

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

A Monthly Magazine

PO Box 301, Boiling Springs, PA 17007
(717) 460-7881

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

Jerry O'Donnell

Part 9 – Ephesians, Colossians, Philemon, Philippians, 1 Timothy, Titus, 2 Timothy, 1 Peter, 2 Peter

As we make our way through the sequence of the epistles from all of the New Testament writers, we enter into them to see if there is some verse (or verses) that truly, not just suggestively but explicitly, does away with the commandments that God placed in the temple in Heaven even before man was created (Revelation 11:19). Of these commandments it is written: Adam and Eve were expected to keep them (Romans 5:14); Abraham kept them (Genesis 26:5); Moses was given two copies of them, of which the first was smashed (Exodus 32:19); all of the Old Testament was expected to be kept; Jesus set them in proper light by removing the added Pharisaical rules and revealing their hypocrisies along with elevating the one on the Sabbath, declaring “the Son of man is Lord even of the sabbath day” (Matthew 12:8); the Book of Acts revealed that the apostles also taught that they were to be kept. And then a number of epistles that we already covered also did not do away with

them, especially when one knows that there are the law of the Ten Commandments and the law of ceremonial commandments of which the latter was done away at the cross, but not the moral law. However, we press forward to see if such abolishing of the Ten Commandments is explicitly addressed elsewhere, justifying today’s Christians who disregard them. If we do not find such a verse, the consequence is that “few that be saved” (Luke 13:23) for “strait [is] the gate, and narrow [is] the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it” (Matthew 7:14).

So, starting with Ephesians, right up front, we are told, “Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, [even] the law of commandments” (Ephesians 2:15), and in fact, that is exactly how preachers preach it. They ignore that the “law of commandments” is “[contained] in ordinances” (Ephesians 2:15), which are words not only in the same verse but right next to the words that preachers focus on. In other words, any one quoting that the “law of ten commandments have been abolished” is repeating

a purposeful lie. There is not a single ordinance in the Ten Commandments, but there are a bunch in the ceremonial laws. Besides, later in the same epistle, Paul writes, “Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;) That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth” (Ephesians 6:1-3). If the Ten Commandments were abolished in Ephesians 2:15, it would be a contradiction to tell children to keep one of the commandments, “Honor thy father and mother”. And in essence, if children do not keep that commandment, they do not get eternal life. Why is that so? It ends with “thou mayest live long on the earth” (Ephesians 6:30). Jesus said, “Blessed [are] the meek: for they shall inherit the earth” (Matthew 5:5). Earth is our future home after we visit those mansions Jesus went to prepare (John 14:2) and then relocates all of them along with Heaven itself (Revelation 21:1-2). Therefore, Ephesians is not a book trying to destroy the Ten Commandments, but even goes as far as connecting

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it with it being part of salvation. Now, remember, we keep the commandments as a fruit of being saved and not as a means, but where there is no fruit, Jesus commands and then asks, “cut it down; why cumbereth it the ground?” (Luke 13:7).

The epistle for the Colossians contains no verses dealing with the Ten Commandments or the Law of God. There are two references to the commandments of men, but we know not to follow the commandments of men for Jesus said, “in vain they do worship me, teaching [for] doctrines the commandments of men” (Matthew 15:9).

The epistle of Philemon makes no reference to the words “law”, “laws”, “commandment”, or “commandments”, so we move on to the next time sequential book.

In the epistle to the Philippians, Paul recounts His relationship to the law of ceremonies as the Ten Commandments do not deal with being “Circumcised the eighth day” (Philippians 3:5), but if we were to take Philippians 3:6 and Philippians 3:9 as referring to the Ten Commandments, then we need to address it. “Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless” (Philippians 3:6) “and be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith” (Philippians 3:9). At first glance, verse 9 looks like it pits the Ten Commandments against faith, but it really does not if one were to carefully read the verse. Any law keeping without

Christ is self-righteousness which develops a thinking that because we are blameless when we look at the checklist, that we deserve Heaven. We deserve nothing “for the wages of sin [is] death” (Romans 6:23) and “all our righteousnesses [are] as filthy rags” (Isaiah 64:6). But, if we go by faith, that does not mean we don't sin as long as we have faith that we are saved. The verse states that it is “the righteousness which is of God by faith”. In other words, His righteousness flows through us and comes out as obedient Christians keeping the commandments for where we think that commandment keeping “with men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible” (Matthew 19:26). We have to have faith that “unto him that is able to keep you from falling” (Jude 1:24), “Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God”, “According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that [pertain] unto life and godliness”, etc. He keeps us from sinning. He causes us to become someone like Joseph, who, in the middle of a serious temptation fled stating, “how then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?” (Genesis 39:9). He gives us heavenly power, divine power to actually live a godly life.

So, Philippians does not put down the Ten Commandments. At best, it reveals how we keep them, which is by faith in receiving the divine power to be kept from breaking them.

Moving on to the epistle of 1 Timothy, it does the same thing as in Philippians. Up front, there are

several questionable verses and then at the end, there is a strong uplifting of the commandments. Consistency is definitely on our side. In other words, Christians need to stop pulling on the questionable verses and start including all of them.

1 Timothy 1:5 starts out with, “Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and [of] a good conscience, and [of] faith unfeigned.” As stated before in a different part of this series, the word “end” does not mean that it is “over”, “done away with”, “completed”; it also means “result”. The result of the commandments is charity, which is the strongest type of love. Jesus said about the first four commandments, “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind” (Matthew 22:37). Regarding the last six commandments, Jesus said, “Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself” (Matthew 22:39). That is because “On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets” (Matthew 22:40). We keep the first four commandments that tell us how to love God and not just go on feelings. We keep the last six commandments that tell us to love our neighbors and not just go on feelings there, either. Therefore, truly the result of commandment keeping is love. If love were not involved, that would be legalism. Although it is the same result in that both people keep the commandments, legalism is a means of legality to be given entrance to Heaven leaving out Jesus. Love is what motivates the ability for the

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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.

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divine power to flow through us to keep them empowered by Jesus and saved by His grace.

Now, about that legalism, 1 Timothy 1:6-7 addresses it: "From which some having swerved have turned aside unto vain jangling; Desiring to be teachers of the law; understanding neither what they say, nor whereof they affirm." Such teachers not understanding the relationship between law keeping and Jesus' gift of salvation have no idea what they are saying. In fact, they talk in circles.

Then Paul flips back to the people who correctly understand the relationship and states, "But we know that the law [is] good, if a man use it lawfully" (1 Timothy 1:8). There is a right way and obviously a wrong way, which we already addressed. Clearly, the law is good and God would not do away with what is good, in fact, we are told, "hold fast that which is good" (1 Thessalonians 5:21).

And now we get to the most questionable verse, 1 Timothy 1:9. Here is the context: "Knowing this, that the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, for unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers, For whoremongers, for them that defile themselves with mankind, for menstealers, for liars, for perjured persons, and if there be any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine; According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust" (1 Timothy 1:9-11). It appears that the Ten Commandments are not for the right-

eous man, as if we are now allowed to break them, but it is for all those filthy, vile sinners that are listed.

That understanding would go against the last reference in 1 Timothy to the commandments: "That thou keep [this] commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Timothy 6:14). It looks like in verse 9 that the commandments are done away and now in 6:14, they are expected to not only be kept, but kept blamelessly.

So, returning to verse 9, it is easily addressed. If a person is righteous, that means they are already keeping the commandments. They do not need to be looking at the commandments. It is those persons who are in sin that need to clean up themselves, by the grace to God, who need the commandments. The commandments are to show people who they really are and where they have fallen short. Then the commandments drive the person to the only being that can save them – Jesus. The commandments save no one. They confirm the fact that we need a Savior "for by the law [is] the knowledge of sin" (Romans 3:20).

Therefore, we conclude that the epistle of 1 Timothy not only has no word against the commandment keeping but sets the expectations for all Christians to actually keep them and blamelessly. Now, with that said, remember the expectation but also the encouragement if one were to fail: "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). So, the

expectation, indeed, is to keep the commandments blamelessly, but if we were to have a momentary weakness, all hope is not lost. Go to the Advocate 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).

Now, in Titus, there are three verses that use the key words. The first two are unrelated to the Ten Commandments or even the ceremonial laws as Paul was following the commandment of God to go preaching and we ought to not listen to Jewish fables or commandments of men. The third states, "But avoid foolish questions, and genealogies, and contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and vain" (Titus 3:9). Now, the unlearned, the unconverted but professed Christian in name only will take it to mean that we ought not discuss commandment keeping, thinking that those who want to keep them should keep them and those who think it is nailed to the cross ought to be able to believe that as well. That does not sound like Christian unity that we should be striving for. But that theory is not the case. In the context of foolish questions, genealogies, contentions; it falls in place that these are people arguing about the ceremonial laws like circumcision. Again, the Bible does not contradict itself, therefore, all those other places, even in this article that teach clearly that we are to even walk blamelessly reveal law keeping. A generic use of "law" to insinuate that it is about the Ten Commandments and there should be no arguing about the subject matter is really stretch-

ing the words of Paul. If we would spend less time looking for that one verse that makes the commandments null and void and more focused on God's power to keep them, we would be better Christians. Further, in a courtroom setting, if this were all the evidence provided, the case would be dismissed. Why Christians spend all their energy in avoiding what Jesus declared as necessary for salvation, God only knows: "if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments" (Matthew 19:17). Besides, if this one obscure verse were *that one verse*, the Christian now has the responsibility in explaining away, not just dismissing, but explaining away all the other verses that command us to keep the commandments starting with Jesus' words shared just a moment ago.

Moving on to the epistle of 2 Timothy, it makes no reference to the word "law", "laws", "commandment", or "commandments", so let us address the epistles of Peter.

1 Peter is easy to review for there are also no references to the commandments or the law. That means we can move on to 2 Peter where there are two references.

2 Peter 2:21 states, "For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known [it], to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them." Peter clearly connects righteousness with commandment keeping. Clearly, Peter is telling us that the expectation of Christians is to keep the commandments. And, clearly, Peter is giving us a stark warning that even those reading this series

of articles who are being convicted that they have been lied to by being taught that the commandments were nailed to the cross, that grace replaces the commandments, that faith is what Christians go by instead of obedience to the commandments – such people may now know the expected way of righteousness, but instead of complying, they look for a different excuse or even close their eyes from the holy commandments all together. They enjoy their lifestyle and fall back to the belief that they are not wicked persons, therefore they expect to still go to Heaven. Little do they realize that they are the legalist. Examining oneself to make sure one is not "all that bad" yet enjoying what the world offers is basically showing to God that they deserve Heaven. It is the commandment keeper that is not the legalist for we have faith in the power of God to keep us in obedience and grace is available when we have a momentary slip up. And those who simply declare that they are saved are using a line or two of scripture to make this verse in Peter null and void along with countless other verses and will be sadly lost if they do not repent.

Now, 2 Peter 3:1-2 sets the expectation 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." We are to have a pure mind, and what makes a pure mind? – the words even of the Old Testament prophets along with the commandments taught by the apostles.

So, we move onto the next time sequential book in the New Testament ... next time.

Overall, we looked at another nine New Testament books in an honest manner and conclude again that there still is no knock-out discussion regarding the Ten Commandments. In fact, every attempt to claim that there are such verses actually turns around and uplifts the keeping of the commandments in the end.

To be continued... 

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- Read the news articles before they are published.
- Read both our books for free online:
 1. *What Does It Mean for the World to Have One Mind?*
 2. *I Am Come to Deceive the Whole World*
- Read this monthly publication days before it arrives in mailboxes.

Be In Health — 3 John 1:2

“Good For Food” (Genesis 2:9)

Not all food is of a good quality. It is up to us to search the scriptures and search the earth for that quality of food that is of a good quality.

The scriptures ask, “What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost [which is] in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's” (1 Corinthians 6:19-20).

Keeping the body in as good health as possible is what glorifies God. When we feed our bodies food and drink that negatively im-

pacts the body causing us to get sick through our own fault no longer glorifies God but Satan, for he is a “thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy” (John 10:10). He encourages selfish indulgences, living to eat instead of eating to live.

And while in youth, to be carelessly living in the “here and now” will cause much sorrow if that lifestyle causes lingering diseases and eventually painful death in the end. Someone struggling with cancer because of what they carelessly put into their bodies because it did not appear to negatively affect them when they were younger is only furthering Satan's agenda.

The scriptures also state, “Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and [that] the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which [temple] ye are” (1 Corinthians 3:16-17).

This makes it clearer that we ought to watch what enters into our bodies that may defile it resulting in health issues. For instance, ulcers are frequently caused by eating foods that are too spicy, but try telling that to a person who says, “The hotter, the better!”

And then the Bible gets very specific, only to those that are

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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.

learned: "Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness. And again, The Lord knoweth the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain" (1 Corinthians 3:18-20).

Why would only the learned understand such verses? Because the use of the word "wise" points to something specifically that the worldly wisdom declares is good for science says so, but in reality, God says the opposite. "Wine [is] a mocker, strong drink [is] raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise" (Proverbs 20:1). Clearly this points to the fact that the FDA and other health officials are not caring what God declares as they encourage a glass of wine a day. They also see nothing wrong with the use of caffeine, which seems to flow easily into

the bodies of even little children in the form of sodas.

Another area pertaining to quality of food is the idea that second-hand food seems better for the body than first-hand. In other words, instead of waiting until the cow is slaughtered and eating the meat that can take up to three days to digest in the stomach, why not go right for the alfalfa on salads, receiving that God has "given you every herb bearing seed, which [is] upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which [is] the fruit of a tree yielding seed" (Genesis 1:29)? And besides, when a person reaches for that steak, that drumstick, that "whatever", do they consider the restriction declared in the New Testament? "That ye abstain from meats offered to idols, and from blood, and from things strangled" (Acts 15:29). That is because the "flesh with the life thereof, [which is] the blood thereof, shall ye not eat" (Genesis 9:4). Not every animal is checked microscopi-

cally before the meat hits the market. If an animal carries any disease, it is found in its blood and digested into the human body upon consumption.

As we see, as far as we have control, we are to be careful of the quality of food and drink consumed, making sure it does not impact the body negatively, not only for the "here and now", but future detriment. Caffeine may wear off after a few hours and people can get their rest at night without any immediate impact, but it does shorten the life of the heart by premature death in the form of heart disease or attacks.

Let us keep the bodies running better than our own vehicles and get more mileage than those who are carelessly feeding their bodies junk. It is not a matter of selfishly living as long as possible, but to be an instrument for God's use as long as possible.



Healthy and Delicious Recipes

Roasted Red Peppers

Ingredients

- Red bell peppers
- Extra-virgin olive oil
- Sea salt

Instructions

1. Char the peppers over a gas burner or under a broiler until

the skin is blackened all over.

2. Remove them from the heat, place in a bowl and cover with a towel or plastic wrap for 10 minutes.
3. Uncover and use your hands to peel and remove the loose skin.
4. Slice off the stem, and remove the seeds; use the pepper

whole or slice it into strips. Season to taste with sea salt.

5. To store the peppers, transfer them to a jar, cover them with olive oil, put the lid on and store in the refrigerator for 2-3 weeks.



Natural Vitamins

Ginger

Delicious, aromatic and great for your health! Ginger can be used as an oil, fresh, dried or powdered.

Ginger has a substance called gingerol which is a powerful anti-inflammatory. This can help protect against age-related decline in brain function.

It can help fight the flu and common cold as well as aid in digestion. Ginger can help reduce men-

strual pain. Ginger can reduce nausea and is great during early pregnancy to help combat morning sickness. *

Studies have shown that type 2 diabetics who took two grams of ginger powder per day lowered fasting blood sugar by 12% and dramatically improved hemoglobin A1c by 10% over the course of twelve weeks. Studies have also

shown that people who took three grams of ginger over the course of forty-five days had a 10% drop in their cholesterol levels.

*Studies show that women who are in late pregnancy or have a history of miscarriages should not take ginger. As always consult your medical professional.



Be Ye Holy — 1 Peter 1:15

1 John 3:4 says, “Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law”, where the word “Whosoever” includes those who think they are saved as well as the lost, basically, everyone is included. God, Who does not change (Malachi 3:6), is “Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear [the guilty]” (Exodus 34:7). If our transgressions are not cleared, we are lost. On top of that, “My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not” (1 John 2:1). So, are you living in transgression of God’s law claiming grace and faith will save instead, or are you obedient to God’s law because grace has been provided to clear the record and you have faith that you have been forgiven?

Revelation 3:18 is a list of what born-again Christians do. “I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich;

and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and [that] the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.” Gold tried in the fire is enduring “faith” (1 Peter 1:7). White raiment is Christ’s “righteousness” (Revelation 19:8). The eye salve is the use of the Holy Spirit to see God’s way instead of our “own way” (Psalms 32:8). So, do you have enduring faith, living in Christ’s righteousness, living in the way of God, or do you not have that faith that God is able to keep you from sinning (Jude 24), living selfishly instead of denying oneself (Matthew 16:24), and choosing your own way of living (Isaiah 53:6)?

Mark 9:47 addresses those that look upon sin easily in the form of adultery of the mind but secondarily in the form of coveting. “And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye,

than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire.” Jesus is not addressing only the lost. This applies to every human being. Despite claiming to be saved, if anyone lusts or covets with the eye and is unrepentant, hell is the future. Temptation is one thing but dwelling on it and obsessing on it is another. As Christians, we do not follow the rule of being allowed to “look and not touch”. We are not to look! And if it happens accidentally, avert the eyes as quickly as possible, otherwise, David’s sin may be repeated in your life. Do not physically remove an eye, but rather turn from the object; avoid, if possible, going in the path of temptation, especially if it is on the computer; etc. So, are you careful what your eyes behold, or are you careless?

Luke 6:36 describes the born-again Christian: “Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful.” Jesus did not have to say, “Or else you shall be lost.” These

quick, short statements have the implication that it is the expected holy and sanctified life “without which no man shall see the Lord” (Hebrews 12:14), which refers to “holiness”. “In the image of God created he him; male and female created he them” (Genesis 1:27). The goal is to restore that image (Galatians 6:1). In fact, “we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, [even] as by the Spirit of the Lord” (2 Corinthians 3:18). So, is your image, or character, returning back to the original likeness of God, or does your character permit sin in your life revealing the true character, that of Satan, even if it is covered by a Christian-appearing garb from time to time?

John 5:29 tells us who gets eternal life and who does not: “And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.” It is based upon the fruit of our relationship with Jesus. Including good into our sinful lives is not what is being referred to here, nor is one act of evil going to keep us out of Heaven, “If we confess our sins,” for “he is faithful and just to forgive us [our] sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9). A life of doing good is the fruit of a saved person. A person claiming to be saved but living like the world, especially in participating and being entertained by evil, is the fruit of an evil person. And those who are just down-right evil are, as expected – evil. Living a life of being good is the holy and sanctified life. Are you living it?

Acts 15:9 says, “And put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.” The expectation of a born-again Christian is to purify one’s heart by the grace of God through faith, which is the holy and sanctified life. Daniel foresaw the future on this matter and penned, “Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand” (Daniel 12:10). 1 John 3:3 confirms this to be a continued New Testament practice as well: “And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.” So, are you putting away all sin from your life purifying or are you holding on to those that you are not ready to let go of yet?

Romans 6:4 says, “Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.” So, are you walking in the newness of life, the sanctified and holy life, or are you still in your sins of the old life?

Ephesians 4:28 tells us that Christians specifically are expected to keep the eighth commandment, in which keeping the commandments is the holy and sanctified life. “Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with [his] hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.” That goes along with 1 Corinthians 6:10, which says, “Nor thieves, ... shall inherit the kingdom of God.” So, are you living the holy and sanctified life obeying the com-

mandments, or are you making even so-called biblical reasons to cast them away?

2 Timothy 3:14 is actually an explicit command. Jesus said, “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations” (Matthew 28:19) and “Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you”. Paul turns around says, “But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned [them].” Christians continue in the way of Christianity. In other words, we are first a worldly person not knowing the ways of God, then we learn of Christ and become born again not being endowed with a brain-dump of how Christians behave, then continue learning praying that we never get to the point of rejecting light as God is trying to sanctify us (John 17:17) into holy people prepared to be with God (Hebrews 12:14), hence why the true Holy Spirit “will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment” (John 16:8). Christians do not “get saved” and then live whatever life they want. Those are the false Christs or false Christians that Jesus warned us about (Matthew 24:24) shewing they can speak in tongues, for instance, proving to the themselves that they must be saved. So, do you continue in the way of Christianity or are you a false type of Christ (Christian)?

1 Peter 2:24 says, “Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were

healed.” Being dead to sins that we “Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof” (Romans 6:12) is the holy and sanctified life. To live unto righteousness is actually more of an exercise of living a holy and sanctified life. That means that in the verse, we are told to be dead, or cease from sinning, and live a righteous life. That is two statements declaring what a true Christian happens to be. Now, are you dead to sins and living unto righteousness, or are you still convinced that grace permits sin in your life?

Revelation 3:19 says, “As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.” If Christians had nothing more to do than acknowledge Jesus as our Savior, what would we have to be zealous for? What would we have to further repent of? And do not say that Jesus is addressing the

unsaved. The unsaved cannot be zealous because they do not believe yet. Those who believe are to be zealous, in fact, “zealous of good works” (Titus 2:14), “zealous of spiritual [gifts]” (1 Corinthians 14:12), and “zealous toward God” (Acts 22:3). So, are you zealous and have repented of your sins, or once you started to believe in Jesus did you just think you are now saved forever without the need to “die daily” (1 Corinthians 15:31) to self?

2 Corinthians 8:11-12 states, “Now therefore perform the doing [of it]; that as [there was] a readiness to will, so [there may be] a performance also out of that which ye have. For if there be first a willing mind, [it is] accepted according to that a man hath, [and] not according to that he hath not.” With the mind, we may believe that Jesus saves us from our sins (Matthew 1:21), but performance of what

we believe is important as well “For not the hearers of the law [are] just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified” (Romans 2:13). Now, are you a performer, or just a thinker?

Colossians 3:16 states, “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.” For the Word of Christ to dwell in us richly is to let the Word transform our lives, which is the holy and sanctified life. It ought to be used to teach us and admonish us when we err. To “dwell” and to be “admonished” is beyond knowledge alone. So, are you living according to the Word of Christ or according to your own ways and ought to be admonished for it?

Mark 9:50 uses parable or symbolic reference to the followers of Christ that we call Christians today. “Salt [is] good: but if the salt have lost his saltness, wherewith will ye season it? Have salt in yourselves, and have peace one with another.” So, when we have flavor, we are a Christian, but, if over time we lose our saltness, our holy and sanctified life, our influence towards Christ as we share the gospel with others in one form or another, “if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men” (Matthew 5:13). Basically, we are lost then. So, do you still retain your saltness, your savor?





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The Mark of the Beast

1. What do both the books of Daniel and Revelation see coming out of the mouth of the antichrist? **Daniel 7:25, Revelation 13:5**
2. What do both the books of Daniel and Revelation see happening to the saints? **Daniel 7:25, Revelation 13:7**
3. What do both the books of Daniel and Revelation see is the length of time for the Antichrist to reign before receiving the deadly wound (Revelation 13:3)? **Daniel 7:25 (compare Revelation 12:14 to Revelation 12:6 to get the number of days which that phrase actually means), Revelation 13:5 (multiply that number of months by the God-given 30 day period to a month to get the number of days so you can compare on the same level – days)**
4. What do both the books of Daniel and Revelation see regarding who appears to be winning? **Daniel 7:21, Revelation 13:4**
5. What does Daniel see the antichrist claiming to have authority to do? **Daniel 7:25 20:8-11**
6. What does John reveal in Revelation that Daniel does not appear to make mention of? **Revelation 16:2**
7. What activity does the world encourage doing towards the beast, the image, and the mark? **Revelation 14:9, 11; Revelation 13:12, 15**
8. What call is made regarding “him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters”? **Revelation 14:7**
9. What do people keep to avoid the beast, the image, and the mark? **Revelation 14:12**
10. And what commandment contains worship to the Creator and avoids the supposed change by the antichrist regarding the times? **Exodus**

January 2022 Bible Questions and Answers

How Does Jesus Really Return?

1. What did Jesus say He would come as? **Revelation 16:15 “thief”**
2. With many using the phrase of Jesus coming like a thief, this feeds into the notion that Jesus is coming secretly to steal away His people, but what does this verse contain that does not support such a theory, but supports Jesus showing up in a surprise moment in time? **Revelation 3:3 “hour”**
3. When Jesus shows up like a thief, what happens to the Heavens revealing that Jesus does not show up secretly, but as a surprise, as there is going to be a bit of obvious activity? **2 Peter 3:10 “the heavens shall pass away with a great noise”**
4. When Jesus shows up like a thief, what happens to the elements of the earth revealing that Jesus does not show up secretly but as a surprise as everyone is going to feel it? **2 Peter 3:10 “the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up”**
5. It is stated that Jesus comes as a thief in the night, but what do the verses open up that reveals it is not about being secret, but

- as a surprise timing? **1 Thessalonians 5:1-2 “times and the seasons” “the day”**
6. What event occurs to usher in the surprise arrival of Jesus coming as a thief and not in secret? **1 Thessalonians 5:3-4 “when they shall say, Peace and safety”**
 7. Jesus tells about the second coming by comparing it to the event of a thief breaking into a house, but what does the verse state that points to the timing and not the secretiveness? **Luke 12:39 “had known what hour”**
 8. Repeating the parable in Matthew, what would the goodman have done if he had known what hour the thief would have arrived? **Luke 12:39 “he would have watched”**
 9. Concerning that goodman’s activity, if he were aware of when the thief was going to show up, what word in the verse matches the word in Revelation? **Compare Matthew 24:43 to Revelation 16:15 “watcheth”**
 10. Jesus told His followers, including us today, to “watch and pray” because we do not know what? **Mark 13:33 “time”**



Questions & Answers

QUESTION: Are we justified by the law or not?

ANSWER: Romans 2:13 says, “For not the hearers of the law [are] just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified.”

However, it appears to contradict Romans 3:20, which says, “Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law [is] the knowledge of sin”, and Romans 3:28, which says, “Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.”

Right up front, let us state that the only thing the law is used for is the fact that “the law [is] the knowledge of sin” (Romans 3:20). The law is an inanimate object. It cannot do a thing for us except remind us of what sin is.

With that said, many anti-commandment keeping people hold onto Romans 3:20 and 3:28 to let them live in freedom from stressing out about adhering to the commandments, yet Romans 2:13, which is by the same writer and appears in the same book as the

verses in question, states something that appears to be the opposite. In reality, it is not the opposite.

Romans 3:20 and 3:28 reinforce what was already said. The law can do nothing for us except remind us in a list of what is generally accepted as sin. The rest of the Bible gets very specific, expanding upon each of the commandments. For instance, remembering the Sabbath day, the fourth commandment, includes not going out and gathering sticks (Numbers 15:32-35).

So then, how does Romans 2:13 factor into the understanding of Romans 3:20 and 3:28? It factors in by reading other verses also found in the Book of Romans. Romans 3:31 says, “Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law.” Romans 6:1-2 says, “What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?” Romans 7:7 says, “What shall we say then? [Is] the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law:

for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet.”

In other words, we are not to be like “ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness” (Jude 1:4) where they say, “Grace does away with the commandments” saving people in their sins. Instead, “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). Grace is because of sin “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23), but like Romans 6:1-2 stated, we do not continue living in sin. We get back to law abiding. In fact, “I will shew thee my faith by my works” (James 2:18). I will shew that I have received grace by demonstrating or showing works of obedience to the law.

Basically, God does not hand out grace to those who will continue to break the commandments. Romans 2:13 is stating that doing God’s commandments shows our intent to abide by the rules of Heaven except for the fact that we already

did sin and no sin may enter Heaven. We need grace to take care of the past sin that we already committed. That is where justification comes in then. Through no effort of our own, except as “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).

No sane person would want to be neighbors with a murderer who claims grace so as not to be in jail or executed, but continues to murder. No sane person would want to be neighbors with a thief who claims grace to not be in jail, but continues to steal. We would only want to be neighbors with such people if they are abiding by the not killing and not stealing laws, even though they did so in the past. We, too, can forgive them.

The same is true with God. He in no wise is going to force us (when we get to Heaven) or the angels to live with neighbors who continue to break the commandments, yet claim grace. Everyone, including the angels, understand that we may have done so in the past, but now we are really sorry for ever having committed those sinful acts and really wish we never had. We even go as far as knowing that the breaking of any of the commandments hurts God, therefore, we are committed to doing only that which pleases Him. In fact, we do not even want to reminisce on ever doing such, as many do today. They ask for forgiveness and yet keep telling the story of how they did such sinful acts in the past all with a little bit of a smirk on their face almost saying, “Yeah, those were some good, fun times.” It is one thing to give a testimony, not with so much detail,

though, revealing God’s grace, and it is another to say, “I’m glad I got to enjoy such sins, so periodically I can relive them in my head while now being saved.” Reliving such in the mind is sin. True Christians are compelled to hate sin so much that “Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God” (1 John 3:9).

So, Romans 3:20 and 3:28 simply tell us that all the law keeping does nothing to justify us, for we are “justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus” (Romans 3:24). At the same time, the forgiveness, or grace, does not permit us to walk upon the “broad” “way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat” (Matthew 7:13). “Because strait [is] the gate, and narrow [is] the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it” (Matthew 7:14).

QUESTION: Is all that we have to do is believe?

ANSWER: Many Evangelicals love to quote Acts 16:31, which says, “And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.” And by understanding this to mean that salvation is an acceptance of the mind and that Jesus does all of the saving, then all our actions are meaningless. In other words, the famous chant is, “Just believe!” Is that true? Of course not.

First, if that were the case, there is a plethora of verses in the New Testament that would be done away with, especially those concerning obedience. Overall, it

would negate the Bible, which is the goal of Satan, and he does not care if he does it using a religious reason.

Second, it is poor Bible study to pull out a verse and present it as a belief without comparing scriptures.

Third, James 2:19 states, “the devils also believe, and tremble”. Does that mean the devils are saved? Now, there is a doctrine that does teach that Satan will eventually be saved, but that is beyond the intent of this section here. Most Evangelicals believe that all who do not believe get to roast and toast in hell for eternity along with the devil. So, let us not worry for now about that insane doctrine that everyone is saved, including the devil.

Fourth, the Bible clearly teaches what a believer receives upon belief. Ephesians 1:19 states, “And what [is] the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power.” John 1:12-13 says, “But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, [even] to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.” Romans 1:16 reveals, “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.” The answer is “power”. Power is not simply a mind thing. Power is ability to perform.

So, to counteract the Acts 16:31 reference to “just believe”, resolve it by stating that you have a whole

(Continued from page 13)

lot more belief because you believe in the power of the gospel unto salvation where 2 Peter 1:3-4 clearly teaches that "According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that [pertain] unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called

us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust." It is a power to actually live godly and cease sinning. In other words, "just believe" is a

weak form of Christianity while having belief in the power to actually be godly is a strong form of Christianity glorifying God, showing Him to be mightier than every temptation that Satan can stir up.



News and Comments

December 2—Fortune

Mississippi argues that abortions are no longer necessary because women can have successful careers now

So, abortion is primarily linked to successful careers? We believe there is another agenda actually, but running with this narrative, the Bible says, "Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee" (Isaiah 49:15). Not only have so many women forgotten about their children, so many children were murdered for successful careers, having a good time, choosing the less painful option instead of giving the child up for adoption, etc. All of these things are a form of idolatry where these things are used to justify the termination of life, including that which leads to the life, for those that do not believe life begins at conception.

Dec. 3, 2021—Market Watch

WHO has not seen any reports of deaths caused by omicron variant, urges people not to panic as delta still dominant

And yet, the nations are encouraging the panic. They told us to look to the WHO and CDC before. Why not now? It is because that is not part of the agenda. The agenda is fear, panic, and takeover with control and pressures. The nation indeed is passing mandates, treated as law, as "he spake as a dragon" (Revelation 13:11).

Dec. 5—The Gateway Pundit

"Those Who Resist the New World Order Will Have the Help and Protection of God" – Italian Archbishop Vigano

Without criticizing other errors this particular archbishop holds, it is as if "the stones would immediately cry out" (Luke 19:40) and they are! Resisting the agenda is what every Bible believing Christian ought to be doing.

December 6—Yahoo Lifestyle

More Couples Are Ditching Monogamy (and You Can, Too)

So, this is nothing short of encouraging debauchery. "Thou shalt not commit adultery." (Exodus 20:14).

December 7—BGR

Scientists discovered an unexpected force that may have helped create life on Earth

The unexpected force that they are missing is "God created the heaven and the earth" (Genesis 1:1), and "the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters" (Genesis 1:2). Interestingly, the article opens up with "solar wind could be one of the forces" and then quickly moves to "How solar wind helped create life on Earth". From a theory to fact instantly is what we are pointing out. Even evolution is nothing more than a theory but accepted as fact today. What it comes down to is a person has two choices: either believe the creation story found referenced throughout the Bible and not just in Genesis chapters 1 and 2, or believe in evolution. Those who try to marry the two are evolutionists still. One offers eternal life while the evolution involved choice manipulates science, breaks its own rules, all in the aim of having not to be responsible to a God Who created us.

December 7—Kansas City

Pastor 'bullied' by his church is out

of a job after appearing on HBO drag queen show

Interestingly, if one were to search out the issue through other publications, we see that the pastor was fired or left instead of bullied. In other words, the title reveals that churches ought not keep to standards set in God's Word, otherwise, risk being called a bully. The Bible says the word "bishop", which is applicable to any leadership position like an elder or pastor, "A bishop then must be blameless..." (1 Timothy 3:2). "The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment: for all that do so [are] abomination unto the LORD thy God" (Deuteronomy 22:5). Just because that is Old Testament does not mean it changed because of Jesus, for God does not change (Malachi 3:6). The pastor ought to have known what he was doing and the risk he was taking. This was a poor way to represent Christ, a bad decision no matter how one looks at it. The church is absolutely right to reject the pastor as he made a mockery of God. Representing Christ is a twenty-four hour, seven-day week job.

December 8—NPR

The UAE is adopting a 4.5-day

workweek and a Saturday-Sunday weekend

It does not matter if in the forehead (mind) one accepts the Mark of the Beast or in the right hand (approved actions). Evidently they are keeping to their own holy day of the week but moving towards Sundays off as well. With Daniel seeing a change to God's law, especially that regarding time, (Daniel 7:25) but not identifying a Mark while John calls something a Mark but does not reference the commandment's change, it is believed that they are one and the same since the other 4 points of identification of the antichrist between the two prophets are the same. In short, changing the Sabbath commandment from the seventh day to the first and then adopting a different time schedule of midnight to midnight as opposed to God's sunset to sunset (Genesis 1:14) constitutes the fulfillment of Daniel 7:25. And silently, one by one each country, especially now the Arab world, is adopting Sundays off when scripture calls it a work day, or a laboring day (Exodus 20:9 and 1 Corinthians 16:2, where the word "lay" means active labor of going out and gathering to lay up in storage).

December 10—Pantene

Selective Ingredients

During an ad, Pantene boasted of including "A Vitamin E-rich oil cold-pressed from the seeds of the Baobab tree, native to Tanzania and known as the "tree of life" for its remarkable ability to hold on to water even through decade-long droughts." There is only one "tree of life" and that is not it. "Blessed [are] they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city." (Revelation 22:14).

December 10—CBN

UN Sculpture Looks a Lot Like the End Times Beast Referred to in Daniel 7 and Revelation 13

"A guardian for international peace and security sits on the Visitor's Plaza outside #UN Headquarters. The guardian is a fusion of jaguar and eagle and donated by the Government of Oaxaca, Mexico." Another word for "security" is safety. So, their aim is "For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape." (1 Thessalonians 5:3).

December 11—Telegraph

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Unvaccinated should be forced into Covid lockdown, one in three people believe

The article states "One in three people believe that those who remain unvaccinated should be forced into a lockdown". Then this: "The unvaccinated should be at the back of the line for emergency care: Letters" - Portsmouth Herald. "Covid: The country locking down the unvaccinated" - BBC. And many more articles can be supplied and have been supplied. The attitude of the population is preparing to fulfill, "as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed" (Revelation 13:15), along with giving support when "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).

December 21—The Daily Beast Russian Citizens Are Now Being Prepped for Nuclear War

"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).

December 27—The Daily Beast Massive New Bird Flu Outbreak Could Be 2022's Deadly Pandemic

Matthew 24:7 says, "... and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places." Did they just announce the next plannedemic?



Natural Remedies

Immune-Building Onion Broth

- 3 cups of water
- 1 onion, cut up
- 5 cloves of garlic
- salt to taste

Bring all ingredients to a boil, then simmer for 20 minutes.

For infections – 1 cup, 2 or 3x a day

For prevention – 1 cup, 1x a day

