

WHOSE

WILL

BE

DONE?

4TH EDITION

The Lord Jesus Christ always obeyed and did the Will of God—NOT His Own—which is also the Calling of every Believer

MARK GRANT DAVIS, ESQ

WHOSE WILL BE DONE?

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WHOSE WILL BE DONE?

PREFACE

Heavenly beings, like God and the angels, simply cannot be seen or heard by the normal human eye or ear (much as the colors fish can see or the sounds dogs can hear which human eyes and ears cannot detect). However, just because we cannot see or hear such beings does not mean that angels and spiritual powers are not in front of us at any given moment of time. There are many accounts where God and Jesus Christ OPENED the eyes of a person to SEE what was in front of their face all along—whether it was to help them see the heavenly host arrayed to protect God’s People or to open up Scripture to their understanding. Like God had to do for the Author of *Whose Will Be Done?*, this Book opens the eyes of the reader to see the Truths concerning: the separate wills between God and Jesus Christ—that Christ actually had to make a decision between His own will and God’s Will about whether or not to go to the Cross; the ‘Oneness’ of the purpose shared by God and Jesus Christ to reach out to humanity; and the awesome things God did for Christ through His resurrection, glorification, and new responsibilities at the right hand of the Throne of God. Because Jesus Christ always chose to do The Will of God He made fellowship and life with God possible for you and me, as well as all the awesome abilities and responsibilities promised to every faithful person who accepts Christ into their lives.

Whose Will Be Done? is written for everyone who wants to know God and Jesus Christ as declared in the Bible with verses that cannot be ignored by any serious investigation of these two Beings. Our relationship with God and life eternal with Christ should never be taken lightly as much is at stake with spectacular rewards potentially forfeited through ignorance and wrong belief. God declares that He wants everyone to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the Truth—to be saved is only part completion of what God wants for you and me; we also need to learn about God, His Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ, and who we are as Children of God from the Bible.

Whose Will Be Done? begins with the Truth that God wants open dialogue with everyone and considers accounts where people questioned God and even appealed to change His mind on given issues (which God sometimes did!). Questions that we all should have asked long ago are then posed which are addressed with Scriptural verses that challenge (current) mainstream teachings on God and Jesus Christ. What the Bible says about itself is then covered which reveals the authority, power, and integrity of Scripture which is able to save and reward those who are faithful to its promises. It is also noted that God loves to give and He actively seeks opportunities to encourage and reward faithful individuals for their love and works done in partnership with Him and Jesus Christ. Finally, *Whose Will Be Done?* then considers the exciting Truth from Scripture that God and Jesus Christ are actually in each and every person who is Born Again of the Spirit of God with unlimited potential in this life and the life to come.

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The Author also wants to thank all Believers-in-Christ across this wonderful planet for their love and prayerful support throughout the years and invites comment from readers at:

MGDavisESQ@Hotmail.Com; [Http://Linkedin.Com/in/MarkGrantDavis](http://Linkedin.Com/in/MarkGrantDavis)

Whose Will Be Done? is by no means an exhaustive or authoritative text but a tool to generate thought and the subsequent worship of the One True God and Jesus Christ which has been distorted and watered down by the traditions of men. The verses from Scripture in this work, however, do hold the authority of God who inspired Holy People to write words down on His behalf. The chapters contain separate moments of contemplation upon Scripture which have been grouped and sequenced for readers to consider and draw their own conclusions on the issues raised about God and His magnificent Word. Of note, several changes have been made from earlier Editions and feedback from readers is cordially welcomed.

Those who are moved by God to support this work are warmly welcomed and are invited to contact the Author about opportunities to deliver this work into the hands of non-English readers.

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DEDICATION

This work is dedicated to The Living God Who first created the Earth and then the Heavens, and Who raised Jesus Christ from the dead. It is dedicated to The One Who knew everyone before they were born and yet still intensely desired to love and live with every individual as a Father to a Child; Who promised, protected, provided, and purchased every soul who is free to choose eternal life in Christ. It is dedicated to Him to Whom Jesus Christ worshipped, loved, served, and obeyed—even to the point of torture and death by ignorant men.

It is also dedicated to the Only Begotten Son of God who died because He put aside His own Will in the Garden of Gethsemane when He uttered the words, “Not my Will but your Will be done”. It is dedicated to The One Who created the Earth and the Heavens with God, His Father; Who always did the Will of His Father and not His own; Who now sits at the Right Hand of God and is ordained by Almighty God to be worshipped as God.

WHOSE WILL BE DONE? is also dedicated to each one for whom the Lord Jesus Christ gave His life on the gruesome cross; to the One who hungered and is now filled; to the One for whom Jesus Christ will always be their living fountain of water; to the One who will be raised or changed in the twinkling of an eye to be forever with The Lord from On High; and to the One who believes after the Church has been Raptured to the clouds to be with The Lord forevermore.

**AND WE HAVE SEEN AND DO
TESTIFY THAT THE FATHER SENT
THE SON TO BE THE SAVIOUR OF
THE WORLD. WHOSOEVER SHALL
CONFESS THAT JESUS IS THE SON OF
GOD, GOD DWELLS IN HIM, AND HE IN
GOD. AND WE HAVE KNOWN AND
BELIEVED THE LOVE THAT GOD HAS
TO US. GOD IS LOVE; AND HE THAT
DWELLS IN LOVE DWELLS IN GOD,
AND GOD IN HIM.**

(1 JOHN 4:14-16 KJV)

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KEY

39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call. (Acts 2: 39 KJV) Biblical text and references in the *King James Version* Bible is underlined to make it stand out from the author's writing.

KJV = *King James Version* (with words such as 'thou' changed to 'you')

HOLY SPIRIT = HOLY GHOST as is often translated interchangeably.

Whole blocks of text from the Scripture have been included to edify and encourage the reader to investigate the Bible for themselves. Blocks of Biblical text have also been separated into sub paragraphs to assist reading and tracking of the words. The original draft highlighted Scripture verses in yellow to readily identify Biblical text from the author's writing, however, because not every person who downloads this book from the Internet will have colour printers it was decided to minimize the use of colour in this online Book. Photocopies of this book for study is encouraged and it is recommended that Scripture throughout this book be highlighted in a light colour to enhance the study and enjoyment of *Whose Will Be Done?*.

'Genesis 1:1' is a format used to reference a verse (or verses) in the Bible and reads: the Book of Genesis, chapter 1, verse 1. Likewise, Acts 2:1-47 says: the Book of Acts, chapter 2 and all the verses from verse 1 to verse 47.

[TEXT INSIDE THESE BRACKETS IS USED BY THE AUTHOR TO EMPHASIZE SOMETHING WITHIN SCRIPTURE]

An Endnote is used to add information that contributes to the main text that may be of further interest to the reader. It is posted as a red number between brackets within the main text in reference to the same number at the end of the book in the Endnotes Section. (1)

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PART 1

GOD'S WORD IS FAR SWEETER THAN ANY WORDS OF MEN



CHAPTER 1

GOD WANTS OPEN DIALOGUE WITH EVERYONE

1.1 INTRODUCTION

One of the many thrills and privileges available to God's people is that God calls us 'Children'—NOT adults, men, or women; Children. Part of the comfort in being called a Child of God is that it is acknowledged that from time-to-time we will fall over, make mistakes, learn new things, and eventually grow up in Him. Wonderfully for us, Scripture states that only after we are in our new bodies and living in the presence of God, that we will know and have no more questions to ask Our Lord. Until that time, we walk in grace and do the best we can in the knowledge that we are greatly loved by God who is Our Father and God's Only Begotten Son, The Lord Jesus Christ, Who is also Our Brother. (2) Until that time of deliverance and understanding arrives, we continue to have questions about God and His Plan for us all—including who God is and the awesome relationship He has with Jesus Christ.

Acknowledging we may have questions about certain aspects concerning God and Jesus Christ, it is incumbent upon every Believer to go back to the Scripture and be prepared to rediscover how much God loves us and how He has not given us a message of confusion but a Calling that is understandable and free from spiritual and mental bondage. It is God's Word that sets people free as it records the Will, Heart, and Power of The Living God for all humanity which is why it is referenced extensively throughout *Whose Will Be Done?*. God declares He loves humanity and has sent His Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ, to the world so that we can learn about this great love and become the men and women He has ordained each and every person to be—in this world and in the ages to come.

1.2 SCRIPTURE RECORDS MANY CONVERSATIONS WHERE GOD RESPECTED OPEN AND HONEST QUESTIONS FROM PEOPLE LIKE YOU AND ME

God does not want robots now or in the future but people who will worship Him in Spirit and in Truth; people who are responsive to His desire for fellowship and open to intimate conversations as between a father and a child. The Creator of the Earth and the Heavens is so loving and caring enough to listen and answer questions from a person that He is patient and longsuffering towards us—despite any short sightedness or ignorance on our part—as He greatly desires us to know Him and His Plan for our lives.

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Scripture records many situations where individuals asked God directly about situations and even bargained with God who, in turn, never refused to answer neither scolded them for their questions in the first instance.

1.3 ABRAHAM NEGOTIATED WITH GOD OVER SODOM

Abraham worshipped God and spoke with Him on many occasions. The conversation Abraham had with God, Who was with two angels on their way to Sodom, is an example of a patient and responsive God being questioned by a man who loved God and sought the deliverance of a family member, Lot, who lived in Sodom which would shortly be condemned to destruction for its wickedness.

1 And the Lord appeared unto him [**ABRAHAM**] in the plains of Mamre: and he sat in the tent door in the heat of the day; 2 And he lift up his eyes and looked, and, lo, three men stood by him: and when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed himself toward the ground [**THE LORD AND THE TWO ANGELS LOOKED LIKE MEN**]... 16 And the men rose up from thence, and looked toward Sodom: and Abraham went with them to bring them on the way. 17 And the Lord said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do [**GOD WILL SOMETIMES REVEAL TO A BELIEVER WHAT HE INTENDS TO DO IN A MATTER**]... 20 And the Lord said, Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous; 21 I will go down now, and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come unto me; and if not, I will know. 22 And the men turned their faces from thence, and went toward Sodom: but Abraham still stood before the Lord. 23 And Abraham drew near, and said, Will you also destroy the righteous with the wicked? 24 Perhaps there be fifty righteous within the city: will you also destroy and not spare the place for the fifty righteous that are therein? 25 That be far from you to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from you: Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right? [**ABRAHAM OPENLY NEGOTIATED AND TALKED WITH GOD; ABRAHAM'S RELATIVE, LOT, WAS IN SODOM AND FACED DESTRUCTION IF GOD DID NOT SAVE LOT FROM PENDING JUDGMENT**] 26 And the Lord said, If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes. 27 And Abraham answered and said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord, which am but dust and ashes: 28 Perhaps there shall lack five of the fifty righteous: will you destroy all the city for lack of five? And he said, If I find there forty and five, I will not destroy it. 29 And he spoke unto him yet again, and said, Perhaps there shall be forty found there. And he said, I will not do it for forty's sake.

30 And he said unto him, Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak: Perhaps there shall thirty be found there. And he said, I will not do it, if I find thirty there. 31 And he said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord: Perhaps there shall be twenty found there.

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And he said, I will not destroy it for twenty's sake. 32 And he said, Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak yet but this once: Perhaps ten shall be found there. And he said, I will not destroy it for ten's sake. 33 And the Lord went his way, as soon as he had left communing with Abraham: and Abraham returned unto his place. (Genesis 18:1-2, 16-17, 20-33 KJV)

God and the two angels were going to visit Sodom and pass judgment upon its inhabitants; Lot and his family were living in Sodom and Abraham sought deliverance for Lot from the pending judgment upon sinful Sodom. (3) At first, Abraham questions and successfully negotiates deliverance of Sodom from destruction should there be at least 50 righteous people living in the city. After further negotiation with God, Abraham was able to get God to commit to not destroy the city if at least 10 righteous inhabitants of Sodom were found. Abraham was respectful, open, and honest with God in his negotiations which, ultimately, led to Lot being rescued by the two angels. God willingly considered Abraham's questioning about the pending judgment of Sodom—Abraham was not chided or criticized by God but thoughtfully considered and answered by God Who communicates with, and often changes outcomes for, people who love Him.

You and I, too, can talk openly with God about anything!

1.4 MOSES ASKED GOD FOR AARON TO BE HIS SPEAKER

God understands our frailty and weaknesses; He respected Moses' request for Aaron to be his spokesperson despite God's insistence that Moses be the one to speak directly with Pharaoh. God asked Moses to be His spokesperson but Moses did not want to be God's speaker and, instead, insisted that he be allowed to pass God's message onto Aaron who would, in turn, deliver it directly to Pharaoh. Despite all the signs and exhortation Moses received from God, Moses still did not want to be God's spokesperson and God was angry with Moses (Exodus 4:14 KJV). However, although Moses did not do what God had initially asked of him, God still loved Moses and allowed Aaron to be Moses' spokesperson which still resulted in God's deliverance of Israel from Egypt.

10 Come now therefore, and I will send you unto Pharaoh, that you may bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt. 11 And Moses said unto God, Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt? [MOSES QUESTIONED GOD ABOUT HIS CHOICE THAT MOSES DO SUCH A GRAND UNDERTAKING FOR GOD] 12 And he said, Certainly I will be with you; and this shall be a token unto you, that I have sent you: When you have brought forth the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God upon this mountain. [GOD DECLARED THAT HE WOULD BE WITH MOSES] 13 And Moses said unto God, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers has sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them?

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14 And God said unto Moses, I Am That I Am: and he said, Thus shall you say unto the children of Israel, I Am has sent me unto you. 15 And God said moreover unto Moses, Thus shall you say unto the children of Israel, the Lord God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me unto you: this is my name forever, and this is my memorial unto all generations. 16 Go, and gather the elders of Israel together, and say unto them, The Lord God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, appeared unto me, saying, I have surely visited you, and seen that which is done to you in Egypt: 17 And I have said, I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt unto the land of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, unto a land flowing with milk and honey.

18 And they shall hearken to your voice: and you shall come, you and the elders of Israel, unto the king of Egypt, and you shall say unto him, The Lord God of the Hebrews has met with us: and now let us go, we beseech you, three days' journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the Lord our God. 19 And I am sure that the king of Egypt will not let you go, no, not by a mighty hand. 20 And I will stretch out my hand, and smite Egypt with all my wonders which I will do in the midst thereof: and after that he will let you go. 21 And I will give this people favour in the sight of the Egyptians: and it shall come to pass, that, when you go, you shall not go empty. 22 But every woman shall borrow of her neighbour, and of her that resides in her house, jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment: and you shall put them upon your sons, and upon your daughters; and you shall spoil the Egyptians.

4 ¹ And Moses answered and said, But, behold, they will not believe me, nor hearken unto my voice: for they will say, The Lord has not appeared unto you. **[MOSES HEARD ALL GOD'S PROPHECY ABOUT HIS MISSION AND THE VICTORIOUS DELIVERANCE OF ISRAEL BUT HE STILL DOUBTED THAT THE PEOPLE WOULD BELIEVE GOD SENT HIM TO THEM]** 2 And the Lord said unto him, What is that in your hand? And he said, A rod. 3 And he said, Cast it on the ground. And he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from before it. 4 And the Lord said unto Moses, Put forth your hand, and take it by the tail. And he put forth his hand, and caught it, and it became a rod in his hand: 5 That they may believe that the Lord God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has appeared unto you.

6 And the Lord said furthermore unto him, Put now your hand into your bosom. And he put his hand into his bosom: and when he took it out, behold, his hand was leprous as snow. 7 And he said, Put your hand into your bosom again. And he put his hand into his bosom again; and plucked it out of his bosom, and, behold, it was turned again as his other flesh. 8 And it shall come to pass, if they will not believe you, neither hearken to the voice of the first sign, that they will believe the voice of the latter sign. 9 And it shall come to pass, if they will not believe also these two signs, neither hearken unto your voice, that you shall take of the water of the river, and pour it upon the dry land: and the water which you take out of the river shall become blood upon the dry land.

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10 And Moses said unto the Lord, O my Lord, I am not eloquent, neither before, nor since you have spoken unto your servant: but I am slow of speech, and of a slow tongue. **[DESPITE THE SIGNS AND MIRACLES OF THE SNAKE AND LEPROSY (LET ALONE THAT HE WAS SPEAKING TO GOD), MOSES STILL DID NOT WANT TO BE GOD'S SPEAKER TO ISRAEL OR PHAROAH BECAUSE HE FELT INADEQUATE AS A PUBLIC SPEAKER]** 11 And the Lord said unto him, Who has made man's mouth? or who makes the dumb, or deaf, or the seeing, or the blind? have not I the Lord? 12 Now therefore go, and I will be with your mouth, and teach you what you shall say. 13 And he said, O my Lord, send, I pray you, by the hand of him whom you will send. **[MOSES INSISTED THAT HE NOT BE GOD'S SPEAKER TO ISRAEL OR PHAROAH AND GOD GOT ANGRY WITH MOSES]** 14 And the anger of the Lord was kindled against Moses, and he said, Is not Aaron the Levite your brother? I know that he can speak well. And also, behold, he comes forth to meet you: and when he sees you, he will be glad in his heart. 15 And you shall speak unto him, and put words in his mouth: and I will be with your mouth, and with his mouth, and will teach you what you shall do. 16 And he shall be your spokesman unto the people: and he shall be, even he shall be to you instead of a mouth, and you shall be to him instead of God. **[ALTHOUGH GOD WAS ANGRY WITH MOSES' DISOBEDIENCE AND LACK OF CONFIDENCE TO SPEAK FOR GOD TO ISRAEL AND PHAROAH ON BEHALF OF GOD, GOD STILL WORKED WITH MOSES AND SETTLED UPON A SOLUTION WITH AARON BEING THE ONE TO SPEAK DIRECTLY WITH PHAROAH AND ISRAEL]** 17 And you shall take this rod in your hand, with which you shall do signs. (Exodus 3:10-4:17 KJV)

The walk of faith can sometimes be challenging and we may not have the confidence or courage to do what God has called us to do as Moses did with God. However, God's love is deep and He is longsuffering towards all His people and so has already prepared for what we will decide. No matter whether we are victorious or fall, His solution through Christ will still give Him glory.

28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. 29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. 30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified. 31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? 32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? 33 Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifies. 34 Who is he that condemns? It is Christ that died, yes rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or

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distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?... 37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. 38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, 39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:28-35, 37-39 KJV)

1.5 JOB DID NOT BLAME GOD BUT RESPECTED HIM AND ADMITTED THAT HE DID NOT KNOW EVERYTHING

Scripture records that Satan challenged God over Job's obedience and loyalty to God and was permitted to test Job's faithfulness to God. Job remained faithful to God throughout his trials and tribulations which included ungodly advice from three religious counselors who later repented of their error at God's rebuke and Job's prayers for them.

Throughout the Scripture account of Job and his sufferings Job did not chide God but submitted himself to God and, subsequently, was delivered and given more blessings than what he initially had before the calamity began.

1 ¹ There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and shunned evil. [**JOB FEARED (HEBREW: YARE = RESPECTED/ AFRAID OF/ FEARED) GOD AND LIVED ACCORDINGLY**] 2 And there were born unto him seven sons and three daughters. 3 His substance also was seven thousand sheep, and three thousand camels, and five hundred yoke of oxen, and five hundred she asses, and a very great household; so that this man was the greatest of all the men of the east. [**JOB HAD GREAT WEALTH AND WAS BLESSED WITH SONS AND DAUGHTERS**] (4) 4 And his sons went and feasted in their houses, everyone his day; and sent and called for their three sisters to eat and to drink with them.

5 And it was so, when the days of their feasting were gone about, that Job sent and sanctified them, and rose up early in the morning, and offered burnt offerings according to the number of them all: for Job said, It may be that my sons have sinned, and cursed God in their hearts. Thus did Job continually. [**JOB LOVED AND PRAYED FOR HIS CHILDREN**] 6 Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan came also among them. 7 And the Lord said unto Satan, Where have you come from? Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, From going to and forth in the earth, and from walking up and down in it. [**SATAN PACES UP AND DOWN THE EARTH AND TALKED WITH GOD**] (5) 8 And the Lord said unto Satan, Have you considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that fears God, and shuns evil? [**AN UPRIGHT PERSON IS ONE WHO RESPECTS AND FEARS GOD AND HATES EVIL**] 9 Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, Does Job fear God for nothing? 10 Have not you made an hedge

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about him, and about his house, and about all that he has on every side? you have blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land. **[JOB WAS BLESSED WITH EARTHLY BLESSINGS]** 11 But put forth your hand now, and touch all that he has, and he will curse you to your face. 12 And the Lord said unto Satan, Behold, all that he has is in your power; only upon himself put not forth your hand. So Satan went forth from the presence of the Lord. **[SATAN—NOT GOD—WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PAIN, LOSS, AND DEATH]** (6) 13 And there was a day when his sons and his daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house: 14 And there came a messenger unto Job, and said, The oxen were plowing, and the asses feeding beside them: 15 And the Sabeans fell upon them, and took them away; yes, they have slain the servants with the edge of the sword; and I only am escaped alone to tell you. 16 While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, The fire of God is fallen from heaven, and has burned up the sheep, and the servants, and consumed them; and I only am escaped alone to tell you. **[IT WAS SAID BY A PERSON THAT THE FIRE CAME FROM GOD BUT SCRIPTURE DECLARES THIS DESTRUCTION CAME FROM SATAN (MANY THINGS ATTRIBUTED TO GOD HAVE, INSTEAD, COME FROM SATAN)]** 17 While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, The Chaldeans made out three bands, and fell upon the camels, and have carried them away, yes, and slain the servants with the edge of the sword; and I only am escaped alone to tell you. **[MEN WERE SENT BY SATAN TO KILL AND STEAL THE SERVANTS AND CAMELS]** 18 While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, Your sons and your daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house: 19 And, behold, there came a great wind from the wilderness, and struck the four corners of the house, and it fell upon the young men, and they are dead; and I only am escaped alone to tell you. **[THE GREAT WIND OF DESTRUCTION CAME FROM SATAN—NOT GOD]**

20 Then Job arose, and rent his mantle, and shaved his head, and fell down upon the ground, and worshipped, 21 And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord. 22 In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly. **[JOB DID NOT BLAME GOD BECAUSE GOD DID NOT SEND THE DEATH AND DESTRUCTION—SATAN DID AFTER JOB 1:12 ABOVE]** 2¹ Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan came also among them to present himself before the Lord.

2 And the Lord said unto Satan, From where do you come from? And Satan answered the Lord, and said, From going to and forth in the earth, and from walking up and down in it. 3 And the Lord said unto Satan, Have you considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that fears God, and shuns evil? and still he holds fast his integrity, although you moved me against him, to destroy him without cause. (7)

4 And Satan answered the Lord, and said, Skin for skin, yes, all that a man has will he give for his life. 5 But put forth your hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse you to your face. 6 And the Lord said unto Satan, Behold, he is in your hand; but save his life. 7 So

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went Satan forth from the presence of the Lord, and struck Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown. **[GOD DID NOT GIVE JOB SICKNESS—SATAN DID AS HE STILL DOES TODAY]**

8 And he took him a potsherd to scrape himself everywhere; and he sat down among the ashes. 9 Then said his wife unto him, Do you still retain your integrity? curse God, and die. 10 But he said unto her, You speak as one of the foolish women speak. **[FOOLISH PEOPLE BLAME GOD FOR PAIN AND SUFFERING (BECAUSE THEY DO NOT KNOW WHO REALLY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR IT ALL)]** What? shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? (8) In all this did not Job sin with his lips. 11 Now when Job's three friends heard of all this evil that was come upon him, they came everyone from his own place; Eliphaz the Temanite, and Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite: for they had made an appointment together to come to mourn with him and to comfort him. **[THESE THREE RELIGIOUS MEN CAME TO COMFORT JOB (YET THEIR WELL MEANING WORDS WERE LATER REBUKED BY GOD)]** (9)

12 And when they lifted up their eyes afar off, and knew him not, they lifted up their voice, and wept; and they rent everyone his mantle, and sprinkled dust upon their heads toward heaven. 13 So they sat down with him upon the ground seven days and seven nights, and none spoke a word unto him: for they saw that his grief was very great. (Job 1:1-2:13 KJV)

Despite the suffering and pain inflicted upon Job by Satan, and the ungodly advice from his three religious 'friends', Job humbled himself and prayed for his three friends. God then delivered him from his suffering with rewards and blessings that were more than what he had before his tribulations.

1 Then Job answered the Lord, and said, 2 I know that you can do everything, and that no thought can be withheld from you. 3 Who is he that hides counsel without knowledge? therefore have I uttered that I understood not; things too wonderful for me, which I knew not. **[JOB ADMITTED THAT HE DID NOT UNDERSTAND NEITHER KNEW ANYTHING (AND SO WAS OPEN TO LEARN FROM GOD)]** 4 Hear, I beseech you, and I will speak: I will demand of you, and declare you unto me. 5 I have heard of you by the hearing of the ear: but now mine eye sees you. 6 Therefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes... 10 And the Lord turned the captivity of Job, when he prayed for his friends: also the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before... 12 So the Lord blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning: for he had fourteen thousand sheep, and six thousand camels, and a thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand she asses. 13 He had also seven sons and three daughters... 16 After this lived Job an hundred and forty years, and saw his sons, and his sons' sons, even four generations. 17 So Job died, being old and full of days. (Job 42:1-6, 10, 12-13, 16-17 KJV)

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We, too, need to empty ourselves before God and admit that He knows vastly much more than we know and so, with humble and meek disposition, submit all our assumptions and knowledge to Him and His Word.

1.6 JONAH COMPLAINED TO GOD BECAUSE NINEVAH WAS NOT DESTROYED

Jonah the Prophet was sent by God to prophecy against Ninevah who had thought this City would not repent and so expected the city to be destroyed by God's Judgment. However, although he knew God was merciful, gracious, kind, and long suffering, Jonah was still angry about the salvation of Ninevah and openly told God of his displeasure.

1 ¹ Now the word of the Lord came unto Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, 2 Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wickedness is come up before me... 3 ¹ And the word of the Lord came unto Jonah the second time, saying, 2 Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid you. 3 So Jonah arose, and went unto Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceeding great city of three days' journey. 4 And Jonah began to enter into the city a day's journey, and he cried, and said, Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown. 5 So the people of Nineveh believed God, and proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them even to the least of them. 6 For word came unto the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, and he laid his robe from him, and covered him with sackcloth, and sat in ashes.

7 And he caused it to be proclaimed and published through Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying, Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste any thing: let them not feed, nor drink water: 8 But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily unto God: yes, let them turn everyone from his evil way, and from the violence that is in their hands. 9 Who can tell if God will turn and repent, and turn away from his fierce anger, that we perish not? 10 And God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God repented of the evil, that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not. 4 ¹ But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was very angry. [**JONAH WAS ANGRY THAT GOD CHANGED HIS MIND ABOUT THE DESTRUCTION OF NINEVAH BECAUSE THE CITY REPENTED**]

2 And he prayed unto the Lord, and said, I pray you, O Lord, was not this my saying, when I was yet in my country? Therefore I fled before unto Tarshish: for I knew that you are a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repent you of the evil. 3 Therefore now, O Lord, take, I beseech you, my life from me; for it is better for me to die than to live. 4 Then said the Lord, Do you well to be angry? [**GOD KNEW JONAH WAS ANGRY YET HE STILL LOVED AND WORKED WITH JONAH**] 5 So Jonah went out of the city, and sat on

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the east side of the city, and there made him a booth, and sat under it in the shadow, till he might see what would become of the city. 6 And the Lord God prepared a gourd, and made it to come up over Jonah, that it might be a shadow over his head, to deliver him from his grief. So Jonah was exceeding glad of the gourd. 7 But God prepared a worm when the morning rose the next day, and it struck the gourd that it withered. 8 And it came to pass, when the sun did arise, that God prepared a vehement east wind; and the sun beat upon the head of Jonah, that he fainted, and wished in himself to die, and said, It is better for me to die than to live. 9 And God said to Jonah, Do you well to be angry for the gourd? And he said, I do well to be angry, even unto death. [JONAH WAS NOT TIMID WITH GOD AND TALKED OPENLY ABOUT HIS ANGER OVER WHAT GOD HAD DONE—SAVED NINEVAH BECAUSE IT REPENTED WHICH TOOK JONAH BY SURPRISE] 10 Then said the Lord, You have had pity on the gourd, for the which you have not laboured, neither made it grow; which came up in a night, and perished in a night: 11 And should not I spare Nineveh, that great city, wherein are more than six score thousand persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand; and also much cattle? (Jonah 1:1-2; 3:1-4:11 KJV)

God reserves the right to change revelation and prophecy if He has only given it once which is why some pronouncements given to His Prophets were not only changed but fulfilled after the deaths of those Prophets. (10) (11)

Rather than punishing Jonah for his anger, honesty, and disapproval against God's decision not to destroy Ninevah, God loved Jonah and worked with him. We, too, should always be open and honest with God and allow Him to work with us—no matter how we feel or the purposes and instructions we do not understand.

1.7 PAUL ASKED GOD TO REMOVE THE THORN IN HIS FLESH

There will be times in our lives when situations, people, and things get in our way which can be aggravating and even painful; the challenges to the Apostle Paul were people who did not want him to speak God's Word and some kind of infirmity in his eye or eyes.

During his ministry, Paul asked God to remove this problem with unbelievers and his health but God turned around the pain and suffering Paul received from Satan's Messenger to Paul's ultimate glory.

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7 And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure. **[PAUL'S THORN IN THE FLESH WAS THE MESSENGER OF SATAN WHO BUFFETED HIM; PAUL'S THORN PREVENTED HIM FROM BEING EXALTED ABOVE MEASURE]** (12) 8 For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. 9 And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for you: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. **[GOD'S STRENGTH IS PERFECTED IN A PERSON'S LIFE WHEN THEY ARE WEAK AND RELY UPON HIS GRACE]** 10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong. (2 Corinthians 12:7-10 KJV)

Paul preached and ministered the Gospel despite his many persecutions and infirmities which were done against Paul by the Messenger of Satan. One of these infirmities included problems with Paul's sight (which may have been caused during the physical abuse by his tormentors). (13)

12 Brethren, I beseech you, be as I am; for I am as you are: you have not injured me at all. 13 You know how through infirmity of the flesh I preached the gospel unto you at the first. 14 And my temptation which was in my flesh you despised not, nor rejected; but received me as an angel of God, even as Christ Jesus. **[DESPITE HAVING AN INFIRMITY PAUL AND THE GOSPEL HE PREACHED WAS RECEIVED BY BELIEVERS]** 15 Where is then the blessedness you spoke of? for I bear you record, that, if it had been possible, you would have plucked out your own eyes, and have given them to me. (Galatians 4:12-15 KJV)

What kept Paul going in his life and mission for Jesus Christ was the Grace of God, the Power of Christ, and his love for fellow Believers—no matter what the Messenger of Satan did to him.

3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtlety, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. 4 For if he that comes preaches another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if you receive another spirit, which you have not received, or another gospel, which you have not accepted, you might well bear with him. . . 13 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. **[COUNTERFEIT APOSTLES, PREACHERS, AND WORKERS WHO USE THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST AND PREACH A GOSPEL THAT IS DIFFERENT TO WHAT SCRIPTURE DECLARES]** 14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. 15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works... **[RELIGIOUS LEADERS WHO PREACH CHRIST (ERRONEOUSLY) BUT WORK FOR SATAN TO WHOM THEY BELONG (NOT GOD)]** 20 For you suffer, if a man bring you into bondage, if a man devour

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you, if a man take of you, if a man exalt himself, if a man smite you on the face... 23 Are they ministers of Christ? (I speak as a fool) I am more; in labours more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths often. 24 Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. 25 Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep; 26 In journeys often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; 27 In weariness and painfulness, in watching often, in hunger and thirst, in fasting often, in cold and nakedness.

28 Beside those things that are without, that which comes upon me daily, the care of all the churches. 29 Who is weak, and I am not weak? who is offended, and I burn not? 30 If I must needs glory, I will glory of the things which concern mine infirmities. 31 The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which is blessed for evermore, knows that I lie not. 32 In Damascus the governor under Aretas the king kept the city of the damascenes with a garrison, desirous to apprehend me: 33 And through a window in a basket was I let down by the wall, and escaped his hands. (2 Corinthians 11:3-4, 13-15, 20, 23-33 KJV)

Many were the trials and tribulations that Paul encountered at the hands of ungodly people who were sent against him by the Messenger of Satan—not God. Believers are encouraged and exhorted by Scripture to live like Paul who found strength through God’s Grace and Fellowship, as well as his Ministry to others. (14)

1.8 QUESTIONS ABOUT GOD AND HIS WORD REQUIRE A HEART FOR THE TRUTH AND COURAGE TO CHANGE

In order for Scripture to be understood it is important that a person asks questions about anything they do not understand or know and be prepared for God’s answers from Scripture and revelation from the holy spirit within each and every Believer. God wants you and I to be saved and come to the knowledge of The Truth and, so, questions from the heart and mind about God and His Plan for you and me are very welcomed by God. Many questions have already been asked by people such as Abraham, Jonah, Job, Paul, and others about God’s love, plan, purpose, and Will for individuals, groups, nations, the world, the universe, and time itself. Many answers from God have been accepted by enquirers; many others have not.

The responses to God’s answers to questions posed to Him by people in Scripture have varied from meek submission (once a person understood what was said by God) to rejection and hardness of heart because a person did not accept what was said by God. At times, God was patient with people who did not accept His answer to their questions and at other times God

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allowed them to see the consequence of their unbelief and doubt in God's message. No matter our questions and life before The Living God, Scripture exhorts each person to walk humbly and meekly with God because He has our best interest at heart and wants us to enjoy eternal life with Him. Once we have an answer from God it sometimes takes meekness to accept His response and courage to change any misconceptions we may have held previously.

The Bible states that meek Believers will be blessed with rewards for having the courage to change when God reveals His Truth in Scripture and revelations—even when a person is required to question assumptions previously held about God, Jesus Christ, and God's Will for their lives.

There are a number of important questions a person needs to ask from Scripture; some of these questions (and answers from Scripture) have been framed in *Whose Will Be Done?* such as whether or not God and Jesus Christ are the same person (some teach that they are the same person in some kind of 'three-in-one-godhead', being One in substance, will, and authority) yet ignore the basic fact that God and Jesus Christ have separate wills, as well as other aspects plainly stated in Scripture that include:

- Jesus Christ asked God if it were possible that the gruesome torture and death be avoided which was Christ's Will yet He submitted Himself to the Will of God in the Garden of Gethsemane because Christ always did God's Will;
- Jesus Christ was made a little lower than the angels so that he could die on the Cross and, once He paid the price for our sins, God raised Christ up from the dead on the third day. Yes, Jesus Christ died; God cannot die but Jesus Christ did die;
- Once the law was fulfilled with His death and burial, Jesus Christ was raised in an immortal body and caught up into heaven after He appeared to many witnesses on the earth. After Christ was raised and caught up into heaven God sat Christ down on the right side of God's own throne and ordained that Jesus Christ be worshipped as God. Jesus Christ currently has all the power and authority of God except over God Himself and intercedes on our behalf before the Throne of God; (15)
- Once all the enemies of Jesus Christ have been subdued to Christ (made His 'footstool'), and death finally destroyed, Jesus Christ will step down from the Right Hand position which God appointed to Him when Christ was brought into heaven;
- Jesus Christ must step down from His current position at the Right Side of God's Throne so that God will be 'all in all' which we will all better understand when God reveals this to us in the future; and
- Jesus Christ, also known as 'The Lamb of God', will eventually sit on His own Throne next to God's Throne in the Book of Revelation where Christ will no longer intercede on our behalf because we will be 'as He is'. (16)

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Until the time when we will see Him face-to-face and know even as we are known, God has called us to search the Scriptures, test what people have said about God and Christ, and live honestly in grace before The Living God. (17)

To live honestly in grace before God requires a person to consider and prioritize the words and commandments of God which He gave to Holy Men over the doctrines and traditions of men. It is no secret that every one of us is fallible and can be persuaded by the majority thinking which, in turn, often leads to disaster as witnessed by human history. Because we have been wrong in the past we may need to reevaluate our beliefs and change our thinking to conform to what the Bible declares rather than the opinions of men—no matter their audience, education, office, or charisma. This re-evaluation and change in our thinking and practice is especially necessary when it is discovered that such previously held positions are shown by Scripture to contradict what God has declared in the Bible.

To discover the previously held positions that require change, we need to ask questions about what we think about God, Jesus Christ, life, death, eternity—in fact everything to do with where we have come from, who we are, and where we want to be for eternity. Like the criminal and civil laws in human society, ignorance of what God wants us to know is no defence or excuse—regardless of whether we know them or not, God declares that everyone will be judged on our response to God's Truths and His invitation to eternal life through Jesus Christ. Such a return to Scripture away from error can begin with the following questions and answers from the Bible in the next Chapter.

CHAPTER 2

QUESTIONS THAT WE SHOULD HAVE ASKED LONG AGO

2.1 SEEK AND YOU SHALL FIND ANSWERS FROM GOD

Many people have sought God yet only some have found Him; the road is truly narrow because only faith in Jesus Christ brings a person to God. The traditions of men embodied in religion do not bring a person to God and were reprov'd, rebuked, and challenged time and again by God and Jesus Christ throughout Scripture. However, the heart-felt and open questions from sincere people who truly sought God were respected by God and, no matter the words used, or the emotions felt, a meek and humble person would be heard and acknowledged by God. Questions were answered directly by God, Jesus Christ, or the Written Word of God, as well as indirectly through (proven) holy men and women of God. This is not surprising given that God declares that whosoever is hungry and thirsty for righteousness will be filled and everyone who seeks The Lord, while He may be found, will not be disappointed.

6 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. (Matthew 5:6 KJV); 35 And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that comes to me shall never hunger; and he that believes on me shall never thirst. (John 6:35 KJV); 5 And he said unto them, Which of you shall have a friend, and shall go unto him at midnight, and say unto him, Friend, lend me three loaves; 6 For a friend of mine in his journey is come to me, and I have nothing to set before him? 7 And he from within shall answer and say, Trouble me not: the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give you. 8 I say unto you, though he will not rise and give him, because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence he will rise and give him as many as he needs. 9 And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. 10 For every one that asks receives; and he that seeks finds; and to him that knocks it shall be opened. 11 If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? 12 Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? 13 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him? (Luke 11:5-13 KJV)

37 All that the Father gives me shall come to me; and him that comes to me I will in no wise cast out. [NO ONE WHOM GOD HAS GIVEN TO JESUS CHRIST WILL BE CAST OUT]

38 For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. [JESUS CHRIST CAME FROM HEAVEN TO EARTH TO NOT DO HIS OWN WILL BUT GOD'S WILL] 39 And this is the Father's will which has sent me, that of all which he has given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day. [ALL WHOM GOD HAS GIVEN TO JESUS CHRIST WILL BE RAISED TO LIFE ON THE 'LAST DAY']

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BY JESUS CHRIST] 40 And this is the will of him that sent me, that everyone which sees the Son, and believes on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day... 44 No man can come to me, except the Father which has sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day. **[BELIEVERS WILL BE RAISED UP FROM THE DEAD AT THE 'LAST DAY' BY JESUS CHRIST]** 45 It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that has heard, and has learned of the Father, comes unto me. **[BELIEVERS ARE THEY WHO HAVE HEARD AND BEEN TAUGHT BY GOD AND HAVE COME TO JESUS CHRIST]** (John 6:37-40, 44-45 KJV)

1 Ho, every one that thirsts, come you to the waters, and he that has no money; come you, buy, and eat; yes, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. 2 Why do you spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfies not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat you that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness. 3 Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David... 6 Seek you the LORD while he may be found, call you upon him while he is near: **[THERE WILL COME A TIME WHEN SALVATION WILL NO LONGER BE AVAILABLE TO THE INHABITANTS OF EARTH (WHICH IS WHY NOW IS THE TIME TO TURN TO GOD THROUGH JESUS CHRIST)]** 7 Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. (Isaiah 55:1-3, 6-7 KJV)

To eat food and drink water a person requires at least a body with the capacity to receive food and water; to eat and drink spiritual food from God requires a sincere and genuine heart and a mind that wants to receive communication from God on God's terms. Both God and Jesus Christ promise to answer and fill the emptiness and hunger of every person who calls upon them according to what God has set forth in the Scripture which has already provided many of the essential truths a Believer needs to know to be fulfilled and blessed in this world and the ages to come. Foundational to every question ever asked of God by a hungry heart are the answers God has written into Scripture about Who He Is and what God wants for each and every person which can be framed in Questions 2.2 to 2.20.

2.2 DID YOU KNOW THAT GOD WANTS EVERYONE TO BE SAVED AND COME TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRUTH?

God wills that no one be lost for eternity or ignorant about The Truth that there is only One God and that Jesus Christ is the mediator between God and men.

3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; 4 Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God, and one mediator

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between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; 6 Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time. (1 Timothy 2:3-6 KJV)

2.3 DID YOU KNOW THAT JESUS CHRIST CHOSE TO DO GOD'S WILL RATHER THAN HIS OWN WILL IN THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE?

41 And he was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and kneeled down, and prayed, 42 Saying, Father, if you be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but yours, be done. [NOT JESUS CHRIST'S WILL BUT GOD'S WILL] 43 And there appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him. 44 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. (Luke 22:41-44 KJV)

Jesus Christ CHOSE to do God's Will and not His own Will (which was to not go to the Cross). To have been able to say, "Not my will, but yours be done", it can be said that Jesus Christ could have decided (and been able) to NOT obey God. However, because Jesus Christ so loved God, He always did God's Will.

There are two 'wills' recorded in Scripture:

(1) the Will of God and (2) the Will of Jesus Christ.

2.4 DID YOU KNOW THAT JESUS CHRIST BECAME GOD'S ONLY BEGOTTEN SON AFTER A PARTICULAR POINT IN TIME?

5 So also Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest; but he that said unto him, You are my Son, today have I begotten you. [ON THAT DAY JESUS CHRIST WAS BEGOTTEN OF GOD] (Hebrews 5:5 KJV)

There was a day when Jesus Christ was 'begotten' by God. It can, therefore, be said that before this day Jesus Christ was not 'begotten' of God.

2.5 DID YOU KNOW THAT GOD AND JESUS CHRIST WERE BOTH AT THE BEGINNING AND CREATED THE EARTH AND THE UNIVERSE?

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 The same was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made. 4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men. 5 And the light shines in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not... 9 That was the true Light, which lights every man that comes into the world. 10 He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. **[JESUS CHRIST MADE THE WORLD; JESUS CHRIST WAS IN THE WORLD; THE WORLD DID NOT KNOW JESUS CHRIST]** 11 He came unto his own, and his own received him not. 12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: **[WHOEVER RECEIVES JESUS CHRIST HAS BEEN GIVEN POWER TO BECOME A SON OF GOD; WHOEVER BELIEVES ON THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST HAS BEEN GIVEN POWER TO BECOME A SON OF GOD]**

13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. 14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelled among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. **[GOD'S WORD WAS MADE INTO LIVING FLESH WHICH IS JESUS CHRIST WHO HAS THE GLORY OF THE ONLY BEGOTTEN OF GOD]** 15 John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spoke, He that comes after me is preferred before me: for he was before me. 16 And of his fullness have all we received, and grace for grace. 17 For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ. 18 No man has seen God at any time, the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he has declared him. **[JESUS CHRIST HAS DECLARED GOD TO THE WORLD; JESUS CHRIST IS IN THE BOSOM OF GOD]**
(John 1:1-5, 9-18 KJV)

Jesus Christ was in the Beginning and is called, 'The Word of God' and 'God'. He also dwelt among men and women and gave grace and truth to the world.

Jesus Christ is the Only Begotten Son of God who is in the bosom of His Father, God, of Whom Jesus Christ has declared to the world. Jesus Christ is called, 'The Living Word' and, 'The Word of God'. Hence, it can be stated that because Jesus Christ so declared (and declares) God's Heart and Love that He cannot be separated from The Word of God because of His love and obedience to God; Christ is 'The Living Word'.

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Christ's existence and life with God before, during, and after Creation presents no challenges to logical thinking when the Book of Genesis is understood and believed. What perplexes the mind, however, is the enormity of such a Being coming to earth in the form of a baby who is not only born from a virgin but actually submitted Himself to die on the Cross for the human race He created with God in the Beginning.

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 The same was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made. 4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men. 5 And the light shines in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. 6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7 The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. 8 He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. 9 That was the true Light, which lights every man that comes into the world. 10 He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. 11 He came unto his own, and his own received him not. 12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: 13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. 14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. 15 John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spoke, He that comes after me is preferred before me: for he was before me. 16 And of his fullness have all we received, and grace for grace. 17 For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ. 18 No man has seen God at any time, the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he has declared him. (John 1:1-18 KJV)

2.6 DID YOU KNOW THAT JESUS CHRIST WAS FOREORDAINED BEFORE THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD?

19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: 20 Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you, [JESUS CHRIST WAS FOREORDAINED BEFORE THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD; JESUS CHRIST WAS MANIFESTED FOR US IN THESE LAST TIMES] (1 Peter 1:19-20 KJV)

2.7 DID YOU KNOW THAT GOD MADE JESUS LORD AND CHRIST?

36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God has made the same Jesus, whom you have crucified, both Lord and Christ. [GOD MADE JESUS LORD AND CHRIST] (Acts 2:36 KJV)

2.8 DID YOU KNOW THAT JESUS CHRIST LEARNED OBEDIENCE THROUGH SUFFERING, WAS MADE PERFECT, AND BECAME THE AUTHOR OF ETERNAL SALVATION?

5 So also Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest; but he that said unto him, You are my Son, today have I begotten you. [ON A PARTICULAR DAY GOD SAID TO JESUS CHRIST THAT GOD HAD BEGOTTEN JESUS CHRIST] 6 As he said also in another place, You are a priest forever after the order of Melchisedec. [GOD CALLED JESUS CHRIST A PRIEST AFTER THE ORDER OF MELCHISEDEC] 7 Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared; [JESUS CRIED PRAYERS AND SUPPLICATIONS TO GOD WHO WAS ABLE TO SAVE HIM FROM DEATH]

8 Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; 9 And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him; [JESUS CHRIST LEARNED OBEDIENCE THROUGH HIS SUFFERING; JESUS CHRIST WAS MADE PERFECT; JESUS CHRIST BECAME THE AUTHOR OF ETERNAL SALVATION TO ALL WHO OBEY HIM] 10 Called of God an high priest after the order of Melchisedec. [GOD CALLED JESUS CHRIST AN HIGH PRIEST AFTER THE ORDER OF MELCHISEDEC] (Hebrews 5:5-10 KJV)

2.9 DID YOU KNOW THAT JESUS CHRIST WAS PROMOTED AFTER HE GAVE HIS LIFE ON THE CROSS AND WAS RAISED BY GOD TO LIFE EVERMORE?

3 Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high. [AFTER CHRIST PURGED OUR SINS HE SAT ON GOD'S RIGHT HAND] (Hebrews 1:3 KJV)

2.10 DID YOU KNOW THAT GOD GAVE GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST AFTER GOD RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD?

21 Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God. [GOD RAISED UP CHRIST WHO HAD DIED AND GOD GAVE JESUS CHRIST GLORY] (1 Peter 1:21 KJV)

It can, therefore, be said that before God raised Jesus Christ from the dead, Christ did not have the glory He now enjoys.

2.11 DID YOU KNOW THAT JESUS CHRIST WAS MADE A LITTLE LOWER THAN THE ANGELS SO THAT HE COULD DIE?

9 But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man. [JESUS CHRIST WAS MADE A LITTLE LOWER SO THAT HE COULD DIE FOR YOU AND ME] 10 For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

11 For both he that sanctifies and they who are sanctified are all of one: [JESUS CHRIST AND BELIEVERS ARE ALL OF ONE] for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren. (Hebrews 2:9-11 KJV)

Not only was Jesus Christ ‘made’ a little lower to die for us but Jesus Christ and Believers are all of one. Is this similar to the other verses about God and Jesus Christ being ‘ONE’ and God in Christ in You where it is stated: 27 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: (Colossians 1:27 KJV)?

2.12 DID YOU KNOW THAT GOD CANNOT DIE?

8 And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come. 9 And when those beasts give glory and honour and thanks to him that sat on the throne, who lives forever and ever, [GOD LIVES FOREVER AND EVER] 10 The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that lives forever and ever, [GOD LIVES FOREVER AND EVER] and cast their crowns before the throne, saying,

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11 You art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for you have created all things, and for your pleasure they are and were created. (Revelation 4:8-11 KJV)

2.13 DID YOU KNOW THAT JESUS CHRIST DIED?

5 And hope makes not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us. 6 For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly...8 But God commends his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. (Romans 5:5-6, 8-9 KJV); 4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. **[JESUS CHRIST WAS RAISED FROM THE DEAD BY GOD]**

5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: 6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. 7 For he that is dead is freed from sin. 8 Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him: 9 Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dies no more; death has no more dominion over him. **[JESUS CHRIST WILL ONLY DIE ONCE; DEATH HAD DOMINION OVER CHRIST BUT NOW NO MORE]** 10 For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he lives, he lives unto God. **[JESUS CHRIST WAS DEAD; JESUS CHRIST IS NOW ALIVE]** (Romans 6:4-10 KJV) 33 Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifies. 34 Who is he that condemns? It is Christ that died, yes rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. **[JESUS CHRIST DIED; JESUS CHRIST AROSE FROM THE DEAD; JESUS CHRIST IS AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD; JESUS CHRIST MAKES INTERCESSION FOR US]** (Romans 8:33-34 KJV)

8 For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's. 9 For to this end Christ both died, and rose, and revived, that he might be Lord both of the dead and living. **[JESUS CHRIST DIED, AROSE, REVIVED SO THAT HE MIGHT BE LORD OF THE DEAD AND LIVING]** 10 But why do you judge your brother? or why do you set at nothing your brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. **[EVERYONE SHALL STAND BEFORE THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF JESUS CHRIST]** 11 For it is written, As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. **[EVERY KNEE SHALL BOW TO THE LORD; EVERYONE SHALL CONFESS AND ACCOUNT TO GOD]** 12 So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God. (Romans 14:8-12 KJV)

1 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also you have received, and wherein you stand; 2 By which also you are saved, if you keep in memory

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what I preached unto you, unless you have believed in vain. 3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; [**JESUS CHRIST DIED FOR OUR SINS**] 4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures. (1 Corinthians 15:1-4 KJV); 9 For God has not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him. [**JESUS CHRIST DIED FOR US SO THAT WE SHOULD LIVE TOGETHER WITH HIM**] (1 Thessalonians 5:9-10 KJV)

2.14 DID YOU KNOW THAT JESUS CHRIST SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT SIDE OF GOD'S THRONE BUT NOT ON GOD'S THRONE AFTER HE ROSE AND ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN?

1 The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit you at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool. [**JESUS CHRIST SITS AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD UNTIL CHRIST'S ENEMIES ARE MADE HIS FOOTSTOOL**] 2 The Lord shall send the rod of your strength out of Zion: rule you in the midst of your enemies. (Psalm 110:1-2 KJV)

After Christ's enemies are made His footstool (totally subjected to Jesus Christ) Christ will not sit at the Right Hand of God. In Scripture and human practice, the person who occupies the right hand side of a throne is the Second in Charge of whatever the throne governs. It could be said that the Vice President of a country or company has the authority to make and execute decisions in the absence of the One who is the President; the same is true concerning royalty and military protocols. The right hand side is also indicative of favour and blessing in contrast to the left hand side which is not as prestigious as the right side.

44 The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit you on my right hand, till I make your enemies your footstool? [**JESUS CHRIST SITS AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD UNTIL CHRIST'S ENEMIES ARE MADE HIS FOOTSTOOL**] (Matthew 22:44 KJV); 36 For David himself said by the Holy Ghost, The Lord said to my Lord, Sit you on my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool. [**JESUS CHRIST SITS AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD UNTIL CHRIST'S ENEMIES ARE MADE HIS FOOTSTOOL**] (Mark 12:36 KJV); 42 And David himself said in the book of Psalms, The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit you on my right hand, 43 Until I make your enemies your footstool. [**JESUS CHRIST SITS AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD UNTIL CHRIST'S ENEMIES ARE MADE HIS FOOTSTOOL**] (Luke 20:42-43 KJV); 34 For David is not ascended into the heavens: but he said himself, The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit you on my right hand, 35 Until I make your foes your footstool. [**JESUS CHRIST SITS AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD UNTIL CHRIST'S ENEMIES ARE MADE HIS FOOTSTOOL**] (Acts 2:34-35 KJV); 13 But to which of the angels said he at any time, Sit on my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool? [**JESUS CHRIST SITS AT THE**

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RIGHT HAND OF GOD UNTIL CHRIST'S ENEMIES ARE MADE HIS FOOTSTOOL]
(Hebrews 1:13 KJV).

It is interesting to note that, while the majority of verses in Scripture declare Jesus Christ to be SEATED AT the Right Hand of God's Throne, there are several accounts that show Christ STANDING at the Right Hand of the Throne of God. Such changes in Christ's stance in relation to The Throne of God may indicate different functions of Christ in relation to what is happening, or needs to be happening, with people and events at a particular moment of time. No matter the reason why we see Christ seated or standing at the right hand of God's Throne, it is sufficient to know that Scripture repeatedly declares that Jesus Christ continues to be actively involved in God's Plan and is highly attentive to what is happening in each of our lives.

23 Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, you have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain: 24 Whom God has raised up, having removed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be held of it. . . 30 Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne [JESUS CHRIST WOULD BE RAISED TO SIT ON HIS THRONE]; (18) 31 He seeing this before spoke of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell [GREEK: THE GRAVE], neither his flesh did see corruption. 32 This Jesus has God raised up, of which we all are witnesses. 33 Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he has shed forth this, which you now see and hear. 34 For David is not ascended into the heavens: but he said himself, The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit you on my right hand, 35 Until I make your foes your footstool. (Acts 2:23-24, 30-35 KJV)

2.15 DID YOU KNOW JESUS CHRIST IS THE FIRST PERSON TO BE RAISED FROM THE DEAD AND THAT DEATH IS THE LAST ENEMY TO BE DESTROYED BEFORE CHRIST HANDS BACK TO GOD ALL THE POWER AND AUTHORITY GOD GAVE TO CHRIST?

20 But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept. [JESUS CHRIST IS THE FIRST PERSON TO BE RAISED FROM THE DEAD] 21 For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. 23 But every man in his own order: Christ the first fruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming. [JESUS CHRIST IS THE FIRST PERSON TO BE RAISED FROM THE DEAD; BELIEVERS RAISED FROM THE DEAD WHEN CHRIST COMES BACK] 24 Then comes the end, when he shall have delivered up the

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kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. **[JESUS CHRIST DELIVERS THE KINGDOM TO GOD]**

25 For he must reign, until he has put all enemies under his feet. 26 The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. **[JESUS CHRIST REIGNS UNTIL DEATH IS DESTROYED]** 27 For he has put all things under his feet. But when he said all things are put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him. **[EVERYTHING AND EVERYONE IS SUBJECT TO JESUS CHRIST EXCEPT GOD WHO GAVE CHRIST THIS AUTHORITY]** 28 And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all. **[JESUS CHRIST WILL BE SUBJECT TO GOD WHEN EVERYTHING AND EVERYONE IS SUBDUED TO HIM]** (1 Corinthians 15:20-28 KJV)

Everyone and everything is subject to Jesus Christ except God;
Christ will subject Himself again to God once everyone and
everything is subdued to Jesus Christ.

2.16 DID YOU KNOW THAT THERE WILL COME A POINT IN TIME WHEN JESUS CHRIST HANDS BACK TO GOD ALL THE POWER AND AUTHORITY GOD GAVE TO CHRIST?

See 2.15 Above.

2.17 DID YOU KNOW THAT JESUS CHRIST DOES NOT KNOW THE DAY OR HOUR WHEN HE WILL BE SENT BACK TO EARTH BY GOD?

25 And the stars of heaven shall fall, and the powers that are in heaven shall be shaken. 26 And then shall they see the Son of man coming in the clouds with great power and glory. 27 And then shall he send his angels, and shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from the furthest part of the earth to the furthest part of heaven. 28 Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When her branch is yet tender, and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near: 29 So you in like manner, when you shall see these things come to pass, know that it is nigh, even at the doors. 30 Verily I say unto you, that this generation shall not pass, until all these things be done. 31 Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away. 32 But of that day and that hour knows no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father. **[JESUS CHRIST DOES NOT KNOW THE DAY OR HOUR OF THIS EVENT— ONLY GOD KNOWS WHEN HE WILL SEND HIS SON TO EARTH AGAIN]** 33 Take

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you heed, watch and pray: for you know not when the time is. 34 For the Son of Man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch. 35 Watch you therefore: for you know not when the master of the house comes, at even, or at midnight, or at the cock crowing, or in the morning: 36 Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping. 37 And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch. (Mark 13:25-37 KJV)

2.18 DID YOU KNOW JESUS CHRIST IS ALSO CALLED, 'THE LAST ADAM' AND THE SECOND MAN WHO IS 'THE LORD FROM HEAVEN' AND THAT HE WAS MADE A QUICKENING SPIRIT?

42 So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption: 43 It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power: 44 It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. 45 And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. **[JESUS CHRIST IS CALLED THE LAST ADAM AND WAS MADE A QUICKENING SPIRIT]** 46 However that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual. 47 The first man is of the earth, earthy; the second man is the Lord from heaven. **[JESUS CHRIST IS THE SECOND MAN WHO IS THE LORD FROM HEAVEN]** 48 As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly. 49 And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly. **[BELIEVERS SHALL ALSO BEAR THE IMAGE OF THE HEAVENLY]** (1 Corinthians 15:42-49 KJV)

2.19 DID YOU KNOW JESUS CHRIST IS THE MAN WHO MEDIATES BETWEEN GOD AND MEN?

4 Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; **[JESUS CHRIST IS THE MAN WHO MEDIATES BETWEEN GOD AND MEN]** 6 Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time. (1 Timothy 2:4-6 KJV)

One of Christ's main functions is to mediate between God and human beings who cannot be brought together without the work and accomplishment of Jesus Christ through His death and resurrection.

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2.20 DID YOU KNOW JESUS CHRIST IS ALSO CALLED, 'THE LAMB OF GOD' AND THERE WILL BE A THRONE FOR GOD AND THE LAMB IN THE FUTURE?

1 And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.... 3 And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him. (Revelation 22:1, 3 KJV)

Jesus Christ must step down from His current position at the Right Side of God's Throne so that God will be 'all in all' which we will all understand when God reveals this to us in the future. Jesus Christ's current position on the Right Side of God includes intercession on our behalf before the Throne of God. However, in the future the role of Jesus Christ, also known as 'The Lamb of God', will no longer require intercession on our behalf because we will be 'as He is' and there will be two thrones: the Throne of God and the Throne of The Lamb.

CHAPTER 3

SCRIPTURE IS ABOVE ALL THE WORDS OF MEN

3.1 WHAT THE SCRIPTURE TELLS US ABOUT ITSELF

The Bible declares its own authority and authenticity which is confirmed by the many prophecies fulfilled by Jesus Christ, as well as the signs and miracles still occurring through faith in the promises made by God on its pages. Many people throughout history and today also attest to its power and benefits through faith in the Name of Jesus Christ (as understood from Scripture) and devils are still subject to its authority. There are many verses that proclaim the authenticity of Scripture and the reader is invited to prove the promises of God recorded throughout its pages. The following are some claims the Bible makes about itself:

12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged 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. (Hebrews 4:12 KJV)

6 The words of the Lord are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. (Psalm 12:6 KJV); 105 Your word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. (Psalm 119:105 KJV)

There is nothing higher than God's Word which He has placed above (prioritized/ made more important than) His own Name: 2 I will worship toward your holy temple, and praise your name for your loving kindness and for your truth: for you have magnified your word above all your name. (Psalm 138:2 KJV)

Scripture cannot be broken no matter who tries to break it: 35 If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken. (John 10:35 KJV)

Believers are sanctified through God's Word: 17 Sanctify them through your truth: your word is truth. (John 17:17 KJV)

God's Word in the heart of a Believer is necessary to fight sin: 11 Your word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against you. (Psalm 119:11 KJV)

Scripture excites and affects the heart of a Believer in a good way: 32 And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures? (Luke 24:32 KJV)

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To be noble before God a Believer needs to be open to Scripture and search it daily to determine if what has been taught in teachings is Biblical.

11 These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so. (Acts 17:11 KJV). ‘Whether these things were so’—even if the speaker was Paul who performed many miracles in the Book of Acts: 3 Long time therefore abode they speaking boldly in the Lord, which gave testimony unto the word of his grace, and granted signs and wonders to be done by their hands. (Acts 14:3 KJV)

Believers are to search the Scripture: 39 Search the scriptures; for in them you think you have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. (John 5:39 KJV)

Hence, it is Scripture that is underlined throughout this book so as to underscore the truth that ignorant people—not God—use such as: ‘You need to take it [unsubstantiated doctrines about God and Jesus Christ] by faith’ or ‘We’ll find out when we get to heaven’, which are all well-meaning but dead wrong when it comes to understanding that Jesus Christ is God’s Only Begotten Son who died on the cross and now sits at the Right Hand of God. To not understand such fundamental truths that God and Jesus Christ are not the same person could place our eternal standing with God in jeopardy—a risk that is just not worth the gamble.

Far from uncertainty and confusion, God has given us certainty through Christ and the study of His Word, and He actively seeks out individuals who will worship Him in Spirit and in TRUTH.

3.2 SCRIPTURE CAME FROM GOD THROUGH HOLY MEN —NOT THROUGH THE IMAGINATIONS OF MEN

It is important to understand who has written a document before the claims of the document can be authenticated, let alone believed and applied. Often, it is the name and credentials of the author that a reader needs to know, as well as the sources from where the writer has made their claims and drawn their conclusions. The Bible says of itself that God gave His Words to Holy Men who then wrote them down for others to read, understand, and apply in their lives.

Holy Men moved by the Holy Ghost (Holy Spirit)

21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Ghost. (2 Peter 1:21 KJV)

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By inspiration of God

16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. (2 Timothy 3:16 KJV)

Received by the revelation of Jesus Christ

12 For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ. (Galatians 1:12 KJV)

3.3 FROM WHOM DID JESUS CHRIST RECEIVE THE REVELATION IN THE BOOK OF REVELATION? GOD.

From Revelation 1 and many other verses in Scripture, there appears to be a hierarchy with the handling of revelation from God to man—just as Jesus Christ is the mediator between God and man so, too, communication is sent out from God through Christ to people. (19)

1. God gave the Revelation to Jesus Christ
2. Jesus Christ then gave the Revelation to His Angel
3. His Angel then gave the Revelation to John
4. John then wrote the Book of Revelation for us to read today.

1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, [(1) **GOD GAVE THIS BOOK OF REVELATION TO JESUS CHRIST**] to show unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel [(2) **JESUS CHRIST GAVE IT TO HIS ANGEL**] unto his servant John [(3) **JESUS CHRIST'S ANGEL GAVE IT TO JOHN**] 2 Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw. 3 Blessed is he that reads, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand. 4 John to the seven churches which are in Asia: [(4) **JOHN WROTE IT DOWN AND GAVE IT TO THE SEVEN CHURCHES**] Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne; 5 And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, 6 And has made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. 7 Behold, he comes with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen. 8 I am Alpha and Omega, the

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beginning and the ending, said the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty. 9 I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ. 10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet. 11 Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What you see, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea. (Revelation 1:1-11 KJV)

Now look closer to see who sends salutations to the churches in Revelation 1:4-5 (KJV).

‘Grace and peace to the seven churches’:

1. From John to the seven churches in Asia
2. From Him Which is, and Which was, and Which is to come
3. From the Seven Spirits which are before His Throne; AND
4. From Jesus Christ Who is the faithful witness, the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth

These are direct greetings from FOUR sources: God, the Seven Spirits, Jesus Christ, and John. This is not unique in Scripture as verses often record words of angels and people as part of what God wanted written down in the Bible which includes dialogue between John and angels, as well as praises and worship of God and Jesus Christ by Believers in the future, are also recorded in the Book of Revelation. It should also be noted that while all Scripture is inspired by God, not all words recorded in Scripture were spoken by God as God wants the reader to understand what is going on in the narrative. For example, there are many accounts of what people said to angels, other people, animals, and devils. Unfortunately, there are several verses in Revelation 1 that have been misunderstood as some have thought that all the words spoken were from Jesus Christ because of the failure to identify multiple contributors and the use of the title, ‘Lord’ which is used interchangeably for God, Jesus Christ, angels, Abraham, and other people. The use of the title, ‘Lord’ for God and Jesus Christ is well documented throughout Scripture, however, what is often overlooked is that this title is also used in the Bible for men and angels which means that whenever ‘Lord’ is used it does not necessarily refer to God or Christ; instead the words used in the sentence and surrounding context should guide the reader as to whom, ‘Lord’ refers. This subject of titles is handled further in Chapter 7 of this book and in Appendix 98 Divine Names and Titles et al of *The Companion Bible* by EW Bullinger.

Revelation 22 is another account which states that Jesus Christ gave His Angel this message to give to the Believing Churches: 16 I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star. (Revelation 22:16 KJV). Scripture often records angels sent from God testifying and working with people on earth (as well as directly from God to His people through Scripture, Miracles,

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Signs and Wonders, visions, a loud or ‘small quiet’ voice, Believers, animals, and even the ungodly). Here, in the Book of Revelation, John was in the Spirit when he heard a loud voice and saw a vision from the same God Whom Jesus Christ and many others have worshipped and the same God Who wants to have communion with you and me today.

3.4 JESUS CHRIST IS THE ‘ALPHA AND OMEGA’ AS HE IS THE AUTHOR AND FINISHER OF OUR SALVATION

Scripture states that God has no beginning or ending but does not say the same about Jesus Christ. Therefore, the ‘Alpha and Omega’ mentioned in Revelation Chapter 1 cannot refer to God but to Jesus Christ. However, this ‘Alpha’ and ‘Omega’ in Chapter is not explained which leaves the meaning of this title open to further investigation from other verses in Scripture that describe Who and What Jesus Christ Is and has done.

5 And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, 6 And has made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen... 8 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, said the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty... 17 And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last: 18 I am he that lives, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death (Revelation 1:5-6, 8, 17-18 KJV).

Here it is confirmed that ‘the Alpha and the Omega’ refers to Jesus Christ as He died and was made alive—something that cannot happen to God. This investigation can be narrowed down further to the Book of Hebrews where Jesus Christ is called, ‘the Author and Finisher of Our Faith’ because ‘Alpha and Omega’ are synonymous with ‘Author and Finisher’.

1 Therefore seeing we also are surrounded about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which does so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, 2 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. 3 For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest you be wearied and faint in your minds. (Hebrews 12:1-3 KJV)

3.5 SALVATION IS TO BE BASED ON 'RIGHTLY DIVIDED' TEACHING

Scripture requires that salvation is to be sought by everyone who wants eternal life with God and can only be found through faith in Jesus Christ.

Our faith in Jesus Christ comes from believing what God's Word declares about Jesus Christ and God's Plan for salvation. This understanding and believing of God's Plan of salvation and what Jesus Christ did for you and me has to come from the 'rightly divided' Word of Truth.

15 Study to show yourself approved unto God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth [AS OPPOSED TO WRONGLY DIVIDING SCRIPTURE].
(2 Timothy 2:15 KJV)

The Bible is clear that not only is Scripture to be 'rightly divided' to be understood but it can also be wrongly divided (interpreted) with consequent error possibly leading to people being turned away by God who not only THOUGHT THEY WERE SAVED but had also preached, prophesied, and even performed miracles in God's name!

15 Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. 16 You shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? 17 Even so every good tree brings forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree brings forth evil fruit. 18 A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. 19 Every tree that brings not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. 20 Therefore by their fruits you shall know them. 21 Not everyone that said unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that does the will of my Father which is in heaven. 22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in your name? and in your name have cast out devils? and in your name done many wonderful works? 23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, you that work iniquity. (Matthew 7:15-23 KJV)

Scripture and history records many obstacles and persecutions against individuals and communities who sought objective, informed, and honest worship of The One True God from what they understood from the rightly divided Word of Truth. The executions of most of the Apostles during the Early Church and the torture of thousands under the Inquisition, for example, leaves no doubt as to the opposition God's enemies will take against those who rightly divide Scripture as commanded by God.

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Unlike the wrongly divided understandings about Who God and Jesus Christ are in the teachings of men, true worship and objective qualitative study requires the open pursuit of all truths and stated facts.

Any subsequent informed practice should then incorporate and apply ALL discovered information from the Bible before any claim of validity can be upheld in any teaching. God wants us to discover, learn, and apply the fundamental truths already declared in His Word and The Living Word Whom He sent into the world, The Lord Jesus Christ, who always obeyed God's Will over that of His own Will—in heaven and on earth and especially by His death on the cross.

3.6 CONFESS THE LORD JESUS AND BELIEVE GOD RAISED CHRIST FROM THE DEAD

From rightly dividing God's Word it is understood that God requires a person to become saved according to God's Plan through Christ as set out in Scripture.

9 That if you shall confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and shall believe in your heart that God has raised him from the dead, you shall be saved. 10 For with the heart man believes unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. (Romans 10:9-10 KJV)

To think that Jesus Christ is God on The Throne because of wrongly dividing God's Word is to deny Christ's death and resurrection because the Scripture clearly declares that God cannot die; that Jesus Christ died; and that God raised Jesus Christ from the dead—NOT Himself.

3.7 CONFESS JESUS CHRIST IS THE SON OF GOD

God dwells in the person who confesses
Jesus is the Son of God (NOT God) and they dwell in God.

15 Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwells in him, and he in God. (1 John 4:15 KJV); 31 But these are written, that you might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you might have life through his name. (John 20:31 KJV); 37 And Philip said, If you believe with all your heart, you may. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. (Acts 8:37 KJV)

9 God is faithful, by whom you were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord. (1 Corinthians 1:9 KJV); 19 For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was preached among you by

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us, even by me and Silvanus and Timotheus, was not yes and no, but in him was yes.
(2 Corinthians 1:19 KJV)

20 And we know that the Son of God is come, and has given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life. (1 John 5:20 KJV); 3 Grace be with you, mercy, and peace, from God the Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love. (2 John 1:3 KJV)

3.8 A PRAYER FOR ETERNAL LIFE

DEAR GOD

I SEE FROM SCRIPTURE THAT YOU MADE THE EARTH AND THE HEAVENS BY YOUR WORD AND THAT YOU SENT YOUR WORD TO THE EARTH TO CALL OUT AND HAVE FELLOWSHIP WITH EACH AND EVERY PERSON. IT WAS BY YOUR WORD THAT YOU SEPARATED THE LIGHT FROM THE DARKNESS AND THAT YOU RAISED JESUS CHRIST FROM THE DEAD. IN RESPONSE TO YOUR PROMISES AND YOUR DEEP LOVE GIVEN TO ME THROUGH CHRIST, I NOW USE MY WORDS TO CALL UPON YOU AND ASK YOU TO BECOME MY FATHER.

ALMIGHTY GOD I CALL UPON YOU AND CONFESS THAT JESUS IS LORD WITH MY MOUTH. I BELIEVE IN MY HEART THAT YOU RAISED JESUS CHRIST FROM THE DEAD AND CONFESS THAT JESUS CHRIST IS THE SON OF GOD, YOUR ONLY BEGOTTEN SON, WHO IS KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

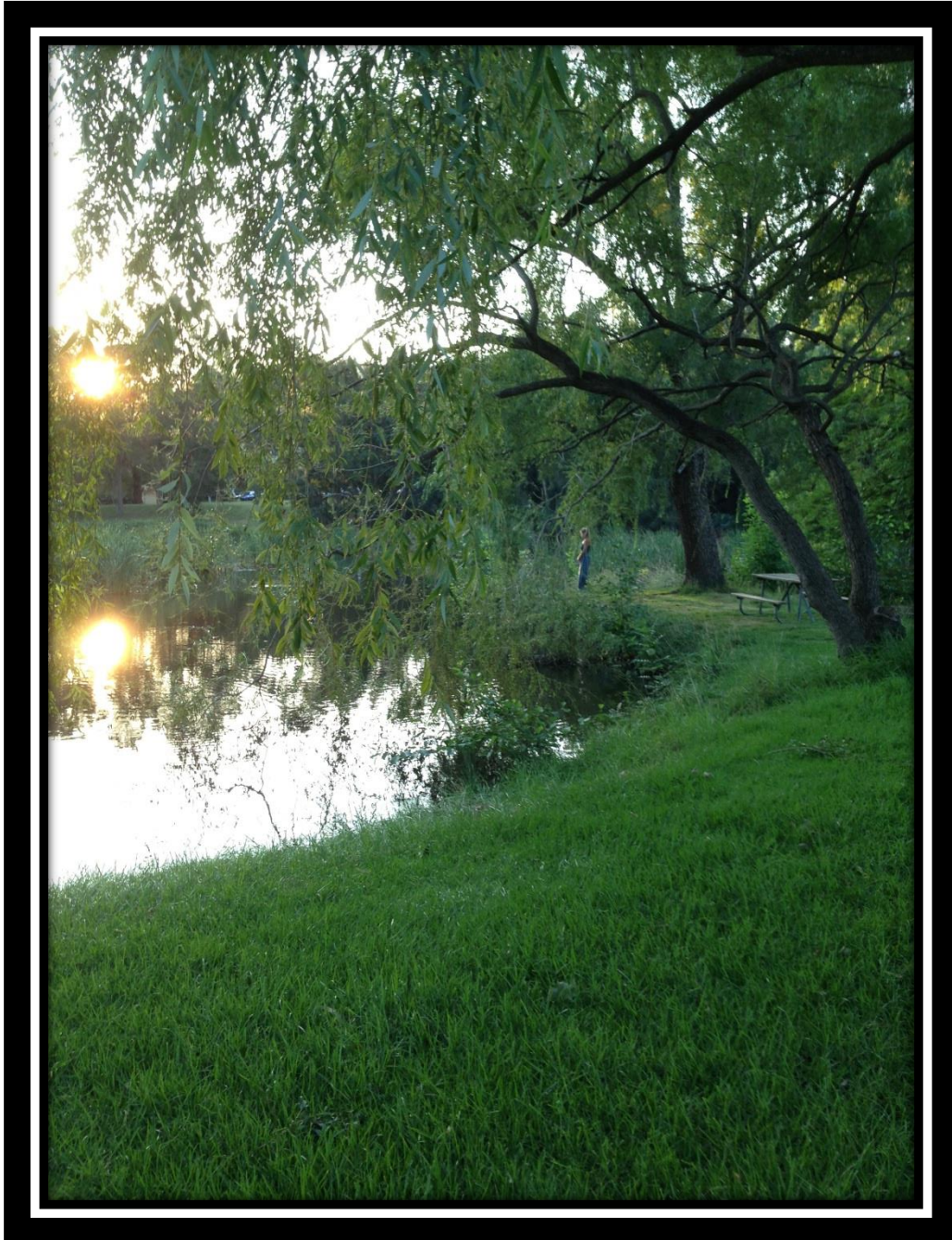
I THANK YOU FOR YOUR FORGIVENESS OF MY SINS AND ASK YOU FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT TO COME INTO MY LIFE THAT I MAY KNOW YOU AND LIVE THE LIFE YOU HAVE CALLED ME TO AS A CHILD OF GOD.

IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST MY LORD I THANK AND PRAISE YOU,
AMEN.

WHOSE WILL BE DONE?

PART 2

GOD IS A REWARDER OF THOSE WHO DILIGENTLY SEEK HIM



CHAPTER 4

GOD LOVES TO GIVE

4.1 GOD WANTS TO GIVE SO MUCH TO YOU AND ME

God is our refuge and the Giver of eternal life: 27 The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms; and he shall thrust out the enemy from before you; and shall say, Destroy them. (Deuteronomy 33:27 KJV); Eternal life is to know (1) the Only True God and (2) Jesus Christ who was sent by God: 3 And this is life eternal, that they might know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. (John 17:3 KJV); Eternal life is the gift of God through Jesus Christ The Lord: 23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. (Romans 6:23 KJV); God has given to the saved eternal life which is IN HIS SON: 11 And this is the record, that God has given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. (1 John 5:11 KJV)

Those who are saved have been given an understanding to
(1) know God, (2) be in God, and (3) be in Christ.

20 And we know that the Son of God is come, and has given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life. (1 John 5:20 KJV)

From the verses above, it is clear that God wants us to know Him and His Son, Jesus Christ which is to have eternal life. We should also know that we, the saved, are IN GOD and IN HIS SON, JESUS CHRIST, and that God rewards each person who seeks Him.

4.2 GOD REWARDS THOSE WHO SEEK HIM

From a careful reading of the Scripture, it becomes painfully obvious that many people have been deceived and misled by the traditions of men and have gone to the grave perhaps never knowing God's Word let alone what He wanted to give to them through Jesus Christ. Not only is a full and fruitful life with God and Jesus Christ available to everyone today but there are also crowns and other rewards God wants us to know about and seek for our future in eternity with Him and Jesus Christ.

God is a Rewarder of them who diligently seek Him.

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6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that comes to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. (Hebrews 11:6 KJV)

God wants to work with you and reward you for your work with Him.

4 For while one said, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are you not carnal? 5 Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom you believed, even as the Lord gave to every man? 6 I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. [**GOD GIVES THE INCREASE**] 7 So then neither is he that plants anything, neither he that waters; but God that gives the increase. 8 Now he that plants and he that waters are one; and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour. [**EVERY PERSON WILL BE REWARDED FOR THEIR OWN LABOUR WITH GOD**] 9 For we are labourers together with God: you are God's husbandry, you are God's building. [**GOD WORKS TOGETHER WITH US**] 10 According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise master builder, I have laid the foundation, and another builds thereon. But let every man take heed how he builds thereupon. 11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 3:4-11 KJV)

God wants to reward each and every Believer for the work they do with Him during their life in this world and He empowers and provides us with all we need to produce great deeds because Jesus Christ has set the foundation for this work agreement between God and a Believer which is based on total grace and access to God's own heart.

Not all deeds are done with God but all deeds will be considered and judged by God; evil deeds will be reprov'd and good deeds shown to be done by God.

19 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. 20 For every one that does evil hates the light, neither comes to the light, lest his deeds should be reprov'd. [**EVIL DEEDS DONE BY A PERSON WHO HATES GOD WILL BE REPROV'D**] 21 But he that does truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God. [**DEEDS DONE BY A BELIEVER WORKING AND LIVING IN GOD'S TRUTH WILL BE SHOWN TO BE DONE BY AND FOR GOD**] (John 3:13-21 KJV)

Evil work is done by people who reject God and their deeds will be reprov'd by God; indeed, everything will be revealed and everyone will have their own work assessed and rewarded.

26 Fear them not therefore: for there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; and hid, that shall not be known. (Matthew 10:26 KJV); 35 (Yes, a sword shall pierce through your own soul also,) that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed. (Luke 2:35 KJV); 2 For there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; neither hid, that shall not be known. 3 Therefore whatsoever

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you have spoken in darkness shall be heard in the light; and that which you have spoken in the ear in closets shall be proclaimed upon the housetops. (Luke 12:2-3 KJV); 13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. (1 Corinthians 3:13 KJV); 13 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. (Hebrews 4:13 KJV); 11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12 Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble: 13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. 14 If any man's work abide which he has built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. 15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire. (1 Corinthians 3:11-15 KJV)

Salvation is so amazing and totally by grace that even where a Believer has not worked with God upon the foundation set by Jesus Christ, they will still have eternal life though with no reward for any work done without God. Such rewards will be identifiable and seen by everyone in the Age to come; such rewards God calls, 'Crowns' in the Bible.

4.3 CROWNS OF REWARDS TO BELIEVERS WHO HAVE BEEN FAITHFUL

Ever wondered what the 'Crowns' represent which will be cast down before the Throne of God in Revelation 4? Whether they are positions of authority, rank, or privilege symbolic of additional powers, abilities, and duties held by a Believer in their new body it is not stated in Revelation or any other part of Scripture. However, Crowns and other eternal rewards for those who have eternal life is worthy to note.

4.4 THE 24 ELDERS WITH GOLDEN CROWNS UPON THEIR HEADS WHO CAST THEM BEFORE THE THRONE OF GOD (AND THE SAVED SHALL REIGN UPON THE EARTH AS KINGS AND PRIESTS)

4 ¹ After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will show you things which must be hereafter. 2 And immediately I was in the spirit: and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne. 3 And he that sat was to look upon like a jasper and a sardine stone: and there was a rainbow round about the throne, in sight like unto an emerald. 4 And round about the throne were four and twenty seats: and upon the seats I saw four and twenty elders sitting, clothed in white raiment; and they had on their heads crowns of gold.

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[**GOLD CROWNS ON THEIR HEADS**]... 10 The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying, [**CAST THEIR CROWNS BEFORE THE THRONE OF GOD**] 11 You art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for you have created all things, and for your pleasure they are and were created... 5⁹ And they sung a new song, saying, You are worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for you were slain, and have redeemed us to God by your blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; 10 And have made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth. [**ONE OF THE FUTURE REWARDS FOR THE SAVED WILL BE TO RULE AS KINGS AND PRIESTS UPON THE EARTH**] 11 And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; 12 Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. 13 And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sits upon the throne, and unto the Lamb forever and ever. [**WORSHIPPING (1) GOD AND (2) THE LAMB OF GOD**]. (Revelation 4:1-4, 10-11; 5:9-13 KJV)

4.5 JESUS CHRIST HAS MANY CROWNS UPON HIS HEAD

11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he does judge and make war. 12 His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. [**JESUS CHRIST WILL HAVE MANY CROWNS UPON HIS HEAD WHEN HE RETURNS TO JUDGE AND RULE THE WORLD**] 13 And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. 14 And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. 15 And out of his mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. 16 And he has on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, King of Kings, and Lord of Lords. (Revelation 19:11-16 KJV)

4.6 JESUS CHRIST ENDURED THE CROSS FOR THE JOY SET BEFORE HIM

1 Therefore seeing we also are surrounded about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which does so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, 2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the

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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 KJV)

What was this 'joy that was set before Jesus Christ? It was to do the Will of God, to save and bless people, to fulfill God's Promise to Abraham, and to judge and rule the world in righteousness. Because of what Christ accomplished on the Cross, Jesus Christ was raised to the Right Hand of God's Throne, given power and authority over everyone and anything except over God, and given the name, 'King of Kings and Lord of Lords' with many crowns upon His head. Crowns, whether they are actually gold or symbolic of achievement, power or authority, are mentioned to make the wearer and their actions stand out on the pages of the Bible and to all creation that the crowned are rewarded and exalted for doing the Will of God. Different crowns are also available to everyone who obeys and faithfully works with and for God.

4.7 AN INCORRUPTIBLE CROWN

A Believer who has mastery over their own body and mind, and preaches God's Word freely, is temperate in all things and will obtain an 'Incorruptible Crown'.

16 For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yes, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel! 17 For if I do this thing willingly, I have a reward: but if against my will, a dispensation of the gospel is committed unto me. 18 What is my reward then? (20) **[BELIEVERS ARE AND WILL BE REWARDED FOR THEIR WORK WITH GOD]** Verily that, when I preach the gospel, I may make the gospel of Christ without charge, that I abuse not my power in the gospel. 19 For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more. 20 And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law; 21 To them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law.

22 To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. 23 And this I do for the gospel's sake, that I might be partaker thereof with you. 24 Know you not that they which run in a race run all, but one receives the prize? So run, that you may obtain. 25 And every man that strives for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. **[AN INCORRUPTIBLE CROWN FOR SELF-CONTROL]** 26 I therefore so run, not with uncertainty; so fight I, not as one that beats the air: 27 But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway. (1 Corinthians 9:16-27 KJV)

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An Incorruptible Crown for self-control and ably preaching God's Word freely to everyone at their own respective levels of understanding and positions in life (for example, to the free, the Jews, those under the law, and those without the law).

4.8 A CROWN OF REJOICING

The Crown of Rejoicing will be awarded to a person who has worked with God to raise up faithful believers through the word of God taught and lived in their own life.

10 You are witnesses, and God also, how holily and justly and without blame we behaved ourselves among you that believe: 11 As you know how we exhorted and comforted and charged every one of you, as a father does his children, 12 That you would walk worthy of God, who has called you unto his kingdom and glory. 13 For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when you received the word of God which you heard of us, you received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectively works also in you that believe. 14 For you, brethren, became followers of the churches of God which in Judaea are in Christ Jesus: for you also have suffered like things of your own countrymen, even as they have of the Jews...

17 But we, brethren, being taken from you for a short time in presence, not in heart, endeavoured the more abundantly to see your face with great desire. 18 Therefore we would have come unto you, even I Paul, once and again; but Satan hindered us. 19 For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming? [CROWN OF REJOICING AWARDED TO THE BELIEVER BECAUSE OF THE PEOPLE WHO BECAME FAITHFUL TO GOD THROUGH THE ACTIONS AND WORDS OF THAT BELIEVER] 20 For you are our glory and joy. (1 Thessalonians 2:10-14, 17-20 KJV)

4.9 A CROWN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

A Crown of Righteousness will be given to a person who loves and anticipates Christ's Appearing and exhorts others with God's Word.

1 I charge you therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; 2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long suffering and doctrine. 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers,

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having itching ears; 4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

5 But watch you in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of your ministry. 6 For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand.

7 I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: 8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing. **[A CROWN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS WILL BE GIVEN ON A PARTICULAR DAY TO ALL WHO LOVE THE APPEARING OF JESUS CHRIST]** (2 Timothy 4:1-8 KJV)

What of those who are saved but do not know about Christ's Appearing at the Gathering Together in the clouds which some also call, 'The Rapture'? Most likely they will not know what just happened to them when they suddenly appear in the clouds with The Lord—especially if they had not learned about this upcoming momentous event which the Faithful would have learned by simply reading 1 Corinthians 15:51-58 and 1 Thessalonians 4:13 to 5:11.

51 Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. **[IN THE TIME IT TAKES TO TWINKLE AN EYE THE SAVED WHO ARE DEAD WILL BE RAISED FROM THE GRAVE AND THE SAVED WHO ARE ALIVE AT THE MOMENT THE TRUMPET SOUNDS WILL BE CHANGED]** 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. 55 O death, where is your sting? O grave, where is your victory? 56 The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, which gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be you steadfast, unmoving, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as you know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord. (1 Corinthians 15:51-58 KJV)

4¹³ But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that you sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. 15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent **['PREVENT' = PRECEDE IN GREEK]** them which are asleep. 16 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: **[THOSE WHO WERE SAVED BEFORE THEY DIED WILL BE TAKEN OUT OF THE GRAVE AND MADE ALIVE**

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AND TAKEN INTO THE CLOUDS TO MEET CHRIST BEFORE THE LIVING CHRISTIANS ARE TAKEN UP FROM THE EARTH] 17 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. **[BELIEVERS WILL BE SNATCHED FROM THE EARTH AND TAKEN INTO THE CLOUDS WHERE CHRIST WILL BE FOR THAT PERIOD OF TIME]** 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words. **[BELIEVERS ARE TO COMFORT EACH OTHER WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF THIS PENDING APPEARING OF JESUS CHRIST AND THE RAPTURE OF ALL THOSE WHO ARE SAVED INTO HIS PRESENCE IN THE CLOUDS ABOVE THE EARTH]**

5 ¹ But of the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I write unto you. 2 For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. 3 For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction comes upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. 4 But you, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. 5 You are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. 6 Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober. **[BELIEVERS ARE TO WATCH FOR THE COMING OF JESUS CHRIST IN THE CLOUDS]** 7 For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.

8 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. 9 For God has not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him. 11 Therefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also you do. **[THE APPEARING OF JESUS CHRIST TO COLLECT THE DEAD AND LIVING BELIEVERS IN AN INSTANT OF TIME INTO THE CLOUDS WITH HIM IS COMFORTING AND BELIEVERS ARE TO COMFORT AND EDIFY EACH OTHER WITH THIS KNOWLEDGE]** (1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11 KJV)

Every Believer is exhorted to watch for the Coming of Jesus Christ in the clouds so that they will not be surprised when they are quickly taken from the earth into the clouds with Jesus Christ. (21) If they do not watch and look out for His Appearing in the clouds they most likely will not 'love' His Appearing because to love His Appearing would mean that the saved person would constantly think about and anticipate Christ's Appearing and so act godly and enthusiastically in their day-to-day walk with God on this earth.

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Those who love His Appearing are promised a Crown of Righteousness which God wants us to receive; but to love His Appearing means a person will need to know about this wonderful ONE TIME EVENT. Sadly all too often, the Appearing has not been known by those caught up in the traditions of men, let alone the many who have not even read the Bible at least once in their lives.

4.10 THE CROWN OF LIFE

Those who love The Lord will do their best to live for God. To live a godly life Scripture exhorts us to not submit or give in to temptation which can be anything that leads us away from doing God's Will through lust and enticement.

Those who endure temptations and not give in to them
will receive the Crown of Life.

12 Blessed is the man that endures temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord has promised to them that love him. [THE BELIEVER WHO IS TRIED AND ENDURES TEMPTATION WILL RECEIVE THE CROWN OF LIFE] 13 Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempts he any man: 14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. 15 Then when lust has conceived, it brings forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, brings forth death. (James 1:12-15 KJV)

It is The Word of God in a person's heart that will
help a person to confront temptation.

9 Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to your word. 10 With my whole heart have I sought you: O let me not wander from your commandments. 11 Your word have I hid in my heart, that I might not sin against you. [A BELIEVER IS TO PUT GOD'S WORD IN THEIR HEART TO HELP THEM DEAL WITH SIN (AND TEMPTATION)] 12 Blessed are you, O Lord: teach me your statutes. 13 With my lips have I declared all the judgments of your mouth. 14 I have rejoiced in the way of your testimonies, as much as in all riches. 15 I will meditate in your precepts, and have respect unto your ways. 16 I will delight myself in your statutes: I will not forget your word. (Psalm 119:9-16 KJV)

10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. 11 Put on the whole armour of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we

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wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. 13 Therefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. 14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; 15 And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 Above all, taking the shield of faith, with which you shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: **[THE WORD OF GOD IS THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT WHICH HAS TO BE USED BY EVERY BELIEVER IN LIFE]** 18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; (Ephesians 6:10-18 KJV)

The Word of God is living and has a life and power of its own which God has given to empower a person to defeat temptation.

12 For the word of God is quick **[GREEK: LIFE AND ENERGY OF ITS OWN]**, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged 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. 13 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. 14 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. 15 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. **[JESUS CHRIST WAS TEMPTED IN ALL WAYS LIKE WE ARE YET HE DID NOT SUBMIT TO THE TEMPTATION]** 16 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 4:12-16 KJV)

Jesus Christ defeated and triumphed over temptation by living and using God's Word to defeat the devil.

10 And straightway coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens opened, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon him: 11 And there came a voice from heaven, saying, You art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. 12 And immediately the spirit drives him into the wilderness. 13 And he was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted of Satan; and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered unto him. (Mark 1:10-13 KJV)

1 Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. 2 And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward hungry. 3 And when the tempter came to him, he said, If you be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. 4 But

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he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God. [**JESUS CHRIST USED SCRIPTURE TO COUNTER THE TEMPTATION FROM THE DEVIL**] 5 Then the devil took him up into the holy city, and set him on a pinnacle of the temple, 6 And said unto him, If you be the Son of God, cast yourself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning you: and in their hands they shall bear you up, lest at any time you dash your foot against a stone. [**THE DEVIL DELIBERATELY MISUSED SCRIPTURE IN HIS TEMPTATION**] 7 Jesus said unto him, It is written again, You shall not tempt the Lord your God. [**JESUS CHRIST USED SCRIPTURE TO COUNTER THE TEMPTATION FROM THE DEVIL**] 8 Again, the devil took him up into an exceeding high mountain, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; 9 And said unto him, All these things will I give you, if you will fall down and worship me. 10 Then said Jesus unto him, Get you hence, Satan: for it is written, You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve. [**JESUS CHRIST USED SCRIPTURE TO COUNTER THE TEMPTATION FROM THE DEVIL**] 11 Then the devil left him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him. (Matthew 4:1-11 KJV)

1 And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, 2 Being forty days tempted of the devil. And in those days he did eat nothing: and when they were ended, he afterward was hungry. 3 And the devil said unto him, If you be the Son of God, command this stone that it be made bread. 4 And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God. [**JESUS CHRIST USED SCRIPTURE TO COUNTER THE TEMPTATION FROM THE DEVIL**] 5 And the devil, taking him up into an high mountain, showed unto him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. 6 And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give you, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whosoever I will I give it. 7 If you therefore will worship me, all shall be yours. 8 And Jesus answered and said unto him, Get you behind me, Satan: for it is written, You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve. [**JESUS CHRIST USED SCRIPTURE TO COUNTER THE TEMPTATION FROM THE DEVIL**]

9 And he brought him to Jerusalem, and set him on a pinnacle of the temple, and said unto him, If you be the Son of God, cast yourself down from here: 10 For it is written, He shall give his angels charge over you, to keep you: [**THE DEVIL DELIBERATELY MISUSED SCRIPTURE IN HIS TEMPTATION**] 11 And in their hands they shall bear you up, lest at any time you dash your foot against a stone. 12 And Jesus answering said unto him, It is said, You shall not tempt the Lord your God. [**JESUS CHRIST USED SCRIPTURE TO COUNTER THE TEMPTATION FROM THE DEVIL**] 13 And when the devil had ended all the temptation, he departed from him for a season. 14 And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee: and there went out a fame of him through all the region round about. 15 And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified of all. (Luke 4:1-15 KJV)

4.11 THE CROWN OF GLORY

True elders who freely look after the Believers with a readiness of mind will receive a Crown of Glory when Jesus Christ appears.

1 The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: 2 Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind: 3 Neither as being Lords over God's heritage, but being examples to the flock. 4 And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, you shall receive a crown of glory that fades not away. (1 Peter 5:1-4 KJV)

4.12 GOD WILL SHOW HIS EXCEEDING RICHES TO HIS CHILDREN

So rich is God's love, mercy, and kindness that Believers will be seated in heavenly places in Christ Jesus and enjoy the exceeding riches of His grace in the ages to come.

4 But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love with which he loved us, 5 Even when we were dead in sins, has quickened us together with Christ, (by grace you are saved:) 6 And has raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: 7 That in the ages to come he might show the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. (Ephesians 2:4-7 KJV)

It is vitally important that you and I understand and come to God through Jesus Christ so that we can live the 'more than abundant life' which the Only Begotten Son of God came to offer.

7 Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep. 8 All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them. 9 I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. 10 The thief comes not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. [I AM COME THAT THEY MIGHT HAVE LIFE AND HAVE IT MORE ABUNDANTLY] 11 I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd gives his life for the sheep. (John 10:7-11 KJV)

Confess Jesus Christ as Lord and believe that God raised Him, Jesus Christ, from the dead (He did not raise Himself from the dead).

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8 But what said it? The word is nigh you, even in your mouth, and in your heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; 9 That if you shall confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and shall believe in your heart that God has raised him from the dead, you shall be saved. [**CONFESS WITH YOU MOUTH THE LORD JESUS AND BELIEVE IN YOUR HEART THAT GOD RAISED JESUS CHRIST FROM THE DEAD SHALL BE SAVED**] 10 For with the heart man believes unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. 11 For the scripture said, Whosoever believes on him shall not be ashamed. [**WHOSOEVER BELIEVES ON HIM SHALL NOT BE ASHAMED**] 12 For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. 13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. [**WHOSOEVER CALLS UPON THE NAME OF THE Lord SHALL BE SAVED**] 14 How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? 15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! 16 But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias said, Lord, who has believed our report? 17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. [**FAITH COMES FROM HEARING GOD'S WORD**] (Romans 10:8-17 KJV)

It is by grace—not by our own works—that we are saved through faith which is a gift from God: 8 For by grace are you saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast. (Ephesians 2:8-9 KJV)

God wants EVERYONE to
(1) be saved AND (2) come to the knowledge of the Truth.

3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; 4 Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; [**GOD WANTS EVERYONE TO KNOW THAT THERE IS ONE GOD (NOT THREE OR 'THREE-IN-ONE') AND THAT JESUS CHRIST IS THE MEDIATOR BETWEEN GOD AND HUMANITY**] 6 Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time. (1 Timothy 2:3-6 KJV)

Knowing the Scripture can make a person wise unto salvation which is in
Christ Jesus and is profitable for right living and growth in Christ.

10 But you have fully known my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, long suffering, charity, patience, 11 Persecutions, afflictions, which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured: but out of them all the Lord delivered me. 12 Yes, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution. 13 But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived. 14 But continue you in the things which you have

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learned and have been assured of, knowing of whom you have learned them; 15 And that from a child you have known the holy scriptures, which are able to make you wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. **[THE SCRIPTURE IS ABLE TO MAKE YOU WISE UNTO SALVATION THROUGH FAITH IN CHRIST JESUS]** 16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. **[KNOWING AND APPLYING SCRIPTURE EQUIPS A BELIEVER TO PRODUCE ALL GOOD WORKS]** (2 Timothy 3:10-17 KJV)

Salvation is incorruptible seed that cannot fade or be corrupted as it is established by The Word of God which lives and abides forever; salvation cannot be removed or changed by anyone once it is received from God—no matter how sinful a person may have been or will be in the future.

23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which lives and abides forever. 24 For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower thereof falls away: 25 But the word of the Lord endures forever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you. (1 Peter 1:23-25 KJV)

Of course, the potential for future sin is always present until we are changed and given our new bodies at the Appearing of The Lord Jesus Christ. Yet, while a Believer will have eternal life through Christ, Scripture states that some Believers will not be faithful and use grace as an excuse to sin. Such people will potentially miss out on the rewards reserved for those who have been faithful to God and His Son Jesus Christ who 5 ...have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come. (Hebrews 6:5 KJV)

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PART 3

THE WORSHIP OF GOD AND JESUS CHRIST IS HEAVENLY JOY



CHAPTER 5

HEAVEN AND THE THRONE OF GOD

5.1 'HEAVEN' IS GOD'S THRONE

According to Scripture, the following statements can be made about 'heaven':

- all creation (space, planets, stars, people, animals, birds, fish, insects) is made from the molecules and elements found in water
- deep water is at the outer edge of the firmament God calls heaven
- God's Throne is heaven which is not in another 'dimension' but in reality, the same universe in which we all live (22)
- heaven is the space between the ground of the planet Earth and the water that lies at and beyond the 'edge of space'
- God sits on the Throne of Heaven
- Water is in the picture of Heaven (the glass lake?)
- The 'Third Heaven and Earth' will not have any sea but a river called, 'The River of Life'
- Where birds fly is called heaven
- Jesus Christ went through heaven to get to the Right Hand of God's Throne after He was taken up into a cloud

After Jesus Christ witnessed and showed Himself to many people for forty days after His resurrection, He was taken up from the earth into the sky then went through the heavens.

1 The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, 2 Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen: [**jesus christ was taken up from the ground and into the air**] 3 To whom also he showed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God: 4 And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, said he, you have heard of me. 5 For John truly baptized with water; but you shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. 6 When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, will you at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? 7 And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father has put in his own power. 8 But you shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and you shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the furthestmost part of the earth. 9

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And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. [**JESUS CHRIST WAS TAKEN UP FROM THE EARTH AND WENT INTO A CLOUD**] (23) 10 And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; 11 Which also said, You men of Galilee, why stand you gazing up into heaven? [**THEY WERE LOOKING UP INTO THE SKY WHICH IS ALSO CALLED 'HEAVEN'**] this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as you have seen him go into heaven. (Acts 1:1-11 KJV)

14 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. [**JESUS CHRIST PASSED INTO THE HEAVENS (PLURAL = MORE THAN ONE HEAVEN)**] (Hebrews 4:14 KJV)

Heaven is God's Throne.

1 Thus said the Lord, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that you build unto me? and where is the place of my rest? (Isaiah 66:1 KJV)

5.2 CURRENTLY THERE ARE TWO 'HEAVENS'

There are currently two 'heavens': (1) an unspecified area filled with water at the outer edge of 'space' beyond the stars; and (2) any place that is above the earth (including where there are stars, clouds, and flying birds).

1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. [**GOD CREATED THE HEAVEN**]
2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. 3 And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. 4 And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. 5 And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day. 6 And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters. [**GOD CREATED A FIRMAMENT (SPACE) IN THE MIDDLE OF DEEP WATER TO MAKE TWO SEPARATE BODIES OF WATER**] 7 And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so. 8 And God called the firmament Heaven. [**the space between the two separate bodies of water is called the firmament which god called heaven**] And the evening and the morning were the second day.
9 And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so. [**in the body of water under heaven god created the earth which was divided into seas and dry land**]

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10 And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called He Seas: and God saw that it was good. (Genesis 1:1-10 KJV)

The earth is founded upon the seas and
the world is established upon floods of water.

1 The earth is the LORD's, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. 2 For he has founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods. (Psalm 24:1-2 KJV)

In the space between the deep water at the edge of the universe and the ground
of earth which God calls, 'heaven',
God placed the sun, moon, planets, and stars.

14 And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years: 15 And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so. 16 And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also. [**THE SUN, MOON, AND STARS GOD PLACED IN THE FIRMAMENT OF HEAVEN**] 17 And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth, 18 And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw that it was good. (Genesis 1:14-18 KJV)

Where birds fly above the earth is called, 'the open firmament of heaven'.

20 And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that has life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven. 21 And God created great whales, and every living creature that moves, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good. (Genesis 1:20-21 KJV)

Where snow falls from is called, 'Heaven'.

9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. 10 For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and returns not thither, but waters the earth, and makes it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater. (Isaiah 55:9-10 KJV)

5.3 SCRIPTURE DECLARES THERE WILL BE A TOTAL OF THREE HEAVENS AND THREE EARTHS

Scripture declares that there will be three heavens and three earths; the world in which Jesus Christ came down and was resurrected is the 'second heaven and earth'.

1 It is not expedient for me doubtless to glory. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord. 2 I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knows;) such an one caught up to the third heaven. [paul was given a vision about the third heaven which was paradise] 3 And I knew such a man, (whether in the body, or out of the body, I cannot tell: God knows;) 4 How that he was caught up into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter. (2 Corinthians 12:1-4 KJV)

1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. [the first heaven and earth will no longer exist; the new heaven and the new earth will not have a sea] 2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. 4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. 5 And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. (Revelation 21:1-5 KJV)

3 Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, 4 And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation. 5 For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: [the earth was made out of the waters of the deep and was separated from the waters of the deep (by the firmament/heaven which god placed between the waters of the deep and planet earth)] 6 Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: [the flood of noah's time covered the whole planet earth and destroyed the world that had existed before the flood (which could include the end of the dinosaurs)] 7 But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. [the heavens and earth that exist now will be burned up on the day of judgment also called the day of the lord and the day of god]...

WHOSE WILL BE DONE?

9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is long suffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. 10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. 11 Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in all holy conversation and godliness. 12 Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? 13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwells righteousness. **[after this current world is burned up and destroyed god will create a new earth and heavens (which is the third earth and heaven stated in revelation 21)]**

14 Therefore, beloved, seeing that you look for such things, be diligent that you may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless. 15 And account that the long suffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him has written unto you; 16 As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction. 17 You therefore, beloved, seeing you know these things before, beware lest you also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness. 18 But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever. Amen. (2 Peter 3:3-7, 9-18 KJV)

Before the Great Flood Noah had never seen rain as
God had watered the earth with a mist.

5 And every plant of the field before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew: for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was not a man to till the ground. 6 But there went up a mist from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground. (Genesis 2:5-6 KJV)

Noah had not seen rain before and neither had he seen a global flood before the
Great Flood described in Genesis yet he believed God.

6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that comes to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. 7 By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith. (Hebrews 11:6-7 KJV)

WHOSE WILL BE DONE?

So great was Noah's faith that he not only prepared for an event he had never seen before but he was faithful to build and prepare the (huge) Ark for (at least) 100 years from the time he was told by God to start the Ark construction to the time Noah, his family, and the animals were on the Ark.

32 And Noah was five hundred years old: and Noah begat Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Genesis 5:32 KJV); 5 And Noah did according unto all that the Lord commanded him. 6 And Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters was upon the earth. 7 And Noah went in, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him, into the ark, because of the waters of the flood. (Genesis 7:5-7 KJV)

Noah was 500 years old when God told him to build the Ark and 600 years old when the Great Flood came.

The water used to flood the earth came from heaven which is called 'the great deep' in Genesis 7.

10 And it came to pass after seven days, that the waters of the flood were upon the earth. 11 In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened. 12 And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights. (Genesis 7:10-12 KJV)

The next heaven and earth God creates will not have any sea.

1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. (Revelation 21:1 KJV)

5.4 god will come down from heaven and dwell with jesus christ and the saved upon the third earth

God and Jesus Christ will come down to this new earth and dwell forever with Believers and God's creatures.

2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. 4 And God shall wipe away all tears from

WHOSE WILL BE DONE?

their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. 5 And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. 6 And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. 7 He that overcomes shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. . . 10 And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, 11 Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal; (Revelation 21:2-7, 10-11 KJV)

1 And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. 2 In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. 3 And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him: 4 And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads. 5 And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God gives them light: and they shall reign forever and ever. 6 And he said unto me, These sayings are faithful and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to show unto his servants the things which must shortly be done. 7 Behold, I come quickly: blessed is he that keeps the sayings of the prophecy of this book. (Revelation 22:1-7 KJV)

5.5 who comes down and dwells with mankind on the new earth?

God and Jesus Christ (The Lamb of God) will both dwell with redeemed men (and women) upon the New (Third) Earth in the Book of Revelation.

3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. . . 22 And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it. 23 And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof... (Revelation 21:3, 22-23 KJV)

1 And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. . . 3 And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him. . . 17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that hears say, Come. And let him that is thirsty come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely. (Revelation 22:1, 3, 17 KJV)

WHOSE WILL BE DONE?

Time and again God and Jesus Christ are declared to be the ones who provide for and bless those who have eternal life; two Beings—not three. Yes, the gift of holy spirit sent at Pentecost is to lead believers and search out those who will believe but the gift of holy spirit should not be confused with The Holy Spirit which is what God is: The Almighty Spirit Who is Holy. Mistakenly, some have misconstrued Revelation 22:17 to support the so-called third part of a trinitarian godhead because it states, ‘Spirit’. But this verse clearly includes ANYONE ‘that hears’—such as you and me. Does that mean that you and I are also part of the trinity? The answer is obviously a resounding, “No!” If we were going to count persons in a godhead from this verse then it would be far more than three people(!); it would include all the people who have heard and said, ‘Come’. Too many times the teachings of men have been readily accepted as accurate renderings of Scripture when they should have been put down at first instance because the Bible says that God commanded so many times that He Alone is God.

5.6 THE BODY OF CHRIST AND THE BRIDE OF CHRIST ARE TWO DIFFERENT GROUPS OF PEOPLE WITH DIFFERENT PROMISES TO CLAIM

Another area of confusion is the misuse of those categories of people identified by Scripture, such as the ‘Bride of Christ’, the ‘Body of Christ’, and the ‘Children of the Bride’, which are different to each other with their own unique characteristics and promises from God. Because there are promises made by God to Holy Israel (Bride of Christ) that are different to the ones made to the Church (Body of Christ), it becomes vital to understand who each category is in Scripture and how to pray more effectively once we know those promises God has made to the group we belong to as opposed to trying to claim different promises made to another category identified in the Bible. The ‘Bridegroom’ is Jesus Christ; the ‘Body of Christ’ is The Church; the ‘Bride’ is the Holy Jerusalem of Revelation 21; and the ‘Children of the Bride Chamber’ is Israel as identified in the following verses.

5.7 THE BRIDEGROOM

THE BRIDEGROOM
=
THE LAMB OF GOD
=
LORD JESUS CHRIST

Jesus Christ is called several different names and titles in Scripture such as: King of Kings and Lord of Lords, The Only Begotten Son of God, The Son of God, The Messiah, Master, Teacher, The Shepard King, and so forth. Christ is also called the Lamb of God which can be used to identify His relationship to God and the Throne God sits upon, as well as His role in being the sacrificial lamb for all our sins.

Jesus Christ is first identified as The Lamb of God in Scripture
by John the Baptist

29 The next day John saw Jesus coming unto him, and said, Behold the Lamb of God, which takes away the sin of the world. [**JESUS CHRIST IS THE LAMB OF GOD**] 30 This is he of whom I said, After me comes a man which is preferred before me: for he was before me. 31 And I knew him not: but that he should be made manifest to Israel, therefore am I come baptizing with water. [**JOHN WAS SENT TO BAPTIZE WITH WATER**] 32 And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him. [**THE SPIRIT CAME FROM HEAVEN AND STAYED UPON JESUS CHRIST**] 33 And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom you shall see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizes with the Holy Ghost. [**THE SPIRIT CAME FROM HEAVEN AND STAYED UPON JESUS CHRIST; CHRIST WILL BAPTIZE WITH THE HOLY GHOST (SPIRIT) (JOHN WAS SENT TO BAPTIZE WITH WATER)**] 34 And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God. 35 Again the next day after John stood, and two of his disciples: 36 And looking upon Jesus as he walked, he said, Behold the Lamb of God! [**JESUS CHRIST IS THE LAMB OF GOD**] (24) 37 And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. 38 Then Jesus turned, and saw them following, and said unto them, What seek you? They said unto him, Rabbi, (which is to say, being interpreted, Master,) where dwells you? (John 1:29-38 KJV): 6 And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth [**JESUS CHRIST STOOD IN THE MIDST OF THE THRONE, THE FOUR BEASTS, AND THE ELDERS**]. (Revelation 5:6 KJV)

WHOSE WILL BE DONE?

God and Jesus Christ are both to be worshipped.

13 And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sits upon the throne, and unto the Lamb forever and ever. [**TO HIM THAT SITS ON THE THRONE AND TO THE LAMB (NOT ON THE THRONE AT THIS PARTICULAR TIME)**] (Revelation 5:13 KJV)

During the seven year Tribulation Period, even unbelievers will recognize and call Jesus Christ the 'Lamb': 16 And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: (Revelation 6:16 KJV)

9 After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; 10 And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sits upon the throne, and unto the Lamb... [**(1) TO OUR GOD AND (2) UNTO THE LAMB**] 17 For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes. (Revelation 7:9-10, 17 KJV); 1 And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb... 3 And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him: (Revelation 22:1, 3 KJV)

5.8 THE BODY OF CHRIST (THE CHURCH)

4 For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: 5 So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another. [**THE BOOK OF ROMANS IS ADDRESSED (IN CHAPTER 1) TO CHRISTIANS WHICH DECLARES THAT THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH IS 'ONE BODY IN CHRIST'**] 6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; 7 Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teaches, on teaching: (Romans 12:4-7 KJV)

12 For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. 13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. 14 For the body is not one member, but many... 18 But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him... 20 But now are they many members, yet but one body... 26 And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it. 27 Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular. 28 And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily

WHOSE WILL BE DONE?

prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues. (1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 18, 20, 26-28 KJV)

2 If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward; 3 How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words, 4 Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ) 5 Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit; 6 That the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel: [**WHEN THE DISPENSATION OF GRACE ARRIVED THE BODY OF CHRIST INCLUDED SAVED GENTILES (AND JEWS)**].(Ephesians 3:2-6 KJV)

4 There is one body, and one Spirit, even as you are called in one hope of your calling; 5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. 7 But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. 8 Wherefore he said, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. . . . 11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; 12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: [**THE BODY OF CHRIST IS ALL THOSE WHO ARE THE SAVED SINCE THE GIFTS WERE GIVEN BY CHRIST WHEN HE ASCENDED TO HEAVEN IN HIS RESURRECTED BODY**] 13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ: (Ephesians 4:4-8, 11-13 KJV)

Jesus Christ is The Head of The Body which is His Church.

23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. [**CHRIST IS THE HEAD AND SAVIOUR OF THE CHURCH WHICH IS HIS BODY MADE UP OF ALL BELIEVERS IN CHRIST**] (Ephesians 5:23 KJV); 24 Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church: (Colossians 1:24 KJV)

5.9 the bride (holy jerusalem from above)

THE BRIDE
=
LAMB'S WIFE
=
HOLY JERUSALEM DESCENDED OUT OF HEAVEN FROM GOD

9 And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife. 10 And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God. (Revelation 21:9-10 KJV)

It is interesting to read that only Jesus Christ and God (God being a Spirit Who is Holy = Holy Spirit) are stated in these verses but never any so-called 'trinity'. (25)

5.10 CHILDREN OF THE BRIDE

The Bridegroom and the Children of the Bride Chamber.

15 And Jesus said unto them, Can the children of the bride chamber mourn, as long as the bridegroom is with them? but the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken from them, and then shall they fast. (Matthew 9:15 KJV)

19 And Jesus said unto them, Can the children of the bride chamber fast, while the bridegroom is with them? as long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast. 20 But the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken away from them, and then shall they fast in those days. (Mark 2:19-20 KJV)

THE CHILDREN OF THE BRIDE
=
THE CHILDREN OF HOLY JERUSALEM

34 And he said unto them, Can you make the children of the bride chamber fast, while the bridegroom is with them? 35 But the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken away from them, and then shall they fast in those days. (Luke 5:34-35 KJV)

John the Baptist speaking about Christ in John 3: 28 you yourselves bear me witness, that I said, I am not the Christ, but that I am sent before him. 29 He that has the bride is the bridegroom: but

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the friend of the bridegroom, which stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice: this my joy therefore is fulfilled. 30 He must increase, but I must decrease. 31 He that comes from above is above all: he that is of the earth is earthly, and speaks of the earth: he that comes from heaven is above all... 34 For he whom God has sent speaks the words of God: for God gives not the Spirit by measure to him. 35 The Father loves the Son, and has given all things into his hand. (John 3:28-31, 34-35 KJV)

God gave the Spirit to Christ without measure and God also gave all things into the hands of Jesus Christ. Christ is above all because God gave all things to His Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ, Who used all that He had to please and obey the Will of God.

CHAPTER 6

JESUS CHRIST ALWAYS DID GOD'S WILL

6.1 WHOSE WILL BE DONE—THE WILL OF GOD OR CHRIST?

Whose Will did Jesus Christ obey when he decided to go to the Cross during his conversation with God in the Garden of Gethsemane?

Not His own Will BUT the Will of God.

36 Then came Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and said unto the disciples, Sit you here, while I go and pray yonder. 37 And he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful and very heavy. 38 Then said he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry you here, and watch with me. 39 And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as you will. **[not as jesus christ wills but as god wants]** 40 And he came unto the disciples, and found them asleep, and said unto Peter, What, could you not watch with me one hour? 41 Watch and pray, that you enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak. 42 He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, your will be done. **[if christ has to drink 'this cup' then the will of god be done]**

43 And he came and found them asleep again: for their eyes were heavy. 44 And he left them, and went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words. **[jesus christ prayed the same words—he would not do what he wants to do but do god's will (by going to the cross)]** 45 Then comes he to his disciples, and said unto them, Sleep on now, and take your rest: behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. (Matthew 26:36-45 KJV)

32 And they came to a place which was named Gethsemane: and he said to his disciples, Sit you here, while I shall pray. 33 And he took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be sore amazed, and to be very heavy; 34 And said unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful unto death: tarry you here, and watch. 35 And he went forward a little, and fell on the ground, and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. 36 And he said, Abba, Father, all things are possible unto you; take away this cup from me: nevertheless not what I will, but what you will. **[jesus christ asked that he not be crucified but submitted his own will to the will of god that required christ to be crucified]**

WHOSE WILL BE DONE?

37 And he came, and found them sleeping, and said unto Peter, Simon, you sleep? could not you watch one hour? 38 Watch you and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit truly is ready, but the flesh is weak. 39 And again he went away, and prayed, and spoke the same words.

[JESUS CHRIST AGAIN PRAYED TO AVOID HIS CRUCIFIXION BUT SUBMITTED TO GOD'S WILL INSTEAD OF DOING WHAT HE, CHRIST, WANTED TO DO]

40 And when he returned, he found them asleep again, (for their eyes were heavy,) neither knew they what to answer him. 41 And he comes the third time, and said unto them, Sleep on now, and take your rest: it is enough, the hour is come; behold, the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. (Mark 14:32-41 KJV);

40 And when he was at the place, he said unto them, Pray that you enter not into temptation.

41 And he was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and kneeled down, and prayed,

42 Saying, Father, if you be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but your, be done. **[not the will of jesus christ but the will of god be done]** 43 And there appeared

an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him. 44 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. 45 And

when he rose up from prayer, and was come to his disciples, he found them sleeping for sorrow,

46 And said unto them, Why sleep you? rise and pray, lest you enter into temptation. (Luke 22:40-46 KJV)

Despite knowing all things that should happen to Him, that God wanted Christ to willingly suffer and die on the Cross, Jesus Christ still chose not to do His own Will but the Will of God Who is His Father.

1 When Jesus had spoken these words, he went forth with his disciples over the brook Cedron, where was a garden, into the which he entered, and his disciples. 2 And Judas also, which betrayed him, knew the place: for Jesus often resorted thither with his disciples. 3 Judas then, having received a band of men and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees, came there with lanterns and torches and weapons. 4 Jesus therefore, knowing all things that should come upon him, went forth, and said unto them, Whom seek you? **[jesus christ still did god's will although he knew that he was about to be tortured and executed on the cross]** (John 18:1-4 KJV)

Jesus Christ did not do his own will; He did the will of God Who is His Father.

6.2 DID THE WILL OF JESUS CHRIST DIFFER FROM GOD?

For Jesus Christ to state that God's Will be done—and not His own will—means that two distinct wills existed at the time Christ made these statements. However, God so loved His Only Begotten Son that Jesus Christ knew His Father had the WILL that was to be obeyed above any other will—including His own will. Scripture demonstrates that Christ knew God loved Him and

WHOSE WILL BE DONE?

that the Will of God would be the best will for God's overall plan of salvation which included Christ's wellbeing, resurrection, and elevation to glory at the Right Hand of God.

6.3 "THY WILL BE DONE"

In the often recited prayer of Our Lord, 'The Lord's Prayer', and Jesus Christ's tearful confirmation to God that God's Will be done in the Garden of Gethsemene before his arrest by the temple guards, two wills are identified:

(1) The Will of God.

9 After this manner therefore pray you: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be your name. 10 Your kingdom come. Your will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. 11 Give us this day our daily bread. 12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. 13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen. (Matthew 6:9-13 KJV)

and

(2) The Will of Jesus Christ.

41 And he was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and kneeled down, and prayed, 42 Saying, Father, if you be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but yours, be done. 43 And there appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him. 44 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. (Luke 22:41-44 KJV)

Scripture declares that: Jesus Christ worshiped God; acknowledged that His Father was and is God; declared that He was sent to the earth by God; revealed God to others; and obeyed the Will of God. The Bible also states that Jesus Christ was raised to life from death by God, promoted to sit at the right hand side of God's Throne, and given authority over everything (except the Throne of God).

1 God, who at sundry times and in divers [MANY] manners spoke in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, 2 Has in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he has appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; 3 Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; 4 Being made so much better than the angels, [JESUS CHRIST WAS MADE SO MUCH BETTER THAN THE ANGELS] as he has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they. 5 For unto which of the angels said he at any time, You are my Son, this day have I begotten you? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son? 6 And again, when he brings in the

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first begotten into the world, he said, And let all the angels of God worship him. **[GOD COMMANDED ALL HIS ANGELS TO WORSHIP JESUS CHRIST]** 7 And of the angels he said, Who makes his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire. 8 But unto the Son he said, Your throne, O God, is forever and ever: a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of your kingdom. **[GOD CALLED JESUS CHRIST 'O GOD' AND DECLARED THAT CHRIST'S THRONE IS FOREVER]** 9 You have loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness above your fellows. **[GOD HAS ANOINTED JESUS CHRIST ABOVE CHRIST'S FELLOWS]** 10 And, You, Lord, in the beginning have laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of your hands: **[JESUS CHRIST LAID THE FOUNDATION OF THE EARTH AND THE HEAVENS ARE THE WORKS OF HIS HANDS]**

11 They shall perish; but you remain; and they all shall wax old as does a garment; 12 And as a vesture shall you fold them up, and they shall be changed; but you are the same, and your years shall not fail. 13 But to which of the angels said he at any time, Sit on my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool? **[GOD TOLD JESUS CHRIST TO SIT AT GOD'S RIGHT HAND UNTIL ALL CHRIST'S ENEMIES ARE MADE HIS FOOTSTOOL]** 14 Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation? **[ALL ANGELS ARE MINISTERING SPIRITS WHO ARE SENT TO MINISTER TO PEOPLE WHO WILL BE GIVEN SALVATION]**. (Hebrews 1:1-14 KJV)

1 Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. 2 For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just payment of reward; 3 How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him; 4 God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers **[MANY]** miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will? 5 For unto the angels has he not put in subjection the world to come, of which we speak. **[the next world will be subject to god's angels—not man]** 6 But one in a certain place testified, saying, What is man, that you are mindful of him? or the son of man, that you visit him? 7 You made him a little lower than the angels; you crowned him with glory and honour, and did set him over the works of your hands: 8 You have put all things in subjection under his feet. For in that he put all in subjection under him, he left nothing that is not put under him. But now we see not yet all things put under him.

9 But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man. 10 For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. **[JESUS CHRIST IS THE CAPTAIN OF SALVATION WHO WAS MADE PERFECT THROUGH HIS SUFFERING DURING HIS FIRST COMING TO EARTH]** 11 For both he that sanctifies and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to

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call them brethren, [**THE SAVED ARE ONE WITH CHRIST AND ARE CALLED ‘BRETHREN’ BY CHRIST**]. 12 Saying, I will declare your name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto you. 13 And again, I will put my trust in him. And again, Behold I and the children which God has given me. [**THE SAVED ARE CALLED ‘CHILDREN’ WHOM GOD HAS GIVEN TO JESUS CHRIST**]. 14 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; 15 And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. 16 For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham. 17 Therefore in all things it behooved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. [**JESUS CHRIST WAS MADE INTO A MAN SO THAT HE COULD SUFFER TEMPTATION AND THEN BE ABLE TO ‘SUCCOUR’ PEOPLE WHO ARE TEMPTED**]. 18 For in that he himself has suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted. (Hebrews 2:1-18 KJV)

There was a day when Jesus Christ was ‘begotten’ by God.

5 So also Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest; but he that said unto him, You are my Son, today have I begotten you. (Hebrews 5:5 KJV) Can it, therefore, be said that before this day Jesus Christ was not ‘begotten’ of God? God declares that Scripture comes from Him and that He is to be taken as honest and truthful so the answer is, yes, Jesus Christ was not begotten before the day God begot Christ. However, the Scripture declares that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever: 8 Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever. (Hebrews 13:8 KJV) Can this verse refer to Jesus Christ BEFORE He was raised to the Right Hand of God? No, if the Bible is the inspired Word from God—Jesus Christ was promoted and glorified after God raised Him from the dead and seated Christ at His Right Hand; things CHANGED as did Jesus Christ, from the glory Christ had before He came to the earth as joint creator with God ‘In The Beginning’ and Mary’s baby in Bethlehem to the glory He received in His resurrected body (from ‘Glory to Glory’).

The elevation of Jesus Christ to the Right Hand of the Throne of God occurred after Christ was taken up into heaven in His resurrected body and was as a direct result of Christ’s faithfulness to do the Will of God; Jesus Christ knew God and worshipped God Who is His Father and His ascension and glorification came through learning and obedience to God.

Jesus Christ learned obedience because of the things He suffered. And Jesus Christ BECAME the author of eternal salvation AFTER being perfected. Our Lord Jesus Christ developed and gained glory and responsibilities because God

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GAVE THEM to Jesus Christ AFTER He obeyed God, suffered for God, and was perfected by God. Yes, Scripture declares that Jesus Christ left some kind of position and glory before He came to earth but this does not necessarily mean such divestiture was the same position or glory He was given later by God in His resurrected body.

6 As he said also in another place, You are a priest forever after the order of Melchisedec. 7 Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared; 8 Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; 9 And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him. [jesus christ became the author of salvation after he was perfected by his obedience to god's calling for him to suffer on the cross for you and me].(Hebrews 5:6-9 KJV)

The Bible does not disclose just what Jesus Christ did for God before being sent to earth but we are told that Jesus Christ created the heavens and the earth with God, served and worshiped God Whom He calls His Father, was raised from the dead by God, and was seated at the Right Hand of God with no one else being greater than Him except God who alone sits on The Throne of God.

The traditions of men claim that God and Jesus Christ are the same person; this position has no foundation in the Scripture—no matter which time period is considered: past, present, or future. So, when contradictions arise between the verses in the Bible and the lessons taught from the pulpit it would be prudent to accept the Bible over what men and their traditions teach.

There are many verses in Scripture that declare the unique and glorious relationship between God and His Only Begotten Son, The Lord Jesus Christ, who is Holy, glorious, magnanimous, sacrificial, prophetic, and complete love from God to men and women everywhere throughout all time. However, some have inserted their own misunderstanding of just how special and dynamic the relationship was, is, and will be between God and Jesus Christ and, subsequently, robbed the reader of the Bible from a Scriptural understanding (and application) of God's promises to the world.

Jesus Christ was tempted and endured trials on earth like no other man or woman—yet He triumphed and overcame total darkness in obedience to God's Will for Him and all who would call to Him for forgiveness. (26) Yes, Jesus Christ willingly subjected His mind and body totally to the Will of God and completely paid the price of sin for everyone. Yes, Jesus Christ felt our fears and was tempted as we are (and even greater)—YET He chose to obey God and so

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triumphed over all that challenged Him. He could have disobeyed God; instead, He obeyed not His own Will, but the Will of God which He always obeyed. (27) This is not additional or extraneous information or didactic analysis brought in from outside the Bible as done in the traditions of men—it is declared in Scripture. Jesus Christ did not do His own Will; He did the Will of His Father Who is God.

6.4 TO WHOM DID JESUS CHRIST PRAY?

To Whom did Jesus Christ pray before, during, and after his death on the Cross? The ‘Lord’s Prayer’, the ‘Sermon on the Mount’, and many other records in the Bible show Jesus Christ in intimate worship of God and dialogue with God. Jesus Christ did not pray to himself; He prayed to God who is his Father. Jesus Christ is God’s ONLY BEGOTTEN SON who was faithful and obedient in all the situations he faced and the mission he was sent to finish on the Cross.

6.5 TO WHOM DID JESUS CHRIST WORSHIP?

Time and again, Jesus Christ worshipped God and there is not one account in Scripture where God worshipped Jesus Christ. The relationship between God and Jesus Christ is respect and worship of an obedient son to his loving father. In point, the record in Chapter 1.5 of this Book states that Jesus Christ was ELEVATED to the Right Hand of God AFTER God raised him from the dead. For Jesus Christ to be elevated to the Right Hand of God requires that His previous position was not as elevated as the new position (at the Right Hand of God). Whether Christ had this same elevated position before God sent Him to earth is not stated in the Bible. What is stated, however, is that Jesus Christ was made higher than the angels and was given authority by God that He did not have before being ‘rewarded’ to this new position of authority (over everything EXCEPT the Throne of God) because of His learned obedience by going to The Cross for you and me.

6.6 WHO RAISED JESUS CHRIST FROM THE DEAD?

Jesus Christ actually died; Christ died on the Cross after He declared, “It is finished”: 30 When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost. (John 19:30 KJV) Being dead Jesus Christ did not raise himself from the grave; God did. Many Scriptural verses declare God would (and did) raise Jesus Christ from the dead. Indeed, the key verse for salvation requires that a person believes that GOD raised Jesus Christ from the dead:

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9 That if you shall confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and shall believe in your heart that God has raised him from the dead, you shall be saved. 10 For with the heart man believes unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. (Romans 10:9-10 KJV)

To believe that Christ raised Himself is not Scriptural but a lie which is the major problem that confronts the teaching that Jesus Christ is God. Why wouldn't the Bible state that a person needs to believe Jesus raised Himself or that Jesus Christ is God? Nowhere is such a statement made or required for salvation in Scripture. Always, the Bible requires that an individual believe: that Jesus Christ is The Only Begotten Son of God; that Jesus Christ died for their sins; and that GOD RAISED JESUS CHRIST from the dead.

6.7 can we do greater works than god?(!)

Absolutely not! And it is blasphemous for anyone to say this, let alone believe they could do something greater than the God who created the cosmos and sent His Only Begotten Son to Earth. Why, then, does Jesus Christ declare that believers will do 'greater works than these because He goes to God'?

12 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believes on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. 13 And whatsoever you shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. (John 14:12-13 KJV)

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If Jesus Christ is God it would be blasphemous to believe, let alone assume, that we could do anything greater than God. Instead, to acknowledge that Jesus Christ did the Will of God—and is not God—the Scripture is not contradictory and it becomes more probable that these ‘greater works’ were to be empowered by God after Jesus Christ went to the right hand of God’s Throne.

Given that the believers received power from on high at Pentecost to speak the wonderful works of God in languages they had not learned in worship to God, and that Christ declared that ‘they shall speak with new tongues’, it can be argued that ‘speaking in tongues’ was the ‘greater works’ as Jesus Christ had already raised dead people, healed the sick, and other miracles which the believers later did after Pentecost; but nowhere does Scripture record Christ speaking in tongues before His statement in John 14:12 KJV or any other verse before or after His ascension into heaven. Instead, Christ prophesies that those who believe in Him ‘shall speak with new tongues’: 17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues. (Mark 16:17 KJV) All of the miracles, signs, and wonders were already done by Jesus Christ and His commissioned followers BEFORE He made the above declaration, however, what had not been done before Christ’s ascension into Heaven, but began from Pentecost onwards, was ‘Speaking in Tongues’.

4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. 5 And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven. 6 Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language. 7 And they were all amazed and marveled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans? 8 And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born? 9 Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judaea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia. 10 Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes, 11 Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God. (Acts 2:4-11 KJV)

God does not want you and me to be ignorant about spiritual gifts (or ‘spiritual matters’) and has recorded information in the Bible about speaking in tongues so that we can learn more about it and seek His Blessing and Will for our lives in this vital subject.

1 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant. 2 You know that you were Gentiles, carried away unto these dumb idols, even as you were led. 3 Therefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed: **[SPEAKING BY THE SPIRIT OF GOD DOES NOT CURSE JESUS (THIS REASSURANCE IS**

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NECESSARY BECAUSE PEOPLE DO NOT KNOW WHAT THEY ARE SAYING WHEN THEY SPEAK IN TONGUES)

and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost. **[it is impossible for a person to say jesus is lord without the holy spirit]** 4 Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.

5 And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. 6 And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which works all in all. 7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit everyone. 8 For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;

9 To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; 10 To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers **[MANY]** kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: 11 But all these works that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will. 12 For as the body is one, and has many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. 13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. **[THE SAVED ARE BAPTIZED BY THE SPIRIT INTO ONE BODY]** 14 For the body is not one member, but many. 15 If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? 16 And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? 17 If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling? 18 But now has God set the members every one of them in the body, as it has pleased him. 19 And if they were all one member, where were the body? 20 But now are they many members, yet but one body. 21 And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of you: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you.

22 No, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary: 23 And those members of the body, which we think to be less honourable, upon these we bestow more abundant honour; and our uncomely parts have more abundant comeliness. 24 For our comely parts have no need: but God has tempered the body together, having given more abundant honour to that part which lacked. 25 That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another. 26 And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it. 27 Now you are the body of Christ, and members in particular. 28 And God has set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues. 29 Are all apostles? are all prophets? are all teachers? are all workers of miracles? 30 Have all the gifts of healing? do all speak with tongues? do all interpret? 31 But covet earnestly **[EARNESTLY SEEK AND DESIRE]** the best gifts: and yet show I unto you a more excellent way. (1 Corinthians 12 KJV)

We are not to be ignorant of spiritual gifts (or matters) and are to ‘covet earnestly’ the ‘best gifts’. To greatly desire to have such blessings from God must mean that these gifts can be sought and attained as God exhorts us to do this in Scripture. Included in this section of the Bible

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is 'divers (many) kinds or tongues' which is one of the 'manifestations' of the Spirit in verse 10. To speak in tongues is a manifestation, an outward sign, that a person is saved and has incorruptible seed from God on the inside! Indeed, while it may be a challenge or discomfort to those who seek to love God yet (at this time) do not speak in tongues they are encouraged by God Who declares in Scripture that He will give His Spirit to anyone who asks for the holy spirit from Him and that He wants EVERYONE to be saved.

9 And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. 10 For every one that asks receives; and he that seeks finds; and to him that knocks it shall be opened. 11 If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? 12 Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? 13 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him? (Luke 11:9-13 KJV)

29 But if from now you shall seek the Lord your God, you shall find him, if you seek him with all your heart and with all your soul. (Deuteronomy 4:29 KJV)

12 Then shall you call upon me, and you shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken to you. 13 And you shall seek me, and find me, when you shall search for me with all your heart. 14 And I will be found of you, says the Lord: and I will turn away your captivity, and I will gather you from all the nations, and from all the places where I have driven you, says the Lord; and I will bring you again into the place where I caused you to be carried away captive. (Jeremiah 29:12-14 KJV)

7 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: 8 For everyone that asks receives; and he that seeks finds; and to him that knocks it shall be opened. 9 Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? 10 Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? 11 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him? (Matthew 7:7-11 KJV)

24 God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwells not in temples made with hands; 25 Neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed anything, seeing he gives to all life, and breath, and all things; 26 And has made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation; 27 That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us: 28 For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring. (Acts 17:24-28 KJV)

3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. 4 Nicodemus said unto him, How can a man be born when he

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is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? 5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. 6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Marvel not that I said unto you, You must be born again. **[YOU AND I MUST BE BORN AGAIN OF THE SPIRIT]** 8 The wind blows where it lists, and you hear the sound thereof, but cannot tell where it comes, and where it goes: so is every one that is born of the Spirit. (28) 9 Nicodemus answered and said unto him, How can these things be? 10 Jesus answered and said unto him, Art you a master of Israel, and know not these things? 11 Verily, verily, I say unto you, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and you receive not our witness. 12 If I have told you earthly things, and you believe not, how shall you believe, if I tell you of heavenly things? 13 And no man has ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven. 14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: 15 That whosoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life. 16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. 17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. (John 3:3-17 KJV)

3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; 4 Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. **[GOD WANTS EVERYONE TO BE SAVED AND KNOW THE TRUTH THAT THERE IS ONE GOD AND THAT JESUS CHRIST MEDIATES BETWEEN GOD AND PEOPLE]** 5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; 6 Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time. (1 Timothy 2:3-6 KJV)

Indeed, I have personally known a woman who struggled with this subject until I told her that I heard her speak in tongues during her sleep; once she was told that she had spoken in tongues she immediately proceeded to do it in front of me and has rejoiced in this blessing from that point onwards. My own son spoke in tongues when he was three years old; it was something I did not expect and was quite interesting given that a mature coherent sounding language came from his mouth. He was not out-of-control and appeared blessed and The Lord told me it was a sign to me that Caleb had holy spirit which continues to be evident in his life. I have also coordinated classes on the Bible where everyone in the final session spoke in tongues AFTER they learned about it from the Bible which exhorted and comforted them into this wonderful experience. Unlike some of the scenes many may have seen in churches where people fall down backwards, shake, and even claim they were 'slain in the spirit', the Bible does not teach such folly and instead requires that everything is to be done decently in order and that each person will never lose control (as some claim).

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A person CANNOT say Jesus is Lord without the Holy Spirit. It is not enough to merely verbalize the words 'Jesus is Lord'; a person needs to speak by the Spirit of God which dwells in all who have believed that God has raised Jesus Christ from the dead and CONFESSED that Jesus Christ is Lord of their life.

Only then, can they say that Jesus is Lord according to the Scripture.

The devils all believe (and tremble) that there is One God and know Jesus Christ is Lord but that does not mean that they can become Born Again of God's Seed by saying, 'Jesus is Lord' and have eternal life; it has to be spoken by the 'Spirit of God'.

17 Even so faith, if it has not works, is dead, being alone. 18 Yes, a man may say, You have faith, and I have works: show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. 19 You believe that there is one God; you do well: the devils also believe, and tremble. 20 But will you know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead? (James 2:17-20 KJV)

Indeed, everyone and everything (including the condemned spiritual and human enemies of God) will confess that 'Jesus is Lord': 9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:9-11 KJV)

CHAPTER 7

MAN'S TRADITION HAS CONFUSED GOD AND JESUS CHRIST IN SCRIPTURE

7.1 NAMES AND TITLES USED IN SCRIPTURE

Much can be learned from the use of names and titles in the Bible. God not only uses several names and titles for Himself and Jesus Christ to show what He is doing at the time in Scripture, such as: Lord, Son of Man, Adam (1st and 2nd), Master, Teacher / Rabbi, Saviour, God / god. (29) He also changes the names of individuals and nations to indicate His Will and calling for these people, such as Abram to 'Abraham' (Genesis 17:5 KJV) and Jacob to 'Israel' (Genesis 32:28 KJV). The Bible also uses names and titles attributable to God and Jesus Christ for holy angels, people, demons, and Satan, such as: 'lord' and 'god'.

Because titles and names cannot always be attributed to the same person it is important to read the context and sentences in which the title and names are used so as to avoid confusion and to understand if the Scripture refers to God, Jesus Christ, an angel, or a human being in the verse.

7.2 WHO IS CALLED 'LORD' IN SCRIPTURE?

Rather than assume that every time the title, 'Lord' is used in Scripture automatically refers to God or Jesus Christ it is important to look at the context of the words, sentence, and section where 'Lord' is used. Otherwise, things, characteristics, and actions attributed to men or angels in the verse may mistakenly be assumed to be those actions, characteristics, and things Scripture declares about God or Jesus Christ. Because Believers are called to worship God in Spirit and in Truth it is, therefore, necessary to note several occurrences of the title, 'Lord' that do not refer to God or Jesus Christ so that we do not fail to understand what God is saying to us in the Bible.

The following verses illustrate how the title, 'Lord' clearly does not always refer to God or Jesus Christ in Scripture:

Hagar who served Sarai, Abraham's first wife, called the Angel of The Lord, 'You God'; Scripture called the Angel of The Lord, 'the Lord'.

7 And the angel of the Lord found her by a fountain of water in the wilderness, by the fountain in the way to Shur. 8 And he said, Hagar, Sarai's maid, when did you come? and where will you go? And she said, I flee from the face of my mistress Sarai. 9 And the angel of the Lord said unto

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her, Return to your mistress, and submit yourself under her hands. 10 And the angel of the Lord said unto her, I will multiply your seed exceedingly, that it shall not be numbered for multitude. 11 And the angel of the Lord said unto her, Behold, you are with child and shall bear a son, and shall call his name Ishmael; because the Lord has heard your affliction... 13 And she called the name of the Lord that spoke unto her, You God see me: for she said, Have I also here looked after him that sees me? [THE ANGEL OF THE LORD CALLED 'LORD' BY SCRIPTURE; SARAI CALLED THE ANGEL OF THE LORD, 'YOU GOD'] (Genesis 16:7-11, 13 KJV)

Sarai (Sarah) called her husband, 'My Lord'.

1 And the Lord appeared unto him in the plains of Mamre: and he sat in the tent door in the heat of the day; 2 And he lift up his eyes and looked, and, lo, three men stood by him: and when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed himself toward the ground, 3 And said, My Lord, if now I have found favour in your sight, pass not away, I pray you, from your servant:... 9 And they said unto him, Where is Sarah your wife? And he said, Behold, in the tent. 10 And he said, I will certainly return unto you according to the time of life; and, lo, Sarah your wife shall have a son. And Sarah heard it in the tent door, which was behind him. 11 Now Abraham and Sarah were old and well stricken in age; and it ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. 12 Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying, After I am waxed old shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also? [SARAH CALLED HER HUSBAND, ABRAHAM, 'MY LORD'] 13 And the Lord said unto Abraham, Why did Sarah laugh, saying, Shall I of a surety bear a child, which am old? [THE LORD KNEW WHAT SARAH THOUGHT] 14 Is anything too hard for the Lord? At the time appointed I will return unto you, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son. (Genesis 18:1-3, 9-14 KJV)

The two angels who approached the gates of Sodom were called, 'My Lords' by Lot.

1 And there came two angels to Sodom at even; and Lot sat in the gate of Sodom: and Lot seeing them rose up to meet them; and he bowed himself with his face toward the ground; 2 And he said, Behold now, my lords, turn in, I pray you, into your servant's house, and tarry all night, and wash your feet, and you shall rise up early, and go on your ways. [two angels called, 'my lords' by lot] And they said, No; but we will abide in the street all night. 3 And he pressed upon them greatly; and they turned in unto him, and entered into his house; and he made them a feast, and did bake unleavened bread, and they did eat... 15 And when the morning arose, then the angels hastened Lot, saying, Arise, take your wife, and your two daughters, which are here; lest you be consumed in the iniquity of the city. 16 And while he lingered, the men laid hold upon his hand, and upon the hand of his wife, and upon the hand of his two daughters; the Lord being merciful

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unto him: and they brought him forth, and set him without the city. 17 And it came to pass, when they had brought them forth abroad, that he said, Escape for your life; look not behind you, neither stay you in all the plain; escape to the mountain, lest you be consumed. 18 And Lot said unto them, Oh, not so, my Lord: [**lot called one of the angels, 'my lord'**] (Genesis 19:1-3, 15-18 KJV)

The sons of Heth called Abraham, 'My Lord' who was a 'mighty prince among' them in the land.

5 And the children of Heth answered Abraham, saying unto him, 6 Hear us, my lord: you are a mighty prince among us: [**ABRAHAM WAS A MIGHTY PRINCE AMONG THEM AND THEY CALLED HIM, 'LORD'**] in the choice of our sepulchers bury your dead; none of us shall withhold from you his sepulcher, but that you may bury your dead. 7 And Abraham stood up, and bowed himself to the people of the land, even to the children of Heth. (Genesis 23:5-7 KJV)

Rebekah called Abraham's servant, 'My Lord'.

17 And the servant ran to meet her, and said, Let me, I pray you, drink a little water of your pitcher. 18 And she said, Drink, my lord: and she hastened, and let down her pitcher upon her hand, and gave him drink. (Genesis 24:17-18 KJV)

Abraham's prophetic blessings on Jacob declared Jacob would be 'Lord' over his brethren including his elder brother, Esau.

29 Let people serve you, and nations bow down to you: be lord over your brethren, and let your mother's sons bow down to you: cursed be every one that curses you, and blessed be he that blesses you. [**JACOB WOULD BE 'LORD' OVER HIS BRETHREN**] 30 And it came to pass, as soon as Isaac had made an end of blessing Jacob, and Jacob was yet scarce gone out from the presence of Isaac his father, that Esau his brother came in from his hunting... 37 And Isaac answered and said unto Esau, Behold, I have made him your lord, and all his brethren have I given to him for servants; [**JACOB WOULD BE ESAU'S 'LORD'**] and with corn and wine have I sustained him: and what shall I do now unto you, my son? (Genesis 27:19-30, 37 KJV)

Rachel called her father, 'My Lord'.

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35 And she said to her father, Let it not displease my lord that I cannot rise up before you; for the custom of women is upon me. And he searched but found not the images. (Genesis 31:35 KJV)

Jacob called his brother Esau, 'My Lord' as did Jacob's servants.

4 And he commanded them, saying, Thus shall you speak unto my lord Esau; **[ESAU MY LORD]** Your servant Jacob said thus, I have stayed with Laban, and stayed there until now:
5 And I have oxen, and asses, flocks, and men servants, and women servants: and I have sent to tell my lord, **[ESAU MY LORD]** that I may find grace in your sight... 18 Then you shall say, They be your servant Jacob's; it is a present sent unto my lord Esau: **[ESAU MY LORD]** and, behold, also he is behind us...: 33⁸ And he said, What means you by all this drove which I met? And he said, These are to find grace in the sight of my lord. **[ESAU MY LORD]** 9 And Esau said, I have enough, my brother; keep that you have unto yourself... 13 And he said unto him, My lord **[ESAU MY LORD]** knows that the children are tender, and the flocks and herds with young are with me: and if men should overdrive them one day, all the flock will die. 14 Let my lord, **[ESAU MY LORD]** I pray you, pass over before his servant: and I will lead on softly, according as the cattle that goes before me and the children be able to endure, until I come unto my lord unto Seir. **[ESAU MY LORD]** 15 And Esau said, Let me now leave with you some of the folk that are with me. And he said, What needs it? let me find grace in the sight of my lord. **[ESAU MY LORD]** (Genesis 32:4-5, 18; 33:8-9, 13-15 KJV)

Wife called her husband, 'Lord' of the servant, Joseph.

7 And it came to pass after these things, that his master's wife cast her eyes upon Joseph; and she said, Lie with me. 8 But he refused, and said unto his master's wife, Behold, my master knew not what is with me in the house, and he has committed all that he has to my hand;... 10 And it came to pass, as she spoke to Joseph day by day, that he hearkened not unto her, to lie by her, or to be with her... 12 And she caught him by his garment, saying, Lie with me: and he left his garment in her hand, and fled, and got him out. 13 And it came to pass, when she saw that he had left his garment in her hand, and was fled forth, 14 That she called unto the men of her house, and spoke unto them, saying, See, he has brought in an Hebrew unto us to mock us; he came in unto me to lie with me, and I cried with a loud voice: 15 And it came to pass, when he heard that I lifted up my voice and cried, that he left his garment with me, and fled, and got him out. 16 And she laid up his garment by her, until his lord came home. **[WIFE CALLED HER HUSBAND LORD OF THE SERVANT, JOSEPH]** 17 And she spoke unto him according to these words, saying, The Hebrew servant, which you have brought unto us, came in unto me to mock me: 18 And it came to pass, as I lifted up my voice and cried, that he left his garment with me, and fled out. (Genesis 39:7-8, 10-11, 12-18 KJV)

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The King of Egypt, Pharaoh, was called, 'Lord'; Captain of the Guard was Lord of the house and Lord of Joseph.

1 And it came to pass after these things, that the butler of the king of Egypt and his baker had offended their lord the king of Egypt. [**THEIR LORD**] 2 And Pharaoh was wrathful against two of his officers, against the chief of the butlers, and against the chief of the bakers... 4 And the captain of the guard charged Joseph with them, and he served them: and they continued a season in ward... 6 And Joseph came in unto them in the morning, and looked upon them, and behold, they were sad. 7 And he asked Pharaoh's officers that were with him in the ward of his lord's house, [**captain of the guard was joseph's lord**] saying, Why look you so sadly today? (Genesis 40:1-2, 4, 6-7 KJV)

Joseph was Pharaoh's top administrator and was called, 'Lord' by his brothers: 9 And Joseph remembered the dreams which he dreamed of them, and said unto them, You are spies; to see the nakedness of the land you are come. 10 And they said unto him, No, my lord, [**MY LORD**] but to buy food are your servants come. (Genesis 42:9-10 KJV)

The sons of Jacob told their father that the head administrator (Joseph) was, 'Lord of Land' and 'Lord of the country'.

30 The man, who is the lord of the land, spoke roughly to us, and took us for spies of the country. 31 And we said unto him, We are true men; we are no spies: 32 We be twelve brethren, sons of our father; one is not, and the youngest is this day with our father in the land of Canaan. 33 And the man, the lord of the country, said unto us, Hereby shall I know that you are true men; leave one of your brethren here with me, and take food for the famine of your households, and be gone: (Genesis 42:30-33 KJV)

Joseph's steward called Joseph, 'My Lord'; Jacob's sons called Joseph, 'My Lord' and 'Thy Lord'.

4 And when they were gone out of the city, and not yet far off, Joseph said unto his steward, Up, follow after the men; and when you do overtake them, say unto them, Why have you rewarded evil for good?... 6 And he overtook them, and he spoke unto them these same words. 7 And they said unto him, Why said my lord these words? God forbid that your servants should do according to this thing: 8 Behold, the money, which we found in our sacks' mouths, we brought again unto you out of the land of Canaan: how then should we steal out of your lord's house silver or gold? 9 With whosoever of your servants it be found, both let him die, and we also will be my lord's bondmen... 16 And Judah said, What shall we say unto my lord? what shall we speak? or how

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shall we clear ourselves? God has found out the iniquity of your servants: behold, we are my lord's servants, both we, and he also with whom the cup is found. 17 And he said, God forbid that I should do so: but the man in whose hand the cup is found, he shall be my servant; and as for you, get you up in peace unto your father. 18 Then Judah came near unto him, and said, Oh my lord, let your servant, I pray you, speak a word in my lord's ears, and let not your anger burn against your servant: for you are even as Pharaoh. 19 My lord asked his servants, saying, Have you a father, or a brother? 20 And we said unto my lord, We have a father, an old man, and a child of his old age, a little one; and his brother is dead, and he alone is left of his mother, and his father loves him... 22 And we said unto my lord, The lad cannot leave his father: for if he should leave his father, his father would die... 24 And it came to pass when we came up unto your servant my father, we told him the words of my lord... 33 Now therefore, I pray you, let your servant abide instead of the lad a bondman to my lord; and let the lad go up with his brethren. (Genesis 44:4, 6-9, 16-20, 22, 24, 33 KJV)

Joseph was 'Lord' of all Pharaoh's house and Lord of all Egypt.

8 So now it was not you that sent me hither, but God: and he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt. 9 Hasten you, and go up to my father, and say unto him, Thus said your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt: come down unto me, tarry not: (Genesis 45:8-9 KJV)

People who came to Joseph for food called him, 'My Lord'.

17 And they brought their cattle unto Joseph: and Joseph gave them bread in exchange for horses, and for the flocks, and for the cattle of the herds, and for the asses: and he fed them with bread for all their cattle for that year. 18 When that year was ended, they came unto him the second year, and said unto him, We will not hide it from my lord, how that our money is spent; my lord also has our herds of cattle; there is not ought left in the sight of my lord, but our bodies, and our lands:... 25 And they said, You have saved our lives: let us find grace in the sight of my lord, and we will be Pharaoh's servants. (Genesis 47:17-18, 25 KJV)

Scripture called the Angel in the Burning Bush, 'Lord', 'God of Abraham', 'God of Isaac', and 'God of Jacob' (as the Angel spoke directly from God).

2 And the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: [THE ANGEL OF THE LORD APPEARED TO MOSES] and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed. 3 And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt. 4 And when the Lord saw that he turned aside

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to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I. 5 And he said, Draw not nigh here: put off your shoes from off your feet, for the place whereon you stand is holy ground. 6 Moreover he said, I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God. **[TO LOOK UPON THE ANGEL OF THE LORD WAS TO LOOK UPON GOD]** 7 And the Lord said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows; 8 And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites. 9 Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel is come unto me: and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them.

10 Come now therefore, and I will send you unto Pharaoh, that you may bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt. 11 And Moses said unto God, Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt? 12 And he said, Certainly I will be with you; and this shall be a token unto you, that I have sent you: When you have brought forth the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God upon this mountain. 13 And Moses said unto God, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers has sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them? 14 And God said unto Moses, I Am that I Am: and he said, Thus shall you say unto the children of Israel, I AM has sent me unto you. 15 And God said moreover unto Moses, Thus shall you say unto the children of Israel, the Lord God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me unto you: this is my name forever, and this is my memorial unto all generations. 16 Go, and gather the elders of Israel together, and say unto them, The Lord God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, appeared unto me, saying, I have surely visited you, and seen that which is done to you in Egypt: 17 And I have said, I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt unto the land of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, unto a land flowing with milk and honey. 18 And they shall hearken to your voice: and you shall come, you and the elders of Israel, unto the king of Egypt, and you shall say unto him, The Lord God of the Hebrews has met with us: and now let us go, we beseech you, three days' journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the Lord our God. 19 And I am sure that the king of Egypt will not let you go, no, not by a mighty hand. 20 And I will stretch out my hand, and smite Egypt with all my wonders which I will do in the midst thereof: and after that he will let you go. 21 And I will give this people favour in the sight of the Egyptians: and it shall come to pass, that, when you go, you shall not go empty. (Exodus 3:2-21 KJV)

Aaron called Moses, 'My Lord'.

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Scripture declares that God is active and wants to communicate with people—especially His Children. Here, Moses saw and spoke with ‘the similitude of The Lord’ which God used to speak directly with Moses.

1 And Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married: for he had married an Ethiopian woman. 2 And they said, Has the Lord indeed spoken only by Moses? has he not spoken also by us? And the Lord heard it. 3 (Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth.) 4 And the Lord spoke suddenly unto Moses, and unto Aaron, and unto Miriam, Come out you three unto the tabernacle of the congregation. And they three came out. 5 And the Lord came down in the pillar of the cloud, and stood in the door of the tabernacle, and called Aaron and Miriam: and they both came forth. 6 And he said, Hear now my words: If there be a prophet among you, I the Lord will make myself known unto him in a vision, and will speak unto him in a dream. **[GOD USES VISIONS AND DREAMS TO MAKE HIMSELF KNOWN TO PROPHETS AND SPEAKS TO THEM IN DREAMS]** 7 My servant Moses is not so, who is faithful in all mine house. 8 With him will I speak mouth to mouth, even apparently, and not in dark speeches; and the similitude of the Lord shall he behold: **[moses was not a prophet and god spoke directly to moses and moses saw ‘the similitude of the lord’ which god used to communicate with moses]** (30) why then were you not afraid to speak against my servant Moses? 9 And the anger of the Lord was kindled against them; and he departed. 10 And the cloud departed from off the tabernacle; and, behold, Miriam became leprous, white as snow: and Aaron looked upon Miriam, and, behold, she was leprous. 11 And Aaron said unto Moses, Alas, my Lord, **[MOSES MY LORD]** I beseech you, lay not the sin upon us, wherein we have done foolishly, and wherein we have sinned. 12 Let her not be as one dead, of whom the flesh is half consumed when he comes out of his mother’s womb. 13 And Moses cried unto the Lord, saying, Heal her now, O God, I beseech you. 14 And the Lord said unto Moses, If her father had but spit in her face, should she not be ashamed seven days? let her be shut out from the camp seven days, and after that let her be received in again. 15 And Miriam was shut out from the camp seven days: and the people journeyed not till Miriam was brought in again. (Numbers 12:1-15 KJV)

The children of Gad and Reuben called God, ‘The Lord’ and Moses, ‘My Lord’

25 And the children of Gad and the children of Reuben spoke unto Moses, saying, your servants will do as my lord commanded. 26 Our little ones, our wives, our flocks, and all our cattle, shall be there in the cities of Gilead: 27 But your servants will pass over, every man armed for war, before the Lord to battle, as my lord said. (Numbers 32:25-27 KJV)

Joshua called the Captain of the LORD’s Host, ‘My Lord’ and Scripture called the Captain of the Lord’s Host, ‘the Lord’.

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13 And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, Are you for us, or for our adversaries? 14 And he said, No; but as captain of the host of the Lord am I now come. And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and did worship, and said unto him, What said my Lord unto his servant? 15 And the captain of the Lord's host said unto Joshua, Loose your shoe from off your foot; for the place whereon you stand is holy. And Joshua did so. 6 ¹ Now Jericho was tightly shut up because of the children of Israel: none went out, and none came in. 2 And the Lord said unto Joshua, See, I have given into your hand Jericho, and the king thereof, and the mighty men of valour. (Joshua 5:13-6:2 KJV)

Scripture states that there were five leaders of five countries who are referred to as, 'Lords' in Joshua and Judges.

3 From Sihor, which is before Egypt, even unto the borders of Ekron northward, which is counted to the Canaanite: five lords of the Philistines; the Gazathites, and the Ashdothites, the Eshkalonites, the Gittites, and the Ekronites; also the Avites: (Joshua 13:3 KJV); 3 Namely, five lords of the Philistines, and all the Canaanites, and the Sidonians, and the Hivites that dwelt in mount Lebanon, from mount Baalhermon unto the entering in of Hamath. (Judges 3:3 KJV)

Gideon called the Angel of the Lord, 'My Lord' and Scripture calls the Angel of the Lord, 'the Lord'.

11 And there came an angel of the Lord, and sat under an oak which was in Ophrah, that belonged to Joash the Abiezrite: and his son Gideon threshed wheat by the winepress, to hide it from the Midianites. 12 And the angel of the Lord appeared unto him, and said unto him, The Lord is with you, you mighty man of valour. 13 And Gideon said unto him, Oh my Lord, [gideon called the angel of the lord, 'my lord'] if the Lord be with us, why then is all this come upon us? and where be all his miracles which our fathers told us of, saying, Did not the Lord bring us up from Egypt? but now the Lord has forsaken us, and delivered us into the hands of the Midianites. 14 And the Lord looked upon him, [scripture calls the angel of the lord, 'the lord'] and said, Go in this your might, and you shall save Israel from the hand of the Midianites: have not I sent you? 15 And he said unto him, Oh my Lord, with what shall I save Israel? behold, my family is poor in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house. 16 And the Lord said unto him, Surely I will be with you, and you shall smite the Midianites as one man.

17 And he said unto him, If now I have found grace in your sight, then show me a sign that you speak with me. 18 Depart not hence, I pray you, until I come unto you, and bring forth my present, and set it before you. And he said, I will tarry until you come again. 19 And Gideon went in, and made ready a kid, and unleavened cakes of an ephah of flour: the flesh he put in a

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basket, and he put the broth in a pot, and brought it out unto him under the oak, and presented it. 20 And the angel of God said unto him, Take the flesh and the unleavened cakes, and lay them upon this rock, and pour out the broth. [**angel of the lord also called angel of god**] And he did so. 21 Then the angel of the Lord put forth the end of the staff that was in his hand, and touched the flesh and the unleavened cakes; and there rose up fire out of the rock, and consumed the flesh and the unleavened cakes. Then the angel of the Lord departed out of his sight. 22 And when Gideon perceived that he was an angel of the Lord, Gideon said, Alas, O Lord God! for because I have seen an angel of the Lord face to face. 23 And the Lord said unto him, Peace be unto you; fear not: you shall not die. (Judges 6:11-23 KJV)

Scripture calls the leaders of the Philistines, 'Lords'.

5 And the lords of the Philistines came up unto her, [**THE LORDS OF THE PHILISTINES**] and said unto her, Entice him, and see wherein his great strength lies, and by what means we may prevail against him, that we may bind him to afflict him; and we will give you every one of us eleven hundred pieces of silver. 6 And Delilah said to Samson, Tell me, I pray you, wherein your great strength lies, and with what you might be bound to afflict you... 8 Then the lords of the Philistines brought up to her seven green reeds which had not been dried, and she bound him with them... 18 And when Delilah saw that he had told her all his heart, she sent and called for the lords of the Philistines, saying, Come up this once, for he has shown me all his heart. Then the lords of the Philistines came up unto her, and brought money in their hand... 23 Then the lords of the Philistines gathered them together for to offer a great sacrifice unto Dagon their god, and to rejoice: for they said, Our god has delivered Samson our enemy into our hand. 24 And when the people saw him, they praised their god: for they said, Our god has delivered into our hands our enemy, and the destroyer of our country, which slew many of us. [**the philistines had a different god (dagon) to the one samson worshipped**] 25 And it came to pass, when their hearts were merry, that they said, Call for Samson, that he may make us sport. And they called for Samson out of the prison house; and he made them sport: and they set him between the pillars. 26 And Samson said unto the lad that held him by the hand, Suffer me that I may feel the pillars whereupon the house stands, that I may lean upon them. 27 Now the house was full of men and women; and all the lords of the Philistines were there; [**LORDS OF THE PHILISTINES**] and there were upon the roof about three thousand men and women, that beheld while Samson made sport. 28 And Samson called unto the Lord, and said, O Lord God, remember me, I pray you, and strengthen me, I pray you, only this once, O God, that I may be at once avenged of the Philistines for my two eyes. [**SAMSON CALLED GOD, 'O LORD GOD'**] (Judges 16:5-6, 8, 18, 23-28 KJV). See also: 1 Samuel 5:8, 11; 6:4, 12, 16, 18; 7:7 (KJV)

Scripture calls the Levite who had a concubine, 'her Lord'.

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26 Then came the woman in the dawning of the day, and fell down at the door of the man's house where her lord was, till it was light. 27 And her lord rose up in the morning, and opened the doors of the house, and went out to go his way: and, behold, the woman his concubine was fallen down at the door of the house, and her hands were upon the threshold. (Judges 19:26-27 KJV)

Servants called King Saul, 'Our Lord'.

15 And Saul's servants said unto him, Behold now, an evil spirit from God troubles you. 16 Let our lord now command your servants, which are before you, to seek out a man, who is a cunning player on an harp: and it shall come to pass, when the evil spirit from God is upon you, that he shall play with his hand, and you shall be well. 17 And Saul said unto his servants, Provide me now a man that can play well, and bring him to me. (1 Samuel 16:15-17 KJV)

Obadiah calls Elijah, 'My Lord' and Elijah calls Ahab, 'Thy Lord'.

7 And as Obadiah was in the way, behold, Elijah met him: and he knew him, and fell on his face, and said, Art you that my lord Elijah? 8 And he answered him, I am: go, tell your lord, Behold, Elijah is here. 9 And he said, What have I sinned, that you would deliver your servant into the hand of Ahab, to slay me? 10 As the Lord your God lives, there is no nation or kingdom, where my lord has not sent to seek you: and when they said, He is not there; he took an oath of the kingdom and nation, that they found you not. 11 And now you say, Go, tell your lord, Behold, Elijah is here. 12 And it shall come to pass, as soon as I am gone from you, that the Spirit of the Lord shall carry you where I know not; **[god moved and hid elijah away from harm]** and so when I come and tell Ahab, and he cannot find you, he shall slay me: but I your servant fear the Lord from my youth. 13 Was it not told my lord what I did when Jezebel slew the prophets of the Lord, how I hid an hundred men of the Lord's prophets by fifty in a cave, and fed them with bread and water? 14 And now you say, Go, tell your lord, Behold, Elijah is here: and he shall slay me. 15 And Elijah said, As the Lord of hosts lives, before whom I stand, I will surely show myself unto him to day.

16 So Obadiah went to meet Ahab, and told him: and Ahab went to meet Elijah. 17 And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said unto him, Are you he that troubles Israel? 18 And he answered, I have not troubled Israel; but you, and your father's house, in that you have forsaken the commandments of the Lord, and you have followed Baalim. 19 Now therefore send, and gather to me all Israel unto mount Carmel, and the prophets of Baal four hundred and fifty, and the prophets of the groves four hundred, which eat at Jezebel's table. 20 So Ahab sent unto all the children of Israel, and gathered the prophets together unto mount Carmel. 21 And

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Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt you between two opinions? if the Lord be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word.

22 Then said Elijah unto the people, I, even I only, remain a prophet of the Lord; but Baal's prophets are four hundred and fifty men. [**believers will often have to stand alone with god in the face of adversaries**] 23 Let them therefore give us two bullocks; and let them choose one bullock for themselves, and cut it in pieces, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under: and I will dress the other bullock, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under: 24 And call you on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the Lord: and the God that answers by fire, let him be God. And all the people answered and said, It is well spoken.

25 And Elijah said unto the prophets of Baal, Choose you one bullock for yourselves, and dress it first: for you are many; and call on the name of your gods, but put no fire under. 26 And they took the bullock which was given them, and they dressed it, and called on the name of Baal from morning even until noon, saying, O Baal, hear us. But there was no voice, nor any that answered. And they leaped upon the altar which was made. 27 And it came to pass at noon, that Elijah mocked them, and said, Cry aloud: for he is a god; either he is talking, or he is pursuing, or he is in a journey, or perhaps he sleeps, and must be awakened. 28 And they cried aloud, and cut themselves after their manner with knives and lancets, till the blood gushed out upon them.

29 And it came to pass, when midday was past, and they prophesied until the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that there was neither voice, nor any to answer, nor any that regarded. 30 And Elijah said unto all the people, Come near unto me. And all the people came near unto him. And he repaired the altar of the Lord that was broken down. 31 And Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, unto whom the word of the Lord came, saying, Israel shall be your name: 32 And with the stones he built an altar in the name of the Lord: and he made a trench about the altar, as great as would contain two measures of seed. 33 And he put the wood in order, and cut the bullock in pieces, and laid him on the wood, and said, Fill four barrels with water, and pour it on the burnt sacrifice, and on the wood.

34 And he said, Do it the second time. And they did it the second time. And he said, Do it the third time. And they did it the third time. 35 And the water ran round about the altar; and he filled the trench also with water. 36 And it came to pass at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said, Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this day that you art God in Israel, and that I am your servant, and that I have done all these things at your word. 37 Hear me, O Lord, hear me, that this people may know that you are the Lord God, and that you have turned their heart back again. 38 Then the fire of the Lord fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench. (1 Kings 18:7-38 KJV)

The Shunammite woman called Elisha, 'My Lord, you Man of God'.

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16 And he said, About this season, according to the time of life, you shall embrace a son. And she said, No, my Lord, you man of God, do not lie unto your servant. 17 And the woman conceived, and bare a son at that season that Elisha had said unto her, according to the time of life. 18 And when the child was grown, it fell on a day, that he went out to his father to the reapers. 19 And he said unto his father, My head, my head. And he said to a lad, Carry him to his mother. 20 And when he had taken him, and brought him to his mother, he sat on her knees till noon, and then died. 21 And she went up, and laid him on the bed of the man of God, and shut the door upon him, and went out.

22 And she called unto her husband, and said, Send me, I pray you, one of the young men, and one of the asses, that I may run to the man of God, and come again. 23 And he said, Why will you go to him today? it is neither new moon, nor sabbath. And she said, It shall be well. 24 Then she saddled an ass, and said to her servant, Drive, and go forward; slack not your riding for me, except I bid you. 25 So she went and came unto the man of God to mount Carmel. And it came to pass, when the man of God saw her afar off, that he said to Gehazi his servant, Behold, yonder is that Shunammite:

26 Run now, I pray you, to meet her, and say unto her, Is it well with you? is it well with your husband? is it well with the child? And she answered, It is well: 27 And when she came to the man of God to the hill, she caught him by the feet: but Gehazi came near to thrust her away. And the man of God said, Let her alone; for her soul is vexed within her: and the Lord has hid it from me, and has not told me. 28 Then she said, Did I desire a son of my lord? did I not say, Do not deceive me? 29 Then he said to Gehazi, bind up your loins, and take my staff in your hand, and go your way: if you meet any man, salute him not; and if any salute you, answer him not again: and lay my staff upon the face of the child. 30 And the mother of the child said, As the Lord lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you. And he arose, and followed her.

31 And Gehazi passed on before them, and laid the staff upon the face of the child; but there was neither voice, nor hearing. Therefore he went again to meet him, and told him, saying, The child is not awakened. 32 And when Elisha was come into the house, behold, the child was dead, and laid upon his bed. 33 He went in therefore, and shut the door upon them twain, and prayed unto the Lord. 34 And he went up, and lay upon the child, and put his mouth upon his mouth, and his eyes upon his eyes, and his hands upon his hands: and stretched himself upon the child; and the flesh of the child waxed warm. 35 Then he returned, and walked in the house to and fro; and went up, and stretched himself upon him: and the child sneezed seven times, and the child opened his eyes. 36 And he called Gehazi, and said, Call this Shunammite. So he called her. And when she was come in unto him, he said, Take up your son. 37 Then she went in, and fell at his feet, and bowed herself to the ground, and took up her son, and went out. (2 Kings 4:16-37 KJV)

Servants called the king of Syria, 'My Lord, O King'.

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8 Then the king of Syria warred against Israel, and took counsel with his servants, saying, In such and such a place shall be my camp. 9 And the man of God sent unto the king of Israel, saying, Beware that you pass not such a place; for thither the Syrians are come down. 10 And the king of Israel sent to the place which the man of God told him and warned him of, and saved himself there, not once nor twice. 11 Therefore the heart of the king of Syria was sore troubled for this thing; and he called his servants, and said unto them, Will you not show me which of us is for the king of Israel? 12 And one of his servants said, None, my Lord, O King: but Elisha, the prophet that is in Israel, tells the king of Israel the words that you speak in your bedchamber. **[GOD TOLD ELISHA WHAT THE KING OF SYRIA PLANNED AND SAID—EVEN IN HIS BEDROOM(!)]** 13 And he said, Go and spy where he is, that I may send and fetch him. And it was told him, saying, Behold, he is in Dothan. 14 Therefore sent he thither horses, and chariots, and a great host: and they came by night, and surrounded the city about. 15 And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host surrounded the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do? 16 And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.

17 And Elisha prayed, and said, Lord, I pray you, open his eyes, that he may see. And the Lord opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha. **[man and spirit share the same world—the eyes of humans cannot see angels that dwell and work around them; time and again scripture records the eyes of individuals being opened so that they can see what is actually around them (or in other bodies)]** (31) 18 And when they came down to him, Elisha prayed unto the Lord, and said, Smite this people, I pray you, with blindness. And he struck them with blindness according to the word of Elisha. (32) 19 And Elisha said unto them, This is not the way, neither is this the city: follow me, and I will bring you to the man whom you seek. But he led them to Samaria. 20 And it came to pass, when they were come into Samaria, that Elisha said, Lord, open the eyes of these men, that they may see. And the Lord opened their eyes, and they saw; and, behold, they were in the midst of Samaria.

21 And the king of Israel said unto Elisha, when he saw them, My father, shall I smite them? shall I smite them? 22 And he answered, You shall not smite them: would you smite those whom you have taken captive with your sword and with your bow? set bread and water before them, that they may eat and drink, and go to their master. 23 And he prepared great provision for them: and when they had eaten and drunk, he sent them away, and they went to their master. So the bands of Syria came no more into the land of Israel. (2 Kings 6:8-23 KJV)

Scripture states there are 'lords'.

1 O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good: for his mercy endures forever. 2 O give thanks unto the God of gods: for his mercy endures forever. 3 O give thanks to the Lord of lords: for his mercy endures forever. 4 To him who alone does great wonders: for his mercy endures forever.

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5 To him that by wisdom made the heavens: for his mercy endures forever. 6 To him that stretched out the earth above the waters: for his mercy endures forever. 7 To him that made great lights: for his mercy endures forever: 8 The sun to rule by day: for his mercy endures forever: 9 The moon and stars to rule by night: for his mercy endures forever. (Psalm 136:1-9 KJV)

Scripture records that the heathen have ‘lords’.

8 For the fields of Heshbon languish, and the vine of Sibmah: the lords of the heathen have broken down the principal plants thereof, they are come even unto Jazer, they wandered through the wilderness: her branches are stretched out, they are gone over the sea. (Isaiah 16:8 KJV)

The title, ‘lord’ does not necessarily mean a caring leader
—Scripture records a ‘cruel lord’.

3 And the spirit of Egypt shall fail in the midst thereof; and I will destroy the counsel thereof: and they shall seek to the idols, and to the charmers, and to them that have familiar spirits, and to the wizards. 4 And the Egyptians will I give over into the hand of a cruel lord: and a fierce king shall rule over them, said the Lord, the Lord of hosts. 5 And the waters shall fail from the sea, and the river shall be wasted and dried up. 6 And they shall turn the rivers far away; and the brooks of defence shall be emptied and dried up: the reeds and flags shall wither. (Isaiah 19:3-6 KJV)

The Babylonians included ‘Lords’ with kings and rulers.

9 But if you will not make known unto me the dream, there is but one decree for you: for you have prepared lying and corrupt words to speak before me, until the time be changed: therefore tell me the dream, and I shall know that you can show me the interpretation thereof. 10 The Chaldeans answered before the king, and said, There is not a man upon the earth that can show the king’s matter: therefore there is no king, lord, nor ruler, that asked such things at any magician, or astrologer, or Chaldean. 11 And it is a rare thing that the king requires, and there is none other that can show it before the king, except the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh. 12 For this cause the king was angry and very furious, and commanded to destroy all the wise men of Babylon. (Daniel 2:9-12 KJV)

Scripture records the ‘Lords’ of the high places of Arnon.

28 For there is a fire gone out of Heshbon, a flame from the city of Sihon: it has consumed Ar of Moab, and the lords of the high places of Arnon. (Numbers 21:28 KJV)

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Eli, a Temple Priest, was called, 'My Lord' by Hannah.

12 And it came to pass, as she continued praying before the Lord, that Eli marked her mouth.
13 Now Hannah, she spoke in her heart; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard: therefore Eli thought she had been drunken. 14 And Eli said unto her, How long will you be drunken? put away your wine from you. 15 And Hannah answered and said, No, my lord, I am a woman of a sorrowful spirit: I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but have poured out my soul before the LORD... 24 And when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, with three bullocks, and one ephah of flour, and a bottle of wine, and brought him unto the house of the Lord in Shiloh: and the child was young. 25 And they slew a bullock, and brought the child to Eli. 26 And she said, Oh my lord, as your soul lives, my lord, I am the woman that stood by you here, praying unto the Lord. 27 For this child I prayed; and the Lord has given me my petition which I asked of him: 28 Therefore also I have lent him to the Lord; as long as he lives he shall be lent to the Lord. And he worshipped the Lord there. (1 Samuel 1:12-15, 24-28 KJV)

Araunah called David, 'My Lord the King', and God, 'The Lord your God'.

21 And Araunah said, Why is my lord the king come to his servant? And David said, To buy the threshing floor of you, to build an altar unto the Lord, that the plague may be stayed from the people. 22 And Araunah said unto David, Let my lord the king take and offer up what seems good unto him: behold, here be oxen for burnt sacrifice, and threshing instruments and other instruments of the oxen for wood. 23 All these things did Araunah, as a king, give unto the king. And Araunah said unto the king, The Lord your God accept you. (2 Samuel 24:21-23 KJV)

Benaiah declared, 'The Lord God of My Lord the King'.

36 And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada answered the king, and said, Amen: the Lord God of my lord the king say so too. 37 As the Lord has been with my lord the king, even so be he with Solomon, and make his throne greater than the throne of my lord king David. (1 Kings 1:36 KJV)

A prostitute called Solomon, 'O My Lord'.

16 Then came there two women, that were harlots, unto the king, and stood before him. 17 And the one woman said, O my lord, I and this woman dwell in one house; and I was delivered of a child with her in the house. 18 And it came to pass the third day after that I was delivered, that this woman was delivered also: and we were together; there was no stranger with us in the house, save we two in the house. 19 And this woman's child died in the night; because she overlaid it.

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20 And she arose at midnight, and took my son from beside me, while your servant slept, and laid it in her bosom, and laid her dead child in my bosom. 21 And when I rose in the morning to give my child suck, behold, it was dead: but when I had considered it in the morning, behold, it was not my son, which I did bear. 22 And the other woman said, No; but the living is my son, and the dead is your son. And this said, No; but the dead is your son, and the living is my son. Thus they spoke before the king. 23 Then said the king, The one said, This is my son that lives, and your son is the dead: and the other said, No; but your son is the dead, and my son is the living.

24 And the king said, Bring me a sword. And they brought a sword before the king. 25 And the king said, Divide the living child in two, and give half to the one, and half to the other. 26 Then spoke the woman whose the living child was unto the king, for her bowels yearned upon her son, and she said, O my lord, give her the living child, and in no wise slay it. But the other said, Let it be neither mine nor yours, but divide it. 27 Then the king answered and said, Give her the living child, and in no wise slay it: she is the mother thereof. 28 And all Israel heard of the judgment which the king had judged; and they feared the king: for they saw that the wisdom of God was in him, to do judgment. (1 Kings 3:16-28 KJV)

The King of Israel called the (hostile) King of Syria, 'My Lord, O King'.

1 And Benhadad the king of Syria gathered all his host together: and there were thirty and two kings with him, and horses, and chariots; and he went up and besieged Samaria, and warred against it. 2 And he sent messengers to Ahab king of Israel into the city, and said unto him, Thus said Benhadad, 3 your silver and your gold is mine; your wives also and your children, even the best, are mine. 4 And the king of Israel answered and said, My Lord, O king, according to your saying, I am your, and all that I have. . . 9 Therefore he said unto the messengers of Benhadad, Tell my Lord the king, All that you did send for to your servant at the first I will do: but this thing I may not do. And the messengers departed, and brought him word again. (1 Kings 20:1-4, 9 KJV)

The men of Jericho called Elisha, 'My Lord'.

18 And when they came again to him, (for he stayed at Jericho,) he said unto them, Did I not say unto you, Go not? 19 And the men of the city said unto Elisha, Behold, I pray you, the situation of this city is pleasant, as my Lord sees: but the water is naught, and the ground barren. (2 Kings 2:18-19 KJV)

To find other occurrences of the title, 'Lord' and 'lord' in the Bible the reader is encouraged to do a search at http://www.biblegateway.com/quicksearch/?quicksearch=Lord&qv_version=KJV

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and http://www.biblegateway.com/quicksearch/?quicksearch=God+god&qv_version=KJV for the title and name, 'God' and 'god'.

7.3 WHO IS CALLED 'GOD' IN SCRIPTURE?

Human beings are made in the 'image of God'.

26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth. 27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. (Genesis 1:26-27 KJV)

Jesus Christ told the religious people that their law calls them, 'gods'.

34 Jesus answered them, Is it not written in your law, I said, you are gods? 35 If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken; 36 Say you of him, whom the Father has sanctified, and sent into the world, You blaspheme; because I said, I am the Son of God? 37 If I do not the works of my Father, believe me not. 38 But if I do, though you believe not me, believe the works: that you may know, and believe, that the Father is in me, and I in him. (John 10:34-38 KJV)

Whether or not this is a true statement by the Devil, the Bible states that Satan said to Eve that 'gods' know good and evil: 4 And the serpent said unto the woman, you shall not surely die: 5 For God does know that in the day you eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and you shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. 6 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. (Genesis 3:4-6 KJV)

God judges among the 'gods' and Children of the Most High are 'gods'.

1 God stands in the congregation of the mighty; he judges among the gods. 2 How long will you judge unjustly, and accept the persons of the wicked? Selah. 3 Defend the poor and fatherless: do justice to the afflicted and needy. 4 Deliver the poor and needy: rid them out of the hand of the wicked. 5 They know not, neither will they understand; they walk on in darkness: all the foundations of the earth are out of course. 6 I have said, you are gods; and all of you are children of the most High. **[the gods here are children of the most high]** 7 But you shall die like men,

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and fall like one of the princes. 8 Arise, O God, judge the earth: for you shall inherit all nations. (Psalm 82:1-8 KJV)

Does that mean that we are called ‘gods’ and, if gods, do we have the characteristics attributed to the God whom Jesus Christ and Abraham worshipped? In short: No; the Bible declares that God has no beginning or ending, has created life out of nothing, and will raise the dead at a future event called, ‘The Resurrection’. In contrast, we have a beginning, were known by God before the world was created, and (currently) mortal. While we did not create the world and have a beginning, Jesus Christ, however, is declared to have been with God, and created the world with God, in the Beginning.

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 The same was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made. 4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men. 5 And the light shines in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. 6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7 The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. 8 He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. 9 That was the true Light, which lights every man that comes into the world. 10 He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. 11 He came unto his own, and his own received him not. 12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: 13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. 14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelled among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. (John 1:1-14 KJV)

Jesus Christ is also given authority to judge the living and the dead which we do not have.

42 And he commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is he which was ordained of God to be the Judge of quick and dead. 43 To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believes in him shall receive remission of sins. (Acts 10:42-43 KJV); 30 And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commands all men everywhere to repent: 31 Because he has appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he has ordained; about which he has given assurance unto all men, in that he has raised him from the dead. (Acts 17:30-31 KJV); 1 I charge you therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom. (2 Timothy 4:1 KJV)

However, like us, Jesus Christ went through changes as circumstances changed and trials were overcome. Of further note, Jesus Christ also received additional responsibilities and authority AFTER He obeyed, suffered, and triumphed over sin and death itself, and on a particular day at a

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specific point in time, Jesus Christ, God's Son, BECAME BEGOTTEN as declared by Scripture and noted in Chapter 2.4 of this Book.

7.4 WHO IS THE GOD OF SCRIPTURE?

God has revealed Himself to many people throughout recorded and unrecorded history and continues to make Himself known throughout Creation. What does God say about Himself in the Bible?

God is Holy and God is a Spirit; He is Holy Spirit.

23 But the hour comes, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeks such to worship him. 24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth. [GOD IS A SPIRIT] (John 4:23-24 KJV); 19 And Joshua said unto the people, you cannot serve the Lord: for he is an holy God; he is a jealous God... (Joshua 24:19 KJV) 1 And Hannah prayed, and said, My heart rejoices in the Lord, mine horn is exalted in the Lord: my mouth is enlarged over mine enemies; because I rejoice in your salvation. 2 There is none holy as the Lord: for there is none beside you: neither is there any rock like our God. 3 Talk no more so exceeding proudly; let not arrogant words come out of your mouth: for the LORD is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed. (1 Samuel 2:1-3 KJV); 20 And the men of Bethshemesh said, Who is able to stand before this holy Lord God? and to whom shall he go up from us? (1 Samuel 6:20 KJV) 15 For we are strangers before you, and temporary residents, as were all our fathers: our days on the earth are as a shadow, and there is none abiding. 16 O Lord our God, all this store that we have prepared to build you an house for your holy name comes of your hand, and is all your own. 17 I know also, my God, that you try the heart, and have pleasure in uprightness. As for me, in the uprightness of mine heart I have willingly offered all these things: and now have I seen with joy your people, which are present here, to offer willingly unto you. (1 Chronicles 29:15-17 KJV)

5 Exalt you the Lord our God, and worship at his footstool; for he is holy... 9 Exalt the Lord our God, and worship at his holy hill; for the Lord our God is holy. (Psalm 99:5, 9 KJV); 8 And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come. (Revelation 4:8 KJV)

God is also called, 'The Father of Lights': 17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. 18 Of his own will begot he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of first fruits of his creatures. (James 1:17-18 KJV)

7.5 GOD IN CHRIST IN YOU

Jesus Christ was before and at the beginning of the Creation of the Earth, the Universe, and everything in the Cosmos. This awesome Saviour, Jesus Christ, is not only seated at the Right Hand of the Throne of God but is also **IN EVERY PERSON WHO IS BORN AGAIN OF THE SPIRIT OF GOD!**

27 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. (Colossians 1:27 KJV).

Scripture is clear that those who are of Christ and have Him dwelling in them are a witness to the world and unbelievers see The Lord Jesus Christ in us—to those who will be saved they will sense something appealing about the Believer but to those who will not become saved a Believer will be repugnant to them (and Scripture does not state that these responses will be informed reactions but those who meet Believers will have these feelings without necessarily knowing why they feel this way).

14 Now thanks be unto God, which always causes us to triumph in Christ, and makes manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place. 15 For we are unto God a sweet savour of Christ, in them that are saved, and in them that perish: 16 To the one we are the savour of death unto death; and to the other the savour of life unto life. (2 Corinthians 2:14-16 KJV)

And who was and is in Jesus Christ? The Bible says: God was in Christ and all who saw Him saw God. However, God in Christ does not mean Christ is God just as Christ in a Believer does not make that person Christ (or God).

Jesus Christ was and is in God and God is in Jesus Christ: 11 Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake. (John 14:11 KJV). A Believer is also in God and God is in them: 14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world. 15 Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwells in him, and he in God. 16 And we have known and believed the love that God has to us. God is love; and he that dwells in love dwells in God, and God in him. (1 John 4:14-16 KJV)

It is, therefore, explicit in the Bible that God is in every Believer and Christ is in every Believer; but this does not make you or me God or Jesus Christ. Likewise, God is in Jesus Christ and Jesus Christ is in God; it follows, then, that God is not Jesus Christ and Jesus Christ is not God. Why, then, has the Trinitarian confusion been so prevalent throughout so-called Christendom? It is because false prophets and teachers have sought to confuse and divide God's children who have not tested such doctrines with the Bible but followed the traditions of men without question.

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1 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. 2 Hereby know you the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: **[TO CONFESS JESUS CHRIST WAS OR IS COME IN THE FLESH IS OF GOD; SO TO CLAIM JESUS CHRIST IS GOD COME TO THE EARTH IS TO CONFESS THAT CHRIST WAS OR IS SPIRIT (BECAUSE GOD IS SPIRIT) COME TO THE EARTH—NOT COME IN THE FLESH]** 3 And every spirit that confesses not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, **[the trinitarian teaching that jesus christ was or is god (and god is spirit) is from the spirit of antichrist]** of which you have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world. 4 you are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world. **[a believer has god in them who is greater than anyone else in the world]**...

9 In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. 10 Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. 11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another. 12 No man has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwells in us, and his love is perfected in us. **[GOD DWELLS IN A LOVING BELIEVER]**

13 Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. **[THE BELIEVER DWELLS IN GOD; GOD DWELLS IN THE BELIEVER BECAUSE GOD GAVE HIS SPIRIT TO THE BELIEVER]** 14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world. 15 Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, **[CONFESSES JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD—NOT THE GOD]** God dwells in him, and he in God. **[GOD DWELLING IN THE BELIEVER; THE BELIEVER DWELLING IN GOD]** 16 And we have known and believed the love that God has to us. God is love; and he that dwells in love dwells in God, and God in him. **[BELIEVER DWELLING IN GOD; GOD DWELLING IN THE BELIEVER]** (1 John 4:1-16 KJV)

God is in the Believer and the Believer is in God. Some have seen how Scripture declares God is in Jesus Christ and Jesus Christ is in God yet decide to ignore many verses that also declare God is also in a Believer. A Believer is not God because they have God in them; likewise, Jesus Christ is not God because He has God in Him.

While Jesus Christ is not God, Christ has seen God who has an image and a shape from which He used to form, make, and create Adam. Adam was made in the image of God and God is also recorded as being in 'human form' seated on a Throne, wrestling with Jacob, and (will be)

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coming down with Jesus Christ to the New Heaven and Earth in the future where they both live with the Believers in the New Jerusalem and all nations shall see them.

God is (Holy) Spirit which 'body' does not have bones or flesh; Jesus Christ has bones and flesh and can eat fish and honey comb (physical food): 36 And as they spoke, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and said unto them, Peace be unto you. 37 But they were terrified and frightened, and supposed that they had seen a spirit. 38 And he said unto them, Why are you troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts? 39 Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as you see me have. **[A SPIRIT DOES NOT HAVE FLESH AND BONES; JESUS CHRIST HAD FLESH AND BONES BEFORE HIS CRUCIFIXION AND AFTER HIS RESURRECTION (GOD IS SPIRIT AND DOES NOT HAVE FLESH AND BONES)]** 40 And when he had thus spoken, he showed them his hands and his feet. 41 And while they yet believed not for joy, and wondered, he said unto them, Have you here any meat? 42 And they gave him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an honeycomb. 43 And he took it, and did eat before them. (Luke 24:36-43 KJV)

When Jesus Christ was resurrected He was made a 'quickenning spirit' and Believer's bodies will also be made or changed into eternal bodies.

44 It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. 45 And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. 46 Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual. 47 The first man is of the earth, earthy; the second man is the Lord from heaven. **[JESUS CHRIST IS CALLED THE LAST ADAM AND THE LORD FROM HEAVEN WHO WAS MADE A QUICKENING SPIRIT]** 48 As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly. 49 And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly. **[BELIEVER'S BODIES WILL ALSO BE CHANGED (AT THE LAST TRUMP)]** 50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. 51 Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. **[AT THE LAST TRUMPET THE DEAD WILL BE RAISED INCORRUPTIBLE AND THOSE WHO ARE ALIVE AT THAT TIME SHALL BE MADE IMMORTAL]** 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. (1 Corinthians 15:44-54 KJV)

Jesus Christ is the only man who has seen God and been with God.

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18 No man has seen God at any time, the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he has declared him. (John 1:18 KJV); 37 And the Father himself, which has sent me, has borne witness of me. you have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his shape. (John 5:37 KJV)

46 Not that any man has seen the Father, save he which is of God, he has seen the Father. (John 6:46 KJV); 2 (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and show unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;) (1 John 1:2 KJV); 38 I speak that which I have seen with my Father: and you do that which you have seen with your father. (John 8:38 KJV); 7 If you had known me, you should have known my Father also: and from henceforth you know him, and have seen him. (John 14:7 KJV)

14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world. (1 John 4:14 KJV); 9 Jesus said unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet have you not known me, Philip? he that has seen me has seen the Father: and how say you then, Show us the Father? (John 14:9 KJV)

To hate Jesus Christ is to hate Jesus Christ AND God.

24 If I had not done among them the works which none other man did, they had not had sin: but now have they both seen and hated both me and my Father. (John 15:24 KJV)

If God and Jesus Christ are supposed to be the same person then why does Scripture declare that for the Believer fellowship is with God AND with Jesus Christ? 3 That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that you also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ. (1 John 1:3 KJV)

It is because God, Who is the Father of Jesus Christ and of every Believer, is to be worshiped as God. It is also because Jesus Christ, Who is the Son of God and Brother of every Believer, is to be worshiped as God because God promoted Jesus Christ to God's own Right Hand after Jesus Christ triumphed over sin and death; it is because our worship of Jesus Christ as God pleases God and it is just one of the many rewards God has awarded to His triumphant Son.

7.6 JESUS CHRIST IS ONE WITH GOD

The word, 'One' is often used in Scripture to denote unity of purpose for more than one person. This oneness does not translate into one person but closeness of purpose, of goals, and even character.

5 And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men built. 6 And the Lord said, Behold, the people is one, [THE PEOPLE ARE ONE] and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they

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have imagined to do. (Genesis 11:5-6 KJV); 23 And the Lord said unto her, Two nations are in your womb, and two manner of people shall be separated from your bowels; and the one people [ONE PEOPLE] shall be stronger than the other people; and the elder shall serve the younger. (Genesis 25:23 KJV)

16 Then will we give our daughters unto you, and we will take your daughters to us, and we will dwell with you, and we will become one people [ONE PEOPLE]. . . 22 Only herein will the men consent unto us for to dwell with us, to be one people, [ONE PEOPLE] if every male among us be circumcised, as they are circumcised. (Genesis 34:16, 22 KJV); 3 And Moses came and told the people all the words of the Lord, and all the judgments: and all the people answered with one voice, [ONE VOICE] and said, All the words which the Lord has said will we do. (Exodus 24:3 KJV); 4 Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord: [ONE LORD HERE ONE PERSON] 5 And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. 6 And these words, which I command you this day, shall be in your heart: 7 And you shall teach them diligently unto your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise up. (Deuteronomy 6:4-7 KJV)

1 And it came to pass, when all the kings which were on this side Jordan, in the hills, and in the valleys, and in all the coasts of the great sea over against Lebanon, the Hittite, and the Amorite, the Canaanite, the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite, heard thereof; 2 That they gathered themselves together, to fight with Joshua and with Israel, with one accord. [ONE ACCORD] (Joshua 9:1-2 KJV); 1 Then all the children of Israel went out, and the congregation was gathered together as one man, [AS ONE MAN] from Dan even to Beersheba, with the land of Gilead, unto the Lord in Mizpeh. . . 8 And all the people arose as one man, [AS ONE MAN] saying, We will not any of us go to his tent, neither will we any of us turn into his house. . . 11 So all the men of Israel were gathered against the city, knit together as one man. [AS ONE MAN] (Judges 20:1, 8, 11 KJV)

6 And the Spirit of God came upon Saul when he heard those tidings, and his anger was kindled greatly. 7 And he took a yoke of oxen, and hewed them in pieces, and sent them throughout all the coasts of Israel by the hands of messengers, saying, Whosoever comes not forth after Saul and after Samuel, so shall it be done unto his oxen. And the fear of the Lord fell on the people, and they came out with one consent. [WITH ONE CONSENT]. (1 Samuel 11:6-7 KJV); 12 And all the prophets prophesied so, saying, Go up to Ramothgilead, and prosper: for the Lord shall deliver it into the king's hand. 13 And the messenger that was gone to call Micaiah spoke unto him, saying, Behold now, the words of the prophets declare good unto the king with one mouth: [WITH ONE MOUTH] let your word, I pray you, be like the word of one of them, and speak that which is good. (1 Kings 22:12-13 KJV)

13 It came even to pass, as the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the Lord; [THE SINGERS AND TRUMPETERS PRODUCED

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ONE SOUND (MUSIC) BECAUSE THEY WERE AS ONE] and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and praised the Lord, saying, For he is good; for his mercy endures forever: that then the house was filled with a cloud, even the house of the Lord; [**GOD LOVES PRAISE WHICH HE SO RICHLY DESERVES**] (2 Chronicles 5:13 KJV);

11 And all the prophets prophesied so, saying, Go up to Ramothgilead, and prosper: for the Lord shall deliver it into the hand of the king. 12 And the messenger that went to call Micaiah spoke to him, saying, Behold, the words of the prophets declare good to the king with one assent; [**WITH ONE ASSENT**] let your word therefore, I pray you, be like one of theirs, and speak you good. (2 Chronicles 18:11-12 KJV); 11 Nevertheless divers of Asher and Manasseh and of Zebulun humbled themselves, and came to Jerusalem. 12 Also in Judah the hand of God was to give them one heart [**THEM ONE HEART**] to do the commandment of the king and of the princes, by the word of the Lord. 13 And there assembled at Jerusalem much people to keep the feast of unleavened bread in the second month, a very great congregation. (2 Chronicles 30:11-13 KJV)

1 And when the seventh month was come, and the children of Israel were in the cities, the people gathered themselves together as one man to Jerusalem. [**THEY WERE ALL TOGETHER IN ONE PLACE FOR THE ONE PURPOSE AS ONE MAN TO WORSHIP GOD IN JERUSALEM**] 2 Then stood up Jeshua the son of Jozadak, and his brethren the priests, and Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and his brethren, and built the altar of the God of Israel, to offer burnt offerings thereon, as it is written in the law of Moses the man of God. (Ezra 3:1-2 KJV); 1 And all the people gathered themselves together as one man [**AS ONE MAN**] into the street that was before the water gate; and they spoke unto Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had commanded to Israel. 2 And Ezra the priest brought the law before the congregation both of men and women, and all that could hear with understanding, upon the first day of the seventh month. 3 And he read therein before the street that was before the water gate from the morning until midday, before the men and the women, and those that could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive unto the book of the law.

4 And Ezra the scribe stood upon a pulpit of wood, which they had made for the purpose; and beside him stood Mattithiah, and Shema, and Anaiah, and Urijah, and Hilkiah, and Maaseiah, on his right hand; and on his left hand, Pedaiah, and Mishael, and Malchiah, and Hashum, and Hashbadana, Zechariah, and Meshullam. 5 And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people; (for he was above all the people;) and when he opened it, all the people stood up: 6 And Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God. And all the people answered, Amen, Amen, with lifting up their hands: and they bowed their heads, and worshipped the Lord with their faces to the ground. 7 Also Jeshua, and Bani, and Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodijah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, and the Levites, caused the people to understand the law: and the people stood in their place. 8 So they read in the book in the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to understand the reading. 9 And Nehemiah, which is the Tirshasa, and Ezra the priest the scribe, and the Levites that taught the people, said unto all the people,

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This day is holy unto the Lord your God; mourn not, nor weep. For all the people wept, when they heard the words of the law.

10 Then he said unto them, Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared: for this day is holy unto our Lord: neither be you sorry; for the joy of the Lord is your strength. 11 So the Levites stilled all the people, saying, Hold your peace, for the day is holy; neither be you grieved. 12 And all the people went their way to eat, and to drink, and to send portions, and to make great mirth, because they had understood the words that were declared unto them. (Nehemiah 8:1-12 KJV); 37 Behold, I will gather them out of all countries, where I have driven them in mine anger, and in my fury, and in great wrath; and I will bring them again unto this place, and I will cause them to dwell safely: 38 And they shall be my people, and I will be their God: 39 And I will give them one heart, [**THEM ONE HEART**] and one way, that they may fear me forever, for the good of them, and of their children after them: (Jeremiah 32:37-39 KJV); 18 And they shall come thither, and they shall take away all the detestable things thereof and all the abominations thereof from thence. 19 And I will give them one heart, [**THEM ONE HEART**] and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh: 20 That they may walk in my statutes, and keep mine ordinances, and do them: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God. (Ezekiel 11:18-20 KJV)

4 And he answered and said unto them, Have you not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, 5 And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? [**BE ONE FLESH**] 6 Therefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. [**BE ONE FLESH**] What therefore God has joined together, let not man put asunder. (Matthew 19:4-6 KJV); 7 For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife; 8 And they twain shall be one flesh: [**BE ONE FLESH**] so then they are no more twain, but one flesh. [**BE ONE FLESH**] 9 What therefore God has joined together, let not man put asunder. (Mark 10:7-9 KJV); 24 Then came the Jews round about him, and said unto him, How long do you make us to doubt? If you be the Christ, tell us plainly. 25 Jesus answered them, I told you, and you believed not: the works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me. 26 But you believe not, because you are not of my sheep, as I said unto you. 27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:

28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. 29 My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. 30 I and my Father are one. [**'ARE' (PLURAL) 'ONE' (SINGULAR)**] 31 Then the Jews took up stones again to stone him. 32 Jesus answered them, Many good works have I shown you from my Father; for which of those works do you stone me? 33 The Jews answered him, saying, For a good work we stone you not; but for blasphemy; and because that you, being a man, make yourself God. 34 Jesus answered them, Is it not written in your law, I said, you are gods? 35 If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken; 36 Say you of him, whom the Father has sanctified, and sent into

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the world, You blaspheme; because I said, I am the Son of God? 37 If I do not the works of my Father, believe me not. 38 But if I do, though you believe not me, believe the works: that you may know, and believe, that the Father is in me, and I in him. 39 Therefore they sought again to take him: but he escaped out of their hand, (John 10:24-39 KJV)

51 And this spoke he not of himself: but being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus should die for that nation; 52 And not for that nation only, but that also he should gather together in one the children of God that were scattered abroad. 53 Then from that day forth they took counsel together for to put him to death. 54 Jesus therefore walked no more openly among the Jews; but went thence unto a country near to the wilderness, into a city called Ephraim, and there continued with his disciples. (John 11:51-54 KJV)

Jesus Christ prayed to God that Believers: “may be one even as we are one”— possible because God in Christ in a Believer does not make a Believer ‘God’!

1 These words spoke Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify your Son, that your Son also may glorify you: 2 As you have given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as you have given him. 3 And this is life eternal, that they might know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. 4 I have glorified you on the earth: I have finished the work which you gave me to do. 5 And now, O Father, glorify you me with your own self with the glory which I had with you before the world was. 6 I have manifested your name unto the men which you gave me out of the world: your they were, and you gave them me; and they have kept your word. 7 Now they have known that all things whatsoever you have given me are of you. 8 For I have given unto them the words which you gave me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from you, and they have believed that you did send me. 9 I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which you have given me; for they are your. **[BELIEVERS BELONG TO GOD]**

10 And all mine are your, and your are mine; and I am glorified in them. **[ALL BELIEVERS WHO BELONG TO JESUS CHRIST BELONG TO GOD; ALL BELIEVERS WHO BELONG TO GOD BELONG TO JESUS CHRIST]** 11 And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to you. Holy Father, keep through your own name those whom you have given me, that they may be one, as we are. **[THAT THEY MAY BE ONE AS WE ARE (ONE)]** 12 While I was with them in the world, I kept them in your name: those that you gave me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled. 13 And now come I to you; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves. 14 I have given them your word; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. **[BELIEVERS ARE NOT OF THE WORLD AS JESUS CHRIST IS NOT OF THE WORLD]** 15 I pray not that you should take them out of the world, but that you should keep them from the evil. 16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. **[BELIEVERS ARE NOT OF THE**

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WORLD AS JESUS CHRIST IS NOT OF THE WORLD] 17 Sanctify them through your truth: your word is truth. 18 As you have sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.

19 And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth. 20 Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; 21 That they all may be one; [**THAT THEY ALSO MAY BE ONE**] as you, Father, art in me, and I in you, that they also may be one in us: [**THAT THEY ALSO MAY BE ONE IN US**] that the world may believe that you have sent me. 22 And the glory which you gave me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: [**THAT THEY MAY BE ONE EVEN AS WE ARE ONE**] 23 I in them, and you in me, that they may be made perfect in one; [**THAT THEY MAY BE MADE PERFECT IN ONE**] and that the world may know that you have sent me, and have loved them, as you have loved me. 24 Father, I will that they also, whom you have given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which you have given me: for you loved me before the foundation of the world. 25 O righteous Father, the world has not known you: but I have known you, and these have known that you have sent me. 26 And I have declared unto them your name, and will declare it: that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them. (John 17:1-26 KJV)

The Apostles were together in one place in one accord (agreement) and were filled with the holy spirit which gave them words to speak forth the wonderful works of God in the native languages of each person present on the Day of Pentecost.

13 And when they were come in, they went up into an upper room, where abode both Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon Zelotes, and Judas the brother of James. 14 These all continued with one accord [**ONE ACCORD**] in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren... 2 1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord [**ONE ACCORD**] in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. 3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. 5 And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven. 6 Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language. 7 And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans? 8 And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born? 9 Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judaea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia, 10 Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene,

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and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes, 11 Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God. (Acts 1:13-14, 2:1-11 KJV)

45 And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need.

46 And they, continuing daily with one accord [**ONE ACCORD**] in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, 47 Praising

God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved. (Acts 2:45-47 KJV);

1 And as they spoke unto the people, the priests, and the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees, came upon them, 2 Being grieved that they taught the

people, and preached through Jesus the resurrection from the dead. 3 And they laid hands on them, and put them in hold unto the next day: for it was now evening. 4 However many of them

which heard the word believed: and the number of the men was about five thousand. 5 And it

came to pass on the following day, that their rulers, and elders, and scribes, 6 And Annas the

high priest, and Caiaphas, and John, and Alexander, and as many as were of the kindred of the

high priest, were gathered together at Jerusalem. 7 And when they had set them in the midst, they

asked, By what power, or by what name, have you done this? 8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy

Ghost, said unto them, you rulers of the people, and elders of Israel, 9 If we this day be examined

of the good deed done to the impotent man, by what means he is made whole; 10 Be it known

unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom

you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him does this man stand here before you

whole.

11 This is the stone which was set at naught of you builders, which is become the head of the

corner. 12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven

given among men, whereby we must be saved. 13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and

John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled: and they took

knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus. 14 And observing the man which was healed

standing with them, they could say nothing against it. 15 But when they had commanded them to

go aside out of the council, they conferred among themselves, 16 Saying, What shall we do to

these men? for that indeed a notable miracle has been done by them is manifest to all them that

dwell in Jerusalem; and we cannot deny it. 17 But that it spread no further among the people, let

us sternly threaten them, that they speak henceforth to no man in this name. 18 And they called

them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus. 19 But Peter and

John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you

more than unto God, judge you. 20 For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and

heard.

21 So when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding nothing how they might

punish them, because of the people: for all men glorified God for that which was done. 22 For

the man was above forty years old, on whom this miracle of healing was shown. 23 And being

let go, they went to their own company, and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said

unto them. 24 And when they heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord,

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[ONE ACCORD] and said, Lord, you art God, which have made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is: 25 Who by the mouth of your servant David have said, Why did the heathen rage, and the people imagine vain things? 26 The kings of the earth stood up, and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord, and against his Christ. 27 For of a truth against your holy child Jesus, whom you have anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together. 28 For to do whatsoever your hand and your counsel determined before to be done. 29 And now, Lord, behold their threatening: and grant unto your servants, that with all boldness they may speak your word, 30 By stretching forth your hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of your holy child Jesus.

31 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spoke the word of God with boldness. 32 And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common. 33 And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all. 34 Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold, 35 And laid them down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need. (Acts 4:1-35 KJV)

12 And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people; (and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch. [THE BELIEVERS WERE IN ONE ACCORD AND BLESSINGS FLOWED] 13 And of the rest did no man join himself to them: but the people magnified them. 14 And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women.) 15 Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them. 16 There came also a multitude out of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed everyone. (Acts 5:1-16 KJV)

The religious leaders were in one accord when they executed Stephen.

54 When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth. 55 But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up steadfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, 56 And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God. 57 Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord, [ONE ACCORD] 58 And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul. 59 And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. 60 And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice,

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Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep. (Acts 7:54-60 KJV)

A city experienced great joy and deliverance because they were in one accord with the preaching of Christ.

5 Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them. 6 And the people with one accord [ONE ACCORD] gave heed unto those things which Philip spoke, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. 7 For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed with them: and many taken with palsies, and that were lame, were healed. 8 And there was great joy in that city. (Acts 8:5-8 KJV)

The people of Tyre and Sidon were in one accord when they went to hear Herod and blaspheme.

20 And Herod was highly displeased with them of Tyre and Sidon: but they came with one accord [ONE ACCORD] to him, and, having made Blastus the king's chamberlain their friend, desired peace: because their country was nourished by the king's country. 21 And upon a set day Herod, arrayed in royal apparel, sat upon his throne, and made an oration unto them. 22 And the people gave a shout, saying, It is the voice of a god, and not of a man. 23 And immediately the angel of the Lord struck him, because he gave not God the glory: and he was eaten of worms, and gave up the ghost. 24 But the word of God grew and multiplied. (Acts 12:20-24 KJV)

The Church leadership were assembled with one accord to send Barnabas and Paul to address the error being taught by religious teachers.

24 Forasmuch as we have heard, that certain which went out from us have troubled you with words, subverting your souls, saying, you must be circumcised, and keep the law: to whom we gave no such commandment: 25 It seemed good unto us, being assembled with one accord, [ONE ACCORD] to send chosen men unto you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, 26 Men that have hazarded their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Acts 15:24-26 KJV)

The Jews made insurrection against Paul with one accord.

8 And Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his house; and many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized. 9 Then spoke the Lord to Paul in the night by a vision, Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not your peace: 10 For I am with you, and no man shall set on you to hurt you: for I have much people in this city. 11 And he continued there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them. 12 And when Gallio was the

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deputy of Achaia, the Jews made insurrection with one accord [**ONE ACCORD**] against Paul, and brought him to the judgment seat, 13 Saying, This fellow persuades men to worship God contrary to the law. (Acts 18:4-13 KJV)

Is it no wonder then, that even today, some people get riled and seek to cause trouble when the Word of God is freely taught? The same response can be seen all around the world wherever the Word is taught by Believers. Here a whole city confronts Paul with One Accord in Asia.

23 And the same time there arose no small stir about that way. 24 For a certain man named Demetrius, a silversmith, which made silver shrines for Diana, brought no small gain unto the craftsmen; 25 Whom he called together with the workmen of like occupation, and said, Sirs, you know that by this craft we have our wealth. 26 Moreover you see and hear, that not alone at Ephesus, but almost throughout all Asia, this Paul has persuaded and turned away much people, saying that they be no gods, which are made with hands: 27 So that not only this our craft is in danger to be set at naught; but also that the temple of the great goddess Diana should be despised, and her magnificence should be destroyed, whom all Asia and the world worships. 28 And when they heard these sayings, they were full of wrath, and cried out, saying, Great is Diana of the Ephesians. 29 And the whole city was filled with confusion: and having caught Gaius and Aristarchus, men of Macedonia, Paul's companions in travel, they rushed with one accord [**ONE ACCORD**] into the theatre. (Acts 19:23-29 KJV)

The words, 'One' and 'One accord', are frequently used in Scripture to denote that those named are not the one person but a group of beings who share a common purpose—not a single mind or body.

1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And be not conformed to this world: but be you transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. 3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God has dealt to every man the measure of faith. 4 For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: 5 So we, being many, are one body in Christ, [**ARE ONE BODY**] and every one members one of another. 6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; 7 Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teaches, on teaching; 8 Or he that exhorts, on exhortation: he that gives, let him do it with simplicity; he that rules, with diligence; he that shows mercy, with cheerfulness. (Romans 12:1-8 KJV)

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5 Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be like minded one toward another according to Christ Jesus: 6 That you may with one mind and one mouth [**ONE MIND AND ONE MOUTH**] glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. 7 Therefore receive you one another, as Christ also received us to the glory of God. (Romans 15:5-7 KJV); 14 And God has both raised up the Lord, and will also raise up us by his own power. 15 Know you not that your bodies are the members of Christ? shall I then take the members of Christ, and make them the members of an harlot? God forbid. 16 What? know you not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? [**ONE BODY**] for two, says he, shall be one flesh. [**ONE FLESH**] 17 But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit. [**ONE SPIRIT**] 18 Flee fornication. Every sin that a man does is without the body; but he that commits fornication sins against his own body. 19 What? know you not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which you have of God, and you are not your own? 20 For you are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's. (1 Corinthians 6:14-20 KJV)

4 As concerning therefore the eating of those things that are offered in sacrifice unto idols, we know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is none other God but one. 5 For though there be that are called gods, whether in heaven or in earth, (as there be gods many, and Lords many,) 6 But to us there is but one God, [**ONE GOD**] the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, [**ONE LORD JESUS CHRIST**] by whom are all things, and we by him. (1 Corinthians 8:4-6 KJV)

12 For as the body is one, and has many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. 13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. 14 For the body is not one member, but many. 15 If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? 16 And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? 17 If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling? 18 But now has God set the members every one of them in the body, as it has pleased him. 19 And if they were all one member, where were the body? 20 But now are they many members, yet but one body. 21 And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of you: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. 22 No, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary:

23 And those members of the body, which we think to be less honourable, upon these we bestow more abundant honour; and our uncomely parts have more abundant comeliness. 24 For our comely parts have no need: but God has tempered the body together, having given more abundant honour to that part which lacked. 25 That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another. 26 And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it. 27 Now you are the body of Christ, and members in particular. 28 And God has set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of

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healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues. 29 Are all apostles? are all prophets? are all teachers? are all workers of miracles? 30 Have all the gifts of healing? do all speak with tongues? do all interpret? 31 But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet show I unto you a more excellent way. (1 Corinthians 12:12-31 KJV)

27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you be Christ's, then are you Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. (Galatians 3:27-29 KJV); 9 Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he has purposed in himself: 10 That in the dispensation of the fullness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him: 11 In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who works all things after the counsel of his own will: (Ephesians 1:9-11 KJV)

8 For by grace are you saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God has before ordained that we should walk in them. 11 Therefore remember, that you being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; 12 That at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. 14 For he is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of partition between us; 15 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; 16 And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: 17 And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh. 18 For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father. 19 Now therefore you are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God: 20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; 21 In whom all the building with fitted frames together grows unto an holy temple in the Lord: 22 In whom you also are built together for an habitation of God through the Spirit. (Ephesians 2:8-22 KJV)

1 I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that you walk worthy of the vocation with which you are called, 2 With all lowliness and meekness, with long suffering, forbearing one another in love; 3 Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4 There is one body, and one Spirit, even as you are called in one hope of your calling; 5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. 7 But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. 8 Therefore he says, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto

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men. 9 (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? 10 He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.) 11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; 12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ: 14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; 15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: 16 From whom the whole body fitted and joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplies, according to the effective working in the measure of every part, makes increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love. 17 This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, 18 Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: 19 Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. 20 But you have not so learned Christ; 21 If so be that you have heard him, and have been taught by him, as the truth is in Jesus: 22 That you put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; 23 And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; 24 And that you put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. 25 Therefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another. 26 Be you angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: 27 Neither give place to the devil. 28 Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needs. 29 Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. 30 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby you are sealed unto the day of redemption. 31 Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: 32 And be you kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake has forgiven you. (Ephesians 4:1-32 KJV)

17 Therefore be you not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is. 18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; 19 Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; 20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; 21 Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God. 22 Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. 24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. 25 Husbands, love

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your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; 26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, 27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. 28 So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loves his wife loves himself. 29 For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourishes and cherishes it, even as the Lord the church: 30 For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. 31 For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. 32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church. 33 Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband. (Ephesians 5:17-33 KJV)

The Believers at Philippi were exhorted to stand fast in one spirit with one mind working together for the faith of the Gospel.

25 And having this confidence, I know that I shall abide and continue with you all for your furtherance and joy of faith; 26 That your rejoicing may be more abundant in Jesus Christ for me by my coming to you again. 27 Only let your conversation be as it becomes the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel; 28 And in nothing terrified by your adversaries: which is to them an evident token of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that of God. (Philippians 1:25-28 KJV)

1 If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, 2 Fulfil you my joy, that you be like minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. 3 Let nothing be done through strife or vain glory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. 4 Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. 5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: 8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. 9 Therefore God also has highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:1-11 KJV)

14 And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness. 15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also you are called in one body; and be you thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. (Colossians 3:14-16 KJV)

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9 But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man. 10 For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. 11 For both he that sanctifies and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren. 12 Saying, I will declare your name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto you. 13 And again, I will put my trust in him. And again, Behold I and the children which God has given me. 14 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; 15 And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. 16 For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham. 17 Therefore in all things it behooved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. 18 For in that he himself has suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted. (Hebrews 2:9-18 KJV)

1 Whosoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loves him that begot loves him also that is begotten of him. 2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments. 3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous. 4 For whatsoever is born of God overcomes the world: and this is the victory that overcomes the world, even our faith. 5 Who is he that overcomes the world, but he that believes that Jesus is the Son of God? 6 This is he that came by water and blood, even Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that bears witness, because the Spirit is truth. 7 For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. 8 And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.

9 If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he has testified of his Son. 10 He that believes on the Son of God has the witness in himself: he that believes not God has made him a liar; because he believes not the record that God gave of his Son. 11 And this is the record, that God has given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12 He that has the Son has life; and he that has not the Son of God has not life. 13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may believe on the name of the Son of God. (1 John 5:1-13 KJV); 12 And the ten horns which you saw are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast. 13 These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast. 14 These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of Lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful. (Revelation 17:12-14 KJV)

It is, then, no wonder that Scripture declares a Believer to be 'One' with God; the Believer is not God yet it is stated that the Believer is One with God. Similarly, Jesus Christ is also declared to

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be 'One' with God but does not state Christ being one with God make Jesus Christ God. Hence, the response to the proposition that Jesus Christ and God, the One Who sent His Only Begotten Son to earth to die on the Cross, is the same person has to be a resounding, 'NO', from Scripture as God and Jesus Christ are ONE IN PURPOSE ONLY—NOT 'ONE IN THREE PERSONS' OR 'THREE IN ONE PERSON' as erroneously espoused by the traditions of men.

Believers are told in the Bible that they are in Christ and in God and vice versa: God in each Believer and Christ in each Believer; yet this does not make each Believer God or Jesus Christ. Likewise, where Scripture says Christ is in God and God in Christ it does not follow that they, too, are the same person.

Scripture declares the wonderful relationship Believers have with God and Jesus Christ where Believers are One with God AND One with Jesus Christ.

9 But you are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. 10 And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. (Romans 8:9-10 KJV);
29 That no flesh should glory in his presence. 30 But of him are you in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption: 31 That, according as it is written, He that glories, let him glory in the Lord. (1 Corinthians 1:29-31 KJV);
5 For though there be that are called gods, whether in heaven or in earth, (as there be gods many, and lords many,) 6 But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him. (1 Corinthians 8:5-6 KJV);
20 For all the promises of God in him are yes, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us. 21 Now he which establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us, is God; 22 Who has also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts. (2 Corinthians 1:20-22 KJV)

5 For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake. 6 For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, has shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. 7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us. (2 Corinthians 4:5-7 KJV);
18 And all things are of God, who has reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and has given to us the ministry of reconciliation: 19 To know, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and has committed unto us the word of reconciliation. 20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be you reconciled to God. (2 Corinthians 5:18-20 KJV);
18 I desired Titus, and with him I sent a brother. Did Titus make a gain of you? walked we not in the same spirit? walked we not in the same steps? 19 Again, think you that we excuse ourselves unto you? we speak before God in Christ: but we do all things, dearly beloved, for your edifying. 20 For I fear, lest, when I come, I shall not find you such as I

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would, and that I shall be found unto you such as you would not: lest there be debates, envyings, wraths, strifes, backbitings, whisperings, swellings, tumults: (2 Corinthians 12:18-20 KJV); 20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ lives in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. (Galatians 2:20 KJV)

16 Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He says not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to your seed, which is Christ. 17 And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect. (Galatians 3:16-17 KJV); 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God has before ordained that we should walk in them. (Ephesians 2:10 KJV); 13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, 14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 3:13-14 KJV); 2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. 3 For you are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall you also appear with him in glory. (Colossians 3:2-4 KJV);

17 Pray without ceasing. 18 In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. 19 Quench not the Spirit. (1 Thessalonians 5:17-19 KJV); 11 Therefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith with power: 12 That the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ. (2 Thessalonians 1:11-12 KJV); 19 And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lies in wickedness. 20 And we know that the Son of God is come, and has given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life. (1 John 5:19-20 KJV); 1 Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called. (Jude 1:1 KJV)

Is it no wonder that the Bible states that those who saw Jesus Christ saw The Father when God was in Christ (and Christ was in God)? Scripture says that, we too, are a mirror of God and Jesus Christ to the world because we have God and Jesus Christ in us from the moment we accepted Christ into our lives. This representation of God does not make us God (or Jesus Christ) and neither does God in Jesus Christ make Christ God or any other identity the tradition of men wishes to devise. We are Children of God and live in God and in Jesus Christ

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because of what God achieved through
Christ's sacrifice on the Cross and his resurrection from the dead.

26 For you are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you be Christ's, then are you Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. (Galatians 3:26-29 KJV)

We have so much to live for and no time to debate the merits of arguments about God—especially when these arise from the imaginations of 'natural man' who cannot know God, let alone understand Scripture. 11 For what man knows the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knows no man, but the Spirit of God. 12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. 13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teaches, but which the Holy Ghost teaches; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. 14 But the natural man receives not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. (1 Corinthians 2:11-14 KJV)

You and I need to seize the moment and exhort each other from the pages of Scripture and place our Faith in the Resurrected Christ instead of vain religion. Let's build our Faith upon The Word of God and show forth the Light of Christ that lives within each and every Believer in Christ. Ours is a rich inheritance through Christ and eternity draws closer with each passing day.

7.7 SCRIPTURE HAS THE FIRST AND FINAL SAY ABOUT WHO GOD AND JESUS CHRIST ARE TO EACH OTHER AND TO THE WORLD

Everyone needs to rethink whatever assumptions they have held about the relationship between God and Jesus Christ because the Bible declares they are two distinct Beings—BOTH worthy of worship.

1 Let not your heart be troubled: you believe in God, believe also in me. [WE ARE TO BELIEVE IN GOD AND BELIEVE IN JESUS CHRIST] 2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there you may be also. 4 And where I go you know, and the way you know. 5 Thomas said unto

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him, Lord, we know not where you go; and how can we know the way? 6 Jesus said unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man comes unto the Father, but by me. [**JESUS CHRIST IS THE ONLY WAY TO GOD**] 7 If you had known me, you should have known my Father also: and from henceforth you know him, and have seen him. [**TO KNOW JESUS CHRIST IS TO KNOW GOD**] 8 Philip said unto him, Lord, show us the Father, and it suffices us.

9 Jesus said unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet have you not known me, Philip? he that has seen me has seen the Father; and how say you then, Show us the Father? [**WHEN PEOPLE SAW JESUS CHRIST THEY SAW GOD**] 10 Believe you not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? [**JESUS CHRIST IS IN GOD; GOD IS IN JESUS CHRIST**] the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwells in me, he does the works. [**CHRIST'S WORDS ARE FROM GOD—NOT JESUS CHRIST; GOD DWELLS IN JESUS CHRIST; GOD DOES THE WORKS THAT CHRIST DOES**] 11 Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake. [**JESUS CHRIST IS IN GOD; GOD IS IN JESUS CHRIST**] 12 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believes on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. [**BECAUSE JESUS CHRIST IS GOING TO WHERE GOD IS A BELIEVER WILL DO GREATER WORKS THAN JESUS CHRIST**] (33)

13 And whatsoever you shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. [**JESUS CHRIST ANSWERS THE PRAYER/REQUESTS OF THE BELIEVER SO AS TO GLORIFY GOD**] 14 If you shall ask anything in my name, I will do it. 15 If you love me, keep my commandments. 16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever; [**JESUS CHRIST PRAYED TO GOD TO GIVE THE BELIEVER ANOTHER COMFORTER WHO WILL STAY WITH THE BELIEVER FOREVER**] 17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it sees him not, neither knows him: but you know him; for he dwells with you, and shall be in you. [**THE COMFORTER/SPIRIT OF TRUTH DWELLS WITH AND IN A BELIEVER; THE BELIEVER WILL KNOW THE COMFORTER/SPIRIT OF TRUTH WHICH UNBELIEVERS CANNOT RECEIVE OR SEE**]

18 I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you. 19 Yet a little while, and the world sees me no more; but you see me: because I live, you shall live also. 20 At that day you shall know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. [**JESUS CHRIST IS IN GOD; THE BELIEVER IS IN JESUS CHRIST; JESUS CHRIST IS IN THE BELIEVER**] 21 He that has my commandments, and keeps them, he it is that loves me: and he that loves me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him. [**BELIEVERS ARE LOVED BY GOD AND JESUS CHRIST; BELIEVERS WILL SEE AND KNOW JESUS CHRIST WHO WILL MANIFEST HIMSELF TO THEM IN THIS LIFE**] 22 Judas said unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that you will manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world? 23 Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my

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Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. 24 He that loves me not keeps not my sayings: and the word which you hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me. **[THE WORDS JESUS CHRIST SPOKE WERE NOT HIS OWN—THEY WERE FROM GOD]** 25 These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you. 26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, **[HOLY SPIRIT = HOLY GHOST]** whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. (34) **[THE COMFORTER/ HOLY GHOST IS SENT BY GOD AT THE REQUEST OF JESUS CHRIST; THE COMFORTER WILL TEACH AND REMIND BELIEVERS WHAT JESUS CHRIST HAS SAID]** 27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world gives, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. 28 You have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come again unto you. If you loved me, you would rejoice, because I said, I go unto the Father: for my Father is greater than I. **[JESUS CHRIST GOING TO GOD; GOD IS GREATER THAN JESUS CHRIST]** 29 And now I have told you before it come to pass, that, when it is come to pass, you might believe. 30 Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world comes, and has nothing in me. 31 But that the world may know that I love the Father: and as the Father gave me commandment, even so I do. **[JESUS CHRIST RECEIVED COMMANDMENTS FROM GOD; JESUS CHRIST OBEYED AND DID GOD'S WILL]**... (John 14:1-31 KJV)

God is greater than Jesus Christ; that is what Jesus Christ Himself declared! Therefore, any claim that Jesus Christ is equal to God and that Jesus Christ is God, really needs to be tested by Scripture—NOT by the traditions of men.

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“And now come I to you; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves. I have given them your word; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I pray not that you should take them out of the world, but that you should keep them from the evil. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. Sanctify them through your truth: your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth. Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; That they all may be one; as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that you have sent me. And the glory which you gave me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and you in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that you have sent me, and have loved them, as you have loved me. Father, I will that they also, whom you have given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which you have given me: for you loved me before the foundation of the world. O righteous Father, the world has not known you: but I have known you, and these have known that you have sent me. And I have declared unto them your name, and will declare it: that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.”

Jesus Christ, King of Kings and Lord of Lords
(John 17:13-26 KJV)

CONCLUSION

All the statements in, *Whose WILL Be Done?* are based upon verses taken from the Bible (KJV) in order to use what God spoke to the holy men who recorded God's Words onto scrolls. There are so many verses that state God loves His Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ, Whom is currently at the Right Hand of God's Throne where He makes intercession on behalf of each Believer. Many verses in Scripture declare the closeness and single purpose God has with Jesus Christ Who obeyed God's Will instead of His own in the Garden of Gethsemane and throughout His earthly walk. There are many teachings and doctrines taught by people about God, Jesus Christ, and the Bible, and you and I need to test each claim and belief with the Word of God instead of the traditions of men. There are many arguments of men on the issues raised in this Book but none were quoted or directly debated given that time is valuable and *Whose Will Be Done?* Is only written for those who are or will be saved—not those who do not love God's Word.

Despite the lack of Faith through ignorance and wrong teaching prevalent in the world today, from time-to-time I like to visit churches to see if I can learn anything from the pulpit or congregation members. Sometimes, I am delighted with what I find; often I am not. Scripture is clear regarding the need for those who are new in the Faith of Jesus Christ to avoid contentious arguments and those who are contrary to themselves and so it is recommended that novice Believers seek fellowship with likeminded Believers who love God and have not been seduced by the doctrines of men. For those who are mature in their love and walk with God and Jesus Christ, who are able to maintain their love for God and objectivity of thought, I encourage you to love and witness to those who are in churches and cathedrals—especially if they are open to the worship God seeks: that of the spirit and in truth. Otherwise, the Bible clearly states that, while God and Jesus Christ are long suffering with every person, we are to reject a person after the first and second admonition.

9 But avoid foolish questions, and genealogies, and contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and vain. 10 A man that is an heretic after the first and second admonition reject; 11 Knowing that he that is such is subverted, and sins, being condemned of himself. (Titus 3:9-11 KJV); 37 If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord. 38 But if any man be ignorant, let him be ignorant. (1 Corinthians 14:37-38 KJV)

Time is too short and The Word of God too precious to debate. Unless God tells you to stay and speak to someone's heart it is strongly recommended that you find someone else who may not yet have heard The Good News. The fields are full but there are so few workers; with so many people yet to be given the opportunity to worship God in Spirit and in Truth, let's live our lives for Him being confident in The One Who has gone before us, Our Lord Jesus Christ.

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Mark became aware of God at an early age and accepted Jesus Christ into his life as far back as he can remember. Coming from a violent dysfunctional family background he witnessed God's deliverance and protection of his life from death and can sympathize with victims of domestic violence.

After being influenced by a Christian teacher at school and going to a local Christian church, Mark learned to pray and read the Scripture; sensing the presence of God and delighting in the worship available through the work of Jesus Christ. Living from Christian home to Christian home during his mid to latter teens, he learned of differences between church denominations but still saw and was thankful for the hearts and lives of those who provided him love and shelter.

In the Royal Australian Navy, Mark initiated and led a small Christian fellowship onboard a guided missile destroyer and continued to experience persecution which had begun in Basic Training. Regardless of the hostility all Believers experience in this world, Mark remained faithful and witnessed in the various ports he travelled to during his naval deployments in the Indian and South Pacific Oceans.

One week after his discharge from the Navy, Mark travelled to the USA to begin leadership and missionary training which he saw as necessary and foundational to his life of service to which God had called him. After missionary and home church outreach in Michigan, Kansas, and Florida, Mark continued his witness back in Australia and eventually attended the University of Sydney and the Australian National University from which he earned four university degrees and admission to practice law from the High Court of Australia. As a Barrister-at-Law and Solicitor, Mark worked in the private and public sectors where he continued to enjoy fellowship with God, His Father, and His Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Today, he remains thankful and blessed with his family and looks forward to The Gathering Together/ Rapture event declared in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11 and 1 Corinthians 15:51-57 (KJV) which is the Hope of every Believer in Jesus Christ.

[HTTPS://WWW.LINKEDIN.COM/IN/MARKGRANTDAVIS](https://www.linkedin.com/in/markgrantdavis)

NOW THE GOD OF HOPE FILL
YOU WITH ALL JOY AND
PEACE IN BELIEVING, THAT
YOU MAY ABOUND IN HOPE,
THROUGH THE POWER OF
THE HOLY GHOST.
(ROMANS 15:13 KJV)

ENDNOTES

(1) Information and comments here can include important Scriptural verses that the reader is encouraged to look up in their Bible.

(2) 50 For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother. (Matthew 12:50 KJV); 10 For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. 11 For both he that sanctifies and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren, 12 Saying, I will declare your name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee. 13 And again, I will put my trust in him. And again, Behold I and the children which God has given me. (Hebrews 2:10-13 KJV)

(3) God's Angels in Scripture look like men when they are seen by people—not the babies or women frequently portrayed in fables: 1 And there came two angels to Sodom at even; and Lot sat in the gate of Sodom: and Lot seeing them rose up to meet them; and he bowed himself with his face toward the ground.... 5 And they [**THE WICKED MEN**] called unto Lot, and said unto him, Where are the men [**THEY DID NOT KNOW THEY WERE ANGELS**] which came in to you this night? bring them out unto us, that we may know them [**SEXUALLY**]. (Genesis 19:1, 5 KJV); 11 And there came an angel of the Lord, and sat under an oak which was in Ophrah, that pertained unto Joash the Abiezrite: and his son Gideon threshed wheat by the winepress, to hide it from the Midianites... 22 And when Gideon perceived that he was an angel of the Lord, Gideon said, Alas, O Lord God! for because I have seen an angel of the Lord face to face. (Judges 6:11, 22 KJV); 2 And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulcher. 3 And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus. 4 And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments: (Luke 24: 2-4 KJV); 9 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. 10 And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; 11 Which also said, You men of Galilee, why stand you gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as you have seen him go into heaven. (Acts 1:9-11 KJV)

(4) Some believers will also be blessed on earth and ALL Believers will be blessed after Christ's appearing. However, all the apostles, most prophets, and many other believers in Scripture did not receive such blessings in their lifetimes but believed for, and anticipated, God's reward through Jesus Christ in eternity.

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(5) 8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walks about, seeking whom he may devour: [SATAN PACES UP AND DOWN THE EARTH SEEKING THE DESTRUCTION AND DECEPTION OF PEOPLE] 9 Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world. 10 But the God of all grace, who has called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that you have suffered a while, make you perfect, establish, strengthen, settle you. [ALL WHO ARE CALLED TO ETERNAL LIFE WILL SUFFER IN THIS WORLD BECAUSE OF SATAN WHICH PAIN GOD WILL TURN INTO VICTORY, STRENGTH, AND HIS GLORY FOR ETERNITY]. (1 Peter 5:8-10 KJV)

(6) Contrast this destruction and loss to what Jesus Christ accomplished who did everything God wanted Him to do; Jesus Christ never killed (or hit) anyone, made anyone sick, or caused any pain or suffering to any person: 7 Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep. 8 All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers; but the sheep did not hear them. 9 I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. 10 The thief comes not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. [THE THIEF—NOT GOD—STEALS, KILLS, AND DESTROYS; CONTRARY TO WHAT THE THIEF DOES, JESUS CHRIST CAME THAT A PERSON MIGHT HAVE LIFE AND HAVE IT MORE ABUNDANTLY] 11 I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd gives his life for the sheep. (John 10:7-11 KJV)

God and Jesus Christ do not cause people to get sick or die; instead, They heal, deliver, and save. Job gives the Old Testament Hebrew a brief insight into the ‘WHY BAD THINGS HAPPEN TO GOOD PEOPLE’ but the New Testament opens up the spiritual realm for all to see that they contend with the enemy of God, Satan and his angels—much like the curtain in the Temple was torn open by Christ’s crucifixion. Now our eyes can see who is behind such pain and torment which is vastly different to any assumption that God kills and makes people sick; Christ’s Ministry on earth and what the holy spirit reveals from the Gospels to the Book of Revelation declare that God does not do these things to His Children but permits Satan and Judgment to respond to the disobedience of free willed individuals (and nations) which is only briefly addressed in *Whose Will Be Done?*.

(7) Hebrew, ‘Idiom of Permission’ where Satan was permitted to attack all Job’s family, servants, and wealth because God REMOVED the protections he had previously established and noted in Job 1:10 (KJV); God did not attack Job or those around him—Scripture clearly states this pain and suffering was caused by Satan.

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(8) This verse does not say that good and evil in life both come from God; it says that good comes from God and that people will also receive evil in life—it does not state that evil comes from God. Instead, good and evil are in the world and God and Satan are active in the lives of individuals.

(9) 7 And it was so, that after the Lord had spoken these words unto Job, the Lord said to Eliphaz the Temanite, My wrath is kindled against you, and against your two friends: for you have not spoken of me the thing that is right, as my servant Job has. 8 Therefore take unto you now seven bullocks and seven rams, and go to my servant Job, and offer up for yourselves a burnt offering; and my servant Job shall pray for you: for him will I accept: lest I deal with you after your folly, in that you have not spoken of me the thing which is right, like my servant Job. 9 So Eliphaz the Temanite and Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite went, and did according as the Lord commanded them: the Lord also accepted Job. (Job 42:7-9 KJV)

(10) 32 And for that the dream was doubled unto Pharaoh twice; it is because the thing is established by God, and God will shortly bring it to pass. (Genesis 41:32 KJV)

(11) 13 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. (Hebrews 11:13 KJV)

(12) The term, ‘thorn’ was also used in the Old Testament for people who would be a problem to Believers: 51 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When you are passed over Jordan into the land of Canaan; 52 Then you shall drive out all the inhabitants of the land from before you, and destroy all their pictures, and destroy all their molten images, and quite pluck down all their high places: **[BELIEVERS WERE TO REMOVE THESE PEOPLE AND DESTROY THOSE THINGS THAT WERE AN UNGODLY INFLUENCE IN THE LAND]** 53 And you shall remove the inhabitants of the land, and dwell therein: for I have given you the land to possess it... 55 But if you will not drive out the inhabitants of the land from before you; then it shall come to pass, that those which you let remain of them shall be pricks in your eyes, and thorns in your sides, and shall vex you in the land wherein you dwell. **[THESE PEOPLE WOULD BECOME PRICKS AND THORNS TO BELIEVERS IF THEY WERE NOT REMOVED FROM THE LAND]** (Numbers 33:51-53, 55 KJV)

(13) Although Paul was blinded from Christ’s intervention during one of Paul’s journeys to capture and murder Believers, his blindness was healed when Ananias prayed for him in Acts:

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8 And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw no man: but they led him by the hand, and brought him into Damascus... 17 And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto you in the way as you came, has sent me, that you might receive your sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost. 18 And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized. (Acts 9:8, 17-18 KJV) The infirmity in Paul's eye or eyes mentioned later was as a result of the Messenger of Satan—not Christ.

(14) 37 If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord. 38 But if any man be ignorant, let him be ignorant. (1 Corinthians 14:37-38 KJV); 16 Nevertheless, to where we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing. 17 Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as you have us for an example. 18 (For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: 19 Whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things.) (Philippians 3:16-19 KJV); 8 Neither did we eat any man's bread for naught; but wrought with labour and travail night and day, that we might not be chargeable to any of you: 9 Not because we have not power, but to make ourselves an example unto you to follow us. (2 Thessalonians 3:8-9 (KJV)

(15) Much as Joseph had under Pharaoh beginning with the seven years of plenty before the seven years of famine in Genesis 41:40 (KJV).

(16) 1 And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb... 3 And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him: (Revelation 22:1, 3 KJV)

(17) 11 When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things. 12 For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known. (1 Corinthians 13:11-12 KJV); 4 And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads. (Revelation 22:4 KJV)

(18) Raised to 'His' Throne—God or Jesus Christ's Throne? Before the New Heaven and Earth is created and mentioned in Revelation 21 Jesus Christ is situated at the Right Hand of God. After the New Heaven and Earth is created 'the Throne of God and of the Lamb' is mentioned for the first time and it is located in the New Jerusalem. (Revelation 22:1, 3 KJV)

(19) 5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; 6 Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time. (1 Timothy 2:5-6 KJV)

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(20) God wants to reward each and every person but you and I first need to act upon God's Word and Calling.

(21) It is important to note that the Appearing of Jesus Christ is NOT the same as the Return of Jesus Christ as different things will happen in each event: 'The Appearing' is Jesus Christ in the clouds above the earth with the raptured Believers for a seven year period; 'The Return' is Jesus Christ on the earth with His angels removing the wicked and establishing His rule over the earth with the Believers who will form His Government for one thousand years.

(22) Heaven, like the angelic beings, simply cannot be seen by the normal human eye (much as dogs can hear sounds humans cannot hear or colors fish can see but humans cannot). However, just because we cannot see them does not mean that angels and heavenly powers do not exist; note the many accounts where God and Jesus Christ OPEN the eyes of a person to SEE what has been in front of their face all along. The 'spiritual' realm could, therefore, be another way of saying those things and beings that exist alongside and in human beings but which cannot be seen by the naked human eye unless God, Jesus Christ, an angel, or Believer 'opens' the eye of the beholder. This advanced subject is handled further in an upcoming book by the author.

(23) Compare this with His Appearing where Christ snatches the Believers up into the clouds to be with Him: 17 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. (1 Thessalonians 4:17 KJV)

(24) God showed John the Baptist that Christ received the Spirit from God through the sign of a descending dove from heaven. Similarly, after Jesus Christ ascended into heaven and the holy spirit was sent to the earth at Pentecost, Scripture records that when a person received the baptism of the holy spirit this was also signified by a sign throughout the Book of Acts and 1 Corinthians 12 to 14 KJV.

(25) Because God wants people to worship Him in Spirit and Truth it behooves all who seek to please Him to acknowledge His Word and words have authority over the words of men—even if such acknowledgement banishes a person from religious affiliations.

(26) 15 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. (Hebrews 4:15 KJV)

(27) 29 And he that sent me is with me: the Father has not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him. (John 8:29 KJV)

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(28) Interesting that the holy spirit descended from heaven to fill the believers on Pentecost Acts 2:2 KJV with the sound of a ‘rushing mighty wind’ and 22 And when he had said this, he breathed [BREAthed] on them, and said unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost: (John 20:22 KJV)

(29) Remembering that the Aramaic, Hebrew, and Greek texts in Scripture did not capitalize words or names and were written in cursive or capitalized letters.

(30) A study of what Moses saw when he spoke to God illustrates the similitude God used, such as a ‘burning’ bush, pillow of smoke, pillow of fire, and even a man. Compare this use of the simile to speak with other people throughout Scripture through Jesus Christ, Angels, storms, the stars above, creation on earth.

(31) Much like humans cannot hear the sounds that dogs can hear or see the colours or heat prints some reptiles and other creatures can see.

(32) See also Paul who struck down the sorcerer with blindness in Acts 13:6-12 (KJV).

(33) How can a Believer do greater works than Jesus Christ if Jesus Christ is God? It is because God did the works through Jesus Christ—as God will do through Jesus Christ in a Believer.

(34) Note that we are not told to worship the Comforter and neither is it ever called, ‘God’ or the third person of any so-called ‘trinity’. Also, to baptize in the Name of The Father, The Son, and The Spirit does not mean that each one is (The) God or ‘three-in-one person’.