

Key to Understanding Christianity

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2 Remember

The most important thing spiritually is to spend time with God. Spending time with God is spiritual warfare.

3 Me

3.1 Background

I have had a roadblock in my faith in Christ, because I was afraid God would have me do something very painful, but recently it has become apparent (I have been convinced) that I need God in all aspects of my life, being, decisions, and actions without caveat (without conditions). I have been aware for a long time that repetition of anything is one of the most effective way to change someone's mind, but only recently realized how effective and quickly that can work (both good and bad). When I was taking classes in college (I never graduated) in graphic design for journalists, I learned that it is very important what things you put into your head. Be very careful what you read or watch online.

When I was first writing my books, I used to try to find others with similar

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views as I online, but ended up finding some really creative but very dark theological ideas. The Internet and our world culture in general is a place where you cannot believe what you see or depend on something being what it claims to be. There is no more (if there ever was) integrity of data (there is no way to verify if something is true or if someone changed something in any publication or bit of information). We really need to default to not trusting anyone and need to put our own salvation above that of others, at any cost.

At this point, my number one interest in bringing people to God is keeping myself near God as I think it is enough of a challenge to save myself. And the only one who I can really control and make decisions for is myself. There will likely be more Bible verses on my site in the future and for those who that bothers, my website is only one among billions of others, so exercise your free choice by finding something else to read.

3.2 Stepping Forward

Chained to myself
One hand tied to another
My left against my right
My enemy is my conjoined twin
How can I wrestle out?
What is within me?
I can feel the subtle compromises
I cannot run away fast enough
I fight even in my sleep
Who can help me from myself?
Calling out to God in the middle of the night
I can barely stay above the dark waters
It is so cold that all I can feel is my heart
What do I do after I emerge?
Like taking off a suit of armor
That has transformed from protective gear
To a hazard and a danger
Each step is still painful
I can still feel the weight of the cold steel
But the weight lessons as I walk away

What counts as a useful life?
How do we find purpose
When there is no freedom in our hearts?
Like swatting at a mosquito
While we die of food poisoning
We cannot see 2 feet directly in front of us

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Maybe it is time to bring God back
How can we do the right thing
When none of us is good?
If we cannot agree on the existence of God
And accept responsibility for our choices
Who do we think we are
Preaching to the older citizens of this world?
When we can barely survive
Having too much to eat
And our only thought is how do I make my life easier
Maybe we are on the internet too much

3.3 The Road Untravelled

Less knowledge is a blessing
Conflict is a great sign
We think too much
And act too little
The things that seem little
Are often the most significant
Sometimes it is not the outcome
But the process that brings significance
Unresolved conflict is not just a lesson
It is a purpose in itself
Knowing which direction to go
Does not always provide meaning
You have to step forward in your mind
Before your body will follow
Changing your own mind
Has greater significance
Than bringing new people to Christ
It is within our own church
That we face the greatest threats
Faith is acting without full knowledge
Wisdom sometimes gives more questions
When we often prefer definite answers
There is freedom in Christ to make different choices
What is most important is The Who
What we need to know is obvious to us
The rest we will understand at the right time
You cannot travel back or forward in time
You have to live your life chronologically
But your mind and spirit are more free
What if you could return your mind
To an earlier state
So many things we battle are mostly mental
The actual events are less important
Your decisions are often spiritually significant
Everything you need to know you will know
Your mind may be weak
But your spirit is still strong
Sometimes we face uncertainty
The choice is ours
Sometimes going in any direction
Is the truly important decision
We need not remember the commandments or verses
We have the law written in our hearts

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People were making spiritual decisions long before
Anything was written down
Only the simplest questions have step by step directions
When it is not clear what to do
It is your choice
God is very clear when it is important
Gods voice grows louder when it is more important
When you are making bad decisions it is obvious
Unbelievers are often very confident without faith
We can be confident too if we want to

3.4 Makes Me Weaker

Whatever doesn't kill me, makes me stronger — Russian proverb famously attributed to Nietzsche.

Many people go through life learning and growing and getting stronger through wisdom as their body often becomes worn down. I am experiencing the opposite. I seem to be in good health but sometimes I think my mind is getting worse. I see more and more weak I am over time.

I doubt more and more things I was so sure of in the past. One of the things that keeps surprising me is how people feel intimidated by me. I just can't comprehend is how they see me as so strong.

I am having more trouble with my paranoia and voices. It feels like there will be big changes in the world and my life this year. I am finishing up on a 20 year project and can think of many things to do, but I am still way more ambitious than I have the energy to do.

I feel I need God even more than ever before. I have put so much in my 20 year long project that I am now doubting much about it. Who am I to give advice on anything?

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I have tried to stay away from things I know nothing about like relationships. Unless you include my stuffed toys and the voices in my head. I am realizing more and more now about God. Did you know that “merely” spending time with God is the secret to spiritual warfare?

I always thought that going to church was about strengthening your faith and I was stubborn enough that I knew I would never change that about myself. I guess I thought low enough of myself that I would never even be tempted to be arrogant in any way.

I have realized now that why I like to talk about world problems is not because I have a unique perspective or that I have studied a different part of history or that I am good at teaching but because it is easier than dealing with my own problems.

I have so much on my plate now dealing just with my symptoms but one of the best ways I know how to cope with them is to keep busy. Maybe I am still too ambitious.

I just look at all the volunteer jobs and am not qualified for most of them or I don't think I have the energy to go through all the steps to be considered. I find writing very fulfilling but only do that well when inspired.

I am so burned out with my website after 20 years. I seem to spend half the time backing things up and the other half fixing simple errors and trying to get thing to work. And most people want to make everything even more complicated.

All I can say for it is the tools and support have improved a lot over the years and I have learned how to avoid a lot of the complexity. I know the history of web design and so can appreciate that it is actually better than before. I can

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spot things that are unlikely to be supported a few years from now.

In tech you have to time things right. If the infrastructure in our country is ever updated, it will be literally 1,000 or more simple to do later updates. It comes from how stupid and literal computers are and that things that make computers easier for us to use tend to be much more complicated and error prone for the computer to do.

A computer is very fast but does not know the difference between photos and drawings or spoken audio and music. On a certain level all it does is turn off and on different parts like Morse code or putting down a zero or a one.

Since computer security also known as malicious creativity plus too much time has gotten so bad, I do not trust the integrity of any data. Even the most responsible group usually has at least one irresponsible, cheap, or clueless person who making a seemingly simple and obvious decision opens everyone else's stuff to hackers. Even the best software has enough holes in it to make it easy for someone to break in with enough time and motivation.

We are so afraid of China sending a fleet over to attack us or get shot by a shooter at a school, which are both very unlikely but are not afraid of losing our savings or be sent to prison for someone else's crime. Just like the Church or an individual, the greatest enemy is your neighbor and yourself.

So how does one create now and share it with others without the risk? I guess one has to choose. Most people don't even think about this but most people haven't created anything they value on computers. Or at least I hope they don't.

At least we can still buy ink and printers. Imagine going online to buy a pen and paying extra to get it without advertisements and tracking.

And I remember watching a film the other day about Winston Churchill. Churchill reminded me of Trump and he took huge risks that lost the British their empire. How would he respond to his own countries recent decisions on spying on its citizens?

It is so much simpler to solve problems for someone else, then to solve your own problems.

3.5 Words of Encouragement

The world we live in today is a discouraging place and many of our problems are global. Our world is a result of us having way too much power long before we had gained the maturity and self knowledge to use our resources responsibly. Things can not expand indefinitely. Even if we reached a solution to our energy needs, we would use more. And we are all part of the problem by just living in this society.

At the same time, we have big problems with religion and self control as well. Americans are turned on each other, both having some wisdom and nuttiness on both sides. Unfortunately we cannot agree to disagree. And our differences with some of the more religious parts of the world we are renewing a conflict of more than a millennia and the other side is shocked at why the other parts of the world want to wage war against us. In many ways, life is so good to us here that we actually fear death as a society, but we are less happy than those with much less money and power.

Our understanding of each other is poor, but our understanding of ourselves is worse. We even have it documented now that there are groups in the world

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trying to increase our conflict. The interesting thing is that the division was created within and only enhanced due to outside involvement. This is very much how evil forces manipulate us is to find our biggest problems and magnify them as we make bad choices.

In my life, I am trying to get closer to God but for some reason I still seem to see spending time with God a chore rather than a joy to look forward to. Some of the ideas talked about in the sermons some of the greatest pastors of our time give are spot on but maybe long beyond our reach. Just like the media who has to make the news interesting each week, I think some pastors feel a need to challenge their members way beyond where they are at with their spiritual life.

There are a lot of positive things going on in the world today and my life. There have been a number of decades long conflicts that have been peacefully resolved in the last few years. There has actually been a drop in global violence lately. Americans are afraid of the Chinese, Russians, and ISIS but most of their power over us is fear. You hear about them, on the news so much because they want to be covered.

They are not anywhere near as powerful as they claim. China is not anywhere near as wealthy as us and the Russians have a military that could only fight one small war across the globe. The US was able to wage two giant wars across the edge of the world in some of the most violent places on earth both weather and conflict wise. Also the Russians and Chinese hate each other and have nuclear missiles pointed at each other for decades.

The only obstacle the US is facing in the military is to continue to use software in place of people as it gets less and less recruits. It is good people in America do not rush out to join the military in great numbers. They feel they have greater opportunities elsewhere. This automation is not far fetched at all

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factoring in what the general commercial technology available on the consumer market alone.

The major reason why the military computers look antiquated is because they have to be much more reliable and they are interested in how to do their job best in how they design software. Consumer software has to look pretty but the military has serious things to do. Also, what you see on TV about future weapons of the US military, they are currently being used. The government goes to great lengths to hid its exact capabilities.

Some of the best security experts in the world and looked at the virus sent by the US and Israel against Iran nuclear efforts and estimated this technology which they allowed the world to see is 20 years ahead of the rest of the worlds technology. It sounds like they can scan software and find any security problems in it just be software based analysis. This would totally change the security of information and computers. They are likely much farther ahead than that but just needed that level of software innovation to solve the immediate problem.

So I have written about 20 collections of about 3 books each totaling at least 1,000-1,500 pages over the last 20 years. I have developed my own unique combination of Christian Existentialism and Philosophical Taoism, talked about my experiences being in the military and being mentally ill for many years, my paradoxical look at biblical theology, world history between ancient and modern times, future trends including disaster survival and global warming, and technology books about general computing, web design, and tech people sociology.

I have found a way to be happy and feel I am changing the world that anyone can follow and is not risky in any way, not costly or complicated, and is more effective than anything else you can do. Before you try to change the world,

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try changing yourself. You might find you can do both at the same time.

Jesus said that people need physical healing but a more important need we have is the forgiveness of sins. The small decisions no one else sees are usually more important. The spiritual world is much bigger and more important than the physical world but operates on different laws just like comparing economics to psychology, even though they are tightly related.

Faith is the key to understanding spiritual things and forgiveness is the key to understanding God.

3.6 On Buying a Printer

How does a person create
Without fear of loss
How does a person lose their creation
Without losing their heart
Each page I write
Each design I code
Every step and everyday
I must fight my own mistakes
And make a thousand copies
It is great to send things around the world
Instantly sending out the latest updates
Within a few seconds
What is not so great is somehow finding
Someone locked you out of your own creations
Sometimes a tool that has less capabilities
Is a blessing
And sometimes the instantaneousness
can feed an addiction
Is it better having been seen less
Across the world
Or risk the loss of a lifetime of work
Sometimes the most profound choice
Is to do nothing or simply wait
Maybe there is just too much to do
And maybe I am just too tired
I want to help others
But maybe I could do something
That requires less housework
Maybe I could be creative
Without piling up a stack of work
Maybe I will just buy a printer
While they still make them

4 Society

4.1 God and Spiritual Warfare

The critical difference between Christianity and all other religions is that the Christian God is the one, true, all-powerful God. He has the power which He will give you freely that will permanently kill all your demons for you. It is not a matter of trying harder. It is about surrendering your entire life and choices to Christ.

You are the only thing blocking your recovery and your victory over death. Christ has already won the entire war against death and immorality (sin). You need not fight your battles alone. You need to not engage evil at battle at all.

Flee from evil (bad situations) and use the Bible as your only weapon. No one can force you to do evil. You have to believe that you are fully responsible for the bad choices in your life. If you didn't have the strength to make those choices, how are you going to have the strength to choose not to do those bad things (when you are tempted again)?

Do not fight evil! Surrender to God, flee from evil, and let God change your mind, so that you can make better choices. Then make better choices. The devil is not your enemy: you are your own greatest enemy.

How do you get stronger and let God change your mind? Accept Christ as your God and Savior, read the Bible, go to church, and pray. The answers are not difficult to understand. Spiritual things just work according to different laws than those in the physical, legal, and economic worlds.

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Faith is the key to understanding God. Choose to believe that you will overcome, thank Him for the good things in your life, and pray for spiritual things that are consistent with the Bible. Then keep praying, listening, and waiting. God will do things in His own timing and way. Be careful what you pray for, because it is likely God will make it so, if you ask for the right things.

Prayer is simply talking to God. You need to listen and thank as well as ask. God wants more for you than just experiencing His intervention when you are in an emergency. Prayer is not a punishment. It is a great honor that He who created the universe chooses to talk to us, who we can all agree screwed up a literal paradise God carefully and generously set up for us into a world full of suffering.

4.2 Paradox of Fighting without an Enemy

Many people ask how can I fight evil by just allowing God to do all the fighting for me? It is a struggle, just not an outward one and not one we should fight via psychological or physical means. We all depend on God whether we acknowledge it or not. This does mean we should give up. We are always responsible for our own actions and our relationship with God.

Most of the spiritual battle takes place in the mind, so accept Christ as your God and Savior, read the Bible, go to church, and pray. You will learn in church to pray and read the Bible, learn to pray and go to church in the Bible, and learn in prayer to read the Bible and go to church. This is a kind of Zen concept where you are in a continual repeating cycle and the process being the result.

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Christianity is about getting close to God and that happens by making Christ your habit or anti-addiction. This process is not for you to comprehend concepts you never heard of. These tools are there for you to transform your mind and strengthen you spiritually. People do not change their minds based on argument, but rather on repetition and major life experiences.

That is why we practice Christianity the way we do. It is like the ads we see on TV or the logos we see on everything we buy. The fight for peace is less about fighting the devil and more like surrendering to Christ. Any fighting against external spiritual evil should only be done with the Bible as a weapon.

The "battle" is the combination of your surrendering your will to God while accepting complete responsibility for your immoral decisions, and then resisting temptation. God is always beside us and will provide the necessary difference in strength necessary to overcome our spiritual problems, once we choose to work with Him and on His side. God is always helping us - it is only that we either resist God or do not cooperate that causes us to get over our heads in immorality.

If you are at a boring time in your life in general or specifically spiritual one, this is probably because you need the rest and/or you are already on the right path. I have generally felt closest to God during crisis in my life. I actually hope for a boring life for the rest of my natural life on earth as exciting is generally painful.

4.3 The Key to Living Christianity

Christianity is like a reverse or counter addiction. That is why many recovering addicts have turned to Christ and Christianity for help. The point of

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Christianity is not just to avoid Hell, but to avoid it on earth as well. Do you really want to be counter culture and resist the mainstream world? This is why living Christianity involves submitting your will to God, reading the Bible, praying, going to Church, and giving to the needy. This is similar to the five pillars (basic commands) of Islam (although totally different in theology).

You need to spend a lot of time and effort, to avoid being truly a passive consumer/follower, as your primary role in life. But this is not a chore, like going to the bathroom. It is to be a joy, like eating. The way bad Christians act, that turns people off to Christianity, is not part of any denomination of Christianity's doctrine and is directly and specifically forbidden in the Bible. You will find that in being a Christian, you will have aspects of your life and attitude that turns others off to Christ.

The frustrating part is that the people who create the most problems in the Church tend to be the least critical of themselves, and you have the nicest people constantly beating themselves up and getting discouraged over minor mistakes. Remember, Church is not a building, organization, or network. The Church is the spiritual entity that is the female counterpart to Jesus Christ. We serve Jesus Christ, and should be loyal to Him (personally), Who is there to help return us to think like we did as children and undo what the mainstream culture has taken away.

No matter how many books you read, you will never find wisdom or joy, until you find the Christian God and make Him the first part of your daily routine. It is ok to question God and still believe in Him. One of the things that bothers me about Christianity is suffering. It makes it hard to fully trust God. But God did not create suffering, did not promise to rid us of it, and very often intervenes to stop it. So it is unfair to hold it against Him, but the emotions are not very rational.

The answer is just like the most common answers to teachers questions in Sunday school: Jesus, go to Church, read the Bible, and pray. None of these is essential to being Christian, but going to Heaven and being happy in life are not essential either. Do you want to be judged by what you have done or by God's free and unconditional gift of forgiveness (always available to all)? Living your life for God and spending time with Him is a privilege, not a duty and is for us, not God. Remember, He made us to be in constant connection with Him and without this connection, we suffer.

4.4 The Key to Being Spiritually Healthy

In addition to being physical and emotional life forms, people are also spiritual and just like your mind and body must be taken care of to live a happy life, so your soul needs care as well. Not staying close to God and hearing His message continually can make you weak spiritually. The world is getting darker and darker, so we as Christians should stand out more and more from the general population.

One of the things you need to keep your spirit healthy is to continue to follow your conscience and not dismiss it or ignore it. Feeling fear or repulsion to things that appear good is a sign that they are not. One of the biggest signs something is bad for you is that someone offers you an easy shortcut to solving a difficult problem. Another sign is when you find a loophole or parallel way to ignore your inner voice instead of really avoiding the entire category of the problem.

An example of this situation is studying in school. It is hard to discipline

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yourself to study and so many people have resorted to taking a pill, to help them focus. It can still be legal and not show any bad side effects, but later you realize that it has prematurely aged your brain (you have increased your chance of dementia, as you age).

Another example is that people take a medicine for pain relief from their doctor but later on they realize they are now addicted to it. Then, when they need the pain medicine for something temporary like a surgery, it may not work as well and they have to choose between being in a huge amount of pain or in having to re fight their addiction.

Some medicines must be taken and if they are not, then that is the reason for a greatly worsened condition. If you don't take your heart, cholesterol, or high blood pressure medicine, you can die without warning. Many mentally ill people feel so much better after taking their medicine for a long time that they then decide they don't need it anymore. Then they end up back in the hospital.

No matter who you are or how strong your faith is or how well you know scripture, you need support that you can only get through hearing scripture. There is no substitute or good enough reason to not take the time and effort to keep close to God by hearing His Word daily. There are also many ways to do this with modern technology, so not being able to go to church is not a good enough reason.

4.5 On Problems in the Church

I think the Church is like the Army or any large group of people is that it is a reflection of the greater society it is in. I think most Bible believing Christian organizations as a whole have and continue to do as much as they can think of

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to appeal to every demographic. We have to at some point accept that the Church will never be perfect and one organization cannot alone be all things to all people (only Christ and Scripture can).

We are spoiled in America so much that many people are more worried about their future after death than dealing with problems in life. We don't need Christian versions of everything and to keep pursuing a perfect Church community and perfect theology. We continue to try to change our world socially, but what goes on in the Church is much more important prophetically, as it is one of the biggest targets spiritually.

But there is always more we can do and we should not get discouraged to the point of giving up, because society as a whole has rejected Christianity. Every person (and animal) is worth fighting for. The good part is the war on doctrine has been won conclusively as most young people in America know little about the Bible at all.

God will never give up on us and so we should never give up on others. We need to just keep following the voice of God and our conscience. The rest God will work out. Keeping to the faith, while patiently waiting for deliverance is what faith is about. Faith in Christ does not often provide very visual or immediate feedback.

4.6 Glamorizing Dangerous Behavior

Hollywood is well known for glamorizing sex and violence. This means that they minimize the negative consequences and portray this behavior as having good outcomes. Why does the church constantly talk about money and sex almost exclusively? These are the two biggest things that cause life changing problems in most people's lives.

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Although I would argue that Hollywood is conservative not liberal because it is a giant business motivated by money, it is definitely corrupt. Are violence and sexual immorality made worse by Hollywood or are they merely a reflection of society? Both are probably true. It goes in a unvirtuous cycle.

I think many people believe that the way we think does not affect the way we act and what other people do in their private lives is not our business. We make this huge distinction between action and thought although the one directly affects the other. This brings us to what have historically been called deviant behavior and vice.

Gambling, sex outside marriage, drug use, aggressive pan handling, traffic violations, bullying, gossip, dirty words and jokes, and the like are slowly being legalized and this can and does affect others. I think it is great that we do not discriminate or bully people who have made different life choices like different choice of religion, political views, spoken or written language, subculture or ways people are born. The thing is though that we have to agree on some basic moral standards or society will slowly get worse and worse by all measures.

I see how the media and military recruiters glamorize the military. They only show the exciting parts and not the terrifying, painful, risky, stressful, difficult and monotonous parts. The military basically has a price on your head and you are not worth a cent more to them. From a Marine's perspective, combat is 80% boredom and 20% terror.

You are exposed to toxic chemicals in one way or another in almost any job in the military. You also do not get most of the education, financial, and vacation benefits they claim you get. If you leave early which usually takes the intervention of a US senator, you are almost guaranteed a discharge that although not dishonorable will not qualify you for any VA benefits when you

get out.

You are paid so little that as most soldiers now have families, it is common to be on food stamps in the military. The military justice system is truly brutal as you always get a civilian penalty in addition to a military penalty. You can get fined 1/3 your monthly salary and get 2-4 hours extra duty a night for 2 weeks for very minor infractions that wouldn't be a crime in any other jurisdiction.

If you fail out of your chosen career in the military, they reassign you in the Army to another career that is the job that is hardest to fill, and in the Navy you lose your rate so you have no guarantee of what you will be doing. If your kids ever do anything bad or you miss a payment on your car, God help you. Most people do not stay in for another enlistment because they try to get out as soon as possible as few people in the military would stay in if they could leave.

This is why I think bible believing Christians tend to be conservative socially.

4.7 Steps from Sin to Repentance

Sin

Darkness

Law

Desire

Temptation

Eyes

Heart

Tongue

Pride

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Hypocrisy

Idolatry

Lying

Evil

Blood

Judgment

Repentance

Belief

Seek

Prayer

Shame

Meekness

Mercy

Sacrifice

Deliverance

Salvation

Clean

Thanksgiving

Learning

Truth

Wisdom

Faithfulness

Blessing

Peace

Trust

Strength

Understanding

Help

Poor

Needy
Light

5 Introductory Quotes

5.1 1 John 1:4-10

"And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full. This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us." --1 John 1:4-10

"and these things we write, that our joy may be made full. And this is the message which we have heard from him and announce unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him and walk in the darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: but if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanseth us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us." --1 John 1:4-10 (American Standard Version)

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"And we are writing these things to you so that our joy may be made complete. This is the word which came to us from him and which we give to you, that God is light and in him there is nothing dark. If we say we are joined to him, and are walking still in the dark, our words are false and our acts are untrue: But if we are walking in the light, as he is in the light, we are all united with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son makes us clean from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we are false to ourselves and there is nothing true in us. If we say openly that we have done wrong, he is upright and true to his word, giving us forgiveness of sins and making us clean from all evil. If we say that we have no sin, we make him false and his word is not in us." --1 John 1:4-10 (Bible in Basic English)

"And we write these things, that our joy may be fulfilled. This is the message which we have heard from him and announce to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him and walk in the darkness, we lie, and do not tell the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us the sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us." --1 John 1:4-10 (New Heart English Bible)

"And this we write to you, so that you may rejoice, and so that your joy may be full. And this is the announcement which we have heard from him, and which we announce to you: that God is light, and in him there is no darkness. If we claim that we have fellowship with him, and yet we walk in darkness, then we are lying and not telling the truth. But if we walk in the light, just as he also is in the light, then we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, cleanses us from all sin. If we claim that we have no sin, then

we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, then he is faithful and just, so as to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all iniquity. If we claim that we have not sinned, then we make him a liar, and his word is not in us." --1 John 1:4-10 (Catholic Public Domain Version)

5.2 Psalm 139:1-12

"O lord, thou hast searched me, and known me. Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off. Thou compassest my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word in my tongue, but, lo, O Lord, thou knowest it altogether. Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid thine hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain unto it. Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me. If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me. Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to thee." --Psalm 139:1-12

"O Jehovah, thou hast searched me, and known me. Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising; Thou understandest my thought afar off. Thou searchest out my path and my lying down, And art acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word in my tongue, But, lo, O Jehovah, thou knowest it altogether. Thou hast beset me behind and before, And laid thy hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is high, I cannot attain unto it. Whither shall I go from thy spirit? Or whither shall I flee from thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, thou

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art there. If I take the wings of the morning, And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; Even there shall thy hand lead me, And thy right hand shall hold me. If I say, Surely the darkness shall overwhelm me, And the light about me shall be night; Even the darkness hideth not from thee, But the night shineth as the day: The darkness and the light are both alike to thee." --Psalm 139:1-12 (American Standard Version)

"O Lord, you have knowledge of me, searching out all my secrets. You have knowledge when I am seated and when I get up, you see my thoughts from far away. You keep watch over my steps and my sleep, and have knowledge of all my ways. For there is not a word on my tongue which is not clear to you, O Lord. I am shut in by you on every side, and you have put your hand on me. Such knowledge is a wonder greater than my powers; it is so high that I may not come near it. Where may I go from your spirit? how may I go in flight from you? If I go up to heaven, you are there: or if I make my bed in the underworld, you are there. If I take the wings of the morning, and go to the farthest parts of the sea; Even there will I be guided by your hand, and your right hand will keep me. If I say, Only let me be covered by the dark, and the light about me be night; Even the dark is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day: for dark and light are the same to you." --Psalm 139:1-12 (Bible in Basic English)

"Lord, you have searched me, and you know me. You know my sitting down and my rising up. You perceive my thoughts from afar. You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word on my tongue, but, behold, Lord, you know it altogether. You hem me in behind and before. You laid your hand on me. This knowledge is beyond me. It's lofty. I can't attain it. Where could I go from your spirit? Or where could I flee from your presence? If I ascend up into heaven, you are there. If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, you are there! If I take the wings of the dawn, and settle in the uttermost parts of the sea; Even there your hand will lead me, and your right hand will hold me. If I say, "Surely the darkness will overwhelm me; the light

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around me will be night;" even the darkness doesn't hide from you, but the night shines as the day. The darkness is like light to you." --Psalm 139:1-12 (New Heart English Bible)

"O Lord, you have examined me, and you have known me. You have known my sitting down and my rising up again. You have understood my thoughts from afar. My path and my fate, you have investigated. And you have foreseen all my ways. For there is no word in my tongue. Behold, O Lord, you have known all things: the newest and the very old. You have formed me, and you have placed your hand over me. Your knowledge has become a wonder to me. It has been reinforced, and I am not able to prevail against it. Where will I go from your spirit? And where will I flee from your face? If I ascend into heaven, you are there. If I descend into hell, you are near. If I assume my feathers in early morning, and dwell in the utmost parts of the sea, even there, your hand will lead me forth, and your right hand will hold me. And I said: Perhaps darkness will overwhelm me, and the night will be my illumination, to my delight. But darkness will not be impenetrable to you, and night will illuminate like the day: for just as its darkness is, so also is its light." --Psalm 139:1-12 (Catholic Public Domain Version)

5.3 Psalm 69:1-12

"Save me, O God; for the waters are come in unto my soul. I sink in deep mire, where there is no standing: I am come into deep waters, where the floods overflow me. I am weary of my crying: my throat is dried: mine eyes fail while I wait for my God. They that hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of mine head: they that would destroy me, being mine enemies wrongfully, are mighty: then I restored that which I took not away. O God, thou knowest my foolishness; and my sins are not hid from thee. Let not them that wait on thee,

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O Lord God of hosts, be ashamed for my sake: let not those that seek thee be confounded for my sake, O God of Israel. Because for thy sake I have borne reproach; shame hath covered my face. I am become a stranger unto my brethren, and an alien unto my mother's children. For the zeal of thine house hath eaten me up; and the reproaches of them that reproached thee are fallen upon me. When I wept, and chastened my soul with fasting, that was to my reproach. I made sackcloth also my garment; and I became a proverb to them. They that sit in the gate speak against me; and I was the song of the drunkards." --Psalm 69:1-12

"Save me, O God; For the waters are come in unto my soul. I sink in deep mire, where there is no standing: I am come into deep waters, where the floods overflow me. I am weary with my crying; my throat is dried: Mine eyes fail while I wait for my God. They that hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of my head: They that would cut me off, being mine enemies wrongfully, are mighty: That which I took not away I have to restore. O God, thou knowest my foolishness; And my sins are not hid from thee. Let not them that wait for thee be put to shame through me, O Lord Jehovah of hosts: Let not those that seek thee be brought to dishonor through me, O God of Israel. Because for thy sake I have borne reproach; shame hath covered my face. I am become a stranger unto my brethren, And an alien unto my mother's children. For the zeal of thy house hath eaten me up; And the reproaches of them that reproach thee are fallen upon me. When I wept, and chastened my soul with fasting, That was to my reproach. When I made sackcloth my clothing, I became a byword unto them. They that sit in the gate talk of me; And I am the song of the drunkards." --Psalm 69:1-12 (American Standard Version)

"Be my saviour, O God; because the waters have come in, even to my neck. My feet are deep in the soft earth, where there is no support; I have come into deep waters, the waves are flowing over me. I am tired with my crying; my throat is burning: my eyes are wasted with waiting for my God. Those who have

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hate for me without cause are greater in number than the hairs of my head; those who are against me, falsely desiring my destruction, are very strong; I gave back what I had not taken away. O God, you see how foolish I am; and my wrongdoing is clear to you. Let not those who have hope in you be put to shame because of me, O Lord God of armies: let not those who are waiting for you be made low because of me, O God of Israel. I have been wounded with sharp words because of you; my face has been covered with shame. I have become strange to my brothers, and like a man from a far country to my mother's children. I am on fire with passion for your house; and the hard things which are said about you have come on me. My bitter weeping, and my going without food, were turned to my shame. When I put on the clothing of grief, they said evil of me. I am a cause of wonder to those in authority; a song to those who are given to strong drink." --Psalm 69:1-12 (Bible in Basic English)

"Save me, God, for the waters have come up to my neck! I sink in deep mire, where there is no foothold. I have come into deep waters, where the floods overflow me. I am weary with my crying. My throat is dry. My eyes fail, looking for my God. Those who hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of my head. Those who want to cut me off, being my enemies wrongfully, are mighty. I have to restore what I did not take away. God, you know my foolishness. My sins aren't hidden from you. Do not let those who wait for you be shamed through me, Lord God of Hosts. Do not let those who seek you be brought to dishonor through me, God of Israel. Because for your sake, I have borne reproach. shame has covered my face. I have become a stranger to my brothers, a foreigner to my mother's children. For the zeal of your house consumes me. The reproaches of those who reproach you have fallen on me. When I wept and I fasted, that was to my reproach. When I made sackcloth my clothing, I became a byword to them. Those who sit in the gate talk about me. I am the song of the drunkards." --Psalm 69:1-12 (New Heart English Bible)

"Save me, O God, for the waters have entered, even to my soul. I have become

stuck in a deep quagmire, and there is no firm footing. I have arrived at the height of the sea, and a tempest has overwhelmed me. I have endured hardships, while crying out. My jaws have become hoarse; my eyes have failed. Meanwhile, I hope in my God. Those who hate me without cause have been multiplied beyond the hairs of my head. My enemies, who persecuted me unjustly, have been strengthened. Then I was required to pay for what I did not take. O God, you know my foolishness, and my offenses have not been hidden from you. Let those who wait for you, O Lord, the Lord of hosts, not be shamed in me. Let those who seek you, O God of Israel, not be confounded over me. For because of you, I have endured reproach; confusion has covered my face. I have become a stranger to my brothers and a sojourner to the sons of my mother. For zeal for your house has consumed me, and the reproaches of those who reproached you have fallen upon me. And I covered my soul with fasting, and it has become a reproach to me. And I put on a haircloth as my garment, and I became a parable to them. Those who sat at the gate spoke against me, and those who drank wine made me their song." --Psalm 69:1-12 (Catholic Public Domain Version)

5.4 Matthew 9:2-8

"And, behold, they brought to him a man sick of the palsy, lying on a bed: and Jesus seeing their faith said unto the sick of the palsy; Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee. And, behold, certain of the scribes said within themselves, This man blasphemeth. And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts? For whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and walk? But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (then saith he to the sick of the palsy,) Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house. And he arose, and departed to his house. But when the multitudes saw it, they marvelled, and

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glorified God, which had given such power unto men." --Matthew 9:2-8

"And behold, they brought to him a man sick of the palsy, lying on a bed: and Jesus seeing their faith said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, be of good cheer; thy sins are forgiven. And behold, certain of the scribes said within themselves, This man blasphemeth. And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say, Thy sins are forgiven; or to say, Arise, and walk? But that ye may know that the Son of man hath authority on earth to forgive sins (then saith he to the sick of the palsy), Arise, and take up thy bed, and go unto thy house. And he arose, and departed to his house. But when the multitudes saw it, they were afraid, and glorified God, who had given such authority unto men." --Matthew 9:2-8 (American Standard Version)

"And they took to him a man stretched on a bed who had no power of moving; and Jesus, seeing their faith, said to the man who was ill, Son, take heart; you have forgiveness for your sins. And some of the scribes said among themselves, This man has no respect for God. And Jesus, having knowledge of what was in their minds, said, Why are your thoughts evil? For which is the simpler, to say, You have forgiveness for your sins; or to say, Get up and go? But so that you may see that on earth the Son of man has authority for the forgiveness of sins, (then said he to the man who was ill,) Get up, and take up your bed, and go to your house. And he got up and went away to his house. But when the people saw it they were full of fear, and gave glory to God who had given such authority to men." --Matthew 9:2-8 (Bible in Basic English)

"And behold, they brought to him a man who was paralyzed, lying on a bed. And Jesus, seeing their faith, said to the paralytic, "Son, cheer up! Your sins are forgiven." And behold, some of the scribes said to themselves, "This man blasphemes." But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven;' or to say, 'Get

up, and walk?' But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins..." (then he said to the paralytic), "Get up, and take up your mat, and go up to your house." And he arose and departed to his house. But when the multitudes saw it, they were filled with awe and glorified God, who had given such authority to men." --Matthew 9:2-8 (New Heart English Bible)

"And behold, they brought to him a paralytic, lying on a bed. And Jesus, seeing their faith, said to the paralytic, "Be strengthened in faith, son; your sins are forgiven you." And behold, some of the scribes said within themselves, "He is blaspheming." And when Jesus had perceived their thoughts, he said: "Why do you think such evil in your hearts? Which is easier to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Rise up and walk?' But, so that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins," he then said to the paralytic, "Rise up, take up your bed, and go into your house." And he arose and went into his house. Then the crowd, seeing this, was frightened, and they glorified God, who gave such power to men." --Matthew 9:2-8 (Catholic Public Domain Version)

5.5 James 2:14-20

"What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him? If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit? Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works. Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and

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tremble. But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?"
--James 2:14-20

"What doth it profit, my brethren, if a man say he hath faith, but have not works? can that faith save him? If a brother or sister be naked and in lack of daily food, and one of you say unto them, Go in peace, be ye warmed and filled; and yet ye give them not the things needful to the body; what doth it profit? Even so faith, if it have not works, is dead in itself. Yea, a man will say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: show me thy faith apart from thy works, and I by my works will show thee my faith. Thou believest that God is one; thou doest well: the demons also believe, and shudder. But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith apart from works is barren?" --James 2:14-20 (American Standard Version)

"What use is it, my brothers, for a man to say that he has faith, if he does nothing? will such a faith give him salvation? If a brother or a sister is without clothing and in need of the day's food, And one of you says to them, Go in peace, be warm and full of food; but you do not give them the things of which their bodies have need, what profit is there in this? Even so faith without works is dead. But a man may say, You have faith and I have works; let me see your faith without your works, and I will make my faith clear to you by my works. You have the belief that God is one, and you do well: the evil spirits have the same belief, shaking with fear. Do you not see, O foolish man, that faith without works is of no use?" --James 2:14-20 (Bible in Basic English)

"What good is it, my brothers, if a man says he has faith, but has no works? Can faith save him? And if a brother or sister is naked and in lack of daily food, and one of you tells them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled;" and yet you did not give them the things the body needs, what good is it? Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead in itself. Yes, a man will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without works, and I by my works will show you

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my faith. You believe that God is one. You do well. The demons also believe, and shudder. But do you want to know, foolish man, that faith apart from works is dead?" --James 2:14-20 (New Heart English Bible)

"My brothers, what benefit is there if someone claims to have faith, but he does not have works? How would faith be able to save him? So if a brother or sister is naked and daily in need of food, and if anyone of you were to say to them: "Go in peace, keep warm and nourished," and yet not give them the things that are necessary for the body, of what benefit is this? Thus even faith, if it does not have works, is dead, in and of itself. Now someone may say: "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without works! But I will show you my faith by means of works. You believe that there is one God. You do well. But the demons also believe, and they tremble greatly. So then, are you willing to understand, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead?" --James 2:14-20 (Catholic Public Domain Version)

5.6 Galatians 5:13-25

"For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another. For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another. This I say then, Walk in the spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusteth against the spirit, and the spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. But if ye be led of the spirit, ye are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders,

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drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the spirit, let us also walk in the spirit." --Galatians 5:13-25

"For ye, brethren, were called for freedom; only use not your freedom for an occasion to the flesh, but through love be servants one to another. For the whole law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another. But I say, Walk by the spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusteth against the spirit, and the spirit against the flesh; for these are contrary the one to the other; that ye may not do the things that ye would. But if ye are led by the spirit, ye are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these: fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousies, wraths, factions, divisions, parties, envyings, drunkenness, revellings, and such like; of which I forewarn you, even as I did forewarn you, that they who practise such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, meekness, self-control; against such there is no law. And they that are of Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with the passions and the lusts thereof. If we live by the spirit, by the spirit let us also walk." --Galatians 5:13-25
(American Standard Version)

"Because you, brothers, were marked out to be free; only do not make use of your free condition to give the flesh its chance, but through love be servants one to another. For all the law is made complete in one word, even in this, Have love for your neighbour as for yourself. But if you are given to fighting with one another, take care that you are not the cause of destruction one to

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another. But I say, Go on in the spirit, and you will not come under the rule of the evil desires of the flesh. For the flesh has desires against the spirit, and the spirit against the flesh; because these are opposite the one to the other; so that you may not do the things which you have a mind to do. But if you are guided by the spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are clear, which are these: evil desire, unclean things, wrong use of the senses, Worship of images, use of strange powers, hates, fighting, desire for what another has, angry feelings, attempts to get the better of others, divisions, false teachings, Envy, uncontrolled drinking and feasting, and such things: of which I give you word clearly, even as I did in the past, that they who do such things will have no part in the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, a quiet mind, kind acts, well-doing, faith, Gentle behaviour, control over desires: against such there is no law. And those who are Christ's have put to death on the cross the flesh with its passions and its evil desires. If we are living by the spirit, by the spirit let us be guided." --Galatians 5:13-25 (Bible in Basic English)

"For you, brothers, were called for freedom. Only do not use your freedom for gain to the flesh, but through love be servants to one another. For the whole law is fulfilled in one word, in this: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you bite and devour one another, be careful that you do not consume one another. But I say, walk by the spirit, and you will not carry out the desires of the flesh. For the flesh lusts against the spirit, and the spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, that you may not do the things that you desire. But if you are led by the spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are obvious, which are: sexual immorality, uncleanness, lustfulness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, strife, jealousies, outbursts of anger, rivalries, divisions, heresies, envyings, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these; of which I forewarn you, even as I also forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the Kingdom of God. But the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith, gentleness, and

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self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and lusts. If we live by the spirit, let us also walk by the spirit." --Galatians 5:13-25 (New Heart English Bible)

"For you, brothers, have been called to liberty. Only you must not make liberty into an occasion for the flesh, but instead, serve one another through the charity of the spirit. For the entire law is fulfilled by one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you bite and devour one another, be careful that you are not consumed by one another! So then, I say: Walk in the spirit, and you will not fulfill the desires of the flesh. For the flesh desires against the spirit, and the spirit against the flesh. And since these are against one another, you may not do whatever you want. But if you are led by the spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are manifest; they are: fornication, lust, homosexuality, self-indulgence, the serving of idols, drug use, hostility, contentiousness, jealousy, wrath, quarrels, dissensions, divisions, envy, murder, inebriation, carousing, and similar things. About these things, I continue to preach to you, as I have preached to you: that those who act in this way shall not obtain the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the spirit is charity, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, forbearance, meekness, faith, modesty, abstinence, chastity. There is no law against such things. For those who are Christ's have crucified their flesh, along with its vices and desires. If we live by the spirit, we should also walk by the spirit." --Galatians 5:13-25 (Catholic Public Domain Version)

5.7 1 Peter 5:5-11

"Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. humble yourselves therefore under the

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mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you. Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world. But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you. To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen." --1 Peter 5:5-11

"Likewise, ye younger, be subject unto the elder. Yea, all of you gird yourselves with humility, to serve one another: for God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace to the humble. humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time; casting all your anxiety upon him, because he careth for you. Be sober, be watchful: your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: whom withstand stedfast in your faith, knowing that the same sufferings are accomplished in your brethren who are in the world. And the God of all grace, who called you unto his eternal glory in Christ, after that ye have suffered a little while, shall himself perfect, establish, strengthen you. To him be the dominion for ever and ever. Amen." --1 Peter 5:5-11 (American Standard Version)

"And in the same way, let the younger men be ruled by the older ones. Let all of you put away pride and make yourselves ready to be servants: for God is a hater of pride, but he gives grace to those who make themselves low. For this cause make yourselves low under the strong hand of God, so that when the time comes you may be lifted up; Putting all your troubles on him, for he takes care of you. Be serious and keep watch; the Evil One, who is against you, goes about like a lion with open mouth in search of food; Do not give way to him but be strong in your faith, in the knowledge that your brothers who are in the world undergo the same troubles. And after you have undergone pain for a little time, the God of all grace who has given you a part in his eternal glory

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through Christ Jesus, will himself give you strength and support, and make you complete in every good thing; His is the power for ever. So be it."--1 Peter 5:5-11 (Bible in Basic English)

"Likewise, you younger ones, be subject to the elder. Yes, all of you clothe yourselves with humility, towards one another; for "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble." humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time; casting all your worries on him, because he cares for you. Be sober and self-controlled. Be watchful. Your adversary the devil, walks around like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Withstand him steadfast in your faith, knowing that your brothers who are in the world are undergoing the same sufferings. And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen and establish you. To him be the power forever. Amen." --1 Peter 5:5-11 (New Heart English Bible)

"Similarly, young persons, be subject to the elders. And infuse all humility among one another, for God resists the arrogant, but to the humble he gives grace. And so, be humbled under the powerful hand of God, so that he may exalt you in the time of visitation. Cast all your cares upon him, for he takes care of you. Be sober and vigilant. For your adversary, the devil, is like a roaring lion, traveling around and seeking those whom he might devour. Resist him by being strong in faith, being aware that the same passions afflict those who are your brothers in the world. But the God of all grace, who has called us to his eternal glory in Christ Jesus, will himself perfect, confirm, and establish us, after a brief time of suffering. To him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen." --1 Peter 5:5-11 (Catholic Public Domain Version)

5.8 2 Corinthians 5:1-8

"For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven: If so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked. For we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life. Now he that hath wrought us for the selfsame thing is God, who also hath given unto us the earnest of the spirit. Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: (For we walk by faith, not by sight:) We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord. Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him." --2 Corinthians 5:1-8

"For we know that if the earthly house of our tabernacle be dissolved, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal, in the heavens. For verily in this we groan, longing to be clothed upon with our habitation which is from heaven: if so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked. For indeed we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened; not for that we would be unclothed, but that we would be clothed upon, that what is mortal may be swallowed up of life. Now he that wrought us for this very thing is God, who gave unto us the earnest of the spirit. Being therefore always of good courage, and knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord (for we walk by faith, not by sight); we are of good courage, I say, and are willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be at home with the Lord." --2 Corinthians 5:1-8 (American Standard Version)

For we are conscious that if this our tent of flesh is taken down, we have a

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building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal, in heaven. For in this we are crying in weariness, greatly desiring to be clothed with our house from heaven: So that our spirits may not be unclothed. For truly, we who are in this tent do give out cries of weariness, for the weight of care which is on us; not because we are desiring to be free from the body, but so that we may have our new body, and death may be overcome by life. Now he who has made us for this very thing is God, who has given us the spirit as a witness of what is to come. So, then, we are ever without fear, and though conscious that while we are in the body we are away from the Lord, (For we are walking by faith, not by seeing,) We are without fear, desiring to be free from the body, and to be with the Lord. --2 Corinthians 5:1-8 (Bible in Basic English)

"For we know that if the earthly house of our tent is dissolved, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal, in the heavens. For truly in this we groan, longing to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven; if so be that being clothed we will not be found naked. For indeed we who are in this tent do groan, being burdened; not that we desire to be unclothed, but that we desire to be clothed, that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. Now he who made us for this very thing is God, who also gave to us the down payment of the spirit. Therefore, we are always confident and know that while we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord; for we walk by faith, not by sight. We are of good courage, I say, and are willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be at home with the Lord." --2 Corinthians 5:1-8 (New Heart English Bible)

"For we know that, when our earthly house of this habitation is dissolved, we have a building of God, a house not made with hands, eternal in heaven. And for this reason also, we groan, desiring to be clothed from above with our habitation from heaven. If we are so clothed, then we will not be found to be naked. Then too, we who are in this tabernacle groan under the burden, because we do not want to be stripped, but rather to be clothed from above, so

that what is mortal may be absorbed by life. Now the One who accomplishes this very thing in us is God, who has given us the pledge of the spirit. Therefore, we are ever confident, knowing that, while we are in the body, we are on a pilgrimage in the Lord. For we walk by means of faith, and not by sight. So we are confident, and we have the good will to be on a pilgrimage in the body, so as to be present to the Lord." --2 Corinthians 5:1-8 (Catholic Public Domain Version)

6 Temptation

6.1 James 4:1-10

"From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members? Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts. Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God. Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy? But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up." --James 4:1-10

"Whence come wars and whence come fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your pleasures that war in your members? Ye lust, and have

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not: ye kill, and covet, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war; ye have not, because ye ask not. Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may spend it in your pleasures. Ye adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? Whosoever therefore would be a friend of the world maketh himself an enemy of God. Or think ye that the scripture speaketh in vain? Doth the spirit which he made to dwell in us long unto envying? But he giveth more grace. Wherefore the scripture saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace to the humble. Be subject therefore unto God; but resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye doubleminded. Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall exalt you." --James 4:1-10 (American Standard Version)

"What is the cause of wars and fighting among you? is it not in your desires which are at war in your bodies? You are burning with desire, and have not your desire, so you put men to death; you are full of envy, and you are not able to get your desire, so you are fighting and making war; you have not your desire, because you do not make request for it. You make your request but you do not get it, because your request has been wrongly made, desiring the thing only so that you may make use of it for your pleasure. O you who are false to God, do you not see that the friends of this world are not God's friends? Every man desiring to be a friend of this world makes himself a hater of God. Or does it seem to you that it is for nothing that the holy Writings say, The spirit which God put into our hearts has a strong desire for us? But he gives more grace. So that the Writings say, God is against the men of pride, but he gives grace to those who make themselves low before him. For this cause be ruled by God; but make war on the evil One and he will be put to flight before you. Come near to God and he will come near to you. Make your hands clean, you evil-doers; put away deceit from your hearts, you false in mind. Be troubled, with sorrow and weeping; let your laughing be turned to sorrow and your joy to grief. Make

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yourselves low in the eyes of the Lord and you will be lifted up by him."

--James 4:1-10 (Bible in Basic English)

"Where do wars and fightings among you come from? Do not they come from your pleasures that war in your members? You lust, and do not have. You kill, covet, and cannot obtain. You fight and make war. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask, and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it for your pleasures. You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. Or do you think that the Scripture says in vain, "The spirit which He made to dwell in us yearns jealously"? But He gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble." Be subject therefore to God. But resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Lament, mourn, and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to gloom. humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he will exalt you." --James 4:1-10 (New Heart English Bible)

"Where do wars and contentions among you come from? Is it not from this: from your own desires, which battle within your members? You desire, and you do not have. You envy and you kill, and you are unable to obtain. You argue and you fight, and you do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and you do not receive, because you ask badly, so that you may use it toward your own desires. You adulterers! Do you not know that the friendship of this world is hostile to God? Therefore, whoever has chosen to be a friend of this world has been made into an enemy of God. Or do you think that Scripture says in vain: "The spirit which lives within you desires unto envy?" But he gives a greater grace. Therefore he says: "God resists the arrogant, but he gives grace to the humble." Therefore, be subject to God. But resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. cleanse your hands,

you sinners! And purify your hearts, you duplicitous souls! Be afflicted: mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned into mourning, and your gladness into sorrow. Be humbled in the sight of the Lord, and he will exalt you." --James 4:1-10 (Catholic Public Domain Version)

6.2 Genesis 3:1-7

"Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons." --Genesis 3:1-7

"Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which Jehovah God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of any tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, Of the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat: but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as God, knowing good and evil. And when the woman

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saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat; and she gave also unto her husband with her, and he did eat. And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig-leaves together, and made themselves aprons." --Genesis 3:1-7 (American Standard Version)

"Now the snake was wiser than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, Has God truly said that you may not take of the fruit of any tree in the garden? And the woman said, We may take of the fruit of the trees in the garden: But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden, God has said, If you take of it or put your hands on it, death will come to you. And the snake said, Death will not certainly come to you: For God sees that on the day when you take of its fruit, your eyes will be open, and you will be as gods, having knowledge of good and evil. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and a delight to the eyes, and to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit, and gave it to her husband. And their eyes were open and they were conscious that they had no clothing and they made themselves coats of leaves stitched together." --Genesis 3:1-7 (Bible in Basic English)

"Now the serpent was more subtle than any animal of the field which the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Has God really said, 'You shall not eat of any tree of the garden?'" The woman said to the serpent, "Of the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat, but of the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat of it, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" The serpent said to the woman, "You won't surely die, for God knows that in the day you eat it, your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit, and ate; and she gave some to

her husband with her, and he ate. The eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked. They sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons." --Genesis 3:1-7 (New Heart English Bible)

"However, the serpent was more crafty than any of the creatures of the earth that the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, "Why has God instructed you, that you should not eat from every tree of Paradise?" The woman responded to him: "From the fruit of the trees which are in Paradise, we eat. Yet truly, from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of Paradise, God has instructed us that we should not eat, and that we should not touch it, lest perhaps we may die." Then the serpent said to the woman: "By no means will you die a death. For God knows that, on whatever day you will eat from it, your eyes will be opened; and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil." And so the woman saw that the tree was good to eat, and beautiful to the eyes, and delightful to consider. And she took from its fruit, and she ate. And she gave to her husband, who ate. And the eyes of them both were opened. And when they realized themselves to be naked, they joined together fig leaves and made coverings for themselves." --Genesis 3:1-7 (Catholic Public Domain Version)

6.3 Psalm 12

"Help, Lord; for the godly man ceaseth; for the faithful fail from among the children of men. They speak vanity every one with his neighbour: with flattering lips and with a double heart do they speak. The Lord shall cut off all flattering lips, and the tongue that speaketh proud things: Who have said, With our tongue will we prevail; our lips are our own: who is lord over us? For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, now will I arise, saith the Lord; I will set him in safety from him that puffeth at him. The words of the Lord are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.

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Thou shalt keep them, O Lord, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever. The wicked walk on every side, when the vilest men are exalted."
--Psalm 12

"Help, Jehovah; for the godly man ceaseth; For the faithful fail from among the children of men. They speak falsehood every one with his neighbor: With flattering lip, and with a double heart, do they speak. Jehovah will cut off all flattering lips, The tongue that speaketh great things; Who have said, With our tongue will we prevail; Our lips are our own: who is lord over us? Because of the oppression of the poor, because of the sighing of the needy, Now will I arise, saith Jehovah; I will set him in the safety he panteth for. The words of Jehovah are pure words; As silver tried in a furnace on the earth, purified seven times. Thou wilt keep them, O Jehovah, Thou wilt preserve them from this generation for ever. The wicked walk on every side, When vileness is exalted among the sons of men." --Psalm 12 (American Standard Version)

"Send help, Lord, for mercy has come to an end; there is no more faith among the children of men. Everyone says false words to his neighbour: their tongues are smooth in their talk, and their hearts are full of deceit. The smooth lips and the tongue of pride will be cut off by the Lord. They have said, With our tongues will we overcome; our lips are ours: who is lord over us? Because of the crushing of the poor and the weeping of those in need, now will I come to his help, says the Lord; I will give him the salvation which he is desiring. The words of the Lord are true words: like silver tested by fire and burned clean seven times. You will keep them, O Lord, you will keep them safe from this generation for ever. The sinners are walking on every side, and evil is honoured among the children of men." --Psalm 12 (Bible in Basic English)

"Help, Lord; for the godly man ceases. For the faithful fail from among the children of men. Everyone lies to his neighbor. They speak with flattering lips, and with a double heart. May the Lord cut off all flattering lips, and the tongue

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that boasts, who have said, "With our tongue we will prevail. Our lips are our own. Who is lord over us?" "Because of the oppression of the weak and because of the groaning of the needy, I will now arise," says the Lord; "I will set him in safety from those who malign him." The words of the Lord are flawless words, as silver refined in a clay furnace, purified seven times. You will keep them, Lord. You will preserve them from this generation forever. The wicked walk on every side, when what is vile is exalted among the sons of men." --Psalm 12 (New Heart English Bible)

"Save me, O Lord, because holiness has passed away, because truths have been diminished, before the sons of men. They have been speaking emptiness, each one to his neighbor; they have been speaking with deceitful lips and a duplicitous heart. May the Lord scatter all deceitful lips, along with the tongue that speaks malice. They have said: "We will magnify our tongue; our lips belong to us. What is Lord to us?" Because of the misery of the destitute and the groaning of the poor, now I will arise, says the Lord. I will place him in safety. I will act faithfully toward him. The eloquence of the Lord is pure eloquence, silver tested by fire, purged from the earth, refined seven times. You, O Lord, will preserve us, and you will guard us from this generation into eternity. The impious wander aimlessly. According to your loftiness, you have multiplied the sons of men." --Psalm 12 (Catholic Public Domain Version)

6.4 Isaiah 1:10-18

Hear the word of the Lord, ye rulers of Sodom; give ear unto the law of our God, ye people of Gomorrah. To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices unto me? saith the Lord: I am full of the burnt offerings of rams, and the fat of fed beasts; and I delight not in the blood of bullocks, or of lambs, or of he goats. When ye come to appear before me, who hath required this at your

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hand, to tread my courts? Bring no more vain oblations; incense is an abomination unto me; the new moons and sabbaths, the calling of assemblies, I cannot away with; it is iniquity, even the solemn meeting. Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hateth: they are a trouble unto me; I am weary to bear them. And when ye spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you: yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear: your hands are full of blood. Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil; Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow. Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. --Isaiah 1:10-18

"Hear the word of Jehovah, ye rulers of Sodom; give ear unto the law of our God, ye people of Gomorrah. What unto me is the multitude of your sacrifices? saith Jehovah: I have had enough of the burnt-offerings of rams, and the fat of fed beasts; and I delight not in the blood of bullocks, or of lambs, or of he-goats. When ye come to appear before me, who hath required this at your hand, to trample my courts? Bring no more vain oblations; incense is an abomination unto me; new moon and sabbath, the calling of assemblies,—I cannot away with iniquity and the solemn meeting. Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hateth; they are a trouble unto me; I am weary of bearing them. And when ye spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you; yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear: your hands are full of blood. Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil; learn to do well; seek justice, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow. Come now, and let us reason together, saith Jehovah: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." --Isaiah 1:10-18 (American Standard Version)

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"Give ear to the word of the Lord, you rulers of Sodom; let your hearts be turned to the law of our God, you people of Gomorrah. What use to me is the number of the offerings which you give me? says the Lord; your burned offerings of sheep, and the best parts of fat cattle, are a weariness to me; I take no pleasure in the blood of oxen, or of lambs, or of he-goats. At whose request do you come before me, making my house unclean with your feet? Give me no more false offerings; the smoke of burning flesh is disgusting to me, so are your new moons and Sabbaths and your holy meetings. Your new moons and your regular feasts are a grief to my soul: they are a weight in my spirit; I am crushed under them. And when your hands are stretched out to me, my eyes will be turned away from you: even though you go on making prayers, I will not give ear: your hands are full of blood. Be washed, make yourselves clean; put away the evil of your doings from before my eyes; let there be an end of sinning; Take pleasure in well-doing; let your ways be upright, keep down the cruel, give a right decision for the child who has no father, see to the cause of the widow. Come now, and let us have an argument together, says the Lord: how may your sins which are red like blood be white as snow? how may their dark purple seem like wool?" --Isaiah 1:10-18 (Bible in Basic English)

"Hear the word of the Lord, you rulers of Sodom! Listen to the law of our God, you people of Gomorrah! "What are the multitude of your sacrifices to me?," says the Lord. "I have had enough of the burnt offerings of rams, and the fat of fed animals. I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of male goats. When you come to appear before me, who has required this at your hand, to trample my courts? Bring no more vain offerings. Incense is an abomination to me; new moons, Sabbaths, and convocations: I can't bear with evil assemblies. My soul hates your New Moons and your appointed feasts. They are a burden to me. I am weary of bearing them. When you spread forth your hands, I will hide my eyes from you. Yes, when you make many prayers, I will not hear. Your hands are full of blood. Wash yourselves, make yourself clean. Put away the evil of your doings from before my eyes. Cease to do evil. Learn to do well.

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Seek justice. Relieve the oppressed. Judge the fatherless. Plead for the widow." "Come now, and let us reason together," says the Lord: "Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow. Though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." --Isaiah 1:10-18 (New Heart English Bible)

"Listen to the Word of the Lord, you leaders of the people of Sodom. Listen closely to the law of our God, O people of Gomorrah. The multitude of your sacrifices, what is that to me, says the Lord? I am full. I do not desire holocausts of rams, nor the fat of fatlings, nor the blood of calves and of lambs and of he-goats. When you approach before my sight, who is it that requires these things from your hands, so that you would walk in my courts? You should no longer offer sacrifice in vain. Incense is an abomination to me. The new moons and the Sabbaths and the other feast days, I will not receive. Your gatherings are iniquitous. My soul hates your days of proclamation and your solemnities. They have become bothersome to me. I labor to endure them. And so, when you extend your hands, I will avert my eyes from you. And when you multiply your prayers, I will not heed you. For your hands are full of blood. Wash, become clean, take away the evil of your intentions from my eyes. Cease to act perversely. Learn to do good. Seek judgment, support the oppressed, judge for the orphan, defend the widow. And then approach and accuse me, says the Lord. Then, if your sins are like scarlet, they shall be made white like snow; and if they are red like vermillion, they shall become white like wool." --Isaiah 1:10-18 (Catholic Public Domain Version)

6.5 Luke 22:39-46

"And he came out, and went, as he was wont, to the mount of Olives; and his disciples also followed him. And when he was at the place, he said unto them, pray that ye enter not into temptation. And he was withdrawn from them

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about a stone's cast, and kneeled down, and prayed, Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done. And there appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him. And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground. And when he rose up from prayer, and was come to his disciples, he found them sleeping for sorrow, And said unto them, Why sleep ye? rise and pray, lest ye enter into temptation." --Luke 22:39-46

"And he came out, and went, as his custom was, unto the mount of Olives; and the disciples also followed him. And when he was at the place, he said unto them, pray that ye enter not into temptation. And he was parted from them about a stone's cast; and he kneeled down and prayed, saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done. And there appeared unto him an angel from heaven, strengthening him. And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became as it were great drops of blood falling down upon the ground. And when he rose up from his prayer, he came unto the disciples, and found them sleeping for sorrow, and said unto them, Why sleep ye? rise and pray, that ye enter not into temptation." --Luke 22:39-46 (American Standard Version)

"And he came out, and went, as his way was, to the Mountain of Olives, and the disciples went with him. And when he came to the place, he said to them, Make a prayer that you may not be put to the test. And he went a little distance away from them and, falling on his knees in prayer, he said, Father, if it is your pleasure, take this cup from me: but still, let your pleasure, not mine, be done. And an angel from heaven came to him, to give him strength. And being in great trouble of soul, the force of his prayer became stronger, and great drops, like blood, came from him, falling to the earth. And, getting up from prayer, he came to the disciples, and saw that they were sleeping for sorrow. And he said, Why are you sleeping? Get up, and give yourselves to prayer, so that you may

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not be put to the test." --Luke 22:39-46 (Bible in Basic English)

"He came out, and went, as his custom was, to the Mount of Olives. His disciples also followed him. When he was at the place, he said to them, "pray that you do not enter into temptation." He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and he knelt down and prayed, saying, "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done." An angel from heaven appeared to him, strengthening him. Being in agony he prayed more earnestly. His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground. When he rose up from his prayer, he came to the disciples, and found them sleeping because of grief, and said to them, "Why do you sleep? Rise and pray that you may not enter into temptation." --Luke 22:39-46 (New Heart English Bible)

"And departing, he went out, according to his custom, to the Mount of Olives. And his disciples also followed him. And when he had arrived at the place, he said to them: "pray, lest you enter into temptation." And he was separated from them by about a stone's throw. And kneeling down, he prayed, saying: "Father, if you are willing, take this chalice away from me. Yet truly, let not my will, but yours, be done." Then an Angel appeared to him from heaven, strengthening him. And being in agony, he prayed more intensely; and so his sweat became like drops of blood, running down to the ground. And when he had risen up from prayer and had gone to his disciples, he found them sleeping out of sorrow. And he said to them: "Why are you sleeping? Rise up, pray, lest you enter into temptation." --Luke 22:39-46 (Catholic Public Domain Version)

6.6 1 Corinthians 10:12-21

"Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall. There

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hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it. Wherefore, my dearly beloved, flee from idolatry. I speak as to wise men; judge ye what I say. The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? For we being many are one bread, and one body: for we are all partakers of that one bread. Behold Israel after the flesh: are not they which eat of the sacrifices partakers of the altar? What say I then? that the idol is any thing, or that which is offered in sacrifice to idols is any thing? But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils. Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils." --1 Corinthians 10:12-21

"Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall. There hath no temptation taken you but such as man can bear: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation make also the way of escape, that ye may be able to endure it. Wherefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry. I speak as to wise men; judge ye what I say. The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not a communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not a communion of the body of Christ? seeing that we, who are many, are one bread, one body: for we all partake of the one bread. Behold Israel after the flesh: have not they that eat the sacrifices communion with the altar? What say I then? that a thing sacrificed to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything? But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have communion with demons. Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of demons: ye cannot partake of the table of the Lord, and of the table of demons." --1 Corinthians 10:12-21 (American Standard Version)

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"So let him who seems to himself to be safe go in fear of a fall. You have been put to no test but such as is common to man: and God is true, who will not let any test come on you which you are not able to undergo; but he will make with the test a way out of it, so that you may be able to go through it. For this cause, my dear brothers, give no worship to false gods. What I am saying is for wise men, do you be the judges of it. The cup of blessing which we take, does it not give us a part in the blood of Christ? and is not the broken bread a taking part in the body of Christ? Because we, being a number of persons, are one bread, we are one body: for we all take part in the one bread. See Israel after the flesh: do not those who take as food the offerings of the altar take a part in the altar? Do I say, then, that what is offered to images is anything, or that the image is anything? What I say is that the things offered by the Gentiles are offered to evil spirits and not to God; and it is not my desire for you to have any part with evil spirits. It is not possible for you, at the same time, to take the cup of the Lord and the cup of evil spirits; you may not take part in the table of the Lord and the table of evil spirits." --1 Corinthians 10:12-21 (Bible in Basic English)

"Therefore let him who thinks he stands be careful that he does not fall. No temptation has taken you except what is common to man. God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted above what you are able, but will with the temptation also make the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it. Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry. I speak as to wise men. Judge what I say. The cup of blessing which we bless, is not it a sharing of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is not it a sharing of the body of Christ? Because there is one loaf of bread, we, who are many, are one body; for we all partake of the one loaf of bread. Consider Israel according to the flesh. Do not those who eat the sacrifices participate in the altar? What am I saying then? That a thing sacrificed to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything? But I say that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons, and not

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to God, and I do not desire that you would have fellowship with demons. You cannot both drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons. You cannot both partake of the table of the Lord, and of the table of demons." --1 Corinthians 10:12-21 (New Heart English Bible)

"And so, whosoever considers himself to be standing, let him be careful not to fall. temptation should not take hold of you, except what is human. For God is faithful, and he will not permit you to be tempted beyond your ability. Instead, he will effect his Providence, even during temptation, so that you may be able to bear it. Because of this, most beloved of mine, flee from the worship of idols. Since I am speaking to those who are prudent, judge what I say for yourselves. The cup of benediction that we bless, is it not a communion in the blood of Christ? And the bread that we break, is it not a participation in the Body of the Lord? Through the one bread, we, though many, are one body: all of us who are partakers of the one bread. Consider Israel, according to the flesh. Are not those who eat from the sacrifices partakers of the altar? What is next? Should I say that what is immolated to idols is anything? Or that the idol is anything? But the things that the Gentiles immolate, they immolate to demons, and not to God. And I do not want you to become partakers with demons. You cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of demons. You cannot be partakers of the table of the Lord, and partakers of the table of demons." --1 Corinthians 10:12-21 (Catholic Public Domain Version)

6.7 James 3

"My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation. For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body. Behold, we put bits in the horses' mouths, that they may obey us; and we turn about their

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whole body. Behold also the ships, which though they be so great, and are driven of fierce winds, yet are they turned about with a very small helm, whithersoever the governor listeth. Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth! And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell. For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind: But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God. Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be. Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter? Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? either a vine, figs? so can no fountain both yield salt water and fresh. Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom. But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth. This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work. But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace." --James 3

"Be not many of you teachers, my brethren, knowing that we shall receive heavier judgment. For in many things we all stumble. If any stumbleth not in word, the same is a perfect man, able to bridle the whole body also. Now if we put the horses' bridles into their mouths that they may obey us, we turn about their whole body also. Behold, the ships also, though they are so great and are driven by rough winds, are yet turned about by a very small rudder, whither the impulse of the steersman willeth. So the tongue also is a little member,

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and boasteth great things. Behold, how much wood is kindled by how small a fire! And the tongue is a fire: the world of iniquity among our members is the tongue, which defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the wheel of nature, and is set on fire by hell. For every kind of beasts and birds, of creeping things and things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed by mankind: but the tongue can no man tame; it is a restless evil, it is full of deadly poison. Therewith bless we the Lord and Father; and therewith curse we men, who are made after the likeness of God: out of the same mouth cometh forth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be. Doth the fountain send forth from the same opening sweet water and bitter? can a fig tree, my brethren, yield olives, or a vine figs? neither can salt water yield sweet. Who is wise and understanding among you? let him show by his good life his works in meekness of wisdom. But if ye have bitter jealousy and faction in your heart, glory not and lie not against the truth. This wisdom is not a wisdom that cometh down from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. For where jealousy and faction are, there is confusion and every vile deed. But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without variance, without hypocrisy. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace for them that make peace." --James 3 (American Standard Version)

"Do not all be teachers, my brothers, because we teachers will be judged more hardly than others. For we all go wrong in a number of things. If a man never makes a slip in his talk, then he is a complete man and able to keep all his body in control. Now if we put bits of iron into horses' mouths so that they may be guided by us, we have complete control of their bodies. And again ships, though they are so great and are moved by violent winds, are turned by a very small guiding-blade, at the impulse of the man who is using it. Even so the tongue is a small part of the body, but it takes credit for great things. How much wood may be lighted by a very little fire! And the tongue is a fire; it is the power of evil placed in our bodies, making all the body unclean, putting the wheel of life

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on fire, and getting its fire from hell. For every sort of beast and bird and every living thing on earth and in the sea has been controlled by man and is under his authority; But the tongue may not be controlled by man; it is an unresting evil, it is full of the poison of death. With it we give praise to our Lord and Father; and with it we put a curse on men who are made in God's image. Out of the same mouth comes blessing and cursing. My brothers, it is not right for these things to be so. Does the fountain send from the same outlet sweet and bitter water? Is a fig-tree able to give us olives, my brothers, or do we get figs from a vine, or sweet water from the salt sea? Who has wisdom and good sense among you? let him make his works clear by a life of gentle wisdom. But if you have bitter envy in your heart and the desire to get the better of others, have no pride in this, talking falsely against what is true. This wisdom is not from heaven, but is of the earth and the flesh and the evil One. For where envy is, and the desire to get the better of others, there is no order, but every sort of evil-doing. But the wisdom which is from heaven is first holy, then gentle, readily giving way in argument, full of peace and mercy and good works, not doubting, not seeming other than it is. And the fruit of righteousness is planted in peace for those who make peace." --James 3 (Bible in Basic English)

"Let not many of you be teachers, my brothers, knowing that we will receive heavier judgment. For in many things we all stumble. If anyone does not stumble in word, the same is a perfect man, able to bridle the whole body also. Now if we put bits into the horses' mouths so that they may obey us, we guide their whole body. Behold, the ships also, though they are so big and are driven by fierce winds, are yet guided by a very small rudder, wherever the pilot desires. So the tongue is also a little member, and boasts great things. See how a small fire can spread to a large forest! And the tongue is a fire. The world of iniquity among our members is the tongue, which defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature, and is set on fire by hell. For every kind of animal, bird, creeping thing, and thing in the sea, is tamed, and has been tamed by mankind. But nobody can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly

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poison. With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who are made in the image of God. Out of the same mouth comes forth blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. Does a spring send out from the same opening fresh and bitter water? Can a fig tree, my brothers, yield olives, or a vine figs? Nor is salt water able to produce sweet. Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by his good conduct that his deeds are done in gentleness of wisdom. But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not boast and do not lie against the truth. This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, sensual, and demonic. For where jealousy and selfish ambition are, there is confusion and every evil deed. But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceful, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, without hypocrisy. Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace." --James 3 (New Heart English Bible)

"My brothers, not many of you should choose to become teachers, knowing that you shall receive a stricter judgment. For we all offend in many ways. If anyone does not offend in word, he is a perfect man. And he is then able, as if with a bridle, to lead the whole body around. For so we put bridles into the mouths of horses, in order to submit them to our will, and so we turn their whole body around. Consider also the ships, which, though they are great and may be driven by strong winds, yet they are turned around with a small rudder, to be directed to wherever the strength of the pilot might will. So also the tongue certainly is a small part, but it moves great things. Consider that a small fire can set ablaze a great forest. And so the tongue is like a fire, comprising all iniquity. The tongue, stationed in the midst of our body, can defile the entire body and inflame the wheel of our nativity, setting a fire from hell. For the nature of all beasts and birds and serpents and others is ruled over, and has been ruled over, by human nature. But no man is able to rule over the tongue, a restless evil, full of deadly poison. By it we bless God the Father, and by it we speak evil of men, who have been made in the likeness of God.

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From the same mouth proceeds blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so! Does a fountain emit, out of the same opening, both sweet and bitter water? My brothers, can the fig tree yield grapes? Or the vine, figs? Then neither is salt water able to produce fresh water. Who is wise and well-taught among you? Let him show, by means of good conversation, his work in the meekness of wisdom. But if you hold a bitter zeal, and if there is contention in your hearts, then do not boast and do not be liars against the truth. For this is not wisdom, descending from above, but rather it is earthly, beastly, and diabolical. For wherever envy and contention is, there too is inconstancy and every depraved work. But within the wisdom that is from above, certainly, chastity is first, and next peacefulness, meekness, openness, consenting to what is good, a plenitude of mercy and good fruits, not judging, without falseness. And so the fruit of justice is sown in peace by those who make peace." --James 3 (Catholic Public Domain Version)

6.8 Revelations 3:7-8,10-12,19-22

"And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth; I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name. Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth. Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown. Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name. As

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many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the spirit saith unto the churches." --Revelations 3:7-8,10-12,19-22

"And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth and none shall shut, and that shutteth and none openeth: I know thy works (behold, I have set before thee a door opened, which none can shut), that thou hast a little power, and didst keep my word, and didst not deny my name. Because thou didst keep the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of trial, that hour which is to come upon the whole world, to try them that dwell upon the earth. I come quickly: hold fast that which thou hast, that no one take thy crown. He that overcometh, I will make him a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go out thence no more: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God, and mine own new name. As many as I love, I reprove and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. Behold, I stand at the door and knock: if any man hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. He that overcometh, I will give to him to sit down with me in my throne, as I also overcame, and sat down with my Father in his throne. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the spirit saith to the churches." --Revelations 3:7-8,10-12,19-22 (American Standard Version)

"And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia say: These things says he who is holy, he who is true, he who has the key of David, opening the door so that it may be shut by no one, and shutting it so that it may be open to no one. I have knowledge of your works (see, I have put before you an open door which may be

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shut by no one), and that you have a little strength, and have kept my word, and have been true to my name. Because you have kept my word in quiet strength, I will keep you from the hour of testing which is coming on all the world, to put to the test those who are on earth. I come quickly: keep that which you have, so that no one may take your crown. Him who overcomes I will make a pillar in the house of my God, and he will go out no more: and I will put on him the name of my God, and the name of the town of my God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from my God, and my new name. To all those who are dear to me, I give sharp words and punishment: then with all your heart have sorrow for your evil ways. See, I am waiting at the door and giving the sign; if my voice comes to any man's ears and he makes the door open, I will come in to him, and will take food with him and he with me. To him who overcomes I will give a place with me on my high seat, even as I overcame, and am seated with my Father on his high seat. He who has ears, let him give ear to what the spirit says to the churches." --Revelations 3:7-8,10-12,19-22 (Bible in Basic English)

"To the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: "These are the words of the Holy One, the true One, he who has the key of David, he who opens and no one can shut, and who shuts and no one opens: "I know your works (behold, I have set before you an open door, which no one can shut), that you have a little power, and kept my word, and did not deny my name. Because you kept my command to endure, I also will keep you from the hour of testing, which is to come on the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth. I am coming quickly! Hold firmly that which you have, so that no one takes your crown. He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of my God, and he will go out from there no more. I will write on him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from my God, and my own new name. As many as I love, I rebuke and discipline. Be zealous therefore, and repent. Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, then I will come in to him, and will

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dine with him, and he with me. He who overcomes, I will give to him to sit down with me on my throne, as I also overcame, and sat down with my Father on his throne. He who has an ear, let him hear what the spirit says to the churches."
--Revelations 3:7-8,10-12,19-22 (New Heart English Bible)

" And to the Angel of the Church of Philadelphia write: Thus says the Holy One, the true One, he who holds the key of David. He opens and no one closes. He closes and no one opens. I know your works. Behold, I have set an open door before you, which no one is able to close. For you have little power, and you have observed my word, and you have not denied my name. Since you have kept the word of my patient endurance, I also will keep you from the hour of temptation, which shall overcome the whole world in order to test those living upon the earth. Behold, I am approaching quickly. Hold on to what you have, so that no one may take your crown. Whoever prevails, I will set him as a column in the temple of my God, and he shall not depart from it anymore. And I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem that descends out of heaven from my God, and my new name. Those whom I love, I rebuke and chastise. Therefore, be zealous and do penance. Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone will hear my voice and will open the door to me, I will enter to him, and I will dine with him, and he with me. Whoever prevails, I will grant to him to sit with me on my throne, just as I also have overcome and have sat down with my Father on his throne. Whoever has an ear, let him hear what the spirit says to the Churches.""
--Revelations 3:7-8,10-12,19-22 (Catholic Public Domain Version)

6.9 1 Samuel 3:1-10

"And the child Samuel ministered unto the Lord before Eli. And the word of the Lord was precious in those days; there was no open vision. And it came to pass

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at that time, when Eli was laid down in his place, and his eyes began to wax dim, that he could not see; And ere the lamp of God went out in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was, and Samuel was laid down to sleep; That the Lord called Samuel: and he answered, Here am I. And he ran unto Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou calledst me. And he said, I called not; lie down again. And he went and lay down. And the Lord called yet again, Samuel. And Samuel arose and went to Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou didst call me. And he answered, I called not, my son; lie down again. Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, neither was the word of the Lord yet revealed unto him. And the Lord called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou didst call me. And Eli perceived that the Lord had called the child. Therefore Eli said unto Samuel, Go, lie down: and it shall be, if he call thee, that thou shalt say, Speak, Lord; for thy servant heareth. So Samuel went and lay down in his place. And the Lord came, and stood, and called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak; for thy servant heareth." --1 Samuel 3:1-10

"And the child Samuel ministered unto Jehovah before Eli. And the word of Jehovah was precious in those days; there was no frequent vision. And it came to pass at that time, when Eli was laid down in his place (now his eyes had begun to wax dim, so that he could not see), and the lamp of God was not yet gone out, and Samuel was laid down to sleep, in the temple of Jehovah, where the ark of God was; that Jehovah called Samuel: and he said, Here am I. And he ran unto Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou calledst me. And he said, I called not; lie down again. And he went and lay down. And Jehovah called yet again, Samuel. And Samuel arose and went to Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou calledst me. And he answered, I called not, my son; lie down again. Now Samuel did not yet know Jehovah, neither was the word of Jehovah yet revealed unto him. And Jehovah called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou calledst me. And Eli perceived that Jehovah had called the child. Therefore Eli said unto Samuel, Go, lie down: and it shall

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be, if he call thee, that thou shalt say, Speak, Jehovah; for thy servant heareth. So Samuel went and lay down in his place. And Jehovah came, and stood, and called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel said, Speak; for thy servant heareth." --1 Samuel 3:1-10 (American Standard Version)

"Now the young Samuel was the servant of the Lord before Eli. In those days the Lord kept his word secret from men; there was no open vision. And at that time, when Eli was resting in his place, (now his eyes were becoming clouded so that he was not able to see,) And the light of God was still burning, while Samuel was sleeping in the Temple of the Lord where the ark of God was, The voice of the Lord said Samuel's name; and he said, Here am I. And running to Eli he said, Here am I, for you said my name. And Eli said, I did not say your name; go to your rest again. So he went back to his bed. And again the Lord said, Samuel. And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, Here am I; for you certainly said my name. But he said in answer, I said nothing, my son; go to your rest again. Now at that time Samuel had no knowledge of the Lord, and the revelation of the word of the Lord had not come to him. And for the third time the Lord said Samuel's name. And he got up and went to Eli and said, Here am I; for you certainly said my name. Then it was clear to Eli that the voice which had said the child's name was the Lord's. So Eli said to Samuel, Go back: and if the voice comes again, let your answer be, Say on, Lord; for the ears of your servant are open. So Samuel went back to his bed. Then the Lord came and said as before, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel made answer, Say on, Lord; for the ears of your servant are open." --1 Samuel 3:1-10 (Bible in Basic English)

"The child Samuel ministered to the Lord before Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision. It happened at that time, when Eli was laid down in his place (now his eyes had begun to grow dim, so that he could not see), and the lamp of God hadn't yet gone out, and Samuel had lain down in the Lord's temple, where the ark of God was; that the Lord called Samuel; and he said, "Here I am." He ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am; for

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you called me." He said, "I did not call; lie down again." He went and lay down. The Lord called yet again, "Samuel!" Samuel arose and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am; for you called me." He answered, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, neither was the word of the Lord yet revealed to him. The Lord called Samuel again the third time. He arose and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am; for you called me." Eli perceived that the Lord had called the child. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down: and it shall be, if he calls you, that you shall say, 'Speak, Lord; for your servant hears.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. The Lord came, and stood, and called as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel said, "Speak; for your servant hears." --1 Samuel 3:1-10 (New Heart English Bible)

"Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord before Eli, and the word of the Lord was precious in those days; there was no manifest vision. Then it happened that, on a certain day, Eli was lying in his place. And his eyes had dimmed, so that he was unable to see. And so, to prevent the lamp of God from going out, Samuel was sleeping in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. And the Lord called Samuel. And responding, he said, "Here I am." And he ran to Eli, and he said, "Here I am. For you called me." And he said: "I did not call. Return and sleep." And he went away, and he slept. And again, the Lord continued to call to Samuel. And rising up, Samuel went to Eli, and he said: "Here I am. For you called me." And he responded: "I did not call you, my son. Return and sleep." Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not been revealed to him. And the Lord continued, and he called to Samuel still a third time. And rising up, he went to Eli. And he said: "Here I am. For you called me." Then Eli understood that the Lord had called the boy. And he said to Samuel: "Go and sleep. And if he calls to you from now on, you will say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" Therefore, Samuel went away, and he slept in his place. And the Lord came, and stood, and he called, just as he had called the other times, "Samuel, Samuel." And Samuel said, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening." --1 Samuel 3:1-10 (Catholic

Public Domain Version)

6.10 Isaiah 11:1-9

"And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord; And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the Lord: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears: But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth: with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins. The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea." --Isaiah 11:1-9

"And there shall come forth a shoot out of the stock of Jesse, and a branch out of his roots shall bear fruit. And the spirit of Jehovah shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of Jehovah. And his delight shall be in the fear of Jehovah; and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither decide after the hearing of his ears; but with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall smite the earth with

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the rod of his mouth; and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. And righteousness shall be the girdle of his waist, and faithfulness the girdle of his loins. And the wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of Jehovah, as the waters cover the sea." --Isaiah 11:1-9 (American Standard Version)

"And there will come a rod out of the broken tree of Jesse, and a branch out of his roots will give fruit. And the spirit of the Lord will be resting on him, the spirit of wisdom and good sense, the spirit of wise guiding and strength, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord; And he will not be guided in his judging by what he sees, or give decisions by the hearing of his ears: But he will do right in the cause of the poor, and give wise decisions for those in the land who are in need; and the rod of his mouth will come down on the cruel, and with the breath of his lips he will put an end to the evil-doer. And righteousness will be the cord of his robe, and good faith the band round his breast. And the wolf will be living with the lamb, and the leopard will take his rest with the young goat; and the lion will take grass for food like the ox; and the young lion will go with the young ones of the herd; and a little child will be their guide. And the cow and the bear will be friends while their young ones are sleeping together. And the child at the breast will be playing by the hole of the snake, and the older child will put his hand on the bright eye of the poison-snake. There will be no cause of pain or destruction in all my holy mountain: for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the sea is covered by the waters." --Isaiah 11:1-9 (Bible in Basic English)

"A shoot will come out of the stock of Jesse, and a branch out of his roots will

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bear fruit. The spirit of the Lord will rest on him: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. His delight will be in the fear of the Lord. He will not judge by the sight of his eyes, neither decide by the hearing of his ears; but with righteousness he will judge the poor, and decide with equity for the humble of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; and with the breath of his lips he will kill the wicked. Righteousness will be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his waist. The wolf will live with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the young goat; The calf, the young lion, and the fattened calf together; and a little child will lead them. The cow and the bear will graze. Their young ones will lie down together. The lion will eat straw like the ox. The nursing child will play near a cobra's hole, and the weaned child will put his hand on the viper's den. They will not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea." --Isaiah 11:1-9 (New Heart English Bible)

"And a rod will go forth from the root of Jesse, and a flower will ascend from his root. And the spirit of the Lord will rest upon him: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and fortitude, the spirit of knowledge and piety. And he will be filled with the spirit of the fear of the Lord. He will not judge according to the sight of the eyes, nor reprove according to the hearing of the ears. Instead, he will judge the poor with justice, and he will reprove the meek of the earth with fairness. And he will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and he will slay the impious with the spirit of his lips. And justice will be the belt around his waist. And faith will be the warrior's belt at his side. The wolf will dwell with the lamb; and the leopard will lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion and the sheep will abide together; and a little boy will drive them. The calf and the bear will feed together; their young ones will rest together. And the lion will eat straw like the ox. And a breastfeeding infant will play above the lair of the asp. And a child who has been weaned will thrust his hand into the den of the king snake. They will not harm, and they will not

kill, on all my holy mountain. For the earth has been filled with the knowledge of the Lord, like the waters covering the sea." --Isaiah 11:1-9 (Catholic Public Domain Version)

7 Thanksgiving

7.1 Jonah 2

"Then Jonah prayed unto the Lord his God out of the fish's belly, And said, I cried by reason of mine affliction unto the Lord, and he heard me; out of the belly of hell cried I, and thou heardest my voice. For thou hadst cast me into the deep, in the midst of the seas; and the floods compassed me about: all thy billows and thy waves passed over me. Then I said, I am cast out of thy sight; yet I will look again toward thy holy temple. The waters compassed me about, even to the soul: the depth closed me round about, the weeds were wrapped about my head. I went down to the bottoms of the mountains; the earth with her bars was about me for ever: yet hast thou brought up my life from corruption, O Lord my God. When my soul fainted within me I remembered the Lord: and my prayer came in unto thee, into thine holy temple. They that observe lying vanities forsake their own mercy. But I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay that that I have vowed. salvation is of the Lord. And the Lord spake unto the fish, and it vomited out Jonah upon the dry land." --Jonah 2

"Then Jonah prayed unto Jehovah his God out of the fish's belly. And he said, I called by reason of mine affliction unto Jehovah, And he answered me; Out of the belly of Sheol cried I, And thou heardest my voice. For thou didst cast me into the depth, in the heart of the seas, And the flood was round about me; All thy waves and thy billows passed over me. And I said, I am cast out from

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before thine eyes; Yet I will look again toward thy holy temple. The waters compassed me about, even to the soul; The deep was round about me; The weeds were wrapped about my head. I went down to the bottoms of the mountains; The earth with its bars closed upon me for ever: Yet hast thou brought up my life from the pit, O Jehovah my God. When my soul fainted within me, I remembered Jehovah; And my prayer came in unto thee, into thy holy temple. They that regard lying vanities Forsake their own mercy. But I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay that which I have vowed. salvation is of Jehovah. And Jehovah spake unto the fish, and it vomited out Jonah upon the dry land." --Jonah 2 (American Standard Version)

"Then Jonah made prayer to the Lord his God from the inside of the fish, and said, In my trouble I was crying to the Lord, and he gave me an answer; out of the deepest underworld I sent up a cry, and you gave ear to my voice. For you have put me down into the deep, into the heart of the sea; and the river was round about me; all your waves and your rolling waters went over me. And I said, I have been sent away from before your eyes; how may I ever again see your holy Temple? The waters were circling round me, even to the neck; the deep was about me; the sea-grass was twisted round my head. I went down to the bases of the mountains; as for the earth, her walls were about me for ever: but you have taken up my life from the underworld, O Lord my God. When my soul in me was overcome, I kept the memory of the Lord: and my prayer came in to you, into your holy Temple. The worshippers of false gods have given up their only hope. But I will make an offering to you with the voice of praise; I will give effect to my oaths. salvation is the Lord's. And at the Lord's order, the fish sent Jonah out of its mouth on to the dry land." --Jonah 2 (Bible in Basic English)

"Then Jonah prayed to the Lord, his God, out of the fish's belly. He said, "I called because of my affliction to the Lord. He answered me. Out of the belly of Sheol I cried. You heard my voice. For you threw me into the depths, in the

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heart of the seas. The flood was all around me. All your waves and your billows passed over me. I said, 'I have been banished from your sight; yet I will look again toward your holy temple.' The waters surrounded me, even to the soul. The deep was around me. The weeds were wrapped around my head. I went down to the bottoms of the mountains. The earth barred me in forever: yet have you brought up my life from the pit, Lord my God. "When my soul fainted within me, I remembered the Lord. My prayer came in to you, into your holy temple. Those who regard lying vanities forsake their own mercy. But I will sacrifice to you with the voice of thanksgiving. I will pay that which I have vowed. salvation belongs to the Lord." The Lord spoke to the fish, and it vomited out Jonah on the dry land." --Jonah 2 (New Heart English Bible)

"And the Lord prepared a great fish to swallow Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish for three days and three nights. And Jonah prayed to the Lord, his God, from the belly of the fish. And he said: "I cried out to the Lord from my tribulation, and he heeded me. From the belly of hell, I cried out, and you heeded my voice. And you have thrown me into the deep, in the heart of the sea, and a flood has encircled me. All your whirlpools and your waves have passed over me. And I said: I am expelled from the sight of your eyes. Yet, truly, I will see your holy temple again. The waters surrounded me, even to the soul. The abyss has walled me in. The ocean has covered my head. I descended to the base of the mountains. The bars of the earth have enclosed me forever. And you will raise up my life from corruption, Lord, my God. When my soul was in anguish within me, I called to mind the Lord, so that my prayer might come to you, to your holy temple. Those who in vain observe vanities, abandon their own mercy. But I, with a voice of praise, will sacrifice to you. I will repay whatever I have vowed to the Lord, because of my salvation." And the Lord spoke to the fish, and it vomited Jonah onto dry land." --Jonah 2 (Catholic Public Domain Version)

7.2 Psalm 40

"I waited patiently for the Lord; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry. He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the Lord. Blessed is that man that maketh the Lord his trust, and respecteth not the proud, nor such as turn aside to lies. Many, O Lord my God, are thy wonderful works which thou hast done, and thy thoughts which are to us-ward: they cannot be reckoned up in order unto thee: if I would declare and speak of them, they are more than can be numbered. sacrifice and offering thou didst not desire; mine ears hast thou opened: burnt offering and sin offering hast thou not required. Then said I, Lo, I come: in the volume of the book it is written of me, I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart. I have preached righteousness in the great congregation: lo, I have not refrained my lips, O Lord, thou knowest. I have not hid thy righteousness within my heart; I have declared thy faithfulness and thy salvation: I have not concealed thy lovingkindness and thy truth from the great congregation. Withhold not thou thy tender mercies from me, O Lord: let thy lovingkindness and thy truth continually preserve me. For innumerable evils have compassed me about: mine iniquities have taken hold upon me, so that I am not able to look up; they are more than the hairs of mine head: therefore my heart faileth me. Be pleased, O Lord, to deliver me: O Lord, make haste to help me. Let them be ashamed and confounded together that seek after my soul to destroy it; let them be driven backward and put to shame that wish me evil. Let them be desolate for a reward of their shame that say unto me, Aha, aha. Let all those that seek thee rejoice and be glad in thee: let such as love thy salvation say continually, The Lord be magnified. But I am poor and needy; yet the Lord thinketh upon me: thou art my help and my deliverer; make no tarrying, O my God." --Psalm 40

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"I waited patiently for Jehovah; And he inclined unto me, and heard my cry. He brought me up also out of a horrible pit, out of the miry clay; And he set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: Many shall see it, and fear, And shall trust in Jehovah. Blessed is the man that maketh Jehovah his trust, And respecteth not the proud, nor such as turn aside to lies. Many, O Jehovah my God, are the wonderful works which thou hast done, And thy thoughts which are to us-ward: They cannot be set in order unto thee; If I would declare and speak of them, They are more than can be numbered. sacrifice and offering thou hast no delight in; Mine ears hast thou opened: Burnt-offering and sin-offering hast thou not required. Then said I, Lo, I am come; In the roll of the book it is written of me: I delight to do thy will, O my God; Yea, thy law is within my heart. I have proclaimed glad tidings of righteousness in the great assembly; Lo, I will not refrain my lips, O Jehovah, thou knowest. I have not hid thy righteousness within my heart; I have declared thy faithfulness and thy salvation; I have not concealed thy lovingkindness and thy truth from the great assembly. Withhold not thou thy tender mercies from me, O Jehovah; Let thy lovingkindness and thy truth continually preserve me. For innumerable evils have compassed me about; Mine iniquities have overtaken me, so that I am not able to look up; They are more than the hairs of my head; And my heart hath failed me. Be pleased, O Jehovah, to deliver me: Make haste to help me, O Jehovah. Let them be put to shame and confounded together That seek after my soul to destroy it: Let them be turned backward and brought to dishonor That delight in my hurt. Let them be desolate by reason of their shame That say unto me, Aha, aha. Let all those that seek thee rejoice and be glad in thee: Let such as love thy salvation say continually, Jehovah be magnified. But I am poor and needy; Yet the Lord thinketh upon me: Thou art my help and my deliverer; Make no tarrying, O my God." --Psalm 40 (American Standard Version)

"When I was waiting quietly for the Lord, his heart was turned to me, and he

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gave ear to my cry. He took me up out of a deep waste place, out of the soft and sticky earth; he put my feet on a rock, and made my steps certain. And he put a new song in my mouth, even praise to our God; numbers have seen it with fear, and put their faith in the Lord. Happy is the man who has faith in the Lord, and does not give honour to the men of pride or to those who are turned away to deceit. O Lord my God, great are the wonders which you have done in your thought for us; it is not possible to put them out in order before you; when I would give an account of them, their number is greater than I may say. You had no desire for offerings of beasts or fruits of the earth; ears you made for me: for burned offerings and sin offerings you made no request. Then I said, See, I come; it is recorded of me in the roll of the book, My delight is to do your pleasure, O my God; truly, your law is in my heart. I have given news of righteousness in the great meeting; O Lord, you have knowledge that I have not kept back my words. Your righteousness has not been folded away in my heart; I have made clear your true word and your salvation; I have not kept secret your mercy or your faith from the great meeting. Take not away your gentle mercies from me, O Lord; let your mercy and your faith keep me safe for ever. For unnumbered evils are round about me; my sins have overtaken me, so that I am bent down with their weight; they are more than the hairs of my head, my strength is gone because of them. Be pleased, O Lord, to take me out of danger; O Lord, come quickly and give me help. Let those who go after my soul for its destruction have shame and trouble together; let them be turned back and made foolish who take pleasure in my trouble. Let those who say to me, Aha, aha! be surprised because of their shame. Let all those who are looking for you be glad and have joy in you; let the lovers of your salvation ever say, May the Lord be great. Though I am poor and in need, the Lord has me in mind; you are my help and my saviour; let there be no waiting, O my God." --Psalm 40 (Bible in Basic English)

"I waited patiently for the Lord. He turned to me, and heard my cry. He brought me up also out of a horrible pit, out of the miry clay. He set my feet on a rock,

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and gave me a firm place to stand. He has put a new song in my mouth, even praise to our God. Many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the Lord. Blessed is the man who makes the Lord his trust, and doesn't respect the proud, nor such as turn aside to lies. Many, Lord, my God, are the wonderful works which you have done, and your thoughts which are toward us. They can't be declared back to you. If I would declare and speak of them, they are more than can be numbered. sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you have prepared for me. You have not required burnt offering and sin offering. Then I said, "Behold, I have come. It is written about me in the book in the scroll. I delight to do your will, my God. Yes, your law is within my heart." I have proclaimed glad news of righteousness in the great assembly. Behold, I will not seal my lips, Lord, you know. I have not hidden your righteousness within my heart. I have declared your faithfulness and your salvation. I have not concealed your loving kindness and your truth from the great assembly. Do not withhold your tender mercies from me, Lord. Let your loving kindness and your truth continually preserve me. For innumerable evils have surrounded me. My iniquities have overtaken me, so that I am not able to look up. They are more than the hairs of my head. My heart has failed me. Be pleased, Lord, to deliver me. Hurry to help me, Lord. Let them be disappointed and confounded together who seek after my soul to destroy it. Let them be turned backward and brought to dishonor who delight in my hurt. Let them be desolate by reason of their shame that tell me, "Aha! Aha!" Let all those who seek you rejoice and be glad in you. Let such as love your salvation say continually, "Let the Lord be exalted!" But I am poor and needy. May the Lord think about me. You are my help and my deliverer. Do not delay, my God." --Psalm 40 (New Heart English Bible)

"I have waited expectantly for the Lord, and he was attentive to me. And he heard my prayers and he led me out of the pit of misery and the quagmire. And he stationed my feet upon a rock, and he directed my steps. And he sent a new canticle into my mouth, a song to our God. Many will see, and they will fear;

and they will hope in the Lord. Blessed is the man whose hope is in the name of the Lord, and who has no respect for vanities and absurd falsehoods. You have accomplished your many wonders, O Lord my God, and there is no one similar to you in your thoughts. I have announced and I have spoken: they are multiplied beyond number. sacrifice and oblation, you did not want. But you have perfected ears for me. Holocaust and sin offering, you did not require. Then I said, "Behold, I draw near." At the head of the book, it has been written of me: that I should do your will. My God, I have willed it. And your law is in the midst of my heart. I have announced your justice in a great Church: behold, I will not restrain my lips. O Lord, you have known it. I have not concealed your justice within my heart. I have spoken your truth and your salvation. I have not concealed your mercy and your truth from a great assembly. O Lord, do not take your tender mercies far from me. Your mercy and your truth ever sustain me. For evils without number have surrounded me. My iniquities have taken hold of me, and I was not able to see. They have been multiplied beyond the hairs of my head. And my heart has forsaken me. Be pleased, O Lord, to rescue me. Look down, O Lord, to help me. Let them together be confounded and awed, who seek after my soul to steal it away. Let them be turned back and be in awe, who wish evils upon me. Let them bear their confusion all at once, who say to me, "Well, well." Let all who seek you exult and rejoice over you. And let those who love your salvation always say, "May the Lord be magnified." But I am a beggar and poor. The Lord has been concerned about me. You are my helper and my protector. My God, do not delay." --Psalm 40 (Catholic Public Domain Version)

7.3 Psalm 116:1-8

"I love the Lord, because he hath heard my voice and my supplications. Because he hath inclined his ear unto me, therefore will I call upon him as long as I live.

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The sorrows of death compassed me, and the pains of hell gat hold upon me: I found trouble and sorrow. Then called I upon the name of the Lord; O Lord, I beseech thee, deliver my soul. Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; yea, our God is merciful. The Lord preserveth the simple: I was brought low, and he helped me. Return unto thy rest, O my soul; for the Lord hath dealt bountifully with thee. For thou hast delivered my soul from death, mine eyes from tears, and my feet from falling." --Psalm 116:1-8

I love Jehovah, because he heareth My voice and my supplications. Because he hath inclined his ear unto me, Therefore will I call upon him as long as I live. The cords of death compassed me, And the pains of Sheol gat hold upon me: I found trouble and sorrow. Then called I upon the name of Jehovah: O Jehovah, I beseech thee, deliver my soul. Gracious is Jehovah, and righteous; Yea, our God is merciful. Jehovah preserveth the simple: I was brought low, and he saved me. Return unto thy rest, O my soul; For Jehovah hath dealt bountifully with thee. For thou hast delivered my soul from death, Mine eyes from tears, And my feet from falling. --Psalm 116:1-8 (American Standard Version)

"I have given my love to the Lord, because he has given ear to the voice of my cry and my prayer. He has let my request come before him, and I will make my prayer to him all my days. The nets of death were round me, and the pains of the underworld had me in their grip; I was full of trouble and sorrow. Then I made my prayer to the Lord, saying, O Lord, take my soul out of trouble. The Lord is full of grace and righteousness; truly, he is a God of mercy. The Lord keeps the simple; I was made low, and he was my saviour. Come back to your rest, O my soul; for the Lord has given you your reward. You have taken my soul from the power of death, keeping my eyes from weeping, and my feet from falling." --Psalm 116:1-8 (Bible in Basic English)

"I love the Lord, because he listens to my voice, and my cries for mercy. Because he has turned his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I

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live. The cords of death surrounded me, the pains of Sheol got a hold of me. I found trouble and sorrow. Then I called on the name of the Lord: "Lord, I beg you, deliver my soul." The Lord is Gracious and righteous. Yes, our God is merciful. The Lord preserves the simple. I was brought low, and he saved me. Return to your rest, my soul, for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you. For you have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, and my feet from falling." --Psalm 116:1-8 (New Heart English Bible)

"Alleluia. I have loved: therefore, the Lord will heed the voice of my prayer. For he has inclined his ear to me. And in my days, I will call upon him. The sorrows of death have surrounded me, and the perils of hell have found me. I have found tribulation and sorrow. And so, I called upon the name of the Lord. O Lord, free my soul. Merciful is the Lord, and just. And our God is compassionate. The Lord is the keeper of little ones. I was humbled, and he freed me. Turn again, my soul, to your rest. For the Lord has done good to you. For he has rescued my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from slipping." --Psalm 116:1-8 (Catholic Public Domain Version)

7.4 Psalm 107:8-14

"Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men! For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness. Such as sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, being bound in affliction and iron; Because they rebelled against the words of God, and contemned the counsel of the most High: Therefore he brought down their heart with labour; they fell down, and there was none to help. Then they cried unto the Lord in their trouble, and he saved them out of their distresses. He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death, and brake their bands in sunder." --Psalm 107:8-14

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"Oh that men would praise Jehovah for his lovingkindness, And for his wonderful works to the children of men! For he satisfieth the longing soul, And the hungry soul he filleth with good. Such as sat in darkness and in the shadow of death, Being bound in affliction and iron, Because they rebelled against the words of God, And contemned the counsel of the Most High: Therefore he brought down their heart with labor; They fell down, and there was none to help. Then they cried unto Jehovah in their trouble, And he saved them out of their distresses. He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death, And brake their bonds in sunder." --Psalm 107:8-14 (American Standard Version)

"Let men give praise to the Lord for his mercy, and for the wonders which he does for the children of men! He gives its desire to the unresting soul, so that it is full of good things. Those who were in the dark, in the black night, in chains of sorrow and iron; Because they went against the words of God, and gave no thought to the laws of the Most High: So that he made their hearts weighted down with grief; they were falling, and had no helper. Then they sent up their cry to the Lord in their sorrow, and he gave them salvation out of all their troubles. He took them out of the dark and the black night, and all their chains were broken." --Psalm 107:8-14 (Bible in Basic English)

"Let them praise the Lord for his loving kindness, for his wonderful works to the children of men! For he satisfies the longing soul. He fills the hungry soul with good. Some sat in darkness and in the shadow of death, being bound in affliction and iron, because they rebelled against the words of God, and condemned the counsel of the Most High. Therefore he brought down their heart with labor. They fell down, and there was none to help. Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he saved them out of their distresses. He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death, and broke their bonds in sunder." --Psalm 107:8-14 (New Heart English Bible)

"Let his mercies confess to the Lord, and let his miracles confess to the sons of men. For he has satisfied the empty soul, and he has satisfied the hungry soul with good things: those sitting in darkness and in the shadow of death, shackled by extreme poverty and by iron. For they exasperated the eloquence of God, and they irritated the deliberation of the Most High. And their heart was brought low with hardships. They were weakened, and there was no one to help them. And they cried out to the Lord in their tribulation, and he freed them from their distress. And he led them out of darkness and the shadow of death, and he broke apart their chains." --Psalm 107:8-14 (Catholic Public Domain Version)

7.5 Lamentations 3:18-26

"And I said, My strength and my hope is perished from the Lord: Remembering mine affliction and my misery, the wormwood and the gall. My soul hath them still in remembrance, and is humbled in me. This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope. It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness. The Lord is my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in him. The Lord is good unto them that wait for him, to the soul that seeketh him. It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the Lord."
--Lamentations 3:18-26

"And I said, My strength is perished, and mine expectation from Jehovah. Remember mine affliction and my misery, the wormwood and the gall. My soul hath them still in remembrance, and is bowed down within me. This I recall to my mind; therefore have I hope. It is of Jehovah's lovingkindnesses that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning;

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great is thy faithfulness. Jehovah is my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in him. Jehovah is good unto them that wait for him, to the soul that seeketh him. It is good that a man should hope and quietly wait for the salvation of Jehovah." --Lamentations 3:18-26 (American Standard Version)

"And I said, My strength is cut off, and my hope from the Lord. Keep in mind my trouble and my wandering, the bitter root and the poison. My soul still keeps the memory of them; and is bent down in me. This I keep in mind, and because of this I have hope. It is through the Lord's love that we have not come to destruction, because his mercies have no limit. They are new every morning; great is your good faith. I said to myself, The Lord is my heritage; and because of this I will have hope in him. The Lord is good to those who are waiting for him, to the soul which is looking for him. It is good to go on hoping and quietly waiting for the salvation of the Lord." --Lamentations 3:18-26 (Bible in Basic English)

"And I said, "My strength and my hope has perished from the Lord." Remember my affliction and my misery, the wormwood and the gall. My soul considers them, and is depressed. But this I call to my mind; therefore I have hope: The Lord's faithful love does not cease; his compassion does not fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "therefore will I hope in him." The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. It is good that a man should hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the Lord." --Lamentations 3:18-26 (New Heart English Bible)

"And I said, "My end and my hope from the Lord has perished." Remember my poverty and my transgression, the wormwood and the gall. I will call to mind the past, and my soul shall languish within me. These recollections are in my heart; therefore, I shall hope. By the mercies of the Lord, we are not consumed. For his compassion has not passed away. I know it at first light;

great is your faithfulness. "The Lord is my portion," said my soul. Because of this, I will wait for him. The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him. It is good to stand ready in silence for the salvation of God."
--Lamentations 3:18-26 (Catholic Public Domain Version)

7.6 1 Samuel 2:1-10

"And Hannah prayed, and said, My heart rejoiceth in the Lord, mine horn is exalted in the Lord: my mouth is enlarged over mine enemies; because I rejoice in thy salvation. There is none holy as the Lord: for there is none beside thee: neither is there any rock like our God. Talk no more so exceeding proudly; let not arrogancy come out of your mouth: for the Lord is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed. The bows of the mighty men are broken, and they that stumbled are girded with strength. They that were full have hired out themselves for bread; and they that were hungry ceased: so that the barren hath born seven; and she that hath many children is waxed feeble. The Lord killeth, and maketh alive: he bringeth down to the grave, and bringeth up. The Lord maketh poor, and maketh rich: he bringeth low, and lifteth up. He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill, to set them among princes, and to make them inherit the throne of glory: for the pillars of the earth are the Lord's, and he hath set the world upon them. He will keep the feet of his saints, and the wicked shall be silent in darkness; for by strength shall no man prevail. The adversaries of the Lord shall be broken to pieces; out of heaven shall he thunder upon them: the Lord shall judge the ends of the earth; and he shall give strength unto his king, and exalt the horn of his anointed." --1 Samuel 2:1-10

"And Hannah prayed, and said: My heart exulteth in Jehovah; My horn is exalted in Jehovah; My mouth is enlarged over mine enemies; Because I rejoice

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in thy salvation. There is none holy as Jehovah; For there is none besides thee, Neither is there any rock like our God. Talk no more so exceeding proudly; Let not arrogancy come out of your mouth; For Jehovah is a God of knowledge, And by him actions are weighed. The bows of the mighty men are broken; And they that stumbled are girded with strength. They that were full have hired out themselves for bread; And they that were hungry have ceased to hunger: Yea, the barren hath borne seven; And she that hath many children languisheth. Jehovah killeth, and maketh alive: He bringeth down to Sheol, and bringeth up. Jehovah maketh poor, and maketh rich: He bringeth low, he also lifteth up. He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, He lifteth up the needy from the dunghill, To make them sit with princes, And inherit the throne of glory: For the pillars of the earth are Jehovah's, And he hath set the world upon them. He will keep the feet of his holy ones; But the wicked shall be put to silence in darkness; For by strength shall no man prevail. They that strive with Jehovah shall be broken to pieces; Against them will he thunder in heaven: Jehovah will judge the ends of the earth; And he will give strength unto his king, And exalt the horn of his anointed." --1 Samuel 2:1-10 (American Standard Version)

"And Hannah, in prayer before the Lord, said, My heart is glad in the Lord, my horn is lifted up in the Lord: my mouth is open wide over my haters; because my joy is in your salvation. No other is holy as the Lord, for there is no other God but you: there is no Rock like our God. Say no more words of pride; let not uncontrolled sayings come out of your mouths: for the Lord is a God of knowledge, by him acts are judged. The bows of the men of war are broken, and the feeble are clothed with strength. Those who were full are offering themselves as servants for bread; those who were in need are at rest; truly, she who had no children has become the mother of seven; and she who had a family is wasted with sorrow. The Lord is the giver of death and life: sending men down to the underworld and lifting them up. The Lord gives wealth and takes a man's goods from him: crushing men down and again lifting them up; Lifting the poor out of the dust, and him who is in need out of the lowest place,

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to give them their place among rulers, and for their heritage the seat of glory: for the pillars of the earth are the Lord's and he has made them the base of the world. He will keep the feet of his holy ones, but the evil-doers will come to their end in the dark night, for by strength no man will overcome. Those who make war against the Lord will be broken; against them he will send his thunder from heaven: the Lord will be judge of the ends of the earth, he will give strength to his king, lifting up the horn of him on whom the holy oil has been put." --1 Samuel 2:1-10 (Bible in Basic English)

"Hannah prayed, and said: "My heart exults in the Lord! My horn is exalted in the Lord. My mouth is enlarged over my enemies, because I rejoice in your salvation. There is no one as holy as the Lord, For there is no one besides you, nor is there any rock like our God. "Talk no more so exceeding proudly. Do not let arrogance come out of your mouth, For the Lord is a God of knowledge. By him actions are weighed. "The bows of the mighty men are broken. Those who stumbled are armed with strength. Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread. Those who were hungry are satisfied. Yes, the barren has borne seven. She who has many children languishes. "The Lord kills, and makes alive. He brings down to Sheol, and brings up. The Lord makes poor, and makes rich. He brings low, he also lifts up. He raises up the poor out of the dust. He lifts up the needy from the dunghill, To make them sit with princes, and inherit the throne of glory. For the pillars of the earth are the Lord's. He has set the world on them. He will keep the feet of his holy ones, but the wicked shall be put to silence in darkness; for no man shall prevail by strength. Those who strive with the Lord shall be broken to pieces. He will thunder against them in the sky. "The Lord will judge the ends of the earth. He will give strength to his king, and exalt the horn of his anointed."" --1 Samuel 2:1-10 (New Heart English Bible)

"My heart exults in the Lord, and my horn is exalted in my God. My mouth is enlarged over my enemies. For I have rejoiced in your salvation. Nothing is holy

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as the Lord is holy. For there is no other beside you. And nothing is strong as our God is strong. Do not continue speaking of great things, boasting. Let what is old depart from your mouth. For the Lord is the God of knowledge, and thoughts are prepared for him. The bow of the powerful has been overwhelmed, and the weak have been girded with strength. Those who before were filled, have hired themselves out for bread. And the starving have been filled, so that the barren have given birth to many. But she who had borne many sons has become unable. The Lord brings death, and he gives life. He leads away to death, and he brings back again. The Lord impoverishes, and he enriches. He humbles, and he lifts up. He raises up the indigent from the dust, and he lifts up the poor from filth, so that they may sit with princes, and take hold of a throne of glory. For the hinges of the earth belong to the Lord, and he has placed the globe upon them. He will preserve the feet of his holy ones, and the impious will be silenced in darkness. For no man will prevail by his own strength. The adversaries of the Lord will dread him. And over them, he will thunder in the heavens. The Lord will judge the parts of the earth, and he will give dominion to his king, and he will lift up the horn of his Christ." --1 Samuel 2:1-10 (Catholic Public Domain Version)

7.7 Isaiah 49:7-13

"Thus saith the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel, and his Holy One, to him whom man despiseth, to him whom the nation abhorreth, to a servant of rulers, Kings shall see and arise, princes also shall worship, because of the Lord that is faithful, and the Holy One of Israel, and he shall choose thee. Thus saith the Lord, In an acceptable time have I heard thee, and in a day of salvation have I helped thee: and I will preserve thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, to establish the earth, to cause to inherit the desolate heritages; That thou mayest say to the prisoners, Go forth; to them that are in darkness, Shew

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yourselves. They shall feed in the ways, and their pastures shall be in all high places. They shall not hunger nor thirst; neither shall the heat nor sun smite them: for he that hath mercy on them shall lead them, even by the springs of water shall he guide them. And I will make all my mountains a way, and my highways shall be exalted. Behold, these shall come from far: and, lo, these from the north and from the west; and these from the land of Sinim. sing, O heavens; and be joyful, O earth; and break forth into singing, O mountains: for the Lord hath comforted his people, and will have mercy upon his afflicted."

--Isaiah 49:7-13

"Thus saith Jehovah, the Redeemer of Israel, and his Holy One, to him whom man despiseth, to him whom the nation abhorreth, to a servant of rulers: Kings shall see and arise; princes, and they shall worship; because of Jehovah that is faithful, even the Holy One of Israel, who hath chosen thee. Thus saith Jehovah, In an acceptable time have I answered thee, and in a day of salvation have I helped thee; and I will preserve thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, to raise up the land, to make them inherit the desolate heritages; saying to them that are bound, Go forth; to them that are in darkness, Show yourselves. They shall feed in the ways, and on all bare heights shall be their pasture. They shall not hunger nor thirst; neither shall the heat nor sun smite them: for he that hath mercy on them will lead them, even by springs of water will he guide them. And I will make all my mountains a way, and my highways shall be exalted. Lo, these shall come from far; and, lo, these from the north and from the west; and these from the land of Sinim. sing, O heavens; and be joyful, O earth; and break forth into singing, O mountains: for Jehovah hath comforted his people, and will have compassion upon his afflicted." --Isaiah 49:7-13 (American Standard Version)

"The Lord who takes up Israel's cause, even his Holy One, says to him whom men make sport of, who is hated by the nations, a servant of rulers: Kings will see and get up from their places, and chiefs will give worship: because of the

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Lord who keeps faith; even the Holy One of Israel who has taken you for himself. This is the word of the Lord: I have given ear to you at a good time, and I have been your helper in a day of salvation: and I will keep you safe, and will make you a glory for the people, putting the land in order, and giving them the heritages which now are waste; Saying to those who are in chains, Go free; to those who are in the dark, Come out into the light. They will get food by the way wherever they go, and have grass-lands on all the dry mountain-tops. They will not be in need of food or drink, or be troubled by the heat or the sun: for he who has mercy on them will be their guide, taking them by the springs of water. And I will make all my mountains a way, and my highways will be lifted up. See, these are coming from far; and these from the north and the west; and these from the land of Sinim. Let your voice be loud in song, O heavens; and be glad, O earth; make sounds of joy, O mountains, for the Lord has given comfort to his people, and will have mercy on his crushed ones." --Isaiah 49:7-13 (Bible in Basic English)

"Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel, and his Holy One, to him whom man despises, to him whom the nation abhors, to a servant of rulers: "Kings shall see and arise; princes, and they shall worship; because of the Lord who is faithful, even the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you." Thus says the Lord, "In an acceptable time have I answered you, and in a day of salvation have I helped you; and I will preserve you, and give you for a covenant of the people, to raise up the land, to make them inherit the desolate heritage: saying to those who are bound, 'Come out!'; to those who are in darkness, 'Show yourselves!' "They shall feed in the ways, and on all bare heights shall be their pasture. They shall not hunger nor thirst; neither shall the heat nor sun strike them: for he who has mercy on them will lead them, even by springs of water he will guide them. I will make all my mountains a way, and my highways shall be exalted. Behold, these shall come from far; and behold, these from the north and from the west; and these from the land of Sinim." sing, heavens; and be joyful, earth; and break forth into singing, mountains: for the Lord has

comforted his people, and will have compassion on his afflicted." --Isaiah 49:7-13 (New Heart English Bible)

Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel, his Holy One, to a contemptible soul, to an abominable nation, to the servant of lords: The kings will see, and the princes will rise up, and they will adore, because of the Lord. For he is faithful, and he is the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you. Thus says the Lord: In a pleasing time, I have heeded you, and in the day of salvation, I have assisted you. And I have preserved you, and I have presented you as a covenant of the people, so that you would lift up the earth, and possess the scattered inheritances, so that you would say to those who are bound, "Go forth!" and to those who are in darkness, "Be released!" They will pasture along the roads, and their pastures will be in every open place. They will not hunger or thirst, nor will the heat of the sun beat down upon them. For the one who takes pity on them will rule them, and he will give them to drink from fountains of waters. And I will make all my mountains into a road, and my paths will be exalted. Behold, some will come from far away, and behold, others from the north and from the sea, and still others from the land of the south. Give praise, O heavens! And exult, O earth! Let the mountains give praise with jubilation! For the Lord has consoled his people, and he will take pity on his poor ones. --Isaiah 49:7-13 (Catholic Public Domain Version)

7.8 2 Corinthians 4:7-18

"But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us. We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed; Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body.

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For we which live are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh. So then death worketh in us, but life in you. We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak; Knowing that he which raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also by Jesus, and shall present us with you. For all things are for your sakes, that the abundant grace might through the thanksgiving of many redound to the glory of God. For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal." --2 Corinthians 4:7-18

"But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the exceeding greatness of the power may be of God, and not from ourselves; we are pressed on every side, yet not straitened; perplexed, yet not unto despair; pursued, yet not forsaken; smitten down, yet not destroyed; always bearing about in the body the dying of Jesus, that the life also of Jesus may be manifested in our body. For we who live are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So then death worketh in us, but life in you. But having the same spirit of faith, according to that which is written, I believed, and therefore did I speak; we also believe, and therefore also we speak; knowing that he that raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also with Jesus, and shall present us with you. For all things are for your sakes, that the grace, being multiplied through the many, may cause the thanksgiving to abound unto the glory of God. Wherefore we faint not; but though our outward man is decaying, yet our inward man is renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is for the moment, worketh for us more and more exceedingly an eternal weight of glory; while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are

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seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal." --2
Corinthians 4:7-18 (American Standard Version)

"But we have this wealth in vessels of earth, so that it may be seen that the power comes not from us but from God; Troubles are round us on every side, but we are not shut in; things are hard for us, but we see a way out of them; We are cruelly attacked, but not without hope; we are made low, but we are not without help; In our bodies there is ever the mark of the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may be seen in our bodies. For, while living, we are still being given up to death because of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may be seen in our flesh, though it is under the power of death. So then, death is working in us, but life in you. But having the same spirit of faith, as it is said in the Writings, The words of my mouth came from the faith in my heart; in the same way, our words are the outcome of our faith; Because we are certain that he who made the Lord Jesus come back from the dead, will do the same for us, and will give us a place in his glory with you. For we go through all things on account of you, because the greater the number to whom the grace is given, the greater is the praise to the glory of God. For which cause we do not give way to weariness; but though our outer man is getting feebler, our inner man is made new day by day. For our present trouble, which is only for a short time, is working out for us a much greater weight of glory; While our minds are not on the things which are seen, but on the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are for a time; but the things which are not seen are eternal."
--2 Corinthians 4:7-18 (Bible in Basic English)

"But we have this treasure in clay vessels, that the exceeding greatness of the power may be of God, and not from ourselves. We are pressed on every side, yet not crushed; perplexed, yet not to despair; pursued, yet not forsaken; struck down, yet not destroyed; always carrying in the body the putting to death of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the

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life also of Jesus may be revealed in our mortal flesh. So then death works in us, but life in you. But having the same spirit of faith, according to that which is written, "I believed, and therefore I spoke." We also believe, and therefore also we speak; knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will present us with you. For all things are for your sakes, that the grace, being multiplied through the many, may cause the thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God. Therefore we do not faint, but though our outward man is decaying, yet our inward man is renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is for the moment, works for us more and more exceedingly an eternal weight of glory; while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal."--2 Corinthians 4:7-18 (New Heart English Bible)

"But we hold this treasure in earthen vessels, so that what is sublime may be of the power of God, and not of us. In all things, we endure tribulation, yet we are not in anguish. We are constrained, yet we are not destitute. We suffer persecution, yet we have not been abandoned. We are thrown down, yet we do not perish. We ever carry around the mortification of Jesus in our bodies, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. For we who live are ever handed over unto death for the sake of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our mortal flesh. Therefore, death is at work in us, and life is at work in you. But we have the same spirit of faith. And just as it is written, "I believed, and for that reason I spoke," so we also believe, and for that reason, we also speak. For we know that the One who raised up Jesus will raise us up also with Jesus and will place us with you. Thus, all is for you, so that grace, abounding through many in thanksgiving, may abound to the glory of God. For this reason, we are not insufficient. But it is as though our outer man is corrupted, while our inner man is renewed from day to day. For though our tribulation is, at the present time, brief and light, it accomplishes in us the weight of a sublime eternal glory, beyond measure. And we are contemplating,

not the things that are seen, but the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are temporal, whereas the things that are not seen are eternal."--2 Corinthians 4:7-18 (Catholic Public Domain Version)

7.9 Philippians 4:4-13

"rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, rejoice. Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you. But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at the last your care of me hath flourished again; wherein ye were also careful, but ye lacked opportunity. Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." --Philippians 4:4-13

"rejoice in the Lord always: again I will say, rejoice. Let your forbearance be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. In nothing be anxious; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren,

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whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honorable, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. The things which ye both learned and received and heard and saw in me, these things do: and the God of peace shall be with you. But I rejoice in the Lord greatly, that now at length ye have revived your thought for me; wherein ye did indeed take thought, but ye lacked opportunity. Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therein to be content. I know how to be abased, and I know also how to abound: in everything and in all things have I learned the secret both to be filled and to be hungry, both to abound and to be in want. I can do all things in him that strengtheneth me." --Philippians 4:4-13 (American Standard Version)

"Be glad in the Lord at all times: again I say, Be glad. Let your gentle behaviour be clear to all men. The Lord is near. Have no cares; but in everything with prayer and praise put your requests before God. And the peace of God, which is deeper than all knowledge, will keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. For the rest, my brothers, whatever things are true, whatever things have honour, whatever things are upright, whatever things are holy, whatever things are beautiful, whatever things are of value, if there is any virtue and if there is any praise, give thought to these things. The things which came to you by my teaching and preaching, and which you saw in me, these things do, and the God of peace will be with you. But I am very glad in the Lord that your care for me has come to life again; though you did in fact take thought for me, but you were not able to give effect to it. But I will not say anything about my needs, for I am able, wherever I am, to be dependent on myself. It is the same to me if I am looked down on or honoured; everywhere and in all things I have the secret of how to be full and how to go without food; how to have wealth and how to be in need. I am able to do all things through him who gives me strength." --Philippians 4:4-13 (Bible in Basic English)

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"rejoice in the Lord always! Again I will say, rejoice! Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is near. In nothing be anxious, but in everything, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, whatever things are true, whatever things are honorable, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report; if there is any virtue, and if there is any praise, think about these things. The things which you learned, received, heard, and saw in me: do these things, and the God of peace will be with you. But I rejoice in the Lord greatly, that now at length you have revived your thought for me; in which you did indeed take thought, but you lacked opportunity. Not that I speak in respect to lack, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content in it. I know how to be humbled, and I know also how to abound. In everything and in all things I have learned the secret both to be filled and to be hungry, both to abound and to be in need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

--Philippians 4:4-13 (New Heart English Bible)

"rejoice in the Lord always. Again, I say, rejoice. Let your modesty be known to all men. The Lord is near. Be anxious about nothing. But in all things, with prayer and supplication, with acts of thanksgiving, let your petitions be made known to God. And so shall the peace of God, which exceeds all understanding, guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Concerning the rest, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is chaste, whatever is just, whatever is holy, whatever is worthy to be loved, whatever is of good repute, if there is any virtue, if there is any praiseworthy discipline: meditate on these. All the things that you have learned and accepted and heard and seen in me, do these. And so shall the God of peace be with you. Now I rejoice in the Lord exceedingly, because finally, after some time, your feelings for me have flourished again, just as you formerly felt. For you had been preoccupied. I am not saying this as

if out of need. For I have learned that, in whatever state I am, it is sufficient. I know how to be humbled, and I know how to abound. I am prepared for anything, anywhere: either to be full or to be hungry, either to have abundance or to endure scarcity. Everything is possible in him who has strengthened me."
--Philippians 4:4-13 (Catholic Public Domain Version)

8 My Synopsis

Many Christians spend their whole lives trying to understand every aspect of the Bible, before following any of it. God makes the things He wants us to do obvious and so we need to first do all the things in the Bible that we know that we are not yet doing, before we go on to things that are less clear. We will never understand the Bible fully as the Bible is beyond even the understanding of angels.

Christianity is like a group of recovering addicts. We made bad choices of our own free will and need to improve who we are by making better choices. This is only possible through Christ. Christians are not good, but go to Heaven because God made that choice. Why God still finds value in us is a mystery. God does not want us to live anymore without Him, because we need His help to do good.

If you have never struggled with immorality, then there is no reason for you to be a Christian. God really hates arrogance. The great struggle against ourselves consists of the conflicts between Darkness vs. Light, Christians vs. Society, and Knowledge vs. Faith.

God knows everything about us and has experienced our life as people directly, when He was on earth. Even though He lived as a human being, while still being fully God, He did not do anything morally wrong. This means God can help us,

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with His own personal experience, and give us His will that we may choose to resist, when we are tempted to make bad choices and do what we know is wrong.

God refused to give in to evil and He can and will help us separate the evil from within us. God can read not only our minds but our hearts. God's response is not to punish us for our conscious decisions to do evil, but to strengthen our conscience and freely forgive us. This way we may try again and, this time, now not only knowing better, but made stronger to resist evil.

Christ, by Himself, has made Himself a spiritual bridge between His people and God the Father. God actually creates us again, by joining us with Himself, uniting us together spiritually. We become strangers to the world, as we become part of God's family. There is no middle ground: you are either part of God's family and have spiritual peace, or else you are separated from God and are tormented by trying to get surface level acceptance by mainstream society. The world does not care about you - God does.

God wants to literally live inside of you and wants you to choose of your own free will to invite Him in to all aspects of your life and existence. You either serve God completely or serve the world, as you were never designed to live alone. If you do not actively and consciously choose to follow God over and over again with every spiritually significant decision you make, you default to being a follower of mainstream society. Be at peace as a place of worship for God or be at war with yourself.

The choice is yours: you can spend your life trying to get others to love you unsuccessfully or get God's love by just accepting the free gift He is offering. Society wants your money; God wants your heart. Society will break you down and destroy you and give you nothing in return. God will lift you up and make you a better person. The world wants you to change for its gain but God wants

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you to be who He created again. God wants you to be innocent like a child whereas the world wants to fill you with fear and despair.

The world wants to manipulate and control you, whereas God wants to make you a person you can be proud of. God wants to restore you to how He created you, whereas the world wants to manipulate you into following it, but without any real benefit to you. God wants you to be part of His family and requires nothing in return. God never lies but the world is based on nothing but lies.

The world is very loud, but God is very quiet. The world fights for your constant attention whereas God brings you to Him gently over time. God is a God of peace and restfulness whereas the world never wants you to sleep or even slow down. The world wants you to keep buying more and more to fix your problems where God wants you to be happy with what you have. The world wants power over you whereas God wants to free you from the devastating consequences of immorality. God is your perfect Father and the world is an abused bully.

But you will never be forced to be in either camp. God wants you to actively and continually choose Him, not just go through the motions with Him. Nor everyone in the church is Christian and not everyone claiming to be Christian is really promoting Biblical ideas. You can never trust anyone nowadays, but you can trust God. He has earned your trust and accepts you wherever you are and for who you are.

Many have given up on organized religion, but the true Church cannot be reduced any one denomination or organization and the Bible is the only thing you should unconditionally believe in. People, even good hearted Christians, will fail you when you really need them, but God is always there for you. God always was and will be here forever for you, but why would you want to live any more of your life being abused by the world? God is also the real one in

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charged and has already won the war against the world. When the most powerful side is also the kindest and most forgiving one, it is obvious which one to choose.

We are saved by faith alone, for the purpose of doing charity work for others. In other words, we do not get saved by works, but are rather saved by grace so that we can then have the joy of serving others. Serving others not only gives us an outlet to express our purpose and meaning in life (that comes from knowing more about God and letting Him work in our lives), but also allows us to think beyond our own circumstances (with the promise of eternal life, with no suffering after death).

God is by His very nature unwilling to lie for any reason, while the devil is called the "father of lies". All throughout the Bible, God makes contracts with Adam and Eve, Noah, and the ancient people of Israel (as well as animals), and everyone else through Jesus Christ.

If you lived before Jesus died, to be part of God's plan you needed to be part of the ancient country of Israel. You also needed to follow the ten commandments as expanded in the first five books of the Old Testament. Every time you didn't follow any of God's commands, you had to offer a farm animal as a sacrifice (because they were expensive and it was culturally familiar and relevant practice, at that time).

Not only are we now saved by faith, but each of the famous ancient people of Israel talked about in the Old Testament also were saved by faith as well. Jesus Christ's sacrifice by dying a very painful death on the cross and taking on the punishment for everyone's evil deeds and defeating the devil and death completely and forever applies retroactively to people before His death as well.

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Basically, God has revealed more about Himself (like the Son of God aspect) later on in history and so the same kind of promise is repeated and renewed again and again up until the promise of the Holy Spirit at what Christians now celebrate as Pentecost. This is where the idea of speaking in tongues first started. People of the Jewish faith (people that are Jewish because of religion, not necessarily ethnically Jewish) do not see Jesus Christ as the one talked about in prophecy to be their Savior or Messiah, but Christians do. The first Christians as well as Jesus were actually Jewish (ethnically).

The Bible uses simple words that are of great power and eternal significance. Just because the Bible is understandable to simple people, it does not mean that it will not challenge the brightest among us. The Bible is not meant to win you over by fancy arguments or fancy words. Intellectuals rejected God from the beginning, so God chose to make salvation in the appearance of foolishness to people, that in reality is way beyond the comprehension of any person.

No one will be able to predict when God will return and this is so people will keep to God's commandments and not wait to convert to the faith until the end of their lives. God wants us to be happy and celebrate, as we are instructed in the Old Testament, but we are not to get high or drunk or get out of control, by any means. Christianity is a religion of moderation and self control. God is a God of order and peace.

Avoid doing even things that are only borderline bad ideas or could be perceived by others as contrary to Christianity. We need to help and support both those people inside and outside the church. We need to pray (talk to God) constantly.

9 Ephesians

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"And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others. But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them."
--Ephesians 2:1-10

"For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh. For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father. Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit."
--Ephesians 2:14-22

"Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh

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the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience. Be not ye therefore partakers with them. For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light: (For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth;) Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them. For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret. But all things that are reprov'd are made manifest by the light: for whatsoever doth make manifest is light. Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light. See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is. And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;" --Ephesians 5:6-19

Hebrews

"For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his. Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief. For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do. Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." --Hebrews 4:10-16

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"For when God made promise to Abraham, because he could swear by no greater, he swore by himself, Saying, Surely blessing I will bless thee, and multiplying I will multiply thee. And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise. For men verily swear by the greater: and an oath for confirmation is to them an end of all strife. Wherein God, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his counsel, confirmed it by an oath: That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us: Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil;" --Hebrews 6:13-19

"Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such a high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man. For every high priest is ordained to offer gifts and sacrifices: wherefore it is of necessity that this man have somewhat also to offer. For if he were on earth, he should not be a priest, seeing that there are priests that offer gifts according to the law: Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount. But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises. For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the

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Lord. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest. For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more. In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away." --Hebrews 8

"Now when these things were thus ordained, the priests went always into the first tabernacle, accomplishing the service of God. But into the second went the high priest alone once every year, not without blood, which he offered for himself, and for the errors of the people: The Holy Ghost this signifying, that the way into the holiest of all was not yet made manifest, while as the first tabernacle was yet standing: Which was a figure for the time then present, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience; Which stood only in meats and drinks, and divers washings, and carnal ordinances, imposed on them until the time of reformation. But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance. For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be

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the death of the testator. For a testament is of force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth." -- Hebrews 9:6-17

"For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us: Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others; For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation." --Hebrews 9:24-28

"Whereof the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us: for after that he had said before, This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more. Now where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin. Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; And having an high priest over the house of God; Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;) And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:" --Hebrews 10:15-24

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders obtained a good report. Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear. Who through faith subdued

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kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions. Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection: And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented; (Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect." --Hebrews 11:1-3,33-40

"Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." --Hebrews 12:1-2

"See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven: Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven. And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain. Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: For our God is a consuming fire." --Hebrews 12:25-29

10 Thessalonians

"For our exhortation was not of deceit, nor of uncleanness, nor in guile: But as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak; not as pleasing men, but God, which trieth our hearts. For neither at any time used we flattering words, as ye know, nor a cloke of covetousness; God is witness: Nor of men sought we glory, neither of you, nor yet of others, when we might have been burdensome, as the apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, even as a nurse cherisheth her children: So being affectionately desirous of you, we were willing to have imparted unto you, not the gospel of God only, but also our own souls, because ye were dear unto us. For ye remember, brethren, our labour and travail: for labouring night and day, because we would not be chargeable unto any of you, we preached unto you the gospel of God. As ye know how we exhorted and comforted and charged every one of you, as a father doth his children, That ye would walk worthy of God, who hath called you unto his kingdom and glory. For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe." --1

Thessalonians 2:3-9,11-13

"And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you; That ye may walk honestly toward them that are without, and that ye may have lack of nothing. But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive

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and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words." --1 Thessalonians 4:11-18

"For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober. For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night. But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation. For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him. Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do. And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves. Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men. See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men. Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. Quench not the Spirit. Despise not prophesyings. Prove all things; hold fast that which is good. Abstain from all appearance of evil. And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and

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soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it." --1 Thessalonians 5:2-24

"Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him, That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God. Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things? And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way. And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness. But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth: Whereunto he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle. Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace, Comfort your hearts, and stablish you in every good word and work." --2 Thessalonians 2