REVELATION

The revelation of Jesus Christ that God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, ² who testified to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, whatever he saw. ³ Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear the words of this prophecy and keep what is written in it, because the time is near.

⁴ John: To the seven churches in Asia. Grace and peace to you from the one who is, who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and has set us free from our sins by his blood, ⁶ and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father — to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Look, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn over him.

So it is to be. Amen.

8"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "the one who is, who was, and who is to come, the Almighty."

91, John, your brother and partner in the affliction, kingdom, and endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. 10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard a loud voice behind me like a trumpet 11 saying, "Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea."

12 Then I turned to see whose voice it was that spoke to me. When I turned I saw seven golden lampstands, 13 and among the lampstands was one like the Son of Man, dressed in a robe and with a golden sash wrapped around his chest. 14 The hair of his head was white as wool — white as snow — and his eyes like a fiery flame. 15 His feet were like fine bronze as it is fired in a furnace, and his voice like the sound of cascading waters. 16 He had seven stars in his right hand; a sharp double-edged sword came from his mouth, and his face was shining like the sun at full strength.

17When I saw him, I fell at his feet like a dead man. He laid his right hand on me and said, "Don't be afraid. I am the First and the Last, ¹⁸ and the Living One. I was dead, but look — I am alive forever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and Hades. ¹⁹Therefore write what you have seen, what is, and what will take place after this. ²⁰The mystery of the seven stars you saw in my right hand and of the seven golden lampstands is this: The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

2 "Write to the angel of the church in Ephesus: Thus says the one who holds the seven stars in his right hand and who walks among the seven golden lampstands: 2 I know your works, your labor, and your endurance, and that you cannot tolerate evil people. You have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not.

and you have found them to be liars. ³ I know that you have persevered and endured hardships for the sake of my name, and have not grown weary. ⁴ But I have this against you: You have abandoned the love you had at first. ⁵ Remember then how far you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. Otherwise, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent. ⁶ Yet you do have this: You hate the practices of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.

7"Let anyone who has ears to hear listen to what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.

8 "Write to the angel of the church in Smyrna: Thus says the First and the Last, the one who was dead and came to life: 9 I know your affliction and poverty, but you are rich. I know the slander of those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. 10 Don't be afraid of what you are about to suffer. Look, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison to test you, and you will experience affliction for ten days. Be faithful to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life.

""Let anyone who has ears to hear listen to what the Spirit says to the churches. The one who conquers will never be harmed by the second death.

12 "Write to the angel of the church in Pergamum: Thus says the one who has the sharp, double-edged sword: 13 I know where you live — where Satan's throne is. Yet you are holding on to my name and did not deny your faith in me, even in the days of Antipas, my faithful witness who was put to death among you, where Satan lives. 14 But I have a few things against you. You have some there who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to place a stumbling block in front of the Israelites: to eat meat sacrificed to idols and to commit sexual immorality. 15 In the same way, you also have those who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans. 16 So repent! Otherwise, I will come to you quickly and fight against them with the sword of my mouth.

17 "Let anyone who has ears to hear listen to what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers, I will give some of the hidden manna. I will also give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name is inscribed that no one knows except the one who receives it.

18 "Write to the angel of the church in Thyatira: Thus says the Son of God, the one whose eyes are like a fiery flame and whose feet are like fine bronze: 19 know your works — your love, faithfulness, service, and endurance. I know that your last works are greater than the first. ²⁰ But I have this against you: You tolerate the woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess and teaches and deceives my servants to commit sexual immorality and to eat meat sacrificed to idols. 21 gave her time to repent, but she does not want to repent of her sexual immorality, 22 Look, I will throw her into a sickbed and those who commit adultery with her into great affliction. Unless they repent of her works. 23 I will strike her children dead. Then all the churches will know that I am the one who examines minds and hearts, and I will give to each of you according to your works. 24 I say to the rest of you

in Thyatira, who do not hold this teaching, who haven't known"the so-called secrets of Satan"—as they say—l am not putting any other burden on you. ²⁵ Only hold on to what you have until I come. ²⁶ The one who conquers and who keeps my works to the end: I will give him authority over the nations—

27 and he will rule them with an iron scepter; he will shatter them like pottery —

²⁸ just as I have received this from my Father. I will also give him the morning star.

²⁹ "Let anyone who has ears to hear listen to what the Spirit says to the churches.

"Write to the angel of the church in Sardis: Thus says the one who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars: I know your works; you have a reputation for being alive, but you are dead. Be alert and strengthen what remains, which is about to die, for I have not found your works complete before my God. Remember, then, what you have received and heard; keep it, and repent. If you are not alert, I will come like a thief, and you have no idea at what hour I will come upon you. But you have a few people in Sardis who have not defiled their clothes, and they will walk with me in white, because they are worthy.

5 "In the same way, the one who conquers will be dressed in white clothes, and I will never erase his name from the book of life but will acknowledge his name before my Father and before his angels.

6"Let anyone who has ears to hear listen to what the Spirit says to the churches.

7 "Write to the angel of the church in Philadelphia: Thus says the Holy One, the true one, the one who has the key of David, who opens and no one will close, and who closes and no one opens: I know your works. Look, I have placed before you an open door that no one can close because you have but little power; yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name. PNote this: I will make those from the synagogue of Satan, who claim to be Jews and are not, but are lying — I will make them come and bow down at your feet, and they will know that I have loved you. 10 Because you have kept my command to endure, I will also keep you from the hour of testing that is going to come on the whole world to test those who live on the earth. "I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one takes your crown.

12 "The one who conquers I will make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he will never go out again. I will write on him the name of my God and the name of the city of my God — the new Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from my God — and my new name.

13 "Let anyone who has ears to hear listen to what the Spirit says to the churches.

14 "Write to the angel of the church in Laodicea: Thus says the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the originator of God's creation: ¹⁵ I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish that you were cold or hot. ¹⁶ So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I am going to vomit you out of my mouth. ¹⁷ For you say, 'I'm rich; I have become wealthy and need nothing,' and you don't realize that you are wretched, pitful, poor, blind, and naked. ¹⁸ I advise you to buy from me gold refined in the fire so that you may be rich, white clothes so that you may be dressed and your shameful nakedness not be exposed, and ointment to spread on your eyes so that you may see. ¹⁹ As many as Ilove, I rebuke and discipline. So be zealous and repent. ²⁰ See!

I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him and he with me

²¹ "To the one who conquers I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I also conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne.

²² "Let anyone who has ears to hear listen to what the Spirit says to the churches."

After this I looked, and there in heaven was an open door. The first voice that I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this."

² Immediately I was in the Spirit, and there was a throne in heaven and someone was seated on it. ³The one seated there had the appearance of jasper and carnelian stone. A rainbow that had the appearance of an emerald surrounded the throne.

⁴ Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and on the thrones sat twenty-four elders dressed in white clothes, with golden crowns on their heads.

⁵ Flashes of lightning and rumblings and peals of thunder came from the throne. Seven fiery torches were burning before the throne, which are the seven spirits of God. ⁶ Something like a sea of glass, similar to crystal, was also before the throne.

Four living creatures covered with eyes in front and in back were around the throne on each side. 7The first living creature was like a lion; the second living creature was like an ox; the third living creature had a face like a man; and the fourth living creature was like a flying eagle. 8 Each of the four living creatures had six wings; they were covered with eyes around and inside. Day and night they never stop. saving.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God, the Almighty,

who was, who is, and who is to come.

9Whenever the living creatures give glory, honor, and thanks to the one seated on the throne, the one who lives forever and ever, ¹⁰ the twenty-four elders fall down before the one seated on the throne and worship the one who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne and say,

Our Lord and God, you are worthy to receive glory and honor and power, because you have created all things, and by your will

they exist and were created.

Then I saw in the right hand of the one seated on the throne a scroll with writing on both sides, sealed with seven seals. ²I also saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals? " ³But no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or even to look in it. ⁴I wept and wept because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or even to look in it. ⁵Then one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep. Look, the Lion from the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered so that he is able to open the scroll and its seven seals."

⁶Then I saw one like a slaughtered lamb standing in the midst of the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders. He had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent into all the earth. ⁷He went and took the scroll out of the right hand of the one seated on the throne.

⁸ When he took the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp and golden bowls filled with incense, which are the prayers of the saints. ⁹ And they sang a new song:

You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slaughtered, and you purchased people

for God by your blood from every tribe and language

from every tribe and language and people and nation.

You made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they will reign on the earth.

11Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels around the throne, and also of the living creatures and of the elders. Their number was countless thousands, plus thousands of thousands. 12They said with a loud voice,

Worthy is the Lamb who was slaughtered to receive power and riches

and wisdom and strength

and honor and glory and blessing!

13 | heard every creature in heaven, on earth, under the earth, on the sea, and everything in them say.

Blessing and honor and glory and power be to the one seated on the throne,

and to the Lamb, forever and ever!

14 The four living creatures said, "Amen," and the elders fell down and worshiped.

6 Then I saw the Lamb open one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures say with a voice like thunder, "Come! "? I looked, and there was a white horse. Its rider held a bow; a crown was given to him, and he went out as a congueror in order to conquer.

³When he opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature say, "Come!" ⁴ Then another horse went out, a fiery red one, and its rider was allowed to take peace from the earth, so that people would slaughter one another. And a large sword was given to him.

⁵When he opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, "Come!" And I looked, and there was a black horse. Its rider held a set of scales in his hand. ⁶Then I heard something like a voice among the four living creatures say, "A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius, but do not harm the oil and the wine."

⁷When he opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature say, "Come! " And I looked, and there was a pale green horse. Its rider was named Death, and Hades was following after him. They were given authority over a fourth of the earth, to kill by the sword, by famine, by plaque, and by the wild animals of the earth.

⁹When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slaughtered because of the word of God and the testimony they had given. ¹⁰ They cried out with a loud voice: "Lord, the one who is holy and true, how long until you judge those who live on the earth and avenge our blood? "15 o they were each given a white robe, and they were told to rest a little while longer until the number would be completed of their fellow servants and their brothers and sisters, who were going to be killed just as they had been.

12 Then I saw him open the sixth seal. A violent earthquake occurred; the sun turned black like sackcloth made of hair; the entire moon became like blood; 13 the stars of heaven fell to the earth as a fig tree drops its unripe figs when shaken by a high wind; ¹⁴ the sky was split apart like a scroll being rolled up; and every mountain and island was moved from its place.

15 Then the kings of the earth, the nobles, the generals, the rich, the powerful, and every slave and free person hid in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains. 16 And they said to the mountains and to the rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of the one seated on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb, "Decause the great day of their wrath has come! And who is able to stand?"

After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, restraining the four winds of the earth so that no wind could blow on the earth or on the sea or on any tree. ²Then I saw another angel rising up from the east, who had the seal of the living God. He cried out in a loud voice to the four angels who were allowed to harm the earth and the sea: ³ "Don't harm the earth or the sea or the trees until we seal the servants of our God on their foreheads." ⁴ And I heard the number of the sealed:

144,000 sealed from every tribe of the Israelites:

- 12,000 sealed from the tribe of Judah,
 - 12,000 from the tribe of Reuben,
 - 12,000 from the tribe of Gad.
- 12,000 from the tribe of Asher,
- 12,000 from the tribe of Naphtali,
- 12,000 from the tribe of Manasseh.
- 12,000 from the tribe of Simeon,
 - 12,000 from the tribe of Levi,
- 12,000 from the tribe of Issachar,
- 12,000 from the tribe of Zebulun,
- 12,000 from the tribe of Joseph,
 12,000 sealed from the tribe of Beniamin.

9 After this I looked, and there was a vast multitude from every nation, tribe, people, and language, which no one could number, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were clothed in white robes with palm

branches in their hands. 10 And they cried out in a loud voice: Salvation belongs to our God, who is seated on the throne,

and to the Lamb!

¹¹ All the angels stood around the throne, and along with the elders and the four living creatures they fell facedown before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² saying,

Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and strength

be to our God forever and ever. Amen.

13 Then one of the elders asked me, "Who are these people in white robes, and where did they come from?" 14 I said to him, "Sir, you know."

Then he told me: These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

- For this reason they are before the throne of God, and they serve him day and night in his temple.
 - The one seated on the throne will shelter them:
- They will no longer hunger; they will no longer thirst; the sun will no longer strike them, nor will any scorching heat.
- For the Lamb who is at the center of the throne will shepherd them;

he will guide them to springs of the waters of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

When he opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. ² Then I saw the seven angels who stand in the presence of God; seven trumpets were given to them. ³ Another angel, with a golden incense burner, came and stood at the altar. He was given a large amount of incense to offer with the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar in front of the throne. ⁴ The smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, went up in the presence of God from the angel's hand. ⁵ The angel took the incense burner, filled it with fire from the altar, and hurled it to the earth; there were peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning, and an earthquake.

⁶ And the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared to blow them.

⁷The first angel blew his trumpet, and hail and fire, mixed with blood, were hurled to the earth. So a third of the earth was burned up, a third of the trees were burned up, and all the green grass was burned up.

⁸The second angel blew his trumpet, and something like a great mountain ablaze with fire was hurled into the sea. So a third of the sea became blood, ⁹ a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed.

10 The third angel blew his trumpet, and a great star, blazing like a torch, fell from heaven. It fell on a third of the rivers and springs of water. 11 The name of the star is Wormwood, and a third of the waters became wormwood. So, many of the people died from the waters, because they had been made bitter.

12 The fourth angel blew his trumpet, and a third of the sun was struck, a third of the moon, and a third of the stars, so that a third of them were darkened. A third of the day was without light and also a third of the night.

13 I looked and heard an eagle flying high overhead, crying out in a loud voice, "Woel Woe! Woe to those who live on the earth, because of the remaining trumpet blasts that the three angels are about to sound!"

9 The fifth angel blew his trumpet, and I saw a star that had fallen from heaven to earth. The key for the shaft to the abyss, and smoke came up out of the shaft like smoke from a great furnace so that the sun and the air were darkened by the smoke from the shaft. ³ Then locusts came out of the smoke on to the earth, and power was given to them like the power that scorpions have on the earth. ⁴ They were told not to harm the grass of the earth, or any green plant, or any tree, but only those people who do not have God's seal on their foreheads. ⁵ They were not permitted to kill them but were to torment them for five months; their torment is like the torment caused by a scorpion when it stings someone. ⁶ In those days people will seek death and will not find it; they will long to die, but death will flee from them.

⁷The appearance of the locusts was like horses prepared for battle. Something like golden crowns was on their heads; their faces were like human faces; 8 they had hair like women's hair; their teeth were like lions' teeth; 9 they had chests like iron breastplates; the sound of their wings was like the sound of many chariots with horses rushing into battle; ¹⁰ and they had tails with stingers like scorpions, so that with their tails they had the power to harm people for five months. ¹¹They had as their king the angel of the abyss; his name in Hebrew is Abaddon, and in Greek he has the name Apollyon.

 $^{\rm 12}$ The first woe has passed. There are still two more woes to come after this.

13 The sixth angel blew his trumpet. From the four horns of the golden altar that is before God, I heard a voice 14 say to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "Release the four angels bound at the great river Euphrates." 15 So the four angels who were prepared for the hour, day, month, and year were released to kill a third of the human race. 16 The number of mounted troops was two hundred million: I heard their number. 17 This is how I saw the horses and their riders in the vision: They had breastplates that were fiery red, hyacinth blue, and sulfur yellow. The heads of the horses were like the heads of lions, and from their mouths came fire, smoke, and sulfur. 18 A third of the human race was killed by these three plagues — by the fire, the smoke, and the sulfur that came from their mouths. ¹⁹ For the power of the horses is in their mouths and in their tails, because their tails, which resemble snakes, have heads that inflict injury.

²⁰The rest of the people, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands to stop worshiping demons and idols of gold, silver, bronze, stone, and wood, which cannot see, hear, or walk. ²¹ And they did not repent of their murders, their sorceries, their sexual immorality, or their thefts.

Then I saw another mighty angel coming down from heaven, wrapped in a cloud, with a rainbow over his head. His face was like the sun, his legs were like pilars of fire, ² and he held a little scroll opened in his hand. He put his right foot on the sea, his left on the land, ³ and he called out with a loud voice like a roaring lion. When he cried out, the seven thunders raised their voices. ⁴ And when the seven thunders spoke, I was about to write, but I heard a voice from heaven, saying, "Seal up what the seven thunders said, and do not write it down!"

⁵Then the angel that I had seen standing on the sea and on the land raised his right hand to heaven. ⁶ He swore by the one who lives forever and ever, who created heaven and what is in it, the earth and what is in it, and the sea and what is in it: "There will no longer be a delay, ⁷ but in the days when the seventh angel will blow his trumpet, then the mystery of God will be completed, as he announced to his servants the prophets."

⁸Then the voice that I heard from heaven spoke to me again and said, "Go, take the scroll that lies open in the hand of the angel who is standing on the sea and on the land."

9 So I went to the angel and asked him to give me the little scroll. He said to me, "Take and eat it; it will be bitter in your stomach, but it will be as sweet as honey in your mouth"

10 Then I took the little scroll from the angel's hand and ate it. It was as sweet as honey in my mouth, but when I ate it, my stomach became bitter. ¹¹ And they said to me, "You must prophesy again about many peoples, nations, languages, and kings."

1 Then I was given a measuring reed like a rod, with these words: "Go and measure the temple of God and the altar, and count those who worship there. ² But exclude the courtyard outside the temple. Don't measure it, because it is given to the nations, and they will trample the holy city for forty-two months. ³ I will grant my two witnesses authority to prophesy for 1,260 days, dressed in sackcloth." ⁴ These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth. ⁵ If anyone wants to harm them, fire comes from their mouths and consumes their enemies; if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this way. ⁶ They have authority to close

up the sky so that it does not rain during the days of their prophecy. They also have power over the waters to turn them into blood and to strike the earth with every plague whenever they want.

⁷When they finish their testimony, the beast that comes up out of the abyss will make war on them, conquer them, and kill them. ⁸ Their dead bodies will lie in the main street of the great city, which figuratively is called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified. ⁹ And some of the peoples, tribes, languages, and nations will view their bodies for three and a half days and not permit their bodies to be put into a tomb. ¹⁰Those who live on the earth will gloat over them and celebrate and send gifts to one another because these two prophets had tormented those who live on the earth.

¹¹ But after three and a half days, the breath of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet. Great fear fell on those who saw them. ¹² Then they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here." They went up to heaven in a cloud, while their enemies watched them. ¹³ At that moment a violent earthquake took place, a tenth of the city fell, and seven thousand people were killed in the earthquake. The survivors were terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven.

14 The second woe has passed. Take note: The third woe is coming soon!

¹⁵ The seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven saying,

The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom

of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign forever and ever.

¹⁶ The twenty-four elders, who were seated before God on their thrones, fell facedown and worshiped God, ¹⁷ saying,

We give you thanks, Lord God, the Almighty, who is and who was,

because you have taken your great power and have begun to reign.

and have begin to reight.

The nations were angry,
but your wrath has come.
The time has come
for the dead to be judged
and to give the reward
to your servants the prophets,
to the saints, and to those who fear your name,
both small and great,
and the time has come to destroy
those who destroy the earth.

19 Then the temple of God in heaven was opened, and the ark of his covenant appeared in his temple. There were flashes of lightning, rumblings and peals of thunder, an earthquake, and severe hail.

Agreat sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head. ² She was pregnant and cried out in labor and agony as she was about to give birth. ³ Then another sign appeared in heaven: There was a great fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and on its heads were seven crowns. ⁴ Its tail swept away a third of the stars in heaven and hurled them to the earth. And the dragon stood in front of the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she did give birth it might devour her child. ⁵ She gave birth to a Son, a male who is going to rule all nations with an iron rod. Her child was caught up to God and to his throne. ⁶ The woman fled into the wilderness,

where she had a place prepared by God, to be nourished there for 1.260 days.

⁷Then war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon. The dragon and his angels also fought, ⁸ but he could not prevail, and there was no place for them in heaven any longer. ⁹ So the great dragon was thrown out — the ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the one who deceives the whole world. He was thrown to earth, and his angels with him. ¹⁰Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say,

The salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have now come, because the accuser of our brothers and sisters, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been thrown down.

- They conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; for they did not love their lives to the point of death.
- Therefore rejoice, you heavens, and you who dwell in them! Woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has come down to you with great fury,

because he knows his time is short.

13When the dragon saw that he had been thrown down to the earth, he persecuted the woman who had given birth to the male child. 14The woman was given two wings of a great eagle, so that she could fly from the serpent's presence to her place in the wilderness, where she was nourished for a time, times, and half a time. 15 From his mouth the serpent spewed water like a river flowing after the woman, to sweep her away with a flood. 16 But the earth helped the woman. The earth opened its mouth and swallowed up the river that the dragon had spewed from his mouth. 17 So the dragon was furious with the woman and went off to wage war against the rest of her offspring — those who keep the commands of God and hold firmly to the testimony about Jesus.

¹⁸ The dragon stood on the sand of the sea.

And I saw a beast coming up out of the sea. It had ten horns and seven heads. On its horns were ten crowns, and on its heads were blasphemous names. ² The beast I saw was like a leopard, its feet were like a bear's, and its mouth was like a lion's mouth. The dragon gave the beast his power, his throne, and great authority. ³ One of its heads appeared to be fatally wounded, but its fatal wound was healed.

The whole earth was amazed and followed the beast. ⁴They worshiped the dragon because he gave authority to the beast. And they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast? Who is able to wage war against it?"

⁵ The beast was given a mouth to utter boasts and blasphemies. It was allowed to exercise authority for forty-two months. ⁶ It began to speak blasphemies against God: to blaspheme his name and his dwelling — those who dwell in heaven. ⁷ And it was permitted to wage war against the saints and to conquer them. It was also given authority over every tribe, people, language, and nation. ⁸ All those who live on the earth will worship it, everyone whose name was not written from

the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who was slaughtered.

⁹ If anyone has ears to hear, let him listen.

10 If anyone is to be taken captive, into captivity he goes. If anyone is to be killed with a sword, with a sword he will be killed.

This calls for endurance and faithfulness from the saints.

¹¹Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth; it had two horns like a lamb, but it spoke like a dragon, 12 lt exercises all the authority of the first beast on its behalf and compels the earth and those who live on it to worship the first beast, whose fatal wound was healed. 13 It also performs great signs, even causing fire to come down from heaven to earth in front of people. 14 It deceives those who live on the earth because of the signs that it is permitted to perform in the presence of the beast, telling those who live on the earth to make an image of the beast who was wounded by the sword and yet lived. 15 It was permitted to give breath to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast could both speak and cause whoever would not worship the image of the beast to be killed. 16 And it makes everyone — small and great, rich and poor, free and slave to receive a mark on his right hand or on his forehead, ¹⁷ so that no one can buy or sell unless he has the mark: the beast's name or the number of its name.

¹⁸This calls for wisdom: Let the one who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, because it is the number of a person. Its number is 666.

14 Then I looked, and there was the Lamb, standing on Mount Zion, and with him were 144, ooo who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads.

I heard a sound from heaven like the sound of cascading waters and like the rumbling of loud thunder. The sound I heard was like harpists playing on their harps.

They sang a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders, but no one could learn the song except the 144, ooo who had been redeemed from the earth.

These are the ones who have not deflied themselves with women, since they remained virgins. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever he goes. They were redeemed from humanity as the firstfruits for God and the Lamb.

No lie was found in their mouths; they are hlameless

⁶Then I saw another angel flying high overhead, with the eternal gospel to announce to the inhabitants of the earth — to every nation, tribe, language, and people. ⁷He spoke with a loud voice: "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come. Worship the one who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water."

8 And another, a second angel, followed, saying, "It has fallen, Babylon the Great has fallen. She made all the nations drink the wine of her sexual immorality, which brings wrath."

⁹And another, a third angel, followed them and spoke with a loud voice: "If anyone worships the beast and its image and receives a mark on his forehead or on his hand, ¹⁰ he will also drink the wine of God's wrath, which is poured full strength into the cup of his anger. He will be tormented with fire and sulfur in the sight of the holy angels and in the sight of the Lamb, ¹¹ and the smoke of their torment will go up forever and ever. There is no rest day or night for those who worship the beast and its image, or anyone who receives the mark of its name. ¹²This calls for endurance from the saints, who keep God's commands and their faith in Jesus."

¹³ Then I heard a voice from heaven saying, "Write: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on."

"Yes," says the Spirit, "so they will rest from their labors, since their works follow them."

14 Then I looked, and there was a white cloud, and one like the Son of Man was seated on the cloud, with a golden crown on his head and a sharp sickle in his hand. ¹⁵ Another angel came out of the temple, crying out in a loud voice to the one who was seated on the cloud, "Useyour sickle and reap, for the time to reap has come, since the harvest of the earth is ripe." ¹⁶ So the one seated on the cloud swung his sickle over the earth, and the earth was harvested.

¹⁷Then another angel who also had a sharp sickle came out of the temple in heaven. ¹⁸ Yet another angel, who had authority over fire, came from the altar, and he called with a loud voice to the one who had the sharp sickle, "Use your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of grapes from the vineyard of the earth, because its grapes have ripened." ¹⁹ So the angel swung his sickle at the earth and gathered the grapes from the vineyard of the earth, and he threw them into the great winepress of God's wrath. ²⁰ Then the press was trampled outside the city, and blood flowed out of the press up to the horses' bridles for about 180 miles.

15 Then I saw another great and awe-inspiring sign in heaven: seven angels with the seven last plagues; for with them God's wrath will be completed. 2 I also saw something like a sea of glass mixed with fire, and those who had won the victory over the beast, its image, and the number of its name, were standing on the sea of glass with harps from God. 3 They sang the song of God's servant Moses and the song of the Lamb:

Great and awe-inspiring are your works, Lord God, the Almighty; just and true are your ways, King of the nations.

 Lord, who will not fear and glorify your name? For you alone are holy. All the nations will come and worship before you because your righteous acts have been revealed.

⁵ After this I looked, and the heavenly temple — the tabernacle of testimony — was opened. ⁶ Out of the temple came the seven angels with the seven plagues, dressed in pure, bright linen, with golden sashes wrapped around their chests. ⁷ One of the four living creatures gave the seven angels seven golden bowls filled with the wrath of God who lives forever and ever. ⁸ Then the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from his power, and no one could enter the temple until the seven plagues of the seven angels were completed.

16 Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, "Go and pour out the seven bowls of God's wrath on the earth." ² The first went and poured out his bowl on the earth, and severely painful sores broke out on the people who had the mark of the beast and who worshiped its image.

³ The second poured out his bowl into the sea. It turned to blood like that of a dead person, and all life in the sea died

⁴The third poured out his bowl into the rivers and the springs of water, and they became blood. ⁵ I heard the angel of the waters say,

You are just, the Holy One, who is and who was, because you have passed judgment on these things.

6 Because they poured out the blood of the saints and the prophets, you have given them blood to drink; they deserve it!

7 I heard the altar say,

Yes, Lord God, the Almighty, true and just are your judgments.

⁸The fourth poured out his bowl on the sun. It was allowed to scorch people with fire, ⁹ and people were scorched by the intense heat. So they blasphemed the name of God, who has the power over these plagues, and they did not repent and give him glory.

10 The fifth poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and its kingdom was plunged into darkness. People gnawed their tongues because of their pain 11 and blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, but they did not repent of their works.

12 The sixth poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up to prepare the way for the kings from the east. ¹³Then I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming from the dragon's mouth, from the beast's mouth, and from the mouth of the false prophet. ¹⁴For they are demonic spirits performing signs, who travel to the kings of the whole world to assemble them for the battle on the great day of God, the Almighty. ¹⁵ "Look, I am coming like a thief. Blessed is the one who is alert and remains clothed so that he may not go around naked and people see his shame." ¹⁶ So they assembled the kings at the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon.

¹⁷Then the seventh poured out his bowl into the air, and aloud voice came out of the temple from the throne, saying, "It is done! "¹⁸Therewere flashes of lightning, rumblings, and peals of thunder. And a severe earthquake occurred like no othersince people have been on the earth, so great was the quake. ¹⁹The great city split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. Babylon the Great was remembered in God's presence; he gave her the cup filled with the wine of his fierce anger. ²⁰ Every island fled, and the mountains disappeared. ²¹ Enormous hailstones, each weighing about a hundred pounds, fell from the sky on people, and they blasphemed God for the plague of hail because that plague was extremely severe.

17 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and spoke with me: "Come, I will show you the judgment of the notorious prostitute who is seated on many waters. ² The kings of the earth committed sexual immorality with her, and those who live on the earth became drunk on the wine of her sexual immorality." ³ Then he carried me away in the Spirit to a wilderness.

I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was covered with blasphemous names and had seven heads and ten horns. ⁴ The woman was dressed in purple and scarlet, adorned with gold, jewels, and pearls. She had a golden cup in her hand filled with everything detestable and with the impurities of her prostitution. ⁵ On her forehead was written a name, a mystery: BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF PROSTITUTES AND OF THE DETESTABLE THINGS OF THE EARTH. ⁶ Then I saw that the woman was drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the witnesses to Jesus. When I saw her, I was greatly astonished.

⁷Then the angel said to me, "Why are you astonished? I will explain to you the mystery of the woman and of the beast, with the seven heads and the ten horns, that carries her. 8 The beast that you saw was, and is not, and is about to come up from the abyss and go to destruction. Those who live on the earth whose names have not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world will be astonished when they see the beast that was, and is not. and is to come. 9 This calls for a mind that has wisdom: "The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman is seated. They are also seven kings: 10 Five have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come, and when he comes, he must remain for only a little while. 11 The beast that was and is not, is itself an eighth king, but it belongs to the seven and is going to destruction. 12 The ten horns you saw are ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but they will receive authority as kings with the beast for one hour. 13 These have one purpose, and they give their power and authority to the beast. 14 These will make war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will conquer them because he is Lord of lords and King of kings. Those with him are called, chosen, and faithful."

15 He also said to me, "The waters you saw, where the prostitute was seated, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and languages. 16 The ten horns you saw, and the beast, will hate the prostitute. They will make her desolate and naked, devour her flesh, and burn her up with fire. 17 For God has put it into their hearts to carry out his plan by having one purpose and to give their kingdom to the beast until the words of God are fulfilled. 18 And the woman you saw is the great city that has royal power over the kings of the earth."

18 After this I saw another angel with great authority coming down from heaven, and the earth was illuminated by his splendor. ² He called out in a mighty voice:

It has fallen,

Babylon the Great has fallen!
She has become a home for demons,
a haunt for every unclean spirit,
a haunt for every unclean bird,
and a haunt for every unclean
and despicable beast.

- For all the nations have drunk the wine of her sexual immorality, which brings wrath. The kings of the earth have committed sexual immorality with her, and the merchants of the earth have grown wealthy from her sensuality and excess
- ⁴Then I heard another voice from heaven: Come out of her, my people, so that you will not share in her sins or receive any of her plagues.
 - For her sins are piled up to heaven, and God has remembered her crimes.
 - Pay her back the way she also paid, and double it according to her works. In the cup in which she mixed, mix a double portion for her.
 - As much as she glorified herself and indulged her sensual and excessive ways, give her that much torment and grief. For she says in her heart, "I sit as a queen;

l am not a widow, and l will never see grief."

For this reason her plagues will come in just one day —

death and grief and famine. She will be burned up with fire,

because the Lord God who judges her is mighty.

⁹ The kings of the earth who have committed sexual immorality and shared her sensual and excessive ways will weep and mourn over her when they see the smoke from her burning. ¹⁰They will stand far off in fear of her torment, saying,

Woe, woe, the great city, Babylon, the mighty city! For in a single hour your judgment has come.

¹¹The merchants of the earth will weep and mourn over her, because no one buys their cargo any longer — ¹² cargo of gold, silver, jewels, and pearls; fine linen, purple, silk, and scarlet; all kinds of fragrant wood products; objects of ivory; objects of expensive wood, brass, iron, and marble; ¹³ cinnamon, spice, incense, myrrh, and frankincense; wine, olive oil, fine flour, and grain; cattle and sheep; horses and carriages; and slaves — human lives.

 14 The fruit you craved has left you.

All your splendid and glamorous things are gone; they will never find them again.

¹⁵The merchants of these things, who became rich from her, will stand far off in fear of her torment, weeping and mourning, ¹⁶ saying,

Woe, woe, the great city, dressed in fine linen, purple, and scarlet, adorned with gold, jewels, and pearls;

17 for in a single hour

such fabulous wealth was destroyed!

And every shipmaster, seafarer, the sailors, and all who do business by sea, stood far off ¹⁸ as they watched the smoke from her burning and kept crying out: "Who was like the great city?" ¹⁹ They threw dust on their heads and kept crying out, weeping, and mourning,

Woe, woe, the great city, where all those who have ships on the sea became rich from her wealth; for in a single hour she was destroyed.

Rejoice over her, heaven, and you saints, apostles, and prophets, because God has pronounced on her the judgment she passed on you!

²¹Then a mighty angel picked up a stone like a large millstone and threw it into the sea, saying,

In this way, Babylon the great city will be thrown down violently and never be found again.

The sound of harpists, musicians, flutists, and trumpeters will never be heard in you again; no craftsman of any trade will ever be found in you again; the sound of a mill will never be heard in you again;

23 the light of a lamp will never shine in you again; and the voice of a groom and bride will never be heard in you again. All this will happen because your merchants were the nobility of the earth, because all the nations were deceived by your sorcery.

In her was found the blood of prophets and saints, and of all those slaughtered on the earth.

19 After this I heard something like the loud voice of a vast multitude in heaven, saying, Hallelujah!

Salvation, glory, and power belong to our God,

because his judgments are true and righteous, because he has judged the notorious prostitute who corrupted the earth

with her sexual immorality; and he has avenged the blood of his servants that was on her hands.

³ A second time they said,

Hallelujah!

Her smoke ascends forever and ever!

⁴Then the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God, who is seated on the throne, saying,

Amen! Halleluiah!

⁵ A voice came from the throne, saying,

Praise our God,

all his servants, and the ones who fear him, both small and great!

⁶Then I heard something like the voice of a vast multitude, like the sound of cascading waters, and like the rumbling of loud thunder, saying,

Hallelujah, because our Lord God, the Almighty, reigns!

- 7 Let us be glad, rejoice, and give him glory, because the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his bride has prepared herself.
- She was given fine linen to wear, bright and pure. For the fine linen represents the righteous acts of the saints.

⁹Then he said to me, "Write: Blessed are those invited to the marriage feast of the Lamb!" He also said to me, "These words of God are true." "Then I fell at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, "Don't do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers and sisters who hold firmly to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God, because the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

11 Then I saw heaven opened, and there was a white horse. Its rider is called Faithful and True, and he judges and makes war with justice. 12 His eyes were like a fiery flame, and many crowns were on his head. He had a name written that no one knows except himself. 13 He wore a robe dipped in blood, and his name is called the Word of God. 14 The armies that were in heaven followed him on white horses, wearing pure white linen. 15 A sharp sword came from his mouth, so that he might strike the nations with it. He will rule them with an iron rod. He will also trample the winepress of the fierce anger of God, the Almighty. 16 And he has a name written on his robe and on his thigh: KING OF KINGS AND LORD of LORDS.

17 Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, and he called out in a loud voice, saying to all the birds flying high overhead, "Come, gather together for the great supper of God, 18 so that you may eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of military commanders, the flesh of the mighty, the flesh of horses and of their riders, and the flesh of everyone, both free and slave, small and great."

¹⁹Then I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies gathered together to wage war against the rider on the horse and against his army. ²⁰ But the beast was taken prisoner, and along with it the false prophet, who had performed the signs in its presence. He deceived those who accepted the mark of the beast and those who worshiped its image with these signs. Both of them were thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur. ²¹The rest were killed with the sword that came from the mouth of the rider on the horse, and all the birds ate their fill of their flesh.

Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven holding the key to the abyss and a great chain in his hand. ² He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years. ³ He threw him into the abyss, closed it, and put a seal on itso that he would no longer deceive the nations until the thousand years were completed. After that, he must be released for a short time.

⁴Then I saw thrones, and people seated on them who were given authority to judge. I also saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony about Jesus and because of the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and who had not accepted the mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. ⁵The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed.

This is the first resurrection. ⁶ Blessed and holy is the one who shares in the first resurrection! The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for a thousand years.

⁷When the thousand years are completed, Satan will be released from his prison ⁸ and will go out to deceive the nations at the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them for battle. Their number is like the sand of the sea. ⁹ They came up across the breadth of the earth and surrounded the encampment of the saints, the beloved city. Then fire came down from heaven and consumed them. ¹⁰ The devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet are, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

11 Then I saw a great white throne and one seated on it. Earth and heaven fled from his presence, and no place was found for them. 12 I also saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life, and the dead were judged according to their works by what was written in the books. 13 Then the sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them; each one was judged according to their works. 14 Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. 15 And anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire.

21 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2 I also saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared like a bride adorned for her husband.

³Then I heard a loud voice from the throne: Look, God's dwelling is with humanity, and he will live with them. They will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them and

will be their God. ⁴ He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; grief, crying, and pain will be no more, because the previous things have passed away.

⁵Then the one seated on the throne said, "Look, I am making everything new." He also said, "Write, because these words are faithful and true." 6 Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. I will freely give to the thirsty from the spring of the water of life. ⁷The one who conquers will inherit these things, and I will be his God, and he will be my son, 8 But the cowards, faithless, detestable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars — their share will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death." 9 Then one of the seven angels, who had held the seven bowls filled with the seven last plagues, came and spoke with me: "Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb." 10 He then carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, 11 arrayed with God's glory. Her radiance was like a precious jewel, like a jasper stone, clear as crystal. 12 The city had a massive high wall, with twelve gates. Twelve angels were at the gates; the names of the twelve tribes of Israel's sons were inscribed on the gates. 13 There were three gates on the east, three gates on the north, three gates on the south, and three gates on the west. 14 The city wall had twelve foundations, and the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb were on the foundations.

15 The one who spoke with me had a golden measuring rod to measure the city, its gates, and its wall. 16 The city is laid out in a square; its length and width are the same. He measured the city with the rod at 12,000 stadia. Its length, width, and height are equal, 17 Then he measured its wall, 144 cubits according to human measurement, which the angel used. 18 The building material of its wall was jasper, and the city was pure gold clear as glass. 19 The foundations of the city wall were adorned with every kind of jewel; the first foundation is jasper, the second sapphire, the third chalcedony, the fourth emerald, 20 the fifth sardonyx, the sixth carnelian, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, the twelfth amethyst, 21 The twelve gates are twelve pearls; each individual gate was made of a single pearl. The main street of the city was pure gold, transparent as glass.

²² I did not see a temple in it, because the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. ²³ The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, because the glory of God illuminates it, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴ The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵ Its gates will never close by day because it will never be night there. ²⁶ They will bring the glory and honor of the nations into it. ²⁷ Nothing undean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those written in the Lamb's book of life.

22 Then he showed me the river of the water of life, clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ² down the middle of the city's main street. The tree of life was on each side of the river, bearing twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree are for healing the nations, ³ and there will no longer be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will worship him. ⁴ They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ Night will be no more; people will not need the light of a lamp or

the light of the sun, because the Lord God will give them light, and they will reign forever and ever.

⁶Then he said to me, "These words are faithful and true. The Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, has sent his angel to show his servants what must soon take place."

"Look, I am coming soon! Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book."

⁸ I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. When I heard and saw them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who had shown them to me. ⁹ But he said to me, "Don't do that! I am a fellow servant with you, your brothers the prophets, and those who keep the words of this book. Worship Goo!"

10 Then he said to me, "Don't seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, because the time is near. "Let the unrighteous go on in unrighteousness; let the filthy still be filthy; let the righteous go on in righteousness; let the holy still be holy."

12 "Look, I am coming soon, and my reward is with me to repay each person according to his work. ¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end. 14 "Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates. 15 Outside are the dogs, the sorcerers, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices falsehood.

¹⁶"l, Jesus, have sent my angel to attest these things to you for the churches. I am the root and descendant of David, the bright morning star."

¹⁷ Both the Spirit and the bride say, "Come! " Let anyone who hears, say, "Come! " Let the one who is thirsty come. Let the one who desires take the water of life freely.

18 I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book. 19 And if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his share of the tree of life and the holy city, which are written about in this book.

²⁰ He who testifies about these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon."

Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!

²¹The grace of the Lord Jesus be with everyone. Amen.

WHERE TO TURN

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

If God exists, why isn't his exact identity more obvious?

That God exists is a fact most people have agreed on throughout history. It is the exact identity of God that causes disagreement. Why is the exact identity of God not more obvious? Perhaps God's identity is more obvious than you think. Jesus told a parable about a man who died and went to Hades, a place of permanent suffering. The condemned man insinuated to Father Abraham that God's identity was not as obvious as it should have been, otherwise he wouldn't have ended up in Hades. He begged Father Abraham to send someone from the dead to warn his brothers about Hades so they would avoid it by repenting. Father Abraham responded: "If they don't listen to Moses and the prophets, they will not be persuaded if someone rises from the dead" (Lk 16:31). God has made his identity clear. Our problem is that we are like children who cover their ears and shout, "I can't hear you!" In our sinfulness we are not so eager to learn truth about God after all because it costs us some of the things we love best: our independence, our opinions, and our sinful ways. The Christian poet T. S. Eliot once said, "Humankind cannot bear very much reality." Similarly, we could say that sinful humanity cannot bear very much reality about God.

Has science proven there is no God?

The existence of an immaterial and eternal God is beyond the purview of science, which studies material reality and the laws and forces that help explain the structure and function of the universe. But science has its roots in biblical teachings. First, the Bible says God created humanity in his image. One implication is that our minds are ready-made for understanding the world if we will bother to investigate it. Second, God commanded Adam to "be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, and subdue it." This is a call to stewardship of the earth. Such stewardship requires us to observe the law-like regularities and exquisite complexities in nature, not to exploit the creation but to take care of it. It is no accident that many of the pioneers of science held a biblical worldview that expects the orderly, law-like phenomena that enables life to flourish.

Has science proven miracles are impossible?

The idea that science has proven the impossibility of miracles stems from a faulty understanding of the relationship between God and science. This mistaken view, held by Christians and agnostics alike, gives the laws of nature a status that they don't have in reality. The biblical understanding is that phenomena that function in a law-like manner, as well as those for which we have yet to identify regularities, all owe their being to God moment by moment. A meteorologist might well have given a thorough scientific explanation of the parting of the Red Sea during the exodus. The Bible hints at that possibility when it says, "The Lord drove the sea back with a powerful east wind all that night and turned the sea into dry land" (Ex 14:21). In this case the miracle was not that a scientific explanation was lacking. It was the timing of the Israelites being at the edge of the Red Sea when the strong east wind dried up the Sea. God is not beholden to scientific law. Scientific law is our attempt to make sense of what God is doing all the time.

If God is good, why does he allow evil to exist?

Scripture affirms God's unlimited power (Mt 19:26), his perfect goodness (Hab 1:13), and the reality of evil (Gn 6:5-6). God doesn't give a comprehensive account of why he allows evil. For those who will follow and read the evidence carefully, God sets forth a pattern that shows his purposes are perfectly good. Where he allows evil, he turns that evil to a greater good (Gn 50:15-21). The greatest example of this pattern is the death of Jesus, through whom God's enemies are made his children (Rm 5:6-11).

How important is it that we believe the right things about God?

When you board a jet, you do so because you believe the jet is air-worthy and it will get you to your destination safely. If you did not believe that, you would not board. If your belief in the jet's safety were mistaken, you would want someone to tell you so. Our beliefs about the jet and the reality about the jet are not necessarily lined up

in agreement. Clearly it is important that our beliefs about the jet line up with realities about the jet. How much more is at stake when it comes to beliefs about God! God is our maker and judge. If what you believe about God turns out to be false, you have staked everything on a faulty foundation. "What does it benefit a man to gain the whole world yet lose his life? What can a man give in exchange for his life?" (Mk 8:36-37)

Am I personally at odds with God? What is sin?

Human beings are naturally at odds with God (Rm 3:10-18). This aversion to God may be hidden by a veneer of respectability, but given the right circumstances it becomes evident in each of us. As a school boy, Jean-Paul Sartre, one of the leading atheist thinkers of the twentieth century, was playing with matches and burned a small rug. As he tried to cover up his misdeed he felt the gaze of God. Young Sartre fell into a rage against God. By Sartre's account, "He never looked at me again." In reality, it is Sartre who never looked at God again. Sin is a refusal to live humbly under God's reign and acknowledge our obligations to him; we are all guilty of this and thus need forgiveness.

What is the reason anyone is sent to hell?

Sin violates God's law, which expresses his righteous character. Sin thus involves rebellion against the Creator-King whose throne is founded on righteousness and justice (Ps 97:2). Sin incurs a debt of guilt and punishment (Col 2:14). The crucifixion of the innocent and eternal God-Man, Jesus Christ, is the only possible satisfaction of divine justice, but it is only for those who "attach" themselves to Christ by faith. Others must endure their own punishment for their offenses against the infinite and holy God.

How can God send devout Buddhists, Muslims, etc. to hell?

Only one God is the Creator and Ruler of all. Sin violates his laws, summarized as "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, ... soul, and ... strength" (Dt 6:4). Such love has no room for other gods (Dt 5:7). Worship of false gods, no matter how devout your worship, involves rebellion against the true God who provided salvation only through his Son, Jesus Christ (Ac 4:12). Imagine the pain and offense your parents would feel if you identified someone else as father and mother. In a similar way, it is painful and offensive to God when we misidentify him, saying things of him that are not true and which conflict with his eternal nature.

Why cannot God just annihilate those who die in unbelief?

Scripture says that God is both perfectly just and loving, and that the penalty for living in rebellion against God is eternal punishment (Mt 25:46; Lk 12:4-5; Jn 5:28-29; Rv 9:5-6; 16:10-11). Annihilation would not satisfy God's perfect justice because the offense of our sins is infinite. Just as the reward for faith-righteousness through Christ is eternal fellowship with God, the penalty for rebellion against him is eternal ruin and separation from God.

If there is one God, why are there so many religions?

God has made himself known to everyone through creation and the conscience (Rm 1:18-19). This knowledge of God has not been well received by human beings. Rather than acknowledging who God is and being grateful to him, we have suppressed this original knowledge. The result is a darkening of the mind. People create gods they prefer rather than worshiping God as he is (Rm 1:23). Given the diversity of people and cultures, it is no surprise that there are a variety of religions.

What makes Jesus different from other religious teachers?

If a man told you that he is both God and a humble human, you would recommend a psychiatric evaluation. Jesus, in effect, made those very claims simultaneously. "All things have been entrusted to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son desires to reveal him" (Mt 11:27). "I am lowly and humble in heart" (Mt 11:29). Jesus differs from other religious teachers in being able to make both paradoxical claims truthfully. His words are vindicated in his well-documented bodily resurrection from the dead (1Co 15:1-19).

How did Jesus make it possible for us to go to heaven?

That sense of justice that arises in you when you are wronged or when you see others treated unjustly may be one of the most important clues to understanding yourself and your relationship to God. Wrongs cry out to be righted. But who can right them? When we are honest, we realize that in thought, word, and deed we have wronged God and others. We have failed to love God with every fiber of our being and have not come close to caring for our neighbors as for ourselves. The good news is that God's Son, Jesus the Messiah, has taken the consequences of our sins on himself in his death on the cross. He calls us simply to trust him. A criminal who died next to Jesus asked Jesus to remember him when he came into his kingdom. This man realized he could not make right the wrongs he had done. But his faith in Jesus brought this response from Jesus: "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise" (Lk 23:43).

How do I become a Christian?

It's simple, but not easy. First you must <u>confess</u> that you are sinful and have failed to honor God as you should. Next you must <u>repent</u>—turn away from sin and selfishness—and trust God. Then you must <u>believe</u> Jesus's sacrifice is sufficient to save you and invite him to be your Lord and Savior (Ac 20:21; Rm 10:9). That's it. Reading the Bible, praying, and going to church naturally follow from your decision to follow Christ.

Isn't the Bible full of mistakes?

Jesus trusted the Old Testament Scriptures (Mt 26:54; Jn 10:35). His endorsement is important, especially given his miracles and resurrection from the dead. In Matthew 22:29, Jesus told the Sadducees, "You are mistaken, because you don't know the Scriptures or the power of God." The Bible is the standard of what is correct and what is mistaken. And before Jesus was crucified, he promised his disciples they would have the Spirit's guidance in preaching and writing the New Testament revelation (Jn 14:26; 16:13).

Hasn't the Rible been altered a lot since it was written?

The New Testament is by far the best attested text from the ancient world. Thousands of manuscripts produced between the second and fourteenth centuries provide strong evidence for the reliability of the New Testament. There are some 20,000 handwritten manuscripts of the New Testament written in a variety of languages, 5,500 of which are ancient Greek manuscripts. A dozen of the Greek manuscripts date from the second century, 64 from the third century, and 48 from the fourth century. Being able to compare manuscripts enables scholars to achieve a high level of confidence in what the original text said. Scholars have found 200,000 errors or variants in 10,000 different places in the New Testament. Not one of these variants affects an essential doctrine of Christian faith. Between 97 and 99 percent of the New Testament text can be recovered with certainty.

If Christianity is true, why do Christians disagree about so much?

True Christians agree on the essentials: sinful humanity needs a Savior; Jesus died and rose again to redeem people (1Co 15:3-4). Naturally, those who claim to be Christians but really aren't will disagree with true Christians on many points (Rm 16:17-18). But even genuine Christians tend to quarrel about nonessential matters because we are imperfect, fallen human beings beset by temptation (Jms 4:1-4) and prone to read Scripture with bias and closed hearts. Further, on some topics the Bible does not present enough evidence to ensure a unified conclusion is reached among believers. About these topics there should be mutual tolerance for differing opinions.

Does the Bible reflect bias against women?

Scripture honors single women, widows, wives, mothers, homemakers, businesswomen, and spiritual leaders like Deborah, Anna, Phoebe, Priscilla, Lois, and Eunice. The Bible granted women greater rights and dignity than did other contemporary cultures (Jos 17:3-4). Jesus valued and affirmed women so much that he shocked his disciples (Jn 4:7-27). Women are co-image-bearers (Gn 1:27), key persons in the Messiah's genealogy (Mt 1:5), and coheirs of eternal life (Gl 3:28-29).

Is the God of the Bible hateful and self-centered?

It is only reasonable to conclude that God is the most valuable of all beings. After all, his power, knowledge, and virtue eclipse those of all other beings. If God were to set his highest love on anything other than himself, he would be guilty of idolatry. So it is fitting that God insists on being honored as the greatest value in the universe. And yet he loves us and offers us forgiveness through faith in his Son, Jesus Christ. Those who reject God and his offered mercy in Christ justly encounter divine wrath.

Why does God allow Satan to tempt us?

Mankind gave Satan authority to continue tempting us when Adam and Eve took the serpent's bait in the garden (see Nm 33:55). Satan's aim is to convince us that God is not trustworthy, not worthy of worship, and that we should praise God only when he is blessing us (Jb 1:9-11). In the same way that God allowed Satan to tempt Job, he allows us to be tempted in order to demonstrate that he deserves our worship for who he is, no matter what our life circumstances are

What church should Lattend?

In individualistic North America, church affiliation has come to be seen as a matter of "take it or leave it." But the idea of "just Jesus and me" is foreign to the Bible. Those who trust Jesus as Savior and Lord are incorporated into the fellowship of the church. Deciding on a particular church is not a matter to be taken lightly. Seek a church that worships God in spirit and in truth, that takes the Bible seriously and teaches its whole counsel, that seeks and welcomes those who need to be reconciled to God, and that helps all members of the body identify and use their unique spiritual gifts.

TOPICAL MICRO CONCORDANCE

Abstinence

From sexual immorality. 1Co 6:18-20; GI 5:19-21; Eph 5:3-5; 1Th 4:3-5; RV 22:14-15.

Anaels

Are ministering spirits. Ps 68:17; Lk 16:22; Ac 12:7-11; 27:23; Heb 1:7, 14.

Not to be worshiped. Col 2:18; Rv 19:10; 22:8-9.

Know and delight in the gospel. 1Tm 3:16; 1Pt 1:12.

Rejoice over every repentant sinner. Lk 15:7, 10.

Will attend Christ at his second coming. Mt 16:27; 25:31; Mk 8:38; 2Th 1:7.

Anger

Be slow to. Pr 15: 18; 16:32; 19:11; Ti 1:7; Jms 1:19. Characteristic of fools. Pr 12:16; 14:29; 27:3. Children should not be stirred up to. Eph 6:4; Col 3:21. Pray without. 1Tm 2:8. A work of sinful nature. Gl 5:20.

Anxiety

The cure for. Mt 6:25-34; Php 2:28; 1Pt 5:7. Prevented. Ps 121:4; 1Pt 5:7.

Appearance

Can be deceiving. Mt 23:27-28. Do not judge by. Jms 2:2-4. Inner versus outward. 1Sm 16:7; 1Pt 3:1-6.

Assurance

Eternal life. Rm 8:28-39; 1Th 1:5; 1Jn 5:13.

Baptism

Jesus was baptized. Mt 3:13-16.
Believers were baptized at Pentecost. Ac 2:41.
The Ethiopian eunuch. Ac 8:36.
Paul was baptized. Ac 9:18.
A sign of repentance and sins forgiven. Mk 1:4.
Shows identification with Jesus Christ. Rm 6:3-8.
A command for all believers. Mt 28:18-20.

Bible

Inspired by God. 2Tm 3:14-17.
Inspired by the Holy Spirit. Ac 1:16; 2Pt 1:21.
Points to Christ. Jn 5:39; Ac 18:28.
Learn about salvation from 2Tm 3:15.
An unerring guide. 2Pt 1:19.
Sharp as a sword. Eph 6:17; Heb 4:12.
Hearing is not enough. Jms 1:22.
Received message, not from men, but from God.
1Th 2:13.
Everything should be tested against. Is 8:20; Ac 17:11.
Warning against those who add to or take from. Dt 4:2; Rv 22:18-19.

Body

Is the temple of Holy Spirit. 1Co 6:19. Will be resurrected. 1Co 15:12-58.

Celibacy

Jesus's teaching concerning. Mt 19:10-12. Paul's teaching concerning. 1Co 7:1-9,25-26,32-39. Wrongly insisted on. 1Tm 4:1-3.

Children

Christ taught. Mk 10:13-16. Gifts from God. Gn 33:5; Ps 127:3. Should honor the aged. Lv 19:32; 1Pt 5:5. Should obey parents. Ex 20:12; Pr 6:20; Eph 6:1. Should take care of parents. 1Tm 5:4. Should be treated with respect. Eph 6:4.

Church

Christ will build. Mt 16:18. Commission of. Mt 28:18-20. Is the bride of Christ. Rv 19:7-8. Christ is the head. Col 1:18. Is like a body. 1Co 12:12-13.

Contentment

With wages and possessions. Lk 3:14; Heb 13:5. With food and clothing. 1Tm 6:8. With godliness is great gain. Ps 37:16; 1Tm 6:6.

A consequence of sin. Gn 2:17; Rm 5:12-14; 6:23.

Death

Christ delivers from the fear of. Heb 2:15.
Conquered by Christ. Rm 6:9; Rv 1:18.
Described as sleep. Dt 31:16; Jn 11:11-14;
Ac 7:59-60; 13:36; 1Co 15:6.
Everyone will experience. Jb 30:23; 1Co 15:22;
1Tm 6:7; Heb 9:27.
For believers, a passage to God. 2Co 5:1-8;
Php 1:21-24.
For believers, a place of rest. Jb 3:17; Lk 16:22,25;
Php 1:23; Rv 14:13.
Precious in God's sight. Ps 116:15.

Demons

Jesus casts out. Mt 17:14-21; Lk 4:31-36. Disciples cast out. Mk 16:17; Lk 10:17-20; Ac 5:16. Paul casts out. Ac 16:16-18; 19:12.

Devil

Assumes the form of an angel of light. 2Co 11:14. Believers should resist. Jms 4:7; 1Pt 5:9. Ultimately defeated. Gn 3:15; 2Pt 2:4; Jd 6; Rv 20:10. Is our adversary. Jb 1:6-12; Zch 3:1; 1Th 2:18. Subtle. 2Co 11:3,13.

Discipleship

Cost of. Mt 16:24-28. Tests of. Mt 10:32-39; Lk 14:26-27, 33; Jn 21:15-19.

Discipling

Commanded. Dt 6:6-7; Mt 28:18-20; 2Tm 2:2.

Disease (see also Healing)

Relationship to sin. Ps 107:17; Mt 9:1-8; Mk 2:1-12; Ac 12:20-25; Rm 1:26-27; 1Co 11:27-34; Jms 5:14-16.

Divorce

Jesus's teaching concerning. Mt 19:1-10; Mk 10:2-12.

Doubt (see also Assurance)

Jesus's response to. Mt 11:1-19; Mk 9:14-29; Jn 20:24-29.

Druas

Honor God with body. Rm 12:1; 1Co 6:20. Mind should stay alert. Eph 5:18; 1Pt 1:13; 1Th 5:6.

Drunkenness

Avoid those given to. Pr 23:20; 1Co 5:11.
To be avoided. Pr 23:29-35; Lk 21:34; Rm 13:13; Eph 5:18.

Results in punishment. Is 28:1-3; Mt 24:49-51; 1Co 6:10; GI 5:21.

Endurance

God gives, Rm 15:5.

Enemies

Should be loved. Mt 5:44.
Should be prayed for. Ac 7:60.
Christ forgave. Lk 23:34.
God delivers from. Dt 32:35: Ps 18:48:61:3.

Fternal life

May have assurance of. 1Jn 5:13. To know God and Christ is. Jn 17:3. To those who believe in Christ. Jn 3:15-16; 6:40,47.

Evangelism

Commanded by Christ, Mt 28:18-20.

Fvolution

Contrary to the consistent teaching of Scripture. Gn 1–2; Jb 38–39; Jn 1:1-3; Col 1:16-17; Heb 11:3.

Faith

Demonstrated by a pagan soldier. Lk 7:1-10.
All things should be done in. Rm 14:22; Heb 11:6.
Have full assurance of. 2Tm 1:12; Heb 10:22.
The gift of God. Rm 12:3; Eph 2:8; 6:23; Php 1:29.
Christ the source and perfecter of. Heb 12:2.
Proof of things not seen. Heb 11:1.
Examine whether you are in. 2Co 13:5.
A gift of the Holy Spirit. 1Co 12:9.
Right with God by. Gn 15:6; Rm 4:16.
Necessary in prayer. Mt 21:22; Jms 1:6.
Produces confidence. 1Pt 2:6.
Scripture designed to produce. Jn 20:31; 2Tm 3:14-16.
The wicked often profess. Ac 8:9-24.

Family

Believers' families blessed. Ps 128:3-6. Honoring God in. Dt 6:6-7; Jos 24:15; Eph 5:22–6:9. Jesus's family. Mk 3:31-35. Paul's family. Ac 23:16. Timothy's family. 2Tm 1:5. Church leaders' families. 1Tm 3:1-13.

Fasting

Expected of Christians. Mt 6:16; 9:15.
Along with prayer, when seeking God's grace. 15m 7:5-6;
Neh 1:4; Dn 9:3; Ac 13:3; 14:23.
Wrong way and right way compared. Is 58:3-12;
Zch 7:5-10: Mt 6:16-18.

Father

God in heaven. Mt 6:9; 23:9.
Duties of godly. Dt 6:6-7; Eph 6:4.
To be honored. Ex 20:12: Pr 23:22: Eph 6:2: Col 3:17.

Fear

Of God, advantages of. Pr 9:10; 15:16; 19:23; 2Co 7:1. Godly delivered from. Ps 27:1: Pr 1:33; 1Jn 4:16-18.

Flatterv

Beware of, Ps 5:9: 12:3: Pr 29:5: Rm 16:18: Jd 16.

Forgiveness

Of sins, from God. Ex 34:6-7; Ps 103:1-4; Dn 9:9. Of sins, through Christ. Ac 4:11-12; 1Jn 2:12. Of each other. Mt 6:14-15; 18:21-35; Mk 11:25.

Friends

Constancy of. Pr 17:17; 18:24. David and Jonathan. 1Sm 18:1-4; 20:1-29. Jesus called his disciples. Jn 15:13-15.

Givina

Blessings connected with. Ps 41:1; Pr 22:9; 28:27; Ec 11:1-2; Is 58:10; Ac 20:35. Encouraged. Lk 6:38; 2Co 8:1-12. Toward enemies. Pr 25:21.

God

Is good. Ps 25:8; 119:68. Unchanging. Ps 102:26-27; Jms 1:17. Our Father. Hs 1:10; Mt 6:9; Rm 8:15. All powerful. Jr 32:27; Lk 1:37; Rv 1:8. Is spirit. Jn 4:24. All knowing. Is 55:9; Dn 2:20; Rm 11:33. Is knowable. Jr 31:34; Eph 1:17. Judge. Ps 9:7; Jms 4:12. Is love. Dt 7:8; Jr 31:3; Hs 11:4; 1Jn 4:16. Is kind. Rm 2:4. Is holy. 15m 2:2; Is 57:15; 1Pt 1:15-16.

Gospel

Described. 1Co 15:1-4.
Brings peace. Lk 2:10-14.
Veiled to the lost. 2Co 4:3.
There is only one. Gl 1:8.
Must be believed. Mk 1:15; Heb 4:2.
The power of God for salvation. Rm 1:16; 1Co 1:18; 1Th 1:5.
Produces hope. 1Co 1:23.

Grace

Came by Christ. Jn 1:17; Rm 5:15.
Believers should grow in. 2Pt 3:18.
God's work completed in believers by. 2Th 1:11-12.
Justifies sinners. Ps 5:1:1-12; Rm 5:1-21.
Not to be abused. Rm 3:8; 6:1,15; Jd 4.
Salvation by. Ac 15:11; Eph 2:1-10; Ti 2:11.

Hate

Embitters life. Pr 15:17. Of neighbors, prohibited. Lv 19:17; 1Jn 3:15. Of evil, condoned. Ps 97:10; 119:104; 139:21; Pr8:13.

Believers should expect. Mt 10:22: Jn 15:18-19. Return good for. Mt 5:44.

Healing

Comes from God. Ex 15:26; Ps 103:3. Proof that Jesus is the Messiah. Mt 11:5. Son of a royal official. Jn 4:46-54.

Heaven

Believers rewarded in. Is 65: 17-25: Mt 5: 12: 1Pt 1:4:

Jesus entered. Ac 3:21; Heb 6:20.

God's dwelling place. Ps 11:4; 115:3; ls 66:1; Mt 6:9. Believers names are written in. Lk 10:20; Heb 12:23. Wicked are excluded from. GI 5:21; Eph 5:5;

Rv 22:15.

HeII

The beast, false prophet, and the devil thrown into. Rv 19:20: 20:10.

Body suffers in. Mt 5:29: 10:28.

Described as everlasting fire. Is 1:28-31;66:24; Mt 3:12; 25:41,46.

Destruction, away from God's presence. 2Th 1:9. Strive to keep others from. Mt 18:14; Jd 23.

Holy Spirit

Believers receive. 1Jn 2:20.

Guides into all truth. Is 30:21; Ezk 36:27; Jn 16:13; 1Jn 2:27.

Poured out, through Christ. Ti 3:6.

Communicates joy. Rm 14:17; GI 5:22; 1Th 1:6. Given by the Father. Neh 9:20; Ezk 36:27; Jl 2:28;

Jn 14:15-18.

Gives the new birth. Jn 3:5-6.

Called God. Ac 5:3-4.

Convinces of sin. Neh 9:30; Mc 3:8; Jn 16:8-11. Lives in believers. Is 59:21; Hg 2:5; Jn 14:16-17;

1Co 3:16; 6:19; Eph 5:18; 1Pt 4:14.

Blasphemy against is unpardonable. Zch 7:12-13; Mt 12:31-32; 1Jn 5:16.

Can be grieved. Is 63:10; Eph 4:30; 1Th 5:19. Believers sealed by. 2Co 1:22; Eph 1:13; 4:30.

Homosexuality

Prohibited. Lv 18:22: 20:13. Condemned. Gn 18:20-21; 19:4-5; Rm 1:26-27; 1Co 6:9.

Hope

In God. Ps 39:7; 1Pt 1:21. Be ready to give a reason for your. 1Pt 3:15. Believers enjoy. Rm 5:2; 12:12; Ti 2:13. Leads to patience. Rm 8:25; 1Th 1:3.

Husband

To love wife. Gn 2:23-24; Eph 5:25-30; Col 3:19. To respect wife, 1Pt 3:7. Should have only one wife. Mt 19:3-9; Mk 10:6-8; 1Co 7:2-4; 1Tm 3:12.

Jealousy

Destructive consequences of. Gn 4:4-8; 37:4-8,18,28; Mt 2:16-18.

Jesus the Christ

Preexistence. Jn 1:1-18: Col 1:16: Heb 1:2. Genealogy traced through Joseph. Mt 1:1-17. Genealogy traced through Mary. Lk 3:23-38. Birth of. Mt 1:18-25; Lk 2:1-20.

Circumcision and naming of, Lk 2:21.

Childhood. Lk 2:41-52.

Baptism. Mt 3:13-17.

Tempted by Satan. Mt 4:1-11; Mk 1:12-13; Lk 4:1-13. Calls his first disciples. Jn 1:35-51.

Mission, Lk 4: 16-21.

Manner of relating to people, Mt 12:18-21. Sinless. Jn 8:46; 2Co 5:21; Heb 4:14-16.

Forgives sins. Col 3:13; Mk 2:7,10-11.

One with the Father. Jn 10:30,38; 12:45; 14:7-10; 17:10.

Fully God. Col 2:9; Heb 1:3.

Eternally the same. Heb 1:12; 13:8.

Fully human. Jn 1:14; Heb 2:14.

Humility of attitude rewarded, Php 2:5-11.

The only mediator between God and man. 1Tm 2:5.

Jov

Commanded to believers. Ps 32:11; Php 3:1. Despite difficulties. Hab 3:17-18; Mt 5:11-12; Jms 1:2; 1Pt 1:6.

Over sinners who repent. Lk 15:1-32. In answer to prayer. Jn 16:24. In fellowship. 2Tm 1:4; 1Jn 1:3-4; 2Jn 12.

A fruit of the Spirit. GI 5:22.

Judament

By God for words spoken. Nm 14:29; Mt 12:36. Of Christians. Rm 14:10; 2Co 5:10; Jms 2:12-13. After death, Heb 9:27. Not by outward appearances. Jn 7:24. Will be in righteousness. Neh 9:33: Ps 98:9: Dn 9:14: Ac 17:31.

An attribute of God. Ru 2:20; Hs 11:4; Eph 2:7; Ti 3:4-7. A quality of believers. Col 3:12; 2Pt 1:7; 1Co 13:4.

Knowledge

Fear of the LORD is the beginning of. Pr 1:7. Of God among all human beings, Rm 1:20. Jesus's disciples have. Lk 8:10: Col 2:2-3. Every disciple's goal, Php 3:10; Col 1:9; 2Pt 3:18. Of salvation. Lk 1:77; 1Jn 5:13. Needed to guide zeal. Rm 10:2-3.

1. Ceremonial: Israel's worship. Lv 7:37-38; Heb 9:1-7.

2. Civil: Israel's justice. Ex 21:1.

3. Moral: universal, timeless. Ex 20:1-17; Dt 6:5; Mt 22:37-39.

Jesus fulfills. Mt 5:17-20; Gl 3:24-25.

Jesus's interpretation of. Mt 12:9-14; Mk 2:23-28. Man's sinful nature and the law. Rm 7:7-25.

Love

Covers sin. Pr 10:12.

For God. Dt6:5; Mt 22:36-40.
Described. 1Co 13:4-7.
Fulfills the law. Rm 13:8; Gl 5:6.
God is. Jln 4:7-8,16.
Marks the child of God. Jn 13:35; 1Jn 2:15; 4:7.

Lust

Must be controlled by God. Rm 13:14; GI 5:17. Same as committing adultery. Jb 31:1; Mt 5:27-28. Leads to trouble. 25m 11:2-5; Pr 5:3-5; 6:25-35. Results in perverted sexual behavior. 25m 13:1-18; Rm 1:26-27.

Lvina

A characteristic of unbelief. 1Th 2:9; 1Tm 4:2; 1Jn 2:4. The devil is the father of. Jn 8:44. Forbidden. Lv 19:11; Pr 12:22; Zch 1:16; Col 3:9. Punished. Rv 21:8.

Male and Female

Equally saved in Christ. Gl 3:28. Mutuallove. 1Co 7:3-4; Col 3:19; Ti 2:4. Different roles. Gn 3:16-19; 1Co 14:34-35; Eph 5:22-33; Col 3:18-19; 1Tm 2:11; Ti 2:2-5; 1Pt 3:1-7.

Mankind

Made in God's image. Gn 1:26-27; Jms 3:9.

More valuable than animals. Gn 1:28; 9:3-6; Ps 8:4-8;

Mt 10:31; 12:11-12.

All have sinned. Ps 14:1-3; Rm 3:23.

Object of God's love. Jn 3:16.

Marriage

Jesus blesses. Jn 2:1-11. Honorable for all. 1Tm 4:3; Heb 13:4. Should be permanent. Mal 2:14; Mt 19:6; 1Co 7:39. Illustrates Christ and the church. Eph 5:22-32.

Mind

Love God with. Mt 22:36-40.
Renewed, key to spirituality. Rm 12:2; Eph 4:23.
To be prepared before taking action. 1Pt 1:13.
God puts law in believer's. Heb 8:10.
Have a sound. 2Tm 1:7.
Use while praying or singing. 1Co 14:15-16.

Miracles

Jn 20:30-31. Insufficient to produce conversion. Ps 106:7; Lk 16:31. Jesus proved to be the Messiah by. Mt 11:4-6; Lk 7:20-22; Jn 5:36.

Purpose is to encourage belief. Ex 4:1-5; Mk 16:20;

Performed by false prophets. Ex 7:12; Dt 13:1-3; Mt 24:24; 2Th 2:9; Rv 19:20.

Money

Must choose between God or money. Mt 6:24. Cannot rescue. Pr 11:4; Ezk 7:19; Zph 1:18. Use your money to benefit others. Lk 16:9. Test of repentance. Lk 3:10-14. Love of is root of all evil. 1Tm 6:9-10.

Mother

To be honored and cared for. Pr 23:22; Jn 19:27; Eph 6:2. Gift of God. Ps 113:9.

Murder

Hatred is. Mt 5:21-22; 1Jn 3:15. God despises. Gn 4:11; 9:6; Ex 20:13; Pr 6:16-17. Punished by death. Gn 9:5-6; Ex 21:12; Nm 35:16, 30.

Neighbor

Care for. Pr 3:28-29; Mt 25:34-46. Love as you love yourself. Lv 19:18; Lk 10:25-37; Rm 13:8-10; Gl 5:13-15; Jms 2:8.

Occult

Denounced by God. Lv 19:26,31; Dt 18:9-14.
Severe punishment for. Ex 22:18; Lv 20:27; Dt 13:5; G15:20-21.
Saland the medium. 1Sm 28:7-25.
Girl involved with. Ac 16:16.
Books of, destroyed. Ac 19:19.

Pain

No existence in heaven. Rv 21:4. Presence in hell. Lk 16:24; Rv 16:10.

Patience

Waiting for God. Ps 37:7; 40:1. Believers receive from God. Col 1:11. Exercise, toward all. 1Th 5:14. Running the race with. Heb 12:1.

Peace

Takes the place of worry. Php 4:6-7.
Believers have. Ps 85:8; Is 26:3; 53:5; Rm 5:1; Jn 14:27;
Col 1:19-20.
Believers will have forever. Is 57:2; Ezk 34:25.
Wicked do not know. Is 48:22; 59:8; Jr 6:14; Rm 3:17.

Persecution

Christ's followers will have. Mt 16:21-26; 2Tm 3:12. God will deliver from. Dn 3:25,28; 2Co 1:10; 4:9; 2Tm 3:11.

Poor

Jesus preached to. Lk 4:18. God cares for. 1Sm 2:8; Ps 35:10; 68:10; ls 41:17. Do not despise. Dt 15:7; Pr 14:21,31; Jms 2:2-17.

Praise (see also Singing; Worship)

Offered continually. Ps 35:28; 71:6. Christ is worthy of. Rv 5:1-14.

Praver

Jesus's way. Mt6:5-13.
Acceptable through Christ. Jn 14:13-14.
Husband and wife relationship important for. 1Pt 3:7.
At all times. Ps 88:1; 1Th 5:17; 1Tm 5:5.
Regarding everything. Php 4:6.
For others. 1Tm 2:1; Jms 5:13-18; 1Jn 5:16.

Preaching

Purpose of. 2Tm 4:1-4.

Pride

Warnings against. 1Sm 2:3; Pr 21:4; 1Co 8:1-2; 10:12. God sees and judges. Is 2:12; Zph 2:10-11; Lk 1:51.

Prophecy

Blessing for those who listen, 1Th 5:20; Rv 1:3; 22:7.

Does not come by human will. Jr 1:5; Am 7:14-15; 2Pt 1:20-21.

Purity

Commanded. Pr 31:3; Rm 13:13; Php 4:8; Col 3:5. Persuasiveness of. 1Pt 3:1-2. Impurity is punished. 1Co 3:16-17; Eph 5:5-6; Heb 13:4.

Racism

Rejected since all are from one man. Gn 9:18-19; Ac17:26. No racial distinction in the law. Lv 24:22; Dt 24:17. No racial distinction in Christ. Gl 3:28-29; Eph 2:19; Rv 5:9-10.

Repentance

Given by God. Ac 11:18; 2Tm 2:25. Godly grief produces. Ezr 9:6-9; Jr 31:19; Zch 12:10; 2Co 7:10.

Commanded. Ezk 18:30-32; Mk 1:15; Ac 17:30. Results are changed attitudes and behavior. 2Ch 6:26; Lk 3:7-14:2Co 7:11.

Resurrection

OT doctrine of. Jb 19:26; Ps 16:10; 49:15; ls 26:19; Dn 12:2; Hs 13:14. Of Jesus, the historical event. Mt 28:5-10. Preached by the apostles. Ac 4:2. Of the body. Is 26:19; 1Co 15:42-45. First principle of the gospel. 1Co 15:1-19.

Revenge

Law of. Ex 21:23-25. Prohibited. Lv 19:18; Rm 12:17-19; 1Th 5:15; 1Pt 3:9. Alternatives to. Pr 20:22; Mt 5:38-42; Rm 12:14.

Righteousness

Our own does not save. Ti 3:5. God gives. Ps 24:5; ls 61:10. Given through Christ. Rm 3:21-26; Php 3:4-11.

Salvation

From God. Ps 3:8; Is 45:21-22; Jr 3:23. In Jesus alone. Ac 4:11-12; Rm 10:9. Gospel is power of God for. Rm 1:16.

Satan (see Devil)

Second Coming of Christ

Jesus predicted. Mt 25:31; Jn 14:3. In same way as he ascended into heaven. Dn 7:13; Ac 1:9-11.

Will complete salvation of believers. Heb 9:28. Time of, unknown and sudden. Mt 24:36,44; Mk 13:32-37; Lk 12:40; 1Th 5:1-11; 2Th 1:3-12; 2Pt 3:10-13.

Sex (see also Abstinence: Homosexuality)

Prohibited outside marriage. Sg 2:7; 1Co 6:15-20. Blessed within marriage. Sg 4:1–5:1; Heb 13:4. Not to be withheld in marriage. 1Co 7:3-5. Lust is sin. Mt 5:28.

Sin

Begins in the mind. Mt 5:27-28; Jms 1:14-15.
All have committed. Rm 3:23.
Confession of sin followed by forgiveness. 2Sm 12:13;
Ps 32:5; JJn 1:9.
Ghish's believers resist. Ps 119:11; 1Co 10:13.
Chrish's blood removes. Mt 26:28: Fnh 1:7: 1 ln 1:7.

Singing (see also Worship)

Commanded. 1Ch 16:9; Ps 100:2; Eph 5:19; Col 3:16; Jms 5:13. From God. Ps 40:3.

Stealing

Prohibited. Ex 20:15. From the poor, specially forbidden. Pr 22:22. Do honest work instead. Eph 4:28.

Thankfulness

Commanded. Ps 50:14; Php 4:6. Accompanies prayer. Php 4:6; Col 4:2. In all things. Eph 5:20; 1Th 5:18; 1Tm 4:4-5.

Trinity

Reference to. Rm 8:9; 1Co 12:3-6; Eph 4:4-6; 2Th 2:13-14; Ti 3:4-6; 1Pt 1:2; Jd 20-21. Evident at Jesus's baptism. Mt 3:16-17. To be baptized in the name of. Mt 28:18-20. The apostolic benediction. 2Co 13:13.

Ilnhelief

Is sin. Jn 16:8-11.

Believers should not partner with unbelievers.

2Co 6:14-18.

Questions truthfulness of God. 2Kg 17:13-15; Ps 106:24;

1Jn 5:10.

Wife

A helper like him. Gn 2:18-23. A capable. Pr 31:10-31. A blessing to her husband. Pr 12:4; 31:10,12. Submissive to her husband. 1Co 11:3-12; Eph 5:22-33. Win unbelieving husband by her life. 1Pt 3:1-2.

Work

Believers should. Pr 10:4; 13:4,11; Eph 6:5-8; 2Th 3:7-15.

Worship

With fear and reverence. Ps 5:7; 96:9; ls 6:1-7. With music. Ps 57:7-8; 150. With a new song. Ps 33:3; 96:1; 98:1; 149:1; ls 42:10; Rv 5:9; 14:3. With dance. 2Sm 6:14-16; Ps 149:3. Bowing down. 1Ch 29:20; Ps 95:6; Mt 2:11. Authentic. Jn 4:19-26.

Youth

Examples of. 1Sm 2:11; 17:1-54. Should be an example. 1Tm 4:12.

TITLES OF JESUS

Adam 1C0 15:45	Eternal Fathers 9:6
Advocate1Jn 2:1	Faithful and true witnessRv 1:5; 3:14
AlmightyRv 1:8	First and Last
Alpha and Omega	Firstborn Ps 89:27; Heb 1:6
Amen Rv 3:14	Firstborn among many
Angel of the covenantMal 3:1	brothersRm 8:29
Angel of the LORD	Firstborn from the dead Col 1:18;
Zch 1:12	Rv 1:5
Anointed more than His companions Ps 45:7	Firstborn over all creation Col 1:15
Anointed with the Holy Spirit Ac 10:38	Firstfruits
Apostle of our confession Heb 3:1	Fountain to wash away sin Zch 13:1
Armls 59:16; 63:12	Forerunner Heb 6:20
BabyLk 2:12,16	Friend of sinners Mt 11:19
Beginning and endRv 22:13	Gift of God
Beloved	Glory of the Lord
Beloved Son Mt 3:17; Mk 1:11;	Glory to Israel Lk 2:32
2Pt 1:17	GodJn 1:1; Rm 9:5; 2Pt 1:1;
Blessed and only Sovereign1Tm 6:15	1Jn 5:20
Branch	God is with us
Branch of righteousness Jr 33:15	God's Messiah
Bread from heaven Jn 6:51	God our Savior
Bread of life	God's power and God's wisdom 1Co 1:24
Bright Morning StarRv 22:16	Good Teacher Mk 10:17
BrotherMk 3:35; Heb 2:11	Great Shepherd of the sheep
Builder Zch 6:13	Groom Mt 9:15; 25:1,10
Carpenter Mk 6:3	Head
Carpenter's Son	Head of the church
Chief Shepherd	Col 1:18
Child	Head of every man 1Co 11:3
Chosen of God	Head over everything Eph 1:22
Christ Jesus	Heir of all thingsHeb 1:2
1C0 1:1–2:30	High priest
Christ Jesus our LordRm 8:39;	Holy child Lk 1:35
1Tm 1:12	Holy, innocent, and undefiled Heb 7:26
Christ the Lord Lk 2:11	Holy One of God
Commander Jos 5:14; ls 55:4	Holy Servant JesusAc 4:27,30
Cornerstone	Hope1Tm 1:1
1Pt 2:6-7	Hope of glory
Covenant for the people	Horn of salvation
David their King	Husband 2Co 11:2
Ezk 37:24; Hs 3:5	I AM
DewHs 14:5	Image of the invisible God
Doctor Mt 9:12	Immortal
Door of the sheep	Invisible

Israel	Lord of lords
Israel's consolation Lk 2:25	Lord even of the Sabbath Mk 2:28; Lk 6:5
Jesus Mt 1:21; 1Th 1:10	Lord is our righteousness Jr 23:6; 33:16
Jesus Christ Mt 1:1; Jn 1:17; 17:3	Lord, strong and mighty Ps 24:8
Jesus Christ our LordRm 1:3;	Lord's Messiah Lk 2:26
5:21; 7:25; 1Co 1:2,9	Man Ac 2:22; 17:31
Jesus Christ our SaviorTi 3:6	Man, Christ Jesus
Jesus the Nazarene	Man at God's right hand Ps 80:17
Mk 10:47; Lk 18:37; Jn 18:5	Man of suffering ls 53:3
Jesus of Nazareth Ac 10:38	Mediator
Jesus the Son of God Heb 4:14	Merciful and faithful Heb 2:17
Jesus the son of Joseph	Messiah
Judge of the living and the dead Ac 10:42	Mk 8:29; 14:61; Jn 1:41; 4:25
King Mt 21:5	Messiah, a King Lk 23:2
King of glory	Mighty Godls 9:6
King of IsraelJn 1:49	Minister of the sanctuaryHeb 8:2
King of kings Rv 17:14; 19:16	Minister of the true
King of the Jews	tabernacleHeb 8:2
Mk 15:26; Lk 23:38	Morning star 2Pt 1:19; Rv 22:16
King of the Nations Rv 15:3	Nazarene
King of ZionPs 2:6; Zch 9:9;	Lk 24:19
Jn 12:15	Offspring of DavidRv 22:16
King over all the earthZch 14:9	One and Only Son
Lamb Rv 5:6; 13:8	1Jn 4:9
Lamb of God	Only God our Savior
Lawgiver	Originator of God's creationRv 3:14
Leader and commander ls 55:4	Peace, our
Liberator	Priest
Life Jn 14:6; Col 3:4	Prince
Light	Prince of peace
Light, everlasting ls 60:20	Prophet Lk 24:19; Ac 3:22-23
Light, true	Propitiation
Light of the world Jn 8:12; 9:5	Rabbi Mt 26:25,49; Mk 9:5; 11:21;
Light to the nations	Jn 1:38,49
Lion from the tribe of Judah	RabbouniMk 10:51; Jn 20:16
Living bread Jn 6:51	Ransom for all
Living stone	Redeemer
Lord Christ	Redemption
Lord God the Almighty Rv 15:3	Resurrection and the life
Lord Jesus Ac 7:59; 16:31; 20:21;	Righteous branch
Col 3:17; 1Th 4:2	Righteous judge2Tm 4:8
Lord Jesus Christ Ac 11:17;	Righteous man
Rm 5:1; 1Co 1:3	Righteous One Is 53:11;
Lord and Savior Jesus Christ 2Pt 1:11;	Ac 7:52; 22:14
3:18	Rock that trips
Lord of all	Root of David
Lord of glory	Root of Jesse
Lord of hostsPs 24:10	Ruler and Savior Ac 5:31

Ruler over Israel	Son of the Most High Lk 1:32
Ruler of the kings of the earth	Son of the gods
Sacrificial offering Eph 5:2	Source and perfecter
Salvation	of our faith Heb 12:2
Sanctification	Source of Life
Sanctuary	Source of salvation Heb 2:10
Savior	Spiritual drink
Ac 5:31; 13:23; Php 3:20	Spiritual food
Savior Jesus Christ	Spiritual rock
Savior of the bodyEph 5:23	Star from JacobNm 24:17
Savior of the	Stone of stumbling
world Jn 4:42; 1Jn 4:14	1Pt 2:8
Scepter from Israel Nm 24:17	Sun of righteousnessMal 4:2
Second man	Teacher Mt 26:18; Mk 14:14;
Seed of the woman	Lk 22:11; Jn 11:28
Servant	Teacher, come from God Jn 3:2
Servant of rulers	Tested stone
Sharp sword	True One1Jn 5:20
Shepherd of souls	Truth
Shoot ls 11:1	Vine
Son of the Blessed One Mk 14:61	Way Jn 14:6
Son of David	Wedding clothes Mt 22:12
Mk 10:47-48; Lk 18:38	Wisdom of God Lk 11:49; 1Co 1:24
Son of the Father	Witness ls 55:4
Son of God Mt 4:3; 8:29	Wonderful counselor
Son of Man	Word Jn 1:1,14; 1Jn 1:1
Son of Mary	Word of God

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