

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

A Monthly Magazine

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I Have Faith!

Jerry O'Donnell

Ask the average Christian if they have faith, the majority, if not all, would say, "Yes!" But faith is not a feeling, so what is biblical faith?

Right up front, let us state, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: [it is] the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast" (Ephesians 2:8-9). Clearly it is God's grace that saves us, and understanding that we cannot see that grace; no angel informs us; Jesus does not audibly speak to us; there is no writing in the sky; we go by faith that we are saved by grace. We simply take God at His Word because we serve "God, that cannot lie" (Titus 1:2).

Now that we have established the fact that we are freely saved by grace through faith, which all of us depend upon, where do we go from here? A number of Christians focus on the words of "not of works" and live a bit carelessly. Oh, they believe murder and other big sins should not be part of the Christian life, however they see no issue with little lies here and little lies there, a little adultery in one form or another here and there, a few foul words on the tongue, fre-

quent loss of temper, etc., as normal life. And if they go to church fine, but if not, well, fine to that, too.

Faith seems to cancel out obedience in many Christian minds so much so that the end result is that the vast majority of Christians in every denomination do not participate in the denominational practices. They have faith that they shall be saved in any condition.

But let us examine faith a bit closer, and we will start with the verse that speaks right to the heart. "Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law" (Romans 3:31). Paul is often quoted as the "grace" writer as opposed to James who is more "works" oriented, yet it is Paul who wrote those words. To establish the law means that if a person has faith, we can look to that person as an example of what it means to keep the Ten Commandments. Therefore, faith does not cancel the requirement of obedience to the Ten Commandments.

The Commandments do not add to our grace, our forgiveness, our justification. All of that is on the merits of Jesus Christ alone. However, once we are forgiven of all of our sins, once we have received grace, once we have been justified, God sets us upon the path of sanctification or holy living establishing the law, living examples of the commandments. And the hope is that we "be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless" (2 Peter 3:14) for "the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and [I pray God] your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Thessalonians 5:23) "That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world" (Philippians 2:15).

Now speaking of James, those that pit Peter and James against Paul misunderstand the Bible, for the writers did not pen their own opinions "For God is not [the author] of confusion" (1 Corinthians

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14:33) "For the 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). All the books of the Bible are simply written by prophets, each and everyone of them. They were not dictated to, but they all have the same guidance, that being the Holy Spirit Who does not contradict Himself.

So, with that said, James places the balance between living by faith and doing the activity called works. First, James states, "But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord" (James 1:6-7). Christians should be thrilled that James penned this. What this practically means to us is that

when we have sinned, broken a commandment or more, and "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). There is no, "If there is a God..."! No way. Have faith, nothing wavering, but be solid in the belief. There is no, "This sin may be too dark to be forgiven, but I will confess anyways..."! No way. Have faith that Jesus is able to forgive every single sin no matter how dark, nothing wavering. There is no, "I know I confessed this before, but I just don't feel like I have been forgiven..."! No way. Have faith that Jesus already forgave that sin, and therefore, confessing it again would actually be an insult to Him, nothing wavering. There is no, "I know I asked for forgiveness before, but I feel like I need to do something to make up for it..."! No way. Have faith that "he is able

also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them" (Hebrews 7:25), nothing wavering. Nothing to waver about at all at any level of our relationship between us, Jesus, and the confession of sin! Praise God! And to waver is to swing back and forth. Do not do that. Believe and have faith that you are forgiven.

Now let us get into the controversy that people have with James. "What [doth it] profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him? If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be [ye] warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what [doth it] profit? Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works. Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble. But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead? Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect? And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God. Ye see then how that by works a man is

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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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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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justified, and not by faith only. Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot justified by works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent [them] out another way? For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also” (James 2:14-26).

That is an awful lot to digest, so let us place it into a more practical application. If a person confesses that they sinned by negatively affecting the temple of God realizing “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 3:17), if they say they have faith that they were forgiven while continuing to smoke their cigarettes, does not the works of continuing to smoke negate the faith by which they propose that they have been forgiven?

At the same time, if a person says to God, “Lord, I have been clean from smoking these many years, I deserve to enter into Heaven”, they are mistaken, greatly mistaken. We cannot get on the good side of God by offering anything. So, all those prayers, “Lord, if you get me out of this tight situation, I will ...” is but worthless. We are not saved by works, yet faith does not negate works.

So, James is basically declaring that a person, through faith, may confess their sin, have faith they are forgiven, and then have faith that they can stop smoking, for “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” (2 Peter 1:3-4). That means that they then receive power from on high to actually walk by faith in victory over their smoking habit through the works of actually not smoking.

Those who cease from sinning have greater faith than those who have faith that they are simply saved. Such obedient Christians have faith that “Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present [you] faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, To the only wise God our Saviour, [be] glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever” (Jude 1:24-25).

The bottom line is that “Here is the patience of the saints: here [are] they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus” (Revelation 14:12). Commandment keeping and faith go hand in hand. In fact, those who are opposed to keeping the commandments actually have no faith, but fantasy. They have faith, or fantasy, that they are saved in their careless, disobedient life when all through the Bible there are examples after examples of disobedience being repelling to God.

Satan was cast out of Heaven over a little coveting of God’s throne: “For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the

heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High” (Isaiah 14:13-14).

Adam and Eve were kicked out of the Garden of Eden, losing eternal life that they were experiencing, causing the descendants to wrestle through this life of a fallen world, all over one piece of fruit. “Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?” (Genesis 3:11). “Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken. So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life” (Genesis 3:23-24).

Now, all may obtain eternal life for each of us are to “Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses” (1 Timothy 6:12). Are you not fighting the temptations that are set before you, giving up on eternal life and just enjoying sinning?

Besides, who is greater in your life? Is Satan’s power to tempt you to sin greater than God’s ability to keep you from sinning? It is our choice. Choose wisely.



Be In Health — 3 John 1:2

Science Falsely So Called (1 Timothy 6:20)

Just because health recommendations provide scientific evidence to support their promotion does not make it overall good for the body.

Just remember, it was not too long ago, in the realm of things, that cigarettes became frowned upon. Doctors used to prescribe smoking for stress relief and many other medical ailments. There were even commercials showing pregnant women lighting up. Since then, we have learned about the cancer that develops and the adverse effects that it has on developing babies.

Mercurochrome was used on children's boo boos quite often until the fear of mercury toxicity from the product being absorbed through the skin resulted in the FDA banning the use of it, yet many vaccines contain mercury today; but that is another story.

The point is, even if the FDA approves of something, it means nothing. The people who develop

the product or procedure or whatever and are required to submit proper paperwork to the FDA simply means that they completed the task and got the approval. No company is going to provide paperwork on a product that absolutely causes adverse effects. Even if such does happen, the paperwork and the controlled testing results will allow the FDA to initially approve the product. It is only after the public has severe reactions that the FDA will then step in and ban the product.

The FDA does not have a team of scientists that are used in testing new products with the exception of medicines, and even then, it is not about complete safety. How many products do the FDA approve but have a list of adverse effects? "Take this pill and watch the number of migraines each month decrease! Side effects include heart palpitations, dizziness, joint pains, etc." In effect, people are choosing to live with one pain over another as these medicines,

in reality, only deal with symptoms and do not provide a cure.

To the point then, just because a certain health diet program has scientific evidence, FDA approval, many testimonies, does not mean God approves of it.

Many have been overly abundant in juicing fruits and vegetables so much that ulcers have formed in the stomach and even the mouth; blood sugar levels have been thrown off; and many other adverse effects have resulted. We are not saying that all juicing is bad, but based upon certain people claiming to have more energy, loss of weight, etc., people turned a once-in-a-while usage into a way of life and wonder why they developed these other problems.

Many swear by the diet of high protein and less carbs. "God said, Behold, I have 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; to you it shall be for meat" (Genesis 1:29). There are a lot of carbs in God's original diet. Are scientists smarter than God?

The bottom line is that if there are adverse effects to a health plan in any manner, it probably is not blessed of God and ought to be avoided, no matter who and how many swear by it. Let us be careful of the immediate results that have long term adverse effects.



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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*
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Healthy and Delicious Recipes

Deviled Potatoes

Ingredients

- 12 small peeled yellow or white potatoes
- 6 tablespoons vegan mayonnaise
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/2 teaspoon lemon juice
- 1/2 teaspoon black salt (also called kala namak) or your regular salt
- 1/4 teaspoon turmeric
- Paprika or smoked paprika, for garnish

Instructions

1. Add the potatoes to a pot of water and bring to a boil for about 20 minutes until the potatoes are tender and you can easily pierce them to the center with a sharp knife. The time it takes to boil the potatoes will vary depending on their size. Drain the potatoes and rinse with cool water.
2. When the potatoes are cool enough to handle, cut each one in half lengthwise. Then use the large scoop of a melon baller or small spoon to scoop out a little crater in each potato. Put the scooped out potato flesh in a medium bowl.
3. Now take the bowl of potato flesh and add the vegan mayonnaise, garlic powder, lemon juice, black salt, and turmeric. Mix together with a potato masher or fork until completely smooth and mixed well. As the potato mixture can vary in quantity due to the size of potatoes and the amount you scoop out, feel free to adjust the ingredient quantities to taste.
4. You can either use a pastry bag or just a spoon to fill each potato. **If using a pastry bag:** attach a large star tip and fill a pastry bag with the mashed potato mixture. Squeeze a dollop into the crater of each potato half. **If using a spoon:** simply scoop a small spoonful of the mashed potato mixture into the well of each potato half. Garnish the filled potatoes with paprika as desired. Serve right away, or cover and store in the fridge until ready to serve.

Notes:

- When selecting potatoes make a point of picking out potatoes that are about the same size as an egg.
- Black salt (also called kala namak) is a salt commonly used in South Asian cuisine. It is actually pink in colour, but it has an amazingly egg-like flavour. Using it in this recipe will give the potatoes an eggy taste. If you do not want this you can substitute regular salt.



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The fourth benefit is the ability to regulate blood sugar levels.

The fifth benefit will assist in getting off the lies from the dairy industry telling us that milk makes

the body grow, but in reality onions help increase bone density much better.

The sixth benefit is the antibacterial properties making even E. coli more challenging to express.

The seventh benefit is in the area of digestion. Onions are a rich source of fiber and prebiotics, which are necessary for optimal gut health.



Be Ye Holy — 1 Peter 1:15

Romans 6:14 says, “For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace”, and it is so misunderstood. We have three objects: sin, law, and grace. Many think that to not be under the law is to not be under the requirement to keep it because we live by grace now, but they forget that sin is not to have dominion over us. If we sin, it has dominion. To cease sinning is how it does not have control over our lives, the upper hand, the victory, the dominion. And what is sin? “Sin is the transgression of the law” (1 John 3:4). “I had not known sin, but by the law” (Romans 7:7). “By the law [is] the knowledge of sin” (Romans 3:20). Therefore, one cannot have dominion over sin without keeping the law. So, in reality, we are to have dominion, conquering, victory over sin while not being under

the penalty demanded of breaking the law because we have grace that provides forgiveness where we do sin. Besides, Paul quickly states in verses 15, “What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid.” We see that Paul did not mean to cast away the law when he penned, “ye are not under the law”, yet so many Christians live by that belief today and will be lost. Now, are you believing that you are not obligated to keep the law and can go on sinning, or do you believe that you are not under the penalty of the law because you have been forgiven and therefore will not walk in obedience to the law?

Ephesians 5:1-2 says, “Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given

himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.” At first, most do not recognize the expectation of the holy and sanctified life. It is contained in the words “walk in love”. This is not just about feelings. This is not to be mixed up with kindness as kindness is a result of love. Jesus defined love by saying, “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. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets” (Matthew 22:37-40). The first command here about our love towards God summarizes the first four of the Ten Commandments. The second command here about our love towards our neighbor summarizes the last six of the

Ten Commandments. Therefore, to walk in love is defined as keeping the commandments. Now, do you walk in love, or do you just walk in kindness, or do you just walk (live) however you like?

Hebrews 10:36 clearly states that the receiving of the promise for eternal life (Titus 1:2) is conditional based upon doing God's will. "For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise." What is God's will? David penned, "I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law [is] within my heart" (Psalms 40:8). God's will is that we keep the commandments. This fits perfectly with what Paul wrote about the free gift of salvation, based upon justification, the forgiveness of sins and wiping clean the record of our sins allowing us admittance to Heaven without us adding anything to the salvation process or even trying to make up for anything because it is FREE! "For not the hearers of the law [are] just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified" (Romans 2:13). Salvation is for those that do the law, keep the commandments. A good judge will not freely set an offender go if they are planning to return to their life of crime, breaking the law, etc. Likewise, grace, forgiveness, justification is not for those who intend to continue to break God's commandments. So, are you doing the will of God in keeping His commandments, or using grace and faith incorrectly to allow disobedience to God's will?

James 4:4 tells us, "Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not

that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God." I do not see an exemption granted for those who are "saved", because there is none. It is expected that once a person is born-again that they shun worldly attractions as they live the holy and sanctified life. They will lose interest in sports, entertainment, fashion styles, political movements, even striving to climb the corporate ladder, etc. Most of the music will be shut off, which political party is in charge will not matter, catch phrases of the day will appear strange, etc. But so many Christians try to fit in for "witnessing" purposes. They do not realize that Jesus never did, or even try to fit in, for by doing so, the devil would have already won. So, are you living like the world even in the form of picking and choosing what you deem is safe, or are all of the worldly attractions of no interest to you?

1 Peter 4:1-2 tells us Christians the expectation of a holy and sanctified life once we are born-again. "Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin; That he no longer should live the rest of [his] time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God." We are to "have the mind of Christ" (1 Corinthians 2:16). We are to "cease from sin". We are to "Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh" (Galatians 5:16). And the will of God is to keep His commandments (Psalms 40:8). Peter

makes three direct statements consistent with the standard that Paul wrote as if he were the only New Testament writer according to the "just believe!" people. So, do you have the mind of Christ, have you ceased from sin, and are you doing God's will of keeping His commandments?

1 John 3:24 says, "And he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him. And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us." Keeping the commandments of God is the expected holy and sanctified life, for if we do not, then He does not abide in us. And for those who read the prior verse thinking that it does not apply to the Ten Commandments ("And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment"), keep in mind that to believe is to love Jesus Christ and to do both loving Jesus and loving one another is the summary of the Ten Commandments (Matthew 22:37-40). So, do you keep His commandments by having Him abide with you?

Luke 8:21 says, "And he answered and said unto them, My mother and my brethren are these which hear the word of God, and do it." The expectation to be part of the family of Jesus is to live the holy and sanctified life by hearing God's Word through receiving messages from true preachers of God as well as studying it personally and then doing it; otherwise, one is not part of the family of God and will be lost. So, how is

your hearing and doing of God's Word going?

John 8:34-36 says plainly by Jesus, "Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin. And the servant abideth not in the house for ever: [but] the Son abideth ever. If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." So, has Jesus freed you from sinning or are you choosing to hold on to your sins instead?

Acts 19:18 shows the results of becoming a believer: "And many that believed came, and confessed, and shewed their deeds." True belief leads to the confession of sins, of which, if one truly confesses, that means they want to stop committing them. Further, though deeds do not save us, the deeds naturally become that which Heaven approves – obedience to God instead of self. So, are

you showing forth the fruit of belief by confessing and forsaking (Proverbs 28:13) all of your known sins and going forth with only good deeds?

How do so many Christians not see the plain words of the expected holy and sanctified life? That is right – it is because they are blinded by sinning. Romans 6:17 is so plainly spoken: "But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you." If we are still committing the same sins, we are servants, yeah, we are slaves to the sin, but our choice upon hearing the gospel is to obey from the heart the doctrines of Jesus Christ instead of sinning, which includes obedience to His Ten Commandments. So, are you a slave to sin still, or obedient in the doctrine?

1 Corinthians 10:31 states, "Whether therefore ye eat, or

drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." Even in eating and drinking and whatever else we go to do; it is all to be done to the glory of God, defining the holy and sanctified life. So, what are your drinking and eating habits like, and is everything else done to God's glory, or your own selfishness?

1 Timothy 6:11 says, "But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness." We are expected to follow these things for the anticipated holy and sanctified life. Failure to do so means that we have taken on the title of Christian but are not being a Christian. So, are you a Christian in name only or are you living the expected righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, and meekness?

James 4:7 states, "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the

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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.

Why God Should Not Be Underestimated!

devil, and he will flee from you.” This is the constant holy and sanctified walk with Christ each and every moment of the day. That is why Jesus told us to constantly “Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed [is] willing, but the flesh [is] weak” (Matthew 26:41). That is “because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour” (1 Peter 5:8). To “devour” is to cause one to lose eternal life, keeping in mind, temptation only begins after one becomes born-again for the lost are not tempted to sin as they are already sinning. So, do you submit yourself to God every step of your day?

1 John 4:4 tells us, “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.” Overcomers are the saved and are living the holy and sanctified life. And this verse reveals the relationship. We do not keep the commandments and follow all other principles of God to earn Heaven. As a result of accepting the blood of Jesus, the free offer of forgiveness of sin and the reward of eternal life, Christ, Who is greater than those in the world, “is able to keep you from falling” (Jude 1:24), and “According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that [pertain] unto life and godliness” (2 Peter 1:3). So, have you let Jesus transform your character into being an overcomer of sin, temptation, and everything else the world has to offer, or are you stuck in thinking you are “just saved”?



Matthew 19:26 But Jesus beheld [them], and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.

Jude 1:24 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present [you] faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,

2 Peter 1:3-4 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.

Hebrews 7:25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

James 4:10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

2 Corinthians 13:9 For we are glad, when we are weak, and ye are strong: and this also we wish, [even] your perfection.

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us [our] sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 Corinthians 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God [is] faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear [it].

1 Peter 5:10 But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle [you].

Ezekiel 36:27 And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do [them].

1 John 5:4 For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, [even] our faith.

Ephesians 6:10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.



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

The Judgment

1. What event is future from the perspective of the time of the apostles, implying that it had not yet begun? **Acts 17:31**
2. What key word tells us that God has not been judging people all along? **Daniel 7:9-10**
3. Who is the judge? **John 5:22**
4. Who are judged? **2 Corinthians 5:10**
5. What is judged? **Revelation 20:13**
6. What is one of the books used in the judgment? **Revelation 20:12**

7. What is another book used in the judgment? **Malachi 3:16**
8. Who else will be judged during the judgment time? **Jude 1:6**
9. Using the King James Version of the Bible, how do we know that judgment begins before Jesus shows up (Revelation 14:14)? **Revelation 14:7**
10. What advantage do we have in the judgment if we have a proper relationship with Jesus? What is He to us in addition to being the Judge? **1 John 2:1**

May 2022 Bible Questions and Answers

How much faith do you have?

1. How do we develop faith? **Romans 10:17 “by hearing, and hearing by the word of God”**
2. What size faith do we need? **Matthew 17:20, Luke 17:6 “as a grain of mustard seed”**
3. What is impossible to accomplish if we lack faith?

Hebrews 11:6 “to please [him]”

4. Who lives by faith? **Hebrews 10:38, Habakkuk 2:4, Romans 1:17, Galatians 3:11 “the just”**
5. What does faith have? **2 Thessalonians 1:11, 2 Peter 1:3 “power”**
6. With faith, what can we then overcome? **1 John 5:4 “the world”**
7. What is a required connection with faith? **James 2:20, 2:26 “works”**
8. What is the relationship towards God’s commandments, His law? **Romans 3:31, Romans 3:28 “establish the law”**
9. What are we to be careful of regarding faith? **James 1:6, Hebrews 10:23 “wavering”**
10. What are we to do with faith, implying that we could lose it? **2 Timothy 1:13 “Hold fast”**
11. Who are we to keep looking to regarding our faith? **James 1:6 (Correction: It should have been Hebrews 12:2) “Jesus”**
12. If we are faithful, what shall we receive in the end? **1 Peter 1:9, Ephesians 2:8 “salvation”, “saved”, “gift”**



Questions & Answers

QUESTION: Those that practice full immersion baptism, should triple baptism be exercised for each of the Godhead or just once?

ANSWER: Several denominations use triple immersion based upon the reading of Matthew 28:19, which says, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." They choose to baptize in the name of the Father, and then put the candidate back under the water in the name of the Son, and again go under for the Holy Spirit.

The confusion is based upon the purpose of the baptism. It is not for the sake of the Godhead, but rather a recreating of a moment in a spiritual manner, a dedication of one's life. "For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ" (Galatians 3:27). "Therefore if any man [be] in Christ, [he is] a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17). "And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God" (1 Corinthians 6:11).

Basically, the purpose of baptism is to outwardly signify that a person has chosen to become a new being with new motives, new desires, even wanting to cease sinning by the grace of God; in fact, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the

Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me" (Galatians 2:20).

This is beautifully illustrated in Romans 6:3-7, which says, "Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 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. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also [in the likeness] of [his] resurrection: Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with [him], that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. For he that is dead is freed from sin"

Baptism is the symbol of dying to sin and living for Christ. It is illustrated in going down into the water as Christ was buried and then resurrecting from the watery grave to live a new life, a sanctified life. So, as Jesus was buried and resurrected just once, we are to practice single immersion baptism. Triple immersion has the wrong focus and distorts the verses in Romans 6. Triple immersion would show triple death and triple resurrection, which is not supported at all in the Bible.

QUESTION: Was Jesus in the tomb for three days or much less?

ANSWER: The confusion stems from the words found in Matthew 12:40, which states, "For as Jonas

was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth."

The focus of the confusion comes in regarding the meaning of the words "heart of the earth". There are proponents that declare that the "heart of the earth" is that of the tomb. That is a mere assumption on the part of the reader. With the "tomb", meaning people, they declare that Jesus was not in the tomb for three days and three nights by having Him dying Friday and rising Sunday morning.

The question of what days they think Jesus was in the tomb does not affect the ending. Everyone agrees that Jesus rose before the break of dawn some time on Sunday, or Saturday after sunset for "In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first [day] of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre. And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it" (Matthew 28:1-2).

The word "dawn" could refer to the early part of the first day of the week which is right after the Sabbath ended or before the rising sun. In either way, we know that some time on the dark side of the first day of the week, Jesus rose. The proponents of Jesus being in the tomb for a literal 72 hours backs up the crucifixion and burial to Wednesday night. They declare that when the Bible says, "the sab-

bath drew on" (Luke 23:54), they believe it was in reference to the feast day Sabbath called Passover or even the feast of Unleavened Bread.

However, there are two problems with this understanding. The first is that the feast of Passover or even Unleavened Bread are not referred to as Sabbath days in Leviticus 23. The Sabbath days referred to in Leviticus are the feast of Trumpets, Atonement, and Harvest (also known as In Gathering or Booths). Another issue is that the verse they pull the "Sabbath" reference from states, "And that day was the preparation, and the sabbath drew on" (Luke 23:54). The day of preparation consistently refers to Thursday sunset to Friday sunset followed by the Sabbath drawing on.

To counteract this notion and give a reason for our belief that it was Friday nearing sunset that Jesus was taken down from the cross and buried to rise some time before sunrise Sunday, is many scholars have used the partial day counting method where, even if it is a mere hour, half hour, even minutes of a day involved, it counts as a whole day. Therefore, Jesus was in the tomb Friday afternoon (the sixth day), Friday evening to Saturday evening (the seventh day), and Saturday night to Sunday before the sun rises, being barely 36 hours in time, assuming a sunset of 6pm Friday and rising before 6am Sunday. This argument by well-intentioned Christians is very popular and famous, but just confuses the mind. The average lay person is not going to understand this concept of whole days counting when but a mere

hour or so is used of it, though it does not mean it is automatically discredited on that basis.

But there is another possibility that has been proposed by a number of preachers and that is, just maybe the "heart of the earth" is not the tomb but rather the allowance from mid-night in the garden when Jesus was captured until sometime Sunday morning, instead of escaping their clutches, the rulers finally get to do whatever they want. The preachers of this theory declare that the "heart of the earth" is referring to allowing the hearts of those living on earth who opposed Jesus to do their bidding finally for the "time has come". This might be more plausible. This covers at least a good portion of the sixth day (mid-night until sunset missing only the hours of sunset Thursday to mid-night), all of the seventh day, and half of the first day of the week (sunset Saturday until a little before sunrise Sunday).

However, the literalists will declare that such covers only three nights and two days or daylight, which is correct. That is all it covers. It does not cover the literal three days or daylight. To the average person looking for honest answers though, it typically suffices.

So, setting out to find out what the Bible says the "heart of the earth" is, that phrase appears only once – in the verse in question. Then simply searching for all verses with the word "heart" or "hearts" and the word "earth" connected with them, the best that could be found is, "And GOD saw that the wickedness of man [was] great in the earth, and [that] every imagi-

nation of the thoughts of his heart [was] only evil continually" (Genesis 6:5), which supports the notion that the "heart of the earth" is not the tomb. It is indeed the hearts of men to do wickedly.

Looking at symbology of what a night and day constitutes, a twenty-four hour period or a day and applying the day for a year principle (Numbers 14:34, Ezekiel 4:6), we may have Jesus referring to Jonah's literal three days in the belly of the whale to Jesus' literal three years (and a half) of His preaching. This is not far-fetched as Daniel referred to Jesus' time on earth, recognized as the Messiah, by stating, "And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease" (Daniel 9:27). In other words, Daniel referred to the time as three and a half prophetic days, which we know better as three and a half literal years.

And this is not the first time Jesus referred to Daniel's time prophecy in that manner. "My time is not yet come" (John 7:6), referring to when He was to be crucified. Jesus also said, "I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven" (Matthew 18:22) noting that Jesus did not mean 490 times to forgive, but He was declaring the 490 years that were part of the prophecy in Daniel 9:24 as being patient with Israel.

So, no, Jesus was not in the tomb for three days and three nights. We also want to stay away from the touching of the day theory as it is a stretching of confusing time for the average student who is just learning the Bible and can become

very confused and considered unreliable. The time of Friday midnight (which is right after the three hours Jesus spent praying on Thursday) until resurrection is more plausible in that it covers every part of the events and not just the tomb, and does cover a

good portion of two and a half days. And finally, Jesus focusing on repenting at the preaching of Jonah versus His preaching of "Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matthew 4:17) being rejected and possibly referring to the sign of being the Messiah

for over symbolically three days and three nights, which is literally over a three year period, is also very plausible.



News and Comments

April 5—Miami Herald

FDA issues warning for oyster eaters in at least 13 states over a norovirus outbreak

No one would have to be concerned about the issue if they would adhere to God's health principles: "Whatsoever hath no fins nor scales in the waters, that [shall be] an abomination unto you" (Leviticus 11:12). This is a physical and not a spiritual application that Noah, who we are all related to, knew and practiced (Genesis 7:2).

April 5—Fox News

Chicago church 'fasting from whiteness' during Lent by ditching hymns written by White people

Hypocrites and unchristian! "In the section of the church website that explains its 'values,' the church claims that its members support a covenant of practicing "inclusion" by 'valuing people of all races, ethnicities, cultural identities, gender identities, sexual orientations, and abilities in every aspect of our congregational life.'" "God is no respecter of persons" (Acts 10:34). "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus"

(Galatians 3:28). Besides, the practice of Lent is pagan. It is the Christian version of "weeping for Tammuz" (Ezekiel 8:14). Anyone still a member of this church is deceived and will be lost. Therefore, "Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues" (Revelation 18:4).

April 5—Politico

'We see the storm coming': U.S. struggles to contain a deepening global food crisis

Jesus said, "For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places" (Matthew 24:7). When nation rises against nation and kingdom against kingdom and we have a connected economy set up by the globalists where if one country fails, we are all in trouble, it is certain to bring on global shortages, even famines on a large scale.

April 5—Fox News

California city to give universal income to transgender, nonbinary residents

"Transgender residents in Palm Springs, California are eligible to receive a UBI of up to \$900 per month solely for identifying as transgender or nonbinary — no strings attached." So, they want to pay people to identify as transgender or nonbinary. Therefore, they are supporting the abomination. "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).

April 7—US News

Russian Patriarch Says Orthodox Faithful Are Holding Back the Antichrist

ARTICLE: "Referring to a New Testament text in which intensifying conflict between good and evil culminates in the second coming of Christ, Kirill said 'the Book of Revelation mentions a certain force that holds back the coming into the world of the antichrist.' 'Some thought it is the church that is holding this back, and that is correct,' he was quoted as saying. 'The church keeps people from losing their bearings in life ... it is the Orthodox faith, living and

acting in the Orthodox church – this is the force that holds back (the antichrist).' COMMENT: Not knowing exactly the force, and not knowing exactly who the antichrist is happens to be a big problem for the Orthodox Church and just about all denominations. It is a doctrinal thing (2 John 1:7-10). Antichrist is already here (2 Thesalonians 2:7, 1 John 2:18-19). And there are 80+ more points identifying antichrist that no one ought to miss except for willing ignorance. Speaking of which, that force to beat back antichrist is the church, specifically, "Here is the patience of the saints: here [are] they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus" (Revelation 14:12).

April 26—Telegraph

Life on Earth was started by a meteorite, new evidence suggests

Wait! Scientists yesterday declared they had evidence that aliens started our life and now it is a meteorite? If this does not prove that scientific evidence is nothing more than an opinion as dependable as dust – not stable at all. For nearly 6,000 years, we have been told one, and only one, true story – "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth" (Genesis 1:1), and "God created man in his [own] image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them" (Genesis 1:27). So, are we to believe ever changing science or God's consistent Word?

April 25—Popular Mechanics

Aliens Created Our Universe in a Lab, Scientist Suggests

Genesis 1:26 states, "And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth." If scientists believe the garbage about aliens creating our universe, who created the aliens? Also, it seems a bit far out (pun intended) to believe aliens are our creators instead of God. The bottom line is to not give credit to God being our Creator because if He is, which He really is, then we are responsible for following the "rules". These scientists simply are trying to justify guilt-free lifestyles.

April 26—PBS

Climate change activist's self-immolation raises questions of faith and protest

Romans 1:25 states, "Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen." This activist did not worship the creature but the creation itself so much so that he was willing to lay down his life for the planet. Truly misplaced faith. God would rather have been worshipped and place all concerns, even planet earth, into His hands.

April 26—Insider

Tick bites are making people allergic to meat, and experts say cases are on the rise

Why all of a sudden is this happening? Is this the result of something called tampering? God only knows. Although God's original

diet was meatless, ("God said, Behold, I have 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; to you it shall be for meat" - Genesis 1:29), people still should be free to choose if they want such a diet or not. It may be the healthier diet, but forced diet is not of God.

April 29—Yahoo News

The Right's New Conspiracy Theory: Kamikaze Planes and Food Fires

ARTICLE: Carlson opened the segment by suggesting that a sinister plot was at play, even if no one could explain what it was. He then kicked it to his guest, Seattle talk radio host Jason Rantz, who called the timing of recent fires "very suspicious."

COMMENT: We know that antichrist (Revelation 13) conspires with her daughters (Revelation 17:5) to have the kings or leaders of the earth work with her (Revelation 17:18) along with the merchants (Revelation 18:3) and pharmaceutical industry (Revelation 18:23) to control the world. We are nearing the completion of this and soon will begin the time that they "receive power as kings one hour with the beast" (Revelation 17:12), which is a mere 15 days, for prophetically each day is a year (Numbers 14:34, Ezekiel 4:6) and a portion of a day is the same portion of a year (1/24th). Therefore, it would not be surprising that something is happening in that relationship to control the food supply by constricting the resources.



Natural Remedies

Saffron for Anxiety, etc.

Studies show that the equivalent of 15 milligrams – or about one-fifth of a teaspoon of threads – of saffron twice daily can decrease PMS symptoms, including anxiety, irritability, depression, mood

swings, and insomnia, and also works to improve age-related eye diseases. Add saffron to your food, take it in capsule form, or brew a cup of tea.

(People with bipolar disorder should not use saffron without a doctor's supervision.)

