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# Leadership Qualifications.

* 1Tim 3:1-6 Qualifications for Overseers and Deacons

Here is a trustworthy saying: Whoever aspires to be an overseer desires a noble task. 2Now the overseer is to be above reproach, faithful to his wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, 3not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. 4He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him, and he must do so in a manner worthy of fullrespect. 5(If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God’s church?) 6He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil.

* Titus 1:5-9 Qualifications of Elders and Bishops

**5**  The reason I left you in Crete was that you might put in order what was left unfinished and appoint elders in every town, as I directed you.**6**  An elder must be blameless, faithful to his wife, a man whose children believe and are not open to the charge of being wild and disobedient. **7**  Since an overseer manages God's household, he must be blameless-not overbearing, not quick-tempered, not given to drunkenness, not violent, not pursuing dishonest gain. **8**  Rather, he must be hospitable, one who loves what is good, who is self-controlled, upright, holy and disciplined. **9**  He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it.

# Holy Scriptures.

We believe the Holy Scriptures of the OT & NT to be the verbally inspired Word of God, the final authority of faith & Life, inherent in the original writings, infallible & “GOD Breathed”

* 2 Tim 3:16-17All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.
* 2 Pet 1:20-21Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet’s own interpretation of things. For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.
* Matt 5:18For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.
* John 16 12-13“I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.
* Isa 55:11so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty,
but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.
	+ Verbally inspired – the words expressed by the writers of the Bible are God’s literal words
	+ Final authority of faith – the only book for salvation and Christian life
	+ Inerrant – without error
	+ Infallible – unable to fail
	+ God breathed – inspiration, God breathed His word through each author yet allowing each author to be themselves.. ex. The difference between Paul vs. Johns writings)

# Diety : Jesus & the Holy Spirit are God.

WE BELIEVE ????

* John 14:8-13 Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.”
Jesus answered: “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Don’t you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves. Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.
* Col 1:15-20The Supremacy of the Son of God
The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.
1. The Godhead : (Trinity)

We believe In on Triune God, eternally existing in three persons – Father, Son, & Holy Spirit Co-eternal in being, co-identical in nature, co-equal in power and glory, and having the same attributes and perfections.

* + - * The gospel teaches that there are three distinct and separate, co-eternal and co-equal members of the Godhead: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. The three are equal but one essence - they co-exist as one God, from the Hebrew word Elohim, is a plural noun, indicating that a plurality of persons exist in the Godhead
* 1 John 5:6–7 (NKJV) 6 This is He who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not only by water, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth. 7 For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; [l](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1%20John%205.6%E2%80%937#footnote5)and these three are one…
	+ Co-indentical in nature
	+ Co-equal in power & glory and having the same attributes and perfections
* Deut 6:4 “Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord is one!
* 2 Cor 13:14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.
* Gen 1: 26-27 26Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Genesis+1%3A26-27&version=NASB#fen-NASB-26a)]sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” 27God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

Reliablity of God’s Word – supportive verses

Heb 4:12

1 Thes 2:13

Isa 55:11

Ps 33:4

1. The Person & Work of Christ (becoming man)
2. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, became man, without ceasing to be God, having been conceived by the Holy Spirit & born of the Virgin Mary, in order that He might reveal God & redeem sinful men.
* Jn 1:1-2 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, *even* to those who believe in His name,
* Jn 1: 14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.
* Jn 1: 29 The next day he \*saw Jesus coming to him and \*said, “Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!
* Luke 1:35 The angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy Child shall be called the Son of God.
1. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ accomplished our redemption through His death on the cross as a representative, vicarious, substitutionary sacrifice; & that our justification is made sure by His literal, physical resurrection from the dead.
* Rom 3:24-25 being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; 25whom God displayed publicly as a [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=rom+3%3A+24-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28017a)]propitiation [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=rom+3%3A+24-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28017b)]in His blood through faith. *This was* to demonstrate His righteousness, [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=rom+3%3A+24-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28017c)]because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed;
* 1Pet 2:24 4and He Himself [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Pet+2%3A24-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30424a)]bore our sins in His body on the [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Pet+2%3A24-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30424b)]cross, so that we might die to [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Pet+2%3A24-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30424c)]sin and live to righteousness; for by His [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Pet+2%3A24-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30424d)]wounds you were healed. 25For you were continually straying like sheep, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and [[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Pet+2%3A24-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30425e)]Guardian of your souls.
* Eph 1:7 In [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Eph+1%3A+7&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29214a)]Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace
* 1Pet 1:3-5 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4to *obtain* an inheritance *which is* imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, 5who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.
1. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ ascended to heaven & is now exalted at the right hand of God, where as our High Priest, He fulfills the ministry of Representative Intercessor & Advocate.
* Acts 1:9-10 The Ascension - And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. 10And as they were gazing intently into [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+1%3A9-10&version=NASB#fen-NASB-26934a)]the sky while He was going, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them.
* Heb 7:25 Therefore He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.
* Heb 9:24 For Christ did not enter a holy place made with hands, a *mere* copy of the true one, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us;
* Rom 8:34 who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us.
* 1Jn 2:1-2 Christ Is Our Advocate -- My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; 2and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for *those of* the whole world.
1. The Person & Work of the Holy Spirit
2. We believe – that the Holy Spirit is a person who convicts the world of sin, of righteousness, and judgement; that He is the Supernatural Agent in regeneration, baptizing all believers into the body of Christ, indwelling (permanently) and sealing (protecting) them into the day of redemption.
* Jn 16:8-11And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment; concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me; and concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father and you no longer see Me; and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged.
* 2 Cor 3:6from God, (6) who also made us adequate as servants of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.
* 1 Cor 12:12-14For even as the body is one and yet has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also is Christ. For  by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.
For the body is not one member, but many.
* Rom 8:9However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.
* Eph 1:13-14In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is  given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God’s own possession, to the praise of His glory.
1. We believe – that He is the Divine Teacher who guides believers into all truth; that it is the privledge and duty of all the saved to be filled (led) with the Spirit.
* Jn 16:13But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come.
* 1 Jn 2:20But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you all know.
* 1 Jn 2:27As for you, the anointing which you received from Him abides in you, and you have no need for anyone to teach you; but as His anointing teaches you about all things, and is true and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you abide in Him.
* Eph 5:18And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit,
1. The Total Depravity of Man (sinfulness)
2. We believe – that man was created in the image and likeness of God, but that in Adam’s sin the race fell, inherited a sinful nature and became alienated from God; that man is totally depraved and of himself, utterly unable to remedy his lost condition.
* Gen 1:26-27Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.
* Rom 3:22-23even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction; for all  have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,
* Rom 5:12Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned
* Gen 3: 1-13 (The Fall of Man)Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, “Indeed, has God said, ‘You shall not eat from [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Genesis+3%3A1-13&version=NASB#fen-NASB-57a)]any tree of the garden’?” 2The woman said to the serpent, “From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat; 3but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, ‘You shall not eat from it or touch it, or you will die.’” 4The serpent said to the woman, “You surely will not die! 5For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” 6When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make *one* wise, she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate. 7Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Genesis+3%3A1-13&version=NASB#fen-NASB-63b)]loin coverings. 8They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Genesis+3%3A1-13&version=NASB#fen-NASB-64c)]cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. 9Then the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, “Where are you?” 10He said, “I heard the sound of You in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid myself.” 11And He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” 12The man said, “The woman whom You gave *to be* with me, she gave me from the tree, and I ate.” 13Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?” And the woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”
* Eph 2: 1-3​ And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience. Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest.
* Eph 2:12remember that you were at that time separate from Christ,  excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.
* Isa 64:6For all of us have become like one who is unclean,
And all our righteous deeds are like a filthy garment;
And all of us wither like a leaf,
And our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
1. Salvation: (Soteriology- The teaching of Salvation)

We Believe that salvation is the ***gift*** of God brought to man by ***grace*** and ***received*** by personal ***faith*** in the ***Lord Jesus Christ***, whose precious ***blood*** was shed on Calvary for the ***forgiveness*** of our sins.

* Eph 2:8-10 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.
* Jn 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name,
* Eph 1:7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace
* 1 Pet 1:18-19 For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.
* **Gift**
	+ - **Rom 3:24** being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus;
		- [2 Corinthians 9:15](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/2-Corinthians/9/15) [Amazing](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Amazing)[Birthdays](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Birthdays)[Thankfulness](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Thankfulness)[Thanksgiving](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Thanksgiving)[Thanksgiving, Offered](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Thanksgiving%2C-Offered)
* [Salvation, As A Gift](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Salvation%2C-As-A-Gift)[God Giving His Son](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/God-Giving-His-Son)[Thanks For Christ](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Thanks-For-Christ)[the Gifts of God](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/the-Gifts-of-God)
* Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!
* **Grace**
	+ - [**Psa 116:5**](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/Psalm/116/5) The Lord is full of **grace** and righteousness; truly, he is a God of mercy.
		- 2 [**Thess 1:12**](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/2-Thessalonians/1/12/type/nasb) so that the name of our Lord Jesus will be glorified in you, and you in Him, according to the **grace** of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.
* **Received**
	+ - 1 [**Cor 2:12**](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/1-Corinthians/2/12/type/nasb) Now we have **received**, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God,
		- [**Col 2:6**](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/Colossians/2/6/type/nasb) Therefore as you have **received** Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him,
* **Faith**
	+ - [**Luk 5:20**](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/Luke/5/20/type/nasb) Seeing their **faith**, He said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven you."
		- [**Rom 3:28**](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/Romans/3/28/type/nasb) For we maintain that a man is justified by **faith** apart from works of the Law.
* Lord Jesus Christ
	+ - [**Rom 5:11**](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/Romans/5/11/type/nasb) And not only this, but we also exult in God through our **Lord Jesus Christ**, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.
		- 1 [**Cor 15:57**](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/1-Corinthians/15/57/type/nasb) but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our **Lord Jesus Christ**.
* Blood
	+ - [**Rev 7:14**](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/Revelation/7/14/type/nasb) I said to him, "My lord, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the **blood of the Lamb**.[Guards](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Guards)[Martyrdom, Examples Of](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Martyrdom%2C-Examples-Of)[Participation, In Sin](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Participation%2C-In-Sin)[Connivance](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Connivance)[Shedding](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Shedding)[Human Blood Shed](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Human-Blood-Shed)[Killing Disciples](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Killing-Disciples)[Assenting](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Assenting)[Approval To Kill](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Approval-To-Kill)[Martyrdom](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Martyrdom)
		- [**1 Cor 10:16**](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/1-Corinthians/10/16/type/nasb) Is not **the** cup of bless**in**g which we bless a shar**in**g **in the blood** of Christ? Is not **the** bread which we break a shar**in**g **in** **the** body of Christ?
* Forgiveness
* [God, Compassion Of](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/God%2C-Compassion-Of/type/nasb)[Asking for forgiveness](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Asking-for-forgiveness/type/nasb)[God's attitude towards people](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/God~s-attitude-towards-people/type/nasb)[Beatitudes, the](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Beatitudes%2C-the/type/nasb)[Mercifulness](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Mercifulness/type/nasb)
* [Sinners](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Sinners/type/nasb)[Unforgiveness](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Unforgiveness/type/nasb)[A Forgiving God](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/A-Forgiving-God/type/nasb)[Rebellion against God](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Rebellion-against-God/type/nasb)[Mercy](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Mercy/type/nasb)
	+ - [**Matt 26:28**](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/Matthew/26/28/type/nasb) for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for **forgiveness** of sins.
		- Acts 13: 38[God, Compassion Of](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/God%2C-Compassion-Of/type/nasb)[Asking for forgiveness](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Asking-for-forgiveness/type/nasb)[God's attitude towards people](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/God~s-attitude-towards-people/type/nasb)[Beatitudes, the](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Beatitudes%2C-the/type/nasb)[Mercifulness](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Mercifulness/type/nasb)
* [Sinners](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Sinners/type/nasb)[Unforgiveness](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Unforgiveness/type/nasb)[A Forgiving God](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/A-Forgiving-God/type/nasb)[Rebellion against God](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Rebellion-against-God/type/nasb)[Mercy](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Mercy/type/nasb)
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* [Salvation, Nature Of](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Salvation%2C-Nature-Of/type/nasb)[Unbelief, Nature And Effects Of](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Unbelief%2C-Nature-And-Effects-Of/type/nasb)[Witnessing, Importance Of](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Witnessing%2C-Importance-Of/type/nasb)[Saving Faith](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Saving-Faith/type/nasb)[Scriptures Bearing Witness To Christ](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Scriptures-Bearing-Witness-To-Christ/type/nasb)[Saved By Faith](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Saved-By-Faith/type/nasb)[God Will Forgive](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/God-Will-Forgive/type/nasb)
* Therefore let it be known to you, brethren, that through Him **forgiveness** of sins is proclaimed to you,

1. The Eternal Security & Assurance of Believers
2. We believe that all the redeemed, once saved, are kept by God’s power and are thus secure in Christ forever. (can not lose salvation)
* Jn 6: 37-40 All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out. 38For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. 39This is the will of Him who sent Me, that of all that He has given Me I lose nothing, but raise it up on the last day. 40For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life, and I Myself will raise him up on the last day.”
* Jn 10: 27-30 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; 28and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand. 29 [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+10%3A+27-30&version=NASB#fen-NASB-26511a)]My Father, who has given *them* to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch *them* out of the Father’s hand. 30I and the Father are [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+10%3A+27-30&version=NASB#fen-NASB-26512b)]one.”
* Rom 8: 1 Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.
* Rom 8: 38-39 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, 39nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.
* 1 Cor 1:4-8 I thank [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1++cor+1%3A+4-8&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28368a)]my God always concerning you for the grace of God which was given you in Christ Jesus, 5that in everything you were enriched in Him, in all speech and all knowledge, 6even as the testimony concerning Christ was confirmed [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1++cor+1%3A+4-8&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28370b)]in you, 7so that you are not lacking in any gift, awaiting eagerly the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ, 8who will also confirm you to the end, blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
* 1 Pet 1:5 who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.
1. We believe that it is the privilege of believers to rejoice in the assurance of their salvation through the testimony of God’s Word; which, however, clearly forbids the use of Christian liberty as an occasion of the flesh.
* Rom 13: 13-14 13Let us [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+13%3A13-14&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28280a)]behave properly as in the day, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual promiscuity and sensuality, not in strife and jealousy. 14But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to *its* lusts.
* Gal 5:13 For you were called to freedom, brethren; only *do* not *turn* your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.
* Titus 2: 11-15 For the grace of God has appeared, [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=titus+2%3A11-15&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29920a)]bringing salvation to all men, 12 [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=titus+2%3A11-15&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29921b)]instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age, 13looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=titus+2%3A11-15&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29922c)]our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus, 14who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds. 15These things speak and exhort and reprove with all [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=titus+2%3A11-15&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29924d)]authority. Let no one disregard you.
1. The Two Natures of the Believer
2. We believe that every saved person possesses two natures, with provision made for victory of the new nature over the old nature through the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit; and that all calms to the eradication = wipe out, done away with. (There are some who believe that once saved, the sin nature and desires are gone, done away with)

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New nature = the Old nature = of the flesh, depravity, sin nature, not pleasing to God

perfect nature of Christ, begotten of God through the Holy Spirit.

We strive for the new nature but will fall short – no one is righteous.. not even one

* Rom 6:13 and do not go on presenting [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=rom+6%3A13&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28082a)]the members of your body to sin *as* [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=rom+6%3A13&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28082b)]instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members *as* [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=rom+6%3A13&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28082c)]instruments of righteousness to God.
* Rom 8:12-13 So then, brethren, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— 13for if you are living according to the flesh, you [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=rom+8%3A+12-13&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28130a)]must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live.
* Gal 5: 16-25 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. 17For the flesh [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=gal+5%3A+16-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29180a)]sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=gal+5%3A+16-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29180b)]please. 18But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law. 19Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=gal+5%3A+16-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29182c)]immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=gal+5%3A+16-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29183d)]factions, 21envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. 22But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. 24Now those who [[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=gal+5%3A+16-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29187e)]belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25If we live by the Spirit, let us also [[f](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=gal+5%3A+16-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29188f)]walk by the Spirit.
* Eph 4:22-24 22that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=eph+4%3A+22-24&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29295a)]self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, 23and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, 24and put on the new [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=eph+4%3A+22-24&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29297b)]self, which [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=eph+4%3A+22-24&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29297c)]in *the likeness of* God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.
* Col 3:10 10and have put on the new self who is being [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=col+3%3A10&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29528a)]renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him—
* 1 Pet: 1: 14-16 As [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+pet+1%3A+14-16&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30389a)]obedient children, do not [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+pet+1%3A+14-16&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30389b)]be conformed to the former lusts *which were yours* in your ignorance, 15but [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+pet+1%3A+14-16&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30390c)]like the Holy One who called you, [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+pet+1%3A+14-16&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30390d)]be holy yourselves also in all *your* behavior; 16because it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.”
* 1 Jn 3:5-9 You know that He appeared in order to take away sins; and in Him there is no sin. 6No one who abides in Him sins; no one who sins has seen Him or [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+John+3%3A5-9&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30586a)]knows Him. 7Little children, make sure no one deceives you; the one who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous; 8the one who practices sin is of the devil; for the devil [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+John+3%3A5-9&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30588b)]has sinned from the beginning. The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil. 9No one who is [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+John+3%3A5-9&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30589c)]born of God practices sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he is [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+John+3%3A5-9&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30589d)]born of God.
1. Separation – from the world - (Santification)

We believe that all the saved should live in such a manner as not to bring reproach upon the Savior & Lord, that separation from all religious apostasy, all worldly and sinful pleasures, practices, and associations is commanded of God.

### 2 Tim 3: 1-5 (“Difficult Times Will Come”) But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. 2For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, 3unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Timothy+3%3A1-5&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29857a)]haters of good, 4treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, 5holding to a form of [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Timothy+3%3A1-5&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29859b)]godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these.

### Rom 12: 1-2 (Dedicated Service)  Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Rom+12%3A+1-2&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28247a)]acceptable to God, *which is* your [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Rom+12%3A+1-2&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28247b)]spiritual service of worship. 2And do not be conformed to this [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Rom+12%3A+1-2&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28248c)]world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Rom+12%3A+1-2&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28248d)]prove what the will of God is, that which is good and [[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Rom+12%3A+1-2&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28248e)]acceptable and perfect.

* Rom 14: 13 Therefore let us not judge one another anymore, but rather determine this—not to put an obstacle or a stumbling block in a brother’s way.

### 1 Jn 2: 15-17 (Do Not Love the World) 15Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. 17The world is passing away, and *also* its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever.

* 2 Jn 1: 9-11 Anyone who [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Jn+1%3A+9-11&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30655b)]goes too far and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God; the one who abides in the teaching, he has both the Father and the Son. 10If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into *your* house, and do not give him a greeting; 11for the one who gives him a greeting participates in his evil deeds.
* 2 Cor 6: 14 Do not be [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Cor+6%3A+14&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28913a)]bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness?
* 2 Cor 7: 1 Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.
1. Missions – to share the Gospel

We believe that it is the obligation of the saved to witness by life and by word to the truths of the Holy Scriptures and to seek to proclaim the Gospel to all mankind.

* Mk 16: 15 And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.
* Acts 1: 8 8but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”
* 2 Cor 5: 19-20 19namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Cor+5%3A+19-20&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28897a)]He has [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Cor+5%3A+19-20&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28897b)]committed to us the word of reconciliation. 20Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.
1. The Ministry & Spiritual Gifts

A. We believe that God is sovereign in the bestowment of all His gifts; and that the gifts of evangelists, pastors, and teachers are sufficient for the perfecting of the saints today; and that speaking in tongues and the working of sign miracles gradually ceased as the New Testament Scriptures were completed and their authority became established.

* 1 Cor 12: 4-11 Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord. 6There are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all *persons*. 7But to each one is given the manifestation of
* the Spirit for the common good. 8For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, and to another the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit; 9to another faith [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+12%3A4-11&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28644a)]by the same Spirit, and to another gifts of [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+12%3A4-11&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28644b)]healing [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+12%3A4-11&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28644c)]by the one Spirit, 10and to another the [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+12%3A4-11&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28645d)]effecting of [[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+12%3A4-11&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28645e)]miracles, and to another prophecy, and to another the [[f](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+12%3A4-11&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28645f)]distinguishing of spirits, to another *various* kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues. 11But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.
* 2 Cor 12: 12 They offered for the dedication of this temple of God 100 bulls, 200 rams, 400 lambs, and as a sin offering for all Israel **12** male goats, **cor**responding to the number of the tribes of Israel.
* Eph 4: 7-12 But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. 8This is why it[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ephesians+4%3A7-12&version=NIV#fen-NIV-29281a)] says:“When he ascended on high,  he took many captives and gave gifts to his people.” 9(What does “he ascended” mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions[[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ephesians+4%3A7-12&version=NIV#fen-NIV-29282c)]? 10He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.) 11So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, 12to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up
* 1 Cor 13: 8 Love never fails; but if *there are gifts of* [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+13&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28674c)]prophecy, they will be done away; if *there are* tongues, they will cease; if *there is* knowledge, it will be done away
1. We believe that God does hear and answer prayer of faith, in accord with His own will, for the sick and afflicted.
* Jn 15: 7 If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.
* 1 Jn 5:14-15 14This is the confidence which we have [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+John+5%3A14-15&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30639a)]before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. 15And if we know that He hears us *in* whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him.
1. The Church - Ecclesiology
2. We believe that the Church, which is the body and the espoused bride of Christ, is a spiritual organism made up of all born-again persons of this present age.
* Eph 1:22-23 And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, 23which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.
* Eph 5: 25-27 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, 26so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, 27that He might present to Himself the church [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ephesians+5%3A25-27&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29332a)]in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.
* 1 Cor 12: 12-14 For even as the body is one and *yet* has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also is Christ. 13For [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Cor+12%3A+12-14&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28648a)]by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.
* 2 Cor 11: 2 For I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy; for I betrothed you to one husband, so that to Christ I might present you *as* a pure virgin.
1. We believe that the establishment and continuance of local churches is clearly taught and defined in the New Testament scripture.
* Acts 14: 27 When they had arrived and gathered the church together, they *began* to report all things that God had done with them and [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+14%3A+27&version=NASB#fen-NASB-27442a)]how He had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles.
* Acts 20: 17, 28-30 From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called to him the elders of the church… Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+20%3A+28-32&version=NASB#fen-NASB-27655a)]overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+20%3A+28-32&version=NASB#fen-NASB-27655b)]purchased [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+20%3A+28-32&version=NASB#fen-NASB-27655c)]with His own blood. 29I know that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; 30and from among your own selves men will arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. 31Therefore be on the alert, remembering that night and day for a period of three years I did not cease to admonish each one with tears. 32And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build *you* up and to give *you* the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.
* 1 Tim 3: 1-13 (*Overseers & Deacons*) It is a trustworthy statement: if any man aspires to the office of [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Tim+3%3A+1-13&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29733a)]overseer, it is a fine work he desires *to do*. 2 [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Tim+3%3A+1-13&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29734b)]An overseer, then, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, 3not addicted to wine [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Tim+3%3A+1-13&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29735c)]or pugnacious, but gentle, peaceable, free from the love of money. 4*He must be* one who manages his own household well, keeping his children under control with all dignity 5(but if a man does not know how to manage his own household, how will he take care of the church of God?), 6*and* not a new convert, so that he will not become conceited and fall into the condemnation [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Tim+3%3A+1-13&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29738d)]incurred by the devil. 7And he must have a good reputation with those outside *the church*, so that he will not fall into reproach and the snare of the devil. 8Deacons likewise *must be* men of dignity, not [[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Tim+3%3A+1-13&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29740e)]double-tongued, [[f](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Tim+3%3A+1-13&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29740f)]or addicted to much wine [[g](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Tim+3%3A+1-13&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29740g)]or fond of sordid gain, 9*but* holding to the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. 10These men must also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons if they are beyond reproach. 11 [[h](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Tim+3%3A+1-13&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29743h)]Women *must* likewise *be* dignified, not malicious gossips, but temperate, faithful in all things. 12Deacons must be husbands of *only* one wife, *and* [[i](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Tim+3%3A+1-13&version=NASB" \l "fen-NASB-29744i" \o "See footnote i)]good managers of *their* children and their own households. 13For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a [[j](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Tim+3%3A+1-13&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29745j)]high standing and great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.
* 1 Tim 1: 5-11 (*Qualifications for Elders*) For this reason I left you in Crete, that you would set in order what remains and appoint elders in every city as I directed you, 6*namely*, if any man is above reproach, the husband of one wife, having children who believe, not accused of dissipation or rebellion. 7For the [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ti+1%3A+5-11&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29900a)]overseer must be above reproach as God’s steward, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not addicted to wine, not pugnacious, not fond of sordid gain, 8but hospitable, loving what is good, sensible, just, devout, self-controlled, 9holding fast the faithful word which is in accordance with the teaching, so that he will be able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict. 10For there are many rebellious men, empty talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision, 11who must be silenced because they are upsetting whole families, teaching things they should not *teach* for the sake of sordid gain.
1. We believe in the autonomy (independence) of the local church free of any external authority or control.
	* (not to be confused with affiliation..
	* Church leadership that is qualified to lead and teach properly and handle internal issues without outside involvement.
* Acts 13: 1-4 Now there were at Antioch, in the church that was *there*, prophets and teachers: Barnabas, and Simeon who was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. 2While they were ministering to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” 3Then, when they had fasted and prayed and laid their hands on them, they sent them away. 4So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia and from there they sailed to Cyprus.
* Acts 15: 19-31 Therefore it is my judgment that we do not trouble those who are turning to God from among the Gentiles, 20but that we write to them that they abstain from [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+15%3A+19-31&version=NASB#fen-NASB-27463a)]things contaminated by idols and from fornication and from what is strangled and from blood. 21For Moses from ancient generations has in every city those who preach him, since [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+15%3A+19-31&version=NASB#fen-NASB-27464b)]he is read in the synagogues every Sabbath.” 22Then it seemed good to the apostles and the elders, with the whole church, to choose men from among them to send to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas—Judas called Barsabbas, and Silas, leading men among the brethren, 23and they [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+15%3A+19-31&version=NASB#fen-NASB-27466c)]sent this letter by them, “The apostles and the brethren who are elders, to the brethren in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia who are from the Gentiles, greetings. 24“Since we have heard that some [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+15%3A+19-31&version=NASB#fen-NASB-27467d)]of our number to whom we gave no instruction have disturbed you with *their* words, unsettling your souls, 25it seemed good to us, having [[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+15%3A+19-31&version=NASB#fen-NASB-27468e)]become of one mind, to select men to send to you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, 26men who have [[f](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+15%3A+19-31&version=NASB#fen-NASB-27469f)]risked their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. 27“Therefore we have sent Judas and Silas, who themselves will also report the same things by word *of mouth*. 28“For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to lay upon you no greater burden than these essentials: 29that you abstain from things sacrificed to idols and from blood and from things strangled and from fornication; [[g](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+15%3A+19-31&version=NASB#fen-NASB-27472g)]if you keep yourselves free from such things, you will do well. Farewell.” 30So when they were sent away, they went down to Antioch; and having gathered the [[h](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+15%3A+19-31&version=NASB#fen-NASB-27473h)]congregation together, they delivered the letter. 31When they had read it, they rejoiced because of its [[i](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+15%3A+19-31&version=NASB" \l "fen-NASB-27474i" \o "See footnote i)]encouragement.
* Rom 16: 1 & 4 I commend to you our sister Phoebe, who is a [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=rom+16%3A+1-4&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28338a)]servant of the church which is at Cenchrea; ….. 4who for my life risked their own necks, to whom not only do I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles;
* 1 Cor 3: 9 & 16 For we are God’s fellow workers; you are God’s [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Cor+3%3A+9-16&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28420a)]field, God’s building… 16Do you not know that you are a [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Cor+3%3A+9-16&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28427d)]temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you?
* 1 Cor 5: 4-7 & 13 In the name of our Lord Jesus, when you are assembled, and [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Cor+5%3A+4-7&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28459a)]I with you in spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus, 5*I have decided* to deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of his flesh, so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Cor+5%3A+4-7&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28460b)]Jesus. 6Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump *of dough*? 7Clean out the old leaven so that you may be a new lump, just as you are *in fact* unleavened. For Christ our Passover also has been sacrificed…. 13But those who are outside, God [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Cor+5%3A+13&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28468a)]judges. Remove the wicked man from among yourselves.
* 1 Peter 5: 1-4 Therefore, I exhort the elders among you, as *your* fellow elder and witness of the sufferings of Christ, and a partaker also of the glory that is to be revealed, 2shepherd the flock of God among you, exercising oversight not under compulsion, but voluntarily, according to *the will of* God; and not for sordid gain, but with eagerness; 3nor yet as lording it over [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+peter+5%3A+1-4&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30469a)]those allotted to your charge, but [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+peter+5%3A+1-4&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30469b)]proving to be examples to the flock. 4And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+peter+5%3A+1-4&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30470c)]crown of glory.
1. We recognize the ordinances of water baptism and the Lord’s supper as a Scriptural means of testimony for the Church age.
	* Baptism not a requirement for salvation – is a symbol of obedience and commitment
	* Communion is observed periodically to reflect on Jesus sacrifice, and our covenant with Him.
* Matt 28: 19-20 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, 20teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matt+28%3A+19-20&version=NASB#fen-NASB-24216b)]always, even to the end of the age.”
* Acts 2:41-42 So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+2%3A+41-42&version=NASB#fen-NASB-26991a)]souls. 42They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+2%3A+41-42&version=NASB#fen-NASB-26992b)]to prayer.
* Acts 18: 8 Crispus, the leader of the synagogue, believed in the Lord with all his household, and many of the Corinthians when they heard were believing and being baptized.
* 1 Cor 11:23-26 (*The Lords Supper*) For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus in the night in which He was betrayed took bread; 24and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, “This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me.” 25In the same way *He took* the cup also after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink *it*, in remembrance of Me.” 26For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

1. Dispensations

We believe that the Scriptures interpreted in their natural, literal sense reveal divinely determined dispensations (arrangements, plans, rules of life), which define man’s responsibilities in successive ages. (see chart) These dispensations are not ways of salvation, but rather divinely ordered stewardships by which God directs man according to His purpose. Three of these – The Age of Law, The Age of the Church, and the Age of the Millennial Kingdom – are the subjects of detailed revelation in Scripture.

* Jn 1: 17 For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+1%3A17&version=NASB#fen-NASB-26062a)]were realized through Jesus Christ.
* 1Cor 9:17 For if I do this voluntarily, I have a reward; but if against my will, I have a stewardship entrusted to me.
* 2 Cor 3: 9-18 For if the ministry of condemnation has glory, much more does the ministry of righteousness abound in glory. 10For indeed what had glory, in this case has no glory because of the glory that surpasses *it*. 11For if that which fades away *was* [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2cor+3%3A+9-18&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28853a)]with glory, much more that which remains *is* in glory.
* ??????? 12Therefore having such a hope, we use great boldness in *our* speech, 13and *are* not like Moses, *who* used to put a veil over his face so that the sons of Israel would not look intently at the end of what was fading away. 14But their minds were hardened; for until this very day at the reading of the old covenant the same veil [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2cor+3%3A+9-18&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28856b)]remains unlifted, because it is removed in Christ. 15But to this day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their heart; 16but whenever a person turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. 17Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, *there* is liberty. 18But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.
* Gal 3: 13-25 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=gal+3%3A+13-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29116a)]tree”— 14in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=gal+3%3A+13-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29117b)]come to the Gentiles, so that we would receive the promise of the Spirit through faith. 15Brethren, I speak [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=gal+3%3A+13-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29118c)]in terms of human relations: even though it is *only* a man’s [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=gal+3%3A+13-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29118d)]covenant, yet when it has been ratified, no one sets it aside or adds [[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=gal+3%3A+13-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29118e)]conditions to it. 16Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. He does not say, “And to seeds,” as *referring* to many, but *rather* to one, “And to your seed,” that is, Christ. 17What I am saying is this: the Law, which came four hundred and thirty years later, does not invalidate a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to nullify the promise. 18For if the inheritance is [[f](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=gal+3%3A+13-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29121f)]based on law, it is no longer [[g](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=gal+3%3A+13-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29121g)]based on a promise; but God has granted it to Abraham by means of a promise. 19Why the Law then? It was added [[h](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=gal+3%3A+13-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29122h)]because of transgressions, having been ordained through angels by the [[i](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=gal+3%3A+13-25&version=NASB" \l "fen-NASB-29122i" \o "See footnote i)]agency of a mediator, until the seed would come to whom the promise had been made. 20Now a mediator is not [[j](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=gal+3%3A+13-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29123j)]for one *party only*; whereas God is *only* one. 21Is the Law then contrary to the promises of God? May it never be! For if a law had been given which was able to impart life, then righteousness [[k](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=gal+3%3A+13-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29124k)]would indeed have been [[l](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=gal+3%3A+13-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29124l)]based on law. 22But the Scripture has shut up [[m](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=gal+3%3A+13-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29125m)]everyone under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. 23But before faith came, we were kept in custody under the law, being shut up to the faith which was later to be revealed. 24Therefore the Law has become our tutor *to lead us* to Christ, so that we may be justified by faith. 25But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a [[n](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=gal+3%3A+13-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29128n)]tutor.
* Eph 1: 10 with a view to an administration [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=eph+1%3A+10&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29217a)]suitable to the fullness of the times, *that is*, the summing up of all things in Christ, things [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=eph+1%3A+10&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29217b)]in the heavens and things on the earth. In Him
* Col 1:24-25 Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=col+1%3A24-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29490a)]do my share on behalf of His body, which is the church, in filling up what is lacking [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=col+1%3A24-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29490b)]in Christ’s afflictions. 25Of *this church* I [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=col+1%3A24-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29491c)]was made a minister according to the stewardship from God bestowed on me for your benefit, so that I might [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=col+1%3A24-25&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29491d)]fully carry out the *preaching of* the word of God,
* Heb 7:19 (for the Law made nothing perfect), and on the other hand there is a bringing in of a better hope, through which we draw near to God.
* Rev 20: 2-6 And he laid hold of the dragon, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; 3and he threw him into the abyss, and shut *it* and sealed *it* over him, so that he would not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were completed; after these things he must be released for a short time. 4Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. And I *saw* the souls of those who had been beheaded because of [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=rev+20%3A+2-6&version=NASB#fen-NASB-31044a)]their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and 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. 6Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.
1. The Personality of Satan.

We believe that Satan is a person, the author of sin and the cause of the fall; the he is the open and declared enemy of God and man; ant that he shall be eternally punished in the Lake of Fire.

* + - * Satan can not be in more than one place at once.. he uses his demons to do his bidding and tempt us to sin.
* Job 1: 6-7 Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Job+1%3A+6-7&version=NASB#fen-NASB-12876a)]Satan also came among them. 7The Lord said to Satan, “From where do you come?” Then Satan answered the Lord and said, “From roaming about on the earth and walking around on it.”
* Ez 28: 12-19 “Son of man, take up a lamentation over the king of Tyre and say to him, ‘Thus says the Lord God, “You [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=ez+28%3A+12-19&version=NASB#fen-NASB-21170a)]had the seal of perfection, Full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.13“You were in Eden, the garden of God; Every precious stone was your covering:
The ruby, the topaz and the diamond; The beryl, the onyx and the jasper; The lapis lazuli, the turquoise and the emerald; And the gold, the workmanship of your [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=ez+28%3A+12-19&version=NASB#fen-NASB-21171b)]settings and [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=ez+28%3A+12-19&version=NASB#fen-NASB-21171c)]sockets, Was in you. On the day that you were created They were prepared.14“You were the anointed cherub who [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=ez+28%3A+12-19&version=NASB#fen-NASB-21172d)]covers, And I placed you *there*. You were on the holy mountain of God; You walked in the midst of the stones of fire. 15“You were blameless in your ways From the day you were created Until unrighteousness was found in you. 16“By the abundance of your trade [[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=ez+28%3A+12-19&version=NASB#fen-NASB-21174e)]You were internally filled with violence, And you sinned; Therefore I have cast you as profane From the mountain of God. And I have destroyed you, O [[f](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=ez+28%3A+12-19&version=NASB#fen-NASB-21174f)]covering cherub, From the midst of the stones of fire. 17“Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty;You corrupted your wisdom by reason of your splendor. I cast you to the ground; I put you before kings, That they may see you. 18“By the multitude of your iniquities, In the unrighteousness of your trade You profaned your sanctuaries. Therefore I have brought fire from the midst of you; It has consumed you, And I have turned you to ashes on the earth In the eyes of all who see you. 19“All who know you among the peoples Are appalled at you; You have become [[g](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=ez+28%3A+12-19&version=NASB#fen-NASB-21177g)]terrified And you will cease to be forever.”
* Matt 4: 2-11 2And after He had fasted forty days and forty nights, He [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=matt+4%3A2-11&version=NASB#fen-NASB-23212a)]then became hungry. 3And the tempter came and said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.” 4But He answered and said, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.’ 5Then the devil \*took Him into the holy city and had Him stand on the pinnacle of the temple, 6and \*said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down; for it is written, ‘He will command His angels concerning You’; and ‘On *their* hands they will bear You up,
So that You will not strike Your foot against a stone.’ 7Jesus said to him, “[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=matt+4%3A2-11&version=NASB#fen-NASB-23217b)]On the other hand, it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’ 8Again, the devil \*took Him to a very high mountain and \*showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory; 9and he said to Him, “All these things I will give You, if You fall down and [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=matt+4%3A2-11&version=NASB#fen-NASB-23219c)]worship me.” 10Then Jesus \*said to him, “Go, Satan! For it is written, ‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=matt+4%3A2-11&version=NASB#fen-NASB-23220d)]serve Him only.’” 11Then the devil \*left Him; and behold, angels came and *began* to minister to Him.
* Matt 25: 41 41“Then He will also say to those on His left, ‘Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels;
* Rev 20: 10 10And the devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=rev+20%3A10&version=NASB#fen-NASB-31050a)]brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are also; and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.
1. The Rapture & Second Coming of Christ.

We Believe in that “Blessed Hope”, the personal imminent, pre-tribulation rapture of the Church and the pre-millennial Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. He comes for His redeemed ones before the Great Tribulation and then His return to the earth after the Tribulation with His saints, to establish His Millennial Kingdom.

* Jn 14:13 Whatever you ask in My name, that will I do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.
* 1 Thes 4:13-18 (those who died in Christ) But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, so that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope. 14For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+thes+4%3A+13-18&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29618a)]in Jesus. 15For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+thes+4%3A+13-18&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29619b)]and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. 16For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+thes+4%3A+13-18&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29620c)]shout, with the voice of *the* archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17Then we who are alive [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+thes+4%3A+13-18&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29621d)]and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord. 18Therefore comfort one another with these words.
* 1 Thes 5:2 For you yourselves know full well that the day of the Lord [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+thes+5%3A2&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29624a)]will come just like a thief in the night.
* Titus 2:13 looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ti+2%3A13&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29922a)]our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus,
* 1 Cor 15: 51-58 Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed, 52in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+cor+15%3A+51-58&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28771a)]imperishable, and we will be changed. 53For this [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+cor+15%3A+51-58&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28772b)]perishable must put on [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+cor+15%3A+51-58&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28772c)]the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54But when this [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+cor+15%3A+51-58&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28773d)]perishable will have put on [[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+cor+15%3A+51-58&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28773e)]the imperishable, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written, “Death is swallowed up in victory. 55O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?” 56The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law; 57but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 58Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not *in* vain in the Lord.
* Rev 3:10 Because you have kept the word of My [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=rev+3%3A10&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30758a)]perseverance, I also will keep you from the hour of [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=rev+3%3A10&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30758b)]testing, that *hour* which is about to come upon the whole [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=rev+3%3A10&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30758c)]world, to [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=rev+3%3A10&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30758d)]test those who dwell on the earth.
* Rev 4:1-2  After these things I looked, and behold, a door *standing* open in heaven, and the first voice which I had heard, like *the sound* of a trumpet speaking with me, said, “Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after these things.” 2Immediately I was [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=rev+4%3A1-2&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30772a)]in the Spirit; and behold, a throne was standing in heaven, and One sitting on the throne.
* Zech 14: 4-11 In that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which is in front of Jerusalem on the east; and the Mount of Olives will be split in its middle from east to west by a very large valley, so that half of the mountain will move toward the north and the other half toward the south. 5You will flee by the valley of My mountains, for the valley of the mountains will reach to Azel; yes, you will flee just as you fled before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Then the Lord, my God, will come, *and* all the holy ones with [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=zech+14%3A+4-11&version=NASB#fen-NASB-23074a)]Him! 6In that day there will be no light; the [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=zech+14%3A+4-11&version=NASB#fen-NASB-23075b)]luminaries will dwindle. 7For it will be a unique day which is known to the Lord, neither day nor night, but it will come about that at evening time there will be light. 8And in that day living waters will flow out of Jerusalem, half of them toward the eastern sea and the other half toward the western sea; it will be in summer as well as in winter. 9And the Lord will be king over all the earth; in that day the Lord will be *the only* one, and His name *the only* one. 10All the land will be changed into a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem; but [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=zech+14%3A+4-11&version=NASB#fen-NASB-23079c)]Jerusalem will rise and remain on its site from Benjamin’s Gate as far as the place of the First Gate to the Corner Gate, and from the Tower of Hananel to the king’s wine presses. 11 [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=zech+14%3A+4-11&version=NASB#fen-NASB-23080d)]People will live in it, and there will no longer be a curse, for Jerusalem will dwell in security.
* Rev 19:11-16 And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on it *is* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and wages war. 12His eyes *are* a flame of fire, and on His head *are* many diadems; and He has a name written *on Him* which no one knows except Himself. 13*He is* clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. 14And the armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white *and* clean, were following Him on white horses. 15From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations, and He will [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Rev+19%3A+11-16&version=NASB#fen-NASB-31034a)]rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Rev+19%3A+11-16&version=NASB#fen-NASB-31034b)]wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty. 16And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, “KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.”
* Rev 20: 1-6 (Satan is bound) Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding the key of the abyss and a great chain [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Rev+20%3A+1-6&version=NASB#fen-NASB-31041a)]in his hand. 2And he laid hold of the dragon, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; 3and he threw him into the abyss, and shut *it* and sealed *it* over him, so that he would not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were completed; after these things he must be released for a short time. 4Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. And I *saw* the souls of those who had been beheaded because of [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Rev+20%3A+1-6&version=NASB#fen-NASB-31044b)]their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and 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. 6Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.
* Zech 8:3 Thus says the Lord, ‘I will return to Zion and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem. Then Jerusalem will be called the City of Truth, and the mountain of the Lord of hosts *will be called* the Holy Mountain.’
* Isa 11:1-10 Then a shoot will spring from the stem of Jesse,
And a branch from his roots will bear fruit.
2The Spirit of the Lord will rest on Him,
The spirit of wisdom and understanding,
The spirit of counsel and strength,
The spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
3And He will delight in the fear of the Lord,
And He will not judge by what His eyes see,
Nor make a decision by what His ears hear;
4But with righteousness He will judge the poor,
And decide with fairness for the afflicted of the earth;
And He will strike the earth with the rod of His mouth,
And with the breath of His lips He will slay the wicked.
5Also righteousness will be the belt about His loins,
And faithfulness the belt about His waist.
* 6And the wolf will dwell with the lamb,
And the leopard will lie down with the young goat,
And the calf and the young lion [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=isaiah+11%3A+1-10&version=NASB#fen-NASB-17891a)]and the fatling together;
And a little boy will lead them.
7Also the cow and the bear will graze,
Their young will lie down together,
And the lion will eat straw like the ox.
8The nursing child will play by the hole of the cobra,
And the weaned child will put his hand on the viper’s den.
9They will not hurt or destroy in all My holy mountain,
For the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
As the waters cover the sea.
* 10Then in that day The nations will resort to the root of Jesse,
Who will stand as a [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=isaiah+11%3A+1-10&version=NASB#fen-NASB-17895b)]signal for the peoples;
And His resting place will be [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=isaiah+11%3A+1-10&version=NASB#fen-NASB-17895c)]glorious.
1. The Eternal State
2. We believe in the bodily resurrection of all men, the saved to eternal life and the unsaved to judgement and everlasting punishment.
* Matt 25: 46 These will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”
* Jn 5: 28-29 Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice, 29and will come forth; those who did the good *deeds* to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil *deeds* to a resurrection of judgment.
* Jn 11: 25-26 Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, 26and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?”
* Rev 20: 5-6 The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed. This is the first resurrection. 6Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.
1. We believe that the souls of the redeemed are, at death absent from the body and present with the Lord, where in conscious bliss they await the first resurrection, when the spirit, soul, and body are reunited to be glorified forever with the Lord.
* Lk 23:43 And He said to him, “Truly I say to you, today you shall be with Me in Paradise.”
* Rev 20: 4-6 Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. And I *saw* the souls of those who had been beheaded because of [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=rev+20%3A+4-6&version=NASB#fen-NASB-31044a)]their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and 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. 6Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.
* 2 Cor 5:8 8we are of good courage, I say, and prefer rather to be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord.
* Phil 3:21 who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.
* 1Thess 4:16-17 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+thes+4%3A16-17&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29620a)]shout, with the voice of *the* archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17Then we who are alive [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+thes+4%3A16-17&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29621b)]and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.
1. We believe the the souls of unbelievers remain, after death, in conscious misery until the second resurrection, when with the soul and body reunited they shall appear at the Great White Throne Judgement, shall be cast into the Lake of Fire, not to be annihilated, but to suffer everlasting conscience punishment.
* Lk 16: 19-26 (parable of rich man and lazarus) Now there was a rich man, and he habitually dressed in purple and fine linen, joyously living in splendor every day. 20And a poor man named Lazarus was laid at his gate, covered with sores, 21and longing to be fed with the *crumbs* which were falling from the rich man’s table; besides, even the dogs were coming and licking his sores. 22Now the poor man died and was carried away by the angels to Abraham’s bosom; and the rich man also died and was buried. 23In Hades he lifted up his eyes, being in torment, and \*saw Abraham far away and Lazarus in his bosom. 24And he cried out and said, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus so that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool off my tongue, for I am in agony in this flame.’ 25But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your life you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus bad things; but now he is being comforted here, and you are in agony. 26And [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+16%3A+19-26&version=NASB#fen-NASB-25647a)]besides all this, between us and you there is a great chasm fixed, so that those who wish to come over from here to you will not be able, and *that* none may cross over from there to us.’
* Matt 25: 41-46 “Then He will also say to those on His left, ‘Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels; 42for I was hungry, and you gave Me *nothing* to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me nothing to drink; 43I was a stranger, and you did not invite Me in; naked, and you did not clothe Me; sick, and in prison, and you did not visit Me.’ 44Then they themselves also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=matt+25%3A+41-46&version=NASB#fen-NASB-24053a)]take care of You?’ 45Then He will answer them, ‘Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.’ 46These will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”
* 2 Thess 1:7-9 and *to give* relief to you who are afflicted [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+thess+1%3A+7-9&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29657a)]and to us as well [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+thess+1%3A+7-9&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29657b)]when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+thess+1%3A+7-9&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29657c)]His mighty angels in flaming fire, 8dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. 9These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power,
* Jude 1: 6-7 And angels who did not keep their own domain, but abandoned their proper abode, He has kept in eternal bonds under darkness for the judgment of the great day, 7just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities around them, since they in the same way as these indulged in gross immorality and went after [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=jude+1%3A+6-7&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30681a)]strange flesh, are exhibited as an [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=jude+1%3A+6-7&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30681b)]example in undergoing the punishment of eternal fire.
* Mark 9: 43-48 43If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life crippled, than, having your two hands, to go into [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=mark+9%3A+43-48&version=NASB#fen-NASB-24582a)]hell, into the unquenchable fire, 44[[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=mark+9%3A+43-48&version=NASB#fen-NASB-24583b)]where their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched.] 45If your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame, than, having your two feet, to be cast into [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=mark+9%3A+43-48&version=NASB#fen-NASB-24584c)]hell, 46[[[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=mark+9%3A+43-48&version=NASB#fen-NASB-24585d)]where their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched.] 47If your eye causes you to stumble, throw it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye, than, having two eyes, to be cast into [[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=mark+9%3A+43-48&version=NASB#fen-NASB-24586e)]hell, 48where their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched.
* Rev 20: 11-15 Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=rev+20%3A+11-15&version=NASB#fen-NASB-31051a)]presence earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them. 12And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=rev+20%3A+11-15&version=NASB#fen-NASB-31052b)]books were opened; and another [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=rev+20%3A+11-15&version=NASB#fen-NASB-31052c)]book was opened, which is *the book* of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=rev+20%3A+11-15&version=NASB#fen-NASB-31052d)]books, according to their deeds. 13And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one *of them* according to their deeds. 14Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. 15And if [[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=rev+20%3A+11-15&version=NASB#fen-NASB-31055e)]anyone’s name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

Biblical Advice:

What biblical advice would you give a man who says that he is a Christian, yet…

1. He continues a life of wild living
* We all have choices. When eve and adam ate from the tree of knowledge and sinned first God removed his protection from man and we obtained free will which can either be good or bad.. so we can choose to live it up and make bad choices and ignore Jesus teachings or choose to follow them and make better choices and
* Rom 8:12-13 12So then, brethren, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— 13for if you are living according to the flesh, you [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=rom+8%3A+12-13&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28130a)]must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live.
* Titus 2: 11-15 11For the grace of God has appeared, [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=tit+2%3A+11-15&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29920a)]bringing salvation to all men, 12 [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=tit+2%3A+11-15&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29921b)]instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age, 13looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=tit+2%3A+11-15&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29922c)]our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus, 14who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.
1. Says he doesn’t believe they are sin
* Whatever you do that is based on not glorify God
1. Because God is a loving God
2. Who understands modern times ?

End with…

He who Overcomes:

The reliability of Gods’s Word

* Heb 4:12 For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.
* 1 Thes 2:13 For this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted *it* not *as* the word of men, but *for* what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe.
* Isa 55:11 So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth;
It will not return to Me empty,
Without accomplishing what I desire,
And without succeeding *in the matter* for which I sent it.
* Ps 33:4 For the word of the Lord is upright,
And all His work is *done* in faithfulness.