

# *Have One Mind (in Christ) - Philippians 2:5*

## *A Monthly Magazine*

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## *He That Doeth Truth Cometh to the Light (John 3:21)*

*Jerry O'Donnell*

**Part 6 – For where a testament [is], there must also of necessity be the death of the testator** (Hebrews 9:16).

Following our timeline regarding the broad misconception of God's Ten Commandments, the life of Jesus shows no teaching of doing away with the commandments whatsoever. In fact, Jesus said, "Thou knowest the commandments" (Mark 10:19), "What is written in the law? how readest thou?" (Luke 10:26), and again "Thou knowest the commandments (Luke 18:20), all being the answer to the question, "what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" (Mark 10:17, Luke 10:25, Luke 18:18). We even looked at all of the verses dealing with one particular commandment, the Sabbath one, and found out that in nowise was He "come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil" (Matthew 5:17). And "fulfill" is not in any way to say that the law is to be set aside since Jesus fulfilled it, for then that would have been a type of destruction. Basically, He stated that He did not come to

destroy the law, which is a form of doing away with it, but to fulfill it, which cannot mean to do away with it. Simply, Jesus fulfilling of the law covers our weak moments of breaking it for it is by Jesus' shed blood that washes away our sin from the record books upon confession of the sin (Revelation 1:5, 1 John 1:9). Where there is no confession, there is no washing away with the blood.

We ended last time asking, "But, what did the apostles teach?" Again, to keep with the sequence of time, let us deal with the death and resurrection of Jesus by listening to what the apostle Paul taught. We refer to the two large sections of the Bible as the Old and New Testaments. Now, "where a testament [is], there must also of necessity be the death of the testator" (Hebrews 9:16). Our Testator, the one providing the testament, is none other than Jesus, for "Christ died for the ungodly" (Romans 5:6). The New Testament is built upon Jesus Christ, which took effect at His death "For a testament [is] of force after men are dead: other-

wise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth" (Hebrews 9:17).

Now, think correctly on this subject. Can a will or testament change after one's death? The answer is no. Do not try to wiggle with multiple wills and last testament versions. In a typical practice, a person will make out a will or last testament and upon death, as the scriptures just told us, it takes effect. Therefore, those who advocate changes to the commandments or even the doing away with the commandments, in the slightest since Jesus' resurrection, are in error, and salvational error at that. It is just like the devil to get us to disobey God using a biblical event or out of context scriptures. And here is how they do it.

One method is by declaring that the commandments have been nailed to the cross as the last act of Jesus to finally do away with obedience, maybe not in those exact words but it is to that effect. Let us read that passage: "Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was

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contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; [And] having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it. Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath [days]: Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body [is] of Christ" (Colossians 2:14-17).

First, Jesus told us that the commandments cannot be done away so easily: "Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law" (Matthew 5:18). Since there was no record of heaven and earth passing away at the death of Jesus, the belief that the commandments are nailed to the cross is an act of having the spirit of anti-Christ as it goes against what Jesus taught.

Second, the numerous hints in the passage tell us differently. The commandments were not written in handwriting but by the finger of God (Exodus 31:18). The ceremonial laws were the ones written in handwriting (Deuteronomy 31:24). The Ten Commandments are not against the people, but the ceremonial laws were (Deuteronomy 31:26), as the commandments merely reveal sin (Romans 7:7).

Third, the reference to meat, drink, holyday, new moon, and yes, even of the Sabbaths is all from the ceremonial laws, specifically Leviticus 23, where three of the feast days were actually referred to as Sabbath days that fell many times, outside of the seventh day of the week, which is the weekly Sabbath. It is like the Fourth of July. It never falls on the same day of the week.

Finally, the fact that the laws that were nailed to the cross were symbolic or a shadow of Christ reveals, if one reads all ten of the Ten Commandments, that there is not a single symbolic reference to Christ, but there are plenty of references to Jesus in the ceremonial laws: [Passover] "Christ our Passover" (1 Corinthians 5:7); [Unleavened Bread] "Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened" (1 Corinthians 5:7); [Firstfruits] "Christ the firstfruits" (1 Corinthians 15:23); and [Pentecost] "I will send unto you from the Father, [even] the Spirit of truth" (John 15:26); with "And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance" (Acts 2:1, 4).

Another method used by many Christians is the declaration that by the simple act of Jesus appearing to His disciples in addition to the resurrection somehow altered the fourth commandment, and if one alters them, they surely are not so important after all. They neglect to acknowledge that the fourth commandment declares rest on the Sabbath, which Jesus clearly did in the tomb, hence the resurrection did not happen Friday night nor all day Saturday, which are the hours of the Sabbath. The resurrection took place "as it began to dawn toward the first [day] of the week" (Matthew 28:1), "when it was yet dark" (John 20:1).

Besides, that would be an activity after the death of Christ and ineffective while made alive, other-

wise, we would have to have a third testament. So, no, Jesus did not change the Sabbath, which means that He was not trying to discard the commandments, for this, too, goes against that which was stated earlier: "For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled" (Matthew 5:18). And not everything is fulfilled yet either. According to the Old Testament, we are waiting for the seventh and final feast day to be fulfilled in which "branches of palm trees" are involved (Leviticus 23:40), connecting to when "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" (Revelation 7:9). That all transpires after the second coming.

Now that we have completed the reference to the Testator, let us pick up our timeline in the book of Acts, and answer the question either by example, command, or teaching, have the commandments changed or been discarded?

Remember, Acts is a book written by a Greek named Luke. One of his earliest references to the Ten Commandments is an indirect reference found in Acts 1:12, "Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey." This is in reference to the disciples just before Pentecost, right after Jesus had ascended before their eyes. If the Ten

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The mission of *Have One Mind (in Christ)* is to encourage the desire of “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” (2 Peter 3:12), “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth” (2 Timothy 2:15), and to “abideth in the doctrine of Christ” (2 John 1:9) by following the words of Jesus, “If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him” (John 14:23).

#### Editor and Founder

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#### About Have One Mind (in Christ) Ministry

This ministry is founded upon the necessity of raising the standard higher and higher. It is a non-profit, volunteer group of Christians who love God's Word and love people so much so that we do not want to see a single person lost.

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Commandments were done away with by the time this was written, as opposed to the timing of the event, and the Sabbath itself was discarded, why would a Greek need to mention the type of journey the disciples took? He would have simply written that they returned to Jerusalem, but Luke mentions the word “Sabbath” because evidently it was still significant to Christians, even Gentile Christians.

Now Stephen being accused of speaking against the law in Acts 6:13 is not referring to the Ten Commandments because the next verse states, “For we have heard him say, that this Jesus of Nazareth shall destroy this place, and shall change the customs which Moses delivered us” (Acts 6:14). The Ten Commandments are not a custom, so, indeed, he would not have been in favor of observing the ceremonial laws as they were a shadow of Christ to come. Since Christ came, we do not need such a “schoolmaster” (Galatians 3:24-25).

However, when brought to trial, Stephen rebukes the audience by saying, “Who have received the law by the disposition of angels, and have not kept [it]” (Acts 7:53). One would not rebuke someone, even if it were true, if it had no bearing on the present situation. In other words, if the Ten Commandments were done away with, one does not rebuke others for not keeping them when it is meaningless, therefore, by Stephen’s argument, it was expected that the commandments were still to be kept.

Now we come to the converted

Paul, who seems to frequently be keeping the Sabbath day, though many Christians argue that he only kept it to win the Jews, which is baseless when we will find him keeping it when no Jews are around. Nonetheless, our first incident is found in Acts 13:14, where it states, “But when they departed from Perga, they came to Antioch in Pisidia, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and sat down.” So, indeed he is attending “church services” on the Sabbath. Nowhere does it mention him keeping the first day of the week instead. Of course, advocates of the Sabbath and the commandments being done away with would argue that there is no need to reference the first day because all of it is unnecessary since it had been done away with. So, we will address this later in this article.

In Paul’s address, he states, “And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses” (Acts 13:39). Allowing the reference to the “law of Moses”, which is usually the ceremonial law, to also point to the Ten Commandments, this is a valid statement that we are not justified by the law. That does not mean we break the law. The law tells us we have sinned and we are justified by Christ, but we are not justified so we can sin some more. Again, the “law of Moses” really does not apply to the Ten Commandments as the Ten Commandments are God’s law. Therefore, the ceremonial law does not justify anyone either, “For [it is] not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins” (Hebrews 10:4).

Now, the argument that this was

Paul’s way of reaching the Jews makes no sense when we see the more numerous Gentile references: “And when the Jews were gone out of the synagogue, the Gentiles besought that these words might be preached to them the next sabbath” (Acts 13:42). And we know that the Gentiles outnumbered the Jews because, “And the next sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God” (Acts 13:44). Again, why would Luke make it a big deal about the Sabbath if it were changed or done away with? That is because the Ten Commandments were not changed or done away with.

The next event involving a law is when there rose up a dispute. Gentiles were being added to the church while not being told about the ceremonial feast day laws and converted Jews were still keeping them along with all of the other ceremonial laws, of which has nothing to do with the Ten Commandments, yet the result of the council is taken out of context to do away with the Ten Commandments. We see, “But there rose up certain of the sect of the Pharisees which believed, saying, That it was needful to circumcise them, and to command [them] to keep the law of Moses” (Acts 15:5). The result was, “For it seemed good to the Holy Ghost, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things; That ye abstain from meats offered to idols, and from blood, and from things strangled, and from fornication: from which if ye keep yourselves, ye shall do well. Fare ye well” (Acts 15:28-29). The phrase, “no greater burden” is exaggerated by many Christians today to say, “Just avoid

those four specific items and all is well because there is no other requirement or burden in being a Christian.” That would be wonderful then because everyone that I am angry with, I can murder now! What utter nonsense. The phrase is in reference to that which was discussed. Of the list of items, not involving the Ten Commandments whatsoever, shall Gentiles be circumcised, keep the feast days, abstain from blood in meats, etc.? There is no other burden from that list placed upon the Gentile outside of the four selected: meats from offered to idols, from eating meat with the blood in it, from eating meat that the animal was strangled instead of drained of blood, and from fornication. Again, in other of our articles, the comparison is like a car accident where the guilty party demolished a car, caused bodily injury to the driver of that car, while a bystander watched and keeled over with a heart attack, and the relatives of the injured party were so stressed about the incident that they had to go see a psychiatrist and be placed on meds. The judge may say to the guilty person, you must replace their vehicle and pay for the injuries suffered, but I place no other burden upon you. In other words, that person does not have to pay for the funeral bills and extra money for the heart attack victim, and he also does not have to pay for the mental wellness bills of family members along with their prescriptions, but he sure would be responsible for more bills if in the process of leaving the courtroom he injures someone else on purpose. “No other burden” is in the context of what was discussed and does not pertain outside of that context. It

is in nowise to be used as a blanket allowance for everything else to be done away with, like the Ten Commandments.

Acts 16:13 completely dismisses the Sabbath keeping of Paul to be just for the Jews. “And on the sabbath we went out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont to be made; and we sat down, and spake unto the women which resorted [thither].” With a place that had no Jewish synagogue, Paul wanted to escape the city of ignorant Sabbath breakers and reside in a peaceful location, where he accidentally met some others who had the same idea about keeping the Sabbath without the distractions of city life from unbelievers. This was not a Jewish gathering.

Again, we find Paul using the Sabbath day instead of the first day of the week, to teach. Acts 17:2 says, “And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures.” And still more we have Paul who “reasoned in the synagogue every sabbath, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks” (Acts 18:4), where “he continued [there] a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them” (Acts 18:11). If the Sabbath were done away with along with the commandments or altered in any way, why did Paul in 78 Sabbaths not tell the people to meet on a different day? That is because the Ten Commandments, as Jesus stated, were not to be changed in one jot or tittle until the heavens and earth be passed (Matthew 5:18).

Later, in recollecting, Paul brings to mind, “one Ananias, a devout man according to the law” (Acts

22:12). That certainly was not the law of feast days and ceremonies, but the Ten Commandments. Paul tells us how he knew Ananias was a devout man because Paul used the standard of the law, the Ten Commandments to see what manner of person Ananias was. God’s, not human, standard is how “Ye shall know them by their fruits” (Matthew 7:16).

Then, in Acts 24:14-15, Paul says, “But this I confess unto thee, that after the way which they call heresy, so worship I the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the law and in the prophets: And have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.” Again, we see Paul uplifting the law, the Ten Commandments. We cannot find New Testament scriptures to cancel the law when there are New Testament scripture uplifting it. Therefore, where we think the law is being canceled, we have to think in a manner that does not contradict itself, “For God is not [the author] of confusion” (1 Corinthians 14:33).

As we see, in all of the acts of the apostles, there is not one hint of any of the apostles trying to do away with the Ten Commandments or even changing them, like making the first day of the week the new Christian Sabbath. None of that exists, but we still have a way to go to get through the rest of the New Testament, which we will address next time.

*To be continued...*



## Be In Health — 3 John 1:2

**Let every thing that hath breath praise the LORD.** (Psalms 150:6)

Breathing is one of those important functions that should be practiced on a regular basis if one wants to continue to exist, but breathing just any air is not always the best for our lungs.

It is obvious that a building filled with smoke should be evacuated at once because as smoke, especially thick smoke, fills the air it hampers greatly the ability to breathe and does lead to lung issues. Not so obvious, for some reason, is the tainted environment from tobacco smoke. It seems socially acceptable to sit around and have just one person light up with everyone continuing to breathe the air. For some reason, this is not recognized as much of a danger as that smoky building. Even outdoor cooking needs to be watched carefully. Some like the smell of the grill as it, too, billows out smoke. All of these are poisonous forms of air quality. Sure, not all of them have immediate, noticeable effects, hence why tobacco smoke seems to be accepted.

Some outdoor smokers try to be considerate and distance themselves not realizing that on a humid day, especially when the air is still, the smoke seems to hang and even spread imperceptively with the eyes but noticeable in the mouth and nose along with the throat.

None of that should be acceptable to anyone who is trying to praise God, for we are told “present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, [which is] your reasonable service” (Romans 12:1). A person may be kind to smokers by allowing them to light up if they keep their distance, but we are not being kind to God who wants us, as far as our ability can be exercised, to keep our bodies in as good of condition as possible.

We cannot control where a forest fire may throw smoke into the air. We cannot control the dirty diesel truck rolling by. We cannot control the nearby factory that may affect the air quality. But none of those things gives us permission to make other allowances that are unacceptable to God and in our control.

Speaking of doing things in our control, it is not healthy to keep the buildings closed up, breathing recycled air. Sure, office buildings are out of our control, but our homes are not. Throw open the window as often as possible, weather permitting. Get the rooms, especially sleeping areas, well ventilated. For those who have basements, where possible, cycling fresh air helps keep the dampness down, the mildew from forming, and overall, reduces potential health issues from coming up into the main living area.

Those homes that are challenged by winters with freezing temperatures, even if it is but briefly, should get some fresh air circulat-

ed through them. Yes, it may affect the heating bill a bit, but you will be kept better off regarding both energy and overall health.

The forced house lock-downs had nothing to do with the concerns for the health of the citizens. No reasonable doctor would ever prescribe breathing in the same air coming from an infected person. In fact, part of the agenda is to break people’s wills. We are social creatures by nature. Having members of the home quarantined in their own bedrooms all day long, as has been recommended is not at all good for the mental health. The illness was declared not to be an air transmitted disease, but all the measures seem to be treating it as such only because they can impose restrictions.

Further, breathing freely is much healthier than through a mouth and nose covering. You may have laughed at our opening line, but with the overreaction of government mandates, that function is what they are cutting off. If we are believing the government has our best interests at hand, think again.

God wants us to breath. Man wants you to live in fear and do as they program people to do. Who will you be complying with? “We ought to obey God rather than men” (Acts 5:29).



# Healthy and Delicious Recipes

## Ranch Dressing

### Ingredients

- 1 cup raw cashews
- ½ cup water
- ⅓ cup peeled and diced cucumber
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- ½ teaspoon garlic powder
- ½ teaspoon onion powder

- ½ teaspoon sea salt, or to taste
- ¼ teaspoon dried dill
- Chives, for garnish

### Instructions

- In a high-speed blender, place the cashews, water, cucumber, lemon juice, garlic

powder, onion powder, salt, and dill and blend until completely smooth and creamy.

- Season to taste with salt, if desired. Sprinkle with fresh chives and serve.



## Natural Vitamins

### Burdock root

Burdock is a vegetable with deep roots that are very long and vary in color from beige to brown and nearly black on the outside. It can be ingested fresh in recipes, as a tea, dried powder or as an oil or extract. Burdock Root has been used to treat a variety of different conditions most commonly used as a diuretic and a digestive aid.

Burdock Root is a powerhouse of antioxidants which protect cells in the body from damage due to free radicals, and reduces inflammation.

Burdock Root also removes toxins from the blood. This is actually one of the most common uses for Burdock Root. Studies have shown that it detoxifies the blood and promotes increased circulation in the surface of the skin.

Some research has actually shown that not only does it purify the blood, but also may inhibit certain types of cancer like pancreatic carcinoma. Of course, more research is needed.

Burdock Root has been used to treat skin conditions like acne and eczema. The root's anti-inflammatory and antibacterial properties can help resolve skin issues when applied topically. It may also help treat topical burns.

There are some potential risks and side effects to watch for.

It should not be used on children unless under the supervision of a healthcare provider. Supplements should be taken in moderation. It is considered safe to eat, but make sure you get it from a reputable

seller/grocer and never should it be collected from the wild as it resembles Belladonna, which is highly toxic and the plants often grow together.

Burdock Root is a natural diuretic, so you shouldn't take it if you're dehydrated or if you're also taking other diuretics or water pills, as it can increase dehydration.

If you are allergic to chrysanthemums or daisies, you may be at an increased risk of having an allergic reaction to Burdock Root and should avoid it.

And as always, pregnant women or women trying to become pregnant should not take Burdock Root or supplements.



## Be Ye Holy — 1 Peter 1:15

1 Thessalonians 4:7 tells us, “For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness.” A calling is a command. Once we accept Christ’s salvation, we are expected to live in holiness. So, are you following that calling to a holy and sanctified life, or living however you please?

2 Timothy 2:25-26 may be the duty of a teacher of God’s Word, but the recipient is expected to live a holy and sanctified life. “In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; and [that] they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.” The snare of the devil is through temptation into sin. Therefore, anyone captive in sin is lost. The teacher is to teach them to “observe all things whatsoever [Jesus] have commanded you” (Matthew 28:20). Claiming to be saved or lost means nothing if we are excusing sin in our life, which “sin is the transgression of the law” (1 John 3:4), we shall be lost. Therefore, to break God’s commandments is sin and being brought into captivity of the devil. Jesus argued this very point with the Pharisees in John 8:32-34, “And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. They answered him, We be Abraham’s seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free? Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.” So, are

you on the side of the Pharisees and the devil thinking that sinning is no big deal because you believe you are saved anyways, or do you see that when you win you are in captivity to the devil and, if not repented of, will be lost? So, let us “confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us [our] sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9)!

Hebrews 6:4-7 states very clearly, “For [it is] impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put [him] to an open shame.” Once we are “saved”, the expectation is not to be sinning. In fact, a true Christian will realize that our selfish act of sinning put Jesus to death, and that conviction makes him realize that every future act of sin places Jesus back on the cross, spiritually speaking. That overwhelming thought causes the true Christian, who has been enlightened to the perfect will of God to put out of his mind sin as an option in life, making it basically impossible to turn to an act of sin. Each sin committed demands repentance or it remains on our record and “The soul that sinneth, it shall die” (Ezekiel 18:20). Only “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us [our] sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9). “My little

children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not”, but for those “oops” moments and only for those “oops” moments, “And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous” (1 John 2:1). So, have you reached that point in your Christian life where sin is that detestable, or are you carelessly just thinking you are saved and allowing whatever sins that you commit go unconfessed?

1 Peter 2:9 says, “But ye [are] a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.” Jesus says, “To open their eyes, [and] to turn [them] from darkness to light, and [from] the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me” (Acts 26:18). Therefore, living in the light, which means a person is not sinning, is the sanctified and holy life. Those that continue to sin are those that continue to be in darkness. So, are you still in darkness because you continue to sin, or are you being “kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation” (1 Peter 1:5) in the light?

2 Peter 3:1-2 couches in these two verses several references to the holy and sanctified walk of a true Christian. “This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in [both] which I stir up your pure



minds by way of remembrance: That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour." Pure minds are what all Christians are expected to have, for Paul wrote, "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things [are] honest, whatsoever things [are] just, whatsoever things [are] pure, whatsoever things [are] lovely, whatsoever things [are] of good report; if [there be] any virtue, and if [there be] any praise, think on these things" (Philippians 4:8). Even James 1:15 states that sin begins with impure thoughts, "Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death." Being mindful of the words of the prophets is a reference to keeping the scriptures, in fact, "if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed" (2 Thessalonians 3:14). Clearly that tells us that such people are fake Christians if there is no obedience as we are not even to have company with that fake Christian who goes around saying, "I'm saved" while disregarding God's commands for obedience. Finally, the reference to the commandment of both the apostles and our Lord and Savior tells us that "we establish the law" (Romans 3:31) by keeping it and, as Jesus said, "He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him" (John 14:21). Oh, and the fact that Jesus is not just our Savior but Lord as well places us under obligation to

serve Him and not ourselves, especially since Jesus said, "If any [man] will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me" (Matthew 16:24). No matter how one looks at these words of Peter, there are at least four calls to a holy and sanctified life. Are you answering any of them?

1 John 2:28 states, "And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming." To abide is to obey. Obedience is connected to the time when Jesus "shall appear" or the second coming. Remember, "Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?" (Romans 6:16). So, are you living in obedience or sinning?

Revelation 3:8-9 is the next section of Revelation calling people to the holy and sanctified life. "I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little

strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name. Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee." It is very similar to the words of Jesus, Who said, "If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him" (John 14:23). As for not denying Jesus, the Bible says, "They profess that they know God; but in works they deny [him], being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate" (Titus 1:16). Therefore, both calls are calls to obedient, holy, and sanctified living. That is the expectation. So, are you obeying God's Word and are all of your activities God approved or Satan approved?

Matthew 5:29 says, "And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast [it] from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not [that] thy whole body should be cast into hell." The multiple times that the words "thy" and "thee"

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appear are not to the Pharisee, not to just the Jews, and not even to unbelievers. Claiming to be saved does not exempt the application of the expected holy and sanctified life with consequence of hell if one does not comply. If our eyes lead to coveting, adultery, etc., we need to curb that, not physically plucking our eye or eyes out but “Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you” (James 4:7). So, are you carelessly watching TV and movies, even reading material that is sensual, enticing, creating unnecessary wants, even if it is traveling the world wasting God’s funds here and there, or are you careful what your little eyes see?

Luke 5:38 is a parable regarding the expected holy and sanctified life. “But new wine must be put into new bottles; and both are preserved.” The bottles are representative of people (Jeremiah 19:10-11). Wine is representative of doctrine (Jeremiah 51:7). That means that Jesus’ doctrine cannot be put into people who keep to their old habits and ways. “Therefore if any man [be] in Christ, [he is] a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new” (2 Corinthians 5:17). Keep in mind, that old things are sinful ways and sinful does not only mean being an adulterer, drug addict, etc. It also means that a person still uses foul words, enjoys the entertainments of the world, is selfish, basically does what society finds acceptable and not God. So, are you a person of a new and holy lifestyle, or are you still in your old, sinful ways?

2 Corinthians 7:1 is quite perplexing. “Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.” This verse is so straightforward to call Christians to a holy and sanctified life. Is it because it uses the word “let” instead of “I command you” that Christians ignore it? Do Christians think the word “let” means optional? The Christian walk is always by invitation and not threat (Revelation 22:17). Therefore, people are invited to do this, however, rejecting the invitation means hell awaits (Matthew 22:13). The only thing I can think of is that people are so brainwashed, in that they are taught that Jesus died so they can be careless regarding sin; maybe not so directly, and when the truth is so blatantly before their eyes, they cannot see it. Or, people are so idolizing an easy gospel that they are purposely dismissing anything to the contrary. We are to cleanse ourselves by the power of God (2 Peter 1:3) of filthiness, which is sin, for “sin is the transgression of the law” (1 John 3:4), therefore, the Ten Commandments are the standard to which we are to live in perfecting holiness since “the law [is] holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good” (Romans 7:12). So, are you perfecting holiness?

Again, we have a blatant expectation of what true Christians are to be like after they have been freely saved through Christ and have been forgiven of their sins (justification) and now are ready to go on with the rest of their life. “That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man,

which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness” (Ephesians 4:22-24). And yet, today’s average Christian continues to eat and drink like the world, participate in the same activities as everyone else, and even speak with the same careless and offensive words. So, are you a new man or woman living a holy and sanctified life, or are you still the same old person you used to be with a thin guise of claiming to be a Christian, claiming to be saved?

Philippians 4:7 states, “And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” The word “keep” is the command to live a holy and sanctified life. Please take note all Christians that resist and say, “I just need to believe! To live a holy and sanctified life is working for salvation!” God is the one that keeps us, for “With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible” (Matthew 19:26). In other words, “According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that [pertain] unto life and godliness” (2 Peter 1:3). We are simply to choose to cooperate with God in the process. So, are you letting God keep your heart and mind away from sinning and helping you to live the holy life, or do you “always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers [did], so [do] ye” Who is to “reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment” (John 16:8)?



# *Study to Shew Thyself Approved Unto God—(2 Timothy 2:15)*

## **Why is Christianity the only true religion?**

1. How many Gods are real, implying that those that have a god for each element or situation is false? **Ephesians 4:6**
2. To what lineage was the promise given, which differs from those that descend from another child? **Galatians 4:28, Hebrews 11:9**
3. What was promised to sinners, which is representative of a descendant? **Genesis 3:15, Galatians 3:19**
4. Whose lineage would the seed come from? Implying once again, it is not the child of Hagar. **Isaiah 65:9**
5. Who is the specific seed, showing that clearly, all who associate with Him would become the established religion? **Galatians 3:16, Acts 13:23, John 14:6**
6. What would happen to the prior religion, specifically, the Jewish? **Matthew 21:43, Luke 13:6-7, Luke 20:16**
7. What is so significant about this person, showing that Christians are not followers of a mere prophet or mere teacher? **Matthew 16:16, Matthew 26:63-64, John 9:35-37**
8. What are Christians to have? **1 Corinthians 1:10, 1 Corinthians 2:16, Philippians 2:5**
9. What shows that we are Christians? **Matthew 16:24, John 14:24, Matthew 28:20, John 14:21**
10. How many denominations should there be? **John 10:16**



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## October 2021 Bible Questions and Answers

1. What is Heaven going to be like?
2. What two things will become new? **2 Peter 3:13** “new heavens and a new earth”
3. What is one of the first events that we shall participate in? **Revelation 19:9** “the marriage supper of the Lamb”
4. What will God do for us so that we are not sad for the lost throughout eternity? **Revelation 7:17, Revelation 21:4** “God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes”
5. What shall Jesus take us to? **John 14:2** “many mansions”
6. What relocates from Heaven to earth? **Revelation 21:1-3** “the holy city, new Jerusalem”
7. Where else will we live? **Isaiah 65:21 (first half)** “they shall build houses, and inhabit [them]”
8. What is an activity that we shall participate in? **Isaiah 65:21 (second half)** “they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them”
9. What will the saved do “from one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to another”? **Isaiah 66:22-23** “all flesh come to worship before me, saith the LORD” [Verse 23 was accidentally left off.]
10. What shall not happen ever again that happened to Adam and Eve when they ate the fruit? **Nahum 1:9** “affliction shall not rise up the second time”
11. What four items will never be experienced ever again? **Revelation 21:4** “no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain”



## Questions & Answers

### QUESTION: Does the spirit return to God upon death?

**ANSWER:** Ecclesiastes 12:7 “Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.” becomes very twisted when it is understood to say that a spirit is released upon death and goes to Heaven

So, the answer is “Yes”. The spirit does go back to God upon death, however, the question is, “What spirit?”

First, please note that for something to return somewhere, it has to have originated from there. Do we originate from there? No. We are born on earth (Genesis 6:1). Therefore, since we do not start in Heaven, come to earth, and return, it cannot be us in spirit form. That means the word “spirit” refers to something else.

Let us find out where the spirit is

then. Job 27:3 tells us, “All the while my breath [is] in me, and the spirit of God [is] in my nostrils.” That is not the Holy Spirit. That is not even who we are. But as the verse tells us and as the primary method that is used for staying alive, we breathe the breath of life.

Therefore, the spirit that returns to God is nothing more than the breath that He gives to us originating from Heaven. Genesis 2:7 states this by saying, “And the LORD God formed man [of] the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.”

So, that means, yes, a spirit returns to God at death, but it is simply the breath of life. It is much like the light bulb. Electricity flows from a power plant to a light bulb and it lights up. If the light bulb burns out, that portion of electricity is no longer flowing from the power plant to

the light bulb. In essence, that electricity destined for the light bulb returns to the power plant.

### QUESTION: Are we truly allowed to eat whatever we want?

According to 1 Timothy 4:4, the Bible says, “For every creature of God [is] good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving.” And people say that they are thankful for pork chops and crabs, pig roasts and lobster, bacon and shrimp, and the list goes on. In actuality, the verse does not end with a period, but a colon. That means that the next verse has to be read with it.

By continuing to read, 1 Timothy 4:5 says, “For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.” Focusing upon the fact that a creature to eat is sanctified, made holy, by the Word of God, we hear from the

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word of God that “the swine, though he divide the hoof, and be clovenfooted, yet he cheweth not the cud; he [is] unclean to you” (Leviticus 11:7). The Word further states, “all that have not fins and scales in the seas, and in the rivers, of all that move in the waters, and of any living thing which [is] in the waters, they [shall be] an abomination unto you” (Leviticus 11:10). So, not only are the items considered unclean, which means unhealthful, they are the opposite of holy or sanctified. They are an abomination!

This distinction was not for the Jews and done away at the cross. This was established for all mankind through Noah, from whom we all descend. “Of every clean beast thou shalt take to thee by sevens, the male and his female: and of beasts that [are] not clean by two, the male and his female” (Genesis 7:2).

Now, in regards to the prayer part, first, take note that it is not one or the other. It is not through prayer or the Word, but the Word *and*

prayer. Therefore, if the creature to be eaten fails at the Word of God part, it is a failure. Second, the prayer part never contradicts the Word part. That is like praying, “Lord, I know that the sixth commandment forbids killing someone, but give me a sign that I may take out my obnoxious neighbor.” Or, “Lord, I know this person is not my spouse but they are a good influence in other aspects, please show me that I may sleep with them.” God is not in those prayers. He never gives signs to contradict His Word. And if that sign happens, everyone ought to know that the devil was the one to answer. “Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world” (1 John 4:1). That means that if someone declares that through prayer God gave them permission to eat this filth, it needs to be checked. And just where does one check such answered prayer? The Word of God, once again. And the prayer is for enlightenment. Maybe there is confusion about the slice of meat on the plate that is

being served. Through prayer, we are to ask God to know if it is clean or unclean.

So, in both cases, the answer is no. We may not eat any creature we would like, besides, there still are explicit restrictions in the New Testament that would be contradictory if such were the allowance to eat any creature that one desires. Acts 15:20 states, “But that we write unto them, that they abstain from pollutions of idols, and [from] fornication, and [from] things strangled, and [from] blood.” Acts 15:29 says, “That ye abstain from meats offered to idols, and from blood, and from things strangled, and from fornication: from which if ye keep yourselves, ye shall do well. Fare ye well.” And Acts 21:25 tells us, “As touching the Gentiles which believe, we have written [and] concluded that they observe no such thing, save only that they keep themselves from [things] offered to idols, and from blood, and from strangled, and from fornication.”



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*Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime. (Daniel 6:10)*

Let's face it, if we are serious about getting through Babylon, we need to take Daniel's example and also be praying at least three times a day.

To help direct one's thoughts on a subject, this website offers three Bible references a day: morning, afternoon, and evening.

**MORNING** — Sequential verses from the Old Testament and a mini study.

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# News and Comments

## September 1—Fox News

### One alcoholic drink raises risk of irregular heartbeat, study suggests

Alcoholics will quickly refute this study by claiming other studies that have positive effects upon people. Everything has positive and negative effects. We accept the items that we appreciate the positives of knowing we need to deal with the negatives, if they are tolerable. What it actually comes down to, though, is what God declares – "Wine [is] a mocker, strong drink [is] raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise" (Proverbs 20:1). Only unwise people will defend the use of alcohol. Therefore, if one were to draw a list of positives and negatives about alcohol and that list showed 95% positive, it does not matter. God says to not use alcohol.

## September 4—Times of Israel

### Virus czar calls to begin readying for eventual 4th vaccine dose

## September 5—News Break

### For scientists, path to COVID-19 endgame remains uncertain

There is a saying about someone who keeps doing the exact same thing expecting a different result, of course we are not referring to Elijah's prayer for rain. We are talking about man-made solution that is not a solution. The vaccines were only recently developed and released this year. To have four shots and some of them being "booster" shots means that a per-

son is being jabbed every other month already. When will the madness end? "For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies. And the light of a candle shall shine no more at all in thee; and the voice of the bridegroom and of the bride shall be heard no more at all in thee: for thy merchants were the great men of the earth; for by thy sorceries were all nations deceived" (Revelation 18:3, 23). With the nation's leaders along with the merchants and along with the sorceries or "pharmakeia" that leads to the all of the "pharm-" words being used to deceive, it will never end. This is the end games.

## September 7—News Directory

### The rain made the girls naked to please the gods; Video out

"Six five-year-old girls are seen walking naked. The girls also have a wooden stick tied to the frog. The video also shows a group of women marching behind them." But people say, "We all serve the same God!" The true God says to cover up – not become naked. "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6). True Christianity is the only true religion. All others are pagan. We can coexist as it is not Jesus' way to kill unbeliev-

ers, but that does not mean we accept their gods.

## September 7—MSN

### We treat COVID patients. Here's why the 'pandemic of the unvaccinated' narrative is wrong.

That means that all of the mistreatment, singling out, the pressures upon the unvaccinated, is uncalled for and actually mimics the activities of Germany of old, turning the people against another group. The hospitals that refuse to treat unvaccinated, the flights and cruise ships that forbid unvaccinated, shops refusing to serve the unvaccinated, employers pressuring the unvaccinated, are all acting out of hysteria, unfairly, and just downright mean. The spirit that will lead to "And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name" (Revelation 13:17) is all in place. Wait until the Mark actually shows up.

## September 9—Market Watch

### Opinion: Millions are dying unnecessarily from COVID because of selfishness, greed and a perverse misunderstanding of human freedom

This is a lie, and exaggeration on all parts. Yahoo news made this an actual news article when it is an example of someone being brainwashed. The implication is that the United States are losing millions of people. We only have a little over 300 million total with children un-

der 12 being exempt from the vaccine causing that number to be significantly lower than 300 million. Now, is that daily, weekly, monthly? If it is from the beginning, it is still a lie, especially since the "unnecessary" part of avoiding the vaccine did not start until this year and was not available to everyone right away. So, counting only the past four months (May to August), millions did not die. Many have supposedly contracted the virus, but at a death rate by the CDC of less than 1%, there is no way millions have died. The more they push this narrative, the more it reveals that there is a bigger picture where "the great whore that sitteth upon many waters: With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication" (Revelation 17:1-2). It is to hate those that are not participating in the hidden factors of the vaccine, and that is no kooky conspiracy theory. It is biblical prophecy.

#### **September 15—Market Watch**

##### **Requests for religious exemptions grow after new COVID-19 vaccine mandates**

"The administration acknowledges that a small minority of Americans will use — and some may seek to exploit — religious exemptions". As the exploitations increase, expect this exemption to be more challenging, if not taken away. No matter what, "We ought to obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29).

#### **September 16—Washington Examiner**

#### **'Don Lemon says unvaccinated people should be 'shunned' or 'left behind'**

This is the attitude shared with many and the agenda to create the attitude, which eventually leads to the point of fulfilling Revelation 13:16-17: "And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name."

#### **September 20—The Conversation**

##### **A giant space rock demolished an ancient Middle Eastern city and everyone in it – possibly inspiring the Biblical story of Sodom**

No. God inspired the story. Moses is the one that recorded it being over 400 years after the event and given in such detail as if it was voiced to Moses or given in a vision. It is also too coincidental that the wicked city was hit by a space rock. For Moses to pen, "Then the LORD rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven" (Genesis 19:24) when it was just a space rock would be a lie, an exaggeration. And that principle goes against the godliness of taught in the Bible. So, no, there was no space rock involved. And Jesus, of all people, would not have referred to such an event if it was just a random story. What idiocracy that even Christians get caught up into thinking that such might be possible. No wonder this is called "oppositions of science falsely so called" (1 Timothy 6:20). Either we believe in the Bible ac-

curacy and God, or we are an atheist. We cannot believe in atheistic ideas while claiming to believe in God. That would be mammon, worthlessness. Remember, "Ye cannot serve God and mammon" (Luke 16:13).

#### **September 22—The Daily Beast**

##### **Retiree Planted Bombs Around Michigan in Insane Anti-Porn Crusade, FBI Says**

Jesus said, "And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear your words, when ye depart out of that house or city, shake off the dust of your feet" (Matthew 10:14). He did not command destruction, murder, or even crusades.

#### **September 26—USA Today**

##### **Some say COVID-19 vaccine is the 'mark of the beast.' Is there a connection to the Bible?**

The vaccine is not the Mark of the Beast. If one believes the physical vaccine is the Mark, then the problem is that it does not physically go to the hand or the forehead. Most get the shot in their left arm. Another reason is that one needs to know who the beast is and why they would use the vaccine. Most do not know who the beast is and hence they are guessing. We know who the beast is because there are over 50 points in the Bible that give aspects to identify the beast. Most denominations knew as well, especially after one reads 2 John 1:7-10, but since most denominations have abandoned the strong use of the Bible, they no longer believe it. Finally, the Mark involves worship (Revelation 14:9, 11). And Daniel

and Revelation both describe the activity of the antichrist where they match on 4 out of 5 items identically using synonyms. The one they do not match on is where John calls the activity the "Mark of the Beast" while Daniel says that the antichrist would "think to change times and laws" (Daniel 7:25). We believe that since worship is involved with the Mark, that John's Mark is the altered commandments, especially that dealing with time (Exodus 20:8-11). Do we follow God or do we obey the beast or nation that thinks they can change it? That is what you have to decide.



## Natural Remedies

### *Lemon/Garlic drink*

Most of us seem hesitant to include much garlic in our meals due to the effect it has on our breath, therefore, interaction with other people. Unfortunately, by avoiding garlic we are cheating ourselves out of its wonderful anti-viral benefits. Here is a quick and easy way to incorporate more garlic in our diet while eliminating the "bad breath" by blending it with lemon.

- 2 small cloves of garlic
- Juice of 1/2 lemon
- 1/2 cup of water

Blend all together until smooth and drink it down. If you are already infected with a bug, have this drink three or four times a day. For prevention, once a day.

