



PRESENT DAY TRUTH THE FULL GUIDE

A Biblical Study Guide for the Seeking Christian

"If ye love me, keep my commandments."

— **John 14:15**

"To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them."

— **Isaiah 8:20**

OLD & NEW TESTAMENT EVIDENCE · VERSE BY VERSE · NOTHING BUT SCRIPTURE (KJV)

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A promise before we begin: "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me" (John 5:39). Everything in this booklet is drawn from the Bible alone. Do not take our word for it — be like the Bereans, who "searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so" (Acts 17:11).

I The Holy Scriptures — Why We Trust the Bible Alone

Before we examine any doctrine, we must agree on the **measuring stick**. This study rests everything on one foundation: the Bible — and the Bible alone — is the inspired, unbreakable, authoritative Word of God. "To the law and to the testimony" (Isaiah 8:20). If a teaching cannot stand on Scripture, it does not belong here.

ALL SCRIPTURE IS INSPIRED BY GOD

2 Timothy 3:16–17 <i>"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works."</i>	2 Peter 1:20–21 <i>"No prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."</i>
2 Peter 1:19 <i>"We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn."</i>	2 Samuel 23:2 <i>"The Spirit of the LORD spake by me, and his word was in my tongue."</i>
Hebrews 1:1–2 <i>"God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son."</i>	1 Thessalonians 2:13 <i>"Ye received the word of God... not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe."</i>

THE BIBLE IS TRUTH — UNBREAKABLE AND AUTHORITATIVE

John 17:17 <i>"Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth."</i>	John 10:35 <i>"If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken." Even Jesus appealed to Scripture's final authority.</i>
Psalms 119:160 <i>"Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever."</i>	Psalms 119:89 <i>"For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven."</i>
Proverbs 30:5–6 <i>"Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him. Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar."</i>	Isaiah 40:8 <i>"The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever."</i>

Matthew 5:18 <i>"Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled."</i>	1 Peter 1:24–25 <i>"All flesh is as grass... but the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you."</i>
THE BIBLE IS OUR GUIDE AND THE TEST OF ALL DOCTRINE	
Isaiah 8:20 <i>"To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them."</i> <i>The ultimate doctrinal test.</i>	Acts 17:11 <i>The Bereans "received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so." Even an apostle's teaching was checked against the Word.</i>
Psalms 119:105 <i>"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."</i>	Hebrews 4:12 <i>"The word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit... a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart."</i>
Matthew 4:4 · Deuteronomy 8:3 <i>"Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."</i>	2 Timothy 2:15 <i>"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."</i>
Revelation 22:18–19 <i>"If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues... and if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life."</i>	Psalms 119:99, 130 <i>"I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation. The entrance of thy words giveth light."</i>
Romans 15:4 <i>"Whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope."</i>	
Why this section comes first: Every claim in the pages that follow rises or falls on the Bible. We ask only one thing of you: do not believe us — search the Scriptures (John 5:39; Acts 17:11). If these things are in the Word, they stand on the authority of God Himself. If they are not, discard them. That is the only honest way to seek truth.	

II Salvation Is Found in Jesus Christ Alone

The Bible's central claim is not subtle: eternal life is a gift found in a Person. From the first promise in Eden to the final invitation in Revelation, Scripture points to one Savior — received by grace, through faith, without works.
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JESUS IS THE ONLY WAY TO THE FATHER

John 14:6 <i>"I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."</i>	Acts 4:12 <i>"Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."</i>
1 Timothy 2:5 <i>"For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus."</i>	1 John 5:11–12 <i>"God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life."</i>
John 3:16 <i>"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."</i>	John 3:36 <i>"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."</i>
John 10:9 <i>"I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture."</i>	John 11:25–26 <i>"I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."</i>
John 8:24 <i>"If ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins."</i>	Romans 10:9–10, 13 <i>"If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved... whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."</i>

Acts 16:31

"**Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved**, and thy house."

Acts 10:43

"To him give **all the prophets witness**, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins."

Matthew 10:32–33

"Whosoever therefore shall **confess me before men**, him will I confess also before my Father... But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father."

Revelation 3:20

"Behold, **I stand at the door, and knock**: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me."

John 1:12

"As many as **received him**, to them gave he power to become the **sons of God**, even to them that believe on his name."

1 John 5:13

"These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may **know that ye have eternal life**."

BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH — NOT BY WORKS**Ephesians 2:8–9**

"By **grace** are ye saved **through faith**; and that not of yourselves: it is the **gift of God — not of works**, lest any man should boast."

Romans 3:28

"Therefore we conclude that a man is **justified by faith** without the deeds of the law."

Romans 5:1, 8

"Therefore being **justified by faith, we have peace with God** through our Lord Jesus Christ... God commendeth his love toward us, in that, **while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us**."

Romans 6:23

"The wages of sin is **death**; but the **gift of God is eternal life** through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Galatians 2:16, 21

"A man is **not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ**... by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified." "If righteousness come by the law, then **Christ is dead in vain**."

Titus 3:5

"**Not by works of righteousness which we have done**, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost."

2 Corinthians 5:21

"For he hath made him to be **sin for us**, who knew no sin; that we might be made **the righteousness of God in him**."

Hebrews 9:22 · 10:14

"Without shedding of blood is **no remission**." "By one offering he hath **perfected for ever** them that are sanctified."

1 Peter 1:18–19 · 2:24

"Not redeemed with corruptible things... but with the **precious blood of Christ**" — "who his own self **bare our sins in his own body** on the tree... by whose stripes ye were healed."

2 Timothy 1:9

"Who hath saved us... **not according to our works**, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began."

Romans 4:4–5 · 11:6

"To him that **worketh not, but believeth** on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness." "If by grace, then is it **no more of works**."

Isaiah 64:6 · Philippians 3:9

"All our righteousnesses are as **filthy rags**" — "not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the **faith of Christ**."

THE OLD TESTAMENT POINTED TO HIM**Genesis 3:15 · 15:6**

The first gospel: her seed "shall **bruise thy head**, and thou shalt bruise his heel." And "Abraham **believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness**."

Isaiah 53:5–6

"He was **wounded for our transgressions**, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed... the LORD hath laid on him **the iniquity of us all**."

Isaiah 7:14 · 9:6 · Micah 5:2

A virgin-born son called "**Immanuel**," "**The mighty God**, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace," born in **Bethlehem**, "whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting."

Daniel 9:25–26 · Zechariah 9:9

"Messiah shall be **cut off, but not for himself**" — and he comes "having salvation; **lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass**."

John 5:39, 46 · Luke 24:27, 44

"Search the scriptures... they are they which **testify of me**." "Had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for **he wrote of me**." From Moses, the prophets, and the psalms, "the things **concerning himself**."

Galatians 3:8, 16 · Romans 4:3

The gospel was "**preached before... unto Abraham**" — and "to thy seed, **which is Christ**." One way of salvation, always: "Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness."

Psalms 22 · Isaiah 53

The crucifixion written a thousand years early: "they **pierced my hands and my feet**" (Ps. 22:16); "despised and rejected of men... **a man of sorrows**" (Isa. 53:3).

The bottom line: "He that hath the Son hath life." Salvation is not a system, a denomination, or a performance. It is a Person. Receive him — "as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God" (John 1:12) — and you receive life.

III The Trinity — One God in Three Persons

The word "Trinity" is not in the Bible — but the **truth** runs through all of it. There is **one God**, existing eternally as **three co-eternal Persons**: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Not three gods; not one person wearing three masks. One God, in three Persons — all working together for our salvation.

THERE IS ONLY ONE GOD

Deuteronomy 6:4 <i>"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD."</i>	Isaiah 44:6 · 45:5 · 46:9 <i>"I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God." "I am the LORD, and there is none else." "I am God, and there is none like me."</i>
1 Timothy 2:5 · 1 Corinthians 8:4, 6 <i>"There is one God..." — "there is none other God but one." "To us there is but one God, the Father."</i>	James 2:19 · Deuteronomy 4:35, 39 <i>"Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble." "The LORD he is God; there is none else beside him."</i>
Isaiah 44:8 · 43:10 <i>"Is there a God beside me? yea, there is no God; I know not any." "Before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me."</i>	1 Kings 8:60 · Joel 2:27 <i>"That all the people of the earth may know that the LORD is God, and that there is none else."</i>

YET GOD SPEAKS OF HIMSELF IN THE PLURAL

Genesis 1:26 <i>"And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness." (The Hebrew word for God, Elohim, is plural yet takes singular verbs — plurality-in-unity.)</i>	Genesis 3:22 · 11:7 <i>"The man is become as one of us, to know good and evil" — "Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language."</i>
Isaiah 6:8 <i>"Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" — the one God says "I" and "us" in a single sentence.</i>	Isaiah 48:16 <i>All three in one verse: "the Lord GOD [the Father], and his Spirit [the Holy Spirit], hath sent me [the Son]."</i>
Proverbs 30:4 <i>"Who hath established all the ends of the earth? what is his name, and what is his son's name, if thou canst tell?" God has a Son.</i>	Genesis 1:1–2 · Psalm 33:6 <i>"In the beginning God created... and the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters." "By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath [Spirit] of his mouth."</i>

THESE THREE ARE ONE

1 John 5:7 <i>"For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one."</i>	Matthew 28:19 <i>"Baptizing them in the name [singular] of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." One name — three Persons.</i>
2 Corinthians 13:14 <i>"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen."</i>	1 Peter 1:2 <i>"Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ."</i>
Ephesians 4:4–6 <i>"There is one body, and one Spirit... One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all."</i>	2 Corinthians 1:21–22 <i>"He which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God; who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts."</i>

ALL THREE PRESENT TOGETHER AT JESUS' BAPTISM

Matthew 3:16–17 <i>The Son in the water, the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and a voice from heaven [the Father]: "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." Three distinct Persons, active at once. (Also Mark 1:9–11; Luke 3:21–22.)</i>	John 14:16, 26 · 15:26 <i>"I [the Son] will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter [the Spirit], that he may abide with you for ever." "The Comforter... whom the Father will send in my name."</i>
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Luke 1:35

At the Incarnation, all three: "The **Holy Ghost** shall come upon thee, and the power of **the Highest** [the Father] shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing... shall be called the **Son of God**."

JESUS IS FULLY GOD

John 1:1–3, 14

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and **the Word was God**... All things were made by him... And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us."

John 8:58 · Exodus 3:14

"Before Abraham was, **I AM**" — taking God's own name from the burning bush ("I AM THAT I AM"). The Jews picked up stones, for they understood the claim.

Colossians 1:15–17 · 2:9

"By **him were all things created**, that are in heaven, and that are in earth... he is before all things, and by him all things consist." "In him dwelleth all the **fulness of the Godhead** bodily."

Philippians 2:6

"Who, being in the **form of God**, thought it not robbery to be **equal with God**."

John 5:23 · 17:5

"All men should **honour the Son, even as they honour the Father**." "The glory which I had **with thee before the world was**."

John 20:28 · 10:30

Thomas: "**My Lord and my God**" — and Jesus accepted it, not rebuked. "I and my Father are **one**."

Isaiah 9:6 · 7:14 · Matthew 1:23

The child born is called "**The mighty God**, The everlasting Father" — and "Immanuel," "**God with us**."

Titus 2:13 · Hebrews 1:8 · 1 John 5:20

"The **great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ**." The Father calls the Son "**O God**" (Heb. 1:8). "This is the **true God, and eternal life**."

Revelation 1:8, 17–18 · 22:13

Jesus is "**Alpha and Omega**, the beginning and the ending... **the Almighty**" — "the **first and the last**" — titles belonging to God alone (Isaiah 44:6).

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD — AND A PERSON

Acts 5:3–4

Peter said Ananias lied "**to the Holy Ghost**" — then: "thou hast not lied unto men, but **unto God**." To lie to the Spirit is to lie to God.

John 14:26 · 16:13–14

He **teaches** ("he shall teach you all things"), **speaks, guides** into all truth, **hears**, and **glorifies Christ**.

Romans 8:26–27 · 1 Corinthians 12:11

He "**maketh intercession** for us with groanings which cannot be uttered" and has a "**mind**"; he distributes gifts "**as he will**" — a will of his own.

Matthew 12:31–32 · Acts 13:2

He can be **blasphemed** — "the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven" — and he **speaks commands**: "the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul."

1 Corinthians 3:16 · 6:19 · 2:10–11

Your body is "the temple of God... the **Spirit of God** dwelleth in you." "The **Spirit searcheth all things**, yea, the deep things of God."

John 15:26 · 16:8

"He shall **testify of me**" — "he will **reprove the world** of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment."

Ephesians 4:30 · Romans 15:30

He can be **grieved** — "grieve not the holy Spirit of God" — and he **loves** ("the love of the Spirit"). An impersonal force cannot be grieved.

Genesis 1:2 · Luke 1:35 · 2 Peter 1:21

He was active at **Creation**, at the **Incarnation**, and in **inspiring Scripture**: "holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."

HOW THE THREE WORK TOGETHER TO SAVE US

John 3:16 · Galatians 1:4 · 2:20

The Father **gave** his Son; the Son "**gave himself** for our sins"; "who loved me, and **gave himself for me**."

Titus 3:5 · Acts 1:8 · John 3:5–8

The Spirit **renews and empowers**: "the washing of regeneration, and **renewing of the Holy Ghost**" — "ye shall receive **power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you**" — "**born of water and of the Spirit**."

One God, three Persons, one plan of love: The Father gave the Son; the Son gave himself; the Spirit renews and empowers all who believe. "God is love" (1 John 4:8), and this triune God has moved heaven and earth to redeem you. Though beyond full human comprehension, this is how God has revealed himself — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, "and these three are one."

IV The Great Controversy — The Conflict Behind All History

Behind every headline and every heartache lies a larger war: a real, historical conflict between **Christ and Satan** over the character, law, and government of God. It began in heaven, moved to earth, and ends with sin's complete destruction. Earth is the arena — and you are in it.

A PERFECT ANGEL REBELS

Isaiah 14:12–14 "How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning!... For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God... I will be like the most High."	Ezekiel 28:12–17 "Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty. Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God... Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth... Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee... Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty."
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Ezekiel 28:18–19 His end is foretold: "I will bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth... and never shalt thou be any more."	1 John 3:8 · John 8:44 "The devil sinneth from the beginning." He "was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth... a liar, and the father of it."
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WAR IN HEAVEN — SATAN CAST OUT

Revelation 12:7–9 "And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon... And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him."	Revelation 12:4 "His tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth" — a third of the angels fell with him.
Luke 10:18 Jesus testified: "I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven."	2 Peter 2:4 · Jude 6 "God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell... reserved unto judgment." "The angels which kept not their first estate... he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day."

THE CONFLICT COMES TO EARTH — AND GOD PROMISES A DELIVERER

Genesis 3:1–6 The serpent's lie to Eve — "Ye shall not surely die" (Gen. 3:4) — is the foundation of every false doctrine about death. Sin entered through deception.	Genesis 3:15 The first gospel promise: "It [the seed of the woman] shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel." The cross, foretold in Eden.
Romans 5:12 "By one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned."	Romans 1:19–32 · 8:19–22 · Genesis 6–8 Sin distorted God's image in man, disordered creation ("the whole creation groaneth"), and brought the worldwide flood — earth became the arena of the conflict.

SATAN THE ACCUSER — GOD'S CHARACTER ON TRIAL BEFORE THE UNIVERSE

Revelation 12:10 "The accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night."	Job 1:6–11 · 2:1–5 Satan appears before God among the sons of God, accusing Job — God's character and Job's loyalty are on trial before the watching universe: "Doth Job fear God for nought?"
Zechariah 3:1–2 "Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him. And the LORD said unto Satan, The LORD rebuke thee, O Satan... is not this a brand plucked out of the fire?"	1 Peter 5:8 "Your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour."
1 Corinthians 4:9 "We are made a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men." Earth is the theater of the universe.	Ephesians 3:10 Through the church, God's wisdom is displayed "unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places."
Romans 3:4 "Let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged." God's character is vindicated.	Hebrews 1:14 · 2:6 Angels are "ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation" — the loyal angels aid God's side.

CHRIST'S VICTORY — AND SATAN'S FINAL END

Revelation 12:11 "They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death."	Colossians 2:15 At the cross, Christ "spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it."
Hebrews 2:14 · 1 John 3:8 "That through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil." "The Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil."	Revelation 20:10 "The devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone..." — the controversy ends.

Revelation 12:12, 17 <i>"The devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time." His fury targets God's faithful: "the remnant... which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ."</i>	Genesis 3:15 · fulfilled <i>The head-blow promised in Eden lands at Calvary — and is completed when Satan is "no more" (Ezekiel 28:19). The controversy has an end.</i>
Why this frames everything else: The Sabbath, the state of the dead, the mark of the beast, the second coming — each is a battlefield in this single war. Satan's original lie ("ye shall not surely die") still echoes; his hatred of God's law still rages; his final deceptions are still ahead. But his defeat is already written: "never shalt thou be any more" (Ezekiel 28:19).	

V The Seventh Day Is the Sabbath — Saturday, Not Sunday

God blessed one day at Creation — the seventh — before any Jew existed. Jesus and the apostles kept it after the cross. Scripture never moves it to the first day: the word "Sunday" never appears in the Bible, and no verse commands first-day observance.

ESTABLISHED AT CREATION — BEFORE THERE WAS A JEW

Genesis 2:1–3 <i>"On the seventh day God ended his work... and he rested on the seventh day... And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it." No other day in Scripture receives this blessing.</i>	Exodus 20:8–11 <i>"Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy... the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God... wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it." "Remember" — it already existed.</i>
Exodus 31:16–17 <i>"A perpetual covenant... a sign between me and the children of Israel for ever."</i>	Ezekiel 20:12, 20 <i>"I gave them my sabbaths, to be a sign between me and them, that they might know that I am the LORD that sanctify them."</i>
Mark 2:27 <i>"The sabbath was made for man" — Greek anthropos: mankind, humanity. Not "for the Jews." It predates the Jewish nation.</i>	Isaiah 56:2, 6–7 <i>"Blessed is the man that... keepeth the sabbath" — and God explicitly promises to bless foreigners (Gentiles) who keep it: "every one that keepeth the sabbath... them will I bring to my holy mountain."</i>

JESUS KEPT THE SEVENTH-DAY SABBATH

Luke 4:16 <i>"As his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read." His habitual practice.</i>	Mark 2:27–28 · Matthew 12:8 · Luke 6:5 <i>"The Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath." He is never called Lord of Sunday — and he would not abolish the day he is Lord of.</i>
Matthew 5:17–19 <i>"Think not that I am come to destroy the law... Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled."</i>	Matthew 24:20 <i>"Pray ye that your flight be not... on the sabbath day." Jesus — prophesying AD 70, decades after his resurrection — still treated the Sabbath as a day his followers would honor.</i>
Luke 23:54–56 · 24:1 <i>After the crucifixion, the women "rested the sabbath day according to the commandment" — written ~30 years after the cross. Then "upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning," they came to the tomb to work. The calendar confirms Sunday is the first day — and the Bible never sanctifies it.</i>	Matthew 12:12 <i>Jesus corrected how the day was kept, never which day: "It is lawful to do well on the sabbath days."</i>

THE APOSTLES AND EARLY CHURCH KEPT IT

Acts 13:42–44 <i>The Gentiles besought Paul to preach "the next sabbath" — and "almost the whole city" came together. He did not say, "Come back tomorrow, on Sunday."</i>	Acts 17:2 · 18:4 <i>"Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them" — same word as Jesus' custom in Luke 4:16 — and reasoned "every sabbath" for 18 months in Corinth.</i>
Acts 16:13 <i>"On the sabbath we went out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont to be made" — even outdoors, without a synagogue.</i>	Acts 15:21 <i>"Moses of old time hath in every city them that preach him, being read in the synagogues every sabbath day." The Sabbath remained the regular gathering day.</i>
Hebrews 4:9 <i>"There remaineth therefore a rest [Greek: sabbatismos, a Sabbath-keeping] to the people of God."</i>	

EVERY "FIRST DAY" PASSAGE — ALL EIGHT OF THEM

Matthew 28:1 <i>"In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week..." — the Sabbath is still the day before the first day.</i>	Mark 16:2, 9 · Luke 24:1 · John 20:1 <i>Resurrection accounts. No command to keep the day; the women came to work (anooint the body) after resting the Sabbath (Lk 23:56).</i>
John 20:19 <i>The disciples assembled "for fear of the Jews" — hiding, not holding a worship service. They didn't even believe he was risen.</i>	Acts 20:7 <i>A Saturday-night farewell gathering (Bible days begin at sunset); Paul walked ~19 miles Sunday morning — treating it as a travel day. "Breaking bread" was done daily (Acts 2:46).</i>
1 Corinthians 16:2 <i>"Let every one of you lay by him in store" — at home, privately. Weekly budgeting on a workday, not a church collection.</i>	Revelation 1:10 <i>"The Lord's day" appears only here — Scripture never defines it as Sunday. Jesus said he is "Lord of the sabbath" (Mk 2:28), and God calls the Sabbath "my holy day" (Isa 58:13).</i>

THE SABBATH IS ETERNAL

Isaiah 66:22–23 <i>"As the new heavens and the new earth... shall remain before me... from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith the LORD." In Eden before sin — and in the earth made new after sin. God's eternal appointment.</i>	James 2:10 · Revelation 14:12 · 12:17 <i>"Whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all." End-time saints "keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus."</i>
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The challenge: Nine of the Ten Commandments are reaffirmed in the New Testament. Only the fourth is claimed to be removed — by **tradition**, not Scripture. Daniel foresaw a power that would "think to change times and laws" (Daniel 7:25) — the Sabbath is the only commandment that is both a time and a law. (See Section XXIV for the documented history.)

VI Creation and the Sabbath — Established Before Sin, for All Mankind

The deepest answer to "the Sabbath is just for the Jews" is the Bible's opening pages. The Sabbath was made at the **end of Creation week** — before sin, before nations, before any Jew — woven into the fabric of time itself. What God established in Eden for humanity, he never repealed.

THE SABBATH'S ORIGIN IS CREATION, NOT SINAI

Genesis 2:1–3 <i>"Thus the heavens and the earth were finished... And on the seventh day God ended his work... and he rested on the seventh day from all his work... And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it."</i>	Mark 2:27 <i>"The sabbath was made for man" — made at Creation for anthropos (mankind), 2,000 years before the first Jew.</i>
Exodus 20:11 <i>The fourth commandment itself points back to Creation as its reason: "For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth... wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it."</i>	Hebrews 4:4, 9–10 <i>"He spake in a certain place of the seventh day on this wise, And God did rest the seventh day from all his works... There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God."</i>

BEFORE THE LAW OF MOSES

Genesis 26:5 <i>Abraham "obeyed my voice, and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws" — centuries before Sinai. God's commandments predate Moses.</i>	Exodus 16:4, 22–30 <i>Before Sinai, God tested Israel with manna: "that I may prove them, whether they will walk in my law, or no." No manna fell on the seventh day — already "the holy sabbath unto the LORD."</i>
Genesis 2:3 · 4:3–4 · 7:2 <i>The same God who instituted marriage (Gen. 2:24), offerings (Gen. 4:3–4), and the clean/unclean distinction (Gen. 7:2) before the Jews also blessed the seventh day — all Edenic, all enduring.</i>	Romans 5:12–14 <i>"Death reigned from Adam to Moses" — sin and God's moral law existed before Sinai; the Sabbath belongs to that original order, not the later ceremonial one.</i>

FOR ALL PEOPLE, IN ALL AGES — INCLUDING THE WORLD TO COME

Isaiah 56:6–7 <i>"The sons of the stranger [foreigner]... every one that keepeth the sabbath... them will I bring to my holy mountain... for mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people."</i>	Isaiah 66:22–23 <i>"As the new heavens and the new earth... shall remain before me... from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me." The Sabbath outlasts sin itself.</i>
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Psalm 111:4 · Ecclesiastes 12:13

"He hath made his wonderful works to be **remembered**" — the Sabbath is the memorial of Creation. "Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the **whole duty of man**."

Revelation 14:7

The final call to the world echoes the fourth commandment: "**worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.**"

The logic of Eden: If the Sabbath were merely a Jewish ceremonial law, it would have begun at Sinai and ended at the cross. But the Bible places it at **Creation** — before sin — and at the **New Earth** — after sin. It is not a burden nailed to a covenant; it is a gift built into the rhythm of time, made for the whole human family.

VII The Ten Commandments — Are They Still Binding Today?

The most common objection to the Sabbath is "we're not under the law." But Scripture draws a clear line between the **moral law** (the Ten Commandments, written by God's own finger, placed inside the ark) and the **ceremonial law** (sacrifices, which pointed forward to Christ and ended at the cross). Jesus came not to destroy the law — but to establish it.

JESUS DID NOT ABOLISH THE LAW — HE ESTABLISHED IT

Matthew 5:17–19

"Think not that I am come to **destroy the law**, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, **Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law**, till all be fulfilled."

Romans 3:31

"Do we then make void the law through faith? **God forbid: yea, we establish the law.**"

Romans 7:12, 14

"The law is **holy**, and the commandment **holy, and just, and good**." "The law is **spiritual**."

Psalm 19:7 · 119:97, 165

"The law of the LORD is **perfect**, converting the soul." "O how **love I thy law**! it is my meditation all the day." "Great peace have they which love thy law."

1 John 3:4 · Romans 6:15 · 4:15

"Sin is the **transgression of the law**." "Shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? **God forbid**." "Where no law is, there is no transgression."

John 14:15, 21 · 15:10

"If ye love me, **keep my commandments**." "If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments."

1 John 2:3–4 · 5:3 · 3:22

"Hereby we do know that we know him, if we **keep his commandments**. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a **liar**." "His commandments are **not grievous**."

Luke 16:17 · Matthew 19:17

"It is easier for heaven and earth to pass, than **one tittle of the law to fail**." "If thou wilt enter into life, **keep the commandments**."

TWO LAWS — ONE ENDED, ONE ENDURES

Exodus 31:18 · Deuteronomy 10:2, 5

The Ten Commandments were "**written with the finger of God**" on stone and placed **inside** the ark — the moral law, eternal.

Deuteronomy 31:24–26

The book of the (ceremonial) law was placed "**in the side** of the ark" — distinct from the Ten Commandments within it.

Colossians 2:14–17

The "**handwriting of ordinances**" nailed to the cross — the sacrificial/ceremonial "shadow of things to come" — not the Ten Commandments, which are never called a shadow.

Hebrews 10:1, 4, 9–10

The law with "**a shadow** of good things to come" — animal sacrifices that "can never take away sins" — is the one taken away by Christ's once-for-all offering.

Ephesians 2:15

"Abolished... the law of commandments contained in **ordinances**" — the ceremonial system of types — the dividing wall between Jew and Gentile, not the moral law.

Revelation 11:19

In heaven, "the **ark of his testament**" is seen in God's temple — the Ten Commandments remain the foundation of God's eternal throne.

James 2:10–12

James quotes the **sixth and seventh** commandments as the "law of liberty" still in force: "whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all."

Psalm 111:7–8 · 89:34

"The works of his hands are verity and judgment; **all his commandments are sure**. They stand fast **for ever and ever**." "My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips."

THE SAINTS ARE COMMANDMENT-KEEPERS

Revelation 14:12

"Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that **keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus**."

Revelation 22:14

"Blessed are they that **do his commandments**, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city."

Revelation 12:17 <i>The remnant "keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ."</i>	Ecclesiastes 12:13 <i>"Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man."</i>
Hebrews 8:10 · 2 Corinthians 3:3 <i>The new covenant: "I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts." Not abolished — internalized, "written... not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart."</i>	Psalms 40:8 <i>"I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart."</i>
The heart of the matter: "Not under the law" means not under its condemnation (Romans 6:14–15) — for the believer has died to it as a system of earning salvation. But grace never licenses lawbreaking (Romans 3:31). We don't keep the commandments <i>to be</i> saved; we keep them <i>because</i> we are saved — the law written on the heart by the Spirit (2 Corinthians 3:3; Hebrews 8:10).	

VIII The Bible Day Begins at Evening *Sabbath = Friday sunset → Saturday sunset*

God counts days **sunset to sunset**. Darkness existed before light (Genesis 1:2), and the Creation refrain never varies — "evening and morning," six times. Then God settled the matter with an explicit command.

THE CREATION PATTERN — EVENING FIRST, SIX TIMES

Genesis 1:5 <i>"And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day." Evening first — every time.</i>	Genesis 1:8, 13, 19, 23, 31 <i>The identical refrain closes days 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 — a deliberate, sixfold definition of the day: "the evening and the morning."</i>
Genesis 1:2 <i>"Darkness was upon the face of the deep" — before the light. The day begins in darkness.</i>	Daniel 8:14, 26 <i>"Unto two thousand and three hundred days" — literally "evening morning" (Heb. <i>erev-boqer</i>), listing evening first, echoing Genesis 1.</i>
A note on reckoning <i>Biblical days run "from evening to evening," in accordance with Genesis 1:5. The midnight-to-midnight day is a Roman invention; the sunrise day was Egyptian. Neither is biblical.</i>	

GOD'S EXPLICIT COMMAND

Leviticus 23:32 <i>"It shall be unto you a sabbath of rest, and ye shall afflict your souls: in the ninth day of the month at even, from even unto even, shall ye celebrate your sabbath." The clearest definition of a day's boundaries in all of Scripture.</i>	Exodus 12:18 <i>Unleavened Bread runs from the 14th "at even" to the 21st "at even" — seven full days, sunset to sunset.</i>
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OLD TESTAMENT EVIDENCE — THE DAY TURNS AT SUNSET

Nehemiah 13:19 <i>"And it came to pass, that when the gates of Jerusalem began to be dark before the sabbath, I commanded that the gates should be shut." The Sabbath arrived with darkness.</i>	Leviticus 22:6–7 · 11:24–25, 31–32 <i>The unclean stay unclean "until even... when the sun is down, he shall be clean." The ceremonial day changes at sunset.</i>
Deuteronomy 21:22–23 · Joshua 8:29; 10:26–27 <i>A hanged body must be buried "that day" — removed at sunset, "as soon as the sun was down," because the day ends there.</i>	Deuteronomy 24:13, 15 <i>Pledges returned and wages paid "when the sun goeth down" — the day's legal boundary.</i>
2 Samuel 3:35 · 1 Kings 22:35–36 <i>David fasted "while it was yet day" — till the sun be down; battles ended "about the going down of the sun" / "at the going down of the sun."</i>	Exodus 16:23–26 · Judges 14:12, 18 <i>Manna gathered six days, none on the seventh — food kept "until the morning" was already within the day that began at evening. Samson's riddle ran "seven days" measured feast-by-feast, sundown to sundown.</i>

NEW TESTAMENT CONFIRMATION

Mark 1:32 · Luke 4:40 · Matthew 8:16 <i>"And at even, when the sun did set, they brought unto him all that were diseased." The crowds waited for sunset, when the Sabbath ended and carrying the sick became lawful.</i>	Luke 23:54–56 · Mark 15:42 <i>"That day was the preparation, and the sabbath drew on" — as evening approached Friday; Jesus was buried before sunset, "when the even was come."</i>
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John 19:31, 42

The bodies could not remain on the cross — the Sabbath would begin **at sunset**, and "that sabbath day was an high day."

John 20:1 · Matthew 28:1

Mary came "the first day of the week... **when it was yet dark**" — the first day had already begun **before sunrise**. It began at sunset.

Why it matters: God's holy day runs from **Friday sunset to Saturday sunset** — not midnight to midnight. "The evening and the morning were the first day." When you prepare for Sabbath, begin as the sun goes down.

IX The Full Sabbath Day Is for Rest *His day — not ours*

The command is comprehensive: **no work, no commerce, no "own pleasure"** — the whole household rests, even the animals. Yet it is a gift, not a cage: God bids us call the day a **delight**.

THE COMMAND IS COMPREHENSIVE

Exodus 20:10 · Deuteronomy 5:14

"In it **thou shalt not do any work** — thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates." Everyone rests — even the animals.

Exodus 34:21

"Six days thou shalt work, but on the seventh day thou shalt rest: in **earring time and in harvest thou shalt rest**." Even the most urgent economic seasons are no excuse.

Exodus 35:2–3

"Six days shall work be done, but on the seventh day there shall be to you an holy day, a sabbath of rest to the LORD. Ye shall **kindle no fire** throughout your habitations upon the sabbath day."

Leviticus 23:3

"The seventh day is the sabbath of rest, **an holy convocation**; ye shall do no work therein." Rest plus worship.

Numbers 15:32–36

The man gathering sticks on the Sabbath was judged — showing even small self-directed labor breaks the day's principle.

Exodus 16:23–30

Before Sinai, God tested Israel with manna: bake and boil on the sixth day; none falls on the seventh; **"let no man go out of his place on the seventh day."**

GOD'S OWN DEFINITION OF KEEPING THE DAY

Isaiah 58:13–14

"If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath **a delight**... not doing **thine own ways**, nor finding **thine own pleasure**, nor speaking **thine own words**: then shalt thou delight thyself in the LORD."

Jeremiah 17:21–22, 27

"Take heed... and **bear no burden on the sabbath day**... neither do ye any work, but hallow ye the sabbath day." Jerusalem's fall was tied to profaning it.

Nehemiah 10:31 · 13:15–19

No buying, no selling, no treading winepresses, no hauling goods into Jerusalem — Nehemiah **shut the city gates** "when the gates... began to be dark before the sabbath."

Amos 8:5

God rebuked merchants who couldn't wait: "When will the new moon be gone, that we may sell corn? and **the sabbath, that we may set forth wheat?**"

Leviticus 25:4 · 2 Chronicles 36:21

Even the land rested every seventh year ("a sabbath unto the LORD") — and Israel's 70-year exile "made up" the sabbaths they refused.

Isaiah 56:2, 4–6

"Blessed is the man that doeth this... that keepeth the sabbath from polluting it" — including foreigners and eunuchs. Sabbath-keeping is a covenant blessing, not a curse.

WHAT THE SABBATH REST DOES NOT FORBID

Matthew 12:12 · Mark 3:4 · Luke 6:9

"It is lawful to **do well** on the sabbath days" — to save life, to show mercy. Refusing to do good is itself wrong.

Luke 13:15–16 · 14:5 · John 7:22–23

Loosing an ox to water it, pulling a son or an ox from a pit, healing the bound — "Ought not this woman... be **loosed** from this bond on the sabbath day?"

Matthew 12:5

"The priests in the temple **profane the sabbath, and are blameless**" — God's own service on his day is not "work."

Leviticus 23:3 · Luke 4:16 · Acts 1:12

Worship and assembly ("holy convocation"), the synagogue custom, and short "sabbath day's journey" travel for worship were always part of the day.

The principle: "The sabbath was **made for man**" (Mark 2:27) — a gift of twenty-four hours in which the world stops being yours and becomes his. Rest from your work, your commerce, your entertainment, your agenda — and "call the sabbath a delight." "There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God" (Hebrews 4:9).

X The Heavenly Sanctuary — Christ's Ministry for Us Right Now

Where is Jesus, and what is he doing **now**? The Bible's answer: he is our High Priest, ministering in a real sanctuary in heaven — the "true tabernacle" of which the earthly

one was only a model. His present work for you is as real as his cross.

THE EARTHLY SANCTUARY WAS A COPY OF THE HEAVENLY

Hebrews 8:5

The priests "serve unto the **example and shadow of heavenly things**, as Moses was admonished of God... for, See, saith he, that thou make all things according to the **pattern shewed to thee in the mount.**"

Exodus 25:8–9, 40

"And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them. According to all that I shew thee, after the **pattern of the tabernacle**... even so shall ye make it... look that thou make them after their pattern, which was shewed thee in the mount."

Hebrews 9:9

The first tabernacle "was a **figure** for the time then present" — a symbol pointing to the greater reality.

Hebrews 9:23

"It was therefore necessary that the **patterns of things in the heavens** should be purified with these; but the **heavenly things themselves** with better sacrifices than these."

THERE IS A REAL SANCTUARY IN HEAVEN

Hebrews 8:1–2

"We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; a **minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man.**"

Hebrews 9:11–12

"Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a **greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands**... by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us."

Hebrews 9:24

"Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into **heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us.**"

Psalms 11:4

"The LORD is in his **holy temple**, the LORD's **throne is in heaven**: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men."

Psalms 102:19

"For he hath looked down from the **height of his sanctuary**; from heaven did the LORD behold the earth."

Psalms 77:13

"**Thy way, O God, is in the sanctuary**: who is so great a God as our God?"

Revelation 11:19

"And the **temple of God was opened in heaven**, and there was seen in his temple the **ark of his testament.**"

Revelation 15:5

"After that I looked, and, behold, the **temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven** was opened."

Revelation 4:2–5 · 8:3–4

John saw the heavenly throne, the seven lamps of fire, and the golden altar with incense — the furniture of the sanctuary, in heaven.

CHRIST MINISTERS THERE AS OUR HIGH PRIEST

Hebrews 4:14–16

"Seeing then that we have a great **high priest, that is passed into the heavens**, Jesus the Son of God... For we have not an high priest which cannot be **touched with the feeling of our infirmities**... Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace."

Hebrews 7:25

"Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing **he ever liveth to make intercession for them.**"

Romans 8:34

"It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the **right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.**"

1 John 2:1

"My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an **advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.**"

Hebrews 6:19–20

"Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that **within the veil**; whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an **high priest for ever** after the order of Melchisedec."

Hebrews 2:17 · 3:1

"That he might be a **merciful and faithful high priest** in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people." "Consider the Apostle and **High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus.**"

Hebrews 9:14–15

"How much more shall the **blood of Christ**... purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? And for this cause he is the **mediator of the new testament.**"

Why this doctrine is precious: The cross was the payment; the sanctuary is the **ongoing application**. Right now, a living Savior is applying his shed blood on your behalf, interceding, advocating, mediating. You are not alone at the mercy seat — "he ever liveth to make intercession." This is what Jesus is doing today.

XI The Pre-Advent Judgment — The Cleansing of the Heavenly Sanctuary

Before Jesus returns, a work of judgment takes place in heaven. The Bible's own sequence proves it: a heavenly court convenes, books are opened, and the verdict is rendered

in favor of the saints — **before** Christ receives the kingdom and returns with his reward already decided.

A HEAVENLY COURT CONVENES — BEFORE JESUS RETURNS

Daniel 7:9–10

"I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the **Ancient of days did sit**... thousand thousands ministered unto him... **the judgment was set, and the books were opened.**"

Daniel 7:13–14

"Behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and **came to the Ancient of days**, and they brought him near before him. And there was given him **dominion, and glory, and a kingdom**..." Note: he comes to the Father in heaven — this is not the second coming to earth. The judgment precedes the kingdom.

Luke 19:12

"A certain nobleman went into a far country **to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return.**" Jesus receives the kingdom, then returns.

Daniel 7:22, 26–27

"Until the Ancient of days came, and **judgment was given to the saints** of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom." The judgment renders its verdict **in favor of God's people**.

Revelation 22:11–12

"He that is unjust, let him be unjust still... **he that is righteous, let him be righteous still**... And, behold, **I come quickly; and my reward is with me**, to give every man according as his work shall be." When Jesus comes, the verdicts are already settled — so the judgment must happen before he arrives.

HEAVEN KEEPS RECORDS — THE BOOKS

Revelation 20:12

"And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and **the books were opened**: and another book was opened, which is the **book of life**: and the dead were **judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.**"

Malachi 3:16

"Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another... and a **book of remembrance** was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name."

Exodus 32:32–33 · Psalm 69:28

"Whosoever hath sinned against me, **him will I blot out of my book.**" "Let them be blotted out of the book of the living."

Revelation 3:5

"He that overcometh... I will **not blot out his name out of the book of life**, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels." A review of names is implied.

Daniel 12:1 · Philippians 4:3 · Luke 10:20

"Thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found **written in the book.**" "Whose names are in the **book of life.**" "Rejoice, because your names are **written in heaven.**"

Ecclesiastes 12:14

"For God shall bring **every work into judgment, with every secret thing**, whether it be good, or whether it be evil."

Matthew 12:36

"But I say unto you, That **every idle word** that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment."

THE DAY OF ATONEMENT — THE EARTHLY PATTERN OF THE JUDGMENT

Leviticus 16:16

"He shall make an atonement for the holy place, because of the uncleanness of the children of Israel, and because of their transgressions in all their sins."

Leviticus 16:29–34

"In the seventh month, on the tenth day of the month, ye shall **afflict your souls**, and do no work at all... For on that day shall the priest make an atonement for you, to **cleanse you... from all your sins**... an everlasting statute... once a year." A solemn day of judgment.

Leviticus 23:29

"Whatsoever soul it be that shall **not be afflicted in that same day, he shall be cut off from among his people.**" Judgment language.

Leviticus 16:21–22

The scapegoat: "Aaron shall lay both his hands upon the head of the live goat, and **confess over him all the iniquities** of the children of Israel... and the goat shall **bear upon him all their iniquities** unto a land not inhabited." Confessed sins finally and fully removed.

Hebrews 8:5 · 9:23

The earthly Day of Atonement was the "**shadow**" — the cleansing of the heavenly sanctuary itself is the reality it pointed to.

Acts 3:19–21

"Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your **sins may be blotted out**, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; and he shall **send Jesus Christ**... whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things." The blotting out of sins comes just before Jesus returns.

THE JUDGMENT ANNOUNCED — WHILE THE GOSPEL IS STILL PREACHED

Revelation 14:6–7

"And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth... Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for **the hour of his judgment is come.**" The judgment is announced as **underway** while the gospel is still being proclaimed — before the Second Coming.

2 Corinthians 5:10

"For we must **all appear before the judgment seat of Christ**; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad."

Daniel 8:14

"And he said unto me, Unto **two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.**" (Using the day-for-a-year principle — Numbers 14:34; Ezekiel 4:6 — 2,300 years, reaching to the time of the end.)

1 Peter 4:17

"For the time is come that **judgment must begin at the house of God**: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?"

Acts 17:31

"Because he hath **appointed a day**, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained."

John 5:24 · 1 John 4:17

"He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and **shall not come into condemnation.**" "That we may have **boldness in the day of judgment.**" For the believer, the judgment brings acquittal, not dread.

The good news in the judgment: This is not a terror for the believer — it is a vindication. Jesus is your **advocate** (1 John 2:1), and the verdict goes "in favor of the saints" (Daniel 7:22). Confessed sins, covered by his blood, are **blotted out forever** (Acts 3:19). The judgment proves before the watching universe that God is just in saving those who trust in Jesus — settling the great controversy once and for all.

XII The Nature of Humanity — Made in God's Image, Body and Spirit

What is a human being? The Bible's answer overturns a pagan assumption: man does not **have** an immortal soul trapped in a body — man **is** a living soul, a whole being, made in God's image. Understanding this unlocks the Bible's teaching on death.

MADE IN GOD'S IMAGE

Genesis 1:26–27

"And God said, Let us make man in **our image, after our likeness**... So God created man in **his own image**, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them."

Psalms 139:14

"I will praise thee; for I am **fearfully and wonderfully made**: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well."

Psalms 8:4–6

"What is man, that thou art mindful of him?... For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast **crowned him with glory and honour.**"

Genesis 9:6 · James 3:9

Even after the fall, the image remains the basis of human dignity: "in the image of God made he man" — men "are made after the **similitude of God.**"

THE CREATION FORMULA: DUST + BREATH = A LIVING SOUL

Genesis 2:7

"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 soul.**" Note the formula: body + breath = soul. Man did not receive a soul; he became one.

Job 33:4

"The Spirit of God hath made me, and the **breath of the Almighty hath given me life.**"

Job 27:3

"All the while my **breath** is in me, and the **spirit** of God is in my nostrils." "Breath" and "spirit" used interchangeably.

Psalms 104:29–30

"Thou hidest thy face, they are troubled: thou **takest away their breath, they die, and return to their dust.** Thou sendest forth thy spirit, they are created."

Genesis 1:20–24 · note

The same Hebrew word translated "soul" (nephesh) is used of animals — "living creature" / "moving creature that hath life." A "soul" is simply a living being, not a separate immortal entity.

Genesis 6:17 · 7:15, 22

Even animals have "the **breath of life**" — the same life-force God breathes into all flesh.

THE SOUL IS NOT IMMORTAL — AT DEATH THE PROCESS REVERSES

Ecclesiastes 12:7

"Then shall the **dust return to the earth** as it was: and the **spirit shall return unto God** who gave it." The life-giving breath returns to God; the body returns to dust — no conscious, disembodied soul lives on.

Psalms 146:4

"His breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; in that very day **his thoughts perish.**"

Ezekiel 18:4, 20 <i>"Behold, all souls are mine... the soul that sinneth, it shall die." Souls die — they are not inherently immortal.</i>	1 Timothy 6:15–16 <i>"The King of kings, and Lord of lords; who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light." Only God possesses it; the redeemed receive it as a gift.</i>
1 Corinthians 15:53–54 <i>"For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality" — at the resurrection. Immortality is acquired, never innate.</i>	Romans 2:7 <i>"To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for... immortality, eternal life." If we must seek it, we don't already have it.</i>
Ecclesiastes 9:5, 10 <i>"The living know that they shall die: but the dead know not any thing... there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest."</i>	Job 14:12, 21 <i>"Man lieth down, and riseth not: till the heavens be no more, they shall not awake, nor be raised out of their sleep. His sons come to honour, and he knoweth it not."</i>
Why this matters: Once you see that the "soul" is the whole living person — not an immortal part that floats away at death — the Bible's teaching on death becomes clear and consistent. Death is a sleep until the resurrection. This protects you from every deception built on "the dead are not really dead" — the serpent's original lie, "Ye shall not surely die" (Genesis 3:4).	

XIII Salvation Requires a Daily Walk With Jesus <i>abiding — not a one-time claim</i>	
We are justified by grace through faith alone — but the faith that saves is never alone . Like a branch to the vine, saving faith stays connected, and fruit follows. The walk is the evidence.	
"ABIDE IN ME" — THE VINE AND THE BRANCHES	
John 15:4–5 <i>"Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine... for without me ye can do nothing." Greek meno: remain, dwell, stay — continuous, not one-time.</i>	John 15:6 <i>"If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned."</i>
John 15:10 <i>"If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love." Obedience is the evidence of connection — the fruit, not the root.</i>	John 8:31–32 <i>"If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."</i>
1 John 2:3–6 <i>"And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments... He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked."</i>	1 John 1:6–7 <i>"If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie... But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light... the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."</i>
FAITH THAT WORKS — THE EVIDENCE IS THE WALK	
James 2:17, 26 <i>"Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone... For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also."</i>	James 2:19 <i>"Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble." Mental assent is not saving faith.</i>
Galatians 5:6 <i>"For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love."</i>	Galatians 5:22–23 <i>The fruit of the indwelling Spirit: "love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance."</i>
Philippians 2:12–13 <i>"Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure." We work out what he works in.</i>	Hebrews 12:14 <i>"Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord."</i>
Jeremiah 31:33 · Ezekiel 36:26–27 · Hebrews 8:10 <i>The new covenant writes God's law on the heart: "I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts." "I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes." Internalized, never abolished.</i>	1 Corinthians 1:30 <i>"But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption."</i>
ENDURE TO THE END	

Matthew 24:13 · 10:22 <i>"But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved."</i>	Hebrews 3:14 · 10:35–39 <i>"We are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end." "We are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul."</i>
2 Corinthians 13:5 <i>"Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves."</i>	Colossians 1:22–23 · 2:6–7 <i>"To present you holy... if ye continue in the faith grounded and settled." "As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him, rooted and built up in him."</i>
Revelation 14:12 · 12:17 <i>"Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus."</i>	2 Peter 3:18 · 1:5–10 <i>"But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." "Add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; and to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; and to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity."</i>
1 Corinthians 9:27 · Philippians 3:13–14 <i>Paul disciplined himself "lest... I myself should be a castaway." "I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."</i>	

THE OLD TESTAMENT PATTERN IS THE SAME

Genesis 5:24 · 6:9 <i>"And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him." "Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God."</i>	Genesis 17:1 · Micah 6:8 <i>"I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect." "What doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?"</i>
Deuteronomy 10:12 · 13:4 <i>"To walk in all his ways, and to love him." "Ye shall walk after the LORD your God, and fear him, and keep his commandments... and cleave unto him."</i>	Psalms 1:1 · 119:1–3 · Amos 3:3 <i>"Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly." "Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the LORD... that seek him with the whole heart." "Can two walk together, except they be agreed?"</i>

The balance of Scripture: justified by faith alone (Romans 5:1); sanctified through an abiding, daily walk (John 15:5). Christ is made unto us "wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption" (1 Corinthians 1:30). Both are his gifts — both are received by staying connected to him, day by day.

XIV The State of the Dead *death is a sleep — no one is in heaven or hell now*

The Bible calls death "**sleep**" **over 50 times** — and ~36 times records that kings, good and bad alike, "slept with his fathers" (1–2 Kings, 2 Chronicles). The dead are unconscious, awaiting the resurrection. **No one** has ascended to heaven except Christ.

THE DEAD KNOW NOTHING — OLD TESTAMENT

Ecclesiastes 9:5–6, 10 <i>"The living know that they shall die: but the dead know not any thing, neither have they any more a reward... Also their love, and their hatred, and their envy, is now perished... there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest."</i>	Job 14:10–12, 21 <i>"But man dieth, and wasteth away: yea, man giveth up the ghost, and where is he?... Man lieth down, and riseth not: till the heavens be no more, they shall not awake, nor be raised out of their sleep... His sons come to honour, and he knoweth it not."</i>
Psalms 146:4 <i>"His breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; in that very day his thoughts perish."</i>	Psalms 6:5 · 30:9 · 88:10–12 <i>"For in death there is no remembrance of thee: in the grave who shall give thee thanks?" — "Shall the dust praise thee?" — "Wilt thou shew wonders to the dead?... shall thy wonders be known in the dark? and thy righteousness in the land of forgetfulness?"</i>
Psalms 115:17 · 104:29 <i>"The dead praise not the LORD, neither any that go down into silence." "Thou takest away their breath, they die, and return to their dust."</i>	Isaiah 38:18–19 <i>"For the grave cannot praise thee, death can not celebrate thee... The living, the living, he shall praise thee, as I do this day."</i>
Daniel 12:2, 13 <i>"And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake." "But go thou thy way till the end be: for thou shalt rest, and stand in thy lot at the end of the days."</i>	Job 3:13, 17–19 · 7:21 <i>"For now should I have lain still and been quiet, I should have slept: then had I been at rest... There the wicked cease from troubling; and there the weary be at rest."</i>

THE SOUL IS NOT IMMORTAL

Genesis 2:7 Dust + breath of life = "man became a living soul." Man does not have a soul; man is a soul.	Ezekiel 18:4, 20 "Behold, all souls are mine... the soul that sinneth, it shall die." Souls die — they are not inherently immortal.
1 Timothy 6:16 God is the One "who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto."	1 Corinthians 15:53–54 · Romans 2:7 Immortality is something the mortal must "put on" at the resurrection — a gift "to them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life."

NO ONE IS IN HEAVEN OR HELL YET — NEW TESTAMENT

John 3:13 "And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven."	Acts 2:29, 34 "Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried... For David is not ascended into the heavens" — spoken weeks after Christ's resurrection.
Hebrews 11:13, 39–40 Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Moses — "these all died in faith, not having received the promises... God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect." The heroes wait — with us.	John 5:28–29 "The hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation." From the graves — not from heaven or hell.
John 6:39–40, 44, 54 Four times Jesus repeats: "I will raise him up at the last day."	John 11:11–14, 24 "Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep... Then said Jesus unto them plainly, Lazarus is dead." Martha knew the truth: "I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day."
1 Thessalonians 4:13–16 "I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep... For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout... and the dead in Christ shall rise first." They rise when he descends — not before.	Acts 7:60 · 13:36 Stephen "fell asleep." David "fell on sleep, and was laid unto his fathers, and saw corruption."
1 Corinthians 15:17–18, 51–54 "If Christ be not raised... then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished" — Paul's logic only works if the dead are not already alive somewhere. "We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed."	Hebrews 9:27 · Revelation 22:12 · 2 Timothy 4:1 "It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment." Rewards are brought with him at his coming — he judges "the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom," not at death.
Matthew 27:52 · Revelation 14:13 "Many bodies of the saints which slept arose." "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord... that they may rest from their labours."	

Why this doctrine is precious: Death as sleep means the dead are at peace — not watching their loved ones suffer, not burning, not wandering. And it means every "message from the dead" is a deception (see Section XVIII). The Christian's hope is not the grave's escape but the **resurrection**: "I am the resurrection, and the life" (John 11:25).

XV The End of the Wicked — Destruction, Not Eternal Burning

The wages of sin is **death** — not eternal life in agony. The fire of God's judgment **consumes**; it does not preserve. Immortality belongs to God alone and is gifted to the redeemed — never said to be possessed by the lost.

THE WICKED PERISH — THE LANGUAGE OF SCRIPTURE

Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Two outcomes — never two kinds of eternal life.	Psalms 37:9–10, 20, 38 "Evildoers shall be cut off... yet a little while, and the wicked shall not be: yea, thou shalt diligently consider his place, and it shall not be... the wicked shall perish... into smoke shall they consume away... the end of the wicked shall be cut off."
Malachi 4:1, 3 "For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven... and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up... that it shall leave them neither root nor branch... they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet."	Obadiah 16 · Proverbs 10:25 "They shall be as though they had not been." "The wicked shall not inhabit the earth."

Matthew 10:28 <i>"Fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." Destroy — the opposite of preserve alive forever.</i>	2 Thessalonians 1:9 · Philippians 3:19 <i>"Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord" — destruction whose results are everlasting. "Whose end is destruction."</i>
Matthew 3:12 · 13:30, 40, 49–50 <i>"He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire" — the tares "gathered and burned" — consumed, not endlessly burning.</i>	Ezekiel 28:18–19 <i>Even Satan himself: "Therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth... and never shalt thou be any more."</i>
Nahum 1:9 <i>"What do ye imagine against the LORD? he will make an utter end: affliction shall not rise up the second time." Sin will never return — God's guarantee of an eternally clean universe.</i>	Psalms 68:2 · Isaiah 41:11–12 <i>"As smoke is driven away, so drive them away: as wax melteth before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God." "They that war against thee shall be as nothing, and as a thing of nought."</i>
Psalms 145:20 · Proverbs 11:10 · 2:22 <i>"All the wicked will he destroy." "When the wicked perish, there is shouting." "The wicked shall be cut off from the earth, and the transgressors shall be rooted out of it."</i>	Hebrews 2:14 · 1 John 3:8 <i>"That through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil." "The Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil."</i>

THE SECOND DEATH — WHAT THE LAKE OF FIRE IS

Revelation 20:14 <i>"And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death." The lake of fire is death — even Death itself dies there.</i>	Revelation 21:8 · 2:11 · 20:6 <i>"The fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers... shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death." "On such the second death hath no power" — over the redeemed.</i>
Revelation 20:9–10 <i>"And fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them." "Devoured" — consumed.</i>	2 Peter 3:7, 10–13 <i>"The heavens and the earth, which are now... reserved unto fire... the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth... shall be burned up. Nevertheless we... look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness." The same fire that destroys the wicked purifies the planet.</i>
1 Corinthians 15:26 · Revelation 21:4 <i>"The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death." "And there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain."</i>	

UNDERSTANDING "ETERNAL," "UNQUENCHABLE," AND "FOREVER"

Matthew 25:46 <i>"And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal." Everlasting in result (a permanent sentence of death), not an endless process of punishing.</i>	Matthew 3:12 · Jeremiah 17:27 <i>"Unquenchable" = no one can put it out until its work is done. Jerusalem burned with a fire that "shall not be quenched" — and is not burning today.</i>
Jude 7 · 2 Peter 2:6 <i>Sodom and Gomorrah suffered "the vengeance of eternal fire" — and were turned into "ashes," set forth as "an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly."</i>	Isaiah 66:24 <i>"Their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched" — spoken over "the dead bodies of the men that have transgressed against me": corpses fully consumed, not people consciously tortured.</i>
Isaiah 1:28 · 33:14 <i>"The destruction of the transgressors and of the sinners shall be together, and they that forsake the LORD shall be consumed."</i>	Psalms 21:9 · 37:20 <i>"Thou shalt make them as a fiery oven in the time of thine anger: the LORD shall swallow them up in his wrath, and the fire shall devour them."</i>

THE CHARACTER OF GOD IS AT STAKE

Ezekiel 33:11 · 18:23, 32 <i>"Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live."</i>	Lamentations 3:33 · Psalm 103:8–9 <i>"For he doth not afflict willingly nor grieve the children of men." "The LORD is merciful and gracious... He will not always chide: neither will he keep his anger for ever."</i>
Isaiah 28:21 <i>"The LORD shall rise up... to do his work, his strange work; and bring to pass his act, his strange act." Destruction is foreign to his heart of love.</i>	1 John 4:8 · Micah 7:18 · Psalm 136 <i>"God is love." "Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity... he delighteth in mercy." "His mercy endureth for ever."</i>

A universe with no torture chamber: In the earth made new there is no corner of eternal screaming — "no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying" (Revelation 21:4). Justice is done, fully and finally; then "God shall wipe away all tears." A God of love does not preserve sinners alive to suffer forever. He ends sin — forever (Nahum 1:9) — and makes all

XVI Daniel 2 and 7 — The Prophetic Framework of History

God wrote history before it happened. Six centuries before Christ, Daniel saw the exact succession of world empires — Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, Rome — and the divided Europe that followed, down to God's eternal kingdom. Prophecy this precise proves the Bible is true — and it identifies the very power that would later change God's law.

DANIEL 2 — THE GREAT IMAGE: FOUR EMPIRES, THEN GOD'S KINGDOM

Daniel 2:31–35 <i>"Thou, O king, sawest, and behold a great image... This image's head was of fine gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass, his legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay. Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet... and the stone... became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth."</i>	Daniel 2:38–40 <i>"Thou art this head of gold" [BABYLON] — "after thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee" [MEDO-PERSIA] — "another third kingdom of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth" [GREECE] — "the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron" [ROME].</i>
Daniel 2:41–43 <i>"The kingdom shall be divided... the kingdom shall be partly strong, and partly broken... they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay" — divided Europe, never reunified.</i>	Daniel 2:44–45 <i>"And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed... it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever... the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure."</i>

DANIEL 7 — THE SAME FOUR EMPIRES, PLUS THE "LITTLE HORN"

Daniel 7:2–7 <i>"Four great beasts came up from the sea... The first was like a lion [Babylon]... a second, like to a bear [Medo-Persia]... another, like a leopard... four heads [Greece]... a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth... and it had ten horns [Rome and its divisions]."</i>	Daniel 7:17, 23 <i>The angel interprets: "These great beasts, which are four, are four kings [kingdoms]... The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth." The Bible interprets itself.</i>
Daniel 7:8, 24 <i>"There came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things."</i>	Daniel 7:25 <i>"And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time [1,260 prophetic days = years]."</i>
Daniel 7:9–10, 13–14 <i>After the little horn's reign: "the Ancient of days did sit... the judgment was set, and the books were opened" — then "one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven... And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom."</i>	Daniel 7:22, 26–27 <i>"Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High... And the kingdom... shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High." God's side wins.</i>

WHY THIS CHAPTER MATTERS TO YOU

The day-for-a-year key <i>Numbers 14:34; Ezekiel 4:6 — God interprets prophetic "days" as years: "each day for a year." The 1,260 "days" of the little horn = 1,260 years (AD 538–1798).</i>	"Times and laws" <i>The only commandment that is both a time and a law is the fourth — the Sabbath. Daniel 7:25 foretold the very power that would attempt the change. (See Section XXIV for the documented history.)</i>
A proof of inspiration <i>Six hundred years of history, foretold in exact order, with no fifth world empire and no reunified Rome — fulfilled precisely. Only the true God "declareth the end from the beginning" (Isaiah 46:10).</i>	Isaiah 46:9–10 · John 14:29 · 13:19 <i>"I am God, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning." Jesus: "Now I have told you before it come to pass, that, when it is come to pass, ye might believe."</i>

The prophetic backbone: Every end-time section that follows rests on this foundation. Because Daniel's prophecies have been fulfilled with pinpoint accuracy, we can trust what remains: the judgment now underway in heaven, the second coming of the Stone, and the everlasting kingdom that "shall never be destroyed."

XVII One Visible Return — Why There Is No Secret Rapture *"every eye shall see him"*

Christ returns **once** — loudly, visibly, gloriously. The gathering of the elect happens **after** the tribulation, at the **last** trumpet, on the **last day**. Scripture knows nothing of a secret removal years earlier.

HIS COMING IS LOUD, VISIBLE, AND UNIVERSAL

Revelation 1:7 "Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him."	Matthew 24:27, 30 "For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be... and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory."
Matthew 24:23–26 "Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ, or there; believe it not... Behold, he is in the desert... behold, he is in the secret chambers; believe it not." Jesus explicitly warned against claims of a hidden, secret coming.	1 Thessalonians 4:16 "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first."
1 Corinthians 15:52 "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised." If it is the last, no trumpets follow.	2 Peter 3:10 "The day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night" — unexpectedly — "in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat."
Hebrews 9:28 · John 14:3 "Unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation" — not a second and a third. "I will come again, and receive you unto myself" — one return.	Acts 1:11 · Titus 2:13 "This same Jesus... shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven" — visible, bodily, in clouds. The "blessed hope" is "the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ" — one event.

THE GATHERING IS AFTER THE TRIBULATION

Matthew 24:29–31 "Immediately after the tribulation of those days... they shall see the Son of man coming... And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds."	Matthew 24:21–22 "Then shall be great tribulation... And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened." The elect are present in it, not raptured before it.
2 Thessalonians 2:1–3 "Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him... that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed."	2 Thessalonians 2:8 "Then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming." The same coming (parousia) that gathers the saints also destroys the lawless one — one event, not two separated by years.
John 6:39–40, 44, 54 · 11:24 The resurrection is "at the last day" — four times repeated by Jesus; Martha already knew it: "I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day."	Revelation 7:14 "These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb." They were in it.
Daniel 7:21–22, 25 · Revelation 13:7, 10 The little horn and the beast "make war with the saints, and prevailed against them" during the tribulation — the saints are on earth, enduring: "Here is the patience and the faith of the saints."	John 17:15 · Acts 14:22 · Isaiah 43:2 "I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil." "We must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God." "When thou passeth through the waters, I will be with thee."

"ONE TAKEN, ONE LEFT" — READ CAREFULLY

Matthew 24:37–39 "But as the days of Noe were... the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." Who was taken? The wicked — in judgment. Noah was left.	Luke 17:37 "And they answered and said unto him, Where, Lord? And he said unto them, Wheresoever the body is, thither will the eagles be gathered together." The taken ones go to judgment, not heaven.
Matthew 13:30, 41–43, 49 "Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn." The wicked are severed "from among the just." The righteous remain.	1 Thessalonians 4:17 · Zechariah 14:5 · Jude 14 "Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air" — a welcoming party escorting the arriving King. "The LORD my God shall come, and all the saints with thee." "Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints."

Why this matters now: A church expecting to be whisked away before trouble will not prepare for it. Scripture calls us instead to endurance: "In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world" (John 16:33). The promise is not escape — it is his presence through the storm, and deliverance at his glorious appearing (Daniel 12:1). Note also: the secret pre-tribulation rapture was unknown to the church for nearly 1,800 years; it arose in the 1830s.

XVIII How to Recognize the True Second Coming — and Not Be Deceived

Jesus' first end-time warning was about **deception** (Matthew 24:4). Counterfeit comings will be religious, spectacular, and backed by real miracles. The defense: **know the Scriptures — and know the manner of his return.**

THE WARNINGS

Matthew 24:4–5, 11

"Take heed that **no man deceive you**. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many... And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many."

Matthew 24:24

"For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew **great signs and wonders**; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect."

2 Thessalonians 2:9–12

"Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and **signs and lying wonders**... And for this cause God shall send them **strong delusion, that they should believe a lie**" — on those who "received not the love of the truth."

Revelation 13:13–14 · 16:13–14 · 19:20

"He doeth great wonders, so that he **maketh fire come down from heaven** on the earth in the sight of men, and **deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles**."

1 John 2:18 · 4:1

"Even now are there many antichrists." "Beloved, **believe not every spirit, but try the spirits** whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world."

2 Timothy 3:1–5 · 4:3–4

"In the last days perilous times shall come... having a **form of godliness, but denying the power** thereof." "They will not endure sound doctrine... and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables."

2 Corinthians 11:13–15

"False apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for **Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light**."

1 Timothy 4:1

"Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall **depart from the faith**, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils."

THE IDENTIFICATION — HOW YOU WILL KNOW IT IS REALLY HIM

Every eye sees him

Revelation 1:7 — global, simultaneous; Matthew 24:27 — like **lightning** across the sky. No location, no announcement needed.

Audible to all

1 Thessalonians 4:16 — **shout, archangel's voice, trump of God**. Matthew 24:31 — "a great sound of a trumpet."

He does not touch the ground

1 Thessalonians 4:17 — we meet the Lord "**in the air**." His feet touch the Mount of Olives only when he returns with the saints after the millennium (Zechariah 14:4–5). **Anyone walking the earth claiming to be Christ is a counterfeit — full stop.**

The dead rise

1 Thessalonians 4:16; 1 Corinthians 15:52 — "the dead in Christ shall rise first." No resurrection, no real Second Coming.

Angels gather the elect

Matthew 24:31 — "they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other."

The wicked perish in his brightness

2 Thessalonians 2:8; Revelation 6:15–17; 19:21 — none of the lost survive "the great day of his wrath."

THE TEST THAT NEVER FAILS

Isaiah 8:20

"To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, **it is because there is no light in them**."

Acts 17:11

"These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and **searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so**" — even checking an apostle.

Galatians 1:8–9

"But though we, or **an angel from heaven**, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed." Light, glory, and miracles never outrank the written Word.

1 Thessalonians 5:21 · 2 Peter 1:19 · Revelation 22:18–19

"**Prove all things; hold fast that which is good**." "We have also a more sure word of prophecy." Add nothing, take nothing away.

WATCH AND BE READY

Matthew 24:42–44 · 25:13

"**Watch therefore**: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come... Therefore **be ye also ready**: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh."

Luke 21:34–36

"Take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life... **Watch ye therefore, and pray always**, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things."

1 Thessalonians 5:4–6

"But ye, brethren, are **not in darkness**, that that day should overtake you as a thief... Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us **watch and be sober**."

Revelation 16:15 · 3:3

"Behold, I come as a thief. **Blessed is he that watcheth**, and keepeth his garments" — spoken during the plagues themselves.

The deception will be religious, spectacular, and nearly irresistible. It will come with signs and wonders and claim biblical support. The only safe people on earth will be those

who know the Scriptures — and therefore know that Jesus does not return secretly, does not walk the earth before the resurrection, and does not contradict his own law. "Behold, I have told you before" (Matthew 24:25).

XIX The Millennium — the 1,000 Years of Revelation 20

Scripture's own sequence — eight steps, Bible alone. The key anchor is **Revelation 20:1–15**; every other passage fits its framework.

1 · Christ returns — the first resurrection. Trump, shout, archangel's voice; the dead in Christ rise; living saints are changed and caught up to meet him *in the air* (1 Th 4:16–17; 1 Co 15:51–54). He takes them to the Father's house: "I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that **where I am, there ye may be also**" (Jn 14:2–3; Php 3:20–21; Jn 17:24). "This is the **first resurrection**... on such the second death hath no power" (Rev 20:4–6; Jn 5:28–29; Dan 12:2).

3 · The earth lies desolate. "Without form, and void... the heavens, and they had no light... **no man**... all the cities thereof were broken down... yet will I not make a full end" (Jer 4:23–27); "the land shall be utterly emptied" (Isa 24:1–3); rebels "gathered in the pit... shut up in the prison, and **after many days shall they be visited**" (Isa 24:21–22). Ruined, unoccupied — awaiting renewal.

5 · The saints reign in heaven — and review the books. "Thrones, and they sat upon them, and **judgment was given unto them**" (Rev 20:4). "The saints shall **judge the world**... we shall **judge angels**" (1 Co 6:2–3). "The judgment was set, and **the books were opened**" (Dan 7:10, 22, 26–27). "To execute upon them the **judgment written**: this honour have all his saints" (Ps 149:5–9; Mt 19:28; Lk 22:29–30; Rev 3:21). Every hidden thing is brought to light (1 Co 4:5; Ecc 12:14) — every question about God's justice answered before the final sentence falls (Ps 51:4).

7 · The Great White Throne — then fire. "The dead, small and great, stand before God; and **the books were opened**" — all judged by the record (Rev 20:11–13). Before the end, **every knee bows** — even the lost, even Satan (Php 2:10–11; Isa 45:23; Ro 14:10–11). "Fire came down from God out of heaven, and **devoured them**" (Rev 20:9). Death and hell are cast in — "this is the **second death**" (Rev 20:14–15; 21:8). The wicked become "ashes under the soles of your feet" (Mal 4:1–3); Satan is "no more" (Ezk 28:18–19); "affliction shall not rise up the second time" (Nah 1:9).

The millennium in one sentence: Christ comes; the righteous rise and reign with him in heaven for 1,000 years reviewing the records; the earth lies empty with Satan bound; then the city descends, the wicked rise, every knee bows, fire devours sin and sinners forever — and God makes the earth new, his home with us, eternally.

XX The New Earth and the New Jerusalem — Where the Story Ends

The Bible does not end with destruction — it ends with **restoration**. After the fire cleanses, God makes all things new: a real earth, a real city, real bodies, no more death. And God himself moves in. This is the hope toward which every page of Scripture points.

A NEW HEAVEN AND A NEW EARTH

Revelation 21:1–5
*"And I saw a **new heaven and a new earth**: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away... And God shall **wipe away all tears** from their eyes; and there shall be **no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying**, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. And he that sat upon the throne said, **Behold, I make all things new.**"*

Matthew 5:5 · Psalm 37:11, 29
*"Blessed are the meek: for they shall **inherit the earth.**" "The righteous shall **inherit the land, and dwell therein for ever.**" Heaven's reward is a renewed earth, not a ghostly cloud.*

Isaiah 65:21–25
"They shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them... mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands." Real, joyful, physical life.

2 Peter 3:13 · Isaiah 65:17
*"Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for **new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.**" "For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered."*

1 Corinthians 2:9
*"But as it is written, **Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard**, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him."*

Isaiah 11:6–9 · 35:1–10
"The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb... They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain." "The desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose... sorrow and sighing shall flee away."

THE NEW JERUSALEM — GOD'S HOME WITH US

Revelation 21:2–3, 10

"And I John saw the holy city, **new Jerusalem, coming down from God** out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the **tabernacle of God is with men**, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them."

Revelation 22:1–5

"A pure **river of water of life**... the **tree of life**... And there shall be no more curse... and they shall **see his face**... and they shall **reign for ever and ever**."

Revelation 21:22–27

"I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it... And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there."

Revelation 22:14

"Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the **tree of life**, and may enter in through the gates into the city."

John 14:2–3 · Hebrews 11:16

"In my Father's house are many mansions... I go to prepare a place for you." "He hath prepared for them **a city**."

THE GREAT CONTROVERSY IS OVER — FOREVER

Nahum 1:9

"What do ye imagine against the LORD? he will make an utter end: **affliction shall not rise up the second time**." Sin's experiment is finished — never to be repeated.

Isaiah 66:22–23

"For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the LORD... **from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me**." God's eternal rhythm resumes.

Psalms 16:11 · Daniel 12:3

"Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is **fulness of joy**; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore." "They that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the **stars for ever and ever**."

Romans 8:18 · 2 Corinthians 4:17

"For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are **not worthy to be compared** with the glory which shall be revealed in us." "A far more exceeding and **eternal weight of glory**."

The end of the story: God does not abandon the earth — he renews it and moves in. Eden is restored, but better: no serpent, no tree of testing, no possibility of a second fall. "Behold, I make all things new." Every tear wiped away. This is the God who "so loved the world" — and this is the home he is preparing for you (John 14:2–3).

XXI The Three Angels' Messages — God's Last Call to the World

Just before Jesus returns, God sends his final message to every person on earth — carried by three angels of Revelation 14. It is the everlasting gospel wrapped in an urgent, end-time warning: worship the Creator, flee Babylon, refuse the mark of the beast.

THE FIRST ANGEL — WORSHIP THE CREATOR; THE JUDGMENT HAS COME

Revelation 14:6

"And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the **everlasting gospel** to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to **every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people**."

Revelation 14:7

"Saying with a loud voice, **Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters**."

The Sabbath connection

"Worship him that made heaven and earth, and the sea" is a direct echo of the **fourth commandment** (Exodus 20:11). The first angel calls the world back to the Creator — and his appointed memorial, the Sabbath.

The judgment link

"The hour of his judgment is come" announces that the pre-Advent judgment (Section XI) is now underway — while the gospel is still being preached, giving the living time to respond.

THE SECOND ANGEL — BABYLON IS FALLEN

Revelation 14:8

"And there followed another angel, saying, **Babylon is fallen, is fallen**, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication."

Revelation 18:2–4

"Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen... And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, **Come out of her, my people**, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues."

What is Babylon?

In prophecy, Babylon is the system of false worship and spiritual confusion that opposes God's truth (see Daniel 7:25; Revelation 13). God's people are called **out** of every tradition that contradicts his Word.

THE THIRD ANGEL — REFUSE THE MARK OF THE BEAST

Revelation 14:9–11

"And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man **worship the beast and his image**, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, the same shall **drink of the wine of the wrath of God...**" — the most solemn warning in all Scripture.

Revelation 14:12

In contrast: "Here is the **patience of the saints**: here are they that **keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.**"

THE HARVEST FOLLOWS IMMEDIATELY

Revelation 14:14–16

"And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat **like unto the Son of man**, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle... and he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and **the earth was reaped.**" The three messages run directly into the Second Coming.

Matthew 24:14

"And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and **then shall the end come.**"

The final choice framed: The whole controversy comes down to **worship**. Will you worship the Creator — on the day he blessed — receiving his seal? Or worship the beast's system — receiving its mark? The three angels are God's mercy, sounding the alarm *before* it's too late. "The hour of his judgment is come."

XXII The Seal of God and the Mark of the Beast

The end-time crisis divides all humanity into two groups: those who receive the **seal of God** and those who receive the **mark of the beast**. The Bible tells us exactly what each is — and the issue at the center is the authority of God's law versus the commandments of men.

THE SEAL OF GOD

Revelation 7:2–4

"And I saw another angel... having the **seal of the living God**... saying, Hurt not the earth... till we have **sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.**" God's people are marked for protection before the final winds blow.

Ezekiel 9:4–6

"Set a **mark upon the foreheads** of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done" — and judgment passes over the marked.

Ephesians 1:13 · 4:30 · 2 Timothy 2:19

"In whom also after that ye believed, ye were **sealed** with that holy Spirit of promise."
"Grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are **sealed** unto the day of redemption."
"The foundation of God standeth sure, having this **seal**, The Lord knoweth them that are his."

What is a seal?

A royal seal contains the ruler's **name, title, and territory**. God's law contains his seal in the **fourth commandment**: name (the LORD), title (Creator — "made"), territory (heaven and earth) (Exodus 20:8–11). The Sabbath is God's sign/seal of authority.

Exodus 31:13, 17 · Ezekiel 20:12, 20

"Verily my sabbaths ye shall keep: for **it is a sign between me and you** throughout your generations... a **sign** between me and the children of Israel **for ever.**"

THE MARK OF THE BEAST

Revelation 13:16–17

"And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a **mark** in their right hand, or in their foreheads: and that **no man might buy or sell**, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name."

Revelation 13:8 · 14:9–11

"And all that dwell upon the earth shall **worship him**, whose names are not written in the book of life." Receiving the mark = worshipping the beast — and brings the unmixed wrath of God.

Daniel 7:25

The beast-power would "**think to change times and laws**" — the counterfeit to God's Sabbath sign. The mark exalts man's authority over God's.

Romans 6:16

"Know ye not, that **to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are** to whom ye obey?" The mark is ultimately about whom you obey.

Forehead vs. hand

The **forehead** = the mind (conviction, belief — Deuteronomy 6:6–8; Romans 7:25). The **hand** = actions (going along to be able to buy/sell, without conviction). One is deceived; the other coerced.

TWO SEALS, TWO ALLEGIANCES

Revelation 14:9–12

The choice is explicit: worship the beast and receive his mark — OR "keep **the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.**" There is no neutral ground.

Revelation 22:4 · 7:3

"And they shall see his face; and **his name shall be in their foreheads.**" God's people bear **his** name/mark — not the beast's.

2 Timothy 2:19

"Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ **depart from iniquity.**"

Revelation 18:4

The way of escape: "**Come out of her, my people**, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues."

The issue is allegiance, settled by worship. God's seal and the beast's mark are rival signs of authority — the Creator's Sabbath versus a man-made substitute. When enforced by law (the "buy or sell" decree), the choice will reveal every heart. Choose now whom you will serve: "the seal of the living God" — or the mark of the beast.

XXIII The Remnant Church — God's Last-Day People

God has always preserved a faithful few. In the last days, the Bible identifies his end-time people — the "remnant" — by two unmistakable marks. Satan's final war is aimed directly at them.

THE REMNANT IDENTIFIED

Revelation 12:17

"And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the **remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.**"

Revelation 14:12

"Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that **keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.**"

Two marks

God's last-day people (1) keep **all** the commandments — **including the fourth, the Sabbath** — and (2) hold the faith/testimony of Jesus. This is exactly why the dragon makes war on them.

Revelation 19:10

"For the **testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.**"

GOD HAS ALWAYS HAD A REMNANT

Romans 9:27 · 11:5

"Though the number of the children of Israel be as the sand of the sea, a **remnant shall be saved.**" "Even so then at this present time also there is a **remnant according to the election of grace.**"

1 Kings 19:18

"Yet I have left me **seven thousand** in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him." In Elijah's apostate day, God kept a faithful remnant.

Zephaniah 3:13

"The **remnant of Israel** shall not do iniquity, nor speak lies; neither shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouth."

Isaiah 1:9 · 10:20–22 · 37:31–32

"Except the LORD of hosts had left unto us a very **small remnant**, we should have been as Sodom." "The remnant... shall again take root downward, and bear fruit upward."

THE REMNANT IS CALLED OUT OF BABYLON

Revelation 18:4

"And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, **Come out of her, my people**, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues."

2 Corinthians 6:17–18

"Wherefore **come out from among them, and be ye separate**, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you."

John 10:16, 27

"And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be **one fold, and one shepherd.**" "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me."

Revelation 12:11 · summary

Satan's fury is fixed on one group: commandment-keepers who follow Jesus. But "they **overcame him by the blood of the Lamb**, and by the word of their testimony." If you commit to obeying **all** of God's Word — including the Sabbath — expect the dragon's opposition. And expect God's deliverance.

The call: The remnant is not a denomination to join but a **people to become** — those who hear God's voice in his Word and follow it all the way, out of every tradition that contradicts it. "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me" (John 10:27). Will you be counted among them?

XXIV The History of Sunday Laws — From Constantine to Today man's day, by decree — never by Scripture

How the day of man replaced the day of God — by imperial decree, church council, colonial statute, and Supreme Court ruling. Daniel foresaw it: a power would "think to **change times and laws**" (Daniel 7:25) — the Sabbath is the only commandment that is both a time and a law.

AD 321 Constantine's civil decree (March 7; Codex Justinianus 3.12.3): "On the venerable Day of the Sun let the magistrates and people residing in cities rest, and let all workshops be closed." Note: a pagan title — no mention of Christ, the resurrection, or the 4th Commandment (church historian Philip Schaff). Constantine held the pagan title Pontifex Maximus, kept Sol Invictus on his coins, and was baptized only on his deathbed (337). The next day he issued a decree about pagan diviners. In June 321 he added Sunday slave-manumission; later emperors banned tax collection (368) and theaters (386, 425) on Sunday.	c. 364 Council of Laodicea, Canon 29 — the religious mandate: "Christians must not judaize by resting on the Sabbath, but must work on that day, rather honouring the Lord's Day; and, if they can, resting then as Christians. But if any shall be found to be judaizers, let them be anathema from Christ." Constantine gave the civil law; Laodicea made Sabbath-keeping heresy.
1610–1700s Colonial "blue laws." Virginia, 1610: mandatory church attendance — fines, whipping, even death on the statute books. Plymouth (1650): no servile work, travel, sports, or alcohol. Massachusetts Bay, 1648: "Whoever shall profane the Lord's Day by doing any servill worke should be fined or whipped." New Haven's 1656 code threatened death for "presumptuous" Sabbath-breaking. All thirteen colonies had Sunday laws by the Revolution — modeled on England's 1677 law "for the better observation... of the Lord's day."	1800s Peak coverage. Nearly every state banned Sunday labor, commerce, alcohol, travel, and amusements. The temperance movement and Sabbatarian societies drove enforcement; a Pennsylvania postmaster was expelled from his church in 1808 for Sunday mail delivery. Hundreds of petitions demanded Congress repeal Sunday mail — it finally ended in 1912 through a church-labor alliance.
Early 1900s Peak enforcement: stores closed, no sporting events, no unnecessary public travel — some states banned Sunday baseball, theater, even "fiddling." Justice Stephen Field (1896) praised the weekly rest as "essential to the physical and moral well-being of society."	1961 McGowan v. Maryland (+ Braunfeld v. Brown, Gallagher v. Crown Kosher, Two Guys v. McGinley): the U.S. Supreme Court upheld Sunday closing laws as constitutional — reframed as a secular "uniform day of rest." Orthodox Jews forced to close Saturday (religion) and Sunday (law) lost — an "indirect burden." Justice Douglas dissented: "A legislature of Christians can no more make minorities conform to their weekly regime than a legislature of Moslems." The precedent stands today.
1960s–2010s Erosion — but not elimination. Suburban shopping, women in the workforce, pluralism, and e-commerce hollowed out the laws: Massachusetts repealed its law (1983) dating to 1648; Texas (1985), Delaware (2003), Georgia (2011), Connecticut (2012), Indiana (2018), North Dakota (2019) relaxed or repealed theirs.	Today About 28 states retain blue-law remnants: Sunday alcohol restrictions (~12 states), car-sales bans (~13 states — many dealers support them), hunting bans (Maine, Massachusetts), and Bergen County, NJ still closes most retail on Sunday. The legal machinery never left the books — it only slept.
Jan 8, 2026 The Heritage Foundation — "Saving America by Saving the Family" (Special Report 323, 168 pages; from the organization behind Project 2025): calls for restoring blue laws as a "uniform day of rest" to combat "spiritual homelessness," explicitly citing McGowan v. Maryland and calling the surviving blue laws in ~28 states a "legal reservoir" to be "protected and expanded." It rejects flexibility — a "uniform" day is required for communities to "cohere."	Jan 18, 2026 The SDA Church responds. The North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists issued a formal warning: the proposal is "irreconcilable with America's rich heritage of protecting the religious freedom of all its citizens" and represents "a dangerous desire to use state power to advance religious objectives" — issued, pointedly, on Religious Liberty Sabbath.

WHY WATCH THIS — THE PROPHETIC FRAME

Revelation 13:11–12 <i>A second beast rises — "two horns like a lamb" (gentle, Christian-looking) but "spake as a dragon" — and it "<i>causeth the earth... to worship the first beast.</i>"</i>	Revelation 13:15–17 <i>An "image" of the beast is made; dissenters cannot "buy or sell" unless they receive the mark — economic enforcement of a worship-decree.</i>
Revelation 14:6–12 <i>The final contest is worship: "Worship him that made heaven and earth" (the 4th Commandment's own words, Ex 20:11) versus the mark of the beast — while the saints "keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus."</i>	Daniel 7:25 · Revelation 18:4 <i>The power that would "think to change times and laws" has a documented history (321 → 364 → today). And God's final call: "Come out of her, my people."</i>

The pattern of history: civil rest law (Constantine, 321) → church mandate (Laodicea, 364) → penalties for dissenters (anathema) → colonial and state enforcement (1610–1961) → dormancy → and now, in 2026, a mainstream call to restore a "uniform day of rest" on the very legal foundation (McGowan) that was never overturned. The question is never whether the weekly rest is a blessing — it is **which day God blessed**, and whether the state may enforce the one tradition substituted.

XXV The Signs of the Times — the Fig Tree Is Budding

Jesus rebuked those who could read the weather but not the times (Matthew 16:2–3), then gave the rule of the fig tree: not *one* sign — **all of them, together**. "When ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even **at the doors**" (Matthew 24:32–33). "Ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief" (1 Thessalonians 5:4).

WARS AND RUMORS OF WARS — MATTHEW 24:6–7

65 state-based conflicts in 2025 — the highest number since World War II (Uppsala Conflict Data Program, the world's leading conflict database).	Interstate wars doubled in a single year (8 in 2025) — the most since record-keeping began in 1946: Russia–Ukraine, Israel–Iran, India–Pakistan, Thailand–Cambodia, Israel–Syria, Israel–Yemen, Afghanistan–Pakistan, US/UK–Houthis (Red Sea).
~244,600 conflict deaths in 2025 — the highest since the 1994 Rwandan genocide (up from 187,000 in 2024); 13 conflicts reached full "war" level.	Russia–Ukraine — the deadliest war of 2025 (~91,700 battle deaths); single bombardments of ~1,000 drones; a fifth year of Europe's largest conflict since WWII.

February 2026 — a joint US–Israeli campaign killed Iran's supreme leader and ~40 senior commanders; Iran struck US bases across the Gulf, Iraq, Jordan, and Cyprus; the two great wars (Ukraine and Iran) now converge in the Caspian Sea.

UCDP's own analysts warn of "the **end of Pax Americana** and the liberal world order" — and that 2026 looks no more peaceful.

EARTHQUAKES, DISASTERS, A GROANING CREATION — MATTHEW 24:7; LUKE 21:25; ROMANS 8:22

Disaster events more than doubled: 14,348 recorded in 2020–2024 versus 5,664 in 2015–2019 (IDMC).

~\$8.65 trillion in disaster losses since 2000 (~7.8% of global GDP); insured catastrophe losses growing 5–7% per year (Aon; Swiss Re).

2025: Myanmar 7.7 earthquake (3,800–4,500 dead); Afghanistan 6.0 earthquake (2,200–3,000 dead); Hurricane Melissa — tied for strongest Atlantic landfall on record — destroyed 41% of Jamaica's GDP.

The Los Angeles Palisades/Eaton fires became the **costliest wildfires in world history** (~\$53–61 billion); Europe's summer heatwave killed ~24,400 (6th deadliest ever); Syria's record drought left 16.2 million in need.

People needing humanitarian aid rose from **192 million (2020) to over 433 million (2024)** — a 126% increase in five years.

PESTILENCES — LUKE 21:11; REVELATION 6:8

COVID-19 — the worst pandemic in a century; ~7 million confirmed deaths (WHO; excess estimates far higher); unprecedented global lockdowns.

Mpox declared a global health emergency twice (2022, 2024); **H5N1** avian influenza spreading into mammals, including US dairy cattle.

WHO warns **antimicrobial resistance** could kill 10 million per year by 2050.

MORAL COLLAPSE — 2 TIMOTHY 3:1–5; MATTHEW 24:12

Gallup's 25-year tracking (2001 → 2025): moral acceptance of out-of-wedlock birth **+22 points** (67%), homosexual relations **+24** (64%), divorce **+16** (75%), polygamy 7% → 21%, pornography 30% → ~40%.

Pew (2023–24): **55%** of Americans say right and wrong "depend on the situation"; **68%** say morality requires no belief in God.

Christianity fell from **78% → 63%** of US adults (2007 → 2023–24); the religiously unaffiliated nearly doubled to **29%**.

In a 25-nation Pew survey, America was the **only** country where a majority (53%) called their own fellow citizens morally bad.

A violent crime occurs in America every **25.9 seconds**; a murder every 31 minutes (FBI, 2024). "Lovers of self... without self-control, brutal... lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God" (2 Timothy 3:2–4).

THE MACHINERY OF "NO MAN MIGHT BUY OR SELL" — REVELATION 13:16–17

~130 countries — **98% of global GDP — are exploring Central Bank Digital Currencies** (IMF, 2025); three have launched.

The IMF itself warns CBDCs could become "an instrument for **state surveillance**," carrying "transaction histories, user demographics, and behavioral patterns" — and can be **programmed** to control or restrict what users buy, when, and where.

A 2024 US House Judiciary investigation found agencies and banks "advancing plans that would require Americans to have a **digital identification** to access financial services" and testing AI to surveil financial activity; thousands of agents already query Americans' financial records **without warrants**.

For 1,900 years, "no man might buy or sell" read as impossibility. **Today it is technologically feasible for the first time in history.**

APOSTASY, SCOFFERS, KNOWLEDGE, AND THE GOSPEL — ALL AT ONCE

Apostasy (2 Th 2:3; 1 Ti 4:1) — a "form of godliness" without power; ear-tickling teaching displaces sound doctrine (2 Ti 4:3–4).

Scoffers (2 Pe 3:3–4) — "Where is the promise of his coming?... all things continue as they were."

Knowledge increased (Dan 12:4) — instant global communication, AI, travel; "the wise shall understand" (Dan 12:10).

The gospel to all nations (Mt 24:14) — the Bible now reaches virtually every nation and language on earth. "Then shall the end come."

Sunday-law revival (Rev 13:11–17) — a mainstream call for a legislated "uniform day of rest" has re-entered national policy (see Section XXIV).

The fig tree is budding. Not one sign, but all of them — war on a scale not seen since 1945, disasters doubling, morals in free-fall, faith draining from the West, technology that can enforce economic worship-decisions, and Sunday-rest legislation returning to serious political conversation — appearing **simultaneously**, exactly as Jesus framed it. "When these things **begin** to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh" (Luke 21:28).

XXVI Baptism — The Call to Commitment

If God's Word has convicted you, Scripture tells you exactly what to do next. Baptism by immersion is the Bible's God-ordained response of faith — your public burial of the old life and resurrection to a new one in Christ.

WHAT BAPTISM MEANS — DEATH, BURIAL, RESURRECTION

Romans 6:3–6

"Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were **baptized into his death**? Therefore we are **buried with him by baptism** into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should **walk in newness of life**."

Colossians 2:12–13

"**Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him** through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead."

Galatians 3:27

"For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have **put on Christ**."

Romans 6:11 · 1 Corinthians 12:13

"Reckon ye also yourselves to be **dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God** through Jesus Christ our Lord." "By one Spirit are we all **baptized into one body**."

1 Peter 3:21

"The like figure whereunto even **baptism doth also now save us** (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but **the answer of a good conscience toward God**), by the resurrection of Jesus Christ."

Titus 3:5 · Ephesians 4:5

"He saved us, by the **washing of regeneration**, and renewing of the Holy Ghost." "One Lord, one faith, **one baptism**."

HOW IT MUST BE DONE — BY IMMERSION ONLY

The Greek word

Baptizō (Strong's G907) means "to **immerse, submerge; to make fully wet**" — from baptō, "to dip." Scripture never uses the words for "sprinkle" (rhantizō) or "pour" (cheō) for baptism.

Mark 1:9–10

"Jesus... was baptized of John **in Jordan**. And straightway **coming up out of the water**, he saw the heavens opened." Immersion, then emergence.

Matthew 3:16

"And Jesus, when he was baptized, **went up straightway out of the water**."

John 3:23

"And John also was baptizing in Aenon near to Salim, **because there was much water there**: and they came, and were baptized." Deep water was needed — for immersion.

Acts 8:38–39

"They went down **both into the water**, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him. And when they were come **up out of the water**..."

The symbolism requires it

Baptism is a **burial** (Romans 6:4; Colossians 2:12). A body isn't buried by sprinkling a little dirt on it — it is fully covered. Immersion alone pictures the watery grave and the rising to new life.

JESUS IS OUR EXAMPLE — AND HE COMMANDED IT

Matthew 3:13–17

"Then cometh Jesus... to be baptized of him. But John forbad him... And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to **fulfil all righteousness**." Jesus didn't need baptism for sin — he did it as our example.

Matthew 28:19–20

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, **baptizing them** in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you." Christ's own command.

Mark 16:16

"**He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved**; but he that believeth not shall be damned." Belief first — then baptism.

1 Peter 2:21

"Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an **example**, that ye should **follow his steps**."

WHO SHOULD BE BAPTIZED — THE PREREQUISITES (IN ORDER)

1 · Instruction — Matthew 28:19–20

"Go ye therefore, and **teach** all nations, baptizing them... **Teaching** them to observe all things." Teaching comes before baptizing.

2 · Belief — Mark 16:16 · Acts 8:36–37; 18:8

"He that **believeth** and is baptized." The eunuch: "If thou **believest** with all thine heart, thou mayest." "Many of the Corinthians **hearing believed, and were baptized**."

3 · Repentance — Acts 2:38

"Then Peter said unto them, **Repent, and be baptized** every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins."

4 · Confession & fruit — Mark 1:5 · Matthew 3:8

"And were all baptized of him in the river of Jordan, **confessing their sins**." "Bring forth therefore **fruits meet for repentance**."

WHY IT CANNOT BE INFANT BAPTISM

Infants cannot believe — Mark 16:16

"**He that believeth** and is baptized." Scripture makes personal belief the precondition. An infant cannot believe — so an infant cannot qualify.

Infants cannot repent — Acts 2:38

"**Repent**, and be baptized **every one of you**." Repentance is for sins committed — but infants have no personal sins to confess or forsake.

Infants cannot be taught — Matthew 28:19–20

Christ's order is **teach** → **baptize** → **teach to obey**. Baptism follows instruction in the Word, which an infant cannot receive or understand.

Infants cannot obey a command — Acts 2:38

Baptism is a **command to be obeyed** by the one being baptized — "Repent and be baptized, **every one of you**" — not a blessing passively received by proxy. A duty cannot be performed for you by a parent.

Ephesians 1:13

"In whom also **after that ye believed**, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise."
God's order: belief first, then the seal. Never the seal before belief.

No command or example exists

Every New Testament baptism is of one who **heard, believed, and repented** (Acts 2:41; 8:12; 16:14–15, 33; 18:8). There is **no command and no clear example** of infant baptism anywhere in Scripture.

THE PATTERN IN ACTS — HEAR, BELIEVE, REPENT, BE BAPTIZED

Acts 2:41 · Pentecost

"Then they that gladly **received his word were baptized**: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls."

Acts 8:12 · Samaritans

"But when they **believed** Philip preaching... they were baptized, both **men and women**."

Acts 8:36–39 · Ethiopian eunuch

"See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?" After Philip "preached unto him Jesus," they went down into the water.

Acts 16:30–33 · Philippian jailer

"Sirs, what must I do to be saved?... Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ... and was baptized, he and all his, **straightway**."

Acts 18:8 · 10:44–48

"Many of the Corinthians **hearing believed, and were baptized**." Cornelius' household received the Spirit, then were "baptized in the name of the Lord."

Acts 19:3–5 · 9:18 · 22:16

The Ephesian disciples were **re-baptized** "in the name of the Lord Jesus" when taught correctly. Paul: "Arise, and be baptized, and **wash away thy sins**."

DOES THE WATER SAVE?

Ephesians 2:8–9

"For by **grace are ye saved through faith**... **not of works**, lest any man should boast."
The blood of Jesus saves — not the water.

1 Peter 3:21

Baptism saves "**not the putting away of the filth of the flesh**, but the answer of a good conscience toward God" — the heart's response of faith, not the water itself.

Luke 23:43 · The thief

"To day shalt thou be with me in paradise." The thief on the cross was saved without baptism — proving the water itself does not save.

Acts 10:44–48 · 1 Corinthians 1:17

Cornelius received the Holy Spirit — proof of salvation — **before** baptism. And Paul: "Christ sent me **not to baptize, but to preach the gospel**."

"Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost."

— Acts 2:38

Your next step: Jesus was baptized as your example (Matthew 3:13–15) and commanded it for every believer (Matthew 28:19). If you have heard the gospel, believed on Jesus, and repented of your sins — "why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized" (Acts 22:16). Come be buried with him, and rise to walk in newness of life.

XXVII The Narrow Gate Is Attainable — Everlasting Life Awaits

"Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because **strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life**, and few there be that find it."

— Matthew 7:13–14

The gate is narrow — but it is **not locked**. "Strive to enter" (Luke 13:24), yes — but the striving is not earning. It is the daily choice to stay attached to the One who is himself the door. His yoke is easy and his burden is light — because **he carries it with you**.

THE GATE IS NARROW — BUT ATTAINABLE

John 10:9

"I am the door: **by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved**, and shall go in and out, and find pasture."

Matthew 11:28–30

"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me... For my yoke is **easy**, and my burden is **light**."

Philippians 4:13

"I can do **all things through Christ** which strengtheneth me." The narrow way is attainable — by his strength, not yours.

1 Corinthians 10:13

"God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted **above that ye are able**; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."

Isaiah 41:10

"Fear thou not; for **I am with thee**: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

Luke 13:24

"**Strive** to enter in at the strait gate" — Greek agonizomai: an earnest, daily effort — made possible by his power within.

THE SECRET: DAILY RECOMMITMENT

Luke 9:23

"If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross **daily**, and follow me." Not once — daily.

1 Corinthians 15:31

Paul: "I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, **I die daily**." Every day a fresh surrender.

Lamentations 3:22–23

"It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are **new every morning**: great is thy faithfulness." Yesterday's failure does not define today.

John 15:4–5

"Abide in me, and I in you... for without me ye can do nothing." The branch does not strain — it stays connected.

2 Corinthians 4:16

"For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet **the inward man is renewed day by day**."

1 John 1:9

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to **forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness**." The path includes falling — and rising again in him.

FINISH THE RACE

Matthew 24:13

"But he that shall **endure unto the end**, the same shall be saved."

2 Timothy 4:7–8

"I have fought a good fight, I have **finished my course**, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness... and **not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing**."

Hebrews 12:1–2

"Let us **run with patience** the race that is set before us, **looking unto Jesus** the author and finisher of our faith."

Philippians 1:6

"Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you **will perform it** until the day of Jesus Christ." Not your grip — his promise.

Galatians 6:9

"And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season **we shall reap, if we faint not**."

James 1:12 · Revelation 2:10

"Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the **crown of life**." "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life."

Jude 24–25

"Now unto him that is **able to keep you from falling**, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory **with exceeding joy**, to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty..."

John 10:27–29 · 1 John 5:13

"My sheep hear my voice... And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall **never perish**, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand." You may "**know** that ye have eternal life."

THE WORDS YOU WILL HEAR

"Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: **enter thou into the joy of thy lord**."

— Matthew 25:21

"And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be **no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying**, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away... **Behold, I make all things new**."

— Revelation 21:4–5

1 Corinthians 2:9

"But as it is written, **Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard**, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him."

Romans 8:18 · 2 Corinthians 4:17

"For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are **not worthy to be compared** with the glory which shall be revealed in us." "A far more exceeding and **eternal weight of glory**."

Psalms 16:11 · Daniel 12:3

"Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is **fulness of joy**; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore." "They that be wise shall shine... as the **stars for ever and ever**."

Revelation 22:14 · 22:3–5

"Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the **tree of life**..." "And they shall see his face... and they shall **reign for ever and ever**."

THE INVITATION IS OPEN — RIGHT NOW

Revelation 3:20

"Behold, **I stand at the door, and knock**: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me."

Revelation 22:17

"And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst **come. And whosoever will**, let him take the water of life **freely**."

"He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly.

Amen. **Even so, come, Lord Jesus.**
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen."
— Revelation 22:20–21

Questions? Want to study any section further? We would love to hear from you — no pressure, no cost, no obligation.

 info@presentdaytruth.com

"Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth." — John 17:17

XXVIII Stewardship — Everything Belongs to God

Everything you have — your body, your money, your time, your abilities — belongs to God. You are not an owner but a **steward**, a manager entrusted with his resources. And one day, every steward gives an account. This single truth undergirds the whole Christian life.

GOD OWNS EVERYTHING

Psalm 24:1

"The **earth is the LORD's**, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein."

Psalm 50:10–12

"For every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills... the world is mine, and the fulness thereof."

Haggai 2:8

"The **silver is mine, and the gold is mine**, saith the LORD of hosts."

Job 41:11 • Exodus 19:5

"Whatsoever is under the whole heaven is mine." "All the earth is mine."

1 Chronicles 29:11, 14

"Thine, O LORD, is the greatness... for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine... **of thine own have we given thee.**"

WE ARE STEWARDS — AND MUST BE FAITHFUL

1 Corinthians 4:1–2

"Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and **stewards** of the mysteries of God. Moreover it is **required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.**"

1 Peter 4:10

"As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as **good stewards of the manifold grace of God.**"

Luke 12:42–48

"Who then is that faithful and wise steward...? ...For unto whomsoever much is given, **of him shall be much required.**"

Luke 16:10–12

"He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much... If ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, **who will commit to your trust the true riches?**"

Matthew 24:45–46

"Who then is a **faithful and wise servant**...? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing."

WE WILL GIVE AN ACCOUNT — AND WE ARE NOT OUR OWN

Matthew 25:14–30 • key v. 21

The parable of the talents: "**Well done, thou good and faithful servant:** thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord."

Romans 14:12

"So then **every one of us shall give account of himself to God.**"

1 Corinthians 6:19–20

"Ye are **not your own**... For **ye are bought with a price:** therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."

1 Corinthians 4:5 • 2 Corinthians 5:10

"He will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts." "We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ."

The principle that unifies Part VII: "Ye are not your own — ye are bought with a price." Therefore we glorify God in our **bodies** (health), in our **conduct** (Christian behavior), in our **homes** (marriage), in our **worship** (the ordinances), and in our **means** (tithe). Everything we are and have belongs to him — and to him we will give an account.

XXIX The Health Message — Your Body Is His Temple

Your body is not your own — it is the temple of the Holy Spirit. Since God lives in you, caring for your health is a spiritual duty: what you eat, drink, and do either honors or dishonors the One who dwells within.

YOUR BODY IS GOD'S TEMPLE

1 Corinthians 6:19–20

"What? know ye not that **your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost** which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore **glorify God in your body**, and in your spirit, which are God's."

Romans 12:1

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present **your bodies a living sacrifice**, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."

1 Corinthians 10:31

"Whether therefore **ye eat, or drink**, or whatsoever ye do, **do all to the glory of God**." Even your meals are an act of worship.

1 Corinthians 3:16–17

"Know ye not that **ye are the temple of God**, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? **If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy**; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are."

3 John 2

"Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest **prosper and be in health**, even as thy soul prospereth." God wants you healthy — body and soul.

CLEAN AND UNCLEAN FOODS

Genesis 7:2

"Of every **clean beast** thou shalt take to thee by sevens... and of beasts that are **not clean** by two." Noah already knew the difference — ~1,000 years before Sinai, before any Jew existed. This is a health law, not merely ceremonial.

Leviticus 11:3, 7

Clean land animals **"part the hoof... and chew the cud"** — but "the swine... is **unclean to you**."

Leviticus 11:9–12

Clean fish have **"fins and scales"** — "whatsoever hath not fins and scales... shall be an abomination unto you" (shellfish, etc.).

Leviticus 11:44–47 · 20:25

"For I am the LORD your God: ye shall therefore sanctify yourselves, and **ye shall be holy; for I am holy**... to make a **difference between the unclean and the clean**." God himself made the separation.

Deuteronomy 14:3, 8

"Thou shalt **not eat any abominable thing**." "And the swine... is **unclean unto you**: ye shall not eat of their flesh, nor touch their dead carcase."

Isaiah 66:15–17 · 65:4

"They that sanctify themselves... **eating swine's flesh**, and the abomination, and the mouse, **shall be consumed together**, saith the LORD." Still condemned in the last days.

Genesis 1:29 · 9:3–4 · Leviticus 3:17

God's original diet: "every **herb bearing seed**... and every tree" for food. After the Flood, meat permitted — but never "flesh with the life thereof, which is the **blood** thereof," and never the **fat**.

FLEE INTOXICANTS

Proverbs 20:1

"**Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging**: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."

Proverbs 23:29–32

"Who hath woe?... They that tarry long at the wine... **Look not thou upon the wine** when it is red... At the last it **biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder**."

Proverbs 31:4

"It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to **drink wine**; nor for princes strong drink."

Isaiah 5:11, 22

"Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, that they may **follow strong drink**; that continue until night, till wine inflame them!"

Habakkuk 2:15

"Woe unto him that **giveth his neighbour drink**, that putteth thy bottle to him, and maketh him drunken also."

Ephesians 5:18

"And be not **drunk with wine**, wherein is excess; but **be filled with the Spirit**."

1 Corinthians 6:10 · Galatians 5:21

"Nor **drunkards**... shall inherit the kingdom of God." Drunkenness excludes from the kingdom.

Romans 14:21

"It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor any thing **whereby thy brother stumbleth**, or is offended, or is made weak."

The principle: God gave the health laws not to restrict your joy but to preserve your life and mind — for a clear temple houses a clear communion with him. "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink... do all to the glory of God" (1 Corinthians 10:31). Honor the temple; the Resident within deserves your best.

The redeemed are a set-apart people. Holiness touches every area — what you wear, what you watch, what you say, how you live. The call is not to blend in, but to be transformed.

NOT CONFORMED TO THE WORLD — A PECULIAR PEOPLE

Romans 12:1–2

"And **be not conformed to this world**: but be ye **transformed by the renewing of your mind**, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

1 John 2:15–17

"**Love not the world**, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world."

Titus 2:11–14

"Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live **soberly, righteously, and godly**, in this present world... a **peculiar people, zealous of good works**."

1 Peter 2:9

"But ye are a **chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people**; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light."

James 4:4

"Know ye not that the **friendship of the world is enmity with God**? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God."

2 Corinthians 6:17

"Wherefore **come out from among them, and be ye separate**, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you."

MODESTY IN DRESS AND ADORNMENT

1 Timothy 2:9–10

"In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in **modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety**; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; but (which becometh women professing godliness) with **good works**."

1 Peter 3:3–4

"Whose adorning let it not be that **outward adorning** of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; but let it be the **hidden man of the heart**... even the ornament of a **meek and quiet spirit**, which is in the sight of God of great price."

GUARDING THE MIND — WHAT WE WATCH, READ, AND THINK

Philippians 4:8

"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are **true**, whatsoever things are **honest**, whatsoever things are **just**, whatsoever things are **pure**, whatsoever things are **lovely**, whatsoever things are **of good report**... **think on these things**." The standard for all entertainment and media.

Psalms 101:3

"I will set **no wicked thing before mine eyes**: I hate the work of them that turn aside; it shall not cleave to me."

1 Corinthians 15:33

"Be not deceived: **evil communications corrupt good manners**."

Proverbs 4:23

"**Keep thy heart with all diligence**; for out of it are the issues of life."

2 Corinthians 10:5

"Casting down imaginations... and bringing into captivity **every thought to the obedience of Christ**."

Colossians 3:2

"Set your **affection on things above**, not on things on the earth."

SPEECH AND CONDUCT

Ephesians 4:29

"Let **no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth**, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers."

Colossians 4:6

"Let your speech be always **with grace, seasoned with salt**, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man."

Matthew 12:36

"But I say unto you, That **every idle word** that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment."

2 Corinthians 7:1

"Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us **cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit**, perfecting holiness in the fear of God."

1 Peter 1:15–16

"But as he which hath called you is holy, so **be ye holy in all manner of conversation**; because it is written, **Be ye holy; for I am holy**."

Ephesians 5:3–4 · James 1:26

"But fornication, and all uncleanness... let it not be once named among you... neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting." "If any man... bridleth not his tongue... this man's religion is vain."

The principle: The world measures freedom by how much it can indulge; God measures it by how much it can overcome. "Ye are a peculiar people" — not odd for oddness' sake, but distinct because you belong to a holy God. Let your life — your dress, your screen, your speech, your habits — quietly say who your Lord is.

XXXI Marriage and the Family — God's Design

Marriage is God's idea — instituted in Eden, before sin, for one man and one woman for life. It is the most sacred human relationship and a living picture of Christ and his church. And the family is his appointed school for the next generation.

MARRIAGE INSTITUTED BY GOD IN EDEN

Genesis 2:18, 24

"And the LORD God said, It is **not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him...** Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall **cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.**"

Matthew 19:4–6

"Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning **made them male and female**, and said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? ... **What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.**"

Hebrews 13:4

"**Marriage is honourable in all**, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge."

Genesis 1:27–28

"So God created man in his own image... **male and female created he them.** And God blessed them, and God said unto them, **Be fruitful, and multiply.**"

Mark 10:9

"What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder."

Proverbs 18:22 · Malachi 2:14–15

"Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the LORD." God calls marriage a holy **covenant** — "the wife of thy covenant."

A PICTURE OF CHRIST AND THE CHURCH

Ephesians 5:22–25

"Wives, **submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.** For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church... **Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it.**"

1 Peter 3:7

"Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, **giving honour unto the wife**, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being **heirs together of the grace of life**; that your prayers be not hindered."

1 Corinthians 13:4–7

The love that marriage requires: "Charity **suffereth long, and is kind**; charity envieth not... beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things."

Ephesians 5:28–33

"So ought men to love their wives **as their own bodies.** He that loveth his wife loveth himself... For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife... This is a **great mystery**: but I speak concerning **Christ and the church**... let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she **reverence her husband.**"

1 Corinthians 7:2–5

"Let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband. Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence: and likewise also the wife unto the husband."

CHILDREN AND PARENTS

Exodus 20:12

The fifth commandment: "**Honour thy father and thy mother**: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee."

Deuteronomy 6:6–7

"And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: and **thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children**, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way..."

Colossians 3:20–21

"Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord. Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged."

Proverbs 13:24 · 23:13–14 · 29:15, 17

Loving discipline: "He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him **chasteneth him betimes.**" "Correct thy son, and he shall give thee rest."

Ephesians 6:1–4

"**Children, obey your parents in the Lord**: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise)... And, ye fathers, **provoke not your children to wrath**: but bring them up in the **nurture and admonition of the Lord.**"

Proverbs 22:6

"**Train up a child in the way he should go**: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

Psalms 127:3 · 128:3–4

"**Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD**: and the fruit of the womb is his reward." "Thy children like olive plants round about thy table."

The principle: The same God who blessed the seventh day also blessed the home. A marriage shaped by Ephesians 5 — a husband's self-giving love, a wife's reverent partnership — is the clearest earthly sermon on how Christ loves his church. Build your home on the Word, and it becomes a fortress against the very collapse described in the last days.

XXXII The Lord's Supper and Foot Washing — Ordinances of Humility and Remembrance

On the same night, in the same upper room, Jesus instituted two linked ordinances: the Supper (remembering his death) and foot washing (the ordinance of humility and service). If one is binding, so is the other.

FOOT WASHING — THE ORDINANCE OF HUMILITY

John 13:4–5 <i>"He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself. After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded."</i>	John 13:8, 10 <i>"Peter saith unto him, Thou shalt never wash my feet. Jesus answered him, If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me... He that is washed needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit." A picture of ongoing cleansing after baptism.</i>
John 13:14–17 <i>"If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you. Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord... If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them." A command and an example — not merely a custom.</i>	1 Timothy 5:10 <i>Foot washing continued in the early church as a mark of godly service: "if she have lodged strangers, if she have washed the saints' feet..."</i>
Luke 22:24–27 <i>Given amid the disciples' strife over who was greatest: "I am among you as he that serveth." Foot washing answers pride with humility.</i>	Philippians 2:5–8 · 1 Peter 5:5 <i>"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: who... took upon him the form of a servant." "Be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble."</i>

THE LORD'S SUPPER — IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME

Matthew 26:26–29 <i>"And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And he took the cup... saying, Drink ye all of it; for this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins... I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."</i>	1 Corinthians 11:23–26 <i>"The Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup... saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come."</i>
1 Corinthians 11:27–29 <i>"Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup."</i>	Luke 22:19–20 <i>"This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me." The Supper is a memorial.</i>
A memorial, not a re-sacrifice <i>The bread and cup are symbols — "in remembrance of me." Jesus' physical body sat at the table when he said "this is my body," showing he spoke figuratively (as in "I am the door"). The Supper looks backward to his death and forward to his return — "till he come."</i>	John 6:53–56, 63 <i>The spiritual reality behind the symbols: "the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." To eat his flesh and drink his blood is to receive his life and words into the heart.</i>

Why both together: Foot washing (John 13) and the Supper (Matthew 26) were instituted on the same night and belong together — one cleansing our walk in humility toward each other, the other renewing our remembrance of him. To observe one and drop the other is to cut in half what Jesus joined. "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them."

XXXIII Tithing and Offerings — Returning God's Own

The tithe — a tenth — is holy and belongs to the LORD. It existed centuries before the law of Moses, was affirmed by Jesus, and supports the work of the gospel. Returning it is not paying God; it is simply giving back what was always his.

THE TITHE IS THE LORD'S — HOLY

Leviticus 27:30, 32 <i>"And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the LORD's: it is holy unto the LORD... the tenth shall be holy unto the LORD."</i>
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TITHING EXISTED BEFORE THE LAW — AND JESUS AFFIRMED IT

Genesis 14:18–20 <i>"And Melchizedek king of Salem... was the priest of the most high God... and he [Abraham] gave him tithes of all." Abraham paid tithe ~400 years before Moses.</i>	Genesis 28:20–22 <i>Jacob vowed: "And of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee."</i>
Matthew 23:23 · Luke 11:42 <i>Jesus upheld tithing while rebuking misplaced priorities: "Ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone." Tithe and justice — both.</i>	Luke 18:12 <i>The Pharisee's boast — "I give tithes of all that I possess" — shows tithing was a recognized duty in Jesus' day.</i>
Hebrews 7:1–9 <i>Abraham's tithe to Melchizedek points to Christ's greater priesthood: "Consider how great this man was, unto whom even the patriarch Abraham gave the tenth... And here men that die receive tithes; but there he receiveth them, of whom it is witnessed that he liveth."</i>	

THE BLESSING — AND THE ROBBERY

Malachi 3:8–9 <i>"Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation."</i>	Malachi 3:10 <i>"Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." The one place God invites you to test him.</i>
Malachi 3:11–12 <i>"And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground... And all nations shall call you blessed."</i>	

TITHING SUPPORTS THE GOSPEL — AND OFFERINGS FLOW FROM A CHEERFUL HEART

Numbers 18:21, 24 <i>"Behold, I have given the children of Levi all the tenth in Israel for an inheritance, for their service... of the tabernacle of the congregation." The tithe supported the ministry.</i>	1 Corinthians 9:13–14 <i>"Do ye not know that they which minister about holy things live of the things of the temple?... Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel." The same principle continues.</i>
2 Corinthians 9:6–8 <i>"He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver."</i>	Proverbs 3:9–10 <i>"Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: so shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine."</i>
Luke 6:38 <i>"Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom."</i>	Acts 20:35 <i>"Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive."</i>
1 Corinthians 16:2 <i>"Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him." Systematic, proportionate giving.</i>	Proverbs 11:24–25 <i>"There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty. The liberal soul shall be made fat."</i>

The principle: Tithing is the practical acknowledgment of the stewardship truth: it all belongs to God. We return a tenth as holy, and give offerings from gratitude — not to buy blessing, but because we already have it. "Prove me now herewith, saith the LORD." No one has ever out-given God.

XXXIV Spiritual Gifts and Ministries — Equipped to Serve

God does not save you and leave you idle. The Holy Spirit gives every believer a gift — not for self-display, but to build up the body of Christ. Many members, one body; many gifts, one Spirit.

DIVERSE GIFTS — ONE SPIRIT, FOR THE COMMON GOOD

1 Corinthians 12:4–6

"Now there are **diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit**. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is **the same God which worketh all in all**."

1 Corinthians 12:8–11

"For to one is given by the Spirit the **word of wisdom**; to another the **word of knowledge**... to another **faith**... to another the **gifts of healing**... to another the **working of miracles**; to another **prophecy**; to another **discerning of spirits**; to another **divers kinds of tongues**; to another the **interpretation of tongues**: but all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, **dividing to every man severally as he will**."

1 Corinthians 12:28

"And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, **helps, governments**, diversities of tongues."

1 Corinthians 12:7

"But the **manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal**." Every gift is for the common good.

1 Corinthians 12:12, 27

"For as the body is one, and hath many members... so also is Christ... Now **ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular**." Every member is needed.

MINISTRY GIFTS — TO EQUIP THE SAINTS

Ephesians 4:11–13

"And he gave some, **apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers**; for the **perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ**: till we all come in the **unity of the faith**... unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ."

THE PRACTICAL SERVICE GIFTS

Romans 12:4–8

"Having then **gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us**, whether **prophecy**, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; or **ministry** [service], let us wait on our ministering; or he that **teacheth**, on teaching; or he that **exhorteth**, on exhortation: he that **giveth**, let him do it with simplicity; he that **ruleth**, with diligence; he that sheweth **mercy**, with cheerfulness."

EVERY BELIEVER HAS A GIFT — USE IT, WITH LOVE

1 Peter 4:10–11

"As **every man hath received the gift**, even so **minister the same one to another**, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that **God in all things may be glorified** through Jesus Christ."

Luke 12:48

"For unto whomsoever much is given, **of him shall be much required**: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more."

2 Timothy 1:6

"Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou **stir up the gift of God**, which is in thee."

1 Corinthians 13:1–2

"Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not **charity** [love], I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy... and have not charity, **I am nothing**." Love must govern every gift.

Romans 12:3

"Not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith."

The principle: Your gift is not for you — it is "to profit withal," for others. Whatever God has placed in your hands — teaching, giving, encouraging, serving, showing mercy — use it. The branch that abides in the Vine does not stay dormant; it bears fruit. "Stir up the gift of God which is in thee."

Questions? Skeptical? Want to examine the evidence further, verse by verse? We would love to hear from you — no pressure, no cost, no obligation. This booklet is condensed from a fuller study covering the Sabbath, the sanctuary, last-day prophecy, and the Christian life — just ask.



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"Prove all things; hold fast that which is good." — 1 Thessalonians 5:21 · "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth." — John 17:17