the heavens. (22) Many will say to me in that day, Lord, lord, have we not in thy name prophesied? and in thy name cast out demons? and in thy name done many mighty things? (23) and then I will acknowledge to them, that--I never knew you, depart from me ye who are working lawlessness. Very clearly, from considering what Jesus himself said, he did not believe or teach just knowing who he was would be enough.⁴

³ [Acts 16:31 ALT](#) So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your house!"~

[John 3:16-21 BBE](#) For God had such love for the world that he gave his only Son, so that whoever has faith in him may not come to destruction but have eternal life. (17) God did not send his Son into the world to be judge of the world; he sent him so that the world might have salvation through him. (18) The man who has faith in him does not come up to be judged; but he who has no faith in him has been judged even now, because he has no faith in the name of the only Son of God. (19) And this is the test by which men are judged: the light has come into the world and men have more love for the dark than for the light, because their acts are evil. (20) The light is hated by everyone whose acts are evil and he does not come to the light for fear that his acts will be seen. (21) But he whose life is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his acts have been done by the help of God.~

[Matthew 10:32-33 CEV](#) If you tell others that you belong to me, I will tell my Father in heaven that you are my followers. (33) But if you reject me, I will tell my Father in heaven that you don't belong to me.

⁴ [James 2:17-26 CEV](#) Faith that doesn't lead us to do good deeds is all alone and dead! (18) Suppose someone disagrees and says, "It is possible to have faith without doing kind deeds." I would answer, "Prove that you have faith without doing kind deeds, and I

Even as he made clear, we must be doing the will of his Father. Doesn't that warning infer we should also question the real meaning of the common assertion that we just need to have faith in Jesus. There in Mat. 7, verse 22, Jesus spoke of some people who would have enough faith to approach him in the last day expecting his help, only to be rebuked by him. How could those people think (or at least hope) they would get Jesus's help when he referred to them as "workers of lawlessness." They had deceived themselves in the same way as the religious leaders of Jesus's day. Jesus had told them they were led astray simply because they didn't know what the Bible teaches.⁵ Since Jesus said we must be doing his Father's will, just what does the Bible teach us that means? Doesn't it become obvious we must begin by knowing what God's will is? Our purpose is to seek out what else Jesus told us that can help and protect us. In Matthew 24:23-26 (Bible in Basic English – BBE), he said: (23) Then if any man says to you, See, here is the Christ, or, Here [there]; do not put faith in him; (24) For there will come up false Christs, and false prophets,

will prove that I have faith by doing them." (19) You surely believe there is only one God. That's fine. Even demons believe this, and it makes them shake with fear. (20) Does some stupid person want proof that faith without deeds is useless? (21) 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 by saying, "Abraham had faith in God, and God was pleased with him." That's how Abraham became God's friend. (24) You can now see that we please God by what we do and not only by what we believe. (25) For example, Rahab had been a prostitute. But she pleased God when she welcomed the spies and sent them home by another way. (26) Anyone who doesn't breathe is dead, and faith that doesn't do anything is just as dead! The greatest "good deed" we can do, is telling people about Christ Jesus. Other good deeds are useless if we don't publicly express faith in Christ.⁽³⁾

⁵ Mark 12:24 GNB Jesus answered them, "How wrong you are! And do you know why? It is because you don't know the Scriptures or God's power.

who will do great signs and wonders; so that if possible even the saints [*or, the ones being chosen*] might be tricked. (25) See, I have made it clear to you before it comes about. (26) If, then, they say to you, See, he is in the waste land; go not out: See, he is in the inner rooms; put no faith in it. That is a personal warning from Jesus Christ that we be cautious of those who claim to be teaching in his name. How, then, can we know we are safe? Jesus gave us the simple answer. Just after giving us the warning about false Christs and prophets, Jesus said: **(Matthew 24:28 Darby)** *For wherever the carcass is, there will be gathered the eagles.* Some translations render that verse as “where the body is,” there the eagles will be gathered. What, then, are the remains, or body, or carcass of Christ Jesus? How can we gather around them? Jesus’s remains, or what is left behind of himself, are his teachings.⁶ Jesus is now seated at the right hand of God,⁷ of course. His teachings, however, which God inspired to be recorded in the Gospels, are the means by which Jesus is dealing with and giving personal instruction to each and every one of us. We prove ourselves clear sighted, like eagles, when we gather around those Gospel accounts of the life and teachings of Jesus.

⁶ 1 Corinthians 9:23 CEV I do all this for the good news, because I want to share in its blessings.~

1 Corinthians 10:15-17 CEV (15) I am speaking to you as people who have enough sense to know what I am talking about. (16) When we drink from the cup that we ask God to bless, isn't that sharing in the blood of Christ? When we eat the bread that we break, isn't that sharing in the body of Christ? (17) By sharing in the same loaf of bread, we become one body, even though there are many of us.~

1 Corinthians 11:1-3~ BBE (1) So take me for your example, even as I take Christ for mine. (2) Now I am pleased to see that you keep me in memory in all things, and that you give attention to the teaching which was handed down from me to you. (3) But it is important for you to keep this fact in mind, that the head of every man is Christ... and the head of Christ is God.

⁷ 1 Peter 3:22 CEV Christ is now in heaven, where he sits at the right side of God. All angels, authorities, and powers are under his control.

There is no complicated trick to pleasing God! Simply learn and follow what his son taught us! The Gospels are ~~our~~ *your* only protection against false teachers,⁽²⁷⁾ many of whom are well intentioned, *but wrong!*

So, then, our obvious goal of life⁸ should be a personal knowledge and understanding⁹ of what Jesus taught us about the kingdom.¹⁰

As we meditate on that goal, and on what we considered in the scriptures above, remember that Jesus warned us some people are fooling themselves (and/or trying to deceive the rest of us).¹¹ While he said above in Mat 24:23-25^(pg 5) that some people would allow themselves to be deceived, He also said in Mat 7:21-23^(pg 4) that those "*doing*" *his Father's will* are the ones who are gaining life. He also said we must "remain" in his teachings.⁽¹⁶⁾ So... Can you scripturally defend that you know what God's will is? How could you consider yourself among those "doing" God's will if you are not able defend your faith using the Bible?¹² Learn for yourself

⁸ Matthew 13:44-46 BBE The kingdom of heaven is like a secret store of wealth in a field, which a man came across and put back again; and in his joy he goes and gives all he has, to get that field. (45) Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a trader searching for beautiful jewels. (46) And having come across one jewel of great price, he went and gave all he had in exchange for it.

⁹ Visit:

www.justbibletruth.com/Faith.html#KnowledgeUnderstandingWisdom

¹⁰ Matthew 25:31-34 Darby But when the Son of man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then shall he sit down upon his throne of glory, (32) and all the nations shall be gathered before him; and he shall separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats; (33) and he will set the sheep on his right hand, and the goats on *his* left. (34) Then shall the King say to those on his right hand, Come, blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from *the* world's foundation:

¹¹ www.justbibletruth.com/Observations/BibleTruthOrReligiousDoctrine.html

¹² John 12:47-50 CEV I am not the one who will judge those who refuse to obey my teachings. I came to save the people of this

what Jesus taught.¹³ What he came to earth to teach is contained in the four short Gospel books having only about fifty pages each. As you begin (or press on)¹⁴ building faith, you should consider: Is it possible you could have been deceived by others,⁽¹¹⁾ or even

world, not to be their judge. (48) But everyone who rejects me and my teachings will be judged on the last day by what I have said. (49) I don't speak on my own. I say only what the Father who sent me has told me to say. (50) I know that his commands will bring eternal life. That is why I tell you exactly what the Father has told me.

¹³ 1 Peter 3:12-14 ALT "For [*the*] eyes of [*the*] LORD [*Jehovah*]⁽²⁾ [*are*] upon [*the*] righteous, and His ears toward their petition, but [*the*] face of [*the*] LORD [*is*] upon [*the ones*] doing evil." [*Psalm 34:12-16*]* (13) And who [*is*] the one harming you_p if you_p become imitators of the good? (14) But even if you_p suffer for the sake of righteousness, [*you_p are*] happy [*or, blessed*]. But do not be afraid of their fear [*fig., threats*], nor be troubled. 1 Peter 3:15 GNB But have reverence for Christ in your hearts, and honor him as Lord. Be ready at all times to answer anyone who asks you to explain the hope you have in you,

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

¹⁴ Hebrews 6:1 & 2-4 MWT We must press on to maturity and start thinking about more than just the basic things we were taught about Christ. We shouldn't need to keep talking about why we ought to turn from deeds that bring death and why we ought to have faith in God... (3) Let us become grown up, if God is willing. (4) But what about people who turn away after they have already seen the light and have received the gift of truth and have shared in the Holy Spirit? What about those who turn away after they have received the good message of God about the wonders of the future world? There is no way to bring them back. Choosing to turn their back on the truth Jesus brought is the same as nailing the Son of God to a tree and insulting him in public all over again!

your-own-self?¹⁵ **Remember above all else you learn over the course of your life: Having (and trying to live by) your own personal knowledge of Jesus's teachings is the only thing that can protect you against being deceived.**¹⁶ Contrary to what most of the world tries to convince you, and/or actually believe themselves, *it is not hard to learn* what Jesus teaches.¹⁷ When David was inspired to prophesy about the coming paradise (where the righteous would live forever),⁽¹⁾ he said the law of God would be in the heart of those righteous persons; And their love of God, based on that Bible knowledge,⁽⁹⁾ would protect them.¹⁸ Is it possible to love someone you don't even know? Of course not! That is what Bible knowledge⁽⁹⁾ imparts to you; an understanding

¹⁵ **2 Thessalonians 2:9-12 GNB** (9) The Wicked One will come with the power of Satan and perform all kinds of false miracles and wonders, (10) and use every kind of wicked deceit on those who will perish. They will perish because they did not welcome and love the truth so as to be saved. (11) And so God sends the power of error to work in them so that they believe what is false. (12) The result is that all who have not believed the truth, but have taken pleasure in sin, will be condemned.

¹⁶ **John 8:31-32 ALT** So Jesus was saying to the Jews having believed [*or, trusted*] in Him, "If you remain in My word, truly you are My disciples. (32) "And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free!"

¹⁷ <http://justbibletruth.com/BibleTheme.html>

¹⁸ **Psalms 37:27-34 LITV** Turn away from evil and do good and live forever. (28) For Jehovah loves judgment and does not forsake His saints [*or, loyal ones*]; they are preserved forever; but the wicked's seed shall be cut off. (29) The righteous shall inherit the earth and live on it forever. (30) The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom, and his tongue speaks judgment. (31) The Law of his God is in his heart; his steps do not slide. (32) The wicked spies on the righteous and seeks to kill him. (33) Jehovah does not leave him in his hand; nor *does He* allow *him* to be found guilty in his judgment. (34) Wait on Jehovah and keep His way; and He shall exalt you to inherit the earth; you shall see when the wicked are cut off.

of who God is, which in turn grants ability to love him!¹⁹ Jesus came to teach you about his Father.²⁰

This website exists solely to share what Jesus taught. A part of those teachings include his warning about the dangers of "religion."²¹ & (27) [We here thought of using the phrase "false

¹⁹ 1 John 4:15-21 GNB If we declare that Jesus is the Son of God, we live in union with God and God lives in union with us. (16) And we ourselves know and believe the love which God has for us. God is love, and those who live in love live in union with God and God lives in union with them. (17) Love is made perfect in us in order that we may have courage on the Judgment Day; and we will have it because our life in this world is the same as Christ's. (18) There is no fear in love; perfect love drives out all fear. So then, love has not been made perfect in anyone who is afraid, because fear has to do with punishment. (19) We love because God first loved us. (20) If we say we love God, but hate others, we are liars. For we cannot love God, whom we have not seen, if we do not love others, whom we have seen. (21) The command that Christ has given us is this: whoever loves God must love others also.

²⁰ Matthew 11:25-30 GNB At that time Jesus said, "Father, Lord of heaven and earth! I thank you because you have shown to the unlearned what you have hidden from the wise and learned. (26) Yes, Father, this was how you were pleased to have it happen. (27) "My Father has given me all things. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. (28) "Come to me, all of you who are tired from carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest. (29) Take my yoke and put it on you, and learn from me, because I am gentle and humble in spirit; and you will find rest. (30) For the yoke I will give you is easy, and the load I will put on you is light."

²¹ Matthew 23:1-15 LITV Then Jesus spoke to the crowd and to His disciples, (2) saying, The scribes and the Pharisees have sat down on Moses' seat [they thought they had the right to judge the people, as Moses did]. (3) Then all things, whatever they tell you to keep, keep and do. But do not do according to their works, for they say, and do not do. (4) For they bind heavy and hard to bear burdens, and lay *them* on the shoulders of men, but they do not desire to move them with their finger. (5) And they do all their

religion" instead of just "religion." We felt (in the constructs of this booklet) that would be misleading: No religion *thinks* it is false, but... Many are!] **We believe it is important** [in God's eyes]²² **that we clearly distinguish between our having religion; and our having faith in the teachings of Jesus.** Religions exist without number, and *many* of them claim Christianity. Each of those self-proclaimed Christian groups affirm they teach what Jesus taught. Few are actually doing so! Most all religious people assert (and even believe) they love God, and that they are loved by Him. Many are so self-righteous in their faith they are quite happy to kill (or to judge as spiritually dead) all who do not share their sectarian faith. True Christians try to avoid ever harming anyone.²³ That is one of the biggest differences between religion

works to be seen by men. And they make their phylacteries broad and enlarge the borders of their robes. (6) And they love the first couch in the suppers, and the first seats in the synagogues, (7) and the greetings in the markets, and to be called by men, Rabbi, Rabbi. (8) But do not you be called Rabbi, for One is your Leader, the Christ, and you are all brothers. (9) And call no one your father on earth, for One is your Father, the *One* in Heaven. (10) Nor be called leaders, for One is your Leader, the Christ. (11) But the greater of you shall be your servant. (12) And whoever will exalt himself shall be humbled, and whoever will humble himself shall be exalted. (13) But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you shut up the kingdom of Heaven before men; for you do not enter, nor do you allow those entering to go in. (14) Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you devour the houses of widows, and pray at length as a pretext. Because of this you will receive more abundant judgment. (15) Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you go about the sea and the dry *land* to make one proselyte; and when he has become so, you make him twofold more a son of Hell than yourselves.

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

²³ Matthew 26:49-54 GNB Judas went straight to Jesus and said, "Peace be with you, Teacher," and kissed him. (50) Jesus answered, "Be quick about it, friend!" Then they came up, arrested Jesus, and held him tight. (51) One of those who were with Jesus

and Christianity. Christians leave judgment to God and Christ.²⁴ Each Christian is consumed with two things: Working to accept the gift of life for themselves²⁵ by their own obedience to a true faith, and sharing knowledge of how to do so (knowledge of Christ Jesus) with others. Obviously, since many of Christendom's religions are diametrically opposed in their beliefs, they can't all be right. Those who openly spread hatred for others are obviously not God's Children.²⁶ Those who feign love for others, as they

drew his sword and struck at the High Priest's slave, cutting off his ear. (52) "Put your sword back in its place," Jesus said to him. "All who take the sword will die by the sword. (53) Don't you know that I could call on my Father for help, and at once he would send me more than twelve armies of angels? (54) But in that case, how could the Scriptures come true which say that this is what must happen?"

²⁴ 1 Corinthians 4:5 GNB So you should not pass judgment on anyone before the right time comes. Final judgment must wait until the Lord comes; he will bring to light the dark secrets and expose the hidden purposes of people's minds. And then all will receive from God the praise they deserve.

²⁵ Philippians 2:12-15 CEV (12) My dear friends, you always obeyed when I was with you. Now that I am away, you should obey even more. So work with fear and trembling to discover what it really means to be saved. (13) God is working in you to make you willing and able to obey him. (14) Do everything without grumbling or arguing. (15) Then you will be the pure and innocent children of God. You live among people who are crooked and evil, but you must not do anything that they can say is wrong. Try to shine as lights among the people of this world,

²⁶ 1 John 3:10-15 GNB Here is the clear difference between God's children and the Devil's children: those who do not do what is right or do not love others are not God's children. (11) The message you heard from the very beginning is this: we must love one another. (12) We must not be like Cain; he belonged to the Evil One and murdered his own brother Abel. Why did Cain murder him? Because the things he himself did were wrong, and the things his brother did were right. (13) So do not be surprised, my friends, if the people of the world hate you. (14) We know that we have left death and come over into life; we know it because we love others. Those who do not love are still under the power of

pretend to (or even believe to) be followers of Christ, can be harder to spot.²⁷ It is important for every person seeking Christian maturity^{28 & (14)} to understand the danger posed by religion,⁽¹¹⁾ and, in so doing, to recognize their inherent need to search out the truth for themselves. It is not hard! All Jesus's teachings are recorded in the four short books by Matthew, Mark, Luke and the Apostle John.²⁹ **Please realize: God knows [is coming to know] who loves him,³⁰ and He is sorting those who do from those who**

death. (15) Those who hate others are murderers, and you know that murderers do not have eternal life in them.

²⁷ Matthew 7:15-21 GNB "Be on your guard against false prophets; they come to you looking like sheep on the outside, but on the inside they are really like wild wolves. (16) You will know them by what they do. Thorn bushes do not bear grapes, and briars do not bear figs. (17) A healthy tree bears good fruit, but a poor tree bears bad fruit. (18) A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a poor tree cannot bear good fruit. (19) And any tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown in the fire. (20) So then, you will know the false prophets by what they do. (21) "Not everyone who calls me 'Lord, Lord' will enter the Kingdom of heaven, but only those who do what my Father in heaven wants them to do.

²⁸ Ephesians 4:12-15 GNB He [Jesus] did this [gave gifts to men through their knowledge of his teachings] to prepare all God's people for the work of Christian service, in order to build up the body of Christ. (13) And so we shall all come together to that oneness in our faith and in our knowledge of the Son of God; we shall become mature people, reaching to the very height of Christ's full stature. (14) Then we shall no longer be children, carried by the waves and blown about by every shifting wind of the teaching of deceitful people, who lead others into error by the tricks they invent. (15) Instead, by speaking the truth in a spirit of love, we must grow up in every way to Christ, who is the head.

²⁹ <http://www.justbibletruth.com/biblejohn.pdf>

³⁰ 2 Timothy 2:16-19 MWT Avoid pointless discussions. People who pay attention to these pointless discussions will become more ungodly, (17) and what they say will spread like cancer. Hymenaeus and Philetus are like that. (18) They have abandoned the truth. They are destroying the faith of others by saying that people who have died have already come back to life. (19) In spite

do not.³¹ We are individually, each and every one of us, deciding which of those groups we are in by our reaction to Jesus's teachings.³² & (3) & (12) Having knowledge⁽⁹⁾ of this ongoing

of all that, God's people have a solid foundation. These words are engraved on it: "Jehovah⁽²⁾ knows those who belong to him," [Nahum 1:7]*^A and "Whoever worships Jehovah must give up doing wrong."~

Romans 8:28-30 MWT And we are conscious that all things are working together for good to those who have love for God, and have been marked out by seeking his purpose. (29) Because those he knew would be faithful before they came into existence, were marked out by him by following his Son, so that he might be the first among a band of brothers: (30) And those who were marked out by him were named; and those who were named were given righteousness; and to those to whom he gave righteousness, in the same way he gave glory.~

*^A Nahum 1:7 Darby Jehovah is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him.

³¹ Job 38:12-15 GW "Have you ever given orders to the morning or assigned a place for the dawn (13) so that it could grab the earth by its edges and shake wicked people out of it? (14) The earth changes like clay stamped by a seal, and parts of it stand out like folds in clothing. (15) Wicked people are deprived of their light, and an arm raised in victory is broken.~

Luke 16:14-15 GNB When the Pharisees [religious leaders] heard all this, they made fun of Jesus, because they loved money. (15) Jesus said to them, "You are the ones who make yourselves look right in other people's sight, but God knows your hearts. For the things that are considered of great value by people are worth nothing in God's sight.~

Matthew 25:31-34 GNB "When the Son of Man comes as King and all the angels with him, he will sit on his royal throne, (32) and the people of all the nations will be gathered before him. Then he will divide them into two groups, just as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. (33) He will put the righteous people at his right and the others at his left. (34) Then the King will say to the people on his right, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father! Come and possess the kingdom which has been prepared for you ever since the creation of the world.~

³² Matthew 25:31-34 GNB "When the Son of Man comes as King and all the angels with him, he will sit on his royal throne, (32)

judgment process helps us understand the one common and glaring failing of all religions: They all seek to promote their own

and the people of all the nations will be gathered before him. Then he will divide them into two groups, just as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. (33) He will put the righteous people at his right and the others at his left. (34) Then the King will say to the people on his right, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father! Come and possess the kingdom which has been prepared for you ever since the creation of the world.~

Romans 2:14-16 CEV Some people naturally obey the Law's commands, even though they don't have the Law. (15) This proves that the conscience is like a law written in the human heart. And it will show whether we are forgiven or condemned, (16) [this is how it will be] when God appoints Jesus Christ to judge everyone's secret thoughts, just as my message says.~

Revelation 7:1-3 Webster (1) And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree. (2) And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, (3) Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.~

Ezekiel 9:3-6 MWT Then the dazzling light of the presence of the God of Israel rose up from the carved winged creatures where it had been, and moved to the entrance of the Temple. And Jehovah called to the man dressed in linen, at whose hips there was the secretary's inkhorn. And Jehovah went on to say to him, (4) "Pass through the whole city of Jerusalem [God's temple was in Jerusalem, and the city represented his connection with mankind. Today, in the time of this prophecy's fulfillment, that connection is through faith in Christ Jesus.] 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 (with their weapons for smashing), "Follow him through the city and kill off to a ruination. 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.

judgment and teachings, and to do *their own sorting of who is good and bad.* At the very least, they each one assert they know and are keeping record of who has been judged, *and which way.* They all believe (and teach) salvation depends on an approved membership in their cult. That judgmental spirit is the very thing that makes them part of a danger Jesus warned us about: They make themselves part of the “man of lawlessness”³³ or “man of destruction”³⁴ by their judgmental spirit. That “man of lawlessness” Jesus warned us about is a composite representation of all false religious groups. All these religious groups (who together comprise the “man of lawlessness”) serve only to distract people from their basic and essential need to have personal knowledge of what Jesus taught. Instead, they want “their flock” (*you included*) to be worried about having a membership approved by their religious sect.³⁵

³³ Visit:

justbibletruth.com/Observations/TwoWorlds.html#ManOfLawlessnessRevealed

³⁴ 2 Thessalonians 2:2-5 MWT (2) [Do not be] ... easily upset or disturbed by people who claim that the Lord has already come [or say other things not taken from the Bible]. They may say that they heard this directly from the Holy Spirit, or from someone else, or even that they read it in one of our letters. (3) But don't be fooled! People will rebel against God. Then before the Lord returns, the man of lawlessness [or, man of destruction] who is doomed to be destroyed will appear. (4) He will brag and oppose everything that is holy or sacred. He will even sit in God's temple and show himself to be God [*by asserting they render God's judgments*]. (5) Don't you remember that I told you this while I was still with you?~

See the stark contrast between these self-glorious religionists and what Jesus taught.⁽²¹⁾

³⁵ John 12:42-43 BBE However, a number even of the rulers had belief in him, but because of the Pharisees they did not say so openly for fear that they might be shut out from the Synagogue: (43) For the praise of men was dearer to them than the approval of God.

Please consider the importance of realizing who this “man of lawlessness”⁽³³⁾ manifests himself to be in our present day.

Recognizing this "composite wicked man" is made easier if we start by understanding we are *all* caught in a spiritual war zone.

As our friend Paul said: (Ephesians 6:10-19 BBE) (10) “Lastly, be strong in the Lord, and in the strength of his power. (11) Take up God's instruments of war, so that you may be able to keep your position against all the deceits of the Evil One. (12) For our fight is not against flesh and blood, but against authorities and powers, against the world-rulers of this dark night, against the spirits of evil in the heavens. (13) For this reason take up all the arms of God, so that you may be able to be strong in the evil day, and, having done all, to keep your place. (14) Take your place, then, having your body clothed with the true word, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness; (15) Be ready with the good news of peace as shoes on your feet; (16) And most of all, using faith as a cover to keep off all the flaming arrows of the Evil One. (17) And take salvation for your head-dress and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: (18) With prayers and deep desires, making requests at all times in the Spirit, and keeping watch, with strong purpose, in prayer for all the saints, (19) And for me, that words may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make clear without fear the secret of the good news,”

Note Paul closed (in verse 19 of Eph 6) asking for prayers that he be able to make clear "the *secret* of the good news." That is what is now being published to you: "The sacred secret of the good news." As part of that secret, **Jesus told us he came for the purpose of starting exposing the war** Paul described above. Jesus said: (Matthew 10:34-39 CEV) Don't think that I came to bring peace to the earth! I came to bring trouble, not peace. (35) I came to turn sons against their fathers, daughters against their mothers, and daughters-in-law against their mothers-in-law. (36) Your worst enemies will be in your own family. (37) If you love

your father or mother or even your sons and daughters more than me, you are not fit to be my disciples. (38) And unless you are willing to take up your cross and come with me, you are not fit to be my disciples. (39) If you try to save your life, you will lose it. But if you give it up for me, (or are willing to give it up) you will surely find it. [While it is those who are close to us, and not "religious groups" that are mentioned in those verses as being those we must avoid trying to please (instead of pleasing Christ), it is obvious who Jesus was talking about. He made it plain in the way he spoke to the religious leaders of his day.]³⁶ & (21) While Jesus there said (in Mat. 10:34 above) he came to bring war, elsewhere in the Bible Jesus is referred to as the prince of peace. The Bible also says there will be no end to his peaceful reign.³⁷ Jesus saying he came to bring turmoil, and also saying he is the prince of peace, is not a contradiction! Christ doesn't want war. Neither do his followers. The war Jesus came to expose was already going on. It was brought to life because those who hate Christ Jesus and his Father, also hate those who love them.⁽²⁶⁾ Christ thus came to bring war only in the sense of bringing light and truth. Speaking truth starts a war with those who hate it.⁽³⁾ The problem we all face is this: there can be no peace as long as Satan, or any of his followers, have life.³⁸ **The war**

³⁶ Matthew 5:20 YLT `For I say to you, that if your righteousness may not abound above that of the scribes and Pharisees, ye may not enter to the reign of the heavens.

³⁷ Isaiah 9:6-7 GNB A child is born to us! A son is given to us! And he will be our ruler. He will be called, "Wonderful Counselor," "Mighty God," "Eternal Father," "Prince of Peace." (7) His royal power will continue to grow; his kingdom will always be at peace. He will rule as King David's successor, basing his power on right and justice, from now until the end of time. The LORD [Jehovah]⁽²⁾ Almighty is determined to do all this.

³⁸ Isaiah 57:19-21 LITV I create the fruit of the lips: peace, peace, to the ones far off and near, says Jehovah, and I will heal him. (20) But the wicked are like the driven sea, which cannot be quiet, and its waves cast up mire and dirt. (21) There is no peace to the wicked, says my God.~

Christ brings, then, is with those who do not love the truth.³⁹ The truth is clearly manifest in Jesus's words. So... "The good news of the Kingdom of Christ" (the message Jesus brought us) remains "a secret" only to those who *don't want* to know.⁴⁰ While Jesus came

Psalms 119:165 CEV You give peace of mind to all who love your Law. Nothing can make them fall.~

Isaiah 48:18-19 BBE If only you had given ear to my orders, then your peace would have been like a river, and your righteousness as the waves of the sea: (19) Your seed would have been like the sand, and your offspring like the dust: your name would not be cut off or come to an end before me.

³⁹ 2 Thessalonians 1:6-9 GNB (6) God will do what is right: he will bring suffering on those who make you suffer, (7) and he will give relief to you who suffer and to us as well. He will do this when the Lord Jesus appears from heaven with his mighty angels, (8) with a flaming fire, to punish those who reject God and who do not obey the Good News about our Lord Jesus. (9) They will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, separated from the presence of the Lord and from his glorious might,~

John 8:42-47 CEV Jesus answered: If God were your Father, you would love me, because I came from God and only from him. He sent me. I did not come on my own. (43) Why can't you understand what I am talking about? Can't you stand to hear what I am saying? (44) Your father is the devil, and you do exactly what he wants. He has always been a murderer and a liar. There is nothing truthful about him. He speaks on his own, and everything he says is a lie. Not only is he a liar himself, but he is also the father of all lies. (45) Everything I have told you is true, and you still refuse to have faith in me. (46) Can any of you accuse me of sin? If you cannot, why won't you have faith in me? After all, I am telling you the truth. (47) Anyone who belongs to God will listen to his message. But you refuse to listen, because you don't belong to God.

⁴⁰ 2 Thessalonians 2:3-12 CEV (3) But don't be fooled! People will rebel against God. Then before the Lord returns, the wicked one who is doomed to be destroyed will appear ("the man of destruction" - religion). (4) He will brag and oppose everything that is holy or sacred (promoting their own teachings instead of the Bible). He will even sit in God's temple and claim to be God (by judging others). (5) Don't you remember that I told you this while I was still with you? (6) You already know what is holding this

to expose the turmoil and to destroy its perpetrator,⁴¹ he didn't really start the war. The war was started 6000 years ago⁴² in the Garden of Eden.⁴³ It was brought to birth by Satan.⁴⁴ God's

wicked one back until it is time for him to come (God's spirit holds him back until God's due time). (7) His mysterious power (lies and deceit) is already at work, but someone is holding him back. And the wicked one won't appear until that someone is out of the way. (8) Then he will appear, but the Lord Jesus will kill him simply by breathing on him. He will be completely destroyed by the Lord's glorious return (the truth of Jesus's teachings will expose the wicked lies of religion that are controlling mankind). (9) When the wicked one appears, Satan will pretend to work all kinds of miracles, wonders, and signs. (10) Lost people will be fooled by his evil deeds. They could be saved, but they will refuse to love the truth and accept it. (11) So God will make sure that they are fooled into believing a lie. (12) All of them will be punished, because they would rather do evil than believe the truth.

⁴¹ 1 John 3:8 ALT The one practicing sin is from the Devil, because the Devil [*has been*] sinning from [*the*] beginning. For this [*reason*] the Son of God was revealed, so that He should destroy the works of the Devil.

⁴² <http://www.justbibletruth.com/DisplayScroll.html>

⁴³ <http://www.justbibletruth.com/BibleTheme.html>

⁴⁴ Genesis 3:1-6 LITV And the serpent was cunning above every animal of the field which Jehovah God had made. And he said to the woman, *Is it true* that God has said, You shall not eat from any tree of the garden? (2) And the woman said to the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden, (3) but of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden, God has said, You shall not eat of it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die. (4) And the serpent said to the woman, Dying you shall not die, (5) for God knows that in the day you eat of it, even your eyes shall be opened, and you shall be as God, knowing good and evil. (6) And the woman saw (was deceived to believe) that the tree *was* good for food, and that it *was* pleasant to the eyes, and the tree *was* desirable to make *one* wise. And she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.~

John 8:42-45 GNB Jesus said to them, "If God really were your Father, you would love me, because I came from God and now I am here. I did not come on my own authority, but he sent me.

(43) Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you

solution to restore peace has thus been unfolding and revealing itself ever since.⁴⁵ Jesus Christ came both to explain what God is doing, and to personally repair the damage caused by Satan's rebellion. Jesus is the manifestation of God's solution. Christ's explanation of God's arrangement to break up the works of the devil, then, is "the gospel (or good news) of the kingdom."⁴⁶ Whether we choose to realize or not,⁴⁷ our day witnesses the

cannot bear to listen to my message. (44) You are the children of your father, the Devil, and you want to follow your father's desires. From the very beginning he was a murderer and has never been on the side of truth, because there is no truth in him. When he tells a lie, he is only doing what is natural to him, because he is a liar and the father of all lies. (45) But I tell the truth, and that is why you do not believe me.

⁴⁵ Romans 16:25-27 CEV Praise God! He can make you strong by means of my good news, which is the message about Jesus Christ. For ages and ages this message was kept secret, (26) but now at last it has been told. The eternal God commanded his prophets to write about the good news, so that all nations would obey and have faith. (27) And now, because of Jesus Christ, we can praise the only wise God forever! Amen.

⁴⁶ Matthew 4:23a CEV Jesus went all over Galilee, teaching in the Jewish meeting places and preaching the good news about God's kingdom...~

John 18:37 CEV "So you are a king," Pilate replied. "You are saying that I am a king," Jesus told him. "I was born into this world to tell about the truth. And everyone who belongs to the truth knows my voice."~

1 John 3:8 CEV ...the Son of God came to destroy all that he [Satan] has done.

⁴⁷ 2 Kings 6:15-17 LITV And the servant of the man of God rose up early and went out. And, behold, an army was surrounding the city, and horses and chariots. And his young man said to him, Alas, my lord! What shall we do? (16) And he said, Do not fear, for those with us *are* more than those with them. (17) And Elisha prayed and said, I beg You, O Jehovah, open his eyes so that he may see. And Jehovah opened the eyes of the young man. And he looked, and behold, the mountain *was* full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.~

establishment of Christ's kingdom⁴⁸ which is bringing an *end* to all war.^{(41) & 49} Since we are all caught in the spiritual war that is

1 Corinthians 1:18-31 BBE (18) For the word of the cross seems foolish to those who are on the way to destruction; but to us who are on the way to salvation it is the power of God. (19) As it says in the holy Writings, I will put an end to the wisdom of the wise, and will put on one side the designs of those who have knowledge. (20) Where is the wise? where is he who has knowledge of the law? where is the man of this world who has a love of discussion? has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? (21) For because, by the purpose of God, the world, with all its wisdom, had not the knowledge of God, it was God's pleasure, by so foolish a thing as preaching, to give salvation to those who had faith in him. (22) Seeing that the Jews make request for signs, and the Greeks are looking for knowledge: (23) But we give the good news of Christ on the cross, a hard thing to the Jews, and a foolish thing to the Gentiles; (24) But to those of God's selection, Jews and Greeks, Christ is the power and the wisdom of God. (25) Because what seems foolish in God is wiser than men; and what seems feeble in God is stronger than men. (26) For you see God's design for you, my brothers, that he has not taken a great number of the wise after the flesh, not the strong, not the noble: (27) But God made selection of the foolish things of this world so that he might put the wise to shame; and the feeble things that he might put to shame the strong; (28) And the low things of the world, and the things without honour, did God make selection of, yes, even the things which are not, so that he might make as nothing the things which are: (29) So that no flesh might have glory before God. (30) But God has given you a place in Christ Jesus, through whom God has given us wisdom and righteousness and salvation, and made us holy: (31) So that, as it is said in the holy Writings, Whoever has a desire for glory, let his glory be in the Lord.

⁴⁸ <http://www.justbibletruth.com/TheComingOfTheKing.html>

⁴⁹ Romans 14:10-13 ALT But why do you judge your brother? Or also, why do you despise [*or, look down on*] your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. (11) For it has been written, "[As] I live, says [*the*] LORD [Jehovah]⁽⁹⁾, every knee will bow to Me, and every tongue will confess to God." [*Isaiah 45:23; cp. Phil 2:10,11*] (12) So, consequently, each of us will give an account concerning himself to God. (13) Therefore, let us no longer be judging one another, but rather, judge [*or, determine*]

this, not to be putting a stumbling-stone before your brother, or an offence [*or, occasion for sin*].~

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 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*]~

1 Corinthians 15:20-28 ALT (20) But now Christ has been raised from [*the*] dead! He became the first-fruits of the ones having fallen asleep [*fig., having died*]. (21) For since by means of a man death [*came*], also by means of a Man [*is*] [*the*] resurrection of [*the*] dead. (22) For just as in Adam all die, in the same way also in Christ all will be given life. (23) But each in his own order, Christ [*the*] first-fruit, afterwards the [*ones*] of Christ at His Arrival. (24) Then the end, when He shall hand over the kingdom to God, even [*the*] Father, when He shall abolish every ruler and every authority and power. (25) For it is necessary [*for*] Him to be reigning until He shall put all the enemies under His feet. (26) [*The*] last enemy being abolished [*is*] death. (27) For 'He put all [*things*] in subjection under His feet.' But when He says that all [*things*] have been subjected, [*it is*] evident that [*this is*] except for the One subjecting all the [*things*] to Him. [*Psalms 8:6*] (28) Now when all the [*things*] are subjected to Him, then the Son also Himself will be subjected to One having subjected all the [*things*] to Him, so that God shall be the all in all.

getting it done, *you* must take a side.⁵⁰ You must choose because it is the right thing to do. God alone is good!⁵¹ The evidence is now clear to all who will see. If we are to have faith in gaining the life God intended us to have, we must support *him* in the war Satan started. **If we are not stationed firmly on the side that is working to expose and destroy the wicked "man of lawlessness", we will likely become casualties of the war.** That seems to be what Paul was saying in Ephesians 6 above.^(page 17) You need to realize: Religion, along with the many nations they influence, comprise a many headed beast.⁵² They all have need of *being exposed*, simply because they are all hiding who they truly are behind a facade of righteousness. All together, these varied religious sects create and represent the man of lawlessness (or man of destruction) Jesus warned about.⁽⁴⁰⁾ As Paul put it: (2 Thessalonians 2:3 GW) (3) Don't let anyone deceive you about this in any way. That day [the Lord 's Day - the "day," representing the end of this wicked system] cannot come unless a revolt takes place first, and the man of sin, the man of destruction, is revealed. Since the rebellion in the Garden of Eden, when Satan *promoted lies* to Eve, it has been lying religious leaders who caused most

⁵⁰ Ecclesiastes 8:8 LITV Man is not a ruler over the spirit, to restrain the spirit; nor has he power in the day of death. And *there is no discharge in that war, nor shall wickedness deliver its possessors.*

⁵¹ Mark 10:18 LITV But Jesus said to him, Why do you call Me good? No one is good except One, God.

⁵² Revelation 17:3-6 CEV With the help of the Spirit, the angel took me into the desert, where I saw a woman sitting on a red beast. The beast was covered with names that were an insult to God, and it had seven heads and ten horns. (4) The woman was dressed in purple and scarlet robes, and she wore jewelry made of gold, precious stones, and pearls. In her hand she held a gold cup filled with the filthy and nasty things she had done. (5) On her forehead a mysterious name was written: I AM THE GREAT CITY OF BABYLON, THE MOTHER OF EVERY IMMORAL AND FILTHY THING ON EARTH. (6) I could tell that the woman was drunk on the blood of God's people who had given their lives for Jesus. This surprising sight amazed me,

problems for humanity; usually, because they love money and/or their own glory among men more than God. [(Luke 16:14-15 MWT) Now the Pharisees, who were money lovers, were listening to all these things, and they began to sneer at him. 15 Consequently he said to them: "You are those who declare yourselves righteous before men, but God knows your hearts; because what is lofty among men is a disgusting thing in God's sight.](³⁵) & (²¹) & ⁵³ "The end" Jesus spoke about, the end of all the suffering of mankind, cannot come until this "man of destruction" gets to be revealed (and destroyed). Each and every part (head) of ~~false religion~~ *religion* has to be exposed in the light of truth. Then, by the choices individual members of these varied religious sects make during their group's exposure, they are being sorted for life or destruction. (They are sorted by their response to the words of Christ Jesus).⁽¹⁰⁾ & (¹²) & (³²) Do you personally see why doing your best to expose those who promote "*religion*" instead of Christianity is so very important? You are in a war and Satan is doing everything he can to kill us all. **Few will join Satan if they actually understand what they are doing. Satan's best tool, then, has been to keep people ignorant.**⁽⁹⁾ He has kept them ignorant by getting them to believe there is no God, or there is no Satan, or even more deceptively, to believe they are protected by being blessed by membership in some group of men (who grant their "sheep" what they arrogantly assert to be God's approval). **What all such people have, you see, is religion!**⁽¹¹⁾ **It is the day of the revelation of Christ! Bible knowledge**⁽⁹⁾ **is washing away the ignorance of religion in the light of truth.** The teachings of Jesus *are* truth.⁵⁴ Building (or changing) who we are in the secret person

⁵³ Luke 11:52 CEV You teachers of the Law of Moses are really in for trouble! You carry the keys to the door of knowledge about God. But you never go in, and you keep others from going in.

⁵⁴ John 8:31-32 ALT So Jesus was saying to the Jews having believed [*or, trusted*] in Him, "If you remain in My word, truly you are My disciples. (32) "And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free!"~

of our heart,⁵⁵ around a foundation of truth, must *be or become* our life.⁽¹²⁾ & ⁵⁶ That is the one and only way we leave ignorance⁽⁹⁾ behind. By **the very act of seeking truth, or of choosing to ignore it, we (as individuals) define whether we are Christian!** So then, recognize and abhor religion. Recognize religion to be the manifestation of the man of lawlessness!⁵⁷ Seek to build a faith based on truth. The teachings of Jesus are from God and they are truth!⁽⁵⁴⁾ & ⁵⁸ Do you comprehend what these teachings of Jesus Christ mean for the majority of mankind? Just think about it! Most among mankind are religious and imagine themselves pleasing to God. Their fruitage (what they do), however, exposes them to be “workers of lawlessness” and a part of the “man of lawlessness.”

Jesus Christ in prayer to his Father: John 17:17 GNB Dedicate them (Jesus’s followers) to yourself by means of the truth; your word is truth.~

Matthew 7:24 CEV Anyone who hears and obeys these teachings of mine is like a wise person who built a house on solid rock.

⁵⁵ 1 Peter 3:3-4 BBE Do not let your ornaments be those of the body such as dressing of the hair, or putting on of jewels of gold or fair clothing; (4) But let them be those of the unseen man of the heart, the ever-shining ornament of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great price in the eyes of God.

⁵⁶ John 17:3-5 CEV Eternal life is to know you, the only true God, and to know Jesus Christ, the one you sent. (4) I have brought glory to you here on earth by doing everything you gave me to do. (5) Now, Father, give me back the glory that I had with you before the world was created.~

Proverbs 30:4 BBE Who has gone up to heaven and come down? who has taken the winds in his hands, prisoning 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?

⁵⁷ <http://www.justbibletruth.com/FailureOfOrganizedReligion.html>

⁵⁸ John 8:28 CEV Jesus went on to say, "When you have lifted up the Son of Man, you will know who I am. You will also know that I don't do anything on my own. I say only what my Father taught me.~

John 5:19 CEV Jesus told the people: I tell you for certain that the Son cannot do anything on his own. He can do only what he sees the Father doing, and he does exactly what he sees the Father do.

They are following other men rather than making themselves Christians by following Jesus.^(Mat 7:21-23 on pg 4) What about you? It's an easy thing to test yourself. Ask yourself two simple questions.

1. Is the religious group you are a part of comprised of real students of Jesus's teachings? Do they actually spend most of their time reading and going over the Gospel accounts of Jesus's life? Or, do they encourage you to expend your energy studying from "Bible study aids"? Do they actually study the scriptures? Reading what some man or group wrote, even when they claim to be explaining the Bible, is not Bible study! (And yes, you must scrutinize what we are saying in the same way.) **2.** What does your group call itself? The Bible teaches God inspired the early followers of Jesus to call themselves, well, "Christians."⁵⁹ That's the only scripturally approved name for those who follow Jesus, period... Almost every religious group has some other name they have chosen to glorify themselves.⁶⁰ Most of them also call themselves Christians, of course, but what is the "distinguishing" name their group is called by? Each of these sectarian groups started as some group of men, most of whom were likely sincere Bible students, but who then decided they needed a name to set themselves apart from the rest of religion. It seems, in their mind, Christian wasn't good enough. So, they called themselves by whatever name they imagined was better. They probably even meant well. The problem they should consider for themselves is this: Did they go beyond what is taught in the scriptures by selecting an unscriptural name?⁶¹ Even if the name they selected

⁵⁹ Acts 11:26 YLT and having found him, he brought him to Antioch, and it came to pass that they a whole year did assemble together in the assembly, and taught a great multitude, the disciples also were divinely called first in Antioch Christians.

⁶⁰ Genesis 11:4 MWT Then they said, "Let's build a city for ourselves and a tower with its top in the heavens. Let's make a great and celebrated name for ourselves, so that we won't become scattered all over the face of the earth."

⁶¹ Galatians 1:8-11 MWT But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you as good news something different from the one we preached to you, let him be accursed! (9) As we have said,

for themselves can be found in the Bible, “Christian” is the only scripturally inspired name for the followers of Jesus.⁽⁵⁹⁾

If you are a wise person (and your spending time and effort to learn what the Bible teaches would indicate you are), you are by now wondering how you can be sure you are not being misled or deceived by this writing. That’s another easy thing to examine. When you finish this booklet, read the Bible book of John through from beginning to end, trying to follow its theme right through.⁶² See if what we herein teach isn’t exactly the same thing Jesus taught. After you read John, read this booklet again. Take note that it is mostly comprised of scriptures. Then, read another of the Gospel books (Matthew, Mark or Luke). Do not be afraid to search for truth! No one can deceive you if you look to the Bible as your one and only source of true knowledge. There are some other Bible study booklets available on justbibletruth.com (linked by the yellow tags on the opening page). The website exists to help you learn what the Bible teaches. The difference between justbibletruth.com, and the worlds many religious sects, is that we always steer you toward the Bible. It is those groups who try and keep you buried in their organizational writings (by calling them Bible study aids) that are deceiving you. It really is so simple! If

I now say again: if anyone preaches to you a gospel that is different from the one you accepted (and is recorded in the Scriptures), let him be accursed! (10) Does this sound as if I am trying to win human approval? No indeed! What I want is God’s approval! Am I trying to be popular with people? If I were still trying to do so, I would not be a servant of Christ. (11) Let me tell you, my friends, that the gospel I preach is not of human origin.~

1 Corinthians 4:6 MWT I have applied all these things [Christian teachings] to myself and to Apollos for your benefit, brothers, that you may learn through us this rule: do not to go beyond what is written in scripture, that none of you may become puffed up in favor of one against another.⁽⁵⁹⁾

⁶² Acts 17:11 ALT Now these [*from Berea*] were more noble-minded [*than*] the [*ones*] in Thessalonica, who received the word with all [*fig., great*] eagerness, every day examining the Scriptures [*to see*] if these things might be so.

you want to be a Christian, learn what Jesus taught and let other people know where you learned that truth, doing so by identifying yourself as a Christian; not as a member of some sectarian group who imagines salvation is tied to an approved membership in their particular faction of the “man of lawlessness.” Share what Jesus taught.⁶³

God’s peace upon all who seek peace and pursue it.⁶⁴

⁶³ Acts 8:32-35 Darby And the passage of the scripture which he read was this: He was led as a sheep to slaughter, and as a lamb is dumb in presence of him that shears him, thus he opens not his mouth. (33) In his humiliation his judgment has been taken away, and who shall declare his generation? for his life is taken from the earth. (34) And the eunuch answering Philip said, I pray thee, concerning whom does the prophet say this? of himself or of some other? (35) And Philip, opening his mouth and beginning from that scripture, announced the glad tidings of Jesus to him.~
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.~
1 Peter 3:20b Darby ... when the longsuffering of God waited in *the* days of Noah while the ark was preparing, into which few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water:~
Psalms 37:34 LITV Wait on Jehovah⁽²⁾ and keep His way; and He shall exalt you to inherit the earth; you shall see when the wicked are cut off.

⁶⁴ Psalms 34:12-16 MWT Who is the man that is delighting in life, that is loving enough days to see what is good? (13) Keep your tongue from what is bad, and your lips from speaking deceit. (14) Turn aside from evil and do good, seek peace and pursue it. (15) The eyes of Jehovah *are* on the righteous, And His ears toward their cry for help. (16) The face of Jehovah *is* against doers of evil, to cut off the mention of them from the very earth.

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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

Our world is in turmoil. It is filled with soothsayers who tell us not to worry, all will be well, their sect has the solution. Jesus warned these days would come: **(Matthew 24:7-8 & 11-14 MWT)** ⁷ "For nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be food shortages and earthquakes in one place after another. ⁸ All these things are a beginning of pangs of distress... ¹¹ And many false prophets will arise and mislead many; ¹² and because of the increasing of lawlessness the love of the greater number will cool off. ¹³ But he that has endured to the end is the one that will be saved. ¹⁴ And this good news of the kingdom will be preached in all the inhabited earth for a witness to all the nations; and then the end will come.

Jesus also told us how very bad it would get: **(Matthew 24:21, 22 MWT)** ²¹ for then there will be great tribulation such as has not occurred since the world's beginning until now, no, nor will occur again. ²² In fact, unless those days were cut short, no flesh would be saved; but on account of the ones being chosen, those days will be cut short.

You can gain life and be spared the fate of this old world system and its kingdoms. They have been weighed and found wanting.⁶⁵ Find life and deliverance in the teachings of Jesus Christ.

⁶⁵ **(Daniel 5:26, 27)** ²⁶ "This is the interpretation of the word: ME'NE, God has numbered the days of your kingdom and has finished it. ²⁷ "TE'KEL, you have been weighed in the balances and have been found deficient.