

THE ROAD TO REFORMATION



A 50 Day Devotional Journey

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Bible quotations from 'The Geneva 1560 Project'

Introduction:

Hoc est verum. Wir sind alle Pettler

These are the words in Latin and German that were found on a slip of paper in the pocket of Martin Luther on the day he died of a heart attack at the age of 62 (18 February 1546) in Eisleben, Germany. Translated they read "It's true – we're all beggars." These words reflect the attitude that the Christian must have in approaching the Word of God. We come to Him with nothing to offer but our Sin of disobedience and rebellion. In that sense we are "Beggars" not deserving God's Mercy and Love; only deserving His Wrath and Judgment.

Within the very fabric of Scripture we find Jesus Christ (John 5:39) amidst the narrative of God's 'Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Consummation'. We are on the Road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35), Encountering Jesus Christ unaware - questioning but not quite seeing; engaging but not quite understanding. We invite Christ to our table, He breaks bread with us and blesses us - now our eyes are open! That is the Hope! That as you break bread and commune through the Scriptures that you will encounter Christ having your eyes open!

This devotional assumes that the Reader has committed to making The Word of God an integrated fabric of your daily life. That you are taking the time to read God's Word everyday; seek God's Heart and Mind. If you are unwilling to do this one simple thing, please do not attempt to utilize this devotional. It will not have any eternal value and you would just be wasting your time. Devotion to God is serious spiritual business - for we war not against flesh and blood (Ephesians 6:12).

The word Devotion finds its origin in the Latin 'devotionem' - nominative of devotio, noun of action from the past participle stem of devovere, which finds its root meaning - dedicate by a vow, sacrifice oneself or to promise solemnly.

"In ancient Latin, "act of consecrating by a vow," also "loyalty, fealty, allegiance;" in Church Latin, "devotion to God, piety." This was the original sense in English; the etymological sense, including secular situations, returned 16c. via Italian and French"¹. So, you see that the very definition of the word "Devotion" demands something of the Reader. It demands something that goes far beyond the confines of this devotional to the very heart of God Himself.

¹ www.etymonline.com

DAY 1

KEEP YOUR SERVANT FROM PRESUMPTUOUS SINS; LET THEM NOT HAVE DOMINION OVER ME: THEN SHALL I BE UPRIGHT, AND I SHALL BE INNOCENT FROM THE GREAT TRANSGRESSION.

LET THE WORDS OF MY MOUTH, AND THE MEDITATION OF MY HEART, BE ACCEPTABLE IN YOUR SIGHT, O LORD, MY STRENGTH AND MY REDEEMER.

PSALM 19:13-14

“PRAYER IS AN ACT OF WORSHIP WHEREIN WE BRING OUR PETITIONS BEFORE GOD WITH OUR HEARTS AND LIPS AND OFFER UP PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING TO HIM”

THE LORD’S MODEL PRAYER

“OUR FATHER WHO IS IN HEAVEN”-- THE INTRODUCTION

GOD WOULD BY THESE WORDS TENDERLY INVITE US TO BELIEVE THAT HE IS OUR TRUE FATHER, AND THAT WE ARE HIS TRUE CHILDREN, SO THAT WE MAY WITH ALL BOLDNESS AND CONFIDENCE ASK HIM AS DEAR CHILDREN...

I CALL PRAYER ‘THE COMMUNICATION OF WORSHIP BETWEEN GOD AND HIS CHILDREN.’ MORE OFTEN THEN NOT, OUR PRAYERS ARE ONLY A FORM OF ‘SELF-TALK.’ A SORT OF ‘SELF-COUNSEL,’ IF YOU WILL.

WE NEED TO REALIZE THAT PRAYER HAS A SUBJECT -- US, AND PRAYER HAS AN OBJECT -- GOD. IT IS THAT INTERACTION OF RELATIONSHIP THAT ESTABLISHES GOD AT THE CENTER OF OUR LIVES.

BEHOLD, WHAT MANNER OF LOVE THE FATHER HAS BESTOWED UPON US, THAT WE SHOULD BE CALLED THE CHILDREN OF GOD. I JOHN 3:1

YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED THE SPIRIT OF BONDAGE AGAIN TO FEAR; BUT YOU HAVE RECEIVED THE SPIRIT OF ADOPTION, WHEREBY WE CRY, ABBA, FATHER. ROMANS 8:15

THOUGHTS: _____

SO YOU CALL GOD YOUR FATHER
A CUT ABOVE THE REST
BUT IS YOUR FAITH NO MORE THEN FODDER
HAVE YOU REALLY PASSED THE TEST?

IS PRAYER MERELY A CONVENIENT WAY TO TALK?
OR IS YOUR SOUL RESTLESS IN THIS WEARY WORLD BELOW?
LET THE SPIRIT LEAD YOU TO THE ROCK
AND OF CHRIST’S BLOOD TO SHOW

DAY 2

THE LORD REIGNS; LET THE PEOPLE TREMBLE: HE SITS BETWEEN THE CHERUBIM;
LET THE EARTH BE MOVED.

THE LORD IS GREAT IN ZION; AND HE IS HIGH ABOVE ALL THE PEOPLE.

LET THEM PRAISE YOUR GREAT AND TERRIBLE NAME; FOR IT IS HOLY.

THE KING'S STRENGTH ALSO LOVES JUSTICE; YOU ESTABLISH EQUITY, YOU EXECUTE
JUDGMENT AND RIGHTEOUSNESS IN JACOB.

EXALT THE LORD OUR GOD, AND WORSHIP AT HIS FOOTSTOOL; FOR HE IS HOLY.

PSALM 99:1-5

THEY ARE NOT OF THE WORLD, EVEN AS I AM NOT OF THE WORLD.

SANCTIFY THEM THROUGH YOUR TRUTH: YOUR WORD IS TRUTH. JOHN 17:16-17

IN THE FIRST THREE PETITIONS WE ASK FOR SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS, IN THE FOURTH
PETITION FOR MATERIAL GIFTS, AND IN THE LAST THREE PETITIONS FOR
DELIVERANCE FROM EVIL.

"HALLOWED BE THY NAME"-- THE FIRST PETITION (SPIRITUAL BLESSING)

GOD'S NAME IS INDEED HOLY IN ITSELF; BUT WE PRAY IN THIS PETITION THAT IT MAY
BE HOLY AMONG US ALSO.

WHEN THE WORD OF GOD IS TAUGHT IN ITS TRUTH AND PURITY, AND WE, AS THE
CHILDREN OF GOD, ALSO LEAD A HOLY LIFE ACCORDING TO IT. THIS GRANT US, DEAR
FATHER IN HEAVEN. BUT HE THAT TEACHES AND LIVES OTHERWISE THAN GOD'S
WORD TEACHES, PROFANES THE NAME OF GOD AMONG US. FROM THIS PRESERVE
US, HEAVENLY FATHER.

THE FOUNDATION AND MOTIVATION OF HOLINESS IS GOD HIMSELF (ISAIAH 6:1-9). THIS
COMMAND OF GOD TO BE HOLY (1 PETER 1:13-25) DEMANDS A RESPONSE OF
OBEDIENCE.

THOUGHTS: _____

WE SPEAK OF GOD AS HOLY AND TRUE
BUT WHEN IT COME TO OUR LIVES, WHAT DO WE DO?
FOR HOLINESS SEEMS, BUT FOR A FEW
FOR A HOLY LIFE, WE HAVEN'T A CLUE

WE FIND IN HIS NAME HALLOWEDNESS TRUE
FOR IN HIS NAME WE KNOW WHAT TO DO
TO BE ON THE ROAD TO HOLINESS WE ENSUE
HIS WORD IN OUR HEARTS AND ACTIONS, THAT WHAT WE DO!

DAY 3

NOW AFTER THAT JOHN WAS PUT IN PRISON, JESUS CAME INTO GALILEE, PREACHING THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD,

AND SAYING, THE TIME IS FULFILLED, AND THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS AT HAND:

REPENT, AND BELIEVE THE GOSPEL. MARK 1:14-15

... SEEK THE KINGDOM OF GOD ... FEAR NOT, LITTLE FLOCK; FOR IT IS YOUR FATHER'S GOOD PLEASURE TO GIVE YOU THE KINGDOM. LUKE 12:31-32

“YOUR KINGDOM COME”-- THE SECOND PETITION (SPIRITUAL BLESSING)

THE KINGDOM OF GOD COMES INDEED WITHOUT OUR PRAYER, OF ITSELF; BUT WE PRAY IN THIS PETITION THAT IT MAY COME TO US ALSO.

[THE KINGDOM OF GOD COMES TO US] WHEN OUR HEAVENLY FATHER GIVES US HIS HOLY SPIRIT, SO THAT BY HIS GRACE WE BELIEVE HIS HOLY WORD AND LEAD A GODLY LIFE, HERE IN TIME AND HEREAFTER IN ETERNITY.

THERE HAS BEEN MUCH DISCUSSION AND THEOLOGICAL DEBATE ON “THE KINGDOM” AS PRESENTED IN THE BIBLE. WHATEVER YOUR POSITION, ONE THING IS CLEAR. THE FACT OF THE KINGDOM DEMANDS A RESPONSE FROM US.

... WE ARE RECEIVING A KINGDOM WHICH CANNOT BE MOVED, LET US HAVE GRACE, WHEREBY WE MAY SERVE GOD ACCEPTABLY WITH REVERENCE AND GODLY FEAR: FOR OUR GOD IS A CONSUMING FIRE. HEBREWS 12:28-29

THOUGHTS: _____

IF WE SEEK A KINGDOM IN A FAR OFF LAND
 WE WILL FIND ONLY A DESERT FILLED WITH SAND
 OUR HEARTS WILL ONLY GROW WEARY AND STRENGTH WILL FAINT
 OUR LIVES WILL MEAN NOTHING IN THE WITNESS OF SAINTS

THE KINGDOM IS RIGHT BEFORE YOU. OPEN YOUR EYES AND SEE
 TO BE GRASPED WITHIN THE HEART FOR YOU AND FOR ME
 A KINGDOM OF INHERITANCE FOR ALL WHO BELIEVE
 A KINGDOM OF LIFE IN JESUS TO RECEIVE

IN RECEIVING THIS KINGDOM WHICH CANNOT BE MOVED
 LET US HAVE GRACE, SERVE GOD, BE SHREWD
 SERVE WITH REVERENT FEAR, THIS YOUR DESIRE
 FOR OUR GOD IS A CONSUMING FIRE

DAY 4

LOVE NOT THE WORLD, NEITHER THE THINGS THAT ARE IN THE WORLD. IF ANYONE LOVE THE WORLD, THE LOVE OF THE FATHER IS NOT IN HIM.

FOR ALL THAT IS IN THE WORLD, THE LUST OF THE FLESH, THE LUST OF THE EYES AND THE PRIDE OF LIFE, IS NOT OF THE FATHER, BUT IS OF THE WORLD.

AND THE WORLD PASSES AWAY AND THE LUST THEREOF; BUT HE THAT DOES THE WILL OF GOD ABIDES FOREVER. I JOHN 2:15-17

I BESEECH YOU THEREFORE, BROTHERS, BY THE MERCIES OF GOD, THAT YOU PRESENT YOUR BODIES A LIVING SACRIFICE, HOLY, ACCEPTABLE TO GOD, WHICH IS YOUR REASONABLE SERVICE.

AND BE NOT CONFORMED TO THIS WORLD: BUT BE TRANSFORMED BY THE RENEWING OF YOUR MIND, THE YOU MAY PROVE WHAT IS THAT GOOD AND ACCEPTABLE, AND PERFECT, WILL OF GOD. ROMANS 12:1-2

“YOUR WILL BE DONE ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN”-- THE THIRD PETITION (SPIRITUAL BLESSING)

[GOD’S GOOD AND GRACIOUS WILL IS DONE AMONG US] WHEN GOD BREAKS AND HINDERS EVERY EVIL COUNSEL AND WILL WHICH WOULD NOT LET US HALLOW GOD’S NAME NOR LET HIS KINGDOM COME, SUCH AS THE WILL OF THE DEVIL, THE WORLD, AND OUR FLESH; BUT STRENGTHENS AND PRESERVES US STEADFAST IN HIS WORD AND FAITH UNTO OUR END. THIS IS HIS GRACIOUS AND GOOD WILL.

AS WE REFLECT UPON OUR LIVES IN RELATIONSHIP TO GOD’S WILL; IT SEEMS THAT SELF-WILL IS BEING EQUATED WITH GOD’S WILL. WE DESIRE AND CANNOT ATTAIN, AS A RESULT, WE MANIPULATE OTHERS TO BELIEVE OUR DESIRE IS GOD’S WILL. BUT HOW DO WE KNOW THE DIFFERENCE?

THE KEY IS FOUND IN ROMANS 12:1-2. OUR LIVES MUST BE (1) SACRIFICIAL IN RELATIONSHIP TO OTHERS (2) HOLY IN EVERY MANNER OF LIVING (3) AND MOST OF ALL, OUR LIVES MUST BE ACCEPTABLE TO GOD. THE ONLY WAY IT CAN BE ACCEPTABLE IS TO HAVE YOUR WILL/MIND CONFORM TO THE WILL/MIND OF GOD. THIS IS ONLY BE ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH A DEVOTION TO GOD’S WORD (WHICH CONVEYS GOD’S WILL) AND A WILLINGNESS TO BE LEAD AND DIRECTED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT TO LIVE AN OBEDIENT LIFE.

THOUGHTS: _____

IN LIVING WE REALIZE WITHIN
OUR MINDS CORRUPTED BY SIN
GIVEN THE FACT OF OUR SINFUL WAY
WE NEED TO SEE JESUS, OUR HOPE AND STAY
ONLY THEN CAN WE LIVE WITHIN GOD’S WILL
KNOWING THAT TODAY, HE GUIDES US STILL

DAY 5

OUR FATHERS DID EAT MANNA IN THE DESERT; AS IT IS WRITTEN, HE GAVE THEM BREAD FROM HEAVEN TO EAT.

THEN JESUS SAID TO THEM, TRULY I SAY TO YOU, MOSES GAVE YOU NOT THAT BREAD FROM HEAVEN; BUT MY FATHER GAVE YOU THE TRUE BREAD FROM HEAVEN.

FOR THE BREAD OF GOD IS HE WHICH COMES DOWN FROM HEAVEN AND GIVES LIFE TO THE WORLD. JOHN 6:31-33

DO NOT BE CARRIED ABOUT WITH DIVERS AND STRANGE DOCTRINES. FOR IT IS A GOOD THING THAT THE HEART BE ESTABLISHED WITH GRACE; NOT WITH MEATS, WHICH HAVE NOT PROFITED THEM THAT HAVE BEEN OCCUPIED THEREIN. HEBREWS 13:9

AND HE SAID TO ME, MY GRACE IS SUFFICIENT FOR YOU: FOR MY STRENGTH IS MADE PERFECT IN WEAKNESS. MOST GLADLY THEREFORE WILL I RATHER GLORY IN MY INFIRMITIES, THAT THE POWER OF CHRIST MAY REST ON ME. II CORINTHIANS 12:9-10

“GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD”-- THE FOURTH PETITION
(MATERIAL BLESSING)

GOD GIVES DAILY BREAD INDEED WITHOUT OUR PRAYER, ALSO TO ALL THE WICKED; BUT WE PRAY IN THIS PETITION THAT HE WOULD LEAD US TO KNOW IT, AND TO RECEIVE OUR DAILY BREAD WITH THANKSGIVING.

[DAILY BREAD IS EVERYTHING THAT BELONGS TO THE SUPPORT AND WANTS OF THE BODY, SUCH AS FOOD, DRINK, CLOTHING, SHOES, HOUSE, HOME, FIELD, CATTLE, MONEY, GOODS, A PIOUS SPOUSE, PIOUS CHILDREN, PIOUS SERVANTS, PIOUS AND FAITHFUL RULERS, GOOD GOVERNMENT, GOOD WEATHER, PEACE, HEALTH, DISCIPLINE, HONOR, GOOD FRIENDS, FAITHFUL NEIGHBORS, AND THE LIKE.

IT NOT GOD’S PURPOSE TO WITHHOLD ANY GOOD THING FROM US (PHILEMON 6). BUT BECAUSE OF SIN, WE HAVE A TENDENCY TO PUT THESE “THINGS” BEFORE HIS KINGDOM AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS (MATTHEW 6:33). SEEK HIM FIRST -- LET THIS BE OUR DESIRE.

THOUGHTS: _____

THE CHIEF END OF MAN IS TO GLORIFY GOD AND ENJOY HIM FOREVER
BUT TO BE SATISFIED OF FLESH IS OUR ENDEAVOR
HOW DO WE TURN FROM THIS WICKED WAY?
FROM WALLOWING IN SIN AS WE LAY?

HOW DO RID YOUR LIFE OF GAUL
THE ANSWER LIES IN THE LIFE OF PAUL
WHO FOR HIS SAVIOR, HIS LIFE WAS SPENT
LEARNED THAT WHATSOEVER HIS STATE, THEREWITH TO BE CONTENT

DAY 6

AND HE SPOKE THIS PARABLE TO CERTAIN ONE WHO TRUSTED IN THEMSELVES THAT THEY WERE RIGHTEOUS, AND DESPISED OTHERS:

TWO MEN WENT UP INTO THE TEMPLE TO PRAY; THE ONE A PHARISEE, AND THE OTHER A TAX COLLECTOR.

THE PHARISEE STOOD AND PRAYED THUS WITH HIMSELF, GOD, I THANK YOU, THAT I AM NOT AS OTHER MEN ARE, EXTORTIONERS, UNJUST, ADULTERERS, OR EVEN AS THIS TAX COLLECTOR.

I FAST TWICE IN THE WEEK, I GIVE TITHES OF ALL THAT I POSSESS.

AND THE TAX COLLECTOR, STANDING AFAR OFF, WOULD NOT LIFT UP SO MUCH AS HIS EYES TO HEAVEN, BUT STRUCK HIS CHEST, SAYING, GOD BE MERCIFUL TO ME A SINNER.

I TELL YOU, THIS MAN WENT DOWN TO HIS HOUSE JUSTIFIED RATHER THAN THE OTHER: FOR EVERY ONE THAT EXALTS HIMSELF SHALL BE ABASED; AND HE THAT HUMBLER HIMSELF SHALL BE EXALTED. LUKE 18:9-14

“AND FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES, AS WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO TRESPASS AGAINST US”-- THE FIFTH PETITION (DELIVERANCE FROM EVIL)

WE PRAY IN THIS PETITION THAT OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN WOULD NOT LOOK UPON OUR SINS, NOR ON THEIR ACCOUNT DENY OUR PRAYER; FOR WE ARE WORTHY OF NONE OF THE THINGS FOR WHICH WE PRAY, NEITHER HAVE WE DESERVED THEM; BUT THAT HE WOULD GRANT THEM ALL TO US BY GRACE; FOR WE DAILY SIN MUCH AND INDEED DESERVE NOTHING BUT PUNISHMENT. SO WILL WE ALSO HEARTILY FORGIVE, AND READILY DO GOOD TO, THOSE WHO SIN AGAINST US.

FORGIVENESS IN THE LIGHT OF PRAYER IS RECIPROCAL. IN OTHER WORDS, FORGIVENESS GIVEN IS FORGIVENESS RECEIVED. “WHEN YOU STAND PRAYING, FORGIVE IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING AGAINST ANYONE, THAT YOUR FATHER ALSO WHICH IS IN HEAVEN MAY FORGIVE YOU YOUR TRESPASSES. BUT IF YOU DO NOT FORGIVE, NEITHER WILL YOUR FATHER WHICH IS IN HEAVEN FORGIVE YOUR TRESPASSES.

“ MARK 11:25-26

THOUGHTS: _____

FORGIVENESS IS NEEDED TO KEEP YOUR PRAYER UNHINDERED
JUST AS CHRIST FORGAVE US AND SALVATION RENDERED
WE ARE TO RETURN WHAT CHRIST HAS GIVEN
A SACRIFICIAL LIFE THAT IS WORTH THE LIVING

CHRIST FREELY GAVE UP HIS LIFE ON THE CROSS
SO THAT ALL WE GAVE UP WOULD BE WORTH THE LOSS
FORGIVENESS IS A SMALL MATTER COMPARED TO CHRIST
FOR HE FREELY FORGAVE AND SACRIFICALLY PAID THE PRICE

DAY 7

BLESSED IS THE MAN THAT ENDURES TEMPTATION: FOR WHEN HE IS TRIED, HE SHALL RECEIVE THE CROWN OF LIFE, WHICH THE LORD HAS PROMISED TO THEM THAT LOVE HIM.

LET NO ONE SAY THAT WHEN HE IS TEMPTED, I AM TEMPTED OF GOD; FOR GOD CANNOT BE TEMPTED WITH EVIL, NEITHER TEMPTS HE ANY MAN; BUT EVERY MAN IS TEMPTED WHEN HE IS DRAWN AWAY OF HIS OWN LUST AND ENTICED.

THEN WHEN LUST HAS CONCEIVED, IT BRINGS FORTH SIN: AND SIN, WHEN IT IS FINISHED, BRINGS FORTH DEATH. JAMES 1:12-15

BE SOBER, BE VIGILANT; BECAUSE YOUR ADVERSARY THE DEVIL, AS A ROARING LION, WALKS ABOUT, SEEKING WHOM HE MAY DEVOUR:

RESIST HIM, STEADFAST IN THE FAITH, KNOWING THAT THE SAME AFFLICTIONS ARE ACCOMPLISHED IN YOUR BRETHREN THAT ARE IN THE WORLD.

BUT THE GOD OF ALL GRACE, WHO HAS CALLED US TO HIS ETERNAL GLORY BY CHRIST JESUS, AFTER THAT YOU HAVE SUFFERED A WHILE, MAKE YOU COMPLETE, ESTABLISHED, STRENGTHEN, SETTLE YOU.

TO HIM BE GLORY AND DOMINION FOR EVER AND EVER. AMEN. I PETER 5:8-11

“AND LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION”-- THE SIXTH PETITION
(DELIVERANCE FROM EVIL)

GOD INDEED TEMPTS NO ONE; BUT WE PRAY IN THIS PETITION THAT GOD WOULD GUARD AND KEEP US, SO THAT THE DEVIL, THE WORLD, AND OUR FLESH MAY NOT DECEIVE US NOR SEDUCE US INTO MISBELIEF, DESPAIR, AND OTHER GREAT SHAME AND VICE; AND THOUGH WE BE ASSAILED BY THEM, THAT STILL WE MAY FINALLY OVERCOME AND OBTAIN VICTORY.

AS IN THE GARDEN, WHEN OUR SIN IS EXPOSED, OUR FLESH BEGINS TO PLACE BLAME ELSEWHERE. WE BLAME SOMEONE IN AUTHORITY, WE BLAME OUR SPOUSE, WE EVEN BLAME GOD. THERE ARE THOSE WITH “THE DEVIL MADE ME DO IT” SYNDROME. THE DEVIL GETS TOO MUCH CREDIT -- LET’S TAKE THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR OUR OWN SIN AND LET THE HOLY SPIRIT MOLD US INTO CHRIST’S IMAGE. READ AND REFLECT ON THE FOLLOWING VERSES: PROVERBS 32:5, 38:3, 18, 51:3, ROMANS 4:8, 6:6 AND JERAMIAH 31:34

THOUGHTS: _____

A LIFESTYLE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS WE MUST LEAD
HIS WORD IN OBEDIENCE WE ARE TO HEED
IN ALL THE TEMPTATION THAT COMES OUR WAY
CRADLED IN HIS ARMS, WE ARE TO STAY

DAY 8

AND THE LORD SHALL DELIVER ME FROM EVERY EVIL WORK, AND WILL PRESERVE ME TO HIS HEAVENLY KINGDOM: TO WHOM BE GLORY FOR EVER AND EVER. AMEN.

II TIMOTHY 4:18

CONFIRMING THE SOULS OF THE DISCIPLES, AND EXHORTING THEM TO CONTINUE IN THE FAITH, AND THAT WE MUST THROUGH MUCH TRIBULATION ENTER INTO THE KINGDOM OF GOD. ACTS 14:22

THESE THINGS I HAVE SPOKEN TO YOU, THAT IN ME YOU MIGHT HAVE PEACE, IN THE WORLD YOU SHALL HAVE TRIBULATION: BUT BE OF GOOD CHEER; I HAVE OVERCOME THE WORLD. JOHN 16:33

“BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL”-- THE SEVENTH PETITION (DELIVERANCE FROM EVIL)

WE PRAY IN THIS PETITION, AS THE SUM OF ALL, THAT OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN WOULD DELIVER US FROM EVERY EVIL OF BODY AND SOUL, PROPERTY AND HONOR, AND FINALLY, WHEN OUR LAST HOUR HAS COME, GRANT US A BLESSED END, AND GRACIOUSLY TAKE US FROM THIS VALE OF TEARS TO HIMSELF IN HEAVEN. WE MUST BE ON GUARD! OUR ADVERSARY THE DEVIL IS LIKE A ROARING LION, SEEKING TO DEVOUR US. MORE LIKELY THEN NOT, OUR DOWNFALL WILL BE SEEN IN THE ACCEPTANCE OF SO CALLED “MINOR SINS” (ONLY IN OUR OWN MINDS AND HEART -- WITH GOD, SIN IS SIN REGARDLESS). SIN BEGINS TO TAKE CONTROL WHEN WE FIRST TAKE THEM FOR GRANTED. THE LION WILL LIE IN WAIT, TAKING THE OPPORTUNITY TO DEVOUR WHEN WE LOSE OUR BALANCE IN A “MINOR HOLE” IN THE GROUND.

THOUGHTS: _____

NO MINOR SIN I MAINTAIN
 FOR GREAT WAS THE COST OF THIS BLOOD STAIN
 FOR IN SALVATION CHRIST GAVE HIS ALL
 AND IN COMPARISON, IT IS A SMALL MATTER TO MAINTAIN MY CALL

“FOR THINE IS THE KINGDOM AND THE POWER AND THE GLORY FOREVER AND EVER. AMEN -- THE CONCLUSION

WHAT IS MEANT BY THE WORD “AMEN”? THAT I SHOULD BE CERTAIN THAT THESE PETITIONS ARE ACCEPTABLE TO OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN, AND ARE HEARD BY HIM; FOR HE HIMSELF HAS COMMANDED US SO TO PRAY, AND HAS PROMISED TO HEAR US. AMEN, AMEN, THAT IS, YEA, YEA, IT SHALL BE SO.

IN THE CONCLUSION WE STATE THE REASONS FOR ASKING ALL THESE THINGS OF GOD:

1. HE ALONE IS THE KING, FROM WHOM WE SEEK HELP.
2. HE ALONE HAS THE POWER TO GRANT OUR PETITIONS
3. HE SHALL HAVE ALL GLORY AND PRAISE FOR ALL THAT HE HAS DONE FOR US.

DAY 9

GOD IS SPIRIT. JOHN 4:24.

GOD IS --

ETERNAL (WITHOUT BEGINNING AND WITHOUT END);

LORD, YOU HAVE BEEN OUR DWELLING PLACE IN ALL GENERATIONS, BEFORE THE MOUNTAINS WERE BROUGHT FORTH OR YOU BROUGHT FORTH THE EARTH AND THE WORLD, FROM EVERLASTING TO EVERLASTING, YOU ARE GOD. PSALM 90:1-2
UNCHANGABLE

I AM THE LORD, I CHANGE NOT. MALACHI 3:6

YOU ARE THE SAME, AND YOUR YEARS SHALL HAVE NO END. PSALM 102:27

OMNIPOTENT (ALMIGHTY, ALL-POWERFUL);

I AM THE ALMIGHTY GOD. GENESIS 17:1

WITH GOD NOTHING SHALL BE IMPOSSIBLE. LUKE 1:37

WITH GOD ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE. MATTHEW 19:26

OMNISCIENT (ALL-KNOWING);

O LORD, YOU HAVE SEARCHED ME AND KNOWN ME, YOU KNOW MY DOWNSITTING AND MY UPRISING, YOU UNDERSTAND MY THOUGHT AFAR OFF. YOU ENCOMPASS MY PATH AND MY LYING DOWN AND ARE ACQUAINTED WITH ALL MY WAY. FOR THERE IS NOT A WORD IN MY TONGUE, BUT LO, O LORD, YOU KNOW IT ALTOGETHER. PSALM 139:1-4
LORD, YOU KNOW ALL THINGS. JOHN 21:17

OMNIPRESENT (PRESENT EVERYWHERE);

CAN ANY HIDE HIMSELF IN SECRET PLACES THAT I SHALL NOT SEE HIM? SAYS THE LORD. DO NOT I FILL HEAVEN AND EARTH? SAYS THE LORD. JERAMIAH 23:24

HOLY (SINLESS AND HATING SIN);

I, THE LORD, YOUR GOD, AM HOLY. LEVITICUS 19:2

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, IS THE LORD OF HOSTS. ISAIAH 6:3

JUST (FAIR AND IMPARTIAL);

A GOD OF TRUTH AND WITHOUT INIQUITY, JUST AND RIGHT IS HE. DEUTERONOMY 32:4

FAITHFUL (KEEPING HIS PROMISES);

HE ABIDES FAITHFUL; HE CANNOT DENY HIMSELF. II TIMOTHY 2:13

BENEVOLENT (GOOD, KIND, DESIRING OUR WELFARE);

THE LORD IS GOOD TO ALL, AND HIS TENDER MERCIES ARE OVER ALL HIS WORKS. PSALM 145:9

MERCIFUL (FULL OF PITY);

HIS TENDER MERCIES ARE OVER ALL HIS WORKS. PSALM 145:9

GRACIOUS (SHOWING UNDESERVED KINDNESS, FORGIVING).

THE LORD, THE LORD GOD, MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS, LONG-SUFFERING, AND ABUNDANT IN GOODNESS AND TRUTH, KEEPING MERCY FOR THOUSANDS, FORGIVING INIQUITY AND TRANSGRESSION AND SIN. EXODUS 34:6-7

THOUGHTS: _____

GOD IS MY LIFE

REGARDLESS OF STRIFE

FORSAKING THE SIN

I WILL BE LIKE HIM

DAY 10

[THE GENTILES] SHOW THE WORK OF THE LAW WRITTEN IN THEIR HEARTS, THEIR CONSCIENCE ALSO BEARING WITNESS, AND THEIR THOUGHTS THE MEANWHILE ACCUSING OR ELSE EXCUSING ONE ANOTHER. ROMANS 2:15

THE LORD IS THE TRUE GOD, HE IS THE LIVING GOD AND AN EVERLASTING KING. JEREMIAH 10:10

THIS IS LIFE ETERNAL, THAT THEY MIGHT KNOW YOU THE ONLY TRUE GOD, AND JESUS CHRIST, WHOM YOU HAVE SENT. JOHN 17:3

TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR HEART. PROVERBS 3:5

IT IS BETTER TO TRUST IN THE LORD THAN TO PUT CONFIDENCE IN MAN.

PSALM 118:8

THE LORD GAVE MOSES TWO TABLES OF STONE. THE SUMMARY OF THE FIRST TABLE IS "YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD, YOUR GOD, WITH ALL YOUR HEART AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND" - MATTHEW 22:37. THE SECOND TABLE OF STONE IS "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF" - MATTHEW 22:39. THESE TWO SUMMARIES FORM THE BASIC OUTLINE OF GOD'S WORD TO MAN ON STONE.

THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW IN ITS ENTIRETY, CAN SIMPLY BE EXPRESSED WITH ONE WORD -- LOVE.

LOVE IS THE FULFILLING OF THE LAW. ROMANS 13:10

GOD

"YOU SHALL HAVE NO OTHER GODS BEFORE ME" -- THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

WE SHOULD FEAR, LOVE, AND TRUST IN GOD ABOVE ALL THINGS. THIS EXCLUDES NOTHING! WHATEVER DEMANDS YOUR ATTENTION BEFORE GOD HIMSELF MUST BE AVOIDED.

WHENEVER ANYONE MAKES THE STATEMENT "YOU SHALL!!!", OUR FLESH IS REPELLED. WE REACT BY SAYING, "NO ONE IS GOING TO TELL ME WHAT TO DO!" -- "I HAVE MY RIGHTS!". REMEMBER THAT THE THEME AND SUMMARY OF THE TEN COMMANDMENTS IS LOVE. THE BIBLICAL PRACTICALITY OF LOVE IS GIVEN REALITY AS A COMMAND. "A NEW COMMANDMENT I GIVE TO YOU, THAT YOU SHOULD LOVE ONE ANOTHER." JOHN 13:34 EMOTION THEN IS THE RESULT OF THE COMMAND. WHEN THE FLESH ENTERS THE PICTURE, IT DEMANDS TO BE FIRST.

THOUGHTS: _____

THE FIRST COMMANDMENT OF GOD IS MINE FOR LIVING
 HIS LOVE FOR ME, THE REASON IT WAS GIVEN

IF I ONLY LOOK FOR THE COMMAND
 THE DO'S AND DON'T OF WHERE I STAND
 I WILL LOSE SIGHT OF LOVE'S DEMAND
 AND LOSE MY WAY IN SINKING SAND

DAY 11

THIS IS HIS NAME WHEREBY HE SHALL BE CALLED, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.

JERAMIAH 23:6

THE LORD WILL NOT HOLD HIM GUILTLESS THAT TAKES HIS NAME IN VAIN.

EXODUS 20:7

WHOEVER CUSES HIS GOD SHALL BEAR HIS SIN.LEVITICUS 24:15

WITH THE TONGUE WE BLESS GOD, EVEN THE FATHER; AND THEREWITH CURSE WE MEN, WHICH ARE MADE AFTER THE IMAGE OF GOD. OUT OF THE SAME MOUTH PROCEEDS BLESSING CURSING. MY BRETHREN, THESE THINGS OUGHT NOT SO TO BE. JAMES 3:9-10

BLESS THE LORD, O MY SOUL, AND ALL THAT IS WITHIN ME, BLESS HIS HOLY NAME.

PSALM 103:1

OH, GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD, FOR HIS IS GOOD; BECAUSE HIS MERCY ENDURES FOREVER.PSALM 118:1

GOD'S NAME

YOU SHALL NOT TAKE THE NAME OF THE LORD, YOUR GOD, IN VAIN -- THE SECOND COMMANDMENT.

WE SHOULD FEAR AND LOVE GOD THAT WE MAY NOT CURSE, SWEAR, USE WITCHCRAFT, LIE, OR DECEIVE BY HIS NAME, BUT CALL UPON IT IN EVERY TROUBLE, PRAY, PRAISE, AND GIVE THANKS.

TO TAKE THE LORD'S NAME IN VAIN IS MORE THEN THE USE OF FOUR LETTER WORDS. TO TAKE THE LORD'S NAME IN VAIN IS TO MAKE IT OF NO CONSEQUENCE. THAT IS, YOUR LIFE BY YOUR VERY ACTIONS OR INACTION CAN HAVE THE SAME MEANING.

BY THE VERY FACT YOU CALL YOURSELF A CHRISTIAN, REFLECTS UPON THE NAME AND CHARACTER OF GOD. YOU ARE INSEPERATELY IDENTIFIED WITH HIM. YOU MAY NOT USE THE WORD'S BUT YOUR LIFE CAN CAUSE OTHERS TO SAY THEM FOR YOU.

THOUGHTS:_____

WE ARE IDENTIFIED WITH HIS NAME
SO WHAT WE DO REFLECTS THE SAME

YOU SAY YOU'LL NEVER USE THE LORD'S NAME IN VAIN
BUT YOUR LIFE AND ACTIONS MAKE IT PLAIN

REMEMBER THAT YOUR LIFE IS AN OPEN BOOK
FOR PEOPLE TO SEE AND TAKE A LOOK

ARE THE PAGES SOILED FROM WITHIN
HONOR GOD'S NAME AND FORSAKE THE SIN

DAY 12

THE SON OF MAN IS LORD EVEN OF THE SABBATH DAY.MATTHEW 12:8
LET NO MAN THEREFOR JUDGE YOU IN MEAT OR IN DRINK OR IN RESPECT OF A HOLY
DAY OR OF THE NEW MOON OR OF THE SABBATH DAYS; WHICH ARE A SHADOW OF
THINGS TO COME; BUT THE BODY IS OF CHRIST.COLOSSIANS 2:16-17
ONE MAN ESTEEMS ONE DAY ABOVE ANOTHER; ANOTHER ESTEEMS EVERY DAY
ALIKE. LET EVERY MAN BE FULLY PERSUADED IN HIS OWN MIND. HE THAT REGARDS
THE DAY REGARDS IT TO THE LORD; AND HE THAT REGARDS NOT THE DAY, TO THE
LORD HE DOES NOT REGARD IT.ROMANS 14:5-6
LET US PROVOKE ONE ANOTHER TO LOVE AND TO GOOD WORKS, NOT FORSAKING
THE ASSEMBLING OF OURSELVES TOGETHER, AS THE MANNER OF SOME IS. BUT
EXHORTING ONE ANOTHER.HEBREWS 10:24-25

GOD'S WORD

REMEMBER THE SABBATH DAY, TO KEEP IT HOLY - THE THIRD COMMANDMENT

WE SHOULD FEAR AND LOVE GOD THAT WE MAY NOT DESPISE PREACHING AND HIS
WORD, BUT HOLD IT SACRED AND GLADLY HEAR AND LEARN IT.

THE SABBATH TO THE CHRISTIAN IS CHRIST (MATTHEW 12:8; COLOSSIANS 2:16-17).
THE DAY ITSELF IS NOT OF PRIMARY IMPORTANCE. WORSHIP IS TO BE AN EVERYDAY
OCCURRENCE.

THE FACT OF THE SABBATH BEING FOUND IN THE PERSON OF CHRIST GIVE US NO
PLACE TO HIDE. IF WE ONLY SET ASIDE ONE DAY TO KEEP HOLY, WE CAN LIVE THE
REST AS WE PLEASE. CHRISTIANITY IS MORE THEN A RELIGION, IT IS A LIFESTYLE.

THOUGHTS: _____

SURELY ONE DAY TO SET ASIDE
ONLY ONE DAY FOR HIM TO GUIDE

SURELY THERE IS MORE FOR ME IN HIS GRACE
SEARCHING EVERYDAY FOR HIS FACE

FROM CHRIST THERE IS NOT A PLACE TO HIDE
FOR IN CHRIST WE ARE TO ABIDE

IN HIS PRESENCE AND IN HIS GRACE
IN CHRIST WE FIND OUR PLACE

DAY 13

HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER; WHICH IS THE FIRST COMMANDMENT WITH PROMISE: THAT IT MAY BE WELL WITH YOU AND THAT YOU MAY LIVE LONG ON THE EARTH. EPHESIANS 6:2-3

GIVE PROPER RECOGNITION TO THOSE WIDOWS WHO ARE REALLY IN NEED. BUT IF A WIDOW HAS CHILDREN OR GRANDCHILDREN, THESE SHOULD LEARN FIRST OF ALL TO PUT THEIR RELIGION INTO PRACTICE BY CARING FOR THEIR OWN FAMILY AND SO REPAYING THEIR PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS, FOR THIS IS PLEASING TO GOD.

I TIMOTHY 5:3-4

THE EYE THAT MOCKS HIS FATHER AND DESPISES TO OBEY HIS MOTHER, THE RAVENS OF THE VALLEY SHALL PICK IT OUT, AND THE YOUNG EAGLES SHALL EAT IT. PROVERBS 30:17

CHILDREN, OBEY YOUR PARENTS IN ALL THINGS; FOR THIS IS WELL PLEASING TO THE LORD. COLOSSIANS 3:20

HEARKEN UNTO YOUR FATHER THAT BEGAT YOU, AND DESPISE NOT YOUR MOTHER WHEN SHE IS OLD. PROVERBS 23:22

THE AUTHORITIES WHOM GOD HAS PLACED OVER US
YOU SHALL HONOR YOUR FATHER AND YOUR MOTHER - THE FOURTH
COMMANDMENT

WE SHOULD FEAR AND LOVE GOD THAT WE MAY NOT DESPISE OUR PARENTS ..., NOR PROVOKE THEM TO ANGER, BUT GIVE THEM HONOR, SERVE AND OBEY THEM, AND HOLD THEM IN LOVE AND ESTEEM.

HOW ONE TREATS HIS OR HER PARENTS IS A REFLECTION OF CHARACTER AND HOW ONE WILL RELATE TO THE WORLD. FOR INSTANCE, IF A BOY IS RUDE AND DISRESPECTFUL TO HIS MOTHER WHEN YOUNG, HE WILL BE RUDE AND DISRESPECTFUL TO WOMEN IN GENERAL AND TO HIS WIFE SPECIFICALLY. WE CANNOT OVERLOOK THE FACT THAT IN RAISING OUR CHILDREN, WE MUST DISCIPLINE NOW, TO GET THEM READY FOR THE FUTURE.

THOUGHTS: _____

HOW CAN ONE LIVE WELL
AND LIVE LONG ON THE EARTH? - WHO CAN TELL?

THE COMMANDMENT IS VERY CLEAR
HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER SO DEAR

DAY 14

WHOEVER SHEDS MAN'S BLOOD, BY MAN SHALL HIS BLOOD BE SHED; FOR IN THE IMAGE OF GOD MADE HE MAN. GENESIS 9:6

ALL THEY THAT TAKE THE SWORD SHALL PERISH WITH THE SWORD.

MATTHEW 26:52

THE GOVERNMENT BEARS NOT THE SWORD IN VAIN; FOR HE IS THE MINISTER OF GOD, A REVENGER TO EXECUTE WRATH UPON HIM THAT DOES EVIL. ROMANS 13:4
DEARLY BELOVED, AVENGE NOT YOURSELVES, BUT RATHER GIVE PLACE TO WRATH; FOR IT IS WRITTEN, VENGEANCE IS MINE; I WILL REPAY SAYS THE LORD.

ROMANS 12:19

I SAY TO YOU, THAT WHOSOEVER IS ANGRY WITH HIS BROTHER WITHOUT A CAUSE SHALL BE IN DANGER OF THE JUDGMENT. MATTHEW 5:22

WHOSOEVER HATES HIS BROTHER IS A MURDERER; AND YOU KNOW THAT NO MURDERER HAS ETERNAL LIFE ABIDING IN HIM. I JOHN 3:15

BE ANGRY AND SIN NOT; LET NOT THE SUN GO DOWN UPON YOUR WRATH.

EPHESIANS 4:26

HUMAN LIFE AND WELL BEING

YOU SHALL NOT MURDER - THE FIFTH COMMANDMENT

WE SHOULD FEAR AND LOVE GOD THAT WE MAY NOT HURT NOR HARM OUR NEIGHBOR IN HIS BODY, BUT HELP AND BEFRIEND HIM IN EVERY BODILY NEED.

CHRIST ESTABLISHES A GREATER RESPONSIBILITY UPON US AS HIS CHILDREN. THE OLD TESTAMENT GIVES US OBJECTIVE STANDARDS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS. THESE ARE THINGS WE CAN OBSERVE AND SEE HOW WE FALL SHORT.

CHRIST TELLS US IN THE NEW TESTAMENT THAT IF ONE HATES HIS BROTHER, IT IS THE SAME AS MURDER. GOD VIEWS IT THE SAME - NO DIFFERENCE. SEE MATTHEW 5:21-26

IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE OLD TESTAMENT SAINTS TO KEEP THE LAW, HOW MUCH MORE FOR US WHEN IT IS OF THE HEART. ONLY THE HOLY SPIRIT CAN KEEP US WITHIN THE LETTER AND SPIRIT OF GOD'S WORD.

THOUGHTS: _____

GOD'S COMMANDMENT - THOU SHALT NOT KILL
A COMMANDMENT I'VE OBEYED TO THIS DAY FULFILLED
SO I CAN WALK AROUND AND SAY WITH PRIDE
GOD HAS NOTHING AGAINST ME - I'VE NOTHING TO HIDE

BUT I HAVE A BROTHER OF WHICH I HATE
I'VE HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH HIM AS OF LATE
SO I SEE FROM SCRIPTURE MY POMPOUS PRIDE
I REALLY DO HAVE SOMETHING TO HIDE

DAY 15

SOME PHARISEES CAME TO HIM TO TEST HIM. THEY ASKED, "IS IT LAWFUL FOR A MAN TO DIVORCE HIS WIFE FOR ANY AND EVERY REASON?

HAVEN'T YOU READ," HE REPLIED, "THAT AT THE BEGINNING THE CREATOR 'MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE,' AND SAID, 'FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND BE UNITED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO WILL BECOME ONE FLESH'? SO THEY ARE NO LONGER TWO, BUT ONE. THEREFOR WHAT GOD HAS JOINED TOGETHER, LET MAN NOT SEPARATE.MATTHEW 19:3-6

WHOSOEVER SHALL PUT AWAY HIS WIFE, EXCEPT IT BE FOR FORNICATION, AND SHALL MARRY ANOTHER, COMMITS ADULTERY.MATTHEW 19:9

WHOREMONGERS AND ADULTERERS GOD WILL JUDGE.HEBREWS 13:4

FORNICATION AND ALL UNCLEANNESS OR COVETOUSNESS, LET IT NOT BE ONCE NAMED AMONG YOU, AS SAINTS; NEITHER FILTHINESS NOR FOOLISH TALKING NOR JESTING, WHICH ARE NOT CONVENIENT, BUT RATHER GIVE THANKS.EPHESIANS 5:3-4

MARRIAGE AND PURITY

YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY - THE SIXTH COMMANDMENT

WE SHOULD FEAR AND LOVE GOD THAT WE MAY LEAD A CHASTE AND DECENT LIFE IN WORD AND DEED, AND EACH LOVE AND HONOR HIS/HER SPOUSE.

SCRIPTURE IS VERY CLEAR CONCERNING PURITY IN MARRIAGE "MARRIAGE IS HONORABLE IN ALL, AND THE BED UNDEFILED: BUT WHOREMONGERS AND ADULTERERS GOD WILL JUDGE." HEBREWS 13:4. WE ARE NOT TO GIVE AN EAR TO FORNICATION. IN FACT WE ARE TO FLEE (I CORINTHIANS 6:18) WHEN WE ARE FACED WITH THE POSSIBILITY.

NOW THE QUESTION ARISES, WHAT CAN BE DONE TO AVOID THE POSSIBILITY? THE ANSWER IS FOUND IN PHILIPPIANS 4:8 --

FINALLY, BROTHER, WHATEVER IS TRUE, WHATEVER IS NOBLE, WHATEVER IS RIGHT, WHATEVER IS PURE, WHATEVER IS LOVELY, WHATEVER IS ADMIRABLE -- IF ANYTHING IS EXCELLENT OR PRAISEWORTHY -- THINK ABOUT SUCH THINGS.

EACH OF US WOULD DO WELL IF WE COMMITTED THIS VERSE TO MEMORY!!!!!!

THOUGHTS: _____

IN AND OF MYSELF I FIND NO STRENGTH
TO LIVE A PURE LIFE AT ANY GREAT LENGTH

I TRY AND I TRY AS I MUST
BUT IN AND OF MYSELF I FALL TO LUST

WHAT COURSE OF ACTION MUST I TAKE?
I WILL MEMORIZE PHILIPPIANS 4:8

DAY 16

LET HIM THAT STOLE, STEAL NO MORE; BUT RATHER LET HIM LABOR, WORKING WITH HIS HANDS THE THING WHICH IS GOOD, THAT HE MAY GIVE TO HIM THAT IS NEEDY.
EPHESIANS 4:28

WOE TO HIM THAT BUILDS HIS HOUSE BY UNRIGHTEOUSNESS AND HIS CHAMBERS BY WRONG; THAT USES HIS NEIGHBOR'S SERVICE WITHOUT WAGES AND GIVE HIM NOTHING FOR HIS WORK.JERAMIAH 22:13

IF ANY WOULD NOT WORK, NEITHER SHOULD HE EAT. II THESSALONIANS 3:10
THE WICKED BORROWS AND DOES NOT PAY BACK.PSALM 37:21

OUT OF THE HEART PROCEEDS EVIL THOUGHTS, MURDERS, ADULTERIES,
FORNICATION'S, THEFTS, FALSE WITNESS, BLASPHEMIES.MATTHEW 15:19

PROPERTY AND BUSINESS

YOU SHALL NOT STEAL - THE SEVENTH COMMANDMENT

WE SHOULD FEAR AND LOVE GOD IN NOT TAKING OUR NEIGHBOR'S MONEY OR GOODS, NOR GET THEM BY FALSE DEALING, BUT HELP HIM TO IMPROVE AND PROTECT HIS PROPERTY AND BUSINESS.

HAVE YOU EVER HEARD THE EXPRESSION, "I'D RATHER OWE IT TO YOU, THEN CHEAT YOU OUT OF IT"? THIS EXPRESSION SHOWS US HOW WE TEND TO JUSTIFY OUR ACTIONS IN EVERYDAY LIFE EXPERIENCES. FOR EXAMPLE, HAVE YOU EVER RECEIVED MORE CHANGE FROM YOUR PURCHASE THEN YOU WERE SUPPOSE TO GET? THEN TURN AROUND AND JUSTIFY YOURSELF BY THINKING, "THIS MAKES UP FOR ALL THE OTHER TIMES I MUST OF BEEN SHORT CHANGED."

OUR MIND SET TENDS TO THINK OF THIS SEVENTH COMMANDMENT ONLY IN TERMS OF 'ROBBING A BANK' OR 'DEFRAUDING THE GOVERNMENT'. WE CONSIDER ALL OTHER OCCURRENCES AS MINOR INFRACTIONS OF THIS COMMANDMENT. WE MUST REALIZE THAT ANY INFRACTION IS A VIOLATION OF GOD'S LAW.

WHAT CAN ONE DO TO KEEP FROM VIOLATING THIS COMMANDMENT? MY SUGGESTION WOULD BE TO ASK THE QUESTION - IS WHAT I AM DOING, GOING TO IMPROVE AND OR PROTECT ONE'S PROPERTY OR BUSINESS?

FOR EXAMPLE. IF YOU BORROW A CAR FROM A FRIEND AND YOU RETURN IT EMPTY OF GAS - YOU HAVE VIOLATED THIS COMMANDMENT. IF YOU BREAK YOUR NEIGHBOR'S LADDER WITHOUT REPLACING IT - YOU HAVE VIOLATED THIS COMMANDMENT.

THOUGHTS: _____

LIFE'S LESSONS TO BE LEARNED

IN LOOKING OUT FOR OUR NEIGHBOR'S CONCERN
NOT TAKING FOR GRANTED THE THINGS WE BORROW
BUT IMPROVING AND PROTECTING FOR TOMORROW
FOR IN THESE PRACTICAL THINGS OF LIFE
OUR RELATIONSHIPS WOULD BE FREE OF STRIFE

DAY 17

A FALSE WITNESS SHALL NOT GO UNPUNISHED, AND HE THAT POURS OUT LIES WILL NOT GO FREED. PROVERBS 19:5

BROTHERS, DO NOT SLANDER ONE ANOTHER. ANYONE WHO SPEAKS AGAINST HIS BROTHER OR JUDGES HIM SPEAKS AGAINST THE LAW AND JUDGES IT. WHEN YOU JUDGE THE LAW, YOU ARE NOT KEEPING IT, BUT SITTING IN JUDGMENT ON IT. THERE IS ONLY ONE LAWGIVER AND JUDGE, THE ONE WHO IS ABLE TO SAVE AND DESTROY. BUT YOU -- WHO ARE YOU TO JUDGE YOUR NEIGHBOR? I PETER 4:11-12

A TALEBEARER REVEALS SECRETS; BUT HE THAT IS OF A FAITHFUL SPIRIT CONCEALS THE MATTER. PROVERBS 11:13

DO NOT JUDGE, AND YOU WILL NOT BE JUDGED. DO NOT CONDEMN, AND YOU WILL NOT BE CONDEMNED. FORGIVE, AND YOU WILL BE FORGIVEN. GIVE AND IT WILL BE GIVEN TO YOUR. A GOOD MEASURE, PRESSED DOWN, SHAKEN TOGETHER AND RUNNING OVER, WILL BE POURED INTO YOUR LAP. FOR WITH THE MEASURE YOU USE, IT WILL BE MEASURED TO YOU. LUKE 6:37-38

GOOD REPUTATION

YOU SHALL NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS AGAINST YOUR NEIGHBOR - THE EIGHTH COMMANDMENT

WE SHOULD FEAR AND LOVE GOD THAT WE MAY NOT DECEITFULLY BELIE (= TO LIE ABOUT HIM OR LIE TO HIM OR WITHHOLD FROM HIM THE TRUTH IN ORDER TO HARM HIM.), BETRAY, SLANDER, NOR DEFAME OUR NEIGHBOR, BUT DEFEND HIM, SPEAK WELL OF HIM, AND PUT THE BEST CONSTRUCTION (= WE SHOULD OVERLOOK HIS FAULTS AND EXPLAIN IN HIS FAVOR WHATEVER CAN BE SO EXPLAINED TRUTHFULLY, I PETER 4:8) ON EVERYTHING.

THE END OF ALL THINGS IS NEAR. THEREFORE BE CLEAR MINDED AND SELF-CONTROLLED SO THAT YOU CAN PRAY. ABOVE ALL, LOVE EACH OTHER DEEPLY, BECAUSE LOVE COVERS A MULTITUDE OF SINS. I PETER 4:7-8

OUR LIVES MUST HAVE 'THE END' IN MIND -- CHRIST IS AT HAND! THIS FACT SHOULD ENCOURAGE US TO SPEND OUR TIME LIFTING ONE ANOTHER UP, NOT TEARING EACH OTHER DOWN.

IT IS EASY TO BROADCAST THE SINS OF ANOTHER. IT IS THE 'SPIRITUAL HIGH-GROUND' TO COVER ANOTHER'S SINS. IN OTHER WORDS, WE ARE TO GIVE OUR BROTHER AND SISTER IN CHRIST THE BENEFIT OF ANY DOUBT.

THOUGHTS: _____

LOVE COVERS A MULTITUDE OF SINS
 GIVING US LIFE, HOPE AND FAITH WITHIN

DAY 18

WOE TO YOU, SCRIBES AND PHARISEES, HYPOCRITES! FOR YOUR DEVOUR WIDOWS' HOUSES AND FOR A PRETENSE MAKE LONG PRAYERS; THEREFOR YOU SHALL RECEIVE THE GREATER DAMNATION. MATTHEW 23:14

HAVING FOOD AND CLOTHING, LET US BE CONTENT. BUT THEY THAT WILL BE RICH FALL INTO TEMPTATION AND A SNARE AND INTO MANY FOOLISH AND HURTFUL LUSTS, WHICH DROWN MEN IN DESTRUCTION AND PERDITION. FOR THE LOVE OF MONEY IS THE ROOT OF ALL EVIL, WHICH WHILE SOME COVETED AFTER, THEY HAVE ERRED FROM THE FAITH AND PIERCED THEMSELVES THROUGH WITH MANY SORROWS. I TIMOTHY 6:8-10

A HOLY INHERITANCE

YOU SHALL NOT COVET YOUR NEIGHBOR'S HOUSE - THE NINTH COMMANDMENT

WE SHOULD FEAR AND LOVE GOD THAT WE MAY NOT CRAFTILY SEEK TO GET OUR NEIGHBOR'S INHERITANCE OR HOUSE, NOR OBTAIN IT BY A SHOW OF MIGHT, BUT HELP AND BE OF SERVICE TO HIM IN KEEPING IT.

WHAT CAUSES FIGHTS AND QUARRELS AMONG YOU? DON'T THEY COME FROM YOUR DESIRES THAT BATTLE WITHIN YOU? YOU WANT SOMETHING BUT DON'T GET IT. YOU KILL AND COVET, BUT YOU CANNOT HAVE WHAT YOU WANT. YOU QUARREL AND FIGHT. YOU DO NOT HAVE BECAUSE YOU DO NOT ASK GOD. WHEN YOU ASK, YOU DO NOT RECEIVE, BECAUSE YOU ASK WITH WRONG MOTIVES, THAT YOU MAY SPEND WHAT YOU GET ON YOUR PLEASURES. JAMES 4:1-3

DESIRE FOR SOMEONE ELSE'S MATERIAL BLESSINGS IS NO DIFFERENT THEN THAT OF SATAN'S DESIRE TO TAKE GOD'S PLACE -- ISAIAH 14:12-15.

THOUGHTS: _____

GIVING YOURSELF OVER TO EVIL DESIRE
GETS YOUR FEET CAUGHT IN THE MUCK AND MIRE

FOR MATERIAL BLESSINGS COME FROM ABOVE
FROM THE LORD WHO HAS GIVEN HIS LOVE

FOR WHAT YOU DON'T HAVE IS FOR YOUR GROWTH
TO SIMPLY BE LIKE CHRIST AND LIVE OUT YOUR OATH

AN OATH OF SELFLESS DESIRE
SO YOU WILL NOT BE IDENTIFIED WITH SATAN'S FIRE

DAY 19

WHAT SHALL WE SAY, THEN? IS THE LAW SIN? CERTAINLY NOT! INDEED I WOULD NOT HAVE KNOWN WHAT SIN WAS EXCEPT THROUGH THE LAW. FOR I WOULD NOT HAVE KNOWN WHAT COVETING REALLY WAS IF THE LAW HAD NOT SAID, "DO NOT COVET." BUT SIN, SEIZING THE OPPORTUNITY AFFORDED BY THE COMMANDMENT, PRODUCES IN ME EVERY KIND OF COVETOUS DESIRE. ROMANS 7:7-8

WHEN TEMPTED, NO ONE SHOULD SAY, "GOD IS TEMPTING ME." FOR GOD CANNOT BE TEMPTED BY EVIL, NOR DOES HE TEMPT ANYONE; BUT EACH ONE IS TEMPTED WHEN, BY HIS OWN EVIL DESIRE, HE IS DRAGGED AWAY AND ENTICES. THEN, AFTER DESIRE HAS CONCEIVED, IT GIVES BIRTH TO SIN, AND SIN, WHEN IT IS FULL-GROWN, GIVES BIRTH TO DEATH. JAMES 1:13-15

A HOLY HEART

YOU SHALL NOT COVET YOUR NEIGHBOR'S WIFE, NOR HIS MANSERVANT, NOR HIS MAIDSERVANT, NOR HIS CATTLE, NOR ANYTHING THAT IS YOUR NEIGHBOR'S - THE TENTH COMMANDMENT

WE SHOULD FEAR AND LOVE GOD THAT WE MAY NOT ESTRANGE, FORCE, OR ENTICE AWAY FROM OUR NEIGHBOR HIS WIFE, SERVANTS, OR CATTLE, BUT URGE THEM TO STAY AND DO THEIR DUTY.

GUARD YOUR HEART! WE CAN BE SO EASILY DECEIVED!

MORE OFTEN THAN NOT, WHAT WE CLAIM TO GOD'S DESIRE FOR US, TURNS OUT TO BE OUR OWN EVIL DESIRE. HOW CAN WE TELL THE DIFFERENCE?

THE DIFFERENCE LIES IN CONTENTMENT.

NOT THAT I SPEAK IN RESPECT OF WANT: FOR I HAVE LEARNED, IN WHATSOEVER STATE I AM, THEREWITH TO BE CONTENT. PHILIPPIANS 4:11

IF WE DO NOT HAVE THE SAME CONTENTMENT AS PAUL, THEN WE HAVE FALLEN SHORT OF THIS COMMANDMENT.

THOUGHTS: _____

AM I CONTENT IN MY DESIRE?

CAN I BE HOLY LIKE HIM?

CAN I FULFILL WHAT GOD REQUIRES?

CAN I BE HOLY LIKE HIM?

A COMMAND AND NOT A QUESTION I AM FACED WITH THIS DAY

BE HOLY LIKE HIM!

A COMMAND THAT DEMANDS A RESPONSE ALONG THE WAY

BE HOLY LIKE HIM!

DAY 20

THE SOUL THAT SINS, IT SHALL DIE.EZEKIEL 18:20

ALL WHO RELY ON OBSERVING THE LAW ARE UNDER A CURSE, FOR IT IS WRITTEN:

“CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO DOES NOT CONTINUE TO DO EVERYTHING WRITTEN IN THE BOOK OF THE LAW.”GALATIANS 3:10

FOR THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH, BUT THE GIFT OF GOD IS ETERNAL LIFE IN CHRIST JESUS OUR LORD.ROMANS 6:23

THREAT AND PROMISE - THE CLOSE OF THE COMMANDMENTS

I, THE LORD, YOUR GOD, AM A JEALOUS GOD, VISITING THE INIQUITY OF THE FATHERS UPON THE CHILDREN UNTO THE THIRD AND FOURTH GENERATION OF THEM THAT HATE ME, AND SHOWING MERCY UNTO THOUSANDS OF THEM THAT LOVE ME AND KEEP MY COMMANDMENTS.

GOD THREATENS TO PUNISH ALL THAT TRANSGRESS THESE COMMANDMENTS.

THEREFORE WE SHOULD FEAR HIS WRATH AND NOT ACT CONTRARY TO THEM. BUT HE PROMISES GRACE AND EVERY BLESSING TO ALL THAT KEEP THESE COMMANDMENTS. THEREFORE WE SHOULD ALSO LOVE AND TRUST IN HIM AND WILLINGLY DO ACCORDING TO HIS COMMANDMENTS.

A COMMAND BY ITS VERY NATURE, REQUIRES A CONSEQUENCE FOR DISOBEDIENCE. WE MAY TRY TO JUSTIFY OURSELVES. WE MAY EVEN FEEL GOOD ABOUT OURSELVES; BUT THE REQUIREMENT TO FULFILL HIS COMMAND STAYS CONSTANT.

WITH THESE COMMANDMENTS OF GOD WE FIND NO LOOPHOLES. WE DO NOT HAVE ANY FINE PRINT. WE DO NOT NEED A LAWYER TO INTERPRET. WE HAVE BEFORE US THE CLEAR-CUT REQUIREMENTS OF GOD.

THE ONLY THING LEFT TO SAY AT THIS POINT IS -- WHERE DO YOU FALL SHORT? “FOR ALL HAVE SINNED, AND FALL SHORT OF THE GLORY OF GOD” ROMANS 3:23.

THOUGHTS:_____

GOD’S COMMANDMENT FOR YOU AND FOR ME
GOD’S COMMANDMENT IN HIS BOOK TO SEE

GOD’S COMMANDMENT FORMS THE BASE
GOD’S COMMANDMENT FOUND IN HIS GRACE

GOD’S COMMANDMENT DEMANDED A PRICE
GOD’S COMMANDMENT FULFILLED IN CHRIST

DAY 21

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I BELIEVE IN GOD THE FATHER ALMIGHTY, MAKER OF HEAVEN AND EARTH.

AND IN JESUS CHRIST HIS ONLY SON, OUR LORD; WHO WAS CONCEIVED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, BORN OF THE VIRGIN MARY, SUFFERED UNDER PONTIUS PILATE, WAS CRUCIFIED, DEAD, AND BURIED; HE DESCENDED INTO HADES; THE THIRD DAY HE ROSE AGAIN FROM THE DEAD; HE ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN, AND SITS ON THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD, THE FATHER ALMIGHTY; FROM THENCE HE SHALL COME TO JUDGE THE QUICK AND THE DEAD.

I BELIEVE IN THE HOLY SPIRIT, THE HOLY CHRISTIAN CHURCH, THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS, THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS, THE RESURRECTION OF THE BODY, AND THE LIFE EVERLASTING.

AMEN

THE APOSTLES' CREED IS SIMPLY A STATEMENT OF BELIEF. THESE ARE BELIEFS THAT BIND THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH TOGETHER. WITH THESE STATEMENTS THERE IS NO COMPROMISE. IT IS THIS BELIEF THAT GOVERNS WHAT IS TAUGHT AND HOW WE LIVE. WE WOULD DO WELL TO MEMORIZE THE APOSTLES' CREED. NOT AS A MATTER OF CEREMONY OR TRADITION, BUT AS A MATTER OF DOCTRINAL PURITY. IN OUR STUDY OF THE BIBLE WE CAN EASILY BE CAUGHT STRAYING FROM THE NARROW PATH. THE APOSTLES' CREED GIVES US THAT FOCAL POINT TO STAY THE COURSE.

THOUGHTS: _____

THE APOSTLE'S CREED FOR US TO READ
A MATTER OF HEART AND OF MIND
THE APOSTLES' CREED IS FOR US TO HEED
THE GOSPEL FOR US TO FIND

ITS MUCH TO EASY TO STRAY FROM THE PATH
THAT CHRIST HAS GIVEN US TO LEAD
BUT STAY AS WE MUST TO ESCAPE THE WRATH
THAT COMES WITH MAN'S SELFISH GREED

I RESOLVE TO FIRMLY STAY
TO FULFILL MY EARTHLY DEED
I RESOLVE TO FIRMLY SAY
I WILL LIVE OUT THE APOSTLE CREED

DAY 22

SHOW ME YOUR FAITH WITHOUT DEEDS, AND I WILL SHOW YOU MY FAITH BY WHAT I DO. YOU BELIEVE THAT THERE IS ONE GOD. GOOD! EVEN THE DEMONS BELIEVE THAT -- AND SHUDDER. JAMES 2:18-19

NOW FAITH IS BEING SURE OF WHAT WE HOPE FOR AND CERTAIN OF WHAT WE DO NOT SEE. THIS IS WHAT THE ANCIENTS WERE COMMENDED FOR.

BY FAITH WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE UNIVERSE WAS FORMED AT GOD'S COMMAND, SO THAT WHAT IS SEEN WAS NOT MADE OUT OF WHAT WAS VISIBLE.

HEBREWS 11:1-3

FAITH COMES BY HEARING THE MESSAGE, AND THE MESSAGE IS HEARD THROUGH THE WORD OF CHRIST. ROMANS 10:17

CREATION -- THE FIRST ARTICLE

I BELIEVE IN GOD THE FATHER ALMIGHTY, MAKER OF HEAVEN AND EARTH.

I BELIEVE THAT GOD HAS MADE ME AND ALL CREATURES; THAT HE HAS GIVEN ME MY BODY AND SOUL, EYES, EARS, AND ALL MY MEMBERS, MY REASON AND ALL MY SENSES, AND STILL PRESERVES THEM; ALSO CLOTHING AND SHOES, MEAT AND DRINK, HOUSE AND HOME, WIFE AND CHILDREN, FIELDS, CATTLE, AND ALL MY GOODS; THAT HE RICHLY AND DAILY PROVIDES ME WITH ALL THAT I NEED TO SUPPORT THIS BODY AND LIFE; THAT HE DEFENDS ME AGAINST ALL DANGER, AND GUARDS AND PROTECTS ME FROM ALL EVIL; AND ALL THIS PURELY OUT OF FATHERLY, DIVINE GOODNESS AND MERCY, WITHOUT ANY MERIT OR WORTHINESS IN ME; FOR ALL WHICH IT IS MY DUTY TO THANK AND PRAISE, TO SERVE AND OBEY HIM. THIS IS MOST CERTAINLY TRUE.

TO SIMPLY AND FLIPPANTLY SAY "I BELIEVE IN GOD", FALLS SHORT OF THE BIBLICAL MEANING OF BELIEF. TO TRULY BELIEVE ONE MUST BE CONFIDENT OF THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST -- HIS SPIRIT BEARS WITNESS WITH MY SPIRIT THAT I AM A CHILD OF GOD. WE NEED TO ACCEPT THE TRUTHFULNESS OF THE BIBLE IN ITS ENTIRETY. IN SO DOING, FULLY TRUST IN CHRIST AND RELY ON HIM FOR EVERY ASPECT OF YOUR LIFE.

THOUGHTS: _____

GOD THE FATHER - MAKER OF ALL WE SEE
 GOD THE FATHER - MAKER OF HEAVEN AND EARTH
 GOD THE FATHER - SOURCE OF LIFE TO ME
 GOD MY FATHER - SOURCE OF NEW BIRTH

GOD MY FATHER IN ALL THAT I DO
 GOD MY FATHER IN ALL THAT I SAY
 GOD MY FATHER TO GENTLE AND JEW
 GOD MY FATHER MY HOPE AND MY STAY

DAY 23

SHE SHALL BRING FORTH A SON, AND YOU SHALL CALL HIS NAME JESUS; FOR HE SHALL SAVE HIS PEOPLE FROM THEIR SINS.MATTHEW 1:21

NEITHER IS THERE SALVATION IN ANY OTHER; FOR THERE IS NOT OTHER NAME UNDER HEAVEN GIVEN AMONG MEN WHEREBY WE MUST BE SAVED.ACTS 4:12

THIS IS ETERNAL LIFE, THAT THEY MIGHT KNOW YOU THE ONLY TRUE GOD, AND JESUS CHRIST WHOM YOU HAVE SENT.JOHN 17:3

HE THAT BELIEVES NOT THE SON SHALL NOT SEE LIFE, BUT THE WRATH OF GOD ABIDES ON HIM.JOHN 3:36

I KNOW WHOM I HAVE BELIEVED AND AM PERSUADED THAT HE IS ABLE TO KEEP THAT WHICH I HAVE COMMITTED UNTO HIM AGAINST THAT DAY.II TIMOTHY 1:12

REDEMPTION -- THE SECOND ARTICLE (PART 1)

I BELIEVE IN JESUS CHRIST

PRINCE OF PEACE, MIGHTY GOD, WONDERFUL COUNSELOR -- ISAIAH 9:6

PRINCE OF LIFE -- ACTS 3:15

CHIEF CORNERSTONE -- EPHESIANS 2:20

CHIEF SHEPHERD -- I PETER 5:4

SHEPHERD AND BISHOP OF OUR SOULS -- I PETER 2:25

RIGHTEOUS JUDGE -- II TIMOTHY 4:8

RESURRECTION AND LIFE -- JOHN 11:25

HORN OF SALVATION -- LUKE 1:69

THE AUTHOR AND FINISHER OF OUR FAITH -- HEBREWS 12:2

LIGHT OF THE WORLD -- JOHN 8:12

THE WAY, TRUTH AND LIFE -- JOHN 14:6

THE ALPHA AND OMEGA -- REVELATION 1:8

THOUGHTS:_____

JESUS - THE NAME ABOVE EVERY NAME
WITH HIM TO BE IDENTIFIED THE SAME

I HAVE NO LIFE EXCEPT FROM HIM
HIS LIFE HAS CHANGED ME FROM WITHIN

MORE OF JESUS AND LESS OF ME
MORE OF CHRIST I WANT TO SEE

LESS OF ME AND MORE OF CHRIST
HIS HOPE IN ME - HIS FAITH AND LIFE

DAY 24

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE TO THE LORD, ALL LANDS.

SERVE THE LORD WITH GLADNESS: COME BEFORE HIS PRESENCE WITH SINGING.

KNOW THAT THE LORD IS GOD: IT IS HE THAT HAS MADE US, AND NOT WE

OURSELVES; WE ARE HIS PEOPLE, AND THE SHEEP OF HIS PASTURE. PSALM 100:1-3

THE SABBATH WAS MADE FOR MAN, AND NOT MAN FOR THE SABBATH:

THEREFORE THE SON OF MAN IS LORD EVEN OF THE SABBATH. MARK 2:27-28

AND WHY CALL ME, LORD, LORD, AND DO NOT THE THINGS WHICH I SAY?

LUKE 6:46

THEREFOR LET ALL THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL KNOW ASSUREDLY, THAT GOD HAS MADE THAT SAME JESUS, WHOM YOU HAVE CRUCIFIED, BOTH LORD AND CHRIST.

ACTS 2:36

O MAN OF GOD, FLEE THESE THINGS; AND FOLLOW AFTER RIGHTEOUSNESS, GODLINESS, FAITH, LOVE, PATIENCE, MEEKNESS.

FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT OF FAITH, LAY HOLD ON ETERNAL LIFE, WHEREUNTO YOU ARE ALSO CALLED, AND HAS PROFESSED A GOOD PROFESSION BEFORE MANY WITNESSES.

I GIVE YOU THIS CHARGE IN THE SIGHT OF GOD, WHO QUICKENS ALL THINGS, AND BEFORE CHRIST JESUS, WHO BEFORE PONTIUS PILATE WITNESSED A GOOD CONFESSION; THAT YOU KEEP THIS COMMANDMENT WITHOUT SPOT, UNREBUKABLE, UNTIL THE APPEARING OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST:

WHICH IN HIS TIMES HE SHALL SHOW, WHO IS THE BLESSED AND ONLY POTENTATE, THE KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS. I TIMOTHY 6:11-15

REDEMPTION - THE SECOND ARTICLE (PART 2)

I BELIEVE IN JESUS CHRIST, HIS ONLY SON, OUR LORD

WE LIVE IN AN "INSTANT SOCIETY"! EVERYTHING MUST BE EASY TO FIX AND UNCOMPLICATED FOR OUR BUSY LIVES. WE WANT ALL THE GOOD THINGS OF LIFE AND WE WANT IT NOW!

SO IT IS WITH SALVATION -- BECAUSE WE RECEIVE SALVATION AT THE INSTANT WE PLACE OUR FAITH AND TRUST IN CHRIST, WE SEEM TO CARRY THAT OVER INTO OUR SANCTIFICATION. SANCTIFICATION IS THE LIVING OUT OF A HOLY LIFE -- THAT DOES NOT HAPPEN IN AN INSTANT.

SALVATION DEMANDS A SAVIOR -- SANCTIFICATION DEMANDS A LORD. AND IF HE IS LORD, THEN SURELY HE MAY DEMAND OF US OUR LIVES. LIVES THAT MUST GO THROUGH THE PROCESS OF SANCTIFICATION - THAT IS, BEING MORE LIKE CHRIST EVERY DAY.

THOUGHTS: _____

IF JESUS IS TO BE LORD IN YOUR LIFE TODAY
 IN TAKING UP THE SWORD
 YOU CANNOT HAVE YOUR OWN WAY
 BEING YOUR OWN LORD

DAY 25

WE KNOW THAT WHOSOEVER IS BORN OF GOD DOES NOT SIN; BUT HE THAT IS
BEGOTTEN OF GOD GUARDS HIMSELF AND THAT WICKED ONE CANNOT TOUCH HIM.
AND WE KNOW THAT WE ARE OF GOD, AND THE WHOLE WORLD LIES IN WICKEDNESS.
AND WE KNOW THAT THE SON OF GOD IS COME, AND HAS GIVEN US AN
UNDERSTANDING, THAT WE MAY KNOW HIM THAT IS TRUE, AND WE ARE IN HIM THAT
IS TRUE, EVEN IN HIS SON JESUS CHRIST. THIS IS THE TRUE GOD, AND ETERNAL LIFE.

I JOHN 5:18-20

IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD, AND THE WORD WAS WITH GOD, AND THE WORD
WAS GOD. THE SAME WAS IN THE BEGINNING WITH GOD. JOHN 1:1-2

THERE IS ONE MEDIATOR BETWEEN GOD AND MEN, THE MAN CHRIST JESUS.

I TIMOTHY 2:5

REDEMPTION - THE SECOND ARTICLE (PART 3)

I BELIEVE IN JESUS CHRIST, HIS ONLY SON, OUR LORD, WHO WAS CONCEIVED BY THE
HOLY GHOST, BORN OF THE VIRGIN MARY

THE DIVINE AND THE HUMAN NATURES ARE UNITED IN CHRIST, BOTH NATURES
TOGETHER FORMING ONE UNDIVIDED AND INDIVISIBLE PERSON (PERSONAL UNION)

THIS STATEMENT SEEMS REASONABLE AND SUPERNATURAL TO ME. NOT WITH MY
INTELLECT BUT WITH MY SPIRITUAL UNDERSTANDING -- NOT WITH MY FLESH BUT
WITH MY UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE AND MY PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH
CHRIST. THIS IS THE ONLY WAY TO EXPLAIN THIS FACT.

THOUGHTS: _____

TWO NATURES OF CHRIST DIVINE
IN A LIFE THAT SHINES

OF GOD IN HIS GLORY
OF JESUS -- THE LIVING STORY

IN JESUS WE FIND GOD REACHING DOWN
THAT MAN MAY KEEP A HEAVENLY CROWN

IN JESUS WE FIND MAN REACHING UP IN PRAYER
THAT MAN MAY NOT BE OVERTAKEN IN DESPAIR

DAY 26

WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT? AND TO WHOM IS THE ARM OF THE LORD
REVEALED?

FOR HE SHALL GROW UP BEFORE HIM AS A TENDER PLANT, AND AS A ROOT OUT OF A
DRY GROUND: HE HAS NO FORM NOR COMELINESS; AND WHEN WE SHALL SEE HIM,
THERE IS NO BEAUTY THAT WE SHOULD DESIRE HIM.

HE IS DESPISED AND REJECTED OF MEN; A MAN OF SORROWS AND ACQUAINTED
WITH GRIEF; AND WE HID, AS IT WERE, OUR FACES FROM HIM; HE WAS DESPISED,
AND WE ESTEEMED HE NOT.

SURELY HE HAS BORE OUR GRIEF'S, AND CARRIED OUR SORROWS: YET WE
ESTEEMED HIM STRICKEN, SMITTEN OF GOD, AND AFFLICTED.

BUT HE WAS WOUNDED FOR OUR TRANSGRESSIONS, HE WAS BRUISED FOR OUR
INIQUITIES: THE CHASTISEMENT OF OUR PEACE WAS UPON HIM; AND WITH HIS
STRIPE WE ARE HEALED. ISAIAH 53:1-5

REDEMPTION - THE SECOND ARTICLE (PART 4)

SUFFERED UNDER PONTIUS PILATE, WAS CRUCIFIED, DEAD, AND BURIED

CHRIST SUFFERED LIKE NO OTHER. BECAUSE WHEN CHRIST WENT TO THE CROSS,
HE WENT TAKING THE SINS OF THE ENTIRE WORLD WITH HIM. BAD ENOUGH HE DIED
FOR ME - THEN MULTIPLY THAT BY EVERY SOUL THAT WAS CONCEIVED INTO THIS
WORLD. THAT FACT IS UNIMAGINABLE IN THE MIND OF MAN BUT WITH GOD IT WAS A
MATTER OF THE HEART - "FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD, THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY
BEGOTTEN SON".

THOUGHTS: _____

CHRIST SUFFERED GREATLY - OUR SINS TO BEAR
IN HOPE OF LIFE TO SUSTAIN
WHY THEN DO WE CONTINUE TO SIN AND HIS HEART TO TEAR?
AND IN SO DOING, BROUGHT ABOUT HIS PAIN

SUCH LOVE I CANNOT FATHOM IN THE DEPTH OF MY HEART
A LOVE THAT GAVE ME A REASON TO LIVE
SUCH LOVE COMPELS ME TO IMPART
A PIECE OF MY HEART TO GIVE

DAY 27

FORASMUCH, THEN, AS THE CHILDREN ARE PARTAKERS OF FLESH AND BLOOD, HE LIKEWISE TOOK PART OF THE SAME THAT THROUGH DEATH HE MIGHT DESTROY HIM THAT HAD THE POWER OF DEATH, THAT IS, THE DEVIL, AND DELIVER THEM WHO THROUGH FEAR OF DEATH WERE ALL THEIR LIFETIME SUBJECT TO BONDAGE.

HEBREWS 2:14-15

O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR STING? O GRAVE, WHERE IS YOUR VICTORY? THE STING OF DEATH IS SIN, AND THE STRENGTH OF SIN IS THE LAW. BUT THANKS TO GOD, WHICH GIVES US THE VICTORY THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST. I CORINTHIANS 15:55-57

WHO HAS SAVED US, AND CALLED US WITH A HOLY CALLING, NOT ACCORDING TO OUR WORKS, BUT ACCORDING TO HIS OWN PURPOSE AND GRACE, WHICH WAS GIVEN US IN CHRIST JESUS BEFORE THE WORLD BEGAN, BUT IS NOW MADE MANIFEST BY THE APPEARING OF OUR SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST, WHO HAS ABOLISHED DEATH, AND HAS BROUGHT LIFE AND IMMORTALITY TO LIGHT THROUGH THE GOSPEL. II TIMOTHY 1:9-10

REDEMPTION - THE SECOND ARTICLE (PART 5)

HE DESCENDED INTO HELL; THE THIRD DAY HE ROSE AGAIN FROM THE DEAD

THE EYE OF THE FLESH HAS NEVER SEEN SUCH A SIGHT! JESUS AT THE VERY GATES OF HELL - TAKING CAPTIVITY CAPTIVE. THEREBY SECURING OUR PLACE IN HEAVEN. THE RESURRECTION IS CENTRAL TO ALL WE CALL CHRISTIANITY. FOR WITHOUT THE RESURRECTION, CHRISTIANITY HAS NO VALIDITY. "IF CHRIST BE NOT RISEN, THEN OUR PREACHING IS VAIN, AND YOUR FAITH IS ALSO VAIN".

CHRIST'S RESURRECTION ALSO GIVES US THE HOPE OF OUR OWN RESURRECTION. "NOW IS CHRIST RISEN FROM THE DEAD, AND BECOME THE FIRST FRUITS OF THEM THAT DIED". THIS IN AND OF ITSELF SHOULD GIVE US A REASON TO LIVE FOR CHRIST.

THOUGHTS: _____

CHRIST DIED - MY SINS TO FORGIVE
 CHRIST DIED - THAT I MIGHT LIVE

CHRIST DIED - TO GIVE ME LIFE
 CHRIST DIED - TO END THE STRIFE

CHRIST DIED - MY HOPE AND STAY
 CHRIST DIED - TO SHOW ME THE WAY

CHRIST DIED - THE RESURRECTION SURE
 CHRIST DIED - MY HOPE OF HEAVEN SECURE

DAY 28

[GOD] SET HIM [CHRIST] AT HIS OWN RIGHT HAND IN THE HEAVENLY PLACES, FAR ABOVE ALL PRINCIPALITY AND POWER AND MIGHT AND DOMINION AND EVERY NAME THAT IS NAMED, NOT ONLY IN THIS WORLD, BUT ALSO IN THAT WHICH IS TO COME; AND HAS PUT ALL THINGS UNDER HIS FEET AND GAVE HIM TO BE THE HEAD OVER ALL THINGS TO THE CHURCH, WHICH IS HIS BODY, THE FULLNESS OF HIM THAT FILLS ALL IN ALL.

EPHESIANS 1:20-23

[HE] ASCENDED UP FAR ABOVE ALL HEAVENS THAT HE MIGHT FILL ALL THINGS. AND HE GAVE SOME, APOSTLES; AND SOME, PROPHETS; AND SOME, EVANGELISTS; AND SOME, PASTOR AND TEACHERS; FOR THE PERFECTING OF THE SAINTS, FOR THE WORK OF THE MINISTRY, FOR THE EDIFYING OF THE BODY OF CHRIST.

EPHESIANS 4:10-12

THE WORD THAT I HAVE SPOKEN, THE SAME SHALL JUDGE HIM IN THE LAST DAY.

JOHN 12:48

WE MUST ALL APPEAR BEFORE THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST THAT EVERYONE MAY RECEIVE THE THINGS DONE IN HIS BODY, ACCORDING TO THAT WHICH HE HAS DONE, WHETHER IT BE GOOD OR BAD.

II CORINTHIANS 5:10

AND THE TIMES OF THIS IGNORANCE GOD WINKED AT; BUT NOW COMMANDS ALL MEN

EVERY WHERE TO REPENT:

BECAUSE HE HAS APPOINTED A DAY, IN WHICH HE WILL JUDGE THE WORLD IN RIGHTEOUSNESS BY THAT MAN WHOM HE HAS ORDAINED; WHEREOF HE HAS GIVEN ASSURANCE UNTO ALL MEN, IN THAT HE HAS RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD.

ACTS 17:30-31

REDEMPTION - THE SECOND ARTICLE (PART 6)

HE ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN, AND SITS ON THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD THE FATHER ALMIGHTY; FROM THENCE HE SHALL COME TO JUDGE THE QUICK AND THE DEAD. TO SOME SALVATION MY BE "FIRE INSURANCE". THEY BELIEVE WHEN THEY ACCEPT CHRIST AS PERSONAL LORD AND SAVIOR, THEY WILL EXCEPT JUDGMENT. THEY IS FAR FROM THE TRUTH. YES, ACCORDING TO ROMANS 8:1 "THERE IS NO CONDEMNATION", BUT THIS DOES NOT PRECLUDE JUDGMENT.

SCRIPTURE PRESENTS TWO KINDS OF JUDGMENTS:

1)THE WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT - REVELATION 20:11-15

THIS JUDGMENT IS FOR THE UNBELIEVER AND INVOLVES CONDEMNATION.

2)THE BEMA SEAT JUDGMENT - II CORINTHIANS 5:1-11

THIS JUDGMENT IS FOR BELIEVERS AND DOES NOT INVOLVE CONDEMNATION BUT REWARDS OR THE LOSS THEREOF.

THOUGHTS: _____

LOSS OF REWARD, HOW CAN IT BE?
IS LIFE THAT HARD TO SEE?

I TRY AND TRY AS I MUST
TO RID MY LIFE OF ALL ITS LUST

THEN I REALIZE AS LIFE TAKES ITS TOLL
IT IS THE HOLY SPIRIT THAT MUST TAKE CONTROL

DAY 29

GO THEREFORE, AND TEACH ALL NATIONS, BAPTIZING THEM IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND OF THE SON AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. MATTHEW 28:19

DON'T YOU KNOW THAT YOU ARE THE TEMPLE OF GOD, AND THAT THE SPIRIT OF GOD DWELLS IN YOU?

IF ANY MAN DEFILE THE TEMPLE OF GOD, HIM SHALL GOD DESTROY; FOR THE TEMPLE OF GOD IS HOLY, WHICH TEMPLE YOU ARE. I CORINTHIANS 3:16-17

THE SPIRIT SEARCHES ALL THINGS, YES, THE DEEP THINGS OF GOD.

I CORINTHIANS 2:10

FOR IF THE BLOOD OF BULLS AND OF GOATS, AND THE ASHES OF A HEIFER SPRINKLING THE UNCLEAN, SANCTIFIES TO THE PURIFYING OF THE FLESH: HOW MUCH MORE SHALL THE BLOOD OF CHRIST, WHO THROUGH THE ETERNAL SPIRIT OFFERED HIMSELF WITHOUT SPOT TO GOD, PURGE YOUR CONSCIENCE FROM DEAD WORKS TO SERVE THE LIVING GOD? HEBREWS 9:13-14

SANCTIFICATION - THE THIRD ARTICLE

I BELIEVE IN THE HOLY SPIRIT; THE HOLY CHRISTIAN CHURCH, THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS; THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS; THE RESURRECTION OF THE BODY; AND THE LIFE EVERLASTING. AMEN

I BELIEVE THAT I CANNOT BY MY OWN REASON OR STRENGTH BELIEVE IN JESUS CHRIST, MY LORD, OR COME TO HIM; BUT THE HOLY SPIRIT HAS CALLED ME BY THE GOSPEL, ENLIGHTENED ME WITH HIS GIFTS, SANCTIFIED AND KEPT ME IN THE TRUE FAITH; EVEN AS HE CALLS, GATHERS, ENLIGHTENS, AND SANCTIFIES THE WHOLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH ON EARTH, AND KEEPS IT WITH JESUS CHRIST IN THE ONE TRUE FAITH; IN WHICH CHRISTIAN CHURCH HE DAILY AND RICHLY FORGIVES ALL SINS TO ME AND ALL BELIEVERS, AND WILL AT THE LAST DAY RAISE UP ME AND ALL THE DEAD, AND GIVE UNTO ME AND ALL BELIEVERS IN CHRIST ETERNAL LIFE. THIS IS MOST CERTAINLY TRUE.

THOUGHTS: _____

THE HOLY SPIRIT ABOVE ME - TO PROTECT
THE HOLY SPIRIT BELOW ME - A SURE FOUNDATION AND TO KEEP IN STEP

THE HOLY SPIRIT BEFORE ME - TO BE MY GUIDE
THE HOLY SPIRIT BEHIND ME - TO ASSURE THERE ARE SINS I CANNOT HIDE

THE HOLY SPIRIT BESIDE ME - TO BE MY FRIEND
THE HOLY SPIRIT AROUND - A SECURITY TO LIFE'S END

DAY 30

WHITHER SHALL I GO FROM YOUR SPIRIT, OR WHITHER SHALL I FLEE FROM YOUR PRESENCE? IF I ASCEND UP INTO HEAVEN, YOU ARE THERE; IF I MAKE MY BED IN HELL, BEHOLD, YOU ARE THERE. IF I TAKE THE WINGS OF THE MORNING AND DWELL IN THE UTTERMOST PARTS OF THE SEA, EVEN THERE SHALL YOUR HAND LEAD ME, AND YOUR RIGHT HAND SHALL HOLD ME.(OMNIPRESENCE)PSALM 139:7-10
THE SPIRIT SEARCHES ALL THINGS, YES, THE DEEP THINGS OF GOD. (OMNISCIENCE)

I CORINTHIANS 2:10

CHRIST, WHO THROUGH THE ETERNAL SPIRIT OFFERED HIMSELF WITHOUT SPOT TO GOD, PURGE YOUR CONSCIENCE FROM DEAD WORKS TO SERVE THE LIVING GOD.
(ETERNITY) HEBREWS 9:14

WHAT IS THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT?

THE HOLY SPIRIT SANCTIFIES ME, THAT IS, HE MAKES ME HOLY, BY BRINGING ME TO FAITH IN CHRIST AND BY IMPARTING TO ME THE BLESSINGS OF REDEMPTION.
(SANCTIFICATION IN THE WIDER SENSE INCLUDES EVERYTHING THAT THE HOLY SPIRIT DOES IN ME) I CORINTHIANS 6:11

WHY IS IT NECESSARY THAT THE HOLY GHOST WORK THIS FAITH IN YOU?

ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURES I AM BY NATURE SPIRITUALLY BLIND, DEAD, AND AN ENEMY OF GOD; THEREFORE I CANNOT BY MY OWN REASON OR STRENGTH BELIEVE IN JESUS CHRIST, MY LORD OR COME TO HIM. EPHESIANS 2:1, 2:8-9;; ROMANS 8:7;

I CORINTHIANS 12:3

WHAT HAS THE HOLY SPIRIT DONE TO BRING YOU TO CHRIST AND THUS SANCTIFY YOU?

THE HOLY SPIRIT HAS CALLED ME BY THE GOSPEL, THAT IS, HE HAS INVITED ME TO PARTAKE OF CHRIST'S BLESSINGS, WHICH ARE OFFERED TO ME IN THE GOSPEL.
II TIMOTHY 1:9; REVELATION 22:17

THOUGHTS:_____

THE HOLY SPIRIT CLEANSED BY HEART
AND BROUGHT ME TO CHRIST IN A SPECIAL WAY.

THAT IN CHRIST I MAY IMPART
MORE OF CHRIST - MY HOPE AND STAY

TO MAKE THIS STATEMENT IS A GOOD START
BUT TO LIVE AS CHRIST EVERY DAY

I MUST REALIZE THAT BEING A CHRISTIANS IS MORE THEN PLAYING A PART
AS AN ACT OF MY WILL, I WILL BE LIKE CHRIST - NO MATTER WHAT COMES MY WAY

DAY 31

HAVE MERCY ON ME, O GOD, ACCORDING TO YOUR LOVING-KINDNESS: ACCORDING TO THE MULTITUDE OF YOUR TENDER MERCIES BLOT OUT MY TRANSGRESSIONS.

WASH ME THOROUGHLY FROM MY INIQUITY, AND CLEANSE ME FROM MY SIN. FOR I ACKNOWLEDGE MY TRANSGRESSIONS: AND MY SIN IS EVER BEFORE ME.

AGAINST YOU, YOU ONLY, HAVE I SINNED, AND DONE THIS EVIL IN YOUR SIGHT: THAT YOU MIGHT BE JUSTIFIED WHEN YOU SPEAK, AND BE CLEAR WHEN YOU JUDGE.

BEHOLD, I WAS SHAPED IN INIQUITY; AND IN SIN DID MY MOTHER CONCEIVE ME.

BEHOLD, YOU DESIRE TRUTH IN THE INWARD PARTS: AND IN THE HIDDEN PART YOU SHALL MAKE ME TO KNOW WISDOM.

PURGE ME WITH HYSSOP, AND I SHALL BE CLEAN: WASH ME, AND I SHALL BE WHITER THAN SNOW. MAKE ME TO HEAR JOY AND GLADNESS; THAT THE BONES WHICH YOU HAVE BROKEN MAY REJOICE. HIDE YOUR FACE FROM MY SINS, AND BLOT OUT ALL MY INIQUITIES.

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART, O GOD, AND RENEW A RIGHT SPIRIT WITHIN ME.

PSALM 51:1-10

WE ARE HIS WORKMANSHIP, CREATED IN CHRIST JESUS UNTO GOOD WORDS, WHICH GOD HAS BEFORE ORDAINED THAT WE SHOULD WALK IN THEM. EPHESIANS 2:10

WHAT ELSE HAS THE HOLY SPIRIT WROUGHT IN YOU BY THE GOSPEL?

THE HOLY SPIRIT HAS SANCTIFIED ME IN THE TRUE FAITH, THAT IS, HE HAS BY FAITH IN CHRIST RENEWED MY HEART, SO THAT I CAN NOW OVERCOME SIN AND DO GOOD WORKS. (SANCTIFICATION IN THE NARROWER SENSE) I THESSALONIANS 4:3;

II CORINTHIANS 5:17

WHAT IS A GOOD WORK IN THE SIGHT OF GOD?

IN THE SIGHT OF GOD A GOOD WORK IS EVERYTHING THAT A CHILD OF GOD DOES, SPEAKS, OR THINKS IN FAITH, ACCORDING TO THE TEN COMMANDMENTS, FOR THE GLORY OF GOD, FOR THE BENEFIT OF HIS NEIGHBOR. HEBREWS 11:6; JOHN 14:15,15:5; MATTHEW 15:9; I CORINTHIANS 10:31; GALATIANS 5:13

THOUGHTS: _____

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART, O GOD
 FOR I CANNOT WASH MY SIN

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART, O GOD
 FOR I CANNOT SEE THE SIN WITHIN

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART, O GOD
 FOR THIS WICKED HEART, I CANNOT MEND

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART, O GOD
 FOR I DESIRE TO SERVE YOU TO THE END

DAY 32

FORASMUCH AS YOU KNOW THAT YOU WERE NOT REDEEMED WITH CORRUPTIBLE THINGS, AS SILVER AND GOLD, FROM YOUR EMPTY MANNER OF LIFE HANDED DOWN BY TRADITION FROM YOUR FATHERS; BUT WITH THE PRECIOUS BLOOD OF CHRIST, AS OF A LAMB WITHOUT BLEMISH AND WITHOUT SPOT: WHO TRULY WAS FOREORDAINED BEFORE THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD, BUT WAS REVEALED IN THESE LAST TIMES FOR YOU, WHO BY HIM DO BELIEVE IN GOD, THAT RAISED HIM UP FROM THE DEAD, AND GAVE HIM GLORY; THAT YOUR FAITH AND HOPE MIGHT BE IN GOD. SEEING YOU HAVE PURIFIED YOUR SOULS IN OBEYING THE TRUTH THROUGH THE SPIRIT UNTO A GENUINE LOVE OF THE BRETHREN, SEE THAT YOU LOVE ONE ANOTHER WITH A PURE HEART EARNESTLY.

BEING BORN AGAIN, NOT OF CORRUPTIBLE SEED, BUT OF INCORRUPTIBLE, BY THE WORD OF GOD, WHICH LIVES AND ABIDES FOREVER. I PETER 1:18-23

I EXHORT THEREFOR, THAT, FIRST OF ALL, SUPPLICATIONS, PRAYERS, INTERCESSIONS, AND GIVING OF THANKS, BE MADE FOR ALL MEN; FOR KINGS, AND FOR ALL THAT ARE IN AUTHORITY; THAT WE MAY LEAD A QUIET AND PEACEABLE LIFE IN ALL GODLINESS AND HONESTY.

FOR THIS IS GOOD AND ACCEPTABLE IN THE SIGHT OF GOD OUR SAVIOR; WHO WILL HAVE ALL MEN TO BE SAVED, AND TO COME TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRUTH.

I TIMOTHY 2:1-4

WHAT HAS THE HOLY SPIRIT LASTLY WROUGHT IN YOU BY THE GOSPEL?

THE HOLY SPIRIT HAS, BY THE GOSPEL, KEPT ME IN THE TRUE FAITH.

IN WHOM DOES THE HOLY SPIRIT LIKEWISE WORK ALL THAT HE HAS WROUGHT IN YOU?

THE HOLY SPIRIT CALLS, GATHERS, ENLIGHTENS, AND SANCTIFIES THE WHOLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH ON EARTH AND KEEPS IT WITH JESUS CHRIST IN THE ONE TRUE FAITH. I PETER 1:5; PHILIPPIANS 1:6; I THESSALONIANS 2:13

DOES THE HOLY SPIRIT DESIRE TO WORK ALL THIS IN EVERYONE WHO HEARS THE GOSPEL?

THE HOLY SPIRIT DESIRES TO BRING ALL MEN TO SALVATION BY THE GOSPEL.

EZEKIEL 33:11; II PETER 3:9; I TIMOTHY 2:4

WHY, THEN, ARE NOT ALL MEN SAVED?

BECAUSE MANY IN UNBELIEF STUBBORNLY RESIST THE WORD AND THE SPIRIT OF GOD AND ARE THUS LOST BY THEIR OWN FAULT.

MATTHEW 23:37; HOSEA 13:9; ACTS 7:51

THOUGHTS: _____

THE HOLY SPIRIT DESIRES THAT ALL BE SAVED
AND TURN FROM THEIR WICKED WAYS

BUT MAN IN HIS STUBBORN SIN
DOES NOT DESIRE TO BE CLEANSED WITHIN

DAY 33

WHEREFORE REMEMBER, THAT YOU BEING IN TIME PAST GENTILES IN THE FLESH, WHO ARE CALLED UNCIRCUMCISION BY THAT WHICH IS CALLED THE CIRCUMCISION IN THE FLESH MADE BY HANDS; THAT AT THAT TIME YOU WERE WITHOUT CHRIST, BEING ALIENS FROM THE COMMONWEALTH OF ISRAEL, AND STRANGERS FROM THE COVENANTS OF PROMISE, HAVE NO HOPE, AND WITHOUT GOD IN THE WORLD: BUT NOW IN CHRIST JESUS YOU WHO SOMETIMES WERE AFAR OFF ARE MADE NIGH BY THE BLOOD OF CHRIST.EPHESIANS 2:11-13

FOR THROUGH HIM WE BOTH HAVE ACCESS BY ONE SPIRIT UNTO THE FATHER. NOW THEREFOR YOU ARE NO MORE STRANGERS AND FOREIGNERS, BUT FELLOW CITIZENS WITH THE SAINTS, AND OF THE HOUSEHOLD OF GOD; AND ARE BUILT UPON THE FOUNDATION OF THE APOSTLES AND PROPHETS, JESUS CHRIST HIMSELF BEING THE CHIEF CORNER STONE; IN WHOM ALL THE BUILDING FITLY FRAMED TOGETHER GROWS UNTO A HOLY TEMPLE IN THE LORD: IN WHOM YOU ALSO ARE BUILT TOGETHER FOR A HABITATION OF GOD THROUGH THE SPIRIT.EPHESIANS 2:18-22

WHAT IS THE HOLY CHRISTIAN CHURCH?

THE HOLY CHRISTIAN CHURCH IS THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS, THAT IS, THE WHOLE NUMBER OF BELIEVERS IN CHRIST; FOR ALL BELIEVERS, AND ONLY BELIEVERS, ARE MEMBERS OF THIS CHURCH. (THE INVISIBLE CHURCH)ROMANS 8:9, 12:4-5

WHY IS THE CHURCH CALLED HOLY?

THE CHURCH IS CALLED HOLY BECAUSE IT IS THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS, WHO ARE MADE HOLY BY FAITH IN CHRIST AND WHO SERVE GOD WITH HOLY WORKS.

EPHESIANS 5:25-27; I PETER 2:5

WHY IS THE CHURCH CALLED THE "CHRISTIAN" CHURCH?

IT IS CALLED THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH BECAUSE IT IS BUILT UPON CHRIST, ITS ONE AND ONLY FOUNDATIONI CORINTHIANS 3:11

THOUGHTS:_____

IT IS SAID THAT IN THE CHURCH HYPOCRITES CAN BE FOUND
HIDING BEHIND EVERY HYMNAL AND PEW

AND BY THESE WORDS THE ACCUSER IS BOUND
FOR IN THESE WORDS HIS ACCUSATIONS SPEW

HE ONLY LOOKS FOR EXCUSES BUT FINDS NO GROUND
FOR HE IS ONLY REJECTING TO BE PART OF GOD'S CHOSEN FEW

DAY 34

BLESS THE LORD, O MY SOUL: AND ALL THAT IS WITHIN ME, BLESS HIS HOLY NAME.
 BLESS THE LORD, O MY SOUL, AND FORGET NOT ALL HIS BENEFITS: WHO FORGIVES
 ALL MY INIQUITIES; WHO HEALS ALL MY DISEASES; WHO REDEEMS MY LIFE FROM
 DESTRUCTION; WHO CROWNS ME WITH LOVINGKINDNESS AND TENDER MERCIES;
 WHO SATISFIES MY MOUTH WITH GOOD THINGS; SO THAT MY YOUTH IS RENEWED
 LIKE THE EAGLE'S. PSALM 103:1-5

OUT OF THE DEPTHS HAVE I CRIED TO YOU, O LORD.

LORD, HEAR MY VOICE: LET YOUR EARS BE ATTENTIVE TO THE VOICE OF MY
 SUPPLICATIONS. IF YOU, LORD, SHOULD MARK INIQUITIES. OR LORD, WHO SHALL
 STAND?

BUT THERE IS FORGIVENESS WITH YOU, THAT YOU MAY BE FEARED.

I WAIT FOR THE LORD, MY SOUL DOES WAIT, AND IN HIS WORD DO I HOPE.

PSALM 130:1-5

HOW DOES GOD FORGIVE YOU SINS?

GOD NO LONGER CHARGES, OR IMPUTES, MY SINS TO ME, BUT DECLARES ME
 RIGHTEOUS. (JUSTIFICATION) II CORINTHIANS 5:19-21; ROMANS 4:5, 8:33

WHAT INDUCES GOD TO FORGIVE MY SINS?

GOD FORGIVES MY SINS, NOT BECAUSE OF ANY MERIT OR WORTHINESS IN ME, BUT
 BECAUSE OF HIS GRACE, FOR CHRIST'S SAKE. ROMANS 3:22-24; EPHESIANS 1:7

FOR WHOM HAS THIS FORGIVENESS BEEN OBTAINED?

FORGIVENESS OF SINS HAS BEEN OBTAINED FOR ALL, BECAUSE CHRIST HAS FULLY
 ATONED FOR THE SINS OF ALL MANKIND. I JOHN 2:2; II CORINTHIANS 5:19

HOW DO YOU ACCEPT THIS FORGIVENESS OF SINS?

I ACCEPT THIS FORGIVENESS BY BELIEVING THE GOSPEL. ROMANS 3:28

WHY CAN AND SHOULD EVERY BELIEVER BE CERTAIN OF THE FORGIVENESS OF HIS
 SINS AND OF HIS SALVATION?

EVERY BELIEVER CAN AND SHOULD BE CERTAIN OF THE FORGIVENESS OF HIS SINS
 AND OF HIS SALVATION, BECAUSE GOD'S PROMISE IS SURE. II TIMOTHY 1:12;
 ROMANS 8:38-39

THOUGHTS: _____

FORGIVENESS OF SINS - A PROMISED CURE
 BECAUSE GOD'S WORD HAS ENDURED
 THE SLANDER OF MEN IN AGES PAST
 NO MATTER THE SHOUT OR LOUD BLAST

FORGIVENESS OF SINS - I AM SURE
 BECAUSE GOD'S WORD IS PURE
 NOW THE DIE HAS BEEN CAST
 GOD'S JUDGMENT IS SURE TO THE LAST

DAY 35

THE HOUR IS COMING IN WHICH ALL THAT ARE IN THE GRAVES SHALL HEAR HIS VOICE AND SHALL COME FORTH; THEY THAT HAVE DONE GOOD, UNTO THE RESURRECTION OF LIFE; AND THEY THAT HAVE DONE EVIL, UNTO THE RESURRECTION OF DAMNATION. JOHN 5:28-29

I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVES AND THAT HE SHALL STAND AT THE LATTER DAY UPON THE EARTH; AND THOUGH AFTER MY SKIN WORMS DESTROY THIS BODY, YET IN MY FLESH SHALL I SEE GOD; WHOM I SHALL SEE FOR MYSELF AND MINE EYES SHALL BEHOLD, AND NOT ANOTHER. JOB 19:25-27

WHAT DIFFERENCE WILL THERE BE IN THE RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD?
THE BELIEVERS WILL RISE WITH GLORIFIED BODIES TO EVERLASTING LIFE IN HEAVEN. PHILIPPIANS 3:21; I CORINTHIANS 15:51-52; JOHN 5:29
THE UNBELIEVERS WILL RISE TO ETERNAL DEATH, THAT IS, TO EVERLASTING SHAME, CONTEMPT, AND TORMENT IN HELL. LUKE 16:23-24; MATTHEW 10:28; MATTHEW 7:13

BLESSED ARE THE DEAD WHICH DIE IN THE LORD FROM HENCEFORTH; YES, SAYS THE SPIRIT, THAT THEY MAY REST FROM THEIR LABORS; AND THEIR WORKS DO FOLLOW THEM. REVELATION 14:13
[I HAVE] A DESIRE TO DEPART AND TO BE WITH CHRIST, WHICH IS FAR BETTER. PHILIPPIANS 1:23

ARE YOU SURE THAT YOU WILL ENTER ETERNAL LIFE?
I FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT, AS GOD HAS IN TIME CALLED ME BY THE GOSPEL, ENLIGHTENED, SANCTIFIED, AND KEPT ME IN THE TRUE FAITH, EVEN SO HE HAS FROM ETERNITY CHOSEN ME UNTO THE ADOPTION OF CHILDREN AND UNTO LIFE EVERLASTING, AND NO MAN SHALL PLUCK ME OUT OF HIS HAND. EPHESIANS 1:3-6; ROMANS 8:28-30; JOHN 10:27-28

THOUGHTS: _____

IN GOD'S WORD I KNOW IT'S SURE
ULTIMATELY SIN HAS NO LURE
FROM WHICH TO BASE IT'S CASE
HIS LOVING PROMISE HE WILL NOT WASTE

IN GOD'S LOVING CARE I AM SECURE
FOR IN THIS LIFE I WILL ENDURE
ANY HARDSHIP BY HIS GRACE
FOR ONE DAY I WILL SEE HIS FACE

DAY 36

SALVATION

VERSES TO CONSIDER:

Ex 15:2 The LORD is my strength and song, and he is become my salvation: he is my God, and I will prepare him an habitation; my father's God, and I will exalt him.

1Ch 16:23 Sing unto the LORD, all the earth; shew forth from day to day his salvation.

Ps 3:8 Salvation belongeth unto the LORD: thy blessing is upon thy people. Selah.

Ps 37:39 But the salvation of the righteous is of the LORD: he is their strength in the time of trouble.

Ps 62:6 He only is my rock and my salvation: he is my defence; I shall not be moved.

Ro 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Ro 10:10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Ro 13:11 And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed.

2Co 1:6 And whether we be afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation, which is effectual in the enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer: or whether we be comforted, it is for your consolation and salvation.

2Co 6:2 (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)

2Co 7:10 For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.

Eph 1:13 In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,

Eph 6:17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God

Php 2:12 Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

2Th 2:13 But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth

Tit 2:11 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men

Heb 2:3 How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him

2PE 3:15 AND ACCOUNT THAT THE LONGSUFFERING OF OUR LORD IS SALVATION; EVEN AS OUR BELOVED BROTHER PAUL ALSO ACCORDING TO THE WISDOM GIVEN UNTO HIM HATH WRITTEN UNTO YOU

COMMENTARY OUTLINE

1A.DELIVERANCE, PRESERVATION, SAFETY, SALVATION

1B. DELIVERANCE FROM THE MOLESTATION OF ENEMIES

2B. IN AN ETHICAL SENSE, THAT WHICH CONCLUDES TO THE SOULS SAFETY OR SALVATION

1C. OF MESSIANIC SALVATION

2A.SALVATION AS THE PRESENT POSSESSION OF ALL TRUE CHRISTIANS

3A.FUTURE SALVATION, THE SUM OF BENEFITS AND BLESSINGS WHICH THE CHRISTIANS, REDEEMED FROM ALL EARTHLY ILLS, WILL ENJOY AFTER THE VISIBLE RETURN OF CHRIST FROM HEAVEN IN THE CONSUMMATED AND ETERNAL KINGDOM OF GOD.

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FOURFOLD SALVATION: SAVED FROM THE PENALTY, POWER, PRESENCE AND MOST IMPORTANTLY THE PLEASURE OF SIN. A.W. PINK

THOUGHTS: _____

DAY 37

REPENTANCE/REPENT

VERSES TO CONSIDER:

NU 23:19 GOD IS NOT A MAN, THAT HE SHOULD LIE; NEITHER THE SON OF MAN, THAT HE SHOULD REPENT: HATH HE SAID, AND SHALL HE NOT DO IT? OR HATH HE SPOKEN, AND SHALL HE NOT MAKE IT GOOD?

Ho 13:14 I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death: O death, I will be thy plagues; O grave, I will be thy destruction: repentance shall be hid from mine eyes.

Mt 9:13 But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

Mt 2:17 When Jesus heard it, he saith unto them, They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

Lu 3:8 Bring forth therefore fruits worthy of repentance, and begin not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, That God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.

Lu 15:7 I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.

Lu 17:3 Take heed to yourselves: If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him.

Lu 17:4 And if he trespass against thee seven times in a day, and seven times in a day turn again to thee, saying, I repent; thou shalt forgive him.

Lu 24:47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

Ac 3:19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord

2Co 7:9 Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance: for ye were made sorry after a godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing.

2Co 7:10 For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.

2Pe 3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

Re 3:3 Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.

RE 3:19 AS MANY AS I LOVE, I REBUKE AND CHASTEN: BE ZEALOUS THEREFORE, AND REPENT.

COMMENTARY OUTLINE

1A.TO CHANGE ONE'S MIND, I.E. TO REPENT

2A.TO CHANGE ONE'S MIND FOR BETTER, HEARTILY TO AMEND WITH ABHORRENCE OF ONE'S PAST SINS

1B.A CHANGE OF MIND, AS IT APPEARS TO ONE WHO REPENTS, OF A PURPOSE HE HAS FORMED OR OF SOMETHING HE HAS DONE

2B.APPLIES TO THE ENTIRE LIFE

3B.EXPRESSIVE OF MORAL ACTION AND ISSUES, IS INDICATED NOT ONLY BY ITS DERIVATION, BUT BY THE GREATER FREQUENCY OF ITS USE AND BY THE FACT IT IS OFTEN USED IN THE IMPERATIVE.

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IF YOUR SORROW IS BECAUSE OF CERTAIN CONSEQUENCES WHICH HAVE COME ON YOUR FAMILY BECAUSE OF YOUR SIN, THIS IS REMORSE, NOT TRUE REPENTANCE. IF, ON THE OTHER HAND, YOU ARE GRIEVED BECAUSE YOU ALSO SINNED AGAINST GOD AND HIS HOLY LAWS, THEN YOU ARE ON THE RIGHT ROAD. BILLY GRAHAM

THOUGHTS: _____

DAY 38

CONVERT/CONVERSION

VERSES TO CONSIDER:

Ps 85:8 I will hear what God the LORD will speak: for he will speak peace unto his people, and to his saints: but let them not turn again to folly.

PS 86:16 O TURN UNTO ME, AND HAVE MERCY UPON ME; GIVE THY STRENGTH UNTO THY SERVANT, AND SAVE THE SON OF THINE HANDMAID.

Ps 119:79 Let those that fear thee turn unto me, and those that have known thy testimonies.

PS 125:5 AS FOR SUCH AS TURN ASIDE UNTO THEIR CROOKED WAYS, THE LORD SHALL LEAD THEM FORTH WITH THE WORKERS OF INIQUITY

PR 1:23 TURN YOU AT MY REPROOF: BEHOLD, I WILL POUR OUT MY SPIRIT UNTO YOU, I WILL MAKE KNOWN MY WORDS UNTO YOU.

ISA 1:27 ZION SHALL BE REDEEMED WITH JUDGMENT, AND HER CONVERTS WITH RIGHTEOUSNESS.

Ac 15:3 And being brought on their way by the church, they passed through Phenice and Samaria, declaring the conversion of the Gentiles: and they caused great joy unto all the brethren.

Isa 6:10 Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and convert, and be healed.

Jas 5:16 Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

Jas 5:17 Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months.

Jas 5:18 And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.

Jas 5:19 Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him;

Jas 5:20 Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.

COMMENTARY OUTLINE

1A. TRANSITIVELY

1B. TO TURN TO

1C. TO THE WORSHIP OF THE TRUE GOD

2C. CONVERSION (OF THE GENTILES FROM IDOLATRY TO THE TRUE GOD)

2B. TO CAUSE TO RETURN, TO BRING BACK

1C. TO THE LOVE AND OBEDIENCE OF GOD

2C. TO THE LOVE FOR THE CHILDREN

3C. TO LOVE WISDOM AND RIGHTEOUSNESS

3B. TO TURN ONE'S SELF FROM ONE'S COURSE OF CONDUCT, I.E. TO CHANGE ONE'S MIND

2A. INTRANSITIVELY

1B. TO TURN TO ONE'S SELF

2B. TO TURN ONE'S SELF ABOUT, TURN BACK

3B. TO RETURN, TURN BACK, COME BACK

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THERE ARE TOO MANY GRANDCHILDREN OF CHRIST IN THE WORLD, THOSE WHOSE PARENTS WERE CHRISTIANS BUT THEY AREN'T. NOWHERE IN THE BIBLE DOES GOD

CLAIM GRANDCHILDREN - JUST CHILDREN, BORN AGAIN BY FAITH I CHRIST. BOB
PIERCE

THOUGHTS: _____

DAY 39

SIN/SINNERS

VERSES TO CONSIDER:

PS 1:1 BLESSED IS THE MAN THAT WALKETH NOT IN THE COUNSEL OF THE UNGODLY, NOR STANDETH IN THE WAY OF SINNERS, NOR SITTETH IN THE SEAT OF THE SCORNFUL.

Ps 1:5 Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

Ps 25:8 Good and upright is the LORD: therefore will he teach sinners in the way.

Ps 26:9 Gather not my soul with sinners, nor my life with bloody men:

Ps 104:35 Let the sinners be consumed out of the earth, and let the wicked be no more. Bless thou the LORD, O my soul. Praise ye the LORD.

Pr 23:17 Let not thine heart envy sinners: but be thou in the fear of the LORD all the day long.

Isa 1:28 And the destruction of the transgressors and of the sinners shall be together, and they that forsake the LORD shall be consumed.

Mt 9:10 And it came to pass, as Jesus sat at meat in the house, behold, many publicans and sinners came and sat down with him and his disciples.

Mt 12:31 Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men.

Lu 5:32 I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

Ro 8:10 And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

Ro 14:23 And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because he eateth not of faith: for whatsoever is not of faith is sin.

1Co 6:18 Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body.

1Ti 1:9 Knowing this, that the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, for unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers,

1Ti 1:15 This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.

Heb 12:3 For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.

Jas 4:8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

COMMENTARY OUTLINE

1A.TO BE WITHOUT A SHARE IN

2A.TO MISS THE MARK

3A.TO ERR, BE MISTAKEN

4A.TO MISS OR WANDER FROM THE PATH OF UPRIGHTNESS AND HONOR, TO DO OR GO WRONG

1B.COLLECTIVELY, THE COMPLEX OR AGGREGATE OF SINS COMMITTED EITHER BY A SINGLE PERSON OR BY MANY

5A.TO WANDER FROM THE LAW OF GOD, VIOLATE GOD'S LAW, SIN

1B. THAT WHICH IS DONE WRONG, SIN, AN OFFENSE, A VIOLATION OF THE DIVINE LAW IN THOUGHT OR IN ACT

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WE ARE TOO CHRISTIAN REALLY TO ENJOY SINNING, AND TOO FOND OF SINNING REALLY TO ENJOY CHRISTIANITY. MOST OF US KNOW PERFECTLY WELL WHAT WE OUGHT TO DO; OUR TROUBLE IS THAT WE DO NOT WANT TO DO IT. PETER MARSHALL

THOUGHTS: _____

DAY 40

FAITH

VERSES TO CONSIDER:

De 32:20 And he said, I will hide my face from them, I will see what their end shall be: for they are a very forward generation, children in whom is no faith.

Hab 2:4 Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith.

Mt 6:30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?

Lu 22:32 But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.

Ac 26:18 To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

Ro 3:22 Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference

Ro 3:25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God

2Th 3:2 And that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for all men have not faith.

2Ti 3:10 But thou hast fully known my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, charity, patience

COMMENTARY OUTLINE:

1A.CONVICTION OF THE TRUTH OF ANYTHING, BELIEF; IN THE NT OF A CONVICTION OR BELIEF RESPECTING MAN'S RELATIONSHIP TO GOD AND DIVINE THINGS, GENERALLY WITH THE INCLUDED IDEA OF TRUST AND HOLY FERVOR BORN OF FAITH AND JOINED WITH IT

1B. RELATING TO GOD

1C.THE CONVICTION THAT GOD EXISTS AND IS THE CREATOR AND RULER OF ALL THINGS, THE PROVIDER AND BESTOWER OF ETERNAL SALVATION THROUGH CHRIST

2B.RELATING TO CHRIST

1C.A STRONG AND WELCOME CONVICTION OR BELIEF THAT JESUS IS THE MESSIAH, THROUGH WHOM WE OBTAIN ETERNAL SALVATION IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD

2C. THE RELIGIOUS BELIEFS OF CHRISTIANS

3C.BELIEF WITH THE PREDOMINATE IDEA OF TRUST (OR CONFIDENCE) WHETHER IN GOD OR IN CHRIST, SPRINGING FROM FAITH IN THE SAME

2A.FIDELITY, FAITHFULNESS

1B.THE CHARACTER OF ONE WHO CAN BE RELIED ON

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FAITH IN GOD MAKES A PERSON UNDAUNTED, UNAFRAID, UNDIVIDED, AND "UNFLAPPABLE."

REAL FAITH RESULTS IN ACTIVE RESPONSE, RESPONSIVE ACTION, AND WILLING OBEDIENCE.

FAITH IS CONTINUING TO RUN THE RACE, ASSURED THAT YOU WILL GET YOUR SECOND WIND.

FAITH IS FOCUSING ON GOD'S PROMISES, AND CROPPING OUT THE WORLD'S DISCOURAGEMENT'S.

FAITH IS CONFIDENTLY EXPECTING MIRACLES FROM THE SOURCE AND PROMISER OF
MIRACLES. WILLIAM A. WARD

THOUGHTS: _____

DAY 41

MERCY

VERSES TO CONSIDER:

DE 32:43 REJOICE, O YE NATIONS, WITH HIS PEOPLE: FOR HE WILL AVENGE THE BLOOD OF HIS SERVANTS, AND WILL RENDER VENGEANCE TO HIS ADVERSARIES, AND WILL BE MERCIFUL UNTO HIS LAND, AND TO HIS PEOPLE.

1Ch 16:34 O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever.

2Ch 6:14 And said, O LORD God of Israel, there is no God like thee in the heaven, nor in the earth; which keepest covenant, and shewest mercy unto thy servants, that walk before thee with all their hearts

Ps 6:2 Have mercy upon me, O LORD; for I am weak: O LORD, heal me; for my bones are vexed.

Ps 9:13 Have mercy upon me, O LORD; consider my trouble which I suffer of them that hate me, thou that liftest me up from the gates of death:

Ps 13:5 But I have trusted in thy mercy; my heart shall rejoice in thy salvation.

Ps 18:25 With the merciful thou wilt shew thyself merciful; with an upright man thou wilt shew thyself upright;

Ps 26:11 But as for me, I will walk in mine integrity: redeem me, and be merciful unto me.

Ps 37:26 He is ever merciful, and lendeth; and his seed is blessed.

Ps 41:4 I said, LORD, be merciful unto me: heal my soul; for I have sinned against thee.

Pr 21:21 He that followeth after righteousness and mercy findeth life, righteousness, and honour.

Mic 7:18 Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy.

Ro 9:16 So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy.

1Ti 1:16 Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.

Tit 1:4 To Titus, mine own son after the common faith: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Tit 3:5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost

Heb 2:17 Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.

COMMENTARY OUTLINE

1A.MERCY: KINDNESS OR GOOD WILL TOWARDS THE MISERABLE AND THE AFFLICTED, JOINED WITH A DESIRE TO HELP THEM

1B.OF MEN TOWARDS MEN: TO EXERCISE THE VIRTUE OF MERCY, SHOW ONE'S SELF MERCIFUL

2B.OF GOD TOWARDS MEN: IN GENERAL PROVIDENCE; THE MERCY AND CLEMENCY OF GOD IN PROVIDING AND OFFERING TO MEN SALVATION BY CHRIST

3B. THE MERCY OF CHRIST, WHEREBY AT HIS RETURN TO JUDGMENT HE WILL BLESS TRUE CHRISTIANS WITH ETERNAL LIFE

2A.TO HAVE MERCY ON

TO HELP ONE AFFLICTED OR SEEKING AID

TO HELP THE AFFLICTED, TO BRING HELP TO THE WRETCHED

TO EXPERIENCE MERCY

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MERCY DOES NOT ALWAYS EXPRESS ITSELF BY WITHHOLDING PUNISHMENT.

ERNEST M. LIGON

THOUGHTS: _____

DAY 42

GRACE

VERSES TO CONSIDER:

Ps 84:11 For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.

Pr 3:34 Surely he scorneth the scorners: but he giveth grace unto the lowly.

Joh 1:16 And of his fullness have all we received, and grace for grace.

Joh 1:17 For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

Ac 4:33 And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.

Ro 1:5 By whom we have received grace and apostleship, for obedience to the faith among all nations, for his name

Ro 4:16 Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all

Ro 5:2 By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Ro 5:15 But not as the offense, so also is the free gift. For if through the offense of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many.

Ro 12:3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

2Co 6:1 We then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain.

2Co 12:9 And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Eph 2:7 That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

Eph 2:8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God

COMMENTARY OUTLINE

1A.GRACE

1B.THAT WHICH AFFORDS JOY, PLEASURE, DELIGHT, SWEETNESS, CHARM, LOVELINESS: GRACE OF SPEECH

2A.GOOD WILL, LOVING-KINDNESS, FAVOR

1B.OF THE MERCIFUL KINDNESS BY WHICH GOD, EXERTING HIS HOLY INFLUENCE UPON SOULS, TURNS THEM TO CHRIST, KEEPS, STRENGTHENS, INCREASES THEM IN CHRISTIAN FAITH, KNOWLEDGE, AFFECTION, AND KINDLES THEM TO THE EXERCISE OF THE CHRISTIAN VIRTUES

3A.WHAT IS DUE TO GRACE

1B.THE SPIRITUAL CONDITION OF ONE GOVERNED BY THE POWER OF DIVINE

GRACE

2B.THE TOKEN OR PROOF OF GRACE, BENEFIT

1C.A GIFT OF GRACE

2C.BENEFIT, BOUNTY

4A.THANKS, (FOR BENEFITS, SERVICES, FAVORS), RECOMPENSE, REWARD

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GRACE IS NOT THE ENEMY, BUT A FRIEND FOR WHICH I AM GRATEFUL. JAY KESLER

THOUGHTS: _____

DAY 43

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT CONCERNING THE BIBLE:

I BELIEVE THAT THE SACRED SCRIPTURES OF THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENT TO BE GOD'S REVELATION TO MAN. THAT EACH OF THE SIXTY-SIX BOOKS RECORDED THEREIN ARE DIVINELY INSPIRED OF GOD AND INERRANT. THEREFORE, THEY ARE THE ABSOLUTE AND FINAL AUTHORITY FOR MAN.

MATTHEW 4:4, 5:17-20, II TIMOTHY 3:16; II PETER 1:21-22

INSPIRATION:

"... THAT EXTRAORDINARY SUPERNATURAL INFLUENCE (OR, PASSIVELY, THE RESULT OF IT,) EXERTED BY THE HOLY GHOST ON THE WRITERS OF OUR SACRED BOOKS, BY WHICH THEIR WORDS WERE RENDERED ALSO THE WORDS OF GOD, AND THEREFORE, PERFECTLY INFALLIBLE." B.B. WARFIELD

THE DOCTRINE OF INSPIRATION IS FOUNDATIONAL TO EVERY CHRISTIAN, AND MUST NOT BE COMPROMISED. BY "INSPIRATION", I MEAN THAT THE BIBLE FINDS ITS SOURCE WITH GOD. THE WORDS WE READ IN OUR GREEK AND HEBREW TEXTS ARE THE VERY WORDS OF GOD. THE HOLY SPIRIT GUIDED THE CHOICE OF WORDS USED, YET USING EACH WRITER'S INDIVIDUAL CHARACTERISTICS. INSPIRATION EXTENDS TO EVERY PORTION OF THE BIBLE. THE BIBLE IS NOT INSPIRING BUT INSPIRED OF GOD HIMSELF. BECAUSE THESE ARE GOD'S VERY OWN WORDS, THEY DEMAND A RESPONSE OF OBEDIENCE.

IN SHORT, I HOLD TO THE VERBAL, PLENARY ASPECT OF THE DOCTRINE OF INSPIRATION.

II TIMOTHY 3:16; II PETER 1:21

YOUR OWN STATEMENT OF BELIEF:

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DAY 44

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT CONCERNING THE PERSON OF GOD:

I BELIEVE IN ONE GOD, ETERNALLY EXISTING IN THREE PERSONS: FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT. EACH ARE CO-ETERNAL IN BEING, CO-IDENTICAL IN NATURE, CO-EQUAL IN POWER AND GLORY, HAVING THE SAME EXCELLENCIES/ATTRIBUTES AND PERFECTION.

DEUTERONOMY 6:4

THE TRINITY:

THOUGH THE WORD "TRINITY" DOES NOT APPEAR IN THE BIBLE, I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT THE FACT OF THE TRIUNE GOD IS CLEARLY TAUGHT IN THE SCRIPTURES. THE CONCEPT CAN PROBABLY BE BEST UNDERSTOOD IN THE IDEA OF PLURALITY IN UNITY. A BETTER WORD THAN TRINITY WOULD PERHAPS BE "TRI-UNITY". GOD IS ONE, OF THIS THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT (DEUTERONOMY 6:4). BUT IN THIS UNITY THERE IS EVIDENCE OF DISTINCT PERSONALITIES. THE FATHER IS GOD (JOHN 6:27; I PETER 1:2); CHRIST IS GOD (JOHN 20:28); AND THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD (ACTS 5:3-4; I CORINTHIANS 2:10).

THE FACT OF THE TRINITY IN SCRIPTURE IS CLEAR BUT AS TO THE UNDERSTANDING OF THIS DOCTRINE, I DO NOT CLAIM TO FULLY COMPREHEND IT. IN JOHN 10:22-38, JESUS CHRIST CLAIMS TO BE EQUAL WITH THE FATHER. IN ISAIAH 6:8-9, WE READ A STATEMENT ATTRIBUTED TO JEHOVAH GOD BUT IN ACTS 28:25-26, WE HAVE THE SAME STATEMENT, WHICH IS ATTRIBUTED TO THE HOLY SPIRIT. THE ONLY EXPLANATION IS TO BELIEVE THAT THESE THREE PERSONS EXIST AS ONE. I SIMPLY HOLD TO THE FACTS OF SCRIPTURE CONCERNING THIS DOCTRINE.

YOUR OWN STATEMENT OF BELIEF:

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DAY 45

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT CONCERNING ANGELS AND DEMONS.

I BELIEVE THE SPIRIT WORLD TO BE REAL IN EVERY RESPECT. ANGELS ARE REAL (FALLEN AND UNFALLEN). MOST CERTAINLY SATAN IS REAL AND WORKING HIS EVIL IN THIS WORLD.

THEY ARE CREATED BEINGS.

COLOSSIANS 1:16 cf. I PETER 3:22

THEY ARE INCORPOREAL BEINGS.

LUKE 20:36; HEBREWS 1:14

THEY ARE INTELLIGENT BEINGS.

II SAMUEL 14:20

THEY WERE CREATED HOLY.

JUDE 6

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT CONCERNING SATAN

SATAN IN HIS ORIGINAL STATE WAS THE HIGHEST ORDER OF ANGEL THAT GOD CREATED: "THOU SEALEST UP THE SUM, FULL OF WISDOM, AND PERFECT IN BEAUTY... THE ART THE ANOINTED CHERUB THAT COVERETH, AND I HAVE SET THEE SO... THOU WAST PERFECT IN THY WAYS FROM THE DAY THAT THOU WAST CREATED..." SATAN WAS NOT SATISFIED WITH BEING SUBORDINATE TO HIS CREATOR AND REBELLED, "... TILL INIQUITY WAS FOUND IN THEE... THINE HEART WAS LIFTED UP BECAUSE OF THY BEAUTY, THOU HAST CORRUPTED THY WISDOM BY REASON OF THY BRIGHTNESS..."

EZEKIEL 28:12-17

SATAN'S REBELLION IS SUMMED UP IN ISAIAH 14:13-14:

I WILL ASCEND INTO HEAVEN.

I WILL EXALT MY THRONE ABOVE THE STARS OF GOD.

I WILL SIT ALSO UPON THE MOUNT OF THE CONGREGATION.

I WILL ASCEND ABOVE THE HEIGHTS OF THE CLOUDS.

I WILL BE LIKE THE MOST HIGH.

THIS PRIDE OF REBELLION HAS ONLY ONE CONCLUSION, THE JUDGMENT OF GOD.

"YET THOU SHALT BE BROUGHT DOWN TO HELL, TO THE SIDES OF THE PIT." ISAIAH 14:15

SATAN WAS JUDGED AT THE CROSS, AND THIS JUDGMENT WILL BE FINALLY CARRIED OUT AT THE END OF THE MILLENNIUM WHEN SATAN IS CAST INTO THE LAKE OF FIRE.

JOHN 12:31; REVELATION 20:10

SATAN IS ALIVE AND WORKING. HE IS ACCUSING AND SLANDERING US AS BELIEVERS (REVELATION 20:10). HE IS TEMPTING US TO DEFRAUD OUR MATES IN THE AREA OF IMMORALITY (I CORINTHIANS 7:5). HE HATES US BECAUSE WE BELONG TO CHRIST (JOHN 17:14; I JOHN 3:1).

IN STUDYING SATAN WE MUST SEE THAT HE IS A POWERFUL BEING. SATAN, BEING SUCH A PERSON, WE MUST DRAW CLOSER TO GOD IN STUDYING HIS WORD, PRAYING AND WORSHIPPING. SATAN IS IN THE BUSINESS OF DEVOURING (I PETER 5:8).

THEREFORE, WE MUST BE BUSY DEVOURING THE WORD AND APPLYING IT TO OUR LIVES.

EZEKIEL 3:1-3

YOUR OWN STATEMENT OF BELIEF:

DAY 46

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT CONCERNING THE CREATION OF MAN:

I BELIEVE THAT ADAM WAS CREATED IN THE IMAGE AND LIKENESS OF GOD. THAT HE WAS CREATED PERFECT, BUT THROUGH WILLFUL DISOBEDIENCE PLUNGED HIMSELF, AND THE WHOLE HUMAN RACE, INTO SIN. THE RESULT WAS SEPARATION IN THE FORM OF PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL DEATH. THIS LEAVES MAN'S CONDITION ONE OF TOTAL DEPRAVITY.

GENESIS 1:26-27; ROMANS 3:9-20, 5:9-21; EPHESIANS 2:1-3,12

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT CONCERNING MAN'S SIN:

THOUGH MAN WAS CREATED SINLESS, MAN LITERALLY FELL INTO SIN AND SEPARATION THROUGH ADAM'S ONE ACT OF WILLFUL DISOBEDIENCE. THIS DISOBEDIENCE RESULTED IN BOTH PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL DEATH (GENESIS 2:17 CF. 3:19). NOT ONLY FOR ADAM AND EVE BUT FOR THE ENTIRE HUMAN RACE (ROMANS 5:12-17).

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT CONCERNING MAN'S SALVATION:

I BELIEVE THAT SALVATION/ETERNAL LIFE IS THE FREE GIFT OF GOD BROUGHT TO MAN BY GRACE AND RECEIVED THROUGH FAITH IN THE LORD JESUS CHRIST. WHOSE PRECIOUS BLOOD WAS SHED ON THE CROSS OF CALVARY FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF OUR SINS.

JOHN 1:12; EPHESIANS 1:7, 2:8-10; I PETER 1:18-19.

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT CONCERNING THE DEATH OF CHRIST:

I BELIEVE THAT THE DEATH OF CHRIST IS THE BASIS BY WHICH GOD IS ABLE TO JUSTIFY THE BELIEVER (ROMANS 3:21-26). AND THAT CHRIST WAS THE WILLING SUBSTITUTE FOR OUR SINS. HE SHED HIS BLOOD THAT WE MIGHT RECEIVE THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS AND ETERNAL LIFE (1 PETER 3:18; MATTHEW 20:28). GOD HAS BEEN PERFECTLY SATISFIED WITH THE DEATH OF CHRIST ON MY BEHALF (1 JOHN 2:1-2).

YOUR OWN STATEMENT OF BELIEF:

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DAY 47

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT CONCERNING THE PERSON AND WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT:
THE HOLY SPIRIT IS A REAL PERSON OF THE GODHEAD AND SHOULD NOT BE
CONSIDERED AN "IT". HE IS CO-EQUAL IN POWER AND GLORY; CO-EQUAL IN BEING;
AND CO-IDENTICAL IN NATURE WITH THE FATHER AND THE SON.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE PERSON WHO CONVICTS THE WORLD OF SIN, OF JUDGMENT AND OF RIGHTEOUSNESS. HE IS THE SUPERNATURAL AGENT IN REGENERATION, INDWELLING AND SEALING US UNTO THE DAY OF REDEMPTION.

JOHN 16:5-11; II CORINTHIANS 3:6; I CORINTHIANS 12:12-13; EPHESIANS 1:11-14

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE DIVINE TEACHER WHO GUIDES BELIEVERS INTO ALL TRUTH.

IT IS THE DUTY AND PRIVILEGE OF ALL SAVED TO BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT.

JOHN 16:13; EPHESIANS 5:18; I JOHN 2:20,27

THE HOLY SPIRIT WAS ACTIVE IN CREATION - JOB 33:4; GENESIS CHAPTERS 1-3.

HE ALSO AT VARIOUS TIMES INDWELLED AND EMPOWERED CERTAIN MEN FOR SPECIAL TASKS - GENESIS 41:38; DANIEL 4:8; I SAMUEL 10:10.

HE ALSO SERVED TO RESTRAIN SIN IN THE WORLD - II THESSALONIANS 2:7

THE HOLY SPIRIT GAVE REVELATION TO MAN AND INSPIRED THE WRITERS OF SCRIPTURE TO RECORD THIS REVELATION - II TIMOTHY 3:16; II PETER 1:21.

THE HOLY SPIRIT WAS ACTIVE IN THE LIFE OF CHRIST. HE CAUSED CHRIST'S CONCEPTION IN MARY. HE ANOINTED CHRIST. HE FILLED CHRIST. CHRIST WAS LED AND EMPOWERED BY THE SPIRIT - MATTHEW 12:28; LUKE 1:35, 4:1,18.

YOUR OWN STATEMENT OF BELIEF:

[illegible]

DAY 48

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT CONCERNING CHRIST:

I BELIEVE THAT JESUS CHRIST IS PERFECT GOD AND PERFECT MAN. I BELIEVE THAT AS GOD, HE HAD NO BEGINNING AND WILL HAVE NO END. HE IS THE CREATOR OF THE WORLD AND ALL THAT IS IN IT. AS THE PERFECT MAN HE WAS CONCEIVED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT AND BORN OF THE VIRGIN MARY. THIS BEING SO, CHRIST WAS THE ONLY SINLESS HUMAN TO LIVE A PERFECTLY SINLESS LIFE. WHICH QUALIFIED HIM TO FULFILL HIS INTENDED EARTHLY MINISTRY OF OFFERING HIMSELF AS A SUBSTITUTIONARY SACRIFICE AND THE COMPLETE SATISFACTION FOR THE SINS OF THE HUMAN RACE ON THE CROSS OF CALVARY.

I BELIEVE THAT HIS LITERAL BODILY RESURRECTION FROM THE GRAVE MAKES SURE SALVATION TO THOSE WHO BY FAITH RECEIVE HIS WORK ON THEIR BEHALF. I BELIEVE ALSO THAT THIS SAME JESUS ASCENDED VISIBLY AND BODILY INTO HEAVEN AND IS EVEN NOW SEATED AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD THE FATHER. HERE HE FULFILLS HIS MINISTRY TO BELIEVERS AS REPRESENTATIVE, INTERCESSOR, AND ADVOCATE. I LOOK FORWARD TO A LITERAL, BODILY RETURN OF JESUS CHRIST. FIRST FOR HIS SAINTS AT THE RAPTURE, AND LATER WITH HIS SAINTS AT HIS SECOND COMING. COLOSSIANS 1:15; PHILIPPIANS 2:5-8; JOHN 1:1-18; MATTHEW 1:18-25; LUKE 1:35; ROMANS 3:24-25; EPHESIANS 1:7; I PETER 1:3-5; LUKE CHAPTER 24; I JOHN 2:1-2; I CORINTHIANS CHAPTER 15; I THESSALONIANS 4:13-18

THERE ARE SEVERAL LINES OF EVIDENCE THAT ARGUE FOR THE DEITY OF MY LORD JESUS CHRIST. FIRST, THE PRE-EXISTENCE OF CHRIST IS PROVED IN THE OLD TESTAMENT IN MICAH 5:2 AND ISAIAH 9:6. ALSO IN THE NEW TESTAMENT AS FOUND IN JOHN 1:1,14 AND 8:58. BECAUSE CHRIST EXISTED BEFORE ALL ELSE WAS CREATED, HE IS GOD.

THE WORKS ASCRIBED TO CHRIST IN THE SCRIPTURES ALSO REVEAL HIS DEITY. HE IS SAID TO BE THE CREATOR OF THE WORLD (COLOSSIANS 1:15-16). HE IS THE GIVER OF LIFE (JOHN 14:6). HE FORGIVES SIN (LUKE 7:48). HE CLAIMED ALL JUDGMENT (JOHN 5:27). HE SENT THE HOLY SPIRIT (JOHN 15:26). HE CLAIMS ALL POWER (MATTHEW 28:18; REVELATION 1:8). HE HAD ALL KNOWLEDGE (MARK 2:8). THESE ARE THINGS THAT CAN ONLY BE SAID OF AND DONE BY GOD HIMSELF.

THE NAMES GIVEN TO JESUS CHRIST IN THE BIBLE ALSO TESTIFY OF HIS DEITY. OFTEN HE IS CALLED THE SON OF GOD (MATTHEW 27:54). HE IS CALLED IMMANUEL, MEANING "GOD WITH US" (MATTHEW 1:23). FINALLY HE IS KNOWN AS THE WORD (JOHN 1:1).

YOUR OWN STATEMENT OF BELIEF:

[illegible]

DAY 49

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT CONCERNING THE CHURCH:

THE CHURCH IS A SPIRITUAL ORGANISM MAKE UP OF ALL BORN AGAIN PERSONS, BOTH JEW AND GENTILE, OF THIS PRESENT AGE (EPHESIANS 1:22; I CORINTHIANS 12:12-31). THIS IS THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH, WHICH IS THE BODY OF CHRIST. THE WAY THAT SOMEONE IS PLACE INTO THE BODY OF CHRIST IS THROUGH THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT (ACTS 1:5; 11:15-17; ROMANS 6:1-4; I CORINTHIANS 12:13). I HOLD TO THE ESTABLISHMENT AND CONTINUANCE OF LOCAL CHURCH AS TAUGHT AND DEFINED IN THE NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES. ACTS 14:27, 20:17; I TIMOTHY 3:1-13; TITUS 1:5-11

"THE PRESENT DIVINE PURPOSE OF THIS AGE IS NOT THE CONVERSION OF THE WORLD, BUT RATHER THE CALLING OUT FROM THE WORLD THOSE WHO WILL BELIEVE IN CHRIST TO FORM THE BODY OF CHRIST WHICH IS THE CHURCH".

WALVOORD

WE ARE "CALL OUT ONES" AND THEREFORE SHOULD LIVE IN SUCH A MANNER AS NOT TO BRING REPROACH UPON OUR SAVIOR AND LORD. THAT SEPARATION FROM ALL RELIGIOUS APOSTASY AND ALL WORLDLY PLEASURES, PRACTICES AND ASSOCIATIONS ARE COMMANDED BY GOD (ROMANS 12:1-2; II CORINTHIANS 6:14, 7:1; II TIMOTHY 3:1-5;

I JOHN 2:15-17; II JOHN 9-11). THE PRACTICE OF SEPARATION IS NOT AN EASY ONE. FOR THE WORLD IS CONSTANTLY PLEADING AND TEMPTING US TO GO AGAINST WHAT GOD HAS COMMANDED.

THE KEY TO SEPARATION" IS THAT OF ATTITUDE. TOO OFTEN WE COME DOWN ON A PERSON WITH SELF-RIGHTEOUS INDIGNATION, FORGETTING THE BEAM IN OUR OWN EYE. THIS SEPARATION IS A BALANCE OF LOVE (JOHN 13:34-35 CF. I JOHN 4:7-21) AND OBEDIENCE (JOHN 14:15).

ULTIMATELY THE COMMISSION OF THE CHURCH IS TO GLORIFY GOD IN EVERYTHING (ISAIAH 43:7; I CORINTHIANS 10:31). SECONDARY TO THIS AND FLOWING FROM IT, WE ARE TO MAKE DISCIPLES, EVANGELIZE, TO CARE FOR OUR OWN AND DO GOOD IN THE WORLD.

MATTHEW 28:18-20; GALATIANS 6:10; II TIMOTHY 4:2; I TIMOTHY CHAPTER 5

YOUR OWN STATEMENT OF BELIEF:

[illegible]

(A SUMMARY OF THE THEOLOGY OF MARTIN LUTHER)

THOUGHTS CONCERNING YOUR 50 DAY JOURNEY:

[illegible]

COMMITMENTS MADE:
