

**GOD
CHOSE
YOU**

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J I M H A R W E L L



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Scripture

“So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them” (Genesis 1:27).

“And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being” (Genesis 2:7).

“He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also He has put eternity in their hearts, except that no one can find out the work that God does from beginning to end” (Ecclesiastes 3:11).

“For You formed my inward parts;
You covered me in my mother’s womb.
I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
Marvelous are Your works,
And that my soul knows very well.
My frame was not hidden from You,
When I was made in secret,

And skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth.

Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed.

And in Your book they all were written,
The days fashioned for me,
When as yet there were none of them" (Psalm 139:13-16).

"For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Matthew 16:26)

"But Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven'" (Matthew 19:14).

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life) (John 3:16).

"And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever – the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you" (John 14:16-17).

"All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book

of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world" (Revelation 13:8).

"And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire" (Revelation 20:15).

God has chosen to give Himself to mankind.
He gives Himself through His Son Jesus
Christ.

God has chosen to give every person their life,
soul and everything good that they choose to
receive.

A person's most important choice is their de-
cision between God or self, to believe in Him or
not.

God's choices for mankind are unsearchable, infinite and eternal.

He has chosen to give Himself to mankind, for eternity.

He chose to give His Son to the world.

He has given to every person infinitely and eternally and in an infinite number of ways.

God is infinite, eternal and beyond human description.

If He offered Himself to a person for just one second, it would be the greatest offer ever made to them.

He has offered Himself to man for eternity, for an infinite number of moments.

As He gives in the spirit realm, so He gives in the natural realm.

In the natural, He has chosen to give to every person infinitely, eternally and in an infinite number of ways. How so?

In the natural, He gives every person their life, soul and everything good they have and receive.

He has given every person a soul that is priceless and eternal, made in His image and likeness.

He chose to give them faith, eternity in their heart and choice.

He sustains and keeps them alive, from conception to their final breath.

He does the same for every person they rely on, even for every person in the world.

A person makes millions of choices in their lifetime.

Everything a person does is by choice.

From their early years until they leave the earth, humans choose.

They choose what to do and not do, think and not think, and say and not say.

They choose their thoughts, beliefs, words, actions and infinitely more.

They choose what they do with their time and who to spend time with.

They choose what they want, need, desire, hope for and long for.

They choose what they get and give . . . and on and on.

God has made and makes choices for a person that are unsearchable, priceless, infinite, eternal and beyond comprehension.

There is one choice He cannot and will not make for them: the choice between Him and self.

God chose to create you.
He chose to make you into His image and likeness.
He chose to give you choice.
He chose to die for you.
He chooses to believe in you.
He chooses to be available to you, all the time, for all eternity.
He chooses to knock on the door of your heart.
He has chosen to give Himself to you.
A person chooses to receive Him or not.

God chose to create you.
He formed you in your mother's womb.
You are fearfully and wonderfully made.
He made you into His image and likeness.
You will exist forever.
If you had died before the age of five, you
would have gone to heaven to live with Him,
forever.
He sustains you.
He gives everything that keeps you alive.
He gives you every good gift.
He gives you every perfect gift.
He gives you faith.
He put eternity in your heart.
He gave you worth, value, meaning and pur-
pose.
He gave you choice.
He believes in you . . . more than you can com-
prehend.
Even if you do not believe in Him, He believes
in you.
He chooses to believe in you.
He died for you.
He came to the earth and lived as a human
like you.

He was born, lived for 33 years, and died.

He became what you are, so you could become what He is.

He died for the world.

He chose to die.

He died that you might have eternal life and live forever.

There is no greater love than someone laying down their life for his friends.

He rose from the dead.

He is alive.

He is available to you all the time, your entire life, even forever.

He chooses to be available.

He knocks on the door of your heart, the real you.

He chooses to knock on the door of your heart.

There is one choice He will not make for you: the choice to believe in Him.

Psalm 139, Genesis 1:27, 2:7, John 3:16, 1 Timothy 2:4, 2 Peter 3:9, Matthew 19:14, Isaiah 42:5, Job 12:10, James 1:17, Romans 12:3, Ecclesiastes 3:11, Matthew 10:29, John 3:16, John 6:51, John 15:13, Matthew 26:36-46, Matthew 28:20, Revelation 3:20,

The Crucifixion in the Gospels:

Matthew 27:35-44

Mark 15:24-32

Luke 23:33-43

John 19:18-27

God chose to create you.
God the Father believes in you.
Jesus Christ is the Son of God and . . . God.
Jesus chose to create you.
Jesus believes in you.
Jesus died for you.
Jesus shed His blood for you.
Jesus loves you.
Jesus can save you.
Jesus can heal you.
Jesus gives to you.
Jesus gives Himself to you.
Jesus gives the kingdom to you.
Jesus blesses you.
Jesus reveals to you.
Jesus teaches you.
Jesus speaks to you.
Jesus convicts you.
Jesus can set you free.
Jesus can anoint you.
Jesus knocks on the door of your heart.
Jesus offers to fellowship with you, forever.

Every person lives by faith in God in the natural realm (Romans 12:3).

Every person's good gifts come down from God the Father (James 1:17).

Every person believes in intangible, spiritual things. They know there is more than the natural world. They have eternity in their heart (Ecclesiastes 3:11).

Everything a person does is by choice (Joshua 24:16).

Many object to the gospel because of suffering. Their objection reveals they believe in the value of a person. They are correct: man's soul is priceless (Matthew 16:26).

Man lives by faith. They have to.

Man believes in eternity. They naturally do.

Man lives by choice. They get to.

Man's most important choice is God or self.

Romans 12:3, Ecclesiastes 3:11, Genesis 1:27, 2:7, Matthew 16:26, Romans 1:20

Every person has faith in and relies on God all the time, from conception to their final breath (Isaiah 42:5, Job 12:10).

Everything a person does is by faith or fear.

Every person has either faith in God or faith in something else (Romans 12:3).

Every person believes in spiritual things, such as love and goodness. They rely on them.

Every person's good gifts come from God. Even if someone does not realize it, God gives them all the good and perfect things they have, both natural and spiritual (James 1:17).

Every person knows there is more than this earthly, natural life. They believe in spiritual things. This belief keeps them alive. God has put eternity in every man's heart (Ecclesiastes 3:11).

Everything a person does is by choice.

Man can choose because God made man into His image and likeness (Genesis 1:27, 2:7).

God chose to create them. He gave them their life, soul and everything good they have (Psalm 139:14). It is only reasonable that they give their life back to God (Romans 12:1).

Their most important choice is between God

and self.

If they hear the gospel, their choice is between Jesus Christ and self.

Many object to the gospel because of suffering, the existence of hell and so forth. Their objection reveals that they believe in value, meaning, purpose, good and more.

Their objection reveals they are made in God's image. God believes in value, meaning, good and more. He created and gives those things.

Most people want these things for themselves and others, not suffering.

A mystery and revelation is that those who suffer on the earth are more likely to make it to heaven.

God Chooses

Summary:

God has chosen to give Himself to mankind.

His gift is an unsearchable, unspeakable mystery.

In offering Himself, God gives to every person in an infinite number of ways. How so?

He has given Himself to every person for eternity.

He has offered and given Himself to a person for an infinite number of moments.

The question is, will a person receive and believe in Him.

God makes millions of choices in relation to one person.

His gifts are beyond human words.

He gives a person His son, Jesus Christ.

He gives them the Holy Spirit.

He gives them Himself.

It's a person's choice to receive Him or not.

Just as God gives in the spiritual, He gives in the natural realm.

God makes millions upon millions of choices in relation to an individual person

He chose to create them. He chooses to: sustain them, give them breath, keep them alive, give them every good thing in the natural realm, give them every good thing in the spiritual realm.

He chose to give them a soul that is priceless and made in His image and likeness. Their soul is worth more than the world and everything in it.

Earth will pass away, but they will exist forever (Matthew 24:35).

He chose to give them faith, eternity in their heart, and the ability to choose. He gave them a free will.

He chose to give them a will, emotions and an intellect.

He gave them the ability to choose between love and hate, good and evil, faith and fear, hope and despair . . . between God and self.

God chose to give his Son to the world.
God has chosen to give Himself to mankind.
He chose to give His Son as a man on the earth.
He chose to send his Son to die for the world.
He's chosen to give his Holy Spirit to the world.

He's chosen to give his Son and the Holy Spirit to those who believe in Him, forever.

God has chosen to give every person their life, soul and everything good that they choose to receive.

Every person's most important choice is their decision between God or self.

Section One

God Chose to Make it Simple

God Chose to Make it Easy

Jesus Saves

Jesus Heals

ONE

God Chose to Make it Simple

God has chosen to make knowing Him simple.

It's so simple, a person must become like a child (Matthew 18:3).

How is it simple?

God is everywhere.

He's available . . . to every person, all the time, for all eternity.

It's an unsearchable mystery that God would offer Himself like this.

And He is more than just available. How so?

He knocks on the door of every person's heart (Revelation 3:20).

He is always giving (John 3:16, 14:16, 16:8).

He is always blessing (Matthew 5:3-12).

He is always kind, even to the unthankful and evil (Luke 6:35).

He is always speaking (Psalm 95:7d, John 10:27).

He is merciful, gracious, slow to anger, abounding in goodness and lovingkindness, abounding in truth and faithfulness (Exodus 34:7, various translations).

Every person relies on God in the natural their entire life.

God gave His Son to the world.

He sacrificed His Son for mankind.

His Son came to the earth as a man and revealed God.

Jesus is the revelation of God (John 1) . . . and He is God (John 8:58).

God has sent His Holy Spirit to the world.

Jesus is able to save to the uttermost those who come to God by Him, for He ever lives to make intercession for them (Hebrews 7:25).

God wants to save everyone. He is not willing that any miss heaven (John 3:16, Matthew 18:14, 2 Peter 3:9, 1 Timothy 2:4).

And infinitely, eternally more.

The only true God has justified Himself to the world . . . in more ways than we can comprehend.

A mystery is the choice man has. It is up to a person how they respond to Him.

God made man into His own image and likeness (Genesis 1:27, 2:7). He gave man a free will. He cannot make anyone choose Him . . . or do anything.

The simplicity of the gospel is another revela-

tion of God's love.

A person does not need to hear the gospel to be saved and live forever.

It may even be easier for those without access to the gospel or a Bible to find God and make it to heaven. How so?

In the gospels, Jesus reveals who generally receives God: the "have-nots" and the "few."

The have-nots are the: poor, needy, suffering, diseased, powerless, common, ordinary, simple, unknown, and similar.

The gospel is for everyone. But tragically, many do not receive it.

But Jesus knocks on the door of their spirit person.

The Holy Spirit convicts them (John 16:8).

It is up to a person how they respond.

TWO

God Chose to Make it Easy

Jesus revealed His yoke is easy and His burden is light:

Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30).

Faith: Reliance on God

God has made knowing Him easy. How so?
A person knows Him by faith, Jesus' second most frequent topic in the gospels.

Faith is simple.

The Greek word for faith means "reliance" or "trust."

It is simply relying on God.

Really, faith is easy. God is all-powerful. If we rely on Him, the victory is guaranteed, every time.

The Revelation of the Words “Only Believe”

Just believe.

If someone receives the revelation of these words, they can receive eternal life, which is knowing the only true God and Jesus Christ whom He has sent (John 17:3) . . . the Father, Son and Holy Spirit . . . the Father God Almighty, the great and awesome God of the universe . . . His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ . . . and the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of the Father and of Jesus Christ.

A believer can experience . . . the glorious splendor of His majesty . . . His . . . glory . . . beauty . . . magnificence . . . radiance . . . love . . . mercy . . . graciousness . . . sweetness . . . giving nature . . . longsuffering nature . . . goodness . . . lovingkindness . . . truth . . . faithfulness . . . righteousness . . . infinite power . . . mighty strength . . . the power of His might . . . all authority . . . eternal, everlasting life . . . the divine nature . . . fullness of love . . . fullness of joy; joy unspeakable and full of glory . . . pleasures forevermore . . . perfect peace . . . happiness . . . faith . . . hope of glory . . . harmony . . . purpose . . . prosperity . . . divine health . . .

They can be blessed, favored and fortunate . . . live forever in glory . . . never see death . . . and infinitely more.

“This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent.” (John 6:29)

The disciples asked Jesus, “What shall we do, that we may work the works of God?” (John 6:28).

Jesus answered and said to them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent.” (John 6:29)

THREE

God Chooses to Save

Jesus is the Savior of the world. God loves the world so much, He gave His Son to mankind. Whoever believes in Jesus receives eternal life (John 3:16).

God loves the world so much, He gave and sent His Son to die for the world.

Jesus is the lamb slain before the foundation of the world, an eternal mystery (Revelation 13:8). The Father knew He would send Jesus to die to redeem mankind. For all eternity, the sacrifice of Jesus will be honored, proclaimed and infinitely more.

God is holy, perfect and righteous in all His ways. He cannot even look upon sin or fallen man. Therefore, Jesus shed His blood seven times, to save mankind from their sins and fallen condition. Jesus died to give life to the world. He rose again and lives forevermore.

FOUR

God Chooses to Heal

God heals.

Jesus heals.

God sent Jesus Christ, that the world might be healed (Matthew 13:15).

Jesus heals the brokenhearted. He brings liberty to captives. He gives sight to the blind. He sets the oppressed free (Luke 4:18).

Jesus saves, heals, gives, forgives, redeems, delivers, gives, blesses, intercedes, sets free and infinitely more.

If someone sees, hears, understands and turns to God, He would heal them (Matthew 13:15).

If God's people will humble themselves, pray, seek God, and turn from their wicked ways, God will hear, forgive them and heal their land (2 Chronicles 7:14).

Section Two

God Gave Every Person Faith, Eternity in their Heart and Eternal Value

God's Love for Every Person

God Has Justified Himself to Mankind

God's Power and Divine Nature are Clear and Obvious. Man is without Excuse (Romans 1:20)

The Choice

Objections

FIVE

Every Person has Faith

Many people never hear or read about the gospel.

How would they know God is love and that they need to be saved?

Man has faith, in the natural and spiritual realms (Romans 12:3).

God has given every man a measure of faith (Romans 12:3).

Every person lives by faith in God in the natural their entire life.

Spiritually, every person believes in God or something else. The root cause of believing in anything other than God is self.

Even if they do not realize it, God provides every good thing they have (James 1:17).

We rely on other things to live and survive.

Examples are the sun, air, water and food, all of which God gives.

Spiritual Faith

Humans also have faith in the spiritual realm.
How so?

All people believe in intangible, spiritual things: love, hate, good, evil, right, wrong.

An extreme example is someone who believes in "nothing." They are a nihilist. They believe that nothing exists and nothing will happen when they die, etc. They have faith in nothing.

An atheist believes there is no God. They have faith that there is no God.

God has given every person faith.

Scripture about Faith

Jesus said: ". . . for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you." (Matthew 17:20).

Jesus said: "Whatever you ask for in prayer, believing, you shall receive" (Matthew 21:22).

"Do not be afraid; only believe" (Mark 5:36).

Jesus said: "Have the faith of God. For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this moun-

tain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them" (Mark 11:23-24).

"So the Lord said, 'If you have faith as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be pulled up by the roots and be planted in the sea,' and it would obey you (Luke 17:6).

Jesus said to her, "Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?" . . . And he who had died came out bound hand and foot with graveclothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Loose him, and let him go" (John 11:40,44).

SIX

Every Person has Eternity in their Heart

Every person believes in the spirit realm, even if they do not realize it.

As stated above, humans believe in intangible, invisible things. Examples are: love, good, evil, and more.

Even the atheist and nihilist believe in invisible things.

Humans believe there is more than this earthly life.

Every child at age four and five believes in God (Matthew 19:14).

Man's belief in the spirit realm confirms the Scripture: "God has put eternity in every person's heart" (Ecclesiastes 3:11).

SEVEN

Man's Soul is Priceless

“For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?” (Matthew 16:26)

Jesus reveals that man’s soul is priceless. Why? Because God created man into His own image and likeness (Genesis 1:27, 2:7).

He created every person.

Man’s soul is worth more than the world and everything in it.

There is nothing a person can give in exchange for his soul.

God Loves the World and Gave His Son

The truth that God gave His Son to the world

reveals that man's soul is priceless.

God gave His Son in these ways (and more):

1. He sent Jesus to the earth as a man, to save mankind, to reveal the only true God, to die for the world (John 6).

2. God has sent and given the Holy Spirit, who is the Spirit of the Father and of Jesus Christ.

3. God will give His Son to the saints for eternity (John 14:16).

EIGHT

God's Love for Every Person

Summary: God has revealed His love for every person in an infinite number of ways.

Jesus Died for the World

The sacrifice of Jesus reveals God's love for mankind.

If God gave Jesus to the world; and if Jesus died for the world, then God has also revealed His love . . . in an infinite number of ways.

God Created Every Person

God gave every person their life (Psalm 139). He created them in His image and likeness (Genesis 1:27, 2:7).

He created their soul, which is priceless and worth more than the world and everything in it (Matthew 16:26).

He keeps them alive, every second of their life (Isaiah 42:5, Job 12:10).

God Gives

God has given every person the things that keep them alive, including: the sun, air, water, food, family, friends and infinitely more.

Those who suffer and do not have all that they need are blessed, favored and fortunate. They are more likely to find God and make it to heaven (Gospels, Luke 6:20-26).

Those who die under the age of five go directly to heaven, where they will live forever in God's glory (John 3:16, Matthew 19:14).

The greater a person's suffering, the more likely they are to make it to heaven.

“Every Good Gift and Every Perfect Gift” (James 1:17)

God has given every person every good thing they have.

“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning” (James 1:17).

God Has Made Knowing Him Simple and Easy

Everything about knowing God is simple and easy, revealing God's love for mankind.

It's so simple, we must become like a child (Matthew 18:3).

It is easy to know Him.

Man knows Him by faith. Jesus said, "Only believe" (Mark 5:36).

What are other ways it is simple and easy?

God is everywhere. He's always available . . . to every person . . . all the time . . . for all eternity.

He's available to a person for an infinite number of moments.

He's justified Himself to every person in an infinite number of ways.

He Knocks on the Door of Every Person's Heart (Revelation 3:20)

God is more than just available.

How so?

He knocks on the door of every person's heart (Revelation 3:20).

In a person's life (from age 6 or 7 and up), God has knocked on the door of their heart every second.

Before age 6, they were His child and in His kingdom (Matthew 19:14).

Some of God's Attributes

God is always giving (John 3:16, 14:16, 16:8).

He is always blessing (Matthew 5:3-12).

He is always kind, even to the unthankful and evil (Luke 6:35).

He is always speaking (Psalm 95:7d, John 10:27).

He is merciful, gracious, slow to anger, abounding in goodness and lovingkindness, abounding in truth and faithfulness (Exodus 34:7, various translations).

God Gave His Son to the World

God gave His only Son to the world.

He sent Jesus to die for the world.

He has sent His Holy Spirit to the world.

He has given and will give His Son and His Spirit to His saints, forever (John 14:16).

And infinitely, eternally more.

NINE

God Has Justified Himself to Mankind

Summary: God has justified Himself to every person in an infinite number of ways.

God came to the earth as a man and justified Himself to the world (credited to John Wesley)

The primary way God has justified Himself to the world is by sending and giving His Son.

Infinite Number of Ways

Many of the ways God reveals His love for man are also ways He has justified Himself to the world.

He is available to every person, all the time, their entire life, for all eternity.

1. He created every person (Psalm 139).
2. He sustains every person. He keeps them alive (Isaiah 42:5, Job 12:10).
3. He gives all the necessities man needs to survive (Genesis 1-3, Romans 1:20).
4. He gives every good thing man has (James 1:17).

And more

God made man into His own image and likeness.

He's given man a free will to choose who they serve.

He has given man faith and eternity in their heart.

God gave man his or her priceless soul.

God has offered man something priceless: Himself.

God has made knowing Him simple and easy.

Knowing Him is perhaps the easiest thing a person could ever do: simply say yes to Him and believe.

TEN

God's Power and Divine Nature are Clear and Obvious. Man is without Excuse (Romans 1:20)

“For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse . . .” (Romans 1:20).

“For, from the very creation of the world, His invisible perfections – namely His eternal power and divine nature – have been rendered intelligible/clear/obvious and clearly visible by His works, so that these men are without excuse” (Romans 1:20, Weymouth).

God has made Himself clear and obvious.

He has made it obvious that man relies on Him and needs Him.

How so?

1. A higher power created the universe and all that is in it.

2. God created every person.

3. God provides every necessity man relies on to survive: sun, air, water, food, etc.

4. God gives man everything good they have.

5. Every person has faith, even those who believe in nothing.

6. Every person alive has some belief in the value of a person. Their self-worth keeps them alive.

7. Every person believes in the spiritual, intangible realm. What is the proof of this truth? Every person alive believes in intangible things: love, good, evil, the future, etc. This belief keeps them alive.

Scripture confirms the above truths:

1. God created the heavens and the earth (Genesis 1-3).

2. God created every person (Psalm 139).

3. God created all things (Genesis 1-3, Colossians 1:16).

4. Every good gift comes from the Father (James 1.17).

5. God has given every man a measure of faith (Romans 12:3).

6. God made man in His image and likeness. Man's soul is priceless (Genesis 1:27, 2:7, Mat-

thew 16:26).

7. God has put eternity in every man's heart (Ecclesiastes 3:11).

Difficult or Easy Life

If someone's life is difficult, they definitely should come to God.

For many, God is their only hope, such as those facing impossible situations. Often, those suffering do come to God.

If someone's life is easy, they definitely should come to God, in thankfulness and more.

Sadly, we know from experience that many of the "haves" in the world do not find God.

Scripture confirms the above scenarios.

Who Receives the Gospel? Who Makes it to Heaven?

In the gospels, Jesus reveals who generally receives the gospel, the good news of Jesus Christ.

Who receives Him? For the most part, the "have-nots."

The have-nots are the: poor, needy, broken, suffering, diseased, powerless, common, ordinary, unknown, and similar.

The haves are the: rich, whole, powerful, elite, accomplished, wise, learned, respected, honored and similar.

Jesus reveals this truth in at least 14 different ways and specific teachings.

Jesus spoke directly about this truth:

“Blessed are you poor,
For yours is the kingdom of God.
Blessed are you who hunger now,
For you shall be filled.
Blessed are you who weep now,
For you shall laugh.
But woe to you who are rich,
For you have received your consolation.
Woe to you who are full,
For you shall hunger.
Woe to you who laugh now,
For you shall mourn and weep (Luke 6:20-21,24-25).

The Choice

There is one final thing: a person’s choice between God and self.

The greatest privilege for man is to choose and know God.

An eternal mystery is that God created man into His own image and likeness (Genesis 1:27, 2:7). He gave man a free will. God cannot make anyone choose Him.

Another mystery is that a person makes this choice every day.

“. . . choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve . . . But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord” (Joshua 24:15).

ELEVEN

The Choice

God has given man choice and will.

Man's most important choice is between God and self.

This choice determines a person's eternal destiny: heaven or hell.

God created man into His own image and likeness. He gave man a free will.

The first person God created was given the choice. The two trees mentioned specifically in Genesis represented the choice between God and self.

Choosing God results in eternal life. Choosing self results in eternal death.

Tragically, most of the 108 billion-plus people throughout history have chosen self. Those who choose self miss heaven.

Heaven is God's home, full of the glorious

splendor of His majesty, and infinitely more.

Eternal death continues forever in hell, the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.

Those in heaven will fellowship with God, with Jesus Christ, forever.

They will have and be everything they want, need, desire, long for and hope for.

They will have fullness of love, faith, joy, peace, happiness and infinitely more.

They will worship, serve and learn from the Father and Jesus, discover and experience the mysteries and secrets of the kingdom of heaven, minister to others, grow, and eternally more, forever.

They will live in mansions, walk on streets of gold and live in the spectacular beauty and majesty of heaven.

They will celebrate the Lord Jesus forever, praise and worship God, be in awe of their Father's glorious presence and home, and infinitely more.

Jesus will shepherd and feed them. He will lead them to living fountains of waters. The Holy Spirit will live within and with them, forever.

They will drink freely of the fountain of the water of life. They will eat delicious fruit from beautiful trees. They will enjoy the stunning beauty in heaven, of homes, buildings, mountains, hills, fields, trees, flowers, grass and more . . . and most of all, the Father God Almighty

and His Son Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit.

They will attend thrilling worship services. Their praise and worship will literally be collected and presented before God.

They will never hunger or thirst. They will never have sorrow, sadness or pain. God will wipe away all their tears. There will be no more death, sorrow or crying.

The unsaved, those who do not know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, whose names are not written in the Lamb's book of life, will spend eternity in hell, in the lake of fire.

They will be tormented with fire, brimstone and burning sulfur, forever. The smoke of their torment will ascend forever and ever. They have no rest day or night.

The lost souls in hell burn in fire forever. Their flesh literally burns and falls off their bodies. Worms and maggots crawl inside them.

Hell is a place of continual fire, torment, loud wailing, weeping, screaming, and gnashing of teeth.

The lost souls feel and know everything going on. They remember their life on earth and how they could have repented.

They suffer a literal eternal death. Human beings exist forever, because we are eternal beings, made in God's image. Their souls exist forever.

Jesus Christ spoke about hell often in the gospels, in: Matthew 5:22,29,30; 10:28; 11:23; 12:40;

16:18; 18:9; 23:15; 23:33; 25:41; Mark 9:44,46,48; and Luke 16:19-31.

Hell is currently located in the center of the earth.

At the end times, it will be thrown into the lake of fire.

In hell, a person has ALL their senses – sight, smell, hearing, taste, and touch – and all five are a lot stronger there. The spirit realm is on a much higher level than the natural realm.

Receive Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. Receive the glorious Holy Spirit, who is the Spirit of the Father and of Jesus Christ. Spend eternity in heaven.

Genesis 1:27, Genesis 2:7, Genesis 2:15-17, Matthew 7:13-14, Matthew 25:41, John 14:2, Gospel of John, Revelation 4:14, Revelation 7:17, Revelation 13:11, Revelation 21, Revelation 20:15, Matthew 5:22,29,30; 10:28; 11:23; 12:40; 16:18; 18:9; 23:15; 23:33; 25:41; Mark 9:44,46,48; and Luke 16:19-31.

After Adam fell, God sent mighty, glorious cherubim and a flaming sword to protect the tree of life.

In that verse, cherubim is plural. We don't know how many cherubim were there. We just know it was more than one. Some believe it was two, just like the cherubim over the Ark of the Covenant.

Cherubim protect the glory of God. The cherubim and the sword protected the tree of life. Why? If Adam had eaten from it, he, and every person after him, would have lived forever on the earth as a sinner.

God in his unspeakable wisdom was protecting His peoples' salvation.

TWELVE

Objections

Many people present objections and cross-question God.

It is very foolish and dangerous to do that.

A common objection: "How could a God of love allow suffering?" This question leads to others, such as "How could there be a hell?" and so forth.

If they hear that hell is the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, and that anyone not written in the book of life, who rejects Jesus Christ, will spend eternity there, they adamantly object.

Essential Value of a Person

Their questions reveal they believe in the es-

sential value of a person and of people (credited to Ravi Zacharias).

And they are correct. Man's soul is priceless. The value of man's soul is beyond human comprehension, because God made them, into His image and likeness.

They believe in value. Therefore, they believe in meaning and purpose. They believe there is evil (the cause of suffering) and therefore in good. They want good (usually) and not evil, for themselves and others.

Their desire for good confirms they are made in God's image. God is good. He created and gives all good things (Genesis 1-3, Mark 10:18, James 1:17).

They believe in intangible things and therefore in the spirit realm.

They believe there is something beyond the natural realm and earth life.

God has put eternity in every man's heart (Ecclesiastes 3:11).

If they believe in these good and bad intangible things, they innately know there are powers behind them.

God is the power who gives and provides the good. The enemy is the power behind the evil.

Objection: People believe based on their location and environment; that is, Islam, Hindu, Catholic, etc.

The greatest and only privilege for mankind is knowing God.

Man gets to go directly to Him.

Therein is salvation: a personal relationship with Him.

Every person has a choice: God or self.

Everything else is irrelevant.

A person's family, location, environment, training or anything else does not matter.

The only thing that matters is their response to God's offer of Himself.

God only has children. He has no grandchildren.

We should always remember that Jesus Christ is life (John 14:6).

Life exists in Him (John 1:4). Without him, a person is spiritually dead (John 6:53).

God and His Son have everything (Psalms 24:1). Apart from Him, we have nothing (Matthew 6:20, John 6:27).

Jesus can do anything (Matthew 19:26). Apart from Jesus, we can do nothing (John 15:5).

Outside of Jesus, there is nothing (Revelation 20:15).

Apart from Jesus, a person can do nothing (John 15:5).

Without Jesus, someone has nothing (Matthew 16:26).

Summary

Every person lives by faith in God in the natural realm (Romans 12:3, James 1:17).

Every person believes in intangible, spiritual things. They know there is more than the natural world. They have eternity in their heart (Ecclesiastes 3:11).

Everything a person does is by choice (Joshua 24:16).

Many object to the gospel because of suffering. Their objection reveals they believe in the value of a person. They are correct: man's soul is priceless (Matthew 16:26).

Man lives by faith. They have to.

Man believes in eternity. They naturally do.

Man lives by choice. They get to.

There is one choice God made for them: giving them their natural life.

There is one choice God will not make for them: the choice between God and self, between eternal life and eternal death.

Romans 12:3, Ecclesiastes 3:11, Genesis 1:27, 2:7, Matthew 16:26, Romans 1:20

Section Three

God Chose to Give His Son to the World
God Chose to Sacrifice His Son
God Chose to Become a Man
God Has Chosen to Give the Holy Spirit to the
World
God's Plan for Humanity

THIRTEEN

God Chose to Give His Son to the World

God gave His Son to the world (John 3:16).

Jesus gave Himself to the world.

He died for the world.

Jesus rose from the dead.

He ascended to heaven.

Jesus is now glorified alongside His Father (John 17:5).

After Jesus died, the Father sent the Holy Spirit to the earth (Matthew 27:51).

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of the Father and of Jesus Christ.

God is available to every person.

God offers Himself to every person, all the time, even for all eternity (Revelation 3:20).

He offers Himself through His Son.

FOURTEEN

God Chose to Sacrifice His Son

God Chose to Send Jesus to Die

The First Sacrifice and the Last Sacrifice

God slew the first sacrifice.

And God slew the last sacrifice.

The very first sacrifice took place before the foundation of the world.

That sacrifice was when God sacrificed His Son in His heart: "All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world" (Revelation 13:8).

In human time, the first sacrifice in the Bible was when God slew an animal, shed its blood, and made coats of skins for Adam and Eve after they sinned (Genesis 3:21).

The last sacrifice was when God gave and sent His Son Jesus Christ to die for the world (Matthew 27:35-44, Mark 15:24-32, Luke 23:33-43, John 19:18-27).

God Clothes Adam and His Wife with Coats of Skins

“Also for Adam and his wife the Lord God made coats of skin, and clothed them” (Genesis 3:21, KJV). Other translations are “tunics/garments of skin.”

Genesis 3:21 reveals the eternal revelation of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ and the blood.

After Adam and Eve sinned, God covered them with the skins from the sacrifice of an animal and with blood.

God the Holy Spirit literally killed an animal, shed its blood, made garments of skin, and clothed Adam and Eve.

Out of His love and mercy, God performed acts so that He could now look upon Adam and Eve.

The Sacrifice of Jesus

God loves the world so much, that He gave His Son Jesus to die for the life of the world.

Jesus shed His blood seven times, to deliver mankind from the power of sin.

Jesus died on the cross so that man could receive eternal life and live forever with God in heaven.

The Father gives His Son to the world (John 14:16-18).

John 3:16, John 17:5, Matthew 27:51, Revelation 3:20

FIFTEEN

God Chose to Become a Man

God became a man and justified Himself to the world.

He became a man, Jesus Christ, died for the world, and justified Himself to all mankind.

In fact, God did something even more sacrificial than coming to the earth Himself. He sent His only begotten Son to die for the world. Whosoever believes in the Lord Jesus shall not perish but have everlasting life (John 3:16).

Jesus Christ reveals God and God's love for the world.

Jesus is the revelation of God (John 1).

He is the exact representation of God's nature (Hebrews 1:3).

Jesus is the image of the invisible God (Colossians 1:15).

Before He came to earth as Jesus Christ, God Almighty at various times visited and revealed Himself to man. These visits and visions, re-

corded in the Bible, all reveal the only true God.

At the appointed time, God the Father sent His Son Jesus Christ to the earth to save and redeem man (John 6).

God has revealed Himself to mankind through His Son, who is both the Son of God and God Almighty (John 8:58).

Before the world was, Jesus Christ was with and alongside the Father.

After Jesus rose the dead, He ascended to heaven and returned to His previous place and glory with the Father (John 17:5).

For all eternity, those who make it to heaven will be in awe of the great God Jehovah and His glory, who has offered Himself to mankind.

John 3:16, John 1, Hebrews 1:3, Colossians 1:15, John 6, John 8:58, John 17:5

SIXTEEN

God Has Chosen to Give His Son through the Holy Spirit to the World

The Holy Spirit is the Helper, the Comforter. Jesus revealed God's perfect plan for mankind, recorded in John 14-16. He spoke about the Helper four times.

The name "Helper" is also translated Comforter, Counselor, Advocate, Intercessor.

"Helper" in the Greek is *paráklētos*, or *paraclete*, which means "One called alongside to help."

The four times Jesus spoke about the Helper:

1. "I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper" (John 14:16).

2. "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the

Father will send in My name" (John 14:26).

3. "But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father" (John 15:26).

4. "If I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you" (John 16:7).

Summary:

1. Jesus prays, the Father sends the Helper.
2. The Father sends the Helper in Jesus' name.
3. Jesus sends the Helper from the Father.
4. Jesus sends the Helper.

These four revelations coincide with the four phases of knowing God:

1. Born again (John 3:3)
2. Born of water and the Spirit (John 3:5-8); the infilling of the Holy Spirit.
3. Drink living water, it becomes a fountain springing up into everlasting life (John 4:13-14); the baptism of the Holy Spirit.
4. Come to Jesus, drink the living water, believe in Him, rivers of living water will flow out of your innermost being (John 7:37-38); the anointing.

Thank you, Father, and thank you, Jesus, for sending the Holy Spirit!

And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may

abide with you forever – the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you (John 14:16-17).

"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you" (John 14:26).

But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me. And you also will bear witness, because you have been with Me from the beginning (John 15:26-27).

"Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you" (John 16:7).

Parakletos is a combination of "para" (beside/ alongside) and "kalein" (to call).

Therefore, "Paraclete" is "one called alongside to help."

SEVENTEEN

God's Plan for Humanity – the Bread of Life Passage

The bread of life passage reveals God's love for the world.

Jesus is the bread of life.

The following are just some of the eternally significant aspects of the bread of life passage to consider:

1. It is the first of the seven "I am" passages.
2. It is the longest and most in-depth teaching of the seven "I am" revelations and teachings (36 verses total; the Door/Good Shepherd passage is 30 verses; the True Vine passage is 17.)
3. It is the only "I am" passage included within Jesus' revelation and teaching about the three phases of knowing God in the power of the Holy Spirit.

4. It is the only teaching in the gospels in which Jesus repeated specific eternal truths, including:

Jesus is the bread of life (said in various ways)
– nine (9) times

Jesus came from heaven – six (6) times

God the Father sent Jesus – four (4) times

Jesus will raise up his followers at the last day
– four (4) times

He who eats this bread will live forever and never die – six (6) times

Jesus' divine relationship with the Father – ten (10) times

Note: a full list is at the end of this chapter.

5. It is the only teaching after which “many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more” (John 6:66).

Note: a list of the disciples we know about is at the end of this chapter.

The Bread of Life Passage: An In-Depth Analysis of John 6:27-65

27 "Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, be-

cause God the Father has set His seal on Him."

1. Some food on earth perishes. Do not work for that food.

2. There is food that endures to everlasting life.

3. Work for the food that endures to everlasting life.

4. Jesus will give you that food . . .

5. Because the Father has set His seal on Him.

Seal, seal of approval, mark of approval

29 "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent."

1. There is work of God.

2. The work is to believe in Jesus.

3. God sent Jesus (1)

32 "Most assuredly, I say to you, Moses did not give you the bread from heaven, but My Father gives you the true bread from heaven."

1. Moses did not give you the bread from heaven.

2. Jesus' Father gives you the true bread from heaven (1)

3. God is Jesus' Father.

33: "The bread of God is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world:"

1. The bread of God is Jesus (1)

2. Jesus came down from heaven (2)

3. Jesus gives life to the world

35 And Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.

1. Jesus is the bread of life (2)
2. He who comes to Him shall never hunger.
3. He who believes in Him shall never thirst.

36 "But I said to you that you have seen Me and yet do not believe."

1. The disciples had seen Jesus and yet did not believe.

37 "All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out. "

1. The Father has given Jesus followers, saints.
2. All those followers will come to Jesus.
3. The one who comes to Jesus, He will by no means, never cast out.

38 "For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me."

1. Jesus came down from heaven (3)
2. Jesus came from heaven to do his Father's will.

39 "This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day. "

1. The will of the Father is that of all the Father has given to Jesus, Jesus should lose nothing,

but should raise it up at the last day (1)

40 "And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day."

1. And the will of the Father is that everyone who sees Jesus and believes in Him may have everlasting life . . . (1)

2. And Jesus will raise him up at the last day (2)

44 "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day."

1. No one can come to Jesus unless the Father draws Him.

2. The Father sent Jesus (2)

3. Jesus will raise his follower up at the last day (3)

45 "It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Therefore everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Me."

1. It is written in Isaiah, 'And they all be taught by God.'

2. Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Jesus.

46 "Not that anyone has seen the Father, except He who is from God; He has seen the Fa-

ther."

1. Only Jesus has seen the Father.
2. No one else has seen the Father other than Jesus.

47 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life."

1. He who believes in Jesus has everlasting, eternal life (2)

48 "I am the bread of life."

1. Jesus is the bread of life (3)

49 "Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and are dead."

1. The Israelites who ate manna are dead.

50 "This is the bread which comes down from heaven, that one may eat of it and not die."

1. Jesus is the bread which came down from heaven (4) (4)
2. If one eats of this bread, Jesus, he will not die (3)

51 "I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world."

1. Jesus is the living bread (5)
2. Jesus came down from heaven (5)
3. If anyone eats of Jesus, he will live forever

(4)

4. The bread that Jesus gave is His flesh.
5. Jesus gave His flesh for the life of the world.

53 Then Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you."

1. Unless someone eats Jesus' flesh and drinks His blood, he has no life in him.

54 "Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day."

1. He who eats Jesus' flesh and drinks His blood has eternal life (5)
2. Jesus will raise up that person at the last day (4)

55 "For My flesh is food indeed, and My blood is drink indeed."

1. Jesus' flesh is real, true food indeed.
2. Jesus' blood is real, true drink indeed.

56 "He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him."

1. He who eats Jesus' flesh and drinks His blood abides in Jesus, and Jesus abides in him.

57 "As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on Me will live because of Me."

1. The living Father sent Jesus (3)
2. Jesus lives because of the Father.
3. Just as the living Father sent Jesus, and Jesus lives because of the Father, so he who feeds on Jesus will live because of Jesus.

58 "This is the bread which came down from heaven – not as your fathers ate the manna, and are dead. He who eats this bread will live forever."

1. Jesus is the bread which came down from heaven (6) (6)
2. The forefathers ate the manna and are dead.
3. He who eats of Jesus will live forever (6)

62 "What then if you should see the Son of Man ascend where He was before?"

1. Jesus could ascend to where He was before. Jesus came down from heaven.

63 "It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life."

1. The Holy Spirit gives life.
2. The flesh profits nothing.
3. Jesus' words are spirit and life.

64 "But there are some of you who do not believe."

1. Some of the disciples did not believe.

65 And He said, "Therefore I have said to you

that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him by My Father."

1. The only ones who can come to Jesus are those to whom the Father gives Jesus. The Father gives Jesus Christ to those to whom the Father wills, and only those can come to Jesus.

Stats – the number of times Jesus spoke about the main themes of this passage:

1. Jesus is the Bread of Life, the living bread, the bread of God, the bread from heaven, the bread – nine (9) times

John 6: 32, 33, 35, 48, 50, 51 twice, 58 twice.

2. Jesus came down from heaven – six (6) times
John 6: 32, 33, 38, 50, 51, 58

3. The Father sent Jesus – four (4) times
John 6: 39, 40, 44, 57

4. Jesus will raise up His people at the last day – four (4) times
John 6:39, 40, 44, 54

5. Jesus offers everlasting, eternal life – three (3) times
John 6: 40, 47, 54

6. Jesus offers opportunity to live forever and not die – three (3) times
John 6: 50, 51, 58

7. Jesus offers Himself to "the world," to "any-one" and to "whoever" – four (4) times

John 6: 33, 51 twice, 54

8. If someone wants eternal life and to abide

in Jesus, they must eat His flesh and drink His blood – four (4) times

John 6: 53, 54, 56, 57

9. Ten times, Jesus speaks about the Father and Jesus' divine relationship with the Father – ten (10) times

John 6: 32, 37, 38, 39, 40, 44, 45, 46, 57 twice

Disciples of Jesus

Disciples of Jesus

1. The twelve (Matthew 10:1-5)

2. The seventy (Luke 10:1)

3. The 120 disciples in the upper room (Acts 1:1-15)

4. Female followers of Jesus (Matthew 27:35-36; Mark 16:1; Luke 8:3)

Three in MT 27 – Mary Magdalene (also in Luke 8); Mary mother of James and Joseph; and Salome, mother of James and John, wife of Zebedee

Two more & "many others" listed in Luke 8 – Joanna, Susanna; and "many others"

5. Matthias – chosen as a disciple to replace

Judas Iscariot (Acts 1:21-26)

6. Cleopas – Jesus met him on the way to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35)

7. Man casting out demons who was not a disciple (Luke 9:49-50)

8. Joseph called Barsabas (Acts 1)

Section Four

Jesus is Alive, Forever
A Believer Will Live Forever

EIGHTEEN

Jesus is Alive, Forever

Jesus Christ was with and alongside the Father before the world was.

The Father gave Jesus glory before the foundation of the world (John 17:5).

God sent His Son to the earth as a man (John 6:39,40,44,57).

Jesus came down from heaven to the earth (John 6:32,33,38,50,51,58).

Gave His only begotten Son to the world (John 3:16).

God did not send His Son to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved (John 3:17).

Jesus lived as a man. He fulfilled His ministry. He finished the work the Father gave Him to do (John 17:4b).

Jesus gave Himself to the world.

He shed His blood for our sins.

He died that we might live.

He gave His body for the life of the world (John 6:51).

When Jesus died, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth quaked, and the rocks were split. The graves were opened. Many of the saints' bodies were raised. And coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into Jerusalem and appeared to many (Acts 1).

Jesus was buried and descended to the underworld.

He preached and proclaimed to the fallen angels in prison (Tartarus). He disarmed principalities and powers. He made a public spectacle of them. He triumphed over them in His victory on the cross (1 Peter 3:19, Colossians 2:15).

He rose from the dead.

He laid down His life and took it up again. He received that command from the Father (John 10:18).

He lived 40 days on the earth.

He presented Himself by many unmistakable proofs. He spoke to His apostles of things pertaining to the kingdom of God (Acts 1:3).

He appeared to Peter and His disciples. Then He was seen by more than 500 brothers at one time. He was seen by James, then by all the apostles, then by Paul (1 Corinthians 15:6).

He told His apostles to wait for "the Promise of My Father" (Acts 1:4). Jesus said, ". . . John

truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now" (Acts 1:4).

He ascended to heaven.

As the apostles watched, "He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight" (Acts 1:9).

Then, the apostles saw two men in white clothing, who said: "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven" (Acts 1:10-11).

Jesus was with the Father in heaven.

Jesus came to the earth.

He descended to the underworld.

He returned to the earth.

He ascended to the right hand of God's power (Mark 16:19).

The Father and His Son are in heaven. Their Spirit fills the universe and is over and on the earth (Psalm 139).

He who believes in Jesus has eternal life (John 3:16).

Jesus is alive, forever.

John 17:5 , John 3:16-17, John 6:39,40,44,57, John 6:32,33,38,50,51,58, John 17:4b, John 6:51, Acts 1, 1 Peter 3:19, Colossians 2:15, Acts 1:3, 1 Corinthians 15:6, Acts 1:4, Acts 1:9, Acts 1:10-11, Mark 16:19, Psalm 139, John 3:16

NINETEEN

A Believer Will Live Forever

God Gives Eternal Life

What is eternal life?

Jesus said, "And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent" (John 17:3).

A result of eternal life is living forever. Jesus was very clear and specific about how His followers will live forever and never see death.

"Whoever Believes in Him Should Not Perish" (John 3:16).

"If Anyone Eats of this Bread, He Will Live Forever" (John 6:51).

"If Anyone Keeps My Word, He Shall Never See Death" (John 8:51).

"They Shall Never Perish" (John 10:28).

"Whoever Lives and Believes in Me Shall Never Die" (John 11:25).

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).

“I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world” (John 6:51).

“Most assuredly, I say to you, if anyone keeps My word he shall never see death” (John 8:51).

“And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to “snatch them out of My Father’s hand. I and My Father are one” (John 10:28-30).

“I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?” (John 11:25)

God is so powerful, loving and gracious, that if someone just believes in Him as Lord and Savior, sincerely, and continues on, they will live forever in glory.

Even if they stay in the first of the four phases

of knowing Him, they will make it to heaven. They do not have to go into the second, third or fourth phases of knowing Him to live forever, though He wants them to.

Section Five

God Loves the World
God Loves the Individual
Revelations of God's Love in Jesus' Ministry
More Revelations of God's Love in Jesus' Ministry
The 28 Physical Healings of Jesus the Man
Examples of God's Giving Nature – John 17
For God so Loved the World . . .

TWENTY

God Loves the World

"For God so Loved the World . . ."

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

"God Loves the World"

God loves the world.

Sometimes we overlook those words.

As with all of Jesus' words, these words are eternal, life-giving, priceless and contain eternally deep revelation.

God loves the world.

God loves the world.

God loves the world.

God loves the world so much, that He sent His only Son to die for them.

“But to Save the World through Him”

Let’s look at the next verse, John 3:17:

“For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.”

... but to save the world through him.

... to save the world through Jesus.

... to save the world through Jesus.

**John 3:16-21: “World” Five Times,
“Whoever” Four Times**

In John 3:16-21, Jesus says “world” five times and “whoever” four times. He clearly is emphasizing “world” and “whoever.”

The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance (2 Peter 3:9).

"For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth" (1 Timothy 2:3-4).

“God Loves the World . . .”

“That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world” (John 1:9).

“The next day John saw Jesus . . . and said, ‘Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!’ (John 1:29).

Thirteen Times Jesus Spoke about God’s Love for the World

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved (John 3:16-17).

“For the bread of God is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world” (John 6:33).

I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world” (John 6:51).

“Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, ‘I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall

not walk in darkness, but have the light of life” (John 8:12).

“As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world” (John 9:5).

“I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness” (John 12:46).

“And if anyone hears My words and does not believe, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world” (John 12:47).

“But that the world may know that I love the Father, and as the Father gave Me commandment, so I do. Arise, let us go from here (John 14:31).

“And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment . . .” (John 16:8).

I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me (John 17:21).

Whoever

“Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day (John 6:54).

“Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?’” (John 11:25-26).

“Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me” (Revelation 3:20).

“The World, Whoever” and the Predestination Debate

The following is a perspective presented to make a point, though I am not into theology and the debates therein.

Some believe in predestination: that certain people are predestined to be saved, and others cannot be saved; based on scriptures such as Ephesians 1:11 and Romans 8:29-30.

Another camp believes God wants to save everyone, based on scriptures including John 3:16, 2 Peter 3:9 and so forth.

Which perspective is correct? Both. How is that possible?

The answer is that the predestination issue and everything else in our most holy faith is a glorious, divine mystery. We should not try to “explain everything” and “figure everything out.” We are to be in awe of God Almighty and all that He is. Amen!

TWENTY-ONE

God Loves the Individual

God loves the world.

And He loves every individual person.

Jesus presented two parables about how God loves the individual: the Parable of the Lost Sheep and the Parable of the Lost Coin.

In the lost sheep parable, a man with 100 sheep loses one. He leaves the 99 to go find the one that was lost.

In the lost coin parable, a woman with ten silver coins loses one. She searches her house carefully until she finds the lost coin.

Parable of the Lost Sheep

Then all the tax collectors and the sinners drew near to Him to hear Him. And the

Pharisees and scribes complained, saying, "This Man receives sinners and eats with them." So He spoke this parable to them, saying:

"What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he loses one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!' I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance (Matthew 18:1-7).

The Parable of the Lost Coin

Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls her friends and neighbors together, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the piece which I lost!' Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents (Matthew 18:8-10).

Visit to Heaven

The book *We Saw Heaven* by Roberts Liardon describes the author's visit to heaven as a young boy.

An excerpt:

"Roberts, I love my people so much that I would go back to earth, preach my three years over again, and die for just one person. If I had not already paid the price for them, and if I thought they wanted to come to heaven, I would do it all over again.

I would not have to know they would make it. If I just thought they wanted to come, I would do it for them, even if they were the greatest sinner of all"

He said repeatedly, "I love my people so much. Why do people not take me at My word? Do they not know that I have all power in heaven and on earth to back up what I said? It is so easy. I made it so simple. If people would just take me at My word, I will do what I said."

Then He cried harder and said, "I do not understand why people say they believe I will do something, but when it does not happen in their time, they begin to doubt My word. If they will just believe and say with confidence that I will do it, I will do it at the correct time."

TWENTY-TWO

Revelations of God's Love in Jesus' Ministry

There are more than 7,000 promises in the Bible.

Jesus reveals more than 300 promises in the gospels.

Below are some revelations of God's love in Jesus' ministry:

1. He will save His people from their sins (Matthew 1:21).

The Beatitudes – Matthew 5:3-10:

2. If someone is a "spiritual beggar," God offers them the kingdom of heaven (Matthew 5:3).

3. If someone mourns over their sin, God comforts them (Matthew 5:4).

4. Those who are consecrated to God shall inherit the earth (Matthew 5:5).

5. Those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, shall be filled with the Holy Spirit (Matthew 5:6).

6. Those who are merciful shall receive mercy (Matthew 5:7).

7. Those having a single, pure devotion to God shall see Him (Matthew 5:8).

8. Those who are peacemakers shall be called sons of God (Matthew 5:9).

9. Those who are persecuted for righteousness shall receive the kingdom of heaven (Matthew 5:10).

10. Jesus and His disciples sat down with many tax collectors and sinners (Matthew 9:10).

11. Jesus came for the sick (Matthew 9:12).

12. Jesus came to call the sinners (Matthew 9:13).

13. God has chosen the last (Matthew 19:30).

The Parable of the King's Wedding Feast –
Matthew 22:1-14:

14. The King said, "Invite as many as you find," and the servants invited "all whom they found" (Matthew 22:9,10).

15. The King invited both good and bad people (Matthew 22:10).

Parable of the Great Supper – Luke 14:16-24:
The Master invites:

16. The poor

17. The maimed

18. The blind

19. The crippled

Luke 4:18

Jesus said, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me . . ." (Luke 4:18)

God helps:

The poor

20. The brokenhearted

21. The captives, the bound

22. The blind

23. The oppressed

Luke 6:20-23

Happy, favored, fortunate are:
The poor

24. The hungry

25. The mourning

26. The hated for Jesus' sake

27. "For He is kind to the unthankful and evil" (Luke 6:35). "Your Father . . . is merciful" (Luke 6:35).

But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil. Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful (Luke 6:35-36).

The Parable of the Rich Man and Beggar Lazarus – Luke 16:19-31

28. The beggar with sores made it to heaven.

The Parable of the Prodigal Son – Luke 15:11-32:

29. The Father welcomed and greatly celebrated the return of his son who was in sin.

TWENTY-THREE

More Revelations of God's Love in Jesus' Ministry

Jesus revealed through His ministry at least 14 eternal, glorious revelations of God's love and compassion.

God Receives the Have-nots and the Few

Jesus Christ reveals mysteries, hidden truths and things kept secret from the foundation of the world (Psalm 78:2, Matthew 13:11,35).

His words are truth, spirit and life. His words are eternal and will never pass away.

In the gospels, Jesus reveals who generally receives the gospel, the good news of Jesus Christ.

Who receives Him? For the most part, the "have-nots."

The have-nots are the: poor, needy, broken,

suffering, diseased, powerless, common, ordinary, unknown, and similar.

The haves are the: rich, whole, powerful, elite, accomplished, respected, honored and similar.

Jesus reveals this truth in at least 12 different ways and specific teachings.

1. The "have nots" were those who received Jesus the Messiah, including the public and His disciples. The "haves" – the religious leaders, lawyers, and Pharisees, etc. – opposed and rejected Him.

2. God helps: the poor, brokenhearted, bound, blind, and oppressed (Luke 4:18).

3. God helps and heals people in physical need (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John).

4. Jesus came for the sick and sinners, not the righteous and "well" (Matthew 9:10-12).

5. Happy are the poor, hungry, mourning. Woe to the rich, full, laughing (Luke 6).

6. God reveals the kingdom to the child-like and hides it from the wise and intelligent (Matthew 11:25).

7. Hard for a man who trusts in riches to enter the kingdom (Matthew 19:23-24).

Parable of the King's Wedding Feast;

8. The King said "Invite as many as you find," and the servants invited "all whom they found" (Matthew 22:9-10).

9. The King invited both good and bad people (Matthew 22:10).

10. Things highly esteemed to man are detest-

able to God (Luke 16:14-16).

11. The Parable of the Rich Man and Beggar Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31).

12. Parable of a Man's Great Dinner (Luke 14:16-24).

13. Many who are first will be last, and the last first (Matthew 19:30).

14. Save life, lose it. Lose life for the gospel, find it (Matthew 16:25).

TWENTY-FOUR

The 28 Physical Healings of Jesus the Man

1. Jesus heals an official's son close to death at Capernaum in Galilee (John 4:43-54).
2. Jesus casts out evil spirit from a man in Capernaum (Mark 1:21-27).
3. Jesus heals Peter's mother-in-law sick with fever (Matthew 8:14-15).
4. Jesus heals many sick and oppressed at evening time (Matthew 8:16-17).
5. Jesus cleanses a man with leprosy (Matthew 8:1-4).

6. Jesus heals the paralyzed servant of a Centurion in Capernaum (Matthew 8:5-13).

7. Jesus heals a paralytic who was lowered down through the roof (Matthew 9:1-8).

8. Jesus heals a man's withered hand on the Sabbath (Matthew 12:9-14)

9. Jesus raises a widow's son from the dead in Nain (John 7:11-17)

10. Jesus casts demons out of a man into a herd of pigs (Matthew 8:28-33).

11. Jesus heals a woman with an issue of blood when she touches the hem of His garment (Matthew 9:20-22).

12. Jesus raises Jairus' daughter from the dead (Matthew 9:18, 23-26).

13. Jesus heals two blind men (Matthew 9:27-31).

14. Jesus healed a man who could not speak (Matthew 9:32-34).

15. Jesus healed a paralytic at Bethesda (John 5:1-15).

16. Jesus heals many sick in Gennesaret as

they touch His garment (Matthew 14:34-36).

17. Jesus heals a Gentile woman's demon-possessed daughter (Matthew 15:21-28).

18. Jesus heals a deaf and dumb man (Mark 7:31-37).

19. Jesus heals a blind man at Bethsaida (Mark 8:22-26).

20. Jesus heals a blind man (John 9:1-12).

21. Jesus heals a boy with an unclean spirit (Matthew 17:14-20).

22. Jesus heals a blind and mute demoniac (Matthew 12:22-23).

23. Jesus heals a woman crippled for 18 years (Luke 13:10-17).

24. Jesus heals a man with dropsy on the Sabbath (Luke 14:1-6).

25. Jesus cleanses ten lepers on the way to Jerusalem (Luke 17:11-19).

26. Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead in Bethany (John 11:1-45).

27. Jesus restores sight to Bartimaeus in Jeri-

cho (Matthew 20:29-34).

28. Jesus heals a servant's ear while He is being arrested (Luke 22:50-51).

TWENTY-FIVE

Examples of God's Giving Nature – John 17

Some highlights from John 17:

1. “Glorify Your Son” – God gives glory to Jesus (John 17:1).
2. “that Your Son also may glorify You” – Jesus gives glory to the Father (John 17:1).
3. “You have given Him authority over all flesh” – the Father has given Jesus authority over all flesh (John 17:2).
4. “He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him” – Jesus gives eternal life to those the Father has given Him (John 17:2).
5. The Father has given the saints to Jesus (John 17:2).
6. “I have glorified You on the earth” – Jesus

glorified the Father while Jesus was a man on earth (John 17:4).

7. "I have finished the work which You have given Me to do" – the Father gave Jesus certain work to do (John 17:4).

8. "Glorify Me together with/alongside Yourself" – the Father has glorified Jesus alongside Himself (John 17:5).

9. "the glory which I had with You before the world was" – the Father gave Jesus glory with Himself before the world was (John 17:5).

10. "I have manifested Your name to the men . . ." – Jesus revealed and declared the Father's name to the men the Father gave Him (John 17:6).

11. "the men whom You have given Me out of the world" – the Father gave Jesus certain men out of the world (John 17:6).

12. "Now they have known that all things which You have given Me are from You" – the Father has given Jesus certain things (John 17:7).

Note: "All things have been delivered to Me by My Father . . ." (Matthew 11:27).

13. "For I have given to them the words" – Jesus gave His disciples the words the Father gave Him (John 17:8).

14. "the words which You have given Me" – the Father gave Jesus words (John 17:8).

15. "And all Mine are Yours" – All of Jesus' people are the Father's (John 17:10).

16. "Yours are Mine" – All the Father's children are Jesus' children (John 17:10).

17. "these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves" – Jesus spoke His words that His men may have His joy fulfilled in themselves (John 17:13).

18. "I have given them Your word" – Jesus gave His disciples the Father's word (John 17:14).

19. "You should keep them from the evil one" – Jesus prays that the Father would keep His disciples from the evil one (John 17:15).

20. "Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth" – Jesus prays that the Father would sanctify His disciples by His truth. The Father gave the disciples His word, which is truth (John 17:17).

21. "And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth" – Jesus sanctifies Himself, that His disciples may be sanctified by the truth (John 17:19).

22. "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word" – Jesus prays for those who believe in Him through the disciples' word (John 17:20).

23. "that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me" – Jesus prays that they may be one, as the Father is in Jesus, and Jesus in the Father; that they may be one in them, the Father and Jesus, that the world might believe that the Father sent Jesus (John 17:21).

24. "And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are

one" – the Father gave Jesus glory (John 17:22).

25. "The glory which You have me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one" – Jesus has given the saints the glory the Father gave Him (John 17:22).

26. "that they may be one just as We are one: I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me" (John 17:23).

Revelations and truths within John 17:23:

1. That they may be one
2. Just as the Father and Jesus are one:
3. Jesus in the saints,
4. The Father in Jesus;
5. That the saints may be made perfect in one,
6. That the world may know that the Father sent Jesus,
7. And that the world may know that the Father has loved the saints as He has loved Jesus.

27. "Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world" – Jesus desired that those whom the Father gave Him may be with Him where He is, that they may behold the glory which the Father has given Jesus; for the Father loved Jesus before the foundation of the world.

28. The Father is righteous.

29. The world has not known the Father, but Jesus has known Him; and the men the Father gave Jesus have known that the Father sent Jesus.

30. Jesus declared to the men the Father's name, and will declare it, that the love with which the Father loved Jesus may be in them, and Jesus in them.

"I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me" (John 17:23).

39. The glory that the Father gave Jesus, Jesus has given to his followers, that they may be one as the Father and Jesus are one: Jesus in His followers, and the Father in Jesus; that Jesus' followers may be made perfect in one, that the world may know that the Father sent Jesus, and has loved Jesus' followers as the Father loves Jesus.

40. Jesus desired that those whom the Father gave Him may be with Him where He is, that they may behold the glory which the Father has given Jesus; for the Father loved Jesus before the foundation of the world.

41. The Father is righteous.

42. The world has not known the Father, but Jesus has known Him; and the men the Father gave Jesus have known that the Father sent Jesus.

43. "And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare it, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them" (John 17:26).

Jesus declared to the men the Father's name, and will declare it, that the love with which the Father loved Jesus may be in them, and Jesus in them.

Glorify – praise and worship

Manifest – display, show, demonstrate, reveal, declare

Also: exhibit, present, make plain, express

Section Six

God Wants You to Spend Eternity in Heaven
Jesus' Compassion for the Lost in Hell

TWENTY-SIX

God Wants You to Spend Eternity in Heaven

God chose you.

He wants you to spend eternity in heaven.

Heaven is His home, filled with the glorious splendor of His majesty . . . the presence of God, of Jesus Christ, of the Holy Spirit.

For God so Loved the World . . .

God wants everyone to make it to heaven.

Jesus died for the world (John 3:16). God is not willing that any perish but that all come to everlasting life (2 Peter 3:9). He desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth (1 Timothy 2:4).

Every child under the age of about five, who dies, goes directly to heaven, where they will

live forever. People who have visited heaven confirm this truth.

When someone can choose, they decide between God or self.

The Mystery

Who makes it to heaven?
Those written in the book of life.

"And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire" (Revelation 20:15).

Who is in the Book of Life?

For "whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Romans 10:13; also Joel 2:32, Acts 2:21).

All who know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are written in the book of life.

If a person does not hear the gospel, they simply get to give their life to God and ask Him to their God. They are also in the book of life.

"I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life" (Revelation 3:5)

He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name be-

fore My Father and before His angels. Revelation 3:5

Salvation is a mystery. We cannot fully explain it.

It is also simple.

It is so simple, a person must become like a child to enter God's kingdom and be saved (Matthew 18:3).

Salvation is an eternal mystery, because God is an eternal mystery.

As stated, every child under age five is in God's kingdom (Matthew 19:14).

If they die before they reach the age of accountability (about age six or seven), they go to heaven.

Jesus reveals in Revelation 3:5 that some names are blotted out of the book of life.

It could be that when someone chooses self instead of the only true God, their name is blotted out of the book of life.

The Glorious Eternal Mystery

The only true God sits on the highest throne in the universe.

He is the great and awesome God, the Father God Almighty.

His glory flows from his throne, fills heaven, and is on and throughout all the earth.

At the right hand of His power is his Son, Jesus Christ.

Jesus was with the Father before the world was. He and the Father are one.

Their Spirit fills the heavens and the earth. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of the Father and of Jesus Christ.

Their presence, their glory, is so wonderful, so beautiful, human words cannot express Him.

For humans, the earth life is basically a temporary life before their eternity, in heaven or hell.

Our purpose, our mission, is to know Him and to fulfill the purpose He has for us on the earth. That purpose will continue in eternity.

A mystery is that God knows who will make it to heaven and who will not.

God knows and declares the end from the beginning. Jesus is the lamb slain from the foundation of the world (Revelation 13:8). The book of life was written before the world was (Luke 10:20, Revelation 17:8). The kingdom was prepared for God's children before the foundation of the world (Matthew 25:34).

The saved are truly, unspeakably fortunate. God chose them to be His children before the foundation of the world. Such knowledge is too wonderful for us.

And yet, Jesus died for the world (John 3:16). God is not willing that any perish but that all come to everlasting life (2 Peter 3:9). He desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth (1 Timothy 2:4).

How can this be? How can God know who will be saved . . . yet, Jesus died for the whole

world, and it is up to man to choose whom they serve? (Joshua 24:16)

All these things are eternal mysteries, because our God is an eternal mystery and revelation. He's beyond our human comprehension.

Jesus told His disciples, "Because to you it has been given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven . . ." (Matthew 13:11).

Everything about our most holy faith is a glorious mystery – and a present reality.

The Lord Jesus said, "I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

God set up the perfect plan. The only true God is with His people, always . . . and forever (John 14:16).

God Almighty is a glorious eternal revelation. Yet, He offers Himself to every person. He knocks on the door of their heart.

Knowing Him is the greatest privilege for mankind.

TWENTY-SEVEN

Jesus' Compassion for the Lost in Hell

In 1976, Jesus took a woman named Mary Baxter on a 40-night tour of hell and commissioned her to tell others about it.

Her book *A Divine Revelation of Hell* is the story of her visits to hell and heaven and her visions and revelations. Baxter has written numerous other books about heaven, angels, the spirit realm, and more.

Jesus showed Baxter hell in the most detail hell has ever been revealed. He told her: "I am going to show you things that have never before been seen in this much detail . . ." ¹ The book contains many deep truths, revelations, and visions that confirm the Bible and God's plan for humanity.

The first portion of the summary below contains some of the most important portions of the book. The next section of a summary of the incredible book.

Jesus' Compassion

"She kept reaching out to Jesus. I looked at Jesus, and there was great sorrow on His face . . ." ²

Great wailing sobs came from this man. "I'm so sorry, Jesus. Forgive me. Take me out of here. I have been in this place of torment for years. I beg you, let me out!" Great sobs shook his skeletal frame as he begged, "Please, Jesus, let me out!" I looked at Jesus and saw that He too was crying . . . "Even though I died on the cross for you, you mocked Me and would not repent of your sins. My Father gave you many opportunities to be saved. If only you had listened!" Jesus wept. ³

[A woman Jesus called and called to repent, who is lost in hell] "As she spoke her bony hands reached out to Jesus while the flames continued to burn her. Jesus said, "Judgment is set." Tears fell down His cheeks as we moved to the next pit. ⁴

"The Lord's face was sorrowful, and His eyes were filled with great tenderness and deep love. Though those in hell were forever lost, I knew that He still loved them and would for all eternity."⁵

Jesus said: "My child, God, our Father, gave each one of us a will so that we could choose whether we would serve Him or Satan. You see, God did not make hell for His people. Satan deceives many into following him, but hell was made for Satan and his angels. It is not my desire, nor that of My Father, that anyone should perish." Tears of compassion ran down Jesus' cheeks.

Jesus explained that He has all power in heaven and on earth. He explained that they would at times be seen by the evil forces and lost souls and at other times they would not be.⁶

"Sorrow was always upon Jesus' face as we walked."⁷

"I watched Jesus' face, and it was sad and tender. He still had love and compassion for these lost souls written on His countenance."⁸

Summary of the Specific People in Hell Described in "A Divine Revelation of Hell"

Pits:

1. Woman – no eyes, no hair, crying out, “Lord, lord, I want out of here!”⁹

2. Man who had been in hell for 40 years. People showed him the way, and he heard gospel on earth, but he mocked Jesus. He asked Jesus if he could go warn his people to repent while on earth.¹⁰

3. Woman, 80 years old, one leg from cancer. She knew Jesus at one time but turned her back on Jesus and cursed Him. Even after she turned her back on Jesus, He still tried to draw her by His Spirit.¹¹

4. Woman who was beautiful and found riches, fame, and fortune. Jesus called and called her to Himself, but she refused. Over time she served Satan more and more. She died in a car wreck.¹²

5. Man who was a minister and preached the gospel but had sins and wrongs summarized.¹³

6. Woman. She had sinful affairs with many men and caused homes to be broken apart. Jesus still loved her and offered her salvation.¹⁴

7. Woman who went to church but led double life.¹⁵

8. Woman who served the Lord on earth, learned His voice, did many good works for Jesus, taught people the way of holiness. Her husband had an affair with another woman. The woman his wife would not forgive him, and anger took root. Over time she became bitter and one day, she murdered her husband and the

woman and killed herself. Because she served the Lord, in hell her torments are worse.¹⁶

9. Man who was raised in church but did not commit himself to the Lord. He preferred the world and its lust and strong drink. He died at age 23 in a car wreck.¹⁷

10. Woman who on earth said she loved Jesus, but her heart was far from Him. She fooled others on earth but did not repent.¹⁸

11. Man who was a preacher on earth. He was led astray by the lust of the flesh and the deceitfulness of riches. He stole money from his church's offerings. He taught false doctrine, half-lies, and half-truths. He would not repent.¹⁹

Cells:

11. Old woman in a rocking chair.²⁰

12. Woman in a cell in the heart of hell.²¹

13. Woman of an ancient era. "B.C." above her cell.²²

14. Blind man, a sorcerer while on earth.²³

15. Man, a disciple of Satan and a liar.²⁴

16. Man, murderer with hate in his heart.²⁵

17. Woman, healed, then went back into sin, did not repent.²⁶

18. Man, in rebellion, desired strong drink and the world more than obeying God's commands.²⁷

19. Woman, a Hindu on earth.²⁸

Section Seven

God Chooses to Hide

God Chose to Hide His Name

God Chose Mystery

The Eternal Mystery

God Reveals Mysteries and Secrets

TWENTY-EIGHT

God Chooses to Hide

“Truly You are the God Who hides Himself, O God of Israel the Savior” (Isaiah 45:15).

God has a hiding nature.

He hides to test us, to try us, and much more.

He hides and withdraws from us, to see how we respond.

He hides so that we might seek Him. In that seeking process, our old nature dies, which is required for us if we want to know Him and experience Him in deeper ways. One of Jesus' main messages is that we must “die” – lose our life, give up everything, hate our life.

His dealings with us are a glorious, supernatural mystery. He knows what is best for us.

Look, I go forward, but He is not there,
And backward, but I cannot perceive
Him;

When He works on the left hand, I cannot behold Him;

When He turns to the right hand, I cannot see Him.

But He knows the way that I take;

When He has tested me, I shall come forth as gold (Job 23:8-10).

Why does God hide? He hides to test and try us.

There are numerous scriptures regarding why God hides. A very clear example in scripture is in 2 Chronicles, when God withdrew and hid from the king Hezekiah "in order to test him, that He might know all that was in his heart."

"However, regarding the ambassadors of the princes of Babylon, whom they sent to him to inquire about the wonder that was done in the land, God withdrew from him, in order to test him, that He might know all that was in his heart" (2 Chronicles 32:31).

The presence of God often is withdrawn from us, that God might test us.

You shall remember all the way which the Lord your God has led you in the wilderness these forty years, that He might humble you, testing you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not (Deuteronomy 8:2).

God searches the heart:

“I, the Lord, search the heart,
I test the mind,
Even to give to each man according to his ways,
According to the results of his deeds (Jeremiah 17:10).

God weighs the heart:

Every man’s way is right in his own eyes,
But the Lord weighs the hearts (Proverbs 21:2).

TWENTY-NINE

God Chose to Hide His Name

In the Old Testament, God was asked His name at least two times, during His glorious visitations with man.

The first was in the burning bush passage, in Exodus 3. The next was when God visited Ma-noah and his wife, in Judges 13. The events are below.

Moses Asks God's Name

“Then Moses said to God, ‘Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they say to me, ‘What is His name?’ what shall I say to them?’”

And God said to Moses, ‘I AM WHO I AM.’

And He said, ‘Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’” Moreover God said to Moses, ‘Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: ‘The Lord God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is My name forever, and this is My memorial to all generations’” (Exodus 3:13-15).

Manoah Asks God’s Name

“Then Manoah said to the Angel of the Lord, ‘What is Your name, that when Your words come to pass we may honor You?’

And the Angel of the Lord said to him, ‘Why do you ask My name, seeing it is wonderful?’” (Judges 13:17-18)

Experts and Manoah himself (verse 22) believe that the Angel of the Lord in this passage is indeed the Lord God Almighty. Also, Isaiah 9:6 reveals the Lord’s name is Wonderful.

I AM

The words I AM WHO I AM are a puzzle and mystery to Biblical scholars, even today.

The Hebrew for I AM WHO I AM is pronounced “Ehyeh asher ehyeh.” They could be translated as: “I am that I am” or “I will be what I will be” or even “Let it be who Let it be.”

The “root” of the first and third word means “to be, to become, to come to pass.” Experts be-

lieve this Hebrew root is the origin of the name YHWH. Therefore, God did not actually reveal a name as we know a name.

He revealed, among infinite revelation, that He is the ever present, ever living, no beginning, no end, God.

“Why do you ask My name, seeing it is wonderful?” (Judges 13:18)

Other translations:

“. . . seeing it is secret? (KJV)

“It is too wonderful for you to understand.”

(New Living)

“It is a name of wonder” (Good News).

“. . .because you cannot comprehend it” (NET).

“It is incomprehensible.” (New Heart English)

“. . . seeing it is hidden?” (JPS Tanakh)

“. . . since it is beyond comprehension?”

(Berean)

“You don’t need to know my name. And if you did, you couldn’t understand it” (Contemporary English).

“It’s ‘Wonderful’” (International Standard).

When God visited Manoah and his wife, He first appeared twice to Manoah’s wife (v. 6 and 8). His countenance was “very awesome” (v. 6). To Manoah, she described Him as a Man of God, twice (v. 8 and 10).

When Manoah first saw Him, the Lord is identified again as a Man, twice (v. 11). Then,

we read that Manoah did not know He was the Lord (v. 16).

The Lord did a “wondrous thing” (v. 19). As Manoah offered a burnt offering on a rock, “it happened as the flame went up toward heaven from the altar – the Angel of the Lord ascended in the flame of the altar!” (v. 20)

Then Manoah realized He was God. He even said, “We shall surely die, because we have seen God!” (v. 22).

We see in this visitation that God hid Himself from both people.

When asked His name, He did not actually give a specific name. He actually responded with a question, and described His name as wonderful.

God Hides

In both responses, God hid His name.

God hiding His name lines up with a major theme in the Bible: God hides Himself.

There are at least 33 specific scriptures about how God hides Himself. An example: “Truly You are God, who hide Yourself, O God of Israel, the Savior!” (Isaiah 45:15).

God Hides from Man

Moreover, God hides Himself in His dealings with mankind. This truth is a pervasive theme in the Bible.

Secrets . . . and Mysteries . . . and Revelations

As we have seen in the previous chapters, God hides Himself in many ways.

He dwells in the secret place (Matthew 6:6). In Him there is a secret (Psalm 25:14). In Him are secret things (Deuteronomy 29:29).

He Himself is a mystery and a reality (see Colossians 1:27).

His kingdom contains mysteries, which Jesus reveals (Matthew 13:11).

There is a secret will of God (Deuteronomy 29:29, Matthew 6:10).

He offers treasures of darkness and hidden riches of secret places (Isaiah 45:3).

The only true God is an eternal revelation (Revelation 4:8-11).

Jesus Revealed How to Go Deeper with God

Jesus revealed that to find God, we must seek Him (Matthew 6:3).

He revealed there are three realms of prayer; and that every realm gets closer to God (Matthew 7:7-8).

He revealed there are three phases of the new life in Him in the power of the Holy Spirit (John 3,4 and 7). He revealed the initial phase also: the born again phase (John 3). In all four phases, man gets closer to and goes deeper with God

The Bible reveals there are three anointings: for salvation, ministry, and authority, also called dominion (Leviticus 14; Exodus 30:30; 2 Samuel 5:3,7). In every anointing, a person goes deeper with God.

Two specific examples of God withdrawing or hiding Himself from man:

“And you shall remember that the Lord your God led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness, to humble you and test you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not” (Deut. 8:2).

“However, regarding the ambassadors of the princes of Babylon, whom they sent to him to inquire about the wonder that was done in the land, God withdrew from him, in order to test him, that He might know all that was in his heart” (2 Chronicles 32:31).

THIRTY

God Chose Mystery

The mystery of God (Revelation 10:7).

The mysteries of the kingdom of heaven
(Matthew 13:11).

The riches of the glory of the mystery (Colos-
sians 1:27).

The only true God is an eternal mystery.

He is so glorious, so wonderful, so powerful
– and infinitely, eternally more – He is beyond
human comprehension.

Knowing Him is an eternal revelation.

Those who find Him and make it to heaven
will be in awe of Him, forever.

He is indescribable, incomprehensible, un-
fathomable.

He is all-knowing, all-powerful, ever present.

He is life, love, eternity and infinitely more.

He is holy.
He is beyond words.
Yet, He has revealed Himself.
He is no longer a mystery.
He is no longer a secret.
He is available.
He is a present reality.
The only true God, the infinite, eternal mystery, can be summed up in one word: Jesus.

THIRTY-ONE

The Eternal Mystery

God is an eternal mystery.
And everything about Him is a mystery.
This mystery is why humans were created.
It is the reason you are on the earth.
It is the mystery and secret of the universe.
It is an eternal mystery, and it is a present reality.

It is hidden, and it is a revelation.

It is supernatural and unspeakable, yet it is natural and normal.

The mystery is so wonderful, so glorious, so beautiful . . . and infinitely more . . . human words cannot express it.

For all eternity, those who find the mystery will never be able to express it in human words.

The mystery is eternally, infinitely deep and profound.

It is so deep, that for all eternity, those who find it will never be able to fathom the depth of the riches of the glory of the mystery.

Yet, the mystery is also simple.

It is so simple, a person must become like a child to receive it.

The mystery is easy.

It is so easy, the only thing a person has to do is believe.

The mystery is the most powerful entity in the universe.

Yet, this entity is also gentle, sensitive, humble and lowly.

The mystery has all glory, majesty, honor, power, wisdom, riches, blessing, dominion . . . and infinitely, eternally more

The mystery is worth more than all the wealth of the earth and the world.

All the wealth of the earth and world is meaningless, valueless and nothing compared to the mystery.

Amazingly, the mystery is available to every person, all the time.

Those who find the mystery can live forever, in a place of glory, majesty, love, and infinitely more.

They will . . . find all that they long to find . . . discover all that they long to discover . . . experience all that they long to experience . . . become all that they want to become . . . will experience the fulfillment of every want, need and desire they have . . . either on earth or in heaven.

If they continue on . . . they will discover and find . . . the divine treasure that is . . . glorious . . . eternal . . . infinite . . . unsearchable . . . perfect . . . supernatural . . . priceless . . . and infinitely, eternally more . . .

If they continue, they can live as a divine being on earth . . .

Find and experience fullness of love, joy, peace, faith, hope, harmony, purpose, happiness, prosperity, health, and infinitely more . . .

Live as humans are intended to live, both on earth and for eternity . . .

Know and live their purpose on earth and for eternity . . .

Find newness in all things, with old things gone forever . . .

Discover and understand mysteries kept secret since the foundation of the world . . .

Discover and find the priceless treasure . . .

If they continue . . . the only question is when they will experience all of this . . .

They will live forever, in a place so wonderful and glorious, it cannot be expressed in human words.

They will never die.

How does someone find and experience this treasure?

You shall seek the mystery, and you shall find it, when you search for it with all your heart.

What is the mystery?

It was kept a secret for 4,000 years of human history, from ages past and from generations . . .

and kept secret in eternity past . . .

The mystery is . . . the only true God . . . Jehovah God Almighty and His Son the Lord Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit.

The deepest reality of knowing Him is . . .

Fellowship with God through His Son Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit . . .

Someone may ask, what is God like? What is Jesus Christ like? What is the Holy Spirit like?

He is the most wonderful, most beautiful Person in the universe.

THIRTY-TWO

God Reveals Mysteries and Secrets

“All these things Jesus spoke to the multitude in parables; and without a parable He did not speak to them, That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, ‘I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world’” (Matthew 13:34, NKJV, 35, KJV).

“I will open my mouth in a parables, wise sayings, instruction; I will utter dark sayings of old, mysteries, enigmas, obscure sayings . . .” (Psalm 78:2).

“He told His disciples: ‘Because it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven . . .’ (Matthew 13:11).

Jesus revealed and reveals mysteries and secrets.

In fact, Jesus Himself is the mystery, secret and reality of God.

Jesus is the revelation of God. He is image of the invisible God (Colossians 1:15).

Jesus is the exact representation of the Father (Hebrews 1:3).

What is God like? Just look at Jesus. He is God.

Knowing God is a relationship and a revelation, through Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit.

How Do We Discover the Mysteries?

We discover the mysteries of God through Jesus in the Spirit.

The Holy Spirit reveals Jesus to us. The Holy Spirit reveals the mysteries, secrets and deep things of God. Paul wrote about this:

“But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory . . . God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God” (1 Corinthians 2:10).

Mysteries

Jesus speaks about mysteries:

“And the disciples came and said to Him, ‘Why do You speak to them in parables?’ He answered and said to them, ‘Because it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. For whoever has, to him more will be given, and he will have abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. Therefore I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. And in them the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled, which says:

‘Hearing you will hear and shall not understand,

And seeing you will see and not perceive;
For the hearts of this people have grown dull.

Their ears are hard of hearing,

And their eyes they have closed,

Lest they should see with their eyes and
hear with their ears,

Lest they should understand with their
hearts and turn,

So that I should heal them' (Isaiah 6:9-10).

But blessed are your eyes for they see, and your ears for they hear; for assuredly, I say to you that many prophets and righteous men desired to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it" (Matthew 13:11-17).

It is incredible that Jesus told his disciples that it had been given to them "to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God."

Jesus is clearly referring to the truth He would reveal things kept secret and hidden – mysteries – since the foundation of the world (Matthew 13:11-17).

Secrets

Jesus reveals things kept secret from the foundation of the world (Psalm 78:2). Amen! This truth is fascinating and should inspire us greatly, even in the natural realm.

Truly knowing God occurs in the spirit realm, in a deeper walk with Jesus in the Holy Spirit.

Jesus said "It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing" (John 6:63).

Jesus Speaks about Secrets Being Revealed

Jesus said, "No one, when he has lit a lamp, covers it with a vessel or puts it under a bed, but sets it on a lampstand, that those who enter may see the light. For nothing is secret that will not be revealed, nor anything hidden that will not be known and come to light. Therefore take heed how you hear. For whoever has, to him more will be given; and whoever does not have, even what he seems to have will be taken from him (Luke 8:16-18).

Mysteries . . .

Man cannot fathom the depth of the riches of the glory of the mystery – of Jesus Christ in us (Colossians 1:27).

There are likely an infinite number of mysteries available to man, some of which we know.

But for the most part, very, very few humans have paid the price to receive the secrets and mysteries.

God's offer of eternal life to man is an eternal mystery.

Eternal life is knowing the one true God and Jesus Christ who He has sent.

Knowing God for just one second would be an eternal mystery. Yet He offers Himself to man for eternity.

Mysteries Revealed

“But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God” (1 Corinthians 2:10).

The Holy Spirit reveals Jesus Christ. The Spirit of God is the Spirit of Jesus Christ, the Spirit of the Father.

A great man of God calls the Holy Spirit, “the great revealer of Jesus Christ.”

The Holy Spirit is God. Amen.

As Paul wrote, “the Spirit searches all things, yes the deep things of God” (1 Corinthians 2:10).

However, we speak wisdom among those who are mature, yet not the wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory, which none of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

But as it is written:

“Eye has not seen, nor ear heard,
Nor have entered into the heart of man
The things which God has prepared for
those who love Him.”

But God has revealed them to us through

His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.

These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one. For "who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?" But we have the mind of Christ (1 Corinthians 2:6-16).

THIRTY-THREE

The Sacrifice of Jesus

For all eternity, the sacrifice of Jesus Christ will be honored, revered, proclaimed and infinitely more.

God gave and sent His Son Jesus Christ to die for the world.

Jesus gave His life and died for the life of the world.

Only one faith has a Savior who died for the world. Only one God loves the world so much that He gave His only Son and sent Him to the earth to save and redeem mankind.

God came to earth as a man and justified Himself to the world. In fact, He did something even more sacrificial than coming to the earth Himself. He sent His only begotten Son to die for the world. Whosoever believes in the Lord Jesus

shall not perish but have everlasting life.

Yet, He was hated, betrayed, condemned, and rejected.

He was beaten again and again, scourged, whipped, and flogged to the point of death.

He was brutally whipped 39 times. The instrument had thongs with metal hooks and pottery shards, designed to tear the flesh to the bone. Forty lashes was designed to kill someone.

A crown of thorns was placed on His head. His head was beaten with a heavy wooden stick.

He was mocked, ridiculed, spit upon, and slapped on the face.

He was insulted, taunted, reviled, and blasphemed.

They drove nails through his hands and feet.

He was crucified on a cross for six hours, one of the most brutal forms of execution. He was killed. He was executed.

Jesus shed His blood seven times and was the perfect sacrifice.

He rose from the dead, ascended to heaven and lives forevermore.

Jesus Christ is the Lamb who was slain from the foundation of the world.

Whosoever relies on Him shall not perish but have everlasting life. Receive Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. He is the only way to life and heaven.

John 3:16-17, the Gospels, John 17:4, Isaiah 53:3,5,7-9, John 15:18, Mark 10:33, Matthew

21:42, Luke 17:25, John 1:11, Mark 15:19, Mark 10:33, John 19:1, Mark 10:34, John 19:3, Matthew 27:44, Matthew 27:39, John 20:25, Luke 24:39, Matthew 27:32-56, Mark 14:53-65, Luke 23:26-43, John 18:12-28, Mark 15:25,33-37, John 19:34, Revelation 13:8, Mark 16, Luke 24

The Crucifixion in the Gospels:

Mark 15:24-32

Luke 23:33-43

John 19:18-27

Matthew 27:35-44



He is God, yet He became a man (Gospels, John 1).

He is eternity, yet He lived in human time (Revelation 1 and 4).

He is life, yet He died for the world (John 1:4, 14:6, 17:3, Gospels).

He is love, yet He was hated (John 15:18, 1 John 4:8).

He saves, yet He was crucified (Matthew 18:11, Luke 19:10, Gospels)

He is holy, yet He became sin (Revelation 4:8-11, 2 Corinthians 5:21).

He dwells in eternal glory, yet He came to the earth as a human (John 17:22).

He sits on the highest throne in the universe, yet he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross (Mark 16:19, Luke 22:69, Philippians 2:9).

He is high and lofty, yet He became low and humble (Isaiah 57:15, Matthew 11:29).

He is the highest, yet He made Himself the lowest (Philippians 2:9, Mark 9:35).

He is the first, yet He became the last (Matthew 20:28, Mark 10:45, John 13:1-17).

He is the Lord of all, yet He became the servant of all (Matthew 20:28, Mark 9:35, 10:45, John 13:1-17).

He takes away suffering, yet He suffered more than any man (Matthew 11:29, John 6:35, Isaiah 52:14).

He created mankind, yet men rejected Him (Genesis 1:27, Isaiah 53:3, John 1:11).

He created the men who beat Him and crucified Him (Genesis 1:27).

He spoke the worlds into existence, yet He was silent and did not open His mouth (Genesis 1, Isaiah 53:7).

He gives life, yet His life was taken from Him (John 10:28).

He is blessed, yet He was cursed (Galatians 3:13).

He is true, yet they crucified Him based on lies (Revelation 3:7).

His face shines like the sun, yet it was marred more than any man (Isaiah 52:14).

He is grace and beauty, yet He had no loveliness or attractiveness (Isaiah 53:2).

He is beautiful beyond description, yet there was no beauty that we should desire Him (Isaiah 53:2).

He accepts, yet He was despised (Isaiah 53:3).

He welcomes, yet He was rejected (Matthew 11:29-30, Isaiah 53:3).

He removes sorrow and gives happiness, yet He was a Man of sorrows (Matthew 5:3-12, Isaiah 53:3).

He gives fullness of joy, yet He was acquainted with grief (Psalm 16:11, Isaiah 53:3).

Men find life by seeing Him, yet we hid our faces from Him (John 6:40, Isaiah 53:3).

He esteems, yet He was not esteemed (Isaiah 66:2, Isaiah 53:3).

He carried our sicknesses and grief, yet we thought He was punished and afflicted by God (Isaiah 53:4).

He carried our sorrows, yet we thought His suffering was punishment from God (Isaiah 53:4).

He heals, yet He was wounded and pierced for our transgressions (Acts 10:38, Isaiah 53:4).

He restores, yet He was bruised and crushed for our iniquities (Psalm 23:3, Isaiah 53:5).

He forgives and pardons, yet He was punished for our peace (Matthew 26:28, Isaiah 53:5).

He helps and comforts, yet He was chastised and disciplined for our well-being (John 14:26, Isaiah 53:5).

He gives rest, yet He was whipped, beaten, bruised and wounded for our healing (Matthew

11:29-30, Isaiah 53:5).

He had no sin or iniquity, yet the Lord laid on Him the sin and iniquity of us all (2 Corinthians 5:21, Isaiah 53:6).

He delivers, yet He was oppressed (2 Samuel 2:2-3, John 10:9, Isaiah 53:7).

He assists, yet He was afflicted (Matthew 11:29, John 14:26, Isaiah 53:7).

His voice is like the sound of many waters, yet He was silent (Revelation 1:15, Isaiah 53:7).

He was persecuted and crucified, yet He did not open His mouth (Isaiah 53:7).

He is the Deliverer, yet He was oppressed (Psalm 18:2, Romans 11:26, John 5:22, Isaiah 53:8).

He is the Judge, yet He was judged (Psalm 18:2, Romans 11:26, John 5:22, Isaiah 53:8).

His descendants will be as the stars and sand, yet His generation did not care about His fate on the earth (Genesis 22:17, Isaiah 53:8).

He is the giver of life, yet He was cut off from the land of the living (John 6:63, John 14:6, Isaiah 53:8).

He had no transgressions, yet for the transgressions of the people He was struck (2 Corinthians 5:21, Isaiah 53:8).

He did no violence, nor had any deceit in His mouth, yet they made His grave with the wicked (Isaiah 53:9).

He beautifies, yet it pleased the Lord to bruise Him (Isaiah 53:10).

He is the hope of glory, yet the Lord put Him to grief (Isaiah 53:10).

He was an offering for sin, yet every offering is for Him (Isaiah 53:10).

He gives rest to those who labor, yet His soul labored (Matthew 11:28-30, Isaiah 53:11).

He pours His life into souls, yet He poured out His soul unto death (John 10:10, Isaiah 53:12).

He had no transgressions, yet He was numbered with the transgressors (2 Corinthians 5:21, Isaiah 53:12).

He is the only one without sin, yet He bore the sin of many (John 1:29, 2 Corinthians 5:21, Isaiah 53:12).

He is God's holy gift to mankind, yet He was

made an offering for sin, for the life of the world (John 3:16, Isaiah 53:10, John 6:51).



They sought to arrest and kill Him, yet He seeks to save those that are lost (John 5:18, 10:39, Matthew 18:11, Luke 19:10).

He honors, yet He was betrayed with a kiss (John 12:26, Mark 14:44, Luke 22:48).

He could have prayed and been provided with more than 72,000 angels, yet He endured the cross as a man (Matthew 26:53, Hebrews 12:2).

He is love, yet He was hated (1 John 4:8, John 15:18).

He is eternally loyal, yet He was betrayed (Psalm 119:90, Mark 10:33).

He forgives and frees, yet He was condemned (Matthew 26:28, John 8:36, Mark 10:33).

He accepts, yet He was rejected (Matthew 21:42, Luke 17:25, John 1:11).

He protects and shelters, yet He was beaten again and again (Mark 15:19).

He rescues and comforts, yet He was pun-

ished, abused and mistreated (John 3:16, John 14:26, Gospels).

He heals, yet He was whipped to the point of death (John 19:1).

He exalts, yet He was mocked (Matthew 23:12, Revelation 3:21, Matthew 27:27-31).

He builds up and elevates, yet He was ridiculed (Luke 1:52, Matthew 27:27-31).

He transforms people into His image, yet He was slapped on the face (2 Corinthians 3:18, John 18:22).

He approves, yet He was insulted (Proverbs 16:7).

He esteems, yet He was taunted (Isaiah 66:1, Luke 23:35).

He cherishes, yet He was reviled (Psalm 56:8, Matthew 27:44, 1 Peter 2:23).

He is the Holy One, yet He was blasphemed (John 6:69, Matthew 27:39).

He prayed three times that the Father's cup may pass from Him, yet He drank the cup (John 18:11, Matthew 26:27-29, Mark 14:23-25, Luke 22:17-18).

He prayed three times, "Not My will, but Your will be done," and He did His Father's will. And He drank of the fruit of the vine with His disciples in His Father's kingdom (John 18:11, Matthew 26:36-45, Mark 14:32-40, Luke 22:39-45).

He was slain from the foundation of the world. Yet, He chose of His own free will to suffer and die for the life of the world (Revelation 13:8, Matthew 26:27-29, Mark 14:23-25, Luke 22:17-18).

His body came from heaven, yet He gave it and it was broken for the life of the world (Luke 1:35, John 6:51).

His blood came from heaven, yet He shed it and poured it out to save mankind (Luke 1:35, Matthew 26:28).

He is the living bread, yet His body was broken for the life of the world (John 6:51).

He bought the church with His precious blood, yet He was sold for 30 pieces of silver (Matthew 26:15, Galations 3:13-15).

He sees all, yet He was blindfolded. Proverbs 5:21-23, Hebrews 4:13, Luke 22:63).

He is robed in majesty, yet they stripped Him

and put a scarlet robe on Him. Matthew 27:28).

He wears many crowns, yet He wore a crown of thorns. Revelation 19:12, Mark 15:19).

He is the King of Glory and the King of Kings, yet they mocked Him as the "King of the Jews" (Psalm 24:10, Revelation 19:16, Matthew 27:29, 37).

He breathes life into people, yet He was spit upon (John 20:22, Mark 14:65, 15:19).

At His name every knee will bow, yet they mocked Him as they bowed down and worshipped (Philippians 2:10-11, Mark 15:19).

At His name every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, yet they mocked Him, saying "Hail, King of the Jews" Philippians 2:9-11, Matthew 27:29).

He gave His life for mankind, yet He was crucified with two robbers (John 10:18, Matthew 27:38).

He is the living water, yet He was given vinegar, sour wine mingled with gall, while on the cross (John 4:14-16, Matthew 27:34).

He was executed by men, yet He forgave them (Luke 23:34).

He is robed in glory, yet they divided His garments, casting lots (Psalm 93:1, Psalm 23:18).

He said, "I thirst!" on the cross, yet He is the living water which if someone drinks, they will never thirst (John 19:28, John 4:14).

He is one with the Father, yet He was forsaken (Matthew 27:46).

He is the light of the world, yet for three hours there was darkness over all the land (John 8:12, Matthew 27:45).

Heaven is His home, and the heavens are His throne, but He went down to hell and the underworlds (Isaiah 66:1, 1 Peter 3:19 and 1 Peter 4:6). He rose from the dead, ascended to heaven and returned the throne of God at the right hand of the Father God, that He might fill all in all.



He made the universe and every person. Yet, His sweat became drops of blood, for the healing of our soul (Genesis 1, Colossians 1:16, Luke 22:44).

He knows everything we do, yet His head was beaten again and again with a heavy wood-

en stick, and bled, for the healing of our mind (Psalm 139:3, Matthew 27:29).

No man can see His glorious face and live, yet His face was beaten and marred more than any man's, for the healing of our image (Exodus 33:20, Isaiah 50:6, Mark 14:65).

He revealed His goodness, His name and His back, yet His back was brutally whipped 39 times, tearing the flesh to the bone, for the healing of our body (Exodus 33:19-23, Matthew 27:26).

His hands are outstretched to every person, yet they were nailed to the cross and bled, for the healing of our work (Matthew 11:29-30, Luke 24:39-40).

Mankind finds life at His feet, yet His feet were nailed to the cross, and bled, for the healing of our walk (Revelation 1:17, Luke 24:39-40).

He created Adam and then Eve from Adam's side. Yet His side was pierced, causing blood and water to flow, for our salvation and the birth of the church (Genesis 2:22, John 19:34).

He shed and poured out His blood on the earth, yet His blood is preserved forever in heaven (Gospels, Hebrews 9:11-15).

He died, yet He rose from the dead.

He rose from the dead, and He ascended to heaven.

He lives forevermore.

Now . . .

He is the Most High God, the One & Only, the God of the universe, the Creator and Possessor of the heavens and the earth. Yet he is available to every person, all the time, forever.

He is the all-powerful God, yet He is also gentle and lowly, so that every person can know Him, from the weakest to the strongest.

“He is the High and Lofty One. He dwells in the high and holy place, and with he who has a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones” (Isaiah 57:15).

Therefore God has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is the Lord God Almighty, to the glory of God the Father (Philippians 2:9-11).

John 3:16-17, the Gospels, John 17:4, Isaiah 53:3,5,7-9, John 15:18, Mark 10:33, Matthew 21:42, Luke 17:25, John 1:11, Mark 15:19, Mark 10:33, John 19:1, Mark 10:34

John 19:3, Matthew 27:44, Matthew 27:39, John 20:25, Luke 24:39, Matthew 27:32-56, Mark 14:53-65, Luke 23:26-43, John 18:12-28, Mark 15:25,33-37, John 19:34, Revelation 13:8, Mark 16, Luke 24

The Crucifixion in the Gospels:

Matthew 27:35-44

Mark 15:24-32

Luke 23:33-43

John 19:18-27

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End Notes

Chapter 27

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4. Ibid., 33-34
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