### 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 7 – James, Thessalonians, and Galatians

Last time, we took a tour of the Book of Acts, a book that covers mostly the activities of the Apostle Paul but was intended to cover the activities of the early church beyond just Paul. That book alone covered the period of Jesus' ascension up through just about the end of Paul's ministry, however, there is a whole lot more to the New Testament that we did not review in sequence, searching for where the Ten Commandments were indeed dismissed.

Thus far, scripture establishes that the Ten Commandments existed before Adam and Eve (Revelation 11:19), that the Sabbath of the fourth commandment was instituted on earth at the time of creation before the fall of Adam and Eve and not at Mount Saini, that the patriarchs and those of the Old Testament were expected to keep the commandments but failed a lot, Jesus did not dismiss the commandments but stripped away all of the added rules of the Pharisees, and the apostles in the

Book of Acts did not remove them either. We still have a lot more New Testament books to cover though, and we will.

So, we continue our timeline by moving off the overview timeline of the book of Acts and into those individual books or epistles. We will attempt to address the books in the sequence as they were written as opposed to how they appear in the Bible.

With that in mind, we begin with the book of James, which was written by James, who most Christians avoid reading because they think he dismissed grace and was legalistic. To criticize the book of James in that manner is to criticize God, for each writer of the Bible was inspired the exact same way as those who wrote the Old Testament, so likewise the New was written: "prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake [as they were] moved by the Holy Ghost" (2 Peter 1:21). Overall, God is the Author (1 Corinthians 14:33) by the Holy Spirit while those who wrote the books were mere writers, including James. Therefore, to accuse James of legalism is to accuse the Author, Who is God. No, neither God nor the Holy Spirit dictated what to write, but what would become the Bible was not left to be freely assembled or referred to as the holy scriptures when they were not so holy through untruths; but they are holy because they were guided in the creation by God for a holy purpose and holy reference to be used to sanctify the reader (John 17:17).

Now, we begin with James, who called the Ten Commandments "the perfect law of liberty" because it identifies the expected lifestyle of a Christian, liberating them from sin. He encourages to "continueth [therein], he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed" (James 1:25).

James then tells us that we "do well" when we "fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself" (James 2:8) and alerts us that "if ye have respect to persons, ye

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commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors" (James 2:9).

As a reminder, "whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one [point], he is guilty of all" (James 2:10), realizing that "he that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law" (James 2:11) so that we know what set of commandments he is referring to – the ones written on stone by God's finger called the Ten Commandments.

And as the Holy Spirit's job is to "reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment" (John 16:8), James, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit adds, "So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty" (James 2:12). To those who judge James for stating that we shall be judged by the Ten Commandments, he concludes, "Speak not evil one of another, brethren. He that speaketh evil of [his] brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law: but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge" (James 4:11). The conclusion is that, as expected by even those who advocate the Commandments are no longer binding, James well establishes that we ought to obey the commandments. Such people who resist the obedience to the commandments dismiss the writings of James; which is sadly hilarious because here are non-prophets declaring what a prophet wrote as not something to be studied or read.

So, now we move onto the books to the Thessalonians. There is but one mention of the word "law" or "commandments" and it is in 1 Thessalonians 4:2, which says, "For ye know what commandments we gave you by the Lord Jesus." And the Lord Jesus Christ gave us, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second [is] like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself" (Matthew 22:37-39), however, these did not replace the Ten Commandments as Jesus added, "On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets" (Matthew 22:40). Therefore, the commandments Jesus gave us are but a summary of the Ten Commandments where, the first four show our love to God and the last six show our love to our neighbors. These are the commandments that Paul taught to the Thessalonians.

Now, with the space remaining, we will also address the Book of Galatians, where the generic reference to the word "law" appears twenty-five times, while the word "commandment" does not appear. The challenge is that uneducated Christians along with non-Christians and agenda-driven pastors use the generic reference of the word "law" to mean the Ten Commandments, ignoring the fact that the Bible, as we have demonstrated, makes a clear distinction between various laws - primarily, the ceremonial law and the Ten Commandments law. There were also civil laws, but they do not appear to be much of a topic of discussion except on an individual

basis – especially that one on what appears to be a reference to tattoos. It is by context and scripture comparison that one is able to figure out the intent of Paul. At the time that Paul wrote, the recipients were able to easily understand the difference, but it seems that nearly two-thousand years later, we are having difficulty requiring that bit of effort that lazy Christians do not want to contribute. They see the condemnation of continuing in the "law" and automatically throw out the Ten Commandments.

We begin with something we initially all can agree on – "Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified" (Galatians 2:16). All of the lawkeeping does nothing for our justification, however, Paul also penned, "For not the hearers of the law [are] just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified" (Romans 2:13). Too many Christians are taught and believe that because keeping the law is meaningless to being justified or saved that there is no role for the Ten Commandments, and that is not true. Being justified, forgiven of our sins, is a reward. Only those who appreciate the reward, and don't simply use God to get something, shall be receiving it. So many Christians use God to permit sinful behavior, and that is not what God's mercy and grace are for. "What then? shall we sin, be-

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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**

Jerry O'Donnell

### 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.

### **Subscription and Donations**

Although we are volunteers, the cost of this publication is challenging to provide to everyone for free. So, we are asking for a subscription of \$19 annually for 12 issues, and if the Lord impresses you with the means to be able to provide a donation, we definitely would welcome such and put it to proper use, including helping to pay for subscriptions of those who cannot afford the cost. The publication is free online in PDF format.

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cause we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid" (Romans 6:15).

Therefore, if I do think the law saves then I would "frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness [come] by the law, then Christ is dead in vain" (Galatians 2:21), but we do not frustrate grace in that way. "I through the law am dead to the law, that I might live unto God" (Galatians 2:19), but carelessly sinning is not living unto God, but unto selfishness; in fact, that is what gives power to the law to condemn.

Next, Paul asks the same question a couple of times: "Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?" (Galatians 3:2) and "He therefore that ministereth to you the Spirit, and worketh miracles among you, [doeth he it] by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?" (Galatians 3:5). The answer is that "I will shew thee my faith by my works" (James 2:18). Working of the law is the result of having faith. "Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law" (Romans 3:31). To establish it is to live it, to obey it.

However, in trying to straighten out the understanding of the law and faith, many are confused in the next section of the epistle about being cursed. A combination of the two primary laws, the Ten Commandments and the ceremonial law, are then shown to be meaningless in the justification process as already discussed. "For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed [is] every one that

continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them" (Galatians 3:10). Jumping ahead, we see that "Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us" and elsewhere we are told that God "hath made him [to be] sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him" (2 Corinthians 5:21) while recognizing that "sin is the transgression of the law" (1 John 3:4), referring to the Ten Commandments. Therefore, curse of the Ten Commandments is placed upon all works that are in transgression of the commandments, and Jesus was made to be sin or cursed because of our sinfulness so "He was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin" (1 John 3:5). Please notice that it is not to take away just the curse but the actual sins, too, so that we would not desire to sin. Even following the book of the law, the ceremonial practices, "every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins" (Hebrews 10:11), meaning, there is nothing short of Jesus saving those of the Old and New Testament but by Himself. Now, we have no physical sign that our curse, even our sins, have been taken away; that means, "no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, [it is] evident: for, The just shall live by faith" (Galatians 3:11), and that includes the fact that "the law is not of faith" (Galatians 3:12).

But then Paul makes a switch in the reference of the law. "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. For if the inheritance [be] of the law, [it is] no more of promise: but God gave [it] to Abraham by promise. Wherefore then [serveth] the law? It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made; [and it was] ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator" (Galatians 3:17). We know this is referring to the ceremonial laws or the Book of the Law because of several key points. The obvious one is that this law was added because of transgressions. If the word "law" referred to the Ten Commandments yet was added after the transgression, we have a cart before the horse situation and a whole lot of confusion. How can the Ten Commandments be given to us after transgression when, if the Ten Commandments did not exist prior [which is the implication many make] they then could not have been transgressed "for where no law is, [there is] no transgression" (Romans 4:15). But the proper understanding is that because we humans transgressed the Ten Commandments, the ceremonial law, which really started with Adam and Eve's animal skins coming from the first animal sacrifice as they left the garden, was expanded to a full sanctuary service under Moses. Additionally, if the Ten Commandments ceased with the appearance of Jesus, the Seed, then we are allowed to kill, steal, commit adultery, use idols, have other gods, etc. and do those things all we want without restriction. That is the truest explanation that these verses would

portray if one believed that the Commandments are done away with, yet deep down, even pastors who have erroneously nailed the commandments to the cross know that "Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told [you] in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God" (Galatians 5:19-21), are various forms of breaking the Ten Commandments by just using other names for the sins. So, it cannot refer to the Ten Commandments.

Now regarding Paul's "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" (2 Peter 3:16), Paul switches back to discussing both laws. "[Is] the law then against the promises of God? God forbid" (Galatians 3:21), which means that keeping the Ten Commandments is not against God's promises of salvation, but keep in mind, "if there had been a law given which could have given life, verily righteousness should have been by the law" (Galatians 3:21), which means they do not save. "But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed" (Galatians 3:23), which refers to having faith in a Savior "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23), which means that

we were all doomed for hell and destruction if there were no Savior, but "by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: [it is] the gift of God" (Ephesians 2:8). So, the role of the Ten Commandments then is "the law was our schoolmaster [to bring us] unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith" (Galatians 3:24) where it points out that we have sinned and that alone should drive us to go to Jesus in prayer instead of driving us to get rid of the law, the commandments. By getting rid of the law, the Ten Commandments, means we do not need Jesus, but in reality, we are obliged to keep the commandments for "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous" (1 John 2:1), and "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).

After that, Paul looks prophetically at the scriptures, "when the fulness of the time was come", referring to the timeline of when the Messiah was to show up (Daniel 9:24-26), "God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law" being "sin for us" (2 Corinthians 5:21), "To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons" (Galatians 4:4-5). Basically, Jesus "took not on [him the nature of] angels, took on [him] the seed of Abraham" (Hebrews 2:16) for "it behoved him to be made like unto [his] brethren" (Hebrews 2:17) and "was in all points tempted like as [we are, yet] without sin" (Hebrews 4:15) "in that he

himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted" (Hebrews 2:18).

Now, as we near the end of the list of verses in Galatians, Paul begins to reiterate the point in relationship to justification and the keeping of the law. "Tell me, ye that desire to be under the law, do ye not hear the law?" (Galatians 4:21). So, does the law save? No. In fact, "I testify again to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to do the whole law. Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace" (Galatians 5:3-4), meaning, that anyone thinking that if they keep the law, be it the Ten Commandments or offering animal sacrifices, gains salvation, they are fallen from grace. There is no other means that we are justified except it be through Jesus Christ, however, do remember that not everyone receives the justification! It is "the doers of the law shall be justified" (Romans 2:13). It is for those who are keeping the Ten Commandments who have an "oops" moment and need their record expunged. It is only expunged by Christ alone. But Christ does not just expunge records while Christians are "willy-nilly" sinning. That is a mockery of grace, "turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness" (Jude 1:4).

And Paul then returns to what we already addressed earlier, "For all the law is fulfilled in one word, [even] in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself" (Galatians 5:14), which is done by keeping the last six commandment because we sinful human beings,

even after being baptized, do not naturally know how to love our neighbors. We have to be told to, and because we are born-again, we do as we are told.

Now, "if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law" (Galatians 5:18) though we do keep the law because the Spirit "will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment" (John 16:8), which is to cause us to hate sin, do righteousness, and be made ready to be judged by the Ten Commandments (James 2:12). If we are listening to the conviction of the Holy Spirit, we are not under the penalty of the Commandments because we are actually living them. We are not under the penalty of speeding if we stay within the speed limit.

Paul goes on regarding the love for our neighbor being restated as, "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:2).

And Paul finishes off with a dig, a remark, an address against those of the circumcised by stating, "For neither they themselves who are circumcised keep the law" (Galatians 6:13). Even Stephen, in his dying breath said, "Who have received the law by the disposition of angels, and have not kept [it]" (Acts 7:53). The notion that the Ten Commandments are for only for the Jews is preposterous. They did not even keep them.

Overall, after examining every single reference in Galatians about the "law", especially when applied to the "Ten Commandments" in no wise did he dismiss, do away

with, disregard them. He never encouraged pitting grace or faith against the commandments. They are perfectly blended to the learned, as Peter warned us about (2 Peter 3:16).

The scriptures do not contradict themselves. We cannot have New Testament scriptures encouraging commandment keeping, especially by Jesus, and then have other scripture discarding them. There was no clear indication of discarding any commandments in these four New Testament books, but there are more books in sequence yet to honestly review.

To be continued...

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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.

### AFTERNOON —

Random biblical message without restriction to any particular part of the Bible.

#### **EVENING** —

Sequential verses from the New Testament and a mini study.

### Be In Health — 3 John 1:2

### Whosoever Shall Give You a Cup of Water to Drink (Mark 9:41)

Water is very important for our bodies to function properly. This is true for the use of water both internally and externally. In this article, we shall focus on the internal use of water.

Drinking liquids is not the same as drinking water. In how many power tools requiring water to function properly would a person use soda or coffee instead? In the production of goods, like microchips, how many would substitute anything else in place of using water? How many would use something other than water in their washing machines?

We are not saying that all consumption of non-water items is forbidden, but when it comes to that familiar counting of ounces of water, despite what many coffeedrinking doctors claim, there is nothing more helpful to the body than pure, clean water. Remember, there were a number of doctors on board at one point pro-

moting smoking. Science is not always presented properly. Coffee is not a substitute for water. In fact, some liquids actually cause dehydration. Coffee, tea, soda, and alcohol all are culprits listed as liquids that have the opposite effect as compared to water.

Now, when it comes to drinking water, the proper amount varies per person. The old eight glass of eight ounces of water rule would drown a four-year-old while it would be insufficient for a heavier adult. The proper calculation is to take your weight in pounds, like 180 for example, then divide that number in half, which would be 90 in our example, and that is how many ounces of water one should drink per day. Keep in mind, those that sweat water out more than normal will have to consume additional ounces to replenish the loss.

People who think they are fine at not drinking so much water per day usually do not realize all of the things that dehydration contributes to.

If one feels tired more than normal, it could be dehydration. That fuzzy feeling in the head or a bit of dizziness is usually dismissed as getting out of bed on the wrong side or not getting enough sleep. It may be those reasons but again, dehydration can also contribute to those feelings. Having confusing moments may be because one is dealing with too many stresses or demands at the same time, and then again, the lack of clarity of thought may be the lack of water. Arthritis setting into a person's joints may be the result of injury over the years or due to aging, and then again, symptoms may be stronger because of not getting enough water into the body to keep everything lubricated properly.

Other things that dehydration is connected to include irritableness in general and may even bring on headaches from the lack of fluid, digestive problems because there is not enough water to flush the system, and we are not just refer-

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### Healthy and Delicious Recipes

### Veggie Parmesan Cheese

### **Ingredients**

- ½ cup raw cashews
- 2 tablespoons nutritional veast
- ½ teaspoon sea salt

• ½ teaspoon lemon zest

### Instructions

 Place the cashews, nutritional yeast, salt, and lemon zest in a small food processor. Pulse

- until the mixture resembles a coarse meal and has a soft, crumbly texture.
- Store in the fridge for up to 5 days, freeze after that.

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ring to urinating. Even laziness can be the result of dehydration because of that tired feeling or the feeling that it is just too much effort to accomplish the task.

Do not go by thirst alone. If need be, put yourself on a schedule to have drunk so many ounces by a certain time. You may not have to set an alarm but at the top of the hour in a twelve-hour window, that is about seven and half ounces at each point, using our example of a 180-pound person.

Drink up and do not fear that you are harming your body by drinking too much. It is true that one can

hurt the body from drinking more than they should, but the vast majority of people are not drinking enough in comparison. In other words, there is more to fear from lack of water than there is from too much water.

### Natural Vitamins

### Clove

Clove is an aromatic spice that adds flavor to many dishes, but did you know one teaspoon contains fiber, minerals and vitamins such as Vitamin K and Manganese (55% of the Daily Value!) Manganese is an essential for building strong bones and maintaining brain function.

Clove is high in antioxidants which help fight oxidative stress. Some

research suggests that the compounds found in cloves might help protect against cancer, reduce stomach ulcers and improve liver function, however, these studies were test tube studies and more research is needed.

Clove kills bacteria and in studies has shown to kill common types of bacteria including E. coli. It is also great for your oral health! Used in

herbal mouth washes it has improved gum health as well as reduced the amount of plaque and bacteria in the mouth. If you have a toothache, rub a little clove oil on the area and it will reduce the pain temporarily.

### Be Ye Holy — 1 Peter 1:15

Titus 3:3-7 is again a very plain collection of verses. "For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, [and] hating one another. But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by

the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life." Please read it properly. Yes, we receive the free gift of mercy, freely saved, freely made heirs, etc., but do not miss the sanctification part. First, the use of the

word "were" means that once we are a Christian, we no longer do those things that are listed. The word "sometimes" means that, in general, when we did practice such things, we were not always evil, but it just takes a little sin here and there to count us as evil, wicked, etc., in God's eyes. Therefore, those who say that they are pretty good Christians are not really Christians. It is all or lost with

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God (Matthew 22:37). The words "after that" is where we become holy people, keeping in mind none of those holy or righteous acts counts for salvation but staying in any of the evil can count us as lost. The words "washing", "regeneration", and "renewing" are all words describing the act of leaving an unholy life and living a holy one. So, are you washed, saved, regenerated, renewed, or are you just a Christian in disguise enjoying being foolish, disobedient to the Ten Commandments, living in deception, serving desires and the pleasures of this world, just for starters?

Hebrews 6:7-8 is metaphor for the holy and sanctified life. "For the earth which drinketh in the rain that cometh oft upon it," which is symbolic of receiving the Holy Spirit (James 5:7). "And bringeth forth herbs meet for them by whom it is dressed," which is to bear the fruit of the Spirit and go forth winning souls (Matthew 13:32, Isaiah 66:14). "Receiveth blessing from God", which is the approval of God, which is the holy and sanctified life (Jeremiah 31:23). On the other hand, "But that which beareth thorns and briers [is] rejected," which is an un -Christian character, which is even living in sin (Hosea 10:8). "And [is] nigh unto cursing;" or receiving the condemnation of God (Daniel 9:11). "Whose end [is] to be burned", which is hell (Deuteronomy 32:22). So, which path are you living shown by your lifestyle? "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).

James 2:10 clearly states, "For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one [point], he is guilty of all." And, with us being guilty, God says that He "will by no means clear [the guilty]" (Exodus 34:7), therefore, hell would be our future. The only option we have is that "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). But confession means that we do not want to do that anymore and cease by the power of God from doing it. God does not want us living in a state of sinning, confessing, sinning, confessing, etc. Therefore, the expectation is to live by the whole law, which is the holy and sanctified life. So, is that your life?

1 Peter 2:11-12 clearly teaches that temptation can entice a Christian away from God and that we are not just guaranteed to be saved. In fact, temptation does not begin until we are a Christian. And the goal of Satan is for us to leave the protective hand by our free will to choose, otherwise, there would be no temptation if the prize were not so grand. And these verses tell us where he attacks and what the expectation of a Christian happens to be along with our purpose after being a Christian. "Dearly beloved, I beseech [you] as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul; Having your conversation honest among

the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by [your] good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation." Fleshly lusts are not just the sexual category of sleeping around and watching filth. It includes any simple choice to satisfy the desires of the body, those cravings. It includes eating junk food, watching inappropriate, even "G" rated, TV and movies, listening to worldly music, appreciation of the simple touch of inappropriate activity, and more. It is any selfish gratification of the body, mind, or soul. The holy and sanctified life is to resist the call of these things: "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you" (James 4:7), setting an example for unbelievers to follow. A Christian should be able to accomplish a lot in life. Why? Because we do not sit back and waste time in front of entertainment, a thing that the body craves to do almost every day. So, can you say that the "old man is crucified with [him], that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin", including being entertained by it (Romans 6:6)?

1 John 2:29 states, "If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him." Born again Christians simply live a righteous, holy, sanctified life. Those that are Christian in name only do not live such a life and will be lost. It does not excuse those who are "saved". If they are truly "saved", then they would cease from all unrighteousness by God's divine power that

He is willing to give to all of us to live that godly life (2 Peter 1:3). Therefore, there ought to be no question of who is born again and headed to Heaven and those who are just pretending. Are you pretending, or are you really born again?

According to Matthew 5:30, Jesus expects His followers to cut off actions that lead to hell. He does not want us cutting off our hand literally. "And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, 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 right hand is a combination of two items: actions (Ecclesiastes 9:10) and approval or willingness (Genesis 48:14 and many others). Therefore, if we are willing, giving in to actions that lead to hell and justifying our way all along through various excuses and reasonings, but do not cut those actions off, hell is our destination. Jesus was not addressing any particular group, but everyone. So, do not tell us that "But I'm saved". That is exactly what the devil wants Christians to believe – being saved in sinning. Our actions reveal if we are saved. Our actions do not save us, but "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, what path do your actions reveal that your destination is going to be?

Philippians 4:8 tells us what to fo-

cus our minds upon. "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." Again, we know the words "only", "command", "required", etc., do not appear in the verse, therefore, some Christians think this is simply a nice verse that allows for a little fun, usually involving a little sin, and none of this is forbidden. It is forbidden! This is what is meant by "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 2:5). This list is what Christ lived and as Christians, it is expected that "we have the mind of Christ" (1 Corinthians 2:16), otherwise we carry the name Christian while still thinking our own ways. There is even a parable stating that Christianity would reduce itself to just such a position: "We will eat our own bread, and wear our own apparel: only let us be called by thy name, to take away our reproach" (Isaiah 4:1). So, are you wearing your own righteousness claiming to be saved while calling yourself Christian, which means to be a follower of Christ, and that you expect your sins to be removed no matter what you allow your mind to dwell upon, or are you truly disciplined as where Jesus says, "If any [man] will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me" (Matthew 16:24)?

1 Thessalonians 4:11-12 states, "And that ye study to be quiet,

and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you; That ye may walk honestly toward them that are without, and [that] ye may have lack of nothing." Christians are commanded to be honest, especially towards those outside of the faith. Being honest is part of being holy and sanctified, the expectation when one is born again. Therefore, if we claim to be saved and are not always honest, we are lying to ourselves about being saved. The verse that states that to believe is to be saved (Acts 16:31) in no wise cancels out the requirement of obedience. A true believer believes in the power of God to live a godly life (2 Peter 1:3). So, do you believe God can give you the power to always be honest, or are you an unbeliever?

1 Timothy 4:8 tells us that it is the godly people that go to Heaven, which is a life of holiness, a life that is sanctified: "For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come." So, a person can say they believe all that they want, but unless they are godly, which is supplied by God through His "divine power" (2 Peter 1:3) that so many Christians are "denying the power thereof" (2 Timothy 3:5) thinking they shall sin for the rest of their lives, such people will be lost. Mouthing "I'm saved" but living ungodly, which includes allowing of any amount of sin, is not sufficient for salvation. So, do you live godly, or ungodly?

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

### What does belief really mean?

- 1. What is one considered if they believe? **Acts 16:31**
- 7. How do true believers treat one another? **1 John 3:23**
- 10. How do we know that the Ten Commandments are not discarded over the fact that the law cannot justify us but only Jesus can? Romans 2:13

- Everyone that believes, are they saved? James 2:19
- 8. In loving one another, where do we find instruction to performing it according to God, and not our own imaginations?

  Matthew 22:39-40
- November 2021 Bible Questions and Answers

### Why is Christianity the only true religion?

9. In keeping all of the commandments, what does it not contribute to regarding

salvation? Galatians 2:16

- How many Gods are real, implying that having a god for each element or situation is false? Ephesians 4:6 "One"
- 2. To what lineage was the promise given, which differs

- Who is on the list of people going to hell (lake of fire) which shows that all who do not believe will be lost? Revelation 21:8
- What is another requirement along with believing? Mark
   16:16
- 5. What else are we to believe beyond recognizing that Jesus is the Son of God? **Ephesians** 1:13, 2 Thessalonians 2:11-12
- 6. What do true believers accomplish and reveal? 1 John5:5



# I Am Come to Deceive The Whole World

How Satan, from his perspective, is distracting so many Christians while his agenda marches on.

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from those that descend from another child? Galatians 4:28, Hebrews 11:9 "Isaac and Jacob"

- What was promised to sinners, which is representative of a descendant? Genesis 3:15, Galatians 3:19 "seed"
- 4. Whose lineage would the seed come from? Implying once again, it is not the child of Hagar. Isaiah 65:9 "Jacob"
- 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 "Christ", "Jesus"

- 6. What would happen to the prior religion, specifically, the Jewish? Matthew 21:43, Luke 13:6-7, Luke 20:16 "The kingdom of God shall be taken from you", "cut it down", "destroy these husbandmen"
- 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 "Son of the living God", "Son of God"
- What are Christians to have? 1
   Corinthians 1:10, 1
   Corinthians 2:16, Philippians
   2:5 "speak the same thing",
   "no divisions", "perfectly

- joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment", "the mind of Christ", "mind... in Christ Jesus"
- 9. What shows that we are Christians? Matthew 16:24, John 14:24, Matthew 28:20, John 14:21 "deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me", "keepeth ... my sayings", "observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you", "hath my commandments, and keepeth them"
- How many denominations should there be? John 10:16 "one"

### **Questions & Answers**

**QUESTION:** Do the lost perish through eternal life in hell?

ANSWER: The question is based upon the famous verse, John 3:16: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Even John 3:15 says, "That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life." 2 Peter 3:9 also makes use of the word "perish" by stating, "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." But John 10:28 is the final contrast between the two options of "perish" and "eternal life": "And I

give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any [man] pluck them out of my hand."

To begin unraveling what appears to be a challenging comparison, please note that it is all in the mind of the reader in this case. The words "eternal life" indeed mean to live eternally with God; however, the word "perish" is not a word applied to a period of longevity. The word "perish" is finite. It is a one-time destructive and conclusive act.

God is not going to burn up the lost to the point they perish and recreate them to burn up again only to perish once again and so on throughout eternity. Once a person reaches the state where they perish, it is over. The verse does not state, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not CONTINUE TO perish, but have everlasting life." And the verse does not state, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not ENTER A PLACE OF perishING, but have everlasting life." The choice is either a person will "perish" <u>or</u> have "eternal life".

Further, the verse is not contrasting Heaven and Hell; it is contrasting the result. A person's life will either result in having "eternal life" or that life will "perish". Again, "perish" is referring to a one-time completed moment.

(Continued from page 12)

Then ask yourself, if the lost go to a place of perishING, would they then have a form of "eternal life"? Sure they would! But wait! Eternal life is only promised to the saved, or in this case, to those who "believeth in him". Again, the verse does not say, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life IN HEAVEN." It simply states that those who believe get to have eternal life. Therefore, there can only be one conclusion in which one group receives eternal life while the other one does not. That conclusion is that the word "perish" is a one-time destructive act that God performs.

**QUESTION:** Should you answer a fool or not?

ANSWER: A favorite among anti-Bible believers is the apparent nowin situation stated in Proverbs 26:4-5, "Answer not a fool according to his folly, lest thou also be like unto him. Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he be wise in his own conceit."

This is not a contradiction as many

suppose it to be. The Bible is not telling anyone to perform and yet not perform the action of responding to a fool. It is merely stating the fact, and yes, it is a nowin situation from the perspective of trying to win the argument, but that is not supposed to be our focus.

Basically, when a faithful follower responds to foolish talk, the conversation indeed will continue to downgrade to the point that the foolish person will eventually make the wise person look foolish. This is usually done in a circlular conversation in which the wise will respond to a foolish statement. The fool will then follow up with another foolish statement to be responded to by the wise person again. That statement is then followed by yet another foolish statement and yet another until the fool is ready to circle the conversation around to the same foolish statement that they opened up the conversation with in the first place and essentially achieving nothing but a wasting of time.

At the same time, if there is an attempt to not get caught up in such foolish conversation knowing full well that it would be fruitless to argue with a known fool, a per-

son who loves to cut up the Bible and God, if nothing is said, the fool usually starts bragging. "What, Christian? Don't you have an answer?" In front of an audience, this can be quite intimidating to the point that it may force the hand of the wise person to finally take up the conversation and we are back to the prior verse that basically declares the fool will make the wise person to appear foolish. Observers will not follow the conversation and as soon as it circles completely around, the joke is on the wise person and they are humiliated. The observers will only remember the punch line, the moment that caused the laughter, and not recall the actual good responses of the wise person.

Again, this is not a contradiction as it is declaring, there is no winning with a fool. Join the conversation and look like a fool, or do not take up the conversation and let the fool become a bragging fool.

In past experience, especially when the Bible and God are under attack, while the fool is bragging, I try searching the crowd for those few people that would be interested in knowing the truth on the matter. This is done by reading facial expressions, reading their countenances as it were, as most people are truly open books by the expressions on their faces, but it is something that takes a bit of training to be accurate in, something that Jesus was an expert in, even John the Baptist. I will then seek those people out and try to have a private conversation with them away from the fool and his foolish friends.

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  - 2. I Am Come to Deceive the Whole World
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### **News and Comments**

#### October 12

#### **ABC** Australia

Kim Jong Un vows to build 'invincible' North Korea military while slamming US for 'creating tensions'

"And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all [these things] must come to pass, but the end is not yet" (Matthew 24:6).

### October 3

#### **Market Watch**

Fauci says legitimate claims to religious exemptions from vaccine mandates are scarce

Basically, this is an attempt to undermine the religious exemption. It is easy to prove from the Bible the religious exemption if you believe. First, 1 Corinthians 3:17 says, "If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which [temple] ye are." Now this assumes one is also health conscious because to resist the vaccine while smoking and drinking and being a glutton is hypocritical. Second, Revelation 18:23 states, "by thy

sorceries were all nations deceived", where "sorceries", as everyone should know by now, comes from the Greek word "pharmakeia" where we get all of the "pharm-" words in use today. So, by the pharmaceutical industry will all nations be deceived. And that is now!

#### October 14

#### **Reuters**

## U.S. pastors, advocacy groups mobilize against COVID-19 vaccine mandates

Basically, the allowance for religious exemption is under attack. Religious exemption is based upon a person's biblical belief of their understanding of the position, right or wrong. It does not even have to be biblically sound. We do not have to prove the Bible to the government, and for those that are simply impressed of God, they do not have to prove to the government that they are being impressed of God. Are their fake religious exemption activities going on? Absolutely, but such should not restrict our amendment rights. When the government can determine if our belief is valid or not, the government controls religion. For example, it is well known that the Jehovah's Witnesses do not celebrate certain holidays, maybe none, nor birthdays. Agreed or not, the government cannot dictate that the Jehovah's Witnesses' belief is wrong because the government does not accept the logic behind the belief. "We ought to obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29).

#### October 13

### **CBS News**

### Mysterious radio waves coming from the heart of the Milky Way

Luke 21:11 tells us that "fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven" (Luke 21:11). Basically, the devil is playing around with us earthlings. It also points to the nearness of the devil's last attempt to gather all under his command. The faithful are going to have to "walk by faith, not by sight" (2 Corinthians 5:7).

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### This is Why the Bible is Under Attack

### Daniel 8:12

And an host was given [him] against the daily [sacrifice] by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practised, and prospered.

#### **Daniel 7:25**

And he shall speak [great] words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.

#### 1 John 2:18-23

Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time. They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would [no doubt] have continued with us: but [they went out], that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us. But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things. I have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the truth. Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son. Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: [(but) he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also].

#### 1 John 4:1-6

Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that [spirit] of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world. Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world. They are of the world: therefore speak they of the world, and the world heareth them. We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.

#### 2 John 1:7-9

For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist. Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward. Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.

#### 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4

Let no man deceive you by any means: for [that day shall not come], except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

#### Revelation 13:1-2

And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as [the feet] of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.

#### Revelation 16:13-14

And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs [come] out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, [which] go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

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### **Natural Remedies**

### Oregano Oil Steam Inhalation

- Bring 6 cups of water to a boil, lower heat but maintain boil.
- Put 2 drops of organic oregano essential oil on a spoon, then stir into the boiling water.
- Remove from heat.
- Using a towel or other cloth, form a hood over the steaming pot of water and inhale for 5 - 10 minutes.

For infection, do every 2 hours. For prevention, do 1 - 2 times a day.