

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

## *A Monthly Magazine*

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## *Martin Luther's Challenge*

*Jerry O'Donnell*

Martin Luther is known as many things. He is credited with starting the Reformation for one thing. He also is supposedly the founder of the Lutheran Church. But do keep in mind that he was also a Catholic monk.

This Catholic monk discovered some discrepancies between the church he loved and the Bible, putting him in the difficult position of having to choose one or the other as the church claimed to be in a position above the Bible. Martin Luther chose the Bible but hoped for the church to come back to it and be the representative of it instead of appearing to be the enemy of it. That is what the Ninety-Five Theses were all about. They were to open up discussion about bringing the church in line with the Bible. The church, unfortunately, held to her position and chose to hold onto their authority to be able to dismiss the contents of the Bible at will. They wanted no discussion and were quite offended at the thought, sparking the schism. This schism, as today's Catholic Church declares, is nothing more than a

great misunderstanding that apparently was undone in 2016, notably on October 31.

Now, did the church acknowledge the error of her ways? Did she agree to discuss the discrepancies? The answer is no. Those who are part of the schism have given up the argument as many of the churches have also chosen church rules over what the Bible commands. In other words, it would be hypocritical to demand the church to adhere to the Bible when they themselves do not adhere to the Bible.

To the point, Martin Luther pointed out many things that he declared to be unbiblical, however, being human, he was not perfect in all his insight. He was no prophet of God, though he was inspired of God. With that said, we would like to take up the challenge to one of the discrepancies that he supposedly discovered. At some point he made these following statements:

"The observance of the Lord's Day (Sunday) is founded not on any command of God, but on the au-

thority of the Church." *Augsburg Confession of Faith*.

"They [the Catholics] allege the Sabbath changed into Sunday, the Lord's day, contrary to the Decalogue, as it appears, neither is there any example more boasted of than the changing of the Sabbath day. Great, say they, is the power and authority of the church, since it dispensed with one of the Ten Commandments." —Augsburg Confession of Faith, Art. 28, par. 9.

Is Martin Luther trying to tell even modern Christians that the vast majority who honor Sunday as the Lord's day are not keeping the real Lord's day? Can over a billion Christians be wrong in that there is no Biblical reason found?

Let us begin examining such an outrageous claim by looking at the phrase, the Lord's day. Just about every Christian is familiar with associating it with Sunday. To do this research, we looked at every single verse in the Bible containing the words "Lord's Day" paired together. The result was that there is only one verse in the Bible: "I

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was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet" (Revelation 1:10). From this verse, we see that no day of the week is specified. The "Lord's Day" referring to Sunday or even the "first day of the week", is not to be found. Of course, it does not tell us that the Lord's Day is any other day, either. However, the Bible does state, "the Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath" (Luke 6:5, Mark 2:28, Matthew 12:8).

Then let us jump to the fact that Jesus rose on a Sunday. Matthew 28:1 states, "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." Of course, a few verses later, angels state of Jesus, "he is risen from the dead" (Matthew 28:7). Sure enough, Jesus, indeed, rose on the first day of the week.

In fact, Mark confirms it as well: "And very early in the morning the first [day] of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun" (Mark 16:2). And again an angel tells the women, "Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him" (Mark 16:6).

Mark even goes as far as to state, "Now when [Jesus] was risen early the first [day] of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils" (Mark 16:9).

Moving onto Luke, we are told, "Now upon the first [day] of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre,

bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain [others] with them. And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre. And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus. He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee" (Luke 24:1-3, 6). So, Luke confirms it as well. Jesus indeed rose on the first day of the week, which is Sunday.

And for the fourth confirmation, we turn to John: "The first [day] of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early" (John 20:1). "And when she had thus said, she turned herself back, and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus" (John 20:14). Additionally, "Then the same day at evening, being the first [day] of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace [be] unto you" (John 20:19). So, all four gospels confirm that Jesus rose on a Sunday, in fact, two gospels state it twice making it a total of six references to the fact that Jesus rose on the first day of the week.

But wait! Does the mere act of rising on a Sunday constitute a new holy day of the week? It actually looks like the opposite. Jesus died on Friday afternoon because "that day was the preparation, and the sabbath drew on. And the women also, which came with him from Galilee, followed after, and beheld the sepulchre, and how his body was laid. And they returned, and prepared spices and ointments; and rested the sabbath day according to the commandment" (Luke 23:54-56). Jesus also rested

on the Sabbath being dead, but when the Sabbath was over, some time on the first day of the week, all four gospels confirm that Jesus went back to work by rising first and then "I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and [to] my God, and your God" (John 20:17).

Do consider that formerly, there were lightnings and thunders to communicate the original holy day along with nine other commandments (Exodus 19:16). Are we to assume that the mere activity of Jesus on the first day of the week commands us to keep the first day now? That seems very suspicious. It would be mere implication. God would not imply such a thing. If something that major was to be changed, there would be more of a direct announcement.

Likewise, it is said that the day of Pentecost fell on a Sunday. Even if that were so, does such activity declare it the new holy day?

So, let us move on and examine the other popular references used that maybe Martin Luther missed. "And upon the first [day] of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight" (Acts 20:7). Many say this is a communion service with preaching involved, but wait! According to the Bible, the first day of the week actually begins at sunset on Saturday. Therefore, approximately six at night on Saturday until midnight was this event and not on a Sunday, which is not a communion service but a farewell

*(Continued on page 4)*

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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*(Continued from page 2)*

gathering because in the morning “we went before to ship, and sailed unto Assos, there intending to take in Paul: for so had he appointed, minding himself to go afoot” (Acts 20:13). If the first day of the week was now the new holy day, certainly Paul would not have exerted himself so and those that took the ship would not have paid their fare to get aboard on a Sunday.

Then let us look at the last reference in the Bible regarding the first day of the week: “Upon the first [day] of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as [God] hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come” (1 Corinthians 16:2). Many point to this as being a church offering taking place, but is it? To lay by in store is work. The people were commanded to go out, gather, and store up so that when Paul passed through to gather collections or donations, he could do so quickly because everything was already gathered in easy access storage facilities known as barns. He would not have to wait around for the reapers to do their work.

And they were to start reaping on the first day of the week.

But all of that does not matter. Jesus certainly taught that there would be a new weekly holy day. Look at all of the Sabbath arguments that Jesus had with the Pharisees. Well, in all honesty, none of them were against the Ten Commandments. They were all against the man-made rules of the Pharisees. And to confirm it, we are told, “For if Jesus had given them rest, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day. There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God” (Hebrews 4:8-9). Jesus did not speak of another day. There is no evidence of such.

So, after an honest examination of the scriptures, Martin Luther appears to be correct. History reveals that Constantine, a supposed convert to Christianity in the fourth century, approximately 321 AD, was the one to introduce to Christianity a means of winning large number of pagans into Christianity, which was one of the earliest examples of the church bowing down to what was popular in society as opposed to standing firm on the Word. That is much

like today, where every Christian church preached against movies but are silent now because it is not popular to condemn such things. The Bible is quite clear on sexual relationships in which some are called an abomination, others are labeled as adultery, and still others are not God’s way. Yet, not only has there been allowance for all types of partners and still be in good standing with the church, the church even allows such open sinners to hold pastoral positions and other church offices.

It was in 328 AD that the church made it official to replace the Sabbath of the commandment with Sunday instead, just as Martin Luther penned. And that is why the vast majority of Christians observe a different day than the one God commanded (Exodus 20:8-11), penned with His own finger (Exodus 31:18), and apparently, did not change.

So, do you agree with Martin Luther’s statements? If not, can you prove with the Bible a different position, exactly as he originally challenged over five hundred years ago?



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## Be In Health — 3 John 1:2

### Fruit of the Spirit – Gentleness

Galatians 5:22 states, “But the fruit of the Spirit is ... gentleness, ....

Without confusing gentleness with kindness or patience, both are involved in exercising gentleness. Believe it or not, there are health benefits to being gentle, but we have to know what it entails. And that is where examples are best to be used.

For instance, when a child is struggling, pushing the child aside and saying, “Here, let me do this” creates frustration, not only in the child, but in the person taking over the situation. Oh, they may not shove the child, but going to a child and saying, “Oh, no, no, no. You’re doing it all wrong”, and then taking over has the same result to a child as being shoved. The person approaching the child is obviously worked up. The task is either not being done correctly, not going to turn out as expected, or is going to take longer than expected. Exercising patience during this moment of frustration and turning the approach into a gentler manner keeps the blood pressure down, which affects mind and heart. Asking the child, “Would you like an extra hand?” is a better approach. Encouraging the child along the way with words like, “You’re doing good. Just be patient with yourself” may put a smile on the child’s face and bring joy to one’s own heart. And we know that joy in the heart reduces the risk of a heart attack. Of

course, if the task is time-sensitive, there are still gentle ways to deal with that situation as well. If a child does not complete the task in time, we can always say, “Well, next time, we’ll be faster.” If it has to be done no matter what and it looks like an hour project is turning into an all-day event, again assisting in a gentle manner works more towards heart health than just simply getting frustrated.

Another example of gentleness is upon one’s own self. As it has been said, “We are our own worst critic.” Being hard on ourselves, especially unnecessarily, brings frustration, failure, and stress. All of which carry unhealthy consequences. Asking one’s self if self’s best effort was put forth or not is a start. Remember, there is no such thing as 110% or more effort. There is only 100%. Anything more is a fabrication. That in itself can be stressful.

Being gentle in general usually carries a more positive outlook on things. Such people are able to see beyond the frustrating moment,

beyond the failure, and see the end result. That foresight brings willingness to try, and try again. That also brings the willingness to help clean up the matter and approach the situation from a different perspective.

Gentleness also brings with it the ability to forgive, both others that have wronged us as well as forgiving ourselves for doing something wrong. Lack of forgiveness causes a heaviness of the heart and mind. If it has been repented of, confessed, and forsaken, it is over. Stop carrying the guilt of having done it in the first place.

A gentle approach usually ends the day with a good night's sleep, and we all should know how important sleep is. Further, a clarity of mind will exist enabling us to accomplish more as opposed to the blockage we create with impatience which prevents our seeing further into the situation.

Overall, gentleness is good for the heart, mind, and the whole body.



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# Healthy and Delicious Recipes

## Cashews, Chickpeas And Broccoli with Garlic Sauce

### Ingredients

- 1 cup unsalted roasted cashews, chopped
- 1 can chickpeas, drained
- 1 head broccoli florets (approximately 4 cups of broccoli florets)
- 6 garlic cloves, minced
- 1/8 cup sesame oil , + 2 Tbsp
- 1/3 cup molasses
- juice of one half lemon
- 1 Tbsp cornstarch

### Instructions

- In a small bowl, whisk together 1/8 cup sesame oil, molasses, lemon juice, cornstarch.

- In a cast iron skillet over medium heat, add in 2 Tbsp of sesame oil.
- Add in minced garlic and sauté for 1 minute.
- Add in the broccoli and sauce and combine. Turn heat down to medium low.
- Cover and cook for 8 minutes. Stirring occasionally so broccoli doesn't stick to the bottom. \*If needed turn down heat a bit or add a splash of vegetable broth.
- Add in the chopped cashews and chickpeas and stir together.
- Cover and cook for an

additional 3-7 minutes. \*If you prefer a bit of a crunch with your broccoli cook for shorter, or softer broccoli cook longer.

### Serve Over

cooked rice, quinoa, noodles

\* \* \*

“The Lord will give His people wisdom to prepare from that which the earth yields, foods that will take the place of flesh meat. Simple combinations of nuts and grains and fruits, manufactured with taste and skill, will commend themselves to unbelievers.” — Manuscript 156, 1901 {CD 268.4}



## Natural Vitamins

### The Benefits of Carrots

1. May promote eye health because of the abundance of vitamin A.
2. May reduce risk of cancer as carotenoids present in carrots may reduce the risk of stomach, colon, prostate, and lung cancer, and breast cancers in women.
3. May promote skin health because of the rich content of carotenoids.
4. May enhance hair growth because of the of vitamins A and C, carotenoids, potassium, and other antioxidants present in carrots.
5. May help in weight loss as carrots contain a very large amount of water along with the fiber.
6. May regulate blood pressure because of the fiber, potassium, nitrates, and vitamin C found in carrots.
7. May aid type 2 diabetes treatment because of the high fiber and vitamin A presence.
8. May boost immunity because they contain vitamin C that contributes to the production of collagen, which is essential for wound healing along with the vitamin A that regulates the functioning of your system and prevents infections.
9. May strengthen bones because of the vitamin A and carotenoids.
10. May lower cholesterol levels as they reduce cholesterol absorption and increase the antioxidant status of your body.

11. Are good for the teeth and gums by neutralizing the citric and malic acids usually left behind in your mouth, promoting oral health.

12. May promote liver health and eliminate toxins because of the glutathione and being high in plant flavonoids and beta-carotene.

13. May help treat PCOS as they are non-starchy veggies with a low glycemic index.



## *Be Ye Holy — 1 Peter 1:15*

1 Corinthians 6:9-11 says, “Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. 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.” This is the clearest text revealing the two parts of salvation: justification and sanctification. We are freely justified by Jesus Christ for all the sins we ever committed, as a partial list was provided, but each of us has our own sins that haunt us from the past and we can be forgiven of those as well. Now, we do not just say, “Thank you Jesus for saving me” and think we can do as we please for the verse states that upon being saved, the Christian no longer does those things as the phrase “were some of you” is used referring to past tense; it is over; it is not done anymore. So, are you thinking you are saved by justification alone, or are you actually sanctified and have ceased your sinful ways?

John 5:14 states, “Afterward Jesus findeth him in the temple, and said

unto him, Behold, thou art made whole: sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee.” Being made whole is not only a physical healing but, as often was the case, a forgiving of sins. That is justification. No one can earn it. It is a gift. Then Jesus says, and it is said to all who Jesus makes whole, including us, “Sin no more”. That is sanctification. So, while you appreciate that Jesus freely forgives, do you obey His command to go and sin no more by the power of His strength?

Romans 6:6 states, “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.” Our past life being crucified is justification because crucifying involves the cross in which “Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures” (1 Corinthians 15:3). And then by not serving sin, we are now living a sanctified and holy life. Once again, a verse read too quickly misses the call to both the free gift of justification but the demand to be sanctified. In other words, we do not continue sinning, but do you?

1 John 3:9 says, “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.” “Born of God” is the born-again experience in which Jesus declared to be the repentant experience, which includes asking for forgiveness of our sins. That request is justification. Then once we are justified or “born of God” now, we choose not to sin because it glorifies God to be living sinless by the power of God. The thought of purposely choosing to sin is appalling, hence why it is said, “he cannot sin”. This is the sanctified life. It is not that we cannot actually do the sin; it is the fact that sin is abhorrent to us, and we would not entertain the thought of sinning. So, are you carelessly sinning, or have you come to the point that sin in all of its levels that humans have created is abhorrent to you?

1 Corinthians 13:6 states, “Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth.” The Bible also says, “Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth” (John 17:17). Therefore, do not be excited to commit sins (justification) but be excited to obey the truth by obeying the Word of God (sanctification). To “rejoice not” is a polite way of the Bible saying that we ought to hate sin. So, do you hate sin and love to obey God’s Word?

Romans 6:15-16 says, “What then?

shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid. Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?" Being under grace is the justification, the free forgiveness of our sins, while the yielding afterwards is the choice of sanctification. Will we by choice now choose to continue to sin and die the second death or live an obedient holy life receiving Christ's righteousness, the sanctification part? What do you choose?

Romans 8:3-4 says, "For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." God sent Jesus to justify, wash away our sins, then we are to not walk after the fleshy, inklings, desires that our bodies crave but after the Holy Spirit that guides us into truth (John 16:13) and convicts us of sin, righteousness, and judgment (John 16:8), the sanctified or holy life. So, how do you walk after being saved? Claiming to just be saved and still sinning, or walking after the power of the Holy Spirit and not sinning, in fact, even keeping the law?

Hebrews 12:14 says, "Follow peace with all [men], and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord." Now this is absolutely clear. The "peace" is God's justification where sin used to separate but is no longer part of the life as it is

washed away, freely forgiven. The peace is not the act of just "getting along" or "compromising" but keeping sin out of the relationship. On the second half of the verse, it is not only clear that holy living is expected, but if we do not have the peace and do not have holiness, we shall not see God. We will not be saved. So, how is your relationship with fellow human beings? Is it just like everyone else's experience or is it of a heavenly origin?

1 Thessalonians 5:23 states, "And 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." The "very God of peace" is peace between us and God where sin does not separate. Therefore, the only way this is possible is to accept the free gift of forgiveness and being justified before God as if we did not sin (Jude 1:24), which is made only possible by our crucified Savior. But the verse also states that our whole spirit, soul, and body are to be kept blameless from that moment forward. That is a call to holy living, and that is a call to live a sanctified life showing that we are not saved only by justification, but sanctification as well. So, are you living the blameless, sinless life, or a careless one?

John 17:14 says, "I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world." What word is given from the Father through Jesus? "For this [is] the word of promise" (Romans 9:9). What promise? The verse prior says, "That is, They which are the children of the flesh,

these [are] not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed" (Romans 9:8). To be counted for the seed is to have received freely of the justification from God. But that is only half of John 17:14. The other half states that "they are not of the world", which is holy or sanctified living. So, are you participating in worldly ways, even what the Bible declares to be sinful, but declaring that such sins are not so bad, or are you shunning the ways of the world, counting every deviation from God's will as sin?

Jude 1:1-2 says, "Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, [and] called: Mercy unto you, and peace, and love, be multiplied." To receive God's mercy and His peace is to be forgiven of sins freely for His mercy is a gift, but notice the verse states "them that are sanctified". That is not some future time like when we get to Heaven. That is a "now" experience to be holy. So, has God made you holy, or are you still excusing sins in your life?

1 John 2:6 states, "He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked." Many people claim to abide in God's grace, in His mercy, and in His love. If that is true, and you claim it - which is the justification part, do you then live the sanctified life, which is to obey (walk) as Jesus did (walked), avoiding sin and "doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 7:21)?

Matthew 7:17 states, "Even so eve-



ry good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit." An example of good fruit would be "the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law" (Galatians 5:22-23). An example of evil fruit would be sin (Psalms 51:4). Therefore, to be a "good tree" it must be a tree receiving God's free grace to forgive the sinner, but the expectation is that the tree would remain good after being planted and bear good fruit from the Spirit. If such continues to sin, that would be bad fruit, and "Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire" (Matthew 7:19). So, which

do you have? Good or bad fruit? Keep in mind, a mixture of both good and bad fruit is still bad, for "A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither [can] a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit" (Matthew 7:18), which means, the good fruit we think we have is actually evil.

Revelation 2:10 ends with "be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life." The crown of life is the free gift. We will be justified freely to receive it, but being faithful, with forgiveness of our sins, is the living of a sanctified life. It also shows that the belief of "once saved, always saved" is false. If we are not faithful, we are not saved. Now, what does it mean to

be faithful? "And from Jesus Christ, [who is] the faithful witness, [and] the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood" (Revelation 1:5). From this verse, we learn that we are witnessing our faithfulness, as in not going against God's will but doing only God's will. Further, being washed from our sins is the focus of our witness, even our faithfulness. We are unfaithful when we choose to sin. We are faithful and showing a perfect witness when we are tempted to sin and do not. So, are you a faithful witness or poor example of a Christian?



## Who Is the Real Antichrist?



## Who Is the Real Antichrist?

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

## What does born-again mean?

1. What is at stake about being born-again? **End of John 3:5**
2. How are we born? **First half of John 3:6**
3. What is associated with how we are born? **Romans 8:3**
4. What are we to be born of? **End of John 3:6**
5. If we have taken the new birth, what is associated with that life? **1 John 3:9**
6. What will a born-again person not do? **1 John 5:18**
7. In fact, what does a born-again person actually do? **1 John 5:4**
8. Again, what does a born-again person do? **1 John 2:29**
9. The concept of being born-again makes people marvel, but what type of clarification did Jesus place upon being born-again? **John 3:7 [Hint: It is the word that declares the level of responsibility to being born again.]**
10. What do so many Christians who are in name only and not born-again do towards those who are born-again? **Galatians 4:29**
2. What is associated with righteousness? **End of 2 Peter 2:21 “holy commandment”**
3. What are we to be dead to in order to live the righteous life? **1 Peter 2:24, 1 Corinthians 15:34, Romans 6:18 “dead to sins”, “sin not”, “free from sin”**
4. What are we to avoid while living a righteous life? **1 John 3:7 “let no man deceive you”**
5. In fact, if we do not do righteousness, what are we considered? **1 John 3:10 “the children of the devil”**
6. If we do righteousness, what are we considered? **1 John 2:29 “born of him”**
7. With all this righteousness being encouraged, let us remember that our righteous acts do not save us, but what does save us? **Titus 3:5 [Keep in mind that just because righteous living does not save us, that does not mean we can live in an unrighteous manner.] “according to his mercy he saved us”**
8. What do we have if we are living a righteous life along with goodness and truth? **Ephesians 5:9 “the fruit of the Spirit”**
9. What leads to a righteous lifestyle? **Romans 10:10 “with the heart man believeth”**
10. What must we walk after to live the righteous life? **Romans 8:4 “after the Spirit”**

## January 2023 Bible Questions and Answers

### What is righteousness?

1. Where do we find instruction for righteousness? **2 Timothy 3:16 All scripture**



# Questions & Answers

**QUESTION: Do we get whatever we want [when we ask in prayer]?**

**ANSWER:** Matthew 21:22 appears to clearly declare that we can ask for whatever we want and if we believe properly, we shall receive it. "And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive." "Oh, Lord, give me a million dollars!" "Oh, Lord, give me a mansion!" Of course, those that teach this understanding, when the million dollars as well as the mansions do not appear, it is declared that it is because of a lack of belief. The preacher declares that it works for them. Sure it does because of all the unrestricted funds that pour into the ministry.

Now, when a person of knowledge tries to correct the understanding, that person is usually greeted with things like, "I don't see any exceptions listed", "In the context, I should even have power to move mountains if I wanted to as well as commanding fig trees to do whatever I say", etc.

So, the first thing that has to be addressed is the improper Bible studying. We need to realize "that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established" (Matthew 18:16). We cannot just accept a practice based upon a single mention. In fact, similar wording in other accounts begin to paint a different picture, but more on that in a moment.

The second thing to establish is the proper Bible study method revealed in Isaiah 28:9-10, which says, "Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine?

[them that are] weaned from the milk, [and] drawn from the breasts. For precept [must be] upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, [and] there a little". That means lots of verses on the subject are to be collected and studied together because the Word of God is not built on a complete picture using only one particular section of the Bible.

When one does this, we come across a declarative boundary about that "asking" part. According to 1 John 3:22, it says, "And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight." If we are not keeping God's commandments and not doing those things that are pleasing in His sight, then we cannot expect God to give us what we ask, and if we do receive them, it is not from God but Satan, trying to confirm us in our transgressions. Further, in keeping the commandments, that means we shall not covet, hence, we shall not ask for things that everyone else has, like lots of money and big houses. We will be content with what is necessary to live on. Further, what we do with those million dollars and mansion also has to be pleasing to God. If we are going to misuse the funds and the house, we are not going to get those things.

We also come across John 15:16, which deepens yet the understanding of what a true Christian would be asking for: "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and [that] your

fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you." In plain speak, God is ready to give us everything we need and ask for in the efforts of bringing in more fruit, witnessing, evangelizing. He is not ready to bless us with unnecessary wealth and material things.

John 14:9-13 narrows the "whatsoever" even further by Jesus saying, "the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works" (John 14:10), and then finishes up with "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater [works] than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son" (John 14:12-13). Therefore, our desires and wills will not be done, but God's. And we shall ask to perform the same works as Jesus did, which was never for Himself.

So, with improper Bible study, there is no wonder why so many Christians are involved with the "name it and claim it" theology. It is no different than picking up a piece from a puzzle box, laying it on the table, and declaring, "I have finished putting the puzzle together."

Yes, Matthew 21:22 does clearly state what appears to be a blank checkbook waiting to be filled out by our prayer requests without listing any restrictions. That is because the whole Bible places the verse into the context of restrictions. God does not have to list out all of the exceptions at every

reference that is made. He allows the rest of the Bible to impress the honest seeker to see the restrictions scattered throughout the Bible so when verses like the one we are studying come along, we can recall the boundaries set.

Remember, Jesus also said to not be asking for things that the unconverted or Gentiles ask for. "(For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matthew 6:32-33).

And no, do not be praying for a million dollars to be used in evangelizing. Although it is completely unselfish, it still does not meet all of the criteria of the Bible.

**QUESTION: Does God repent or not?**

**ANSWER:** Numbers 23:19 says, "God [is] not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do [it]? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?" While Exodus 32:14 states, "And the LORD repented of the evil which he thought to do unto his people." In addition to Exodus 32:14, there are other verses that point to God stating that He repents. So, does God repent or not? He declares that He does not, when it appears that He does.

Looking at the context, the apparent inconsistency works itself out. To lie is to break the commandment, "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour" (Exodus 20:16). So, the question then should be asked,

does God sin? And the answer is no, of course, for the Bible says that Jesus "was in all points tempted like as [we are, yet] without sin" (Hebrews 4:15). Also, "God, that cannot lie" (Titus 1:2).

Therefore, the statement in Numbers 23:19 is true. God is not like man or the son of man where, "all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). Therefore, the implication is that God does not repent of sin because He does not sin.

Now, looking at Exodus 32:14, bringing evil upon people seems sinful, but is that what was going on? Was God literally just wanting to commit evil upon the people? In the context, the Bible says, "They have turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them: they have made them a molten calf, and have worshipped it, and have sacrificed thereunto, and said, These [be] thy gods, O Israel, which have brought thee up out of the land of Egypt" (Exodus 32:8). So, the evil is actually a punishment. In fact, looking at the Hebrew word for "evil", we have other words that could have been put in place that bring out the punishment action as opposed to doing something sinful, like, committing evil. They include: unhappiness, misery, giving pain, displeasing, injury, calamity, and distress. There are other words as well, but these words show more of a corrective action being given as opposed to a sinful act.

Getting a spanking probably would result in some pain, injury where one cannot sit down for a while, a bit of distress because no child likes being spanked, and much unhappiness and misery at that.



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So, in the case of Exodus 32:14, the word repent regarding the evil simply means "to change His mind", which is in the scope of God. He changed His mind about destroying Nineveh (Jonah 3:10). Why? Because they repented. God will not destroy all human beings.

Why? "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).

So, look at the object of what God is repenting of to determine if there is a contradiction or not.

God cannot repent of sin because He does not sin, especially in lying, but He will mercifully repent of pouring out His wrath when people repent.



## News and Comments

**November 30**

**Fox News**

**Netherlands reportedly set to forcibly close 3,000 farms to comply with EU mandate**

This is the danger of climate change – destroy livelihoods and decrease the amount of food on the planet so that we eventually cause shortages, possibly starvation. Climate Change is an idol. "Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen." (1 John 5:21).

**December 2**

**Bloomberg Law**

**Global Central Banks Brace for 'Greenflation' and Climate Change**

With the central banks working together to bring in climate change adjustments knowing that it will create inflation, or at least stagflation, shows that antichrist agenda is far along the pathway and has the control of the ultimate merchants of the world, the banking systems. "They merchants were

the great men of the earth" (Revelation 18:23) and "the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies" (Revelation 18:3).

**December 13**

**Fox News**

**DOJ official admits targeting proliferators in the wake of SCOTUS Roe v Wade ruling**

This is an abuse towards religious beliefs and therefore, it is part of fulfilling when this country would speak as a dragon or Satan-like (Revelation 13:11).

**December 7**

**Fox News**

**Kirk Cameron is denied story-hour slot by public libraries for his new faith-based kids book**

Here is rhetorical question, "Why is it that every uncouth thing is allowed but when something even hints at being Christian, resistance is the response?" "If the world

hate you, ye know that it hated me before [it hated] you" (John 15:18).

**December 11**

**The Gateway Pundit**

**German Molecular Biologist Unveils Concept of World's First Artificial Womb Facility Which Can Incubate up to 30,000 Lab-Grown Babies a Year (VIDEO)**

"So God created man in his [own] image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them" (Genesis 1:27), and according to this article, "Not anymore!"

**December 4**

**Monroe News**

**Climate change taken seriously by the world and the U.S.**

If the world is on board with this agenda that means that "the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with



the wine of her fornication" (Revelation 17:2). It will simply get stronger and more restrictive. Inflation on purpose and many more controlling policies will be implemented. We are on the fast track towards the global ushering in of antichrist being more prominent and enforcing his mark.

**December 14**

**Fox News**

**FBI may have violated First Amendment with Twitter moderation requests, experts warn**

Squashing the ability to exercise free speech is indeed a first amendment violation and something that Satan would do. Therefore, another example is being presented where the United States is on the road to speaking as a dragon (Revelation 13:11).

**December 14**

**MSN**

**New Study Links COVID-19 Vaccination Status to Increased Risk of Car Crashes**

Science is also falsely so called (1 Timothy 6:20). There are a number of factors that contribute to statistics that are and are not included. This new agenda is nothing short of preparing a class of people to be ready for rate hikes in their insurance, an unfair practice and very intentional.

**December 14**

**The Hill**

**Boehner gets emotional in Pelosi tribute: 'My girls told me, tell the**

**Speaker how much we admire her'**

If we think that one party is better than another, just remember this fondness between parties as well as the joint effort in 2015 to bring the pope into Congress. Both parties are working towards the same goal. They "causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed" (Revelation 13:12).

**December 15**

**The Conversation**

**Was Jesus really born in Bethlehem? Why the Gospels disagree over the circumstances of Christ's birth**

As doubt in God's word is behind this satanic attack, we also have another article from a different motive doing the same thing: "How a Bible Error Changed History and Turned Gays Into Pariahs" (Advocate, December 17, 2022). "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils" (1 Timothy 4:1).

**December 20**

**Miami Herald**

**Look inside the tomb of 'the midwife of Jesus' as Israel plans to open cave to public**

And here is what the Bible has to say about the existence of the midwife – nothing. There was no midwife. "Joseph also went up from Galilee" (Luke 2:4) "To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child" (Luke

2:5). There is no mention about bringing along a midwife. "And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn" (Luke 2:7). Again, there is no mention that they found a midwife in Bethlehem. To add such a story into the scheme of things making it some elaborate belief is "Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition" (Mark 7:13).

**December 20**

**Bloomberg**

**Climate Policy Has Become Central in the Fight for Global Power**

This title reveals that it is all an agenda to grasp power at the inconvenience of the citizens. It is a control mechanism. Eventually, "These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast" (Revelation 17:13).

**December 24**

**Technology Review**

**A startup says it's begun releasing particles into the atmosphere, in an effort to tweak the climate**

Now, if this startup makes a mistake affecting the ability to use the air we breath, will a simple "oops" suffice? This is the danger of being a pagan worshiper of which climate change happens to be. "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" (Romans 1:25).



# God Says, If You Love Me ...

John 14:15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.

John 14:21 He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.

John 14:23 Jesus answered and said unto him, 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.

1 John 2:5 But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.

1 John 4:21 And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.

1 John 4:7 Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.

Matthew 22:37-40 Jesus said unto him, 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.

Mark 12:29-31 And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments [is], Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this [is] the first commandment. And the second [is] like, [namely] this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.

Luke 10:25-28 And, behold, a certain lawyer stood up, and tempted him, saying, Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life? He said unto him, What is written in the law? how readest thou? And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself. And he said unto him, Thou hast answered right: this do, and thou shalt live.

1 John 5:3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

1 John 5:1 Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth

him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him.

Matthew 10:37 He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.

2 Thessalonians 3:5 And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the patient waiting for Christ.

Ephesians 3:19 And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.

1 Corinthians 8:3 But if any man love God, the same is known of him.

Jude 1:21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to [his] purpose.

2 Corinthians 13:11 Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you.



## Natural Remedies

### Exercise for Knee Pain

"I hear my rheumatologist wife talking about home remedies for knee pain all the time. The two core things she always tells her patients are 'Don't rest too much'

and 'Try to exercise'. Too much rest can weaken your muscles, which can actually make knee pain worse. Keeping active is usually a

better and safer alternative to side effects of many pain medications."

~Dr. Raj Dasgupta

