

New Testament Scriptures

On How Believers Should Live

Prepared for NightVision Ministries
www.nightvisionministries.com

Greetings in the name of the Lord!

Enclosed is a compilation of scriptures taken from the Book of Romans to Revelations of the New Testament. I specifically chose scriptures that contain some instructions on how we should live as believers. The work was actually part of a bigger question "What is God saying to me?".

Interestingly, one day as I was praying during my time with God; seeking his will about "what is my calling Lord?" What do you want me to do? The answer came clearly, instantly and almost loudly "I've already explained this in my Word. Don't be concerned with any special calling, just do the basics. It's all here in my Word, when I need you for a special assignment, I'll reach out to you and you'll know."

This answer was as clear as anything I've ever heard from God; it's like it was instantly imprinted onto my psyche. There was a strong awareness that God had spoken and answered my question. So, I went about reading His Word looking for everything I could that referred to "what I should do". If it contained a command, or a reference to what God expected or had called people to...I marked it.

Over the years in my Bible reading I've color-coded scripture based on the subject matter.

- Blue was for Faith
- Green was for a Promise
- Orange was an instruction on how to live
- Pink was for Bearing Fruit
- Purple was something that described the nature of God
- Yellow was for anything meaningful that didn't neatly fit into any of the above.

As I prepared this document, I focused on the Orange; what the Bible says about how we are to live..."what is our calling". However, as you read through you will also find some Blue, Green, Pink, Purple and Yellow. Not much, but enough to give a level of context about what the Orange is saying.

I trust you'll enjoy this read. What I've found most interesting is the clarity in which the Bible speaks to us about those Basics of what God has already said to us about living this natural life, in this place called earth, while walking with Him. I believe it will become quickly obvious within the first few pages.

In Christ...

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Romans 1

9I serve God by spreading the Good News about his Son.

26For this reason God allowed their shameful passions to control them. Their women have exchanged natural sexual relations for unnatural ones. **27**Likewise, their men have given up natural sexual relations with women and burn with lust for each other. Men commit indecent acts with men, so they experience among themselves the punishment they deserve for their perversion.

Romans 3

22Everyone who believes has God's approval through faith in Jesus Christ.

Romans 6

4When we were baptized into his death, we were placed into the tomb with him. As Christ was brought back from death to life by the glorious power of the Father, so we, too, should live a new kind of life.

11So consider yourselves dead to sin's power but living for God in the power Christ Jesus gives you.

12Therefore, never let sin rule your physical body so that you obey its desires. **13**Never offer any part of your body to sin's power. No part of your body should ever be used to do any ungodly thing. Instead, offer yourselves to God as people who have come back from death and are now alive. Offer all the parts of your body to God. Use them to do everything that God approves of.

Romans 7

21So I've discovered this truth: Evil is present with me even when I want to do what God's standards say is good. **22**I take pleasure in God's standards in my inner being. **23**However, I see a different standard [at work] throughout my body. It is at war with the standards my mind sets and tries to take me captive to sin's standards which still exist throughout my body. **24**What a miserable person I am! Who will rescue me from my dying body? **25**I thank God that our Lord Jesus Christ rescues me! So I am obedient to God's standards with my mind, but I am obedient to sin's standards with my corrupt nature.

Romans 8

12So, brothers and sisters, we have no obligation to live the way our corrupt nature wants us to live. **13**If you live by your corrupt nature, you are going to die. But if you use your spiritual nature to put to death the evil activities of the body, you will live. **14**Certainly, all who are guided by God's Spirit are God's children. **15**You haven't received the spirit of slaves that leads you into fear again. Instead, you have received the spirit of God's adopted children by which we call out, "Abba! Father!" **16**The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. **17**If we are his children, we are also God's heirs. If we share in Christ's suffering in order to share his glory, we are heirs together with him.

Romans 12

1Brothers and sisters, in view of all we have just shared about God's compassion, I encourage you to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, dedicated to God and pleasing to him. This kind of worship is appropriate for you. **2**Don't become like the people of this world. Instead, change the way you think. Then you will always be able to determine what God really wants-what is good, pleasing, and perfect.

6God in his kindness gave each of us different gifts. If your gift is speaking God's word, make sure what you say agrees with the Christian faith. **7**If your gift is serving, then devote yourself to serving. If it is teaching, devote yourself to teaching. **8**If it is encouraging others, devote yourself to giving encouragement. If it is sharing, be generous. If it is leadership, lead enthusiastically. If it is helping people in need, help them cheerfully.

9 Love sincerely. Hate evil. Hold on to what is good. 10 Be devoted to each other like a loving family. Excel in showing respect for each other. 11 Don't be lazy in showing your devotion. Use your energy to serve the Lord. 12 Be happy in your confidence, be patient in trouble, and pray continually. 13 Share what you have with God's people who are in need. Be hospitable.

14 Bless those who persecute you. Bless them, and don't curse them. 15 Be happy with those who are happy. Be sad with those who are sad. 16 Live in harmony with each other. Don't be arrogant, but be friendly to humble people. Don't think that you are smarter than you really are. 17 Don't pay people back with evil for the evil they do to you. Focus your thoughts on those things that are considered noble. 18 As much as it is possible, live in peace with everyone. 19 Don't take revenge, dear friends. Instead, let God's anger take care of it. After all, Scripture says, "I alone have the right to take revenge. I will pay back, says the Lord." 20 But, "If your enemy is hungry, feed him. If he is thirsty, give him a drink. If you do this, you will make him feel guilty and ashamed." 21 Don't let evil conquer you, but conquer evil with good.

Romans 13

7 Pay everyone whatever you owe them. If you owe taxes, pay them. If you owe tolls, pay them. If you owe someone respect, respect that person. If you owe someone honor, honor that person.

8 Pay your debts as they come due. However, one debt you can never finish paying is the debt of love that you owe each other. The one who loves another person has fulfilled Moses' Teachings. 9 The commandments, "Never commit adultery; never murder; never steal; never have wrong desires," and every other commandment are summed up in this statement: "Love your neighbor as you love yourself." 10 Love never does anything that is harmful to a neighbor. Therefore, love fulfills Moses' Teachings.

13 We should live decently, as people who live in the light of day. Wild parties, drunkenness, sexual immorality, promiscuity, rivalry, and jealousy cannot be part of our lives. 14 Instead, live like the Lord Jesus Christ did, and forget about satisfying the desires of your sinful nature.

Romans 14

1 Welcome people who are weak in faith, but don't get into an argument over differences of opinion

13 So let's stop criticizing each other. Instead, you should decide never to do anything that would make other Christians have doubts or lose their faith.

19 So let's pursue those things which bring peace and which are good for each other. 20 Don't ruin God's work because of what you eat. All food is acceptable, but it's wrong for a person to eat something if it causes someone else to have doubts. 21 The right thing to do is to avoid eating meat, drinking wine, or doing anything else that causes another Christian to have doubts. 22 So whatever you believe about these things, keep it between yourself and God. The person who does what he knows is right shouldn't feel guilty. He is blessed. 23 But if a person has doubts and still eats, he is condemned because he didn't act in faith. Anything that is not done in faith is sin.

Romans 15

7 Therefore, accept each other in the same way that Christ accepted you. He did this to bring glory to God.

I Corinthians 1

9 God faithfully keeps his promises. He called you to be partners with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

I Corinthians 5

6It's not good for you to brag. Don't you know that a little yeast spreads through the whole batch of dough? **7**Remove the old yeast [of sin] so that you may be a new batch of dough, since you don't actually have the yeast [of sin]. Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. **8**So we must not celebrate our festival with the old yeast [of sin] or with the yeast of vice and wickedness. Instead, we must celebrate it with the bread of purity and truth that has no yeast.

9In my letter to you I told you not to associate with people who continue to commit sexual sins. **10**I didn't tell you that you could not have any contact with unbelievers who commit sexual sins, are greedy, are dishonest, or worship false gods. If that were the case, you would have to leave this world. **11**Now, what I meant was that you should not associate with people who call themselves brothers or sisters in the Christian faith but live in sexual sin, are greedy, worship false gods, use abusive language, get drunk, or are dishonest. Don't eat with such people. **12**After all, do I have any business judging those who are outside [the Christian faith]? Isn't it your business to judge those who are inside? **13**God will judge those who are outside. Remove that wicked man from among you.

I Corinthians 6

9Don't you know that wicked people won't inherit the kingdom of God? Stop deceiving yourselves! People who continue to commit sexual sins, who worship false gods, those who commit adultery, homosexuals, **10**or thieves, those who are greedy or drunk, who use abusive language, or who rob people will not inherit the kingdom of God. **11**That's what some of you were! But you have been washed and made holy, and you have received God's approval in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God!

I Corinthians 7

1Now, concerning the things that you wrote about: It's good for men not to get married. **2**But in order to avoid sexual sins, each man should have his own wife, and each woman should have her own husband. **3**Husbands and wives should satisfy each other's [sexual] needs. **4**A wife doesn't have authority over her own body, but her husband does. In the same way, a husband doesn't have authority over his own body, but his wife does. **5**Don't withhold yourselves from each other unless you agree to do so for a set time to devote yourselves to prayer. Then you should get back together so that Satan doesn't use your lack of self-control to tempt you. **6**What I have just said is not meant as a command but as a suggestion. **7**I would like everyone to be like me. However, each person has a special gift from God, and these gifts vary from person to person.

17Everyone should live the life that the Lord gave him when God called him. This is the guideline I use in every church.

24Brothers and sisters, you should remain in whatever circumstances you were in when God called you. God is with you in those circumstances.

I Corinthians 9

24Don't you realize that everyone who runs in a race runs to win, but only one runner gets the prize? Run like them, so that you can win. **25**Everyone who enters an athletic contest goes into strict training. They do it to win a temporary crown, but we do it to win one that will be permanent. **26**So I run-but not without a clear goal ahead of me. So I box-but not as if I were just shadow boxing. **27**Rather, I toughen my body with punches and make it my slave so that I will not be disqualified after I have spread the Good News to others.

I Corinthians 10

6These things have become examples for us so that we won't desire what is evil, as they did. **7**So don't worship false gods as some of them did, as Scripture says, "The people sat down to a feast which turned into an orgy." **8**We shouldn't sin sexually as some of them did. Twenty-three thousand of them died on one day. **9**We shouldn't put the Lord to the test as some of them did. They were killed by snakes. **10**Don't complain as some

of them did. The angel of death destroyed them. **11** These things happened to make them an example for others. These things were written down as a warning for us who are living in the closing days of history. **12** So, people who think they are standing firmly should be careful that they don't fall. **13** There isn't any temptation that you have experienced which is unusual for humans. God, who faithfully keeps his promises, will not allow you to be tempted beyond your power to resist. But when you are tempted, he will also give you the ability to endure the temptation as your way of escape.

14 Therefore, my dear friends, get as far away from the worship of false gods as you can.

24 People should be concerned about others and not just about themselves.

31 So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything to the glory of God. **32** Don't cause others to stumble, whether they are Jewish, Greek, or members of God's church.

I Corinthians 13

1 I may speak in the languages of humans and of angels. But if I don't have love, I am a loud gong or a clashing cymbal. **2** I may have the gift to speak what God has revealed, and I may understand all mysteries and have all knowledge. I may even have enough faith to move mountains. But if I don't have love, I am nothing. **3** I may even give away all that I have and give up my body to be burned. But if I don't have love, none of these things will help me.

11 When I was a child, I spoke like a child, thought like a child, and reasoned like a child. When I became an adult, I no longer used childish ways. **12** Now we see a blurred image in a mirror. Then we will see very clearly. Now my knowledge is incomplete. Then I will have complete knowledge as God has complete knowledge of me. **13** So these three things remain: faith, hope, and love. But the best one of these is love.

I Corinthians 14

1 Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts, but especially the gift of speaking what God has revealed.

12 In the same way, since you're eager to have spiritual gifts, try to excel in them so that you help the church grow.

13 So the person who speaks in another language should pray for an interpretation of what he says. **14** If I pray in another language, my spirit prays, but my mind is not productive. **15** So what does this mean? It means that I will pray with my spirit, and I will pray with my mind. I will sing psalms with my spirit, and I will sing psalms with my mind. **16** Otherwise, if you praise God only with your spirit, how can outsiders say "Amen!" to your prayer of thanksgiving? They don't know what you're saying. **17** Your prayer of thanksgiving may be very good, but it doesn't help other people grow. **18** I thank God that I speak in other languages more than any of you. **19** Yet, in order to teach others in church, I would rather say five words that can be understood than ten thousand words in another language.

20 Brothers and sisters, don't think like children. When it comes to evil, be like babies, but think like mature people.

26 So what does this mean, brothers and sisters? When you gather, each person has a psalm, doctrine, revelation, another language, or an interpretation. Everything must be done to help each other grow.

I Corinthians 15

33 Don't let anyone deceive you. Associating with bad people will ruin decent people. **34** Come back to the right point of view, and stop sinning. Some people don't know anything about God. You should be ashamed of yourselves.

58So, then, brothers and sisters, don't let anyone move you off the foundation [of your faith]. Always excel in the work you do for the Lord. You know that the hard work you do for the Lord is not pointless.

1 Corinthians 16

1Now, concerning the money to be collected for God's people [in Jerusalem]: I want you to do as I directed the churches in Galatia. **2**Every Sunday each of you should set aside some of your money and save it. Then money won't have to be collected when I come. **3**When I come, I will give letters of introduction to the people whom you choose. You can send your gift to Jerusalem with them. **4**If I think it's worthwhile for me to go, they can go with me.

10If Timothy comes, make sure that he doesn't have anything to be afraid of while he is with you. He's doing the Lord's work as I am, **11**so no one should treat him with contempt. Without quarreling, give him your support for his trip so that he may come to me. I'm expecting him to arrive with the other Christians.

15You know that the family of Stephanas was the first family to be won [for Christ] in Greece. This family has devoted itself to serving God's people. So I encourage you, brothers and sisters, **16**to follow the example of people like these and anyone else who shares their labor and hard work. **17**I am glad that Stephanas, Fortunatus, and Achaicus came here. They have made up for your absence. **18**They have comforted me, and they have comforted you. Therefore, show people like these your appreciation.

2 Corinthians 1

3Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

12We are proud that our conscience is clear. We are proud of the way that we have lived in this world. We have lived with a God-given holiness and sincerity, especially toward you. It was not by human wisdom that we have lived but by God's kindness. **13**We are only writing you what you already knew before you read this. I hope you will understand this as long as you live, **14**even though you now understand it only partially. We are your reason to be proud, as you will be our reason to be proud on the day of our Lord Jesus.

2 Corinthians 4

1We don't become discouraged, since God has given us this ministry through his mercy. **2**Instead, we have refused to use secret and shameful ways. We don't use tricks, and we don't distort God's word. As God watches, we clearly reveal the truth to everyone.

2 Corinthians 6

3We don't give people any opportunity to find fault with how we serve. **4**Instead, our lives demonstrate that we are God's servants. We have endured many things: suffering, distress, anxiety, **5**beatings, imprisonments, riots, hard work, sleepless nights, and lack of food.

14Stop forming inappropriate relationships with unbelievers. Can right and wrong be partners? Can light have anything in common with darkness? **15**Can Christ agree with the devil? Can a believer share life with an unbeliever?

16Can God's temple contain false gods? Clearly, we are the temple of the living God. As God said, "I will live and walk among them. I will be their God, and they will be my people."

17The Lord says, "Get away from unbelievers. Separate yourselves from them. Have nothing to do with anything unclean. Then I will welcome you."

18The Lord Almighty says, "I will be your Father, and you will be my sons and daughters."

2 Corinthians 7

1Since we have these promises, dear friends, **we need to cleanse ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit and live a holy life in the fear of God.**

9But I'm happy now, not because I made you uncomfortable, but because the distress I caused you has **led you to change the way you think and act.** You were distressed in a godly way, so we haven't done you any harm. **10**In fact, to be distressed in a godly way causes people **to change the way they think and act** and leads them to be saved.

2 Corinthians 8

1Brothers and sisters, **we want you to know how God showed his kindness** to the churches in the province of Macedonia. **2**While they were being severely tested by suffering, their overflowing joy, along with their extreme poverty, **has made them even more generous.** **3**I **assure you that by their own free will they have given all they could, even more than they could afford.** **4**They made an appeal to us, **begging us to let them participate in the ministry** of God's kindness to his holy people [in Jerusalem]. **5****They did more than we had expected.** First, they gave themselves to the Lord and to us, since this was God's will. **6**This led us to urge Titus to finish his work of God's kindness among you in the same way as he had already started it.

7Indeed, the more your faith, your ability to speak, your knowledge, your dedication, and your love for us increase, the more we want you to participate in this work of God's kindness. **8****I'm not commanding you, but I'm testing how genuine your love is by pointing out the dedication of others.**

9You know about the kindness of our Lord Jesus Christ. He was rich, yet for your sake he became poor in order to make you rich through his poverty. **10**I'm giving you my opinion because it will be helpful to you. Last year you were not only willing [to take a collection] but had already started to do it. **11****So finish what you began to do.** Then your willingness will be matched by what you accomplish **12**with whatever contributions you have. Since you are willing to do this, **[remember] that people are accepted if they give what they are able to give. God doesn't ask for what they don't have.**

24**So give these men a demonstration of your love. Show their congregations that we were right to be proud of you.**

2 Corinthians 9

6**Remember this:** The farmer who plants a few seeds will have a very small harvest. **But the farmer who plants because he has received God's blessings will receive a harvest of God's blessings in return.** **7**Each of you should give whatever you have decided. **You shouldn't be sorry that you gave or feel forced to give, since God loves a cheerful giver.** **8**Besides, **God will give you his constantly overflowing kindness. Then, when you always have everything you need, you can do more and more good things.**

9Scripture says, **"The righteous person gives freely to the poor. His righteousness continues forever."**

10God gives seed to the farmer and food to those who need to eat. God will also give you seed and multiply it. **In your lives he will increase the things you do that have his approval.** **11**God will make you rich enough so that you can always be generous. **Your generosity will produce thanksgiving to God because of us.** **12**What you do to serve others not only provides for the needs of God's people, but also produces more and more prayers of thanksgiving to God. **13**You will honor God through this genuine act of service **because of your commitment to spread the Good News of Christ and because of your generosity in sharing with them and everyone else.**

2 Corinthians 10

5 We take every thought captive so that it is obedient to Christ.

15 How can we brag about things done by others that can't be evaluated? We have confidence that as your faith grows, you will think enough of us to give us the help we need to carry out our assignment- **16** spreading the Good News in the regions far beyond you.

2 Corinthians 13

5 Examine yourselves to see whether you are still in the Christian faith. Test yourselves! Don't you recognize that you are people in whom Jesus Christ lives?

11 With that, brothers and sisters, I must say goodbye. Make sure that you improve. Accept my encouragement. Share the same attitude and live in peace. The God of love and peace will be with you. **12** Greet one another with a holy kiss. **13** All of God's holy people greet you.

Galatians 1

10 Am I saying this now to win the approval of people or God? Am I trying to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be Christ's servant.

Galatians 2

15 We are Jewish by birth, not sinners from other nations. **16** Yet, we know that people don't receive God's approval because of their own efforts to live according to a set of standards, but only by believing in Jesus Christ. So we also believed in Jesus Christ in order to receive God's approval by faith in Christ and not because of our own efforts. People won't receive God's approval because of their own efforts to live according to a set of standards.

Galatians 4

6 Because you are God's children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into us to call out, "Abba! Father!" **7** So you are no longer slaves but God's children. Since you are God's children, God has also made you heirs. **8** When you didn't know God, you were slaves to things which are really not gods at all. **9** But now you know God, or rather, God knows you. So how can you turn back again to the powerless and bankrupt principles of this world? Why do you want to become their slaves all over again? **10** You religiously observe days, months, seasons, and years! **11** I'm afraid for you. Maybe the hard work I spent on you has been wasted.

Galatians 5

1 Christ has freed us so that we may enjoy the benefits of freedom. Therefore, be firm [in this freedom], and don't become slaves again.

13 You were indeed called to be free, brothers and sisters. Don't turn this freedom into an excuse for your corrupt nature to express itself. Rather, serve each other through love. **14** All of Moses' Teachings are summarized in a single statement, "Love your neighbor as you love yourself." **15** But if you criticize and attack each other, be careful that you don't destroy each other.

16 Let me explain further. Live your life as your spiritual nature directs you. Then you will never follow through on what your corrupt nature wants. **17** What your corrupt nature wants is contrary to what your spiritual nature wants, and what your spiritual nature wants is contrary to what your corrupt nature wants. They are opposed to each other. As a result, you don't always do what you intend to do. **18** If your spiritual nature is your guide, you are not subject to Moses' laws. **19** Now, the effects of the corrupt nature are obvious: illicit sex, perversion, promiscuity, **20** idolatry, drug use, hatred, rivalry, jealousy, angry outbursts, selfish ambition, conflict, factions, **21** envy, drunkenness, wild partying, and similar things. I've told you in the past and I'm telling you again that people who do these kinds of

things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²²But the spiritual nature produces love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, and self-control. There are no laws against things like that. ²⁴Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified their corrupt nature along with its passions and desires.

²⁵If we live by our spiritual nature, then our lives need to conform to our spiritual nature. ²⁶We can't allow ourselves to act arrogantly and to provoke or envy each other.

Galatians 6

¹Brothers and sisters, if a person gets trapped by wrongdoing, those of you who are spiritual should help that person turn away from doing wrong. Do it in a gentle way. At the same time watch yourself so that you also are not tempted. ²Help carry each other's burdens. In this way you will follow Christ's teachings. ³So if any one of you thinks you're important when you're really not, you're only fooling yourself. ⁴Each of you must examine your own actions. Then you can be proud of your own accomplishments without comparing yourself to others. ⁵Assume your own responsibility.

⁶The person who is taught God's word should share all good things with his teacher. ⁷Make no mistake about this: You can never make a fool out of God. Whatever you plant is what you'll harvest. ⁸If you plant in [the soil of] your corrupt nature, you will harvest destruction. But if you plant in [the soil of] your spiritual nature, you will harvest everlasting life. ⁹We can't allow ourselves to get tired of living the right way. Certainly, each of us will receive [everlasting life] at the proper time, if we don't give up. ¹⁰Whenever we have the opportunity, we have to do what is good for everyone, especially for the family of believers.

Ephesians 1

Through Christ, God has blessed us with every spiritual blessing that heaven has to offer. ⁴Before the creation of the world, he chose us through Christ to be holy and perfect in his presence. ⁵Because of his love he had already decided to adopt us through Jesus Christ.

¹²He planned all of this so that we who had already focused our hope on Christ would praise him and give him glory.

Ephesians 2

³All of us once lived among these people, and followed the desires of our corrupt nature. We did what our corrupt desires and thoughts wanted us to do. So, because of our nature, we deserved God's anger just like everyone else.

Ephesians 4

¹I, a prisoner in the Lord, encourage you to live the kind of life which proves that God has called you. ²Be humble and gentle in every way. Be patient with each other and lovingly accept each other. ³Through the peace that ties you together, do your best to maintain the unity that the Spirit gives.

¹¹He also gave apostles, prophets, missionaries, as well as pastors and teachers as gifts [to his church]. ¹²Their purpose is to prepare God's people to serve and to build up the body of Christ. ¹³This is to continue until all of us are united in our faith and in our knowledge about God's Son, until we become mature, until we measure up to Christ, who is the standard.

¹⁷So I tell you and encourage you in the Lord's name not to live any longer like other people in the world.

[22](#) You were taught to change the way you were living. [23](#) However, you were taught to have a new attitude. [24](#) You were also taught to become a new person created to be like God, truly righteous and holy.

[25](#) So then, get rid of lies. Speak the truth to each other, because we are all members of the same body. [26](#) Be angry without sinning. Don't go to bed angry. [27](#) Don't give the devil any opportunity [to work]. [28](#) Thieves must quit stealing and, instead, they must work hard. They should do something good with their hands so that they'll have something to share with those in need. [29](#) Don't say anything that would hurt [another person]. Instead, speak only what is good so that you can give help wherever it is needed. That way, what you say will help those who hear you. [30](#) Don't give God's Holy Spirit any reason to be upset with you. He has put his seal on you for the day you will be set free [from the world of sin]. [31](#) Get rid of your bitterness, hot tempers, anger, loud quarreling, cursing, and hatred. [32](#) Be kind to each other, sympathetic, forgiving each other as God has forgiven you through Christ.

Ephesians 5

[1](#) Imitate God, since you are the children he loves. [2](#) Live in love as Christ also loved us. He gave his life for us as an offering and sacrifice, a soothing aroma to God.

[3](#) Don't let sexual sin, perversion of any kind, or greed even be mentioned among you. This is not appropriate behavior for God's holy people. [4](#) It's not right that dirty stories, foolish talk, or obscene jokes should be mentioned among you either. Instead, give thanks [to God]. [5](#) You know very well that no person who is involved in sexual sin, perversion, or greed (which means worshiping wealth) can have any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.

[6](#) Don't let anyone deceive you with meaningless words.

[10](#) Determine which things please the Lord. [11](#) Have nothing to do with the useless works that darkness produces. Instead, expose them for what they are.

[15](#) So then, be very careful how you live. Don't live like foolish people but like wise people. [16](#) Make the most of your opportunities because these are evil days. [17](#) So don't be foolish, but understand what the Lord wants. [18](#) Don't get drunk on wine, which leads to wild living. Instead, be filled with the Spirit? [19](#) by reciting psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs for your own good. Sing and make music to the Lord with your hearts. [20](#) Always thank God the Father for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. [21](#) Place yourselves under each other's authority out of respect for Christ.

Paul's Advice to Wives and Husbands

[22](#) Wives, place yourselves under your husbands' authority as you have placed yourselves under the Lord's authority. [23](#) The husband is the head of his wife as Christ is the head of the church. It is his body, and he is its Savior. [24](#) As the church is under Christ's authority, so wives are under their husbands' authority in everything.

[25](#) Husbands, love your wives as Christ loved the church and gave his life for it. [26](#) He did this to make the church holy by cleansing it, washing it using water along with spoken words. [27](#) Then he could present it to himself as a glorious church, without any kind of stain or wrinkle-holy and without faults. [28](#) So husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies. A man who loves his wife loves himself. [29](#) No one ever hated his own body. Instead, he feeds and takes care of it, as Christ takes care of the church. [30](#) We are parts of his body. [31](#) That's why a man will leave his father and mother and be united with his wife, and the two will be one. [32](#) This is a great mystery. (I'm talking about Christ's

relationship to the church.) [33](#) But every husband must love his wife as he loves himself, and wives should respect their husbands.

Ephesians 6

Paul's Advice to Children and Parents

[1](#) Children, obey your parents because you are Christians. This is the right thing to do. [2](#) "Honor your father and mother [3](#) that everything may go well for you, and you may have a long life on earth." This is an important commandment with a promise.

[4](#) Fathers, don't make your children bitter about life. Instead, bring them up in Christian discipline and instruction.

Paul's Advice to Slaves & Masters

[5](#) Slaves, obey your earthly masters with proper respect. Be as sincere as you are when you obey Christ. [6](#) Don't obey them only while you're being watched, as if you merely wanted to please people. But obey like slaves who belong to Christ, who have a deep desire to do what God wants them to do. [7](#) Serve eagerly as if you were serving your heavenly master and not merely serving human masters.

[8](#) You know that your heavenly master will reward all of us for whatever good we do, whether we're slaves or free people.

[9](#) Masters, treat your slaves with respect. Don't threaten a slave. You know that there is one master in heaven who has authority over both of you, and he doesn't play favorites.

Put on all the Armor that God Supplies

[10](#) Finally, receive your power from the Lord and from his mighty strength. [11](#) Put on all the armor that God supplies. In this way you can take a stand against the devil's strategies. [12](#) This is not a wrestling match against a human opponent. We are wrestling with rulers, authorities, the powers who govern this world of darkness, and spiritual forces that control evil in the heavenly world. [13](#) For this reason, take up all the armor that God supplies. Then you will be able to take a stand during these evil days. Once you have overcome all obstacles, you will be able to stand your ground. [14](#) So then, take your stand! Fasten truth around your waist like a belt. Put on God's approval as your breastplate. [15](#) Put on your shoes so that you are ready to spread the Good News that gives peace. [16](#) In addition to all these, take the Christian faith as your shield. With it you can put out all the flaming arrows of the evil one. [17](#) Also take salvation as your helmet and the word of God as the sword that the Spirit supplies.

[18](#) Pray in the Spirit in every situation. Use every kind of prayer and request there is. For the same reason be alert. Use every kind of effort and make every kind of request for all of God's people.

Philippians 1

[27](#) Live as citizens who reflect the Good News about Christ.

Philippians 2

1 So then, as Christians, do you have any encouragement? Do you have any comfort from love? Do you have any spiritual relationships? Do you have any sympathy and compassion? **2** Then fill me with joy by having the same attitude and the same love, living in harmony, and keeping one purpose in mind. **3** Don't act out of selfish ambition or be conceited. Instead, humbly think of others as being better than yourselves. **4** Don't be concerned only about your own interests, but also be concerned about the interests of others.

5 Have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had.

12 My dear friends, you have always obeyed, not only when I was with you but even more now that I'm absent. In the same way continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling. **13** It is God who produces in you the desires and actions that please him.

Philippians 3

15 Whoever has a mature faith should think this way. And if you think differently, God will show you how to think. **16** However, we should be guided by what we have learned so far.

Philippians 4

4 Always be joyful in the Lord! I'll say it again: Be joyful! **5** Let everyone know how considerate you are. The Lord is near. **6** Never worry about anything. But in every situation let God know what you need in prayers and requests while giving thanks. **7** Then God's peace, which goes beyond anything we can imagine, will guard your thoughts and emotions through Christ Jesus.

8 Finally, brothers and sisters, keep your thoughts on whatever is right or deserves praise: things that are true, honorable, fair, pure, acceptable, or commendable. **9** Practice what you've learned and received from me, what you heard and saw me do. Then the God who gives this peace will be with you.

11 I'm not saying this because I'm in any need. I've learned to be content in whatever situation I'm in. **12** I know how to live in poverty or prosperity. No matter what the situation, I've learned the secret of how to live when I'm full or when I'm hungry, when I have too much or when I have too little. **13** I can do everything through Christ who strengthens me.

Colossians 1

10 We ask this so that you will live the kind of lives that prove you belong to the Lord. Then you will want to please him in every way as you grow in producing every kind of good work by this knowledge about God. **11** We ask him to strengthen you by his glorious might with all the power you need to patiently endure everything with joy.

23 This is on the condition that you continue in faith without being moved from the solid foundation of the hope that the Good News contains.

Colossians 2

6 You received Christ Jesus the Lord, so continue to live as Christ's people. **7** Sink your roots in him and build on him. Be strengthened by the faith that you were taught, and overflow with thanksgiving.

9 All of God lives in Christ's body, **10** and God has made you complete in Christ. Christ is in charge of every ruler and authority.

16 Therefore, let no one judge you because of what you eat or drink or about the observance of annual holy days, New Moon Festivals, or weekly worship days.

Colossians 3

5 Therefore, put to death whatever is worldly in you: your sexual sin, perversion, passion, lust, and greed (which is the same thing as worshipping wealth).

8 Also get rid of your anger, hot tempers, hatred, cursing, obscene language, and all similar sins. **9** Don't lie to each other. You've gotten rid of the person you used to be and the life you used to live, **10** and you've become a new person. This new person is continually renewed in knowledge to be like its Creator.

12 As holy people whom God has chosen and loved, be sympathetic, kind, humble, gentle, and patient. **13** Put up with each other, and forgive each other if anyone has a complaint. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. **14** Above all, be loving. This ties everything together perfectly.

Advice for Wives and Husbands, Parents and Children, Slaves and Masters

18 Wives, place yourselves under your husbands' authority. This is appropriate behavior for the Lord's people. **19** Husbands, love your wives, and don't be harsh with them. **20** Children, always obey your parents. This is pleasing to the Lord. **21** Fathers, don't make your children resentful, or they will become discouraged.

22 Slaves, always obey your earthly masters. Don't obey them only while you're being watched, as if you merely wanted to please people. Be sincere in your motives out of respect for your real master. **23** Whatever you do, do it wholeheartedly as though you were working for your real master and not merely for humans. **24** You know that your real master will give you an inheritance as your reward. It is Christ, your real master, whom you are serving.

Colossians 4

2 Keep praying. Pay attention when you offer prayers of thanksgiving.

5 Be wise in the way you act toward those who are outside [the Christian faith]. Make the most of your opportunities. **6** Everything you say should be kind and well thought out so that you know how to answer everyone.

1 Thessalonians 2

9 You remember, brothers and sisters, our work and what we did to earn a living. We worked night and day so that we could bring you the Good News of God without being a burden to any of you.

Yet, we insisted that **12** you should live in a way that proves you belong to the God who calls you into his kingdom and glory.

1 Thessalonians 4

1 Now then, brothers and sisters, because of the Lord Jesus we ask and encourage you to excel in living a God-pleasing life even more than you already do. Do this the way we taught you. **2** You know what orders we gave you through the Lord Jesus. **3** It is God's will that you keep away from sexual sin as a mark of your devotion to him. **4** Each of you should know that finding a husband or wife for yourself is to be done in a holy and honorable way,

7 God didn't call us to be sexually immoral but to be holy. **8** Therefore, whoever rejects this [order] is not rejecting human authority but God, who gives you his Holy Spirit.

We encourage you as believers to excel in love even more. **11** Also, make it your goal to live quietly, do your work, and earn your own living, as we ordered you. **12** Then your way of life will win respect from those outside [the church], and you won't have to depend on anyone else for what you need.

17 Then, together with them, we who are still alive will be taken in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. In this way we will always be with the Lord. **18** So then, comfort each other with these words!

1 Thessalonians 5

4 But, brothers and sisters, you don't live in the dark. That day won't take you by surprise as a thief would. **5** You belong to the day and the light not to the night and the dark. **6** Therefore, we must not fall asleep like other people, but we must stay awake and be sober. **7** People who sleep, sleep at night; people who get drunk, get drunk at night. **8** Since we belong to the day, we must be sober. We must put on faith and love as a breastplate and the hope of salvation as a helmet. **9** It was not God's intention that we experience his anger but that we obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

12 Brothers and sisters, we ask you to show your appreciation for those leaders who work among you and instruct you. **13** We ask you to love them and think very highly of them because of the work they are doing. Live in peace with each other. **14** We encourage you, brothers and sisters, to instruct those who are not living right, cheer up those who are discouraged, help the weak, and be patient with everyone. **15** Make sure that no one ever pays back one wrong with another wrong. Instead, always try to do what is good for each other and everyone else. **16** Always be joyful. **17** Never stop praying. **18** Whatever happens, give thanks, because it is God's will in Christ Jesus that you do this. **19** Don't put out the Spirit's fire. **20** Don't despise what God has revealed. **21** Instead, test everything. Hold on to what is good. **22** Keep away from every kind of evil.

2 Thessalonians 3

6 Brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ we order you not to associate with any believer who doesn't live a disciplined life and doesn't follow the tradition you received from us. **7** You know what you must do to imitate us. We lived a disciplined life among you. **8** We didn't eat anyone's food without paying for it. Instead, we worked hard and struggled night and day in order not to be a burden to any of you. **9** It's not as though we didn't have a right to receive support. Rather, we wanted to set an example for you to follow. **10** While we were with you, we gave you the order: "Whoever doesn't want to work shouldn't be allowed to eat."

11 We hear that some of you are not living disciplined lives. You're not working, so you go around interfering in other people's lives. **12** We order and encourage such people by the Lord Jesus Christ to

pay attention to their own work so they can support themselves. **13** Brothers and sisters, we can't allow ourselves to get tired of doing what is right.

14 It may be that some people will not listen to what we say in this letter. Take note of them and don't associate with them so that they will feel ashamed. **15** Yet, don't treat them like enemies, but instruct them like brothers and sisters.

1 Timothy 2

8 I want men to offer prayers everywhere. They should raise their hands in prayer after putting aside their anger and any quarrels they have with anyone.

9 I want women to show their beauty by dressing in appropriate clothes that are modest and respectable. Their beauty will be shown by what they do, not by their hair styles or the gold jewelry, pearls, or expensive clothes they wear.

1 Timothy 3

Guidelines for Leaders in the Church

1 This is a statement that can be trusted: If anyone sets his heart on being a bishop, he desires something excellent. **2** A bishop must have a good reputation. He must have only one wife, be sober, use good judgment, be respectable, be hospitable, and be able to teach. **3** He must not drink excessively or be a violent person, but he must be gentle. He must not be quarrelsome or love money. **4** He must manage his own family well. His children should respectfully obey him. **5** (If a man doesn't know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?) **6** He must not be a new Christian, or he might become arrogant like the devil and be condemned. **7** People who are not Christians must speak well of him, or he might become the victim of disgraceful insults that the devil sets as traps for him.

8 Deacons must also be of good character. They must not be two-faced or addicted to alcohol. They must not use shameful ways to make money. **9** They must have clear consciences about possessing the mystery of the Christian faith. **10** First, a person must be evaluated. Then, if he has a good reputation, he may become a deacon. **11** Their wives must also be of good character. They must not be gossips, but they must control their tempers and be trustworthy in every way. **12** A deacon must have only one wife. Deacons must manage their children and their families well. **13** Those deacons who serve well gain an excellent reputation and will have confidence as a result of their faith in Christ Jesus.

1 Timothy 4

Guidelines for Serving Christ

6 You are a good servant of Christ Jesus when you point these things out to our brothers and sisters. Then you will be nourished by the words of the Christian faith and the excellent teachings which you have followed closely. **7** Don't have anything to do with godless myths that old women like to tell. Rather, train yourself to live a godly life. **8** Training the body helps a little, but godly living helps in every way. Godly living has the promise of life now and in the world to come. **9** This is a statement that can be trusted and deserves complete acceptance. **10** Certainly, we work hard and struggle to live a godly

life, because we place our confidence in the living God. He is the Savior of all people, especially of those who believe.

11 Insist on these things and teach them. **12** Don't let anyone look down on you for being young. Instead, make your speech, behavior, love, faith, and purity an example for other believers.

14 Don't neglect the gift which you received through prophecy when the spiritual leaders placed their hands on you [to ordain you]. **15** Practice these things. Devote your life to them so that everyone can see your progress. **16** Focus on your life and your teaching. Continue to do what I've told you. If you do this, you will save yourself and those who hear you.

1 Timothy 5

3 Honor widows who have no families. **4** The children or grandchildren of a widow must first learn to respect their own family by repaying their parents. This is pleasing in God's sight.

8 If anyone doesn't take care of his own relatives, especially his immediate family, he has denied the Christian faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

17 Give double honor to spiritual leaders who handle their duties well. This is especially true if they work hard at teaching the word [of God]. **18** After all, Scripture says, "Never muzzle an ox when it is threshing grain," and "The worker deserves his pay." **19** Don't pay attention to an accusation against a spiritual leader unless it is supported by two or three witnesses. **20** Reprimand those leaders who sin. Do it in front of everyone so that the other leaders will also be afraid.

1 Timothy 6

6 A godly life brings huge profits to people who are content with what they have. **7** We didn't bring anything into the world, and we can't take anything out of it. **8** As long as we have food and clothes, we should be satisfied.

11 But you, man of God, must avoid these things. Pursue what God approves of: a godly life, faith, love, endurance, and gentleness. **12** Fight the good fight for the Christian faith. Take hold of everlasting life to which you were called and about which you made a good testimony in front of many witnesses.

2 Timothy 1

8 So never be ashamed to tell others about our Lord or be ashamed of me, his prisoner. Instead, by God's power, join me in suffering for the sake of the Good News. **9** God saved us and called us to be holy, not because of what we had done, but because of his own plan and kindness. Before the world began, God planned that Christ Jesus would show us God's kindness. **10** Now with the coming of our Savior Christ Jesus, he has revealed it. Christ has destroyed death, and through the Good News he has brought eternal life into full view. **11** I was appointed to be a messenger of this Good News, an apostle, and a teacher. **12** For this reason I suffer as I do. However, I'm not ashamed. I know whom I trust. I'm convinced that he is able to protect what he had entrusted to me until that day.

13 With faith and love for Christ Jesus, consider what you heard me say to be the pattern of accurate teachings. **14** With the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us, protect the Good News that has been entrusted to you.

2 Timothy 2

1 My child, find your source of strength in the kindness of Christ Jesus. **2** You've heard my message, and it's been confirmed by many witnesses. Entrust this message to faithful individuals who will be competent to teach others. **3** Join me in suffering like a good soldier of Christ Jesus.

16 Avoid pointless discussions.

19 "Whoever worships the Lord must give up doing wrong."

21 Those who stop associating with dishonorable people will be honored. They will be set apart for the master's use, prepared to do good things. **22** Stay away from lusts which tempt young people. Pursue what has God's approval. Pursue faith, love, and peace together with those who worship the Lord with a pure heart. **23** Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments. You know they cause quarrels. **24** A servant of the Lord must not quarrel. Instead, he must be kind to everyone. He must be a good teacher. He must be willing to suffer wrong. **25** He must be gentle in correcting those who oppose the Good News. Maybe God will allow them to change the way they think and act and lead them to know the truth. **26** Then they might come back to their senses and God will free them from the devil's snare so that they can do his will.

2 Timothy 3

1 You must understand this: In the last days there will be violent periods of time. **2** People will be selfish and love money. They will brag, be arrogant, and use abusive language. They will curse their parents, show no gratitude, have no respect for what is holy, **3** and lack normal affection for their families. They will refuse to make peace with anyone. They will be slanderous, lack self-control, be brutal, and have no love for what is good. **4** They will be traitors. They will be reckless and conceited. They will love pleasure rather than God. **5** They will appear to have a godly life, but they will not let its power change them. Stay away from such people.

16 Every Scripture passage is inspired by God. All of them are useful for teaching, pointing out errors, correcting people, and training them for a life that has God's approval. **17** They equip God's servants so that they are completely prepared to do good things.

2 Timothy 4

2 Be ready to spread the word whether or not the time is right. Point out errors, warn people, and encourage them. Be very patient when you teach.

Titus 1

6 A spiritual leader must have a good reputation.

7 He must not be a stubborn or irritable person. He must not drink too much or be a violent person. He must not use shameful ways to make money. **8** Instead, he must be hospitable, love what is good, use good judgment, be fair and moral, and have self-control. **9** He must be devoted to the trustworthy message we teach. Then he can use these accurate teachings to encourage people and correct those who oppose the word.

Titus 2

1 Tell believers to live the kind of life that goes along with accurate teachings. **2** Tell older men to be sober. Tell them to be men of good character, to use good judgment, and to be well-grounded in faith, love, and endurance.

3 Tell older women to live their lives in a way that shows they are dedicated to God. Tell them not to be gossips or addicted to alcohol, but to be examples of virtue. **4** In this way they will teach young women to show love to their husbands and children, **5** to use good judgment, and to be morally pure. Also, tell them to teach young women to be homemakers, to be kind, and to place themselves under their husbands' authority. Then no one can speak evil of God's word.

6 Encourage young men to use good judgment. **7** Always set an example by doing good things. When you teach, be an example of moral purity and dignity. **8** Speak an accurate message that cannot be condemned. Then those who oppose us will be ashamed because they cannot say anything bad about us.

11 After all, God's saving kindness has appeared for the benefit of all people. **12** It trains us to avoid ungodly lives filled with worldly desires so that we can live self-controlled, moral, and godly lives in this present world. **13** At the same time we can expect what we hope for—the appearance of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. **14** He gave himself for us to set us free from every sin and to cleanse us so that we can be his special people who are enthusiastic about doing good things.

15 Tell these things to the believers. Encourage and correct them, using your full authority. Don't let anyone ignore you.

Titus 3

1 Remind believers to willingly place themselves under the authority of government officials. Believers should obey them and be ready to help them with every good thing they do. **2** Believers shouldn't curse anyone or be quarrelsome, but they should be gentle and show courtesy to everyone.

9 Avoid foolish controversies, arguments about genealogies, quarrels, and fights about Moses' Teachings. This is useless and worthless. **10** Have nothing to do with people who continue to teach false doctrine after you have warned them once or twice. **11** You know that people like this are corrupt. They are sinners condemned by their own actions.

Philemon 1

8 Christ makes me bold enough to order you to do the right thing.

Hebrews 3

1 Brothers and sisters, you are holy partners in a heavenly calling. So look carefully at Jesus,

6 But Christ is a faithful son in charge of God's household. We are his household if we continue to have courage and to be proud of the confidence we have.

7 As the Holy Spirit says, "If you hear God speak today, don't be stubborn.

8 Don't be stubborn like those who rebelled and tested me in the desert.

12 Be careful, brothers and sisters, that none of you ever develop a wicked, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. **13** Encourage each other every day while you have the opportunity. If you do this, none of you will be deceived by sin and become stubborn. **14** After all, we will remain Christ's partners only if we continue to hold on to our original confidence until the end.

15 Scripture says, "If you hear God speak today, don't be stubborn. Don't be stubborn like those who rebelled."

Hebrews 4

8 If Joshua had given the people rest, God would not have spoken about another day. **9** Therefore, a time of rest and worship exists for God's people. **10** Those who entered his place of rest also rested from their work as God did from his. **11** So we must make every effort to enter that place of rest. Then no one will be lost by following the example of those who refused to obey.

12 God's word is living and active. It is sharper than any two-edged sword and cuts as deep as the place where soul and spirit meet, the place where joints and marrow meet. God's word judges a person's thoughts and intentions. **13** No creature can hide from God. Everything is uncovered and exposed for him to see. We must answer to him.

Hebrews 6

1 With this in mind, we should stop going over the elementary truths about Christ and move on to topics for more mature people. We shouldn't repeat the basics about turning away from the useless things we did and the basics about faith in God. **2** We shouldn't repeat the basic teachings about such things as baptisms, setting people apart for holy tasks, dead people coming back to life, and eternal judgment. **3** If God permits, we will do this.

11 We want each of you to prove that you're working hard so that you will remain confident until the end.

Hebrews 10

23 We must continue to hold firmly to our declaration of faith. The one who made the promise is faithful. **24** We must also consider how to encourage each other to show love and to do good things. **25** We should not stop gathering together with other believers, as some of you are doing. Instead, we must continue to encourage each other even more as we see the day of the Lord coming.

35 So don't lose your confidence. It will bring you a great reward. **36** You need endurance so that after you have done what God wants you to do, you can receive what he has promised.

Hebrews 12

1 Since we are surrounded by so many examples [of faith], we must get rid of everything that slows us down, especially sin that distracts us. We must run the race that lies ahead of us and never give up. **2** We must focus on Jesus, the source and goal of our faith. He saw the joy ahead of him, so he endured death on the cross and ignored the disgrace it brought him. Then he received the highest position in heaven, the one next to the throne of God.

3 Think about Jesus, who endured opposition from sinners, so that you don't become tired and give up.

4 You struggle against sin, but your struggles haven't killed you.

5 You have forgotten the encouraging words that God speaks to you as his children: "My child, pay attention when the Lord disciplines you. Don't give up when he corrects you."

6 The Lord disciplines everyone he loves. He severely disciplines everyone he accepts as his child."

7 Endure your discipline. God corrects you as a father corrects his children. All children are disciplined by their fathers. **8** If you aren't disciplined like the other children, you aren't part of the family.

12 Strengthen your tired arms and weak knees. **13** Keep walking along straight paths so that your injured leg won't get worse. Instead, let it heal.

14 Try to live peacefully with everyone, and try to live holy lives, because if you don't, you will not see the Lord. **15** Make sure that everyone has kindness from God so that bitterness doesn't take root and grow up to cause trouble that corrupts many of you. **16** Make sure that no one commits sexual sin or is as concerned about earthly things as Esau was. He sold his rights as the firstborn son for a single meal. **17** You know that afterwards, when he wanted to receive the blessing that the firstborn son was to receive, he was rejected. Even though he begged and cried for the blessing, he couldn't do anything to change what had happened.

25 Be careful that you do not refuse to listen when God speaks. Your ancestors didn't escape when they refused to listen to God, who warned them on earth. We certainly won't escape if we turn away from God, who warns us from heaven.

27 The words [once more] show clearly that God will change what he has made. These are the things that can be shaken. Then only the things that cannot be shaken will remain. **28** Therefore, we must be thankful that we have a kingdom that cannot be shaken. Because we are thankful, we must serve God with fear and awe in a way that pleases him. **29** After all, our God is a destructive fire.

Hebrews 13

1 Continue to love each other. **2** Don't forget to show hospitality to believers you don't know. By doing this some believers have shown hospitality to angels without being aware of it. **3** Remember those in prison as if you were in prison with them. Remember those who are mistreated as if you were being mistreated. **4** Marriage is honorable in every way, so husbands and wives should be faithful to each other. God will judge those who commit sexual sins, especially those who commit adultery.

5 Don't love money. Be happy with what you have because God has said, "I will never abandon you or leave you."

6 So we can confidently say, "The Lord is my helper. I will not be afraid. What can mortals do to me?"

7 Remember your leaders who have spoken God's word to you. Think about how their lives turned out, and imitate their faith. **8** Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. **9** Don't get carried away by all kinds of unfamiliar teachings.

11 The chief priest brings the blood of animals into the holy place as an offering for sin. But the bodies of those animals were burned outside the Israelite camp. **12** That is why Jesus suffered outside the gates of Jerusalem. He suffered to make the people holy with his own blood. **13** So we must go to him outside the camp and endure the insults he endured. **14** We don't have a permanent city here on earth, but we are looking for the city that we will have in the future.

15 Through Jesus we should always bring God a sacrifice of praise, that is, words that acknowledge him. **16** Don't forget to do good things for others and to share what you have with them. **These are the kinds of sacrifices that please God.**

17 Obey your leaders, and accept their authority. They take care of you because they are responsible for you. Obey them **so that they may do this work joyfully and not complain about you.** (Causing them to complain would not be to your advantage.)

James 1

2 My brothers and sisters, be very happy when you are tested in different ways. **3** You know that such testing of your faith produces endurance. **4** Endure until your testing is over. Then you will be mature and complete, and you won't need anything.

5 If any of you needs wisdom to know what you should do, you should ask God, and he will give it to you. God is generous to everyone and doesn't find fault with them. **6** When you ask for something, don't have any doubts. A person who has doubts is like a wave that is blown by the wind and tossed by the sea. **7** A person who has doubts shouldn't expect to receive anything from the Lord. **8** A person who has doubts is thinking about two different things at the same time and can't make up his mind about anything.

19 Remember this, my dear brothers and sisters: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak, and should not get angry easily. **20** An angry person doesn't do what God approves of. **21** So get rid of all immoral behavior and all the wicked things you do. Humbly accept the word that God has placed in you. This word can save you. **22** Do what God's word says. Don't merely listen to it, or you will fool yourselves. **23** If someone listens to God's word but doesn't do what it says, he is like a person who looks at his face in a mirror, **24** studies his features, goes away, and immediately forgets what he looks like. **25** However, the person who continues to study God's perfect teachings that make people free and who remains committed to them will be blessed. People like that don't merely listen and forget; they actually do what God's teachings say.

26 If a person thinks that he is religious but can't control his tongue, he is fooling himself. That person's religion is worthless. **27** Pure, unstained religion, according to God our Father, is to take care of orphans and widows when they suffer and to remain uncorrupted by this world.

James 2

1 My brothers and sisters, practice your faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ by not favoring one person over another.

8 You are doing right if you obey this law from the highest authority: "Love your neighbor as you love yourself." **9** If you favor one person over another, you're sinning, and this law convicts you of being

disobedient. **10** If someone obeys all of God's laws except one, that person is guilty of breaking all of them. **11** After all, the one who said, "Never commit adultery," is the same one who said, "Never murder." If you do not commit adultery but you murder, you become a person who disobeys God's laws. **12** Talk and act as people who are going to be judged by laws that bring freedom. **13** No mercy will be shown to those who show no mercy to others. **Mercy triumphs over judgment.**

14 My brothers and sisters, what good does it do if someone claims to have faith but doesn't do any good things? **Can this kind of faith save him?** **15** Suppose a believer, whether a man or a woman, needs clothes or food **16** and one of you tells that person, "God be with you! Stay warm, and make sure you eat enough." If you don't provide for that person's physical needs, what good does it do? **17** In the same way, faith by itself is dead if it doesn't cause you to do any good things.

18 Another person might say, "You have faith, but I do good things." Show me your faith apart from the good things you do. I will show you my faith by the good things I do. **19** You believe that there is one God. That's fine! The demons also believe that, and they tremble with fear. **20** You fool! Do you have to be shown that faith which does nothing is useless? **21** Didn't our ancestor Abraham receive God's approval as a result of what he did when he offered his son Isaac as a sacrifice on the altar? **22** You see that Abraham's faith and what he did worked together. His faith was shown to be genuine by what he did. **23** The Scripture passage came true. It says, "Abraham believed God, and that faith was regarded by God to be his approval of Abraham." So Abraham was called God's friend. **24** You see that a person receives God's approval because of what he does, not only because of what he believes. **25** The same is true of the prostitute Rahab who welcomed the spies and sent them away on another road. **She received God's approval because of what she did.** **26** A body that doesn't breathe is dead. In the same way faith that does nothing is dead.

James 3

1 Brothers and sisters, not many of you should become teachers. You know that we who teach will be judged more severely. **2** All of us make a lot of mistakes. If someone doesn't make any mistakes when he speaks, he would be perfect. He would be able to control everything he does. **3** We put bits in the mouths of horses to make them obey us, and we have control over everything they do. **4** The same thing is true for ships. They are very big and are driven by strong winds. Yet, by using small rudders, pilots steer ships wherever they want them to go. **5** In the same way the tongue is a small part of the body, but it can brag about doing important things. A large forest can be set on fire by a little flame. **6** The tongue is that kind of flame. It is a world of evil among the parts of our bodies, and it completely contaminates our bodies. The tongue sets our lives on fire, and is itself set on fire from hell. **7** People have tamed all kinds of animals, birds, reptiles, and sea creatures. **8** Yet, no one can tame the tongue. It is an uncontrollable evil filled with deadly poison. **9** With our tongues we praise our Lord and Father. Yet, with the same tongues we curse people, who were created in God's likeness. **10** Praise and curses come from the same mouth. My brothers and sisters, this should not happen! **11** Do clean and polluted water flow out of the same spring? **12** My brothers and sisters, can a fig tree produce olives? Can a grapevine produce figs? In the same way, a pool of salt water can't produce fresh water.

13 Do any of you have wisdom and insight? Show this by living the right way with the humility that comes from wisdom. **14** But if you are bitterly jealous and filled with self-centered ambition, don't brag. Don't say that you are wise when it isn't true. **15** That kind of wisdom doesn't come from above. It belongs to this world. It is self-centered and demonic. **16** Wherever there is jealousy and rivalry, there is disorder and every kind of evil. **17** However, the wisdom that comes from above is first of all pure.

Then it is peaceful, gentle, obedient, filled with mercy and good deeds, impartial, and sincere. **18** **A harvest that has God's approval comes from the peace planted by peacemakers.**

James 4

7 So place yourselves under God's authority. Resist the devil, and he will run away from you. **8** Come close to God, and he will come close to you. Clean up your lives, you sinners, and clear your minds, you doubters. **9** Be miserable, mourn, and cry. Turn your laughter into mourning and your joy into gloom. **10** Humble yourselves in the Lord's presence. **Then he will give you a high position.**

11 Brothers and sisters, stop slandering each other. Those who slander and judge other believers slander and judge God's teachings. If you judge God's teachings, you are no longer following them. Instead, you are judging them. **12** There is only one teacher and judge. He is able to save or destroy you. So who are you to judge your neighbor?

17 Whoever knows what is right but doesn't do it is sinning.

James 5

7 Brothers and sisters, **be patient** until the Lord comes again. See how farmers wait for their precious crops to grow. They wait patiently for fall and spring rains. **8** You, too, must be patient. Don't give up hope. **The Lord will soon be here.** **9** Brothers and sisters, stop complaining about each other, or you will be condemned. Realize that the judge is standing at the door. **10** Brothers and sisters, follow the example of the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. They were patient when they suffered unjustly. **11** We consider those who endure to be blessed. You have heard about Job's endurance. You saw that the Lord ended Job's suffering because the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

12 Above all things, my brothers and sisters, do not take an oath on anything in heaven or on earth. Do not take any oath. If you mean yes, say yes. If you mean no, say no. Do this so that you won't be condemned.

13 If any of you are having trouble, pray. If you are happy, sing psalms. **14** If you are sick, call for the church leaders. Have them pray for you and anoint you with olive oil in the name of the Lord. **15** (Prayers offered in faith will save those who are sick, and the Lord will cure them.) If you have sinned, you will be forgiven. **16** So admit your sins to each other, and pray for each other so that you will be healed. Prayers offered by those who have God's approval are effective. **17** Elijah was human like us. Yet, when he prayed that it wouldn't rain, no rain fell on the ground for three-and-a-half years. **18** Then he prayed again. It rained, and the ground produced crops.

19 My brothers and sisters, if one of you wanders from the truth, someone can bring that person back. **20** Realize that whoever brings a sinner back from the error of his ways will save him from death, and many sins will be forgiven.

1 Peter Chapter 1

2 God the Father knew you long ago and chose you to live holy lives with the Spirit's help so that you are obedient to Jesus Christ and are sprinkled with his blood. **May good will and peace fill your lives!**

13 Therefore, your minds must be clear and ready for action. Place your confidence completely in what God's kindness will bring you when Jesus Christ appears again. **14** Because you are children who obey God, don't live the kind of lives you once lived. Once you lived to satisfy your desires because you didn't know any better. **15** But because the God who called you is holy you must be holy in every aspect of your life. **16** Scripture says, "Be holy, because I am holy."

17 So if you call God your Father, live your time as temporary residents on earth in fear. He is the God who judges all people by what they have done, and he doesn't play favorites.

22 Love each other with a warm love that comes from the heart.

1 Peter Chapter 2

1 So get rid of every kind of evil, every kind of deception, hypocrisy, jealousy, and every kind of slander. **2** Desire God's pure word as newborn babies desire milk. Then you will grow in your salvation. **3** Certainly you have tasted that the Lord is good!

11 Dear friends, since you are foreigners and temporary residents [in the world], I'm encouraging you to keep away from the desires of your corrupt nature. These desires constantly attack you. **12** Live decent lives among unbelievers. Then, although they ridicule you as if you were doing wrong while they are watching you do good things, they will praise God on the day he comes to help you.

13 Place yourselves under the authority of human governments to please the Lord. Obey the emperor. He holds the highest position of authority. **14** Also obey governors. They are people the emperor has sent to punish those who do wrong and to praise those who do right. **15** God wants you to silence the ignorance of foolish people by doing what is right. **16** Live as free people, but don't hide behind your freedom when you do evil. Instead, use your freedom to serve God. **17** Honor everyone. Love your brothers and sisters in the faith. Fear God. Honor the emperor.

21 God called you to endure suffering because Christ suffered for you. He left you an example so that you could follow in his footsteps. **22** Christ never committed any sin. He never spoke deceitfully. **23** Christ never verbally abused those who verbally abused him. When he suffered, he didn't make any threats but left everything to the one who judges fairly. **24** Christ carried our sins in his body on the cross so that freed from our sins, we could live a life that has God's approval. His wounds have healed you. **25** You were like lost sheep. Now you have come back to the shepherd and bishop of your lives.

1 Peter Chapter 3

1 Wives, in a similar way, place yourselves under your husbands' authority. Some husbands may not obey God's word. Their wives could win these men [for Christ] by the way they live without saying anything. **2** Their husbands would see how pure and reverent their lives are. **3** Wives must not let their beauty be something external. Beauty doesn't come from hairstyles, gold jewelry, or clothes. **4** Rather, beauty is something internal that can't be destroyed. Beauty expresses itself in a gentle and quiet attitude which God considers precious. **5** After all, this is how holy women who had confidence in God expressed their beauty in the past. They placed themselves under their husbands' authority as Sarah did. Sarah obeyed Abraham and spoke to him respectfully. You became Sarah's daughters by not letting anything make you afraid to do good.

7 Husbands, in a similar way, live with your wives with understanding since they are weaker than you are. Honor your wives as those who share God's life-giving kindness so that nothing will interfere with your prayers.

8 Finally, everyone must live in harmony, be sympathetic, love each other, have compassion, and be humble. **9** Don't pay people back with evil for the evil they do to you, or ridicule those who ridicule you. Instead, bless them, because you were called to inherit a blessing.

10 "People who want to live a full life and enjoy good days must keep their tongues from saying evil things, and their lips from speaking deceitful things.

11 They must turn away from evil and do good. They must seek peace and pursue it.

12 The Lord's eyes are on those who do what he approves. His ears hear their prayer. The Lord confronts those who do evil."

13 Who will harm you if you are devoted to doing what is good?

14 But even if you suffer for doing what God approves, you are blessed. Don't be afraid of those who want to harm you. Don't get upset. **15** But dedicate your lives to Christ as Lord. Always be ready to defend your confidence [in God] when anyone asks you to explain it. However, make your defense with gentleness and respect. **16** Keep your conscience clear. Then those who treat the good Christian life you live with contempt will feel ashamed that they have ridiculed you. **17** After all, if it is God's will, it's better to suffer for doing good than for doing wrong.

1 Peter Chapter 4

1 Since Christ has suffered physically, take the same attitude that he had. (A person who has suffered physically no longer sins.)

7 The end of everything is near. Therefore, practice self-control, and keep your minds clear so that you can pray. **8** Above all, love each other warmly, because love covers many sins. **9** Welcome each other as guests without complaining. **10** Each of you as a good manager must use the gift that God has given you to serve others. **11** Whoever speaks must speak God's words. Whoever serves must serve with the strength God supplies so that in every way God receives glory through Jesus Christ. Glory and power belong to Jesus Christ forever and ever! Amen.

12 Dear friends, don't be surprised by the fiery troubles that are coming in order to test you. Don't feel as though something strange is happening to you, **13** but be happy as you share Christ's sufferings. Then you will also be full of joy when he appears again in his glory.

19 Those who suffer because that is God's will for them must entrust themselves to a faithful creator and continue to do what is good.

1 Peter Chapter 5

2 Be shepherds over the flock God has entrusted to you. Watch over it as God does: Don't do this because you have to, but because you want to. Don't do it out of greed, but out of a desire to

serve. **3** Don't be rulers over the people entrusted to you, but be examples for the flock to follow. **4** Then, when the chief shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

5 Young people, in a similar way, place yourselves under the authority of spiritual leaders. Furthermore, all of you must serve each other with humility, because God opposes the arrogant but favors the humble.

6 Be humbled by God's power so that when the right time come he will honor you. **7** Turn all your anxiety over to God because he cares for you. **8** Keep your mind clear, and be alert. Your opponent the devil is prowling around like a roaring lion as he looks for someone to devour. **9** Be firm in the faith and resist him, knowing that other believers throughout the world are going through the same kind of suffering.

12 I've written this short letter to you and I'm sending it by Silvanus, whom I regard as a faithful brother. I've written to encourage you and to testify that this is God's genuine good will. Remain firmly established in it!

2 Peter Chapter 1

3 God's divine power has given us everything we need for life and for godliness. This power was given to us through knowledge of the one who called us by his own glory and integrity. **4** Through his glory and integrity he has given us his promises that are of the highest value. Through these promises you will share in the divine nature because you have escaped the corruption that sinful desires cause in the world. **5** Because of this, make every effort to add integrity to your faith; and to integrity add knowledge; **6** to knowledge add self-control; to self-control add endurance; to endurance add godliness; **7** to godliness add Christian affection; and to Christian affection add love. **8** If you have these qualities and they are increasing, it demonstrates that your knowledge about our Lord Jesus Christ is living and productive. **9** If these qualities aren't present in your life, you're shortsighted and have forgotten that you were cleansed from your past sins. **10** Therefore, brothers and sisters, use more effort to make God's calling and choosing of you secure. If you keep doing this, you will never fall away. **11** Then you will also be given the wealth of entering into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

17 For example, we were eyewitnesses when he received honor and glory from God the Father and when the voice of our majestic God spoke these words to him: "This is my Son, whom I love and in whom I delight." **18** We heard that voice speak to him from heaven when we were with him on the holy mountain.

19 So we regard the words of the prophets as confirmed beyond all doubt. You're doing well by paying attention to their words. Continue to pay attention as you would to a light that shines in a dark place as you wait for day to come and the morning star to rise in your hearts. **20** First, you must understand this: No prophecy in Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation. **21** No prophecy ever originated from humans. Instead, it was given by the Holy Spirit as humans spoke under God's direction.

2 Peter Chapter 3

2 I want you to remember the words spoken in the past by the holy prophets and what the Lord and Savior commanded you through your apostles.

8 Dear friends, don't ignore this fact: One day with the Lord is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. **9** The Lord isn't slow to do what he promised, as some people think. Rather, he is patient for your sake. He doesn't want to destroy anyone but wants all people to have an opportunity to turn to him and change the way they think and act.

11 All these things will be destroyed in this way. So think of the kind of holy and godly lives you must live **12** as you look forward to the day of God and eagerly wait for it to come. When that day comes, heaven will be on fire and will be destroyed. Everything that makes up the universe will burn and melt. **13** But we look forward to what God has promised—a new heaven and a new earth—a place where everything that has God's approval lives.

14 Therefore, dear friends, with this to look forward to, make every effort to have him find you at peace, without [spiritual] stains or blemishes. **15** Think of our Lord's patience as an opportunity [for us] to be saved.

I John Chapter 1

5 This is the message we heard from Christ and are reporting to you: God is light, and there isn't any darkness in him. **6** If we say, "We have a relationship with God" and yet live in the dark, we're lying. We aren't being truthful. **7** But if we live in the light in the same way that God is in the light, we have a relationship with each other. And the blood of his Son Jesus cleanses us from every sin. **8** If we say, "We aren't sinful" we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us. **9** God is faithful and reliable. If we confess our sins, he forgives them and cleanses us from everything we've done wrong. **10** If we say, "We have never sinned," we turn God into a liar and his Word is not in us.

I John Chapter 2

1 My dear children, I'm writing this to you so that you will not sin.

6 Those who say that they live in him must live the same way he lived.

15 Don't love the world and what it offers.

24 Make sure that the message you heard from the beginning lives in you. If that message lives in you, you will also live in the Son and in the Father.

27 The anointing you received from Christ lives in you. You don't need anyone to teach you something else. Instead, Christ's anointing teaches you about everything. His anointing is true and contains no lie. So live in Christ as he taught you to do.

28 Now, dear children, live in Christ.

I John Chapter 3

3 So all people who have this confidence in Christ keep themselves pure, as Christ is pure.

6 Those who live in Christ don't go on sinning. Those who go on sinning haven't seen or known Christ. **7** Dear children, don't let anyone deceive you. **Whoever does what God approves of has God's approval as Christ has God's approval**

11 The message that you have heard from the beginning is to love each other.

18 Dear children, we must show love through actions that are sincere, not through empty words. **19** This is how we will know that we belong to the truth and how we will be reassured in his presence. **20** Whenever our conscience condemns us, we will be reassured that God is greater than our conscience and knows everything. **21** Dear friends, if our conscience doesn't condemn us, **we can boldly look to God** **22** **and receive from him anything we ask.** We receive it because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

23 This is his commandment: to believe in his Son, the one named Jesus Christ, and to love each other as he commanded us. **24** **Those who obey Christ's commandments live in God, and God lives in them.** We know that he lives in us because he has given us the Spirit.

I John Chapter 4

1 Dear friends, **don't believe all people who say that they have the Spirit. Instead, test them.** See whether the spirit they have is from God, because there are many false prophets in the world. **2** This is how you can recognize God's Spirit: **Every person who declares that Jesus Christ has come as a human has the Spirit that is from God.** **3** But every person who doesn't declare that Jesus Christ has come as a human has a spirit that isn't from God.

7 Dear friends, we must love each other because love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born from God and knows God.

11 Dear friends, if this is the way God loved us, we must also love each other.

19 We love because God loved us first. **20** Whoever says, "I love God," but hates another believer is a liar. People who don't love other believers, whom they have seen, can't love God, whom they have not seen. **21** Christ has given us this commandment: **The person who loves God must also love other believers.**

I John Chapter 5

13 I've written this to those who believe in the Son of God so that they will know that they have eternal life. **14** We are confident that God listens to us if we ask for anything that has his approval. **15** We know that he listens to our requests. So we know that we already have what we ask him for.

16 If you see another believer committing a sin that doesn't lead to death, **you should pray that God would give that person life.** This is true for those who commit sins that don't lead to death. There is a sin that leads to death. I'm not telling you to pray about that. **17** Every kind of wrongdoing is sin, yet there are sins that don't lead to death.

18 We know that those who have been born from God don't go on sinning. **Rather, the Son of God protects them, and the evil one can't harm them.** **19** We know that we are from God, and that the

whole world is under the control of the evil one. [20](#) We know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding so that we know the real God. **We are in the one who is real**, his Son Jesus Christ. This Jesus Christ is the real God and eternal life. [21](#) Dear children, guard yourselves from false gods.

2 John

[5](#) Rather, from the beginning we were commanded to love each other. [6](#) Love means that we live by doing what he commands. We were commanded to live in love, and you have heard this from the beginning.

[8](#) Be careful that you don't destroy what we've worked for, but that you receive your full reward. [9](#) Everyone who doesn't continue to teach what Christ taught doesn't have God. The person who continues to teach what Christ taught **has both the Father and the Son.** [10](#) If anyone comes to you and doesn't bring these teachings, **don't take him into your home or even greet him.**

3 John

[8](#) We must support believers who go on trips like this so that we can work together with them in spreading the truth.

Jude

[5](#) I want to remind you about what you already know: The Lord once saved his people from Egypt. But on another occasion he destroyed those who didn't believe. [7](#) What happened to Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities near them is an example for us of the punishment of eternal fire. The people of these cities suffered the same fate that God's people and the angels did, **because they committed sexual sins and engaged in homosexual activities.**

[16](#) These people complain, find fault, follow their own desires, say arrogant things, and flatter people in order to take advantage of them.

[21](#) Remain in God's love as you look for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to give you eternal life. [22](#) Show mercy to those who have doubts.

Revelation Chapter 2

[4](#) **However, I have this against you:** The love you had at first is gone. [5](#) Remember how far you have fallen. Return to me and change the way you think and act, and do what you did at first. I will come to you and take your lamp stand from its place if you don't change.

[7](#) "Let the person who has ears listen to what the Spirit says to the churches.

[11](#) Let the person who has ears listen to what the Spirit says to the churches. Everyone who wins the victory **will never be hurt by the second death.**

[16](#) So return to me and change the way you think and act, or I will come to you quickly and wage war against them with the sword from my mouth. [17](#) Let the person who has ears listen to what the Spirit

says to the churches. I will give some of the hidden manna to everyone who wins the victory. I will also give each person a white stone with a new name written on it, a name that is known only to the person who receives it.

25 Just hold on to what you have until I come.

29 Let the person who has ears listen to what the Spirit says to the churches.

Revelation Chapter 3

2 Be alert, and strengthen the things that are left which are about to die. I have found that what you are doing has not been completed in the sight of my God. **3** So remember what you received and heard. Obey, and change the way you think and act. If you're not alert, I'll come like a thief. You don't know when I will come. **4** But you have a few people in Sardis who have kept their clothes clean. They will walk with me in white clothes because they deserve it. **5** Everyone who wins the victory this way will wear white clothes. I will never erase their names from the Book of Life. I will acknowledge them in the presence of my Father and his angels. **6** Let the person who has ears listen to what the Spirit says to the churches.

11 I am coming soon! Hold on to what you have so that no one takes your crown. **12** I will make everyone who wins the victory a pillar in the temple of my God. They will never leave it again. I will write on them the name of my God, the name of the city of my God (the New Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from my God), and my new name. **13** Let the person who has ears listen to what the Spirit says to the churches.

18 I advise you: Buy gold purified in fire from me so that you may be rich. Buy white clothes from me. Wear them so that you may keep your shameful, naked body from showing. Buy ointment to put on your eyes so that you may see. **19** I correct and discipline everyone I love. Take this seriously, and change the way you think and act. **20** Look, I'm standing at the door and knocking. If anyone listens to my voice and opens the door, I'll come in and we'll eat together. **21** I will allow everyone who wins the victory to sit with me on my throne, as I have won the victory and have sat down with my Father on his throne. **22** Let the person who has ears listen to what the Spirit says to the churches."

Revelation Chapter 9

20 The people who survived these plagues still did not turn to me and change the way they were thinking and acting. If they had, they would have stopped worshiping demons and idols made of gold, silver, bronze, stone, and wood, which cannot see, hear, or walk. **21** They did not turn away from committing murder, practicing witchcraft, sinning sexually, or stealing.

Revelation Chapter 12

11 They won the victory over him because of the blood of the lamb and the word of their testimony. They didn't love their life so much that they refused to give it up.

Revelation Chapter 13

9 If anyone has ears, let him listen: **10** If anyone is taken prisoner, he must go to prison. If anyone is killed with a sword, with a sword he must be killed. In this situation God's holy people need endurance and confidence.

18 In this situation wisdom is needed. Let the person who has insight figure out the number of the beast, because it is a human number. The beast's number is 666.

Revelation Chapter 14

7 The angel said in a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the time has come for him to judge. Worship the one who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs."

12 In this situation God's holy people, who obey his commands and keep their faith in Jesus, need endurance.

Revelation Chapter 16

15 "See, I am coming like a thief. Blessed is the one who remains alert and doesn't lose his clothes. He will not have to go naked and let others see his shame."

Revelation Chapter 17

1 "Come, I will show you the judgment of that notorious prostitute who sits on raging waters. **2** The kings of the earth had sex with her, and those living on earth became drunk on the wine of her sexual sins."

Revelation Chapter 18

4 I heard another voice from heaven saying, "Come out of Babylon, my people, so that you do not participate in her sins and suffer from any of her plagues."

Revelation Chapter 19

6 I heard what sounded like the noise from a large crowd, like the noise of raging waters, like the noise of loud thunder, saying,

"Hallelujah! The Lord our God, the Almighty, has become king."

7 Let us rejoice, be happy, and give him glory because it's time for the marriage of the lamb. His bride has made herself ready.

Revelation Chapter 20

12 I saw the dead, both important and unimportant people, standing in front of the throne. Books were opened, including the Book of Life. The dead were judged on the basis of what they had done, as recorded in the books. **13** The sea gave up its dead. Death and hell gave up their dead. People were

judged based on what they had done. **14** Death and hell were thrown into the fiery lake. (The fiery lake is the second death.) **15** Those whose names were not found in the Book of Life were thrown into the fiery lake.

Revelation Chapter 21

8 But cowardly, unfaithful, and detestable people, murderers, sexual sinners, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars will find themselves in the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death."

Revelation Chapter 21

8 I, John, heard and saw these things. When I had heard and seen them, I bowed to worship at the feet of the angel who had been showing me these things. **9** He told me, "Don't do that! I am your coworker. I work with other Christians, the prophets, and those who follow the words in this book. Worship God!"

10 Then the angel said to me, "Don't seal up the words of the prophecy in this book because the time is near. **11** Let those who don't have God's approval go without it, and let filthy people continue to be filthy. Let those who have God's approval continue to have it, and let holy people continue to be holy."

12 "I'm coming soon! I will bring my reward with me to pay all people based on what they have done. **13** I am the A and the Z, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.