

**YOU ARE
ETERNAL**

YOU ARE ETERNAL

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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).

"Remember the former things of old,
For I am God, and there is no other;
I am God, and there is none like Me,
Declaring the end from the beginning,
And from ancient times things that are not yet
done,
Saying, 'My counsel shall stand,
And I will do all My pleasure'" (Isaiah 46:9-10).

"At that time Michael shall stand up,
The great prince who stands watch over the
sons of your people;
And there shall be a time of trouble,

Such as never was since there was a nation,
Even to that time.

And at that time your people shall be delivered,
Every one who is found written in the book.

And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake,
Some to everlasting life,
Some to shame and everlasting contempt”

(Daniel 12:1-2).

“The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!” (Matthew 13:41-43)

“Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world’ . . . Then He will also say to those on the left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels . . .’” (Matthew 25:34,41).

“Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven” (Luke 10:20).

"And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was" (John 17:5).

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will" (Ephesians 1:3-5).

"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)

"The beast that you saw was, and is not, and will ascend out of the bottomless pit and go to perdition/destruction. And those who dwell on the earth will marvel, whose names are not written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world, when they see the beast that was, and is not, and yet is" (Revelation 17:8).

Introduction

Every person is eternal.

You will exist for eternity.

Everyone will spend eternity in either heaven or hell.

Those written in the Lamb's Book of Life, who know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, will spend eternity in heaven.

Those not written in the Book of Life, who do not know Jesus as Lord and Savior, will spend eternity in hell.

Heaven is God's home, full of the glorious splendor of His majesty, and infinitely more.

Hell is the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.

The saved have eternal life. They will live forever.

The unsaved are not spiritually alive. When they die, they go to eternal death.

Jesus Christ is God.

And infinitely, eternally more.

Those who know Jesus know God.

Outside of Jesus, there is nothing.

Apart from Jesus, someone can do nothing.
Without Jesus, a person has nothing.

Those who know Jesus as Lord have the divine nature and life of God. They have the supernatural, abundant, zoe life.

They have the Almighty God living in and through them – and all around them.

The supreme purpose of man is knowing God.

The greatest, highest and only privilege for man is knowing God.

Someone may ask, what is God like? What is the Father, Son and Holy Spirit like?

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

Genesis 1:27, Genesis 2:7, Matthew 25:41, John 14:2, John 6:51, 1 Corinthians 2:14, John 8:58, John 15:51, Matthew 16:26, 2 Peter 1:4, John 10:10, Colossians 1:27

ONE

You are Eternal

(Most Scripture references are on page 21).

You are eternal. You will exist for eternity.

Why? Because God made man into His own image and likeness (Genesis 1:27, 2:7).

God is eternity. He is of course eternal. Therefore, man is eternal.

Eternal Life and Eternal Death

Those who know Jesus have eternal life. If they continue on with Him, they will live forever in heaven, God's home, a place of absolute glory.

Those who do not know Jesus Christ are spiritually dead. When they die, they will spend eternity in hell, the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.

The Choice: God or Self

God has given every person a choice. The choice is between God and self.

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

God has given man a free will, because He made us into His image and likeness.

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

Heaven is God's home, full of the glorious splendor of His majesty, and infinitely more.

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, forever.

They will discover and experience the myster-

ies and secrets of the kingdom of heaven, minister to others, grow, and eternally more.

They will live in mansions, walk on streets of gold and be in awe of 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

...

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.

They will thank, praise, worship, and bow down before the Father God Almighty and His Son Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit, and forever be in awe of the only true God, who sent His Son to die for them, and of their Savior, the Son of God, Jesus the Christ.

Hell

The unsaved will miss heaven.

The unbelievers, 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 the lake of fire prepared for the devil and his angels.

They will be tormented with fire, brimstone and burning sulfur, forever. The smoke of their torment will ascend forever and ever. They will 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, John 6:51, John 6:53, Matthew 25:31-46, Genesis 2:15-17, Matthew 7:13-14, John 14:2, Revelation 21 and 22, John 14:16, 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.

God Protected Salvation

After Adam fell, God sent mighty, glorious cherubim and a flaming sword to protect the tree of life (Genesis 3:24).

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 sinners.

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

The Adamic Covenant

The seal of the Adamic covenant was the tree of life. After man sinned and fell, if they had eaten from the tree of life, they would have sealed the covenant. No one could have ever been saved.

TWO

The Only True God and His Glory

"I will meditate on the glorious splendor of
Your majesty,
And on Your wondrous works." (Psalm 145:5).

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure
hidden in a field, which a man found and hid;
and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he
has and buys that field" (Matthew 13:44).

God is eternity.

He is life.

He is existence.

He is love.

And infinitely more.

He created the universe, the heavens, the earth

and all that is in them.

The universe exists in Him.

God's Glory

God's presence, His glory, fills heaven and is throughout the earth.

The Father God Almighty sits on the highest throne in the universe.

His glory flows from Him and fills all in all, through His Holy Spirit.

Jesus Christ His Son is at the Father's right hand of power.

The Holy Spirit fills heaven and earth.

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

The Lord is one.

God's Presence

God's presence, the presence of Jesus, is everywhere on the earth.

His glory is over and on all the earth.

Everywhere a person goes, God's presence, glory and power is there.

His presence is so wonderful and beautiful, human words can never express Him.

This presence is what Jesus spoke about in the parable of the the treasure in a field. A man found the treasure and sold everything he had and bought the field.

Born Again

Someone who is born again has the opportunity to experience and know His presence and glory. Their spirit person is alive and "connected" to God, because God is everywhere.

If they do not feel His presence, they just need to go deeper and into the subsequent phases of knowing God. As they do, they will begin to know His glory. There are four phases of knowing God (John 3,4 & 7).

When someone meets Him, He is the only One they will desire.

As they go deeper, they will be losing their "old nature," also called "the flesh."

Salvation

It all starts with salvation, the greatest miracle. A born again believer's spirit person is alive because of God's power.

When a person is born again, Jesus Christ lives in and through them. And, the presence of God, of Jesus Christ, is all around them, everywhere they go. In Him we live and move and have our being.

If someone's not born again, their spirit person is not alive. Therefore they cannot know or understand the things of God – and especially not His presence.

Our Spirit Person

What is our "spirit person?" It is the real us. Scripture calls it our "innermost being," "heart" and "inner man."

A person's physical body is shaped just like their spirit person. Our spirit person is in the image and likeness of God Almighty.

We are a spirit person. We have a soul. We live in a body, on the earth. We are a trinity, just like God.

Anyone who makes it to heaven will live in their spirit person for eternity, in the inexpressible glory of God in heaven. Heaven and earth are filled with His glory.

The Tragedy

However, tragically, Jesus revealed that most people will not get saved (Matthew 7:13-14). They will not know, understand or receive His presence, which is available to every person, all the time.

If they do not find Jesus as Lord and Savior, they face an eternity in hell, the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels (Revelation 20:15, Matthew 25:41).

Sadly, most believers in Jesus do not know or understand His presence and glory. Why not? They are saved, which is great! But they only stay in the initial phase of knowing Him, the born again phase. They have not yet been "born

of water and the Spirit" (John 3:5).

His Presence

His presence is the absolute key to our walk with Him. When we meet Him, we will find all that we want, need, desire, long for and hope for.

The truth is that knowing God is easy and simple. Many think it is complicated. But Jesus Himself said His yoke is easy and His burden is light. He said we must become like a child to enter the kingdom.

His presence, His glory, is what makes walking with Him easy, simple, glorious and infinitely more.

Because He is everywhere, any person, at any time, if they humble themselves and repent, can "get right with God." They can receive what they need, and what He offers, whether it's salvation, the infilling of the Holy Spirit, the baptism of the Holy Spirit, miracles, and infinitely more.

Thank you Jesus for dying for us and saving us! Amen.

Psalm 139, Matthew 28:20, Matthew 13:44-46, John 3, John 4, John 7, Ephesians 4:22-24, 1 Corinthians 2:14, Romans 8:7-10, Acts 17:28, Matthew 7:13-14, Revelation 20:15, Matthew 25:41, John 3:5, Matthew 7:13-14, Matthew 11:28-30, Matthew 18:3

THREE

He Declares the End from the Beginning

"Remember the former things of old,
For I am God, and there is no other;
I am God, and there is none like Me,
Declaring the end from the beginning,
And from ancient times things that are not yet
done,
Saying, 'My counsel shall stand,
And I will do all My pleasure'" (Isaiah 46:9-10).

"Even before a word is on my tongue, behold,
O LORD, you know it altogether" (Psalm 139:4, ESV).

"Even before there is a word on my tongue,

Behold, O LORD, You know it all" (Psalm 139:4, NAS).

"For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him" (Matthew 6:8).

God declaqqqs the end from the beginning.
Before a word is on our tongue, He knows it altogether.

He knows what we have need of before we ask.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for us . . .

Jesus, the Lamb Slain from the Foundation of the World

Jesus is the lamb slain from the foundation of the world (Revelation 13:8).

It is an eternal mystery that before the foundation of the world, God had already provided salvation and redemption for mankind.

Jesus was with the Father Before the World Was

Jesus said, "And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was" (John 17:5).

Jesus was with the Father before the world was. Jesus said these glorious words just before His Passion.

Jesus Finished the Work the Father Gave Him to Do

Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: "Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was (John 17:1-5).

The Only True God

"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one!" (Deuteronomy 6:4, Mark 12:29).

The Lord is one.

He is the only true God.

He is the Lord God Almighty . . . YAHWEH . . .
. the great God Jehovah . . .

Before the foundation of the world, before God created the world as we know it, God was not yet known as the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

It was only when Jesus came to the earth as a

man, that God revealed Himself as the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Jesus spoke about this eternal revelation and mystery, many times.

Jesus, the Bread of Life

In the bread of life passage in John Chapter 6, Jesus spoke thoroughly about God's glorious plan for humanity.

Jesus revealed that the Father sent Him to the earth to die for the life of the world.

Among the numerous glorious revelations He spoke about, Jesus revealed that He is the living bread:

"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).

Primary Revelations and Truths in the Bread of Life 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

FOUR

An Eternal Revelation

The only true God is an eternal revelation.
Those who find Him and make it to heaven
will be in awe of Him, for eternity.

Eternal Life – Knowing Him

Jesus offers eternal, everlasting 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).
For all eternity, those in heaven will be in awe
of the Father, His Son Jesus Christ, and the Holy
Spirit.
The only true God is so glorious and wonder-
ful, human words cannot express Him.

Jesus said, "The Age to Come, Eternal Life"

Jesus revealed that eternal life is also "the age to come" (Mark 10:30):

So Jesus answered and said, "Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My sake and the gospel's, who shall not receive a hundredfold now in this time – houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions – and in the age to come, eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last first" (Mark 10:29-30).

God is Eternal

It is glorious that when someone knows Jesus as Lord and Savior, they are actually in "the age to come."

Though still on the earth and in a human body, they have the opportunity to experience and partake of eternity. How is this possible?

God is eternal. In fact, eternity exists in Him – both eternity past and eternity future.

He is so giving and gracious, that when someone receives Jesus as Lord and Savior, they are immediately in "eternal life, the age to come." They begin the eternal journey of knowing Him.

Every Person Will Exist for Eternity

Every person is an eternal being.
God made man into His own image and likeness.

I write the following with great reverence:
man is the image of God.

God is eternal. Man is eternal.

God is a trinity. Man is a trinity.

Because man is made in God's image, he has the opportunity to know God – and infinitely, eternally more!

Those who know Jesus as Lord and Savior have eternal life and all it contains.

However, those apart from Jesus Christ are in eternal death.

When someone finds Jesus as Lord and Savior, they instantly move from eternal death to eternal life.

The New Life in Jesus

The glorious new life in Jesus Christ is an eternal revelation of God.

As the New Testament reveals, believers are to continue on in this most holy faith our entire time on earth and for eternity.

In eternity, saints will continue: growing, worshipping, praying, ministering, learning, serving, knowing God . . . and infinitely, eternally more.

The New Life is Beyond Human Words

The new life in Jesus is so glorious, it cannot be expressed in human words.

The entire New Testament is an attempt to put it into words.

Why can it not be expressed? Because God is so glorious and wonderful, He cannot be put into human words.

How Do We Meet the Real God?

Perhaps the most important key to knowing God is meeting and knowing the Holy Spirit. He is God!

We get to go directly to Him. What a privilege it is to go directly to Him!

He is the Spirit of the Father and the Spirit of Jesus Christ.

Knowing Him is the greatest privilege a human can experience.

Angels

The following is an example of how awesome our God is.

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

Around and above the throne, angels continually cry out: "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come" . . .

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!"

They continually see new revelations of the Lord God Almighty.

We do not know how long the angels have been at the throne.

The earth is estimated to be more than 4.5 billion years old.

We do not know how long the angels have existed.

Nevertheless, the angels are continually seeing new revelations of the only true God. And they cry "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come" (Revelation 4:8) . . . "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!" (Isaiah 6:3).

FIVE

Jesus, the Revelation of God

It is simple – and yet an eternal mystery.

God is the perfect God and Father.

He loves the world so much, that gave His only Son to die for the world, to save mankind.

He gave everything to His Son Jesus Christ and exalted Him to be equal with Himself. And "of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end . . ." (Isaiah 9:7).

Jesus is the perfect Son. He gave Himself to the world to save mankind. He came to earth and suffered and died for the life of the world.

Jesus has given everything to His people, the church, the saints (John 17:22 & more).

When someone goes to God the Father, He points to Jesus, who said: "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me" (John 14:6).

Jesus also said: ". . . that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father" (John 5:23).

When someone goes to Jesus, He says, "I and My Father are one" (John 10:30).

And Jesus points to the Father and says, "My Father . . . is greater than all" and "My Father is greater than I" (John 10:29, John 14:28).

SIX

Jesus, an Eternal Revelation

Jesus Christ is God and the Son of God

Jesus Christ is the Lord God Almighty.
And, Jesus Christ is the Son of God.
And, He is infinitely, eternally more. Amen!

The following is impossible to put into human words, but it is an attempt:

The revelation of the only true God, the great God Jehovah, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, is certainly the most important revelation in the universe.

Within that revelation, the revelation of Jesus is also the most important revelation in the universe.

A person's eternal destiny depends on their response to the only true God's offer of Himself through Jesus Christ.

God has offered the Lord Jesus to every person. It is the greatest and only offer to mankind.

God wants to save all people. He wants everyone to spend eternity with Him in heaven (2 Peter 3:9 & others).

The tragedy is that most people will not find Jesus as Lord and Savior.

If anyone says no to Jesus, God cannot do anything more for them.

God has done everything He can do to save mankind.

He sent His only Son to the earth to die for the world!

Jesus rose from the dead and lives forevermore.

God sent the Holy Spirit to the earth.

Jesus – the Lord God Almighty – is available to every person, all the time, everywhere they go, for all eternity!

What else could God do for mankind?

How Can Jesus be Both God and the Son of God?

Who are we to question God?

One should never cross-question God Almighty.

We should honor and fear Him.

We should humble ourselves before Him.

We should be in awe of Him.

We should be in awe of His offer of Himself through Jesus!

Objections

Some object and say, "Jesus cannot be both God and the Son of God . . ." and "Jesus was a man but he cannot be God also . . ." and other similar objections.

Those who object are a son. Every person on earth has parents.

And they also may be a father – they might have a child or children.

So, which are they, a son or a father? They are both.

And, they are many others things, potentially a: brother, grandfather, friend, nephew, uncle, citizen (of a place), professional, student, hobbyist, and many other "titles."

So it is with Jesus Christ. He has many, many names and titles.

How is it that man has numerous "titles?" Because God created man into His own image and likeness. God has many, many names, offices, titles and descriptions, and so it is with man.

God's Plan for Humanity

God's plan for humanity is so glorious, human words cannot express it!

God's magnificent offers to mankind are beyond human comprehension!

He has offered Himself!

To every person!

All the time!

Everywhere they go!

For all eternity!

God's Offer to Mankind

God's offer to mankind is priceless, infinite and eternal. Why?

Because HE is priceless, infinite and eternal, and infinitely, eternally more!

For all eternity, man will be in awe of Him and His offer to mankind.

Beyond Human Description

Notice some of the ways His offer is described in the Bible:

"The glorious splendor of Your majesty" . . .
"A treasure hidden in a field, which a man goes and digs up again and again" . . . "The riches of the glory of the mystery" . . . (Psalm 145:5, Matthew 13:44-46, Colossians 1:27).

What is the Father, His Son Jesus and the Holy Spirit like?

"On the glorious splendor of Your majesty, and on Your wondrous works, will I meditate" (Psalm 145:5).

One thing I have desired of the Lord, that will I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold/gaze at/see the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire/seek Him in His temple (Psalm 27:4, various translations).

Some translations, in place of beauty, say "splendor, delightfulness, sweetness, perfection, graciousness, goodness."

For Lord, some translations are "Lord Jehovah, Jehovah, Yahweh."

The Father . . . the Lord Jesus . . . the Holy Spirit is indeed the most wonderful, most beautiful Person in the universe.

His presence is . . . the glory of the Lord.

When we go deeper with Him in the power of the Holy Spirit, and we experience His presence and glory, He is the only One we will want.

And the Holy Spirit reveals who Jesus is. He's the savior. He's the Son of God. He's our master and friend. And infinitely more.

And He is the Lord God Almighty.

"My Father is Greater than I"

Yet, Jesus Himself said, "My Father . . . is great-

er than all," and "My Father is greater than I" (John 10:29, John 14:28).

It is an eternal mystery . . . the Father, Son and Holy Spirit . . . the trinity . . . one God . . . three Persons. They are one, yet they are separate and distinct Persons. The Holy Spirit reveals this mystery (Colossians 1:27, 1 Corinthians 2:10).

So when someone knows Jesus, they have a relationship with the Lord God Almighty. Knowing Him is the greatest and highest privilege for a human.

Another mystery is that it's up to a person what they do with that relationship. Why is it like that?

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

Priceless Results

Within knowing Him, He offers priceless results found only in Him, some of which are below.

Experts have found more than 7,000 promises to mankind in the Bible.

But let's always remember: He Himself, His presence and His glory are the answer.

He is the answer: the only true God through Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Everything a person wants, needs, desires and longs for, is found in Him.

When someone finds Him, all the things listed below are a natural result.

The Answer: Knowing Him

The answer is going directly to Him, the one and only true God.

If someone goes to Him, with a repentant, humble spirit, and desires to meet Him, He will answer.

He will reveal Himself.

And that person will find the answer.

They will have the one and only thing, the thing that will last forever, that no one can ever take from them . . . knowing the only true God.

Sometimes, we do everything else except developing our relationship with Him.

We search the Bible, do ministry, learn, go to church, and so forth – and all those are good things.

But we might neglect the one and only thing – knowing Him!

The incredible truth is that He is merciful, gracious, patient, faithful and infinitely more.

When we come to Him, with a repentant heart, He receives us. Amen!

Some Results of Knowing Him . . .

Just some of the priceless gifts and attributes He offers are:

Eternal, everlasting life

The divine nature
Fullness of love
Fullness of joy; joy unspeakable and full of
glory
Pleasures forevermore
Perfect peace
Blessed, favored and fortunate; happiness
Faith
Hope of glory
Harmony
Purpose
Prosperity
Divine health
Living forever in glory and never seeing death
and infinitely more.

SEVEN

Live Forever

Those who know Jesus will live forever.

They will never die.

Why?

Because God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
lives forever and ever.

He is eternity.

He is from eternity to eternity.

He is beyond human time.

From our perspective, we might say He lives
from "eternity past" to "eternity future."

But in reality, He is eternity.

He was and is and is to come.

He is the everlasting, ever-present, ever-liv-
ing, only true God.

Those who find Him become what He is.

They have "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).

Jesus revealed that eternal life is also "the age to come" (Mark 10:30).

They are partakers of the divine nature.

They have the life of God.

They have the supernatural, abundant life of God, the "zoe" life of God.

Jesus Revealed that Saints Will Live Forever

Jesus said:

"Whoever Believes in Him Should Not Perish"

"If Anyone Eats of this Bread, He Will Live Forever"

"If Anyone Keeps My Word, He Shall Never See Death"

"Whoever Lives and Believes in Me Shall Never Die"

"They Shall Never Perish"

"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)

Scripture

"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End," says the Lord, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty" (Revelation 1:8).

The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying:

"Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God Almighty,
Who was and is and is to come!"

Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying:
"You are worthy, O Lord,
To receive glory and honor and power;
For You created all things,
And by Your will they exist and were created" (Revelation 4:8-11).

"Then the four living creatures said, 'Amen!' And the twenty-four elders fell down and worshiped Him who lives forever and ever" (Revelation 5:14).

The angel whom I saw standing on the sea and on the land raised up his hand to heaven and swore by Him who lives forever and ever, who created heaven and the things that are in it, the earth and the things that are in it, and the sea and the things that are in it, that there should be delay no longer, but in the days of the sounding of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound, the mystery of God would be finished, as He declared to His servants the prophets (Revelation 10:5-7).

Then the seventh angel sounded: And

there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!" (Revelation 11:15)

Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. And they sang a new song, saying:

"You are worthy to take the scroll,
And to open its seals;
For You were slain,
And have redeemed us to God by Your
blood
Out of every tribe and tongue and people
and nation,
And have made us kings and priests to
our God;
And we shall reign on the earth."

Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice:

"Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
To receive power and riches and wisdom,

And strength and honor and glory and blessing!"

And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying:

"Blessing and honor and glory and power

Be to Him who sits on the throne,
And to the Lamb, forever and [g]ever!"

Then the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the twenty-four elders fell down and worshiped Him who lives forever and ever (Revelation 5:8-14).

The Lord God Reigns Forever and Ever

"You, O Lord, rule forever;
Your throne is from generation to generation"
(Lamentations 5:19).

"The Lord shall reign forever and ever" (Exodus 15:18).

"The Lord will reign forever,
Your God, O Zion, to all generations.
Praise the Lord!" (Psalm 146:10)

Then the seventh angel sounded; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of

His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever" (Revelation 11:15)

The only true God reigns forever and ever.

Because He Reigns, We Shall Reign

"There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever" (Revelation 22:5).

EIGHT

The Eternal God Offers Eternal Life

The eternal God offers every person eternal life.

Eternal life is knowing Him: the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

It is also "the age to come" (Mark 10:30).

Eternal, Everlasting Life

The same Greek word for "eternal" is also translated "everlasting." That word is "aionion."

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

The Greek words for "Eternal Life" – Zoe
Aionion

Zoe – "life"

Aionion – "eternal, everlasting"

Zoe – the Divine Nature, the Life of God

Jesus used the word "zoe" for the life that God offers.

He used this word many times.

What does it mean?

In the good shepherd passage, Jesus spoke further about the life He offers: "I came that they may have life and have it abundantly" (John 10:10).

The Amplified version says: "I came that they may have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance [to the full, till it overflows]" (John 10:10).

Then Jesus said to them again, "Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who ever came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it

more abundantly.

Partakers of the Divine Nature

Those who know Jesus are partakers of the divine nature: ". . . by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature (2 Peter 1:4).

NINE

The Book of Life

"... your names are written in heaven" (Luke 10:20)

"He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world" (Ephesians 1:4)

"The Book of Life from the Foundation of the World" (Revelation 17:8)

Same Scriptures, in Context

"Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven" (Luke 10:20).

Blessed be the God and Father of our

Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will (Ephesians 1:3-5).

The beast that you saw was, and is not, and will ascend out of the bottomless pit and go to perdition/destruction. And those who dwell on the earth will marvel, whose names are not written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world, when they see the beast that was, and is not, and yet is (Revelation 17:8).

Other translations of "foundation of the world"

"the time of creation" (CEV)

"the founding of the world" (Darby)

It is an eternal mystery and revelation that God chose the saved in Him before the foundation of the world . . . that the Book of Life was written before the foundation of the world . . . that He knows who will be saved.

How can this be?

It is too wonderful for us to understand.
The only true God is too wonderful for us to comprehend.

Jesus Spoke about the Book of Life

Jesus said, "Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven" (Luke 10:20).

When the disciples marveled that they had power over demons, Jesus told them to rejoice that their names were written in heaven.

It is amazing that their names were in the book before they could be saved, because Jesus had not died yet.

The Book of Life

The book of life is mentioned in the Bible at least 10 times.

The portions of Scripture are: Exodus 32:31-33, Daniel 12:1, Luke 10:20, Philippians 4:3, Hebrews 12:22-23, Revelation 3:5, 13:8, 17:8, 20:15, and 21:27.

The Book of Life from the Foundation of the World

The beast that you saw was, and is not,

and is about to come up out of the abyss and go to destruction. And those who dwell on the earth, whose name has not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, will wonder when they see the beast, that he was and is not and will come (Revelation 17:8).

It is truly a mystery that God Almighty knew who would be saved, and who was written in the book of life, even before the foundation of the world (see Matthew 24:31, Luke 18:6-7, Ephesians 1:3-4, Romans 8:33).

Scripture about the Book of Life

Then Moses returned to the Lord, and said, "Alas, this people has committed a great sin, and they have made a god of gold for themselves. But now, if You will, forgive their sin – and if not, please blot me out from Your book which You have written!" The Lord said to Moses, "Whoever has sinned against Me, I will blot him out of My book (Exodus 32:31-33).

Now at that time Michael, the great prince who stands guard over the sons of your people, will arise. And there will be a time of distress such as never occurred since there was a nation until that time; and at that time your people, everyone

who is found written in the book, will be rescued (Daniel 12:1).

"Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven" (Luke 10:20).

Indeed, true companion, I ask you also to help these women who have shared my struggle in the cause of the gospel, together with Clement also and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life (Philippians 4:3).

But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to myriads of angels, to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect (Hebrews 12:22-23).

He who overcomes will thus be clothed in white garments; and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels (Revelation 3:5).

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).

The beast that you saw was, and is not, and is about to come up out of the abyss and go to destruction. And those who dwell on the earth, whose name has not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, will wonder when they see the beast, that he was and is not and will come (Revelation 17:8).

"And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire" (Revelation 20:15).

". . . and nothing unclean, and no one who practices abomination and lying, shall ever come into it, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life (Revelation 21:27).

TEN

More Books in Heaven

Book of Remembrance

Then those who feared the Lord spoke to one another,

And the Lord listened and heard them;

So a book of remembrance was written before Him

For those who fear the Lord

And who meditate on His name (Malachi 3:16).

"that thought upon his name" (KJV)

"always thought about the honor of his name"
(NLB)

"honored his name" (NIV)

"esteemed His name" (ESV)

"who esteem His name" (NAS)

"had high regard for His name" (HCSB)

A book of remembrance is written before God Almighty, for those who fear Him and who meditate on His name.

It is truly incredible that the God of the universe, the only true God, would have such a book written.

Who is it written for? It is for those who fear Him and who meditate, honor, esteem and have high regard for His name.

The Books in Heaven

And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books (Revelation 20:12).

There are many books in heaven. We do not know how many there are. We will be judged by the things written in the books.

"Books Were Opened" (Revelation 20:12)

The Scripture below is what some people call "the most awesome portion of Scripture found in the Bible."

Then I saw a great white throne and

Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire (Revelation 20:11-15).

What we do on the earth is recorded in books in heaven. And we will be judged by the things written in the books.

Scripture about the Books in Heaven

"You have taken account of my wanderings;
Put my tears in Your bottle.
Are they not in Your book?" (Psalm 56:8).

"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
139:16).

**"I Will not Blot Out/Erase His Name
from the Book of Life"**

He who overcomes will thus be clothed
in white garments; and I will not erase
his name from the book of life, and I will
confess his name before My Father and
before His angels (Revelation 3:5).

Jesus reveals that He will not erase an over-
comer's name from the book of life.

He also reveals that some names will be erased
from the book of life.

A Mystery . . .

God knows who will be saved.
Yet, God wants everyone to be saved and
make it to heaven.

"He had a Little Book Open in His Hand"

I saw still another mighty angel coming
down from heaven, clothed with a cloud.
And a rainbow was on his head, his face
was like the sun, and his feet like pillars
of fire. He had a little book open in his

hand. And he set his right foot on the sea and his left foot on the land, and cried with a loud voice, as when a lion roars. When he cried out, seven thunders uttered their voices. Now when the seven thunders uttered their voices, I was about to write; but I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Seal up the things which the seven thunders uttered, and do not write them (Revelation 5:1-4).

ELEVEN

"To Him Who Overcomes . . ."

The Book of Revelation is an unveiling of the end times and the end of the age.

The book describes a series of prophetic visions the disciple John had. It contains very detailed and graphic descriptions of the end times, the tribulation, and much more.

The first three chapters contain incredible, supernatural rewards and promises Jesus offers "to him who overcomes."

Eat From the Tree of Life, in the Paradise of God

"To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God" (Revelation 2:7).

Not Hurt by the Second Death

"He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the second death" (Revelation 2:11).

Hidden Manna to Eat

"To him who overcomes . . . I will give some of the hidden manna to eat" (Revelation 2:17).

A White Stone

"And I will give him a white stone, . . ." (Revelation 2:17).

A New Name, Written on the White Stone "

. . . and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it" (Revelation 2:17).

Power Over the Nations

"And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power [authority] over the nations—

'He shall rule them with a rod of iron;

They shall be dashed to pieces like the potter's vessels'—

as I also have received from My Father; . . ." (Revelation 2:26-27).

The Morning Star

". . . and I will give him the morning star"
(Revelation 2:28).

Clothed In White Garments

"He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, . . ." (Revelation 3:5).

Jesus Will Not Blot Out His Name from the Book of Life

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

Jesus Will Confess His Name Before Jesus' Father

". . . but I will confess his name before My Father . . ." (Revelation 3:5).

Jesus Will Confess His Name Before the Father's Angels

". . . and before His angels" (Revelation 3:5).

Jesus Will Make Him a Pillar in the Temple of Jesus' God

"He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, . . ." (Revelation 3:12).

He Shall Go Out No More

". . . and he shall go out no more" (Revelation 3:12).

Jesus Will Write On Him the Name of Jesus' God

"I will write on him the name of My God . . ." (Revelation 3:12).

Jesus Will Write On Him the Name of the City of Jesus' God, the New Jerusalem

". . . and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God" (Revelation 3:12).

Jesus Will Write on Him Jesus' New Name

"And I will write on him My new name" (Revelation 3:12).

Jesus Will Grant Him to Sit With Jesus on Jesus' Throne, as Jesus Overcame and Sat Down With His Father on the Father's Throne

"To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and

sat down with My Father on His throne" (Revelation 3:21).

To Him Who Overcomes . . .

Jesus will give them . . .

Eat From the Tree of Life, in the Paradise of God

Not Hurt by the Second Death

Hidden Manna to Eat

A White Stone

A New Name, Written on the White Stone

Power Over the Nations

The Morning Star

Clothed In White Garments

Jesus Will Not Blot Out His Name from the Book of Life

Jesus Will Confess His Name Before Jesus' Father

Jesus Will Confess His Name Before the Father's Angels

Jesus Will Make Him a Pillar in the Temple of
Jesus' God

He Shall Go Out No More

Jesus Will Write On Him the Name of Jesus'
God

Jesus Will Write On Him the Name of the City
of Jesus' God, the New Jerusalem

Jesus Will Write on Him Jesus' New Name

Jesus Will Grant Him to Sit With Jesus on Je-
sus' Throne, as Jesus Overcame and Sat Down
With His Father on the Father's Throne

TWELVE

God Loves the World

To Save the World through Him

"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).

"For God so Loved 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 World, Whoever" and the Predestination Debate

The following is a perspective presented to make a point.

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!

THIRTEEN

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."

FOURTEEN

Salvation

Salvation is the greatest miracle.
It's an eternal mystery and reality.
It is also an eternal revelation.
Why? Salvation is finding eternal life, which
is knowing the only true God and Jesus Christ
Whom He has sent.
God Himself is a mystery and a reality.
Knowing Him is an eternal revelation.

Instant, Lifelong and Eternal

Salvation is both instant and lifelong – and
eternal.
How can it be both – and all three?
With God, things are "both and," not "either
or."
God is so merciful, that when someone comes

to Jesus Christ and He becomes their Lord and Savior, they are saved, instantly. Amen!

At the same time, salvation is lifelong. We live out and work out our salvation our entire life.

And we realize salvation – and everything in our most holy faith – is a glorious mystery . . . the riches of the glory of the mystery, of Jesus Christ in us.

It is a mystery that God would allow us to know Him! What a privilege!

It is a mystery that He would allow us to become His children . . . and to receive the absolutely priceless, eternal gifts He offers.

It is a mystery that we partner with God: we work out our salvation . . . but it is God who works in us to will and to act according to His good purpose. He has given man a free will, and it is up to us how deep we go with Him; yet, He is one who works in us.

The reason we can be saved is a glorious mystery: that God would send Jesus to die for us! For all eternity, we will be in awe of the sacrifice of Jesus, which is the complete and total reason we can be saved.

Moreover, salvation is eternal. We enter into a glorious new life that lasts forever! He is our all in all, our everything. Knowing God is a glorious eternal revelation. In reality, everything from God is eternal.

How to be Saved

It's simple.
Receive Jesus as your Lord and Savior.
Give him your heart and life.
You're saved.
It's instant.
But it's also lifelong – and eternal.
If someone continues on with Jesus, they will
live forever.

But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. For "whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Romans 10:8-13).

FIFTEEN

Heaven

Believers in Jesus will spend eternity in heaven.

Those who know Jesus as Lord and Savior, who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life, will live forever in God's home, a place of absolute glory.

Scriptures and descriptions of heaven:

"Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!" (Matthew 13:36-43).

Then the King will say to those on His right hand, "Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world . . .

"Then He will also say to those on the left

hand, "Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels . . . (Matthew 25:34,41).

"In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you" (John 14:2).

After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying:

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, Thanksgiving and honor and power and might,
Be to our God forever and ever.
Amen."

Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?"

And I said to him, "Sir, you know."

So he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation,

and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them. They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes" (Revelation 7:9-17).

And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."

Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful."

And He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who

thirsts. He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son. But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death" (Revelation 21:3-8).

And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him. They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads. There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever (Revelation 22:1-5).

Descriptions of Heaven and Jesus Christ

People who have been to heaven and returned to earth describe their experience:

They placed me at the feet of the most glorious Being I could ever imagine. A crown of pure light rested on His head, and hair as white as snow fell upon His shoulders. No words could begin to describe His splendor . . . I was totally overawed by Him. His goodness, tenderness, and love overwhelmed me. I bowed down.¹

-Marietta Davis

He looked down at me. He had such beautiful eyes. I'll never forget those eyes. They were so large and full of meaning – and kindness and forgiveness and compassion. Everything you would want to see in Jesus' face was there.²

-Lorraine Tutmarc

I looked into Jesus' eyes . . . they looked like wells of living love. It seemed as if one could see a half mile deep into them, and the tender look of His love is indescribable. As I looked into His face and into His eyes, I fell at His feet.³

-Kenneth Hagin

"I felt I had everything I ever wanted to have. I was everything I had ever intended to be. I was arriving at where I had always dreamed of being."⁴

-Betty Malz

Eby calls his visit "unutterable . . . indescrib-

able . . . spiritually resplendent . . . and most ecstatically moving."⁵

The scene was "gorgeously unsurpassable in its beauty," with the foliage having a radiance. It was a great outdoors of mountains, trees, flowers, music, and sweet smells. Forests of symmetrical trees unlike anything on earth covered the foothills on each side. Every tree was tall, graceful, perfect, unblemished . . . Rolling hills under cloudless skies seemed to stretch for miles. The skies were a new color, an iridescent white-gold light. The valley floor was gorgeous. Stately grasses with perfectly straight blades were mixed in with ultra-white, four-petaled flowers on stems two feet tall, with a touch of gold at the centers.⁶

-Richard Eby

She looked into his eyes, which were loving and clear as blue water, yet piercing. It was like she was mirrored in his eyes . . . There was a heavenly illumination that made his hair light red, his eyes bluish and transparent, and his skin a light gold color . . . "There is no way to describe his coloring. It is like another world's color. It's the Shekinah glory, iridescent golden light glowing through him."⁷

-Valvita Jones

As he turned around, he saw Jesus Christ. The glory about Him moved toward Roberts and came upon him, engulfing him. Roberts fell to his knees, and tears began to stream from his eyes, running down his face. Jesus said, "I want to give you a tour through heaven, this place I have made for all who believe, because I love you so much."⁸

As he said this, tears again poured down Roberts' face. To Roberts, Jesus' presence is so tender that your joy turns to tears.

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."⁹

-Roberts Liardon

Richard saw a crystal city made entirely of glowing lights of different types. The lights gave off rays of glory brighter than the sun. The whole city was filled with tall buildings . . . Some were round, and one was shaped like a diamond. There were choirs and angels singing from the heights. Richard still remembers weeping with adoration and joy at seeing and

hearing these inexpressible things.¹⁰

Jesus walked onto the stage to thunderous praise, worship, and adoration. The Lord looked at people lovingly . . . "You could feel the Shekinah glory love that came out of Him. It was awesome . . . words fail."¹¹

-Richard Sigmund

Suddenly . . . there stood Jesus . . . glory and power billowed all around Him . . . His piercing eyes were beautiful . . . the tenderness in His eyes' is beyond a writer's description. The loveliness of the Blessed Savior was awe-inspiring and wonderful.¹²

-Mary Baxter

A voice said: "Come with me into the Throne Room where the secrets of the universe are kept!"¹³

Chrioni said to him: "You can never comprehend the depth of God's love because it is too great!"¹⁴

-Roland Buck

"Jesus spoke with a voice that relayed the same love his glance transmitted to me – such gentleness and tenderness. Once you hear it, you will never forget it."¹⁵

-Gerald Landry

The light was so intense, he had to look away and keep looking down . . . He is so big – you can't describe Him in a dimension . . . The form of God's body is somewhat like energy and spirit. The power, the energy-like smoke of God, covers all around the chair of the throne itself . . . There was a massive amount of energy, power, smoke, and noise there.¹⁶

-Jesse Duplantis

Jesus was dressed in a white robe down to His feet, with a golden sash around His chest. His eyes were gleaming and welcoming. His hair was white as snow, thick, and hanging down below His shoulders . . . His face oozed with love that was tangible and real . . . His face is radiant and inviting.¹⁷

-Maurice Maelo

SIXTEEN

Hell

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 and burning sulfur.

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

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

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

They feel and know everything going on. They suffer a literal eternal death. Human beings ex-

ist 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.

There are more than 110 specific Scriptures in the Bible about hell and the other four worlds under the earth, which are: the pit, tartarus, the lake of fire, and paradise.

Jesus preached and talked about hell more often than He spoke about heaven.

Who goes to hell?

Anyone on earth who dies and does not know Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior, whose name is not in the book of life, will go to hell and spend their eternity there.

In hell, there is no life or goodness of any kind – no living things, no light, no love, no mercy, no water, no food.

God withdrew Himself from that place. Therefore, there is no life or anything good.

Hell is a place of: fire; brimstone; burning

sulfur; deadly heat; extreme darkness; awful nauseating smells; lethal torment; scary, massive overpowering demons that torture helpless people; worms and maggots that crawl inside people and never die; and worse.

Anyone who ends up in hell can never get out, FOREVER. For ALL ETERNITY.

At death, judgment is set.

Repent, for the kingdom of God is at hand.

The beings in hell are: demons; some of the angels; Satan (a fallen angel); and, tragically, humans who died without knowing Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, without having a personal relationship with God Almighty through His Son Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit.

Humans in hell can never get out.

Judgment is set. It can never be changed, FOREVER.

They are stuck in hell for eternity, and they know it. They remember their life on earth.

They are placed in small pits or cells. Their bodies are continually burned with fire, burning sulfur and hot coals. The fire and flames literally burn and tear their flesh off their skeletons.

Worms and maggots crawl inside them and are not affected by the fire.

Demons torment and torture them and keep them in their holding places.

Even worse, at the end times, hell will be thrown into the lake of fire. They will be a literal lake of fire and burning sulfur, forever.

Humans in hell feel everything and know ev-

everything going on. They remember their life on earth and the many times they could have repented and received Jesus Christ. They remember the times they could have done good and did not. They remember family and friends on earth – and hope that they avoid hell.

They know they are among billions of other lost souls, all of them weeping and wailing in torment. Approximately 108 billion people have lived so far on earth – and most people do not make it to heaven.

People in hell only leave their small pit or cell to be taken somewhere else for even worse torture, sometimes by Satan himself.

When the earth is destroyed, hell will be thrown into the lake of fire, where everyone in hell will burn in fire FOREVER (Revelation 20:14).

Why is there a Hell?

Why is there even a place with such horrible, extreme, excruciating suffering?

We know only in part.

The word of God says that hell was "prepared for the devil and his angels" (Matthew 25:41) – not for man.

The translation for the Greek word "prepared" is "having been made ready." God did not create hell. He removed Himself from that place, to prepare a place for the enemy, who is eternal. Angels are eternal beings. There had to

be a place for them for eternity. Satan will be tormented in the lake of fire, forever (Revelation 20:10).

The Real Battle

The real battle in the universe is between God Almighty – the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – and His enemy, Satan.

The devil was originally the highest-ranking angel of God (Lucifer; see Isaiah 14 and Ezekiel 28) who rebelled and tried to overthrow God. Satan was cast out of heaven and is still today opposing and trying to defeat God. He still thinks he can overthrow God, but he was defeated at the cross of Jesus Christ.

One of the main ways He opposes God is by deceiving human beings into NOT following God through Jesus Christ – and into following the devil, or any other path apart from Jesus Christ.

Satan and his enslaved demons hate people, because people are made in God's image; and Satan hates God.

Why is this happening? This battle is a mystery in many ways to humans. But God has revealed much about it through His word. See the book *War in the Heavens* for a full summary of the real war in the universe.

This battle has been going on for a long time – we do not know how long.

When someone understands the spiritual bat-

tle and the good and evil forces behind it, a lot of questions and mysteries are answered and solved.

Tragically, Satan deceives people into following him – and those who follow him will end up in hell. It's very important to know this: if someone is not following Jesus Christ, that person is following and serving Satan, the devil. Every person on earth is in one of two families: God's or the devil's.

Description of hell – continued

For the billions of lost souls in hell, there is no relief from the suffering – no rest, no sleep, no water or food of any kind, no compassion from anyone. Remember, the good things we have on earth are not in hell.

There is a continual foul, toxic stench and odor from the decaying flesh, garbage, and much more.

No human would even want to see hell or spend one second or minute there, let alone eternity.

Tragically, it is estimated that more than 83,000 people a day – and possibly more than 100,000 – die and end up in hell.

Where is hell? It is in the center of the earth. Hell is shaped like a human body lying on its back, with arms and legs stretched out. Hell is beneath those on earth, which is why the Bible refers to hell as "under" and "beneath" (Deuter

onomy 32:22 and Isaiah 14:9).

There are many different parts of hell, such as the arms, belly, heart, head, legs, and so forth. In recent years, Jesus has revealed much about hell through his children.

One of the most detailed and thorough descriptions and revelation of hell is Mary Baxter's book *A Divine Revelation of Hell*. The quote below is from that book.

The truth about hell is scary, shocking, tragic, and more much.

Jesus Christ said: "I came to save all men. I desire that all who are lost will repent and call upon My name. It is not My will that any should perish, but have everlasting life. Sad to say, most will not repent of their sins before they die, and they will go to hell. But the way to heaven is the same for all people. You must be born again to enter the kingdom of God. You must come to the Father in My name and repent of your sins. You must sincerely give your heart to God and serve Him."¹

SEVENTEEN

Why Does Hell Exist?

A Summary of the Five Underworlds

Why does hell exist?

Why is there a place with such horrible suffering?

We know only in part.

The word of God says that hell was "prepared for the devil and his angels" (Matthew 25:41) – not for man.

The translation for the Greek word "prepared" is "having been made ready."

God did not create hell. He removed Himself from that place, to prepare a place for the enemy, who is eternal.

Angels are eternal beings. There had to be a place for them for eternity. The enemy will be tormented in the lake of fire, forever (Revelation 20:10).

The Real Battle

The real battle in the universe is between God Almighty – the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – and His enemy, Satan.

The devil was originally the highest-ranking angel of God (Lucifer; see Isaiah 14 and Ezekiel 28) who rebelled and tried to overthrow God. Satan was cast out of heaven and is still today opposing and trying to defeat God. He still thinks he can overthrow God, but he was defeated at the cross of Jesus Christ.

One of the main ways He opposes God is by deceiving human beings into NOT following God through Jesus Christ – and into following the devil, or any other path apart from Jesus Christ.

Satan and his enslaved demons hate people, because people are made in God's image; and Satan hates God.

Why is this happening? This battle is a mystery in many ways to humans. But God has revealed much about it through His word. See the book *War in the Heavens* for a full summary of the real war in the universe.

This battle has been going on for a long time – we do not know how long.

When someone understands the spiritual battle and the good and evil forces behind it, a lot of questions and mysteries are answered and solved.

Tragically, Satan deceives people into following him – and those who follow him will end up in hell. It's very important to know this: if someone is not following Jesus Christ, that person is following and serving Satan, the devil. Every person on earth is in one of two families: God's or the devil's.

The Five Underworlds and their Inhabitants:

Hell, also called Sheol – the place where humans who are not written in the book of life, who do not know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, go when they die; also called hell; located in the center of the earth

Paradise – the place where pre-Christ saints went when they physically died

The Pit – the home of demons

Tartarus – the place where the fallen angels are kept in prison, in chains

Lake of fire – a literal massive lake of fire; hell will eventually be thrown into it

Sheol, or Hell

Sheol is the place most commonly referred to as hell. In modern Bibles, the Hebrew word for "sheol" (used 65 times in the original Bible) is usually translated either "hell" (31 times) or "the grave" (also 31 times). The Greek word for hell is "hades," found 11 times in the Bible.

Millions upon millions of souls are in Sheol

right now, suffering in excruciating, continual torment and torture. Sheol is a place of fire, with flames of fire, waves of fire, hot coals, burning, and smoke. Those in hell suffer from the fires of hell continually, with no relief. They are

experiencing eternal death, but they cannot actually die.

They have an eternal spirit; a soul which is their mind, emotions, and will; and a body with flesh that continually burns and falls off their skeleton.

There is loud wailing and weeping, horrible odors, worms crawling in the peoples' bodies, and many other torments. They have no relief, no comfort, no water, nothing good. In hell, people have all their senses, which are a lot stronger in the afterlife, both in hell and in heaven.

Hell is located in the center of the earth. It is shaped like a human body lying on its back, with arms and legs stretched out. There are many different parts of hell, such as the arms, belly, heart, head, legs, and so forth. In the Bible, hell is referred to as "under" and "beneath" (see Isaiah 14:9, Ezekiel 31:16, Job 11:8, and many others). There are deep depths to hell (see Deuteronomy 32:22). Hell has gates and has deprived people of their years (see Isaiah 38:10). If someone dies without knowing God through the Savior, that person immediately goes to hell (see Job 21:13).

In recent years, Jesus has revealed much about hell through His people. For a detailed descrip-

tion of hell, see the book *Divine Revelation of Hell* by Mary Baxter.

Paradise

Paradise was the place that pre-resurrection saints went when they died. Today it is empty.

It's description is just like it's name: it's a place of beauty, rest, peace, joy, and love.

Before Jesus died and was resurrected, there was no way for saints to go to heaven, so they went to Paradise. Remember Jesus told the thief on the cross, "Today, you will be with Me in paradise" (Luke 23:43). Before we discuss that, some background information is needed.

When Jesus Christ died, it was . . . well, that event really cannot be put into human words.

God sent His Son to the earth to die for mankind. It's beyond human comprehension. The God Who created the universe, the earth, and mankind, sent His Son to die and redeem mankind . . . it's truly a mystery that He would do this.

For all eternity, the sacrifice of Jesus will be honored, proclaimed, revered, celebrated, extolled, and much, much more.

God's children, which He made into His own image, sinned and fell. The Holy God cannot look upon sin. There had to be a perfect sacrifice for man's sins. Jesus is that sacrifice.

Right after Jesus died, some truly incredible things happened.

The veil in front of the Holy of Holies was torn in two from top to bottom.

The Holy of Holies in the Temple and the Tabernacle was the place where the holy, sacred Presence of God dwelt. The construction and building of the Tabernacle is described in Exodus 25. The construction and building of the Temple is described in 1 Kings 6.

The veil in front of the Holy of Holies was a very large, thick curtain that took as many as 300 men to move and put in place. Scholars estimate the veil was between about 30-40 feet tall, 30-40 feet wide, and about four to six inches thick.

What does the tearing of the veil mean? After Jesus died, that Presence became available to all people, not just the High Priest or the select few.

We read in New Testament about more amazing things that happened after Jesus died.

Between His death and His ascension into heaven, Jesus went to the underworld. He went to Paradise and released the saints there to go to heaven. We read about their release in Matthew 27. Note that the phrase "fallen asleep" refers to people who were dead:

Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split, and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; and coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into

the holy city and appeared to many (Matthew 27:51-53).

In the Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31), we learn about Paradise, though the story does not actually use the word Paradise. In the translation from Greek to English, the dynamics of the Greek word "kolpos" are the reason there are various translations for the actual place the beggar Lazarus went when he died.

The word "kolpos" is intended to convey "a position synonymous with intimacy." It is also used in John 1:18 describing Jesus Christ's intimacy with the Father.

In the Lazarus Parable, various Bible versions translate the word and phrase "kolpos" in such ways as: "with Abraham", "in the arms of Abraham," "Abraham's side," "Abraham's bosom," and so forth, all describing Paradise.

The Pit

The Pit is the home of demons. Right now, millions upon millions of demons, the pre-Adamic inhabitants of the earth, are in the Pit, also called "the deep" and "the abyss."

Many demons are traveling from the Pit to the earth to try to influence and deceive men and women as well as cause problems on the earth. They try to find humans to live in, which will be their "house" (see Matthew 12:43-45). If they do

not find one, they have to return to the Pit.

Demons are just one of five divisions in the devil's army.

In Luke 8:26-39, we read about Jesus casting demons out of a man. The demons actually begged Jesus not to send them to the Pit (see Luke 8:30).

In Revelation 9:1-12, there is a scary description of the end times when demons will be released from the Pit. The demons are commanded twice not to destroy men, because demons would destroy everything if they could. In verse 11, we read that the one in charge of them is Satan:

And they had as king over them the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in Hebrew is Abaddon, but in Greek he has the name Apollyon (Revelation 9:11).

Remember that Satan and Satan's army are continually trying to deceive mankind into not following God through Jesus Christ, into not becoming children of God. Satan hates God and is trying to win the war in the heavenlies. His main way of doing this is to influence men and women not to follow Jesus Christ, with the ultimate goal of causing humans to end up in hell, where people will be stuck forever in horrible torment and fire, with the devil.

Hell was created for Satan and his angels, not for human beings. Jesus said:

"Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: . . . ' " Matthew 27:41

Satan, his angels, and his demons will spend eternity in hell. Tragically, Satan is deceiving many human beings into also going to hell.

God wants every person to make it to heaven. But He cannot make anyone choose Him or follow Him. How can this be?

Remember the key fact: God made man into His own image and likeness. God gave every person a complete free will to decide every aspect of his or her life, including the god he or she serves. Though God the Father and God the Son want every person to be saved and make it heaven, God cannot make anyone become a child of God. It's a mystery, yet it's a reality.

When a human is a child, before the age of accountability, which is usually around five or six years old, they actually are a child of God. If a child under that age dies, they go to heaven, where they grow up into adults.

So, the devil knows he can influence people, and he and his armies continually try to do this.

Tartarus

Tartarus is the abode of fallen angels that slept with women.

In 2 Peter 2:4ff, Peter connects "hell," which in this passage is the Greek word for Tartarus, to the flood. We learned earlier that the flood in Noah's time was because angels had polluted mankind's seed to the point that God in anger destroyed all mankind except Noah and his family.

In Jude 1:6,7, we read that the angels "left their habitation" and slept with women, with "strange flesh," like Sodom and Gomorrah did (see Genesis 19).

In 1 Peter 3:18, we read that Jesus, after he died, went to Tartarus, after He went to Paradise. We also read here about the angels' disobedience during the time of Noah. The words "spirits in prison" below is "angels in Tartarus" in the Greek:

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit, by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison, who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water (1 Peter 3:18-20).

He preached to the millions of angels who slept with women, who joined forces with Sa

tan and rebelled against God. They polluted the entire human race except for Noah and tried to stop the Messiah from coming. They thought they had succeeded and that they would one day get out of Tartarus. They have been chained there for thousands of years. Jesus proclaimed to them that He made it and prepared them for Judgment Day.

The Lake of Fire

As we read earlier, the lake of fire was created for the devil and his angels. There is no one there right now.

Isaiah 66:24 says that the Lake of Fire will last eternally.

One day, all the inhabitants of the five worlds will be thrown into the lake of fire. The other four worlds will be destroyed. The lake of fire will be there forever.

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