

Hide Yourself!



Isaiah 26:20-21 CEV Go into your interior rooms and lock the doors, my people. Hide there [but] for a little while, until the LORD is no longer angry [or, until the denunciation passes over]. (21) The LORD will come out to punish everyone on earth for their sins. And when he does, [all] those who did violent crimes will be known and punished.

Where can we hide? What really is your scriptural hiding place – what are our interior rooms?

Introduction

We want to introduce this material by saying the whole of the Bible directs attention to Christ Jesus as the son of God.⁽²⁴⁾ It identifies Jesus as the one sent by God to teach us about him.⁽⁵⁴⁾ The Bible Book of Isaiah (see opening scriptures on the cover and those below)*^a contains several prophecies, many of which help us identify the Messiah (or Christ). Isaiah also uttered prophecies that give us insight into our own future. It is that, our own personal future, we herein give attention to. Make no mistake, the most important thing you can ever learn is what Jesus Christ taught.⁽⁹⁾ We claim no knowledge or insight beyond what we have gained from the Bible. We are not prophets and God is not whispering in our ear. This material serves only to give you some Bible background; and then based on that background, to direct you to the Gospel accounts of the life of Jesus. Jesus is God's true prophet and what he was sent to teach was recorded for us by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Above all else, then, read your Bible! You have the most wondrous opportunity to build faith in what the son of God came to teach; a faith that can, in turn, preserve you alive.⁽²²⁾ Our only goal, in producing this booklet, is to help you see what an easy thing it is to learn what Jesus taught.⁽⁵⁴⁾ If it is *your* heart's desire to know what God wants you to know, above all else, read your Bible!

*^a **(Isaiah 9:2)** ² The people that were walking in the darkness have seen a great light. As for those dwelling in the land of deep shadow, light itself has shone upon them.~

(Matthew 4:14-17) ¹⁴ that there might be fulfilled what was spoken through Isaiah the prophet, saying: ¹⁵ "O land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, along the road of the sea, on the other side of the Jordan, Galilee of the nations! ¹⁶ the people sitting in darkness saw a great light, and as for those sitting in a region of deathly shadow, light rose upon them." ¹⁷ From that time on Jesus commenced preaching and saying: "Repent, YOU people, for the kingdom of the heavens has drawn near."~

(Job 8:5, 6) ⁵ If you yourself will look for God, and of the Almighty you will implore favor. ⁶ If you are pure and upright, by now he would awake for you, and he would certainly restore your righteous abiding place.~

(Psalm 119:114-116) ¹¹⁴ You are my place of concealment and my shield. For your word I have waited. ¹¹⁵ Get away from me, you evildoers, that I may observe the commandments of my God. ¹¹⁶ Support me according to your saying, that I may keep living, and do not let me be put to shame for my hope.

Everyone with common sense is concerned for the future of mankind (of each of us). The world seems to be falling down in every way imaginable.

We could go on in great detail about the many problems being faced by humanity. But... *Everyone* knows about the problems! Jesus Christ could see by our course and conduct where we were headed. He prophetically enumerated the many problems we have brought upon ourselves.¹

So... As we are all aware of the problems, shouldn't we *all be asking*: *What* is the solution? Very simply, as Isaiah said in chapter 26, verses 20 thru 21,^(cover) the solution lies in knowing where our own personal hiding place is. It is a place where you can meditate on what is truth, on God's

¹ [Matthew 24:3-14 GNB](#) As Jesus sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him in private. "Tell us when all this will be," they asked, "and what will happen to show that it is the time for your coming and the end of the age [*or, the end of this old system of things*]." (4) Jesus answered, "Watch out, and do not let anyone fool you. (5) Many men, claiming to speak for me, will come and say, 'I am the Messiah!' and they will fool many people. (6) You are going to hear the noise of battles close by and the news of battles far away; but do not be troubled. Such things must happen, but they do not mean that the end has come. (7) Countries will fight each other; kingdoms will attack one another. There will be famines and earthquakes everywhere. (8) All these things are like the first pains of childbirth. (9) "Then you will be arrested and handed over to be punished and [*some of you will*] be put to death. Everyone will hate you because of me. (10) Many will give up their faith at that time; they will betray one another and hate one another. (11) Then many false prophets will appear and fool many people. (12) Such will be the spread of evil that many people's love will grow cold. (13) But whoever holds out to the end will be saved. (14) And this Good News about the Kingdom will be preached through all the world for a witness to all people; and then the end will come. The good news Jesus brought is being preached to you, even as you read these (his) words. [Mark 13:19-20 CEV](#) This will be the worst time of suffering since God created the world, and nothing this terrible will ever happen again. (20) If the Lord doesn't make the time shorter, no one will be left alive. But because of his chosen and special ones [*or, the ones being chosen*], he will make the time shorter.

name and who He really is, and then on his provision for salvation;² a place where we can become determined to serve God because we recognize He always cares for us personally.³ That personal hiding place for you, and for me, amounts to the solution being currently offered by God to all of (each of) mankind. Your personal hiding place connects with, or is created by, your faith: It is your knowledge (based in faith) that Jehovah⁽⁴⁾ is in the process of fixing *all* mankind's problems. All that is required of you is to recognize and have faith God really is in the process of making it better. By our having faith in truth, it grants us the ability to see a way for us to fit into what God is doing. Let us start, then, by considering how what God is doing in our day, is the very same

² Malachi 3:13-18 Modern World Translation MWT ¹³ “Strong have been man’s words against me,” Jehovah⁽⁴⁾ has said. And you have said: “What have we spoken with one another against you?” ¹⁴ “You have said, ‘It is of no value to serve God. And what profit is there in that we have kept the obligation to him, and that we have walked dejectedly on account of Jehovah⁽⁴⁾ of armies?’ ¹⁵ And at present you are pronouncing presumptuous people happy. Also, the doers of wickedness you have been built up. Also, they have tested God out and keep getting away.” ¹⁶ At that time those in fear of Jehovah⁽⁴⁾ spoke with one another, each one with his companion, and Jehovah⁽⁴⁾ kept paying attention and listening. And a book of remembrance began to be written up before him for those in fear of Jehovah⁽⁴⁾ and for those thinking upon his name. ¹⁷ “And they will certainly become mine,” Jehovah⁽⁴⁾ of armies has said, “at the day when I am producing a special property. And I will show compassion upon them, just as a man shows compassion upon his son who is serving him. ¹⁸ And you people will again certainly see [the distinction] between a righteous one and a wicked one, between one serving God and one who has not served him.”

³ Isaiah 48:16-19 LITV Come near to Me; hear this: I have not spoken in secret from the beginning. From its being, I was there; and now the Lord Jehovah, and His Spirit, has sent Me. (17) So says Jehovah, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel, I *am* Jehovah your God, who teaches you to profit, who leads you in the way you should go. (18) Oh that you had listened to My commands! Then your peace would have been like the river, and your righteousness like the waves of the sea. (19) And your seed would have been like the sand, and your offspring of your bowels like its grain; his name would not have been cut off nor destroyed from My presence.

solution Isaiah prophesied about.⁴ According to Isaiah’s promises, we should hide ourselves in our interior rooms until God’s denunciation of the wicked has passed by.

⁴ Isaiah 26:19-21 God’s Word [GW] Your dead will live. Their corpses will rise. Those who lie dead in the dust will wake up and shout for joy, because your dew is a refreshing dew, and the earth will revive the spirits of the dead. (20) My people, go to your [interior] rooms, and shut the doors behind you. Hide for a little while until his fury has ended. (21) The LORD is going to come out from his dwelling place to punish those who live on earth for their sins. The earth will uncover the blood shed on it and will no longer cover up its dead bodies.~

These same verses from a second translation of the Bible.~

Isaiah 26:19-21 Modern King James Version [MKJV] Your dead ones shall live, *together with* my dead body they shall arise. Awake and sing, you who dwell in the dust; for your dew is as the dew of lights, and the earth shall cast out the dead. (20) Come, my people, enter into your [interior] rooms and shut your doors around you; hide for a little moment, until the fury has passed by. (21) For behold, Jehovah comes out of His place to punish the people of the earth for their iniquity; the earth also shall reveal her blood, and shall no more cover her dead.

The reason we provide two translations is because we want to understand the original text meaning of these verses as clearly as possible. It is also to introduce those who are not familiar with it to the name of our Creator. God had his divine name recorded in the original Hebrew text over 6000 times. It thus seems important. God’s name is יהוה. The most common English translation of that Hebrew name is Jehovah, just as Jesus is the English translation of the name of God’s son. You will note in the first of the two translations quoted above, the “God’s Word” translation used “LORD” in all capitols where God’s personal name was used in the original text. If you see “LORD” in a Bible translation, it indicates Jehovah’s personal name (יהוה) was in the original text. “LORD” was substituted by some translators following a superstition that arose against pronouncing God’s name. That superstition was common by the advent of Christianity. It came from the misapplication of a scripture warning against *misusing* the divine name. The third of the Ten Commandments says: “You must not take up the name of Jehovah your God in a worthless way, for Jehovah will not leave the one unpunished who takes up his name in a worthless way.”—Ex. 20:7. That superstitious fear of pronouncing God’s personal name was one of the things Jesus corrected, as he said: ²⁵ Righteous Father, the world has, indeed, not come to know you; but I have come to know you, and these have come to know that you sent me forth. ²⁶ And I have made your name

How can we do that, then, and what really are our interior rooms?

The detailed answer to that question is likely a little different for each person. What we mean is: The act of building faith in what and where your own hiding place is, is for you personally to discover. That discovery is a part of your faith. Put another way, Christianity equates with building personal faith in scriptures which include the answer to where and what our hiding place is.⁵ So... For our faith to really help, we must begin with building a personal faith in what the Bible teaches. That is because God allows for and loves that each one of us serve him in our own way.⁶ He expects us to serve him out of love, and He has given us freedom as sons and daughters to demonstrate that love as we personally desire.⁷ It seems very unlikely our “hiding place,” or “interior room,” is any literal room. Many people don’t even have homes in this wicked and dying old world. Some secular meeting place also seems unlikely, as men could destroy those, maybe with you inside. Our hiding place seems more likely a mental state of being, brought about by our familiarity with the words of Jesus Christ.⁸ Don’t start thinking that

known to them and will make it known, in order that the love with which you loved me may be in them and I in union with them.” - John 17:25-26 ~

Please Visit: <http://www.justbibletruth.com/DoesGodHaveAName.html>

⁵ Matthew 8:13 CEV Then Jesus said to the officer, "You may go home now. Your faith has made it happen." Right then his servant was healed.

⁶ Psalms 147:11 ESV but the LORD [*Jehovah*]⁽⁴⁾ takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his steadfast love. See also Malachi 3:16⁽²⁾

⁷ <http://www.justbibletruth.com/BiblePrinciples.pdf>

As an example, consider the army officer who came to Jesus for help. Jesus said he would heal the man’s servant when he got to his home. This man said it was not necessary for Jesus to come to his home, and then explained why his faith made him believe that to be so. The son of God acquiesced to the wishes of the army officer, and rather did as the man’s faith made him feel it should be done. It is our free will choices in obedient worship that please our Heavenly Father. That’s why this man’s account is in the inspired Bible record for us to appreciate.~

Matthew 8:5-13 MWT When he entered into Capernaum, an army officer came to him, entreating him ⁶ and saying: “Sir, my manservant is laid up in the house with paralysis, being terribly tormented.” ⁷ He said

means our hiding place isn't real or that it doesn't provide real protection. Again we say, what Jesus taught is the most important thing in life.⁹ Because of that importance, wherever we are and whatever we have, we should seek to have a source to the words spoken by the Christ. Try to keep a Bible with you always! As we pour over and over

to him: "When I get there I will cure him." ⁸ In reply the army officer said: "Sir, I am not a fit man for you to enter under my roof, but just say the word and my manservant will be healed. ⁹ For I too am a man placed under authority, having soldiers under me, and I say to this one, 'Be on your way!' and he is on his way, and to another, 'Come!' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this!' and he does it." ¹⁰ Hearing that, Jesus became amazed and said to those following him: "I tell you the truth, With no one in Israel have I found so great a faith. ¹¹ But I tell you that many from eastern parts and western parts will come and recline at the table with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob under the kingdom of the heavens; ¹² whereas the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the darkness outside. There is where their weeping and the gnashing of their teeth will be." ¹³ Then Jesus said to the army officer: "Go. Just as it has been your faith, so let it come to pass for you." And the manservant was healed in that hour.

⁸ Luke 10:38-42 GNB As Jesus and his disciples went on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha welcomed him in her home. (39) She had a sister named Mary, who sat down at the feet of the Lord and listened to his teaching. (40) Martha was upset over all the work she had to do, so she came and said, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her to come and help me!" (41) The Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha! You are worried and troubled over so many things, (42) but just one is needed. Mary has chosen the right thing, and it will not be taken away from her."

⁹ Matthew 13:44-49 CEV The kingdom of heaven is like what happens when someone finds treasure hidden in a field and buries it again. A person like that is happy and goes and sells everything in order to buy that field. (45) The kingdom of heaven is like what happens when a shop owner is looking for fine pearls. (46) After finding a very valuable one, the owner goes and sells everything in order to buy that pearl. (47) The kingdom of heaven is like what happens when a net is thrown into a lake and catches all kinds of fish. (48) When the net is full, it is dragged to the shore, and the fishermen sit down to separate the fish. They keep the good ones, but throw the bad ones away. (49) That's how it will be at the end of time. Angels will come and separate the evil people from the ones who have done right. *[People are being separated by whether they choose to put faith in Christ.]*⁽¹⁴⁾

Jesus's teachings, we come to know him intimately. Essentially, we are able to put on the mind of Christ.¹⁰ Within Jesus's words, which were given him by his Father,¹¹ we find at least a measure of contentment and peace even in the midst of surrounding turmoil. Learn to think of the teachings of Jesus as a concealment place and shield.¹² The terrible conditions faced by the human family (which problems are of our own making, they being the direct result of our disobedience to God) are a driving force impelling each and every human to decide whether we

¹⁰ 1 Corinthians 2:16 MWT (16) For "who has come to know *the* mind of Jehovah,⁽⁴⁾ that he may instruct him? Who will teach God?" But we have *the* mind of Christ. *Isa. 40:13~*

Isaiah 40:13 Darby Who hath directed the Spirit of Jehovah, and, as his counsellor, hath taught him?

¹¹ John 3:32-36 CEV He speaks about what he has seen and heard, and yet no one believes him. (33) But everyone who does believe him has shown that God is truthful. (34) The Son was sent to speak God's message, and he has been given the full power of God's Spirit. (35) The Father loves the Son and has given him everything. (36) Everyone who has faith in the Son has eternal life. But no one who rejects him will ever share in that life, and God will be angry with them forever.

¹² Psalms 119:100-114 MWT With more understanding than older men I behave, Because I have observed your own orders. ¹⁰¹ From every bad path I have restrained my feet, For the purpose that I may keep your word. ¹⁰² From your judicial decisions I have not turned aside, For you yourself have instructed me. ¹⁰³ How smooth to my palate your sayings have been, More so than honey to my mouth! ¹⁰⁴ Owing to your orders I behave with understanding. That is why I have hated every false path. ¹⁰⁵ Your word is a lamp to my foot, And a light to my roadway. ¹⁰⁶ I have made a sworn statement, and I will carry it out, To keep your righteous judicial decisions. ¹⁰⁷ I have been afflicted to a great extent. O Jehovah, preserve me alive according to your word. ¹⁰⁸ Please take pleasure in the voluntary offerings of my mouth, O Jehovah, And teach me your own judicial decisions. ¹⁰⁹ I know my life is in my own hand constantly; And so your law I have not forgotten. ¹¹⁰ The wicked have set a trap for me, But from your orders I have not wandered. ¹¹¹ I have taken your reminders as a possession to time indefinite, For they are the exultation of my heart. ¹¹² I have inclined my heart to do your regulations To time indefinite, down to the last. ¹¹³ The halfhearted ones I have hated, But your law I have loved. ¹¹⁴ You are my place of concealment and my shield.

need faith in God's son.¹³ By our individual choice to place faith in Jesus (or not), we are actually in the act of *judging* ourselves.¹⁴ Faith in Christ is the single simple method by which God is offering us eternal life.¹⁵

¹³ Matthew 25:31-34 GW "When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all his angels are with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. (32) The people of every nation will be gathered in front of him. He will separate them as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. (33) He will put the sheep on his right but the goats on his left. (34) "Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, my Father has blessed you! Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world.

¹⁴ John 12:46-48 GW I am the light that has come into the world so that everyone who believes in me will not live in the dark. (47) If anyone hears my words and doesn't follow them, I don't condemn them. I didn't come to condemn the world but to save the world. (48) Those who reject me by not accepting what I say have a judge appointed for them. The words that I have spoken will judge them on the last day.

¹⁵ Acts 4:5-21 GNB The next day the Jewish leaders, the elders, and the teachers of the Law gathered in Jerusalem. (6) They met with the High Priest Annas and with Caiaphas, John, Alexander, and the others who belonged to the High Priest's family. (7) They made the apostles stand before them and asked them, "How did you do this [*heal a crippled man*]? What power do you have or whose name did you use?" (8) Peter, full of the Holy Spirit, answered them, "Leaders of the people and elders: (9) if we are being questioned today about the good deed done to the lame man and how he was healed, (10) then you should all know, and all the people of Israel should know, that this man stands here before you completely well through the power of the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth---whom you crucified and whom God raised from death. (11) Jesus is the one of whom the scripture says, 'The stone that you the builders despised turned out to be the most important of all.' (12) Salvation is to be found through him alone; in all the world there is no one else whom God has given who can save us." (13) The members of the Council were amazed to see how bold Peter and John were and to learn that they were ordinary men of no education. They realized then that they had been companions of Jesus. (14) But there was nothing that they could say, because they saw the man who had been healed standing there with Peter and John. (15) So they told them to leave the Council room, and then they started discussing among themselves. (16) "What shall we do with these men?" they asked. "Everyone in Jerusalem knows that this extraordinary miracle has been performed by them, and we cannot deny it. (17) But to keep this matter from spreading any further among the people, let us warn these men never again to speak to

How we respond to God's offer of life, how we respond to the words of his son, is what renders our own judgment. It is beautiful nearly beyond our comprehension.⁽⁴⁴⁾

However, remember this always: No matter what any person may say to the contrary, you can't possibly have faith in what you don't know *and understand*.¹⁶ Jesus warned many times we must be careful of the people who would try to deceive us.¹⁷ He warned they will say Jesus said this thing or that thing, or that we can find him only in *their* midst.¹⁸ Some of such people may even mean well, but they are ignorant of

anyone in the name of Jesus." (18) So they called them back in and told them that under no condition were they to speak or to teach in the name of Jesus. (19) But Peter and John answered them, "You yourselves judge which is right in God's sight---to obey you or to obey God. (20) For [us,] we cannot stop speaking of what we ourselves have seen and heard." (21) So the Council warned them even more strongly and then set them free. They saw that it was impossible to punish them, because the people were all praising God for what had happened.

¹⁶ justbibletruth.com/Faith.html#KnowledgeUnderstandingWisdom

¹⁷ Matthew 7:15-20 GNB "Be on your guard against false prophets; they come to you looking like sheep on the outside, but on the inside they are really like wild wolves. (16) You will know them by what they do. Thorn bushes do not bear grapes, and briars do not bear figs. (17) A healthy tree bears good fruit, but a poor tree bears bad fruit. (18) A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a poor tree cannot bear good fruit. (19) And any tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown in the fire. (20) So then, you will know the false prophets by what they do.

¹⁸ Matthew 24:21-27 CEV This will be the worst time of suffering since the beginning of the world, and nothing this terrible will ever happen again. (22) If God doesn't make the time shorter, no one will be left alive. But because of God's chosen ones, he will make the time shorter. (23) Someone may say, "Here is the Messiah!" or "There he is!" But don't believe it. (24) False messiahs and false prophets will come and work great miracles and signs. They will even try to fool God's chosen ones [*or, the ones being chosen*]. (25) But I have warned you ahead of time. (26) If you are told that the Messiah is out in the desert, don't go there! And if you are told that he is in some secret place, don't believe it! (27) The coming of the Son of Man will be like lightning that can be seen from east to west. [*Jesus exsits in the Gospel accounts of his life and teachings. The Bible is available (is shining) everywhere in the earth.*]

truth if they direct you to any teachings other than those of Christ. That is simple to understand...⁽⁵⁴⁾ The only way ~~we~~ you can be safe, and really know you are safe, is by being intimately familiar with what Jesus actually did teach.¹⁹ *Not, what people want to tell you he taught!* Seeing what is truth is actually an easy thing to do. Jesus's teachings were recorded for each of us by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. And that, that knowledge of Jesus's teachings, is our own personal interior room (hiding place).²⁰ The only truly safe place we can be, is when we are immersing ourselves in what Jesus taught. Our faith in his words then provide our hiding place. Faith is the assured expectation of things hoped for.²¹ Just think about what that Bible verse really means. For you to have a real hope, a hope which you actually expect to be realized (an assured expectation), that hope must be based in what God is doing.²² What God is doing, and the way He is helping us, is exactly what Jesus came to teach.²³ And that highlights the difference between

¹⁹ Matthew 7:21-24 GNB "Not everyone who calls me 'Lord, Lord' will enter the Kingdom of heaven, but only those who do what my Father in heaven wants them to do. (22) When the Judgment Day comes, many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord! In your name we spoke God's message, by your name we drove out many demons and performed many miracles!' (23) Then I will say to them, 'I never knew you. Get away from me, you wicked people!' (24) "So then, anyone who hears these words of mine and obeys them is like a wise man who built his house on rock.

²⁰ John 8:31-32 CEV Jesus told the people who had faith in him, "If you keep on obeying [*abide in*] what I have said, you truly are my disciples. (32) You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

²¹ Hebrews 11:1 GNB To have faith is to be sure of the things we hope for, to be certain of the things we cannot see.

²² Visit: <http://www.justbibletruth.com/HowCanFaithHelp.pdf>

²³ Luke 10:21-24 CEV At that same time, Jesus felt the joy that comes from the Holy Spirit, and he said: My Father, Lord of heaven and earth, I am grateful that you hid all this from wise and educated people and showed it to ordinary people. Yes, Father, that is what pleased you. (22) My Father has given me everything, and he is the only one who knows the Son. The only one who really knows the Father is the Son. But the Son wants to tell others about the Father, so that they can know him too. (23) Jesus then turned to his disciples and said to them in private, "You are really blessed to see what you see! (24) Many prophets and kings were eager to see what you see and to hear what you hear. But I tell you that they did not see or hear."

this booklet and website (justbibletruth.com), and all the other “religious” writings you are likely to come in contact with. You will see “religionists” all around, who stand up (elevate themselves) as they refer to themselves as preachers, shepherds, priests, popes, elders, ministerial servants, ministers and on the list goes. If you concern yourself with what Jesus actually said, however, he said: **(Matthew 23:5-12)** ⁵ “All the works they (the religious leaders) do they do to be viewed by men; for they broaden the [scripture-containing] cases (show off) that they wear as safeguards, and enlarge the fringes [of their garments]. ⁶ They like the most prominent place at evening meals and the front seats in the synagogues, ⁷ and the greetings in the marketplaces and to be called Rabbi (teacher) by men. ⁸ But YOU, do not YOU be called Rabbi, for one is YOUR teacher, whereas all YOU are brothers. ⁹ Moreover, do not call anyone YOUR father on earth, for one is YOUR Father, the heavenly One. ¹⁰ Neither be called ‘leaders.’ for YOUR Leader is one, the Christ. ¹¹ But the greatest one among YOU must be YOUR minister [*not having a grand title of minister, but a servant’s job*]. ¹² Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.”

By the very act of bestowing elevated titles on themselves (or on others within their sect), they belittle those who don’t measure up (in the minds of sect members) to being worthy of those same titles. That’s the reason Jesus said *not to do it*. Some fail to measure up to such sectarian standards because of gender,²⁴ or qualifications established by the group, or whatever reasons they concoct. They are, after all, following their own rules (doctrine).²⁵ They can make up whatever reasons they

²⁴ Galatians 3:24 ALT Therefore, the Law has become our tutor [*to lead us*] to Christ, so that by faith we should be justified [*or, declared righteous*].~

Galatians 3:26-29 GW You are all God's children by believing in Christ Jesus. (27) Clearly, all of you who were baptized in Christ's name have clothed yourselves with Christ. (28) There are neither Jews nor Greeks, slaves nor free people, males nor females. You are all the same in Christ Jesus. (29) If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendants and heirs, as God promised.

²⁵ Mark 7:5-9 ESV And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" (6) And he said to them, "Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, "'This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; (7) in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.'" (8) You leave the

want to disqualify and belittle others. That flies in the face of what Jesus there taught (Mat 23:8-10 above). By disregarding Jesus's command not to elevate themselves, or those they choose to follow, religious people reveal what they are really seeking: They always seek a following for themselves and/or their sectarian organization. We note they will read from the Hebrew Scriptures as they encourage you to look for salvation in their sect. Or, they read from the letters written by Jesus's followers (the Bible books following Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) and seek hope from those pages. (At least those who actually do read a little bit from the Bible *are doing that much*. Many religious teachers never even pick up a Bible.) Most of even those who do read some of the Bible, however, seem to be missing the point. They are picking and choosing scriptures in an effort to persuade you to follow them and their sect, rather than simply directing each person to read Jesus's actual teachings for themselves. They never just read the Gospels as a group. That is because, of course, they don't want you to read scriptures like Mat. 23:8-10 above. So... Most of their time is spend reading organizational doctrine (literature produced by their sect). Their need is to keep you looking *to them* for your spiritual guidance.²⁶ They are in that way failing to teach their listeners how they can easily understand the Bible: The Hebrew Scriptures mostly exist for the purpose of explaining mankind's need for the Messiah,⁽²⁴⁾ and to recount the lineage of the people God used to produce that Messiah. The letters by the followers of Jesus (the books following the Gospels) were written to encourage faith in Jesus, and to prove he was who he claimed to be – God's own son.²⁷ All those Bible books are important, but their

commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men." (9) And he said to them, "You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition!

²⁶ John 11:45-48 GW Many Jews who had visited Mary and had seen what Jesus had done believed in him. (46) But some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. (47) So the chief priests and the Pharisees called a meeting of the council. They asked, "What are we doing? This man is performing a lot of miracles. (48) If we let him continue what he's doing, everyone will believe in him. Then the Romans will take away our position and our nation."

²⁷ Acts 5:17-32 GNB Then the High Priest and all his companions, members of the local party of the Sadducees, became extremely jealous

importance lies mostly in directing people to, and helping them have faith in, Jesus Christ.⁽²⁴⁾ Once you gain the good sense to want to build faith in Jesus, you should read for yourself what he was sent by his Father to teach,⁽²⁸⁾ & ⁽²⁴⁾ exactly as recorded in Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Once you recognize the need and importance of God's Messiah, you have less need for the tutor that led you to him.⁽²⁴⁾ *Anyone who is a true follower of Jesus Christ will direct you to him and to his teachings!* If they desire and/or have opportunity to read the Bible to a crowd of people, with rare exception, the Gospels are what they should read. They should also understand and be able to explain why that is

of the apostles; so they decided to take action. (18) They arrested the apostles and put them in the public jail. (19) But that night an angel of the Lord opened the prison gates, led the apostles out, and said to them, (20) "Go and stand in the Temple, and tell the people all about this new life." (21) The apostles obeyed, and at dawn they entered the Temple and started teaching. The High Priest and his companions called together all the Jewish elders for a full meeting of the Council; then they sent orders to the prison to have the apostles brought before them. (22) But when the officials arrived, they did not find the apostles in prison, so they returned to the Council and reported, (23) "When we arrived at the jail, we found it locked up tight and all the guards on watch at the gates; but when we opened the gates, we found no one inside!" (24) When the chief priests and the officer in charge of the Temple guards heard this, they wondered what had happened to the apostles. (25) Then a man came in and said to them, "Listen! The men you put in prison are in the Temple teaching the people!" (26) So the officer went off with his men and brought the apostles back. They did not use force, however, because they were afraid that the people might stone them. (27) They brought the apostles in, made them stand before the Council, and the High Priest questioned them. (28) "We gave you strict orders not to teach in the name of this man," he said; "but see what you have done! You have spread your teaching all over Jerusalem, and you want to make us responsible for his death!" (29) Peter and the other apostles answered, "We must obey God, not men. (30) The God of our ancestors raised Jesus from death, after you had killed him by nailing him to a cross. (31) God raised him to his right side as Leader and Savior, to give the people of Israel the opportunity to repent and have their sins forgiven. (32) We are witnesses to these things---we and the Holy Spirit, who is God's gift to those who obey him."~

You see how being immersed in what Jesus taught was a protection and hiding place for these men?

important. Your absolute and unwavering faith in what you personally know Jesus said is your “hiding place” (or “interior room”). Also, it is your salvation.⁽²²⁾ As you recognize a protection for yourself in Jesus’s words, it will simply come to pass for you by means of your faith.⁽⁵⁾ The difference, then, between this material and “religion” is very simple: We warn putting your hope and faith in sects of men can never work.⁽¹⁸⁾ Religious sects only want you to do exactly that. So then, don’t follow us, or them. Be in a safe place of your very own; by being a follower of Jesus Christ! Personally studying the Gospels (and the Bible to build faith in the Gospels) is the only way you can achieve that goal. That is the purpose of the Bible, and actually, of Jesus Christ being sent to mankind.²⁸ This material serves *only* to direct you to sit at the feet of

²⁸ John 5:17-44 GW Jesus replied to them, "My Father is working right now, and so am I." (18) His reply made the Jews more intent on killing him. Not only did he break the laws about the day of worship [*Sabbath*], but also he made himself equal to God when he said repeatedly that God was his Father. (19) Jesus said to the Jews, "I can guarantee this truth: The Son cannot do anything on his own. He can do only what he sees the Father doing. Indeed, the Son does exactly what the Father does. (20) The Father loves the Son and shows him everything he is doing. The Father will show him even greater things to do than these things so that you will be amazed. (21) In the same way that the Father brings back the dead and gives them life, the Son gives life to anyone he chooses. (22) "The Father doesn't judge anyone. He has entrusted judgment entirely to the Son (23) so that everyone will honor the Son as they honor the Father. Whoever doesn't honor the Son doesn't honor the Father who sent him. (24) I can guarantee this truth: Those who listen to what I say and believe in the one who sent me will have eternal life. They won't be judged because they have already passed from death to life. (25) "I can guarantee this truth: A time is coming [*and is now here*] when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who respond to it will live. (26) The Father is the source of life, and he has enabled the Son to be the source of life too. (27) "He has also given the Son authority to pass judgment because he is the Son of Man [*seed of the woman from Gen. 3:15*]. (28) Don't be surprised at what I've just said. A time is coming when all the dead will hear his voice, (29) and they will come out of their tombs. Those who have done good will come back to life and live. But those who have done evil will come back to life and will be judged. (30) I can't do anything on my own. As I listen to the Father, I make my judgments. My judgments are right because I don't try to do what I want but what the one who sent me wants. (31) "If I

Jesus by reading the Gospels for yourself.²⁹ Intimately knowing for yourself what Jesus taught is your safe place; your one and only safe place. It will bring you joy⁽²³⁾ in the midst of the turmoil of this old world system. Putting forth the effort, and working out the details of how to be in your safe place, that is for you to do personally for yourself. The knowledge of how to do it, however, is most certainly contained in the Bible and in the teachings of Jesus. Some people read the Bible in the

testify on my own behalf, what I say isn't true. (32) Someone else testifies on my behalf, and I know that what he says about me is true. (33) You sent people to John the Baptizer, and he testified to the truth *[by saying Jesus was the Messiah]*. (34) But I don't depend on human testimony. I'm telling you this to save you. (35) John was a lamp that gave off brilliant light. For a time you enjoyed the pleasure of his light. (36) But I have something that testifies more favorably on my behalf than John's testimony. The tasks that the Father gave me to carry out, these tasks which I perform, testify on my behalf. They prove that the Father has sent me. (37) The Father who sent me testifies on my behalf *[as Jehovah⁽⁴⁾ spoke from heaven on several occasions in Jesus's behalf]*. You have never heard his voice *[God's voice was unclear to unbelievers when he spoke from heaven – some thought it thundered while others thought an angel spoke to him]*, and you have never seen his form. (38) So you don't have the Father's message within you, because you don't believe in the person he has sent. (39) You study the Scriptures in detail because you think you have the source of eternal life in them. These Scriptures testify on my behalf. (40) Yet, you don't want to come to me to get eternal life. (41) "I don't accept praise from humans. (42) But I know what kind of people you are. You don't have any love for God. (43) I have come with the authority my Father has given me, but you don't accept me. If someone else comes with his own authority, you will accept him. (44) How can you believe when you accept each other's praise and don't look for the praise that comes from the only God?"

²⁹ Luke 10:38-42 GW As they were traveling along, Jesus went into a village. A woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. (39) She had a sister named Mary. Mary sat at the Lord's feet and listened to him talk. (40) But Martha was upset about all the work she had to do. So she asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work all by myself? Tell her to help me." (41) The Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha! You worry and fuss about a lot of things. (42) There's only one thing you need. Mary has made the right choice, and that one thing will not be taken away from her."

evening, others in the morning. Some go to sleep listening to recordings of the Gospels. Some listen while they drive or work. The point is, the more you invest yourself in the teachings of Jesus Christ, the more you will love him and what he taught.³⁰ As you fall asleep, God's words [*his promises delivered by Christ*]³¹ can be a soothing blanket of protection

³⁰ Psalms 119:97-104 MWT How I do love your law! All day long it is my concern. ⁹⁸ Wiser than my enemies your commandment makes me, because to time indefinite it is mine. ⁹⁹ More insight than all my teachers I have come to have, because your reminders are a concern to me. ¹⁰⁰ With more understanding than older men I behave, because I have observed your own orders. ¹⁰¹ From every bad path I have restrained my feet, for the purpose that I may keep your word. ¹⁰² From your judicial decisions I have not turned aside, for you yourself have instructed me. ¹⁰³ How smooth to my palate your sayings have been, More so than honey to my mouth! ¹⁰⁴ Owing to your orders I behave with understanding. That is why I have hated every false path.

³¹ Luke 10:16-22 MWT [*Jesus to his followers*] "Everyone who listens to you listens to me also. And he that disregards you disregards me as well. Moreover, he that disregards me also disregards him that sent me forth."

¹⁷ Then the seventy [*sent out to share his message*] returned with joy, saying: "Lord, even the demons are made subject to us by the use of your name." ¹⁸ At that he said to them: "I began to behold Satan already fallen like lightning from heaven.*^A ¹⁹ Look! I have given you the authority to trample underfoot serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing will by any means do you hurt. ²⁰ Nevertheless, do not rejoice over this, that the spirits are made subject to you, but rejoice because your names have been inscribed in the heavens." ²¹ In that very hour he became overjoyed in the holy spirit and said: "I publicly praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have carefully hidden these things from wise and intellectual ones, and have revealed them to babes. Yes, O Father, because to do thus came to be the way approved by you. ²² All things have been delivered to me by my Father, and who the Son is no one knows but the Father; and who the Father is, no one [knows] but the Son, and he to whom the Son is willing to reveal him."~

*^A John 12:27-31 GW "I am too deeply troubled now to know how to express my feelings. Should I say, 'Father, save me from this time of suffering'? No! I came for this time of suffering. (28) Father, give glory to your name." A voice from heaven said, "I have given it glory, and I will give it glory again." (29) The crowd standing there heard the voice and said that it had thundered. Others in the crowd said that an angel had talked to him. (30) Jesus replied, "That voice wasn't for my benefit but for yours. (31) "This world is being judged now. The ruler of this world will be thrown out [*of heaven*] now.

for your mind and spirit.³² Just listening to what God's son taught does not change who you are, of course. After you learn, you must make an application in your own life of what Jesus taught.³³ Jesus teaches us we

³² Psalms 27:1-14 MWT Jehovah⁽⁴⁾ is my light and my salvation. Of whom shall I be in fear? Jehovah is the stronghold of my life. Of whom shall I be in dread? ² When the evildoers approached against me to eat up my flesh, they being my adversaries and my enemies personally, they themselves stumbled and fell. ³ Though against me an encampment should pitch tent, my heart will not fear. Though against me war should rise, Even then I shall be trusting. ⁴ One thing I have asked from Jehovah— it is what I shall look for, that I may dwell in the house of Jehovah all the days of my life; To behold the pleasantness of Jehovah And to look with appreciation upon his temple. ⁵ For he will hide me in his covert [He will shelter me] in the day of calamity; He will conceal me in the secret place of his tent. High on a rock he will put me. ⁶ And now my head will be high above my enemies all around me; And I will sacrifice at his tent sacrifices of joyful shouting; I will sing and make melody to Jehovah. ⁷ Hear, O Jehovah, when I call with my voice, and show me favor and answer me. ⁸ Concerning you my heart has said: “Seek to find my face, YOU people.” Your face, O Jehovah, I shall seek to find. ⁹ Do not conceal your face from me. Do not in anger turn your servant away. My assistance you must become. Do not forsake me and do not leave me, O my God of salvation. ¹⁰ In case my own father and my own mother did leave me, Even Jehovah himself would take me up. ¹¹ Instruct me, O Jehovah, in your way, and lead me in the path of uprightness on account of my foes. ¹² Do not give me over to the soul of my adversaries; For against me false witnesses have risen up, and he who launches forth violence. ¹³ If I had not had faith in seeing the goodness of Jehovah in the land of those alive—! ¹⁴ Hope in Jehovah; be courageous and let your heart be strong. Yes, hope in Jehovah.

³³ James 1:19-27 GNB Remember this, my dear friends! Everyone must be quick to listen, but slow to speak and slow to become angry. (20) Human anger does not achieve God's righteous purpose. (21) So get rid of every filthy habit and all wicked conduct. Submit to God and accept the word that he plants in your hearts, which is able to save you. (22) Do not deceive yourselves by just listening to his word; instead, put it into practice. (23) If you listen to the word, but do not put it into practice you are like people who look in a mirror and see themselves as they are. (24) They take a good look at themselves and then go away and at once forget what they look like. (25) But if you look closely into the perfect law that sets people free, and keep on paying attention to it and do not simply listen and then forget it, but put it into practice---you

must love his Father, and that if we do love God, we will also obey him.³⁴ Obedience to God is not hard! It will make you happy⁽³³⁾ and it is the only thing that will. Faith in Jesus's teachings will manifest itself as love for God in your heart, and then outwardly, as a love for other people.³⁵ How you personally choose to display that love amounts to the expression of who you actually are as a person. Your love for others in obedience to Jehovah,⁽⁴⁾ based on your love for his son and your dedication to the teachings Jesus brought us, that is the thing that absolutely defines you. It is that manifestation of the person you have made the choice to become, that Christian person, who is the person also able to appreciate and hide in your own interior room of faith; while God's denunciation of the wicked passes over. We are in the midst of a judgment period.⁽¹³⁾ You are judging yourself by your response to the teachings of the Christ.⁽¹⁴⁾ Everyone is! Make no mistake, if you refuse to hear what Jesus taught, that still amounts to your decision. It is a very bad choice!³⁶ That is the simple truth the Bible

will be blessed by God in what you do [*or, you will be happy in your doing it*]. (26) Do any of you think you are religious? If you do not control your tongue, your religion is worthless and you deceive yourself. (27) What God the Father considers to be pure and genuine religion is this: to take care of orphans and widows in their suffering and to keep oneself from being corrupted by the world. [Your interior room of Jesus's teachings is where you are protected from being corrupted by this world.]

³⁴ 1 John 5:1-5 GNB Whoever believes that Jesus is the Messiah is a child of God; and whoever loves a father loves his child also. (2) This is how we know that we love God's children: it is by loving God and obeying his commands. (3) For our love for God means that we obey his commands. And his commands are not too hard for us, (4) because every child of God is able to defeat the world. And we win the victory over the world by means of our faith. (5) Who can defeat the world? Only the person who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

³⁵ 1 John 4:20-21 BBE If a man says, I have love for God, and has hate for his brother, his words are false: for how is the man who has no love for his brother whom he has seen, able to have love for God whom he has not seen? (21) And this is the word which we have from him, that he who has love for God is to have the same love for his brother.

³⁶ Deuteronomy 30:15-20 LITV (15) Behold, I have set before you today life and good and death and evil, (16) in that I *am* commanding you today to love Jehovah your God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His

conveys. Reading the words we express is likely to have little *lasting* meaning for you. You must know it to be truth from your own personal knowledge gained *as you read the scriptures*. Not what we say Jesus said, and not what other people say he said, but what you personally know the Bible says. The message Jesus Christ brought us, the good news of his kingdom, is the most important thing in life.⁽⁹⁾ When you can know that to be true for yourself, through your own Bible trained faith and conscience, you are concealed from the bad of this world. The Bible does not promise you will not die at the hand of the wicked, or as a result of the actions of this degrading old world's kingdoms and system of things. What it does promise to all the faithful, is you are in God's good graces. You can then rely on a resurrection if you must face death. *That faith in Jesus's teachings, however, also provides another hope: Most wonderfully, faith in Bible's teachings is the only place where you can relax in a valid hope of being protected by God to keep living forever, as his fury [denunciation] passes over to destroy this wicked old system,⁽³⁸⁾ and to usher in [or restore] paradise in the hands of his son.³⁷* That secret place of faith (your interior room) may well be

commands and His statutes, and His judgments, and you shall live and multiply, and Jehovah your God shall bless you in the land where you are going in, to possess it. (17) But if you turn away your heart, and you do not listen, and are drawn on, even *you will* bow down to other gods, and serve them; (18) I have declared to you today that you shall certainly perish. You shall not prolong your days in the land to which you are crossing the Jordan, to go in there to possess it. (19) I call Heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. Therefore, choose life, that you may live, you and your seed, (20) to love Jehovah your God, to listen to His voice, and to cleave to Him. For He is your life, and the length of your days *so that you may* live in the land which Jehovah has sworn to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give it to them.~

Please take note: If you build faith in Jesus Christ, you put yourself in line for the promises made to Abraham and to his seed.~

Galatians 3:29 CEV So if you belong to Christ, you are now part of Abraham's family, and you will be given what God has promised.

³⁷ 1 Corinthians 15:20-28 GNB (20) But the truth is that Christ has been raised from death, as the guarantee that those who sleep in death will also be raised. (21) For just as death came by means of a man, in the same way the rising from death comes by means of a man. (22) For just

where his curing or restorative spirit will work to heal and to restore your youth and strength and vigor.³⁸ When Jesus saw a man with a withered hand, he healed him. It is interesting to note how Jesus did so: Jesus told the man to stretch out his hand, and the man stretched it out, and it was healed.³⁹ It might have been difficult for the man to stretch

as all people die because of their union with Adam, in the same way all will be raised to life because of their union with Christ. (23) But each one will be raised in proper order: Christ, first of all; then, at the time of his coming, those who belong to him. (24) Then the end will come; Christ will overcome all spiritual rulers, authorities, and powers, and will hand over the Kingdom to God the Father. (25) For Christ must rule until God defeats all enemies and puts them under his feet. [Psa. 110:1]*^A (26) The last enemy to be defeated will be death. (27) For the scripture says, "God put *all* things under his feet." It is clear, of course, that the words "all things" do not include God himself, who puts all things under Christ. [Psa. 8:6]*^B (28) But when all things have been placed under Christ's rule, then he himself, the Son, will place himself under God, who placed all things under him; and God will rule completely over all.~

*^A Psalms 110:1 LITV *A Psalm of David*. A declaration of Jehovah to my Lord: Sit at My right hand, until I place Your enemies as Your footstool.~

*^B Psalms 8:6 GW You have made him rule what your hands created. You have put everything under his control:

³⁸ Job 33:17-18 GNB God speaks to make them stop their sinning and to save them from becoming proud. (18) He will not let them be destroyed; he saves them from death itself.~

Job 33:20-30 GNB Those who are sick lose their appetites, and even the finest food looks revolting. (21) Their bodies waste away to nothing; you can see all their bones; (22) they are about to go to the world of the dead. (23) Perhaps an angel may come to their aid--- one of God's thousands of angels, who remind us of our duty. (24) In mercy the angel will say, "Release them! They are not to go down to the world of the dead. Here is the ransom to set them free." (25) Their bodies will grow young and strong again; (26) when they pray, God will answer; they will worship God with joy; God will set things right for them again. (27) Each one will say in public, "I have sinned. I have not done right, but God spared me. (28) He kept me from going to the world of the dead, and I am still alive." (29) God does all this again and again; (30) each one saves a person's life, and gives him the joy of living.

³⁹ Matthew 12:9-14 ALT And having departed from there, He went into their synagogue. (10) And look! A man was [there] having his hand

his hand out. It might have been painful for him to do so. We all have a mind that is withered and distorted by the lies and half-truths we have learned all our lives, sometimes from people who meant well. Many of us have recognized our spiritual need, only to get lured into some religious group where we only traded the set of lies we grew up learning for another set of religious lies (some doctrine of men). To receive the healing we truly need for our mind, we must be set free.⁽²⁰⁾ We must stretch our thinking (our mind) out over the words of Jesus Christ. That is our healing. This “inner room,” this “hiding place,” is not something any man or sect can grant you. They all promise they can, of course. True faith is a gift from our Heavenly Father. He grants it by your demonstrated appreciation for what He sent his son to teach.^(15 - note Acts 4:12) It is not a matter of who among us is good. None of us are!⁴⁰ It is not a matter of who among us is sincere. Many religionists

withered [*fig., deformed*]; and they questioned Him, saying, "Is it lawful to be healing on the Sabbaths?"—so that they should accuse [*or, bring charges against*] Him. (11) But He said to them, "What person will [*there*] be of you, who will have one sheep, and if this [*sheep*] falls into a ditch on the Sabbaths, will not take hold of it and raise [*it*] up? (12) "By how much more then is a person worth than a sheep? Accordingly, it is lawful on the Sabbaths to be doing good." (13) Then He says to the man, "Stretch out your hand." And he stretched [*it*] out, and it was restored [*as*] healthy as the other! (14) But the Pharisees having gone out, plotted against Him in order that they should destroy Him. (Please note as you read these verses: It was mostly always the religious leaders who attacked Jesus. They are the ones who put him to death. It has not changed. Religious people [being very different from Christians] hate the truth. You cannot seek truth and expect popularity among religious people.)

⁴⁰ Sin might in some sense be thought of as an addiction. Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) says an addict is always an addict. They, each day, choose to refuse to submit to the thing they are addicted to. Then, day by day, they stay clean. They are always in recovery. They look to and give credit to a “higher power” in their effort to remain clean. So it is with sin. The imperfect inclination to do bad, which we inherited from our first parents (after they had chosen sin and thereby made themselves imperfect, that imperfection is all they had to pass along to us), makes doing what is right a constant battle. We were born with our first parents inclination to do what is wrong.* The teachings of Christ help us

are convinced they are right.⁽¹⁹⁾ *It is about* who is wise to first recognize our dying state, and then, from the teachings of Jesus and from the evidence accumulated among men over the 6000 years since Adam,⁴¹ to understand our *absolute* need to be obedient to our God and Father. We demonstrate our obedience to Jehovah by submitting to the kingdom of his son Christ Jesus.⁽³⁷⁾ You must begin that process by learning what Jesus came to teach. Hallelujah... We close by magnifying our Creator,⁴² along with the Bible writer who said: This "good news of the kingdom"⁴³ is marvelous in our eyes.⁴⁴

One of the things that compels students of the Bible to have faith, is its complexity. While the theme of the Bible is simple and clear,⁴⁵ running right

overcome that imperfection. When perfection is granted us, under the kingdom of Christ,⁽³⁷⁾ that sinful tendency will be forever gone.~

* Genesis 6:5 ASV And Jehovah saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

⁴¹ Visit: <http://www.justbibletruth.com/DisplayScroll.html>

⁴² Luke 1:46-50 ESV And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, (47) and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, (48) for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; (49) for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. (50) And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

⁴³ Matthew 4:23 GNB Jesus went all over Galilee, teaching in the synagogues, preaching the Good News about the Kingdom, and healing people who had all kinds of disease and sickness.

Matthew 24:14 BBE And this good news of the kingdom will be given through all the world for a witness to all nations; and then the end will come.

⁴⁴ Mark 12:10-11 ALT "Did you not even read this Scripture, 'A stone which the builders rejected, this [stone] became [the] cornerstone. (11) 'This came to be from the LORD (Jehovah)⁽⁴⁾, and it is marvelous in our eyes?'" [Psalm 118:22,23] ~

Psalms 118:22-23 LITV The Stone *which* the builders rejected has become the Head of the Corner. (23) This is from Jehovah, it is marvelous in our eyes.

⁴⁵ God promised early, in Genesis 3:15,⁽⁵⁰⁾ He would raise up a descendent of the woman who would destroy Satan. He later refined that prophecy by telling Abraham that the promised Messiah would also come through his descendants, as all nations of

through from Genesis to Revelation, the complexity of how God orchestrated it all is amazing. God often reuses principles he illustrated by what He had done in the past, as tools of faith. It is nearly beyond comprehension for humans. It takes some meditation for most of us to understand. Please consider an example: During the period God used the ancient Jewish nation as his method for producing the promised Messiah, the Jews were at one time held as slaves by Egypt.⁽⁴¹⁾ Egypt was the world power in that day in time, and the Egyptians worshiped a host of Gods, including Pharaoh himself. The whole world, then, was under the influence of the Gods of Egypt. So... The true God raised up Moses as his servant to free his Jewish nation from slavery to their religious bondage in Egypt, and to lead them to the Promised Land. After leaving Egypt, the Jewish nation wandered forty years in the wilderness as the unfaithful among them died off. Then, the faithful of that nation entered the land of promise, where they were protected by God (for some 1500 years until the Christ was born in their midst). Jesus said a great apostasy would set in among his newly established nation of Christians after his going away (after his being resurrected to heaven). Rome was the world power in Jesus's day, and shortly after Jesus left the earth, members the church he left behind apostatized themselves by joining with the Roman State so as to gain protection from its religious enemies. Rome sought the arrangement because the government gained religious credibility. So, once again, apostate religio-political powers had gained control of the earth. This time, instead of Pharaoh and Egypt, it took the form of the self-proclaimed "holy Roman empire." The apostate church portion of that religio-political beast, in order to control her subjects through ignorance, hid the Bible in the dead language of Latin. In that way, the apostate church kept the Bible hidden from common people for 1000 years. They thus brought to birth what we today know as the Dark Ages.⁽⁴¹⁾ In those days, translating the Bible, or even owning one, was punishable by death by the church. So... As in the days of ancient Egypt, false religion had an iron grip over all of mankind. Using the power granted them by Rome, the Church killed anyone who didn't support their form of "supposed" Christianity. Jesus warned the tumultuous last days that we are now witness to would come,⁽¹⁾ as we live through the tribulation resulting from mankind's

the earth would bless themselves by means of Abraham's seed. The theme of the Bible, then, is the process God went through in producing the Christ as the "Son of Man" (seed of the woman) and a descendant of Abraham. Jesus was born a Jew as a descendent of Abraham. For more detail please see:

<http://www.justbibletruth.com/Everything.pdf>

disobedience. It is actually consuming our world. Once again, however, God has raised up one to free those who love him from slavery to false religious teachings. This time, instead of Moses, it is the second coming of Christ that sets us free. Although the teachings of Christ were largely buried during the dark ages, there has been a revelation of the teachings of God's son in our day in time. Bibles are everywhere in these last days. Most anyone who wants to do so can make the choice to sit at the feet of Jesus Christ by reading what he taught from the Gospels. False religion is thus exposed for the disgusting wild beast she is, and the faithful are led by God⁴⁶ to the simple teachings of Jesus Christ from their own Bibles.⁴⁷ It is amazing how similar what is happening in our day is to what happened in the days of Moses and Egypt. It is certainly faith strengthening. Most of the varied and sectarian religious cults are just offshoots of the pagan Holy Roman Church of the dark ages. Each sect is today trying to hide the Bible in plain sight. They hide the Bible by teaching the doctrine they have dreamt up in group studies of their organizational writings, rather than simply studying the words of Christ. Those who are sincere among mankind, however, those who are actually studying the teachings of Christ, have been set free from the lies taught by false religious organizations. We are now, just as the Jews did after leaving Egypt, wandering in the wilderness. As mankind wanders forward, all the false teachers, all the insincere and unfaithful liars, will die off. The group with true faith in what they have personally learned from Jesus, however, will be preserved alive and ushered into the Promised Land.⁴⁸ Those who remain determined to look to their

⁴⁶ John 6:44a ALT "No one is able to come to Me unless the Father having sent Me draws [*or, drags*] him...

⁴⁷ John 18:37b BBE ... For this purpose was I given birth, and for this purpose I came into the world, that I might give witness to what is true. Every lover of what is true gives ear to my voice.

⁴⁸ Isaiah 11:1-12 CEV Like a branch that sprouts from a stump, someone from David's family will someday be king. [Jesus is a descendant of King David.] (2) The Spirit of the LORD [*Jehovah*] will be with him to give him understanding, wisdom, and insight. He will be powerful, and he will know and honor the LORD. (3) His greatest joy will be to obey the LORD. This king won't judge by appearances or listen to rumors. (4) The poor and the needy will be treated with fairness and with justice. His word will be law everywhere in the land, and criminals will be put to death. (5) Honesty and fairness will be his royal robes. (6) Leopards will lie down with young goats, and wolves will rest with lambs. Calves and lions will eat together and be cared for by little children. (7) Cows

membership and their faith in some sect of men, may be disappointed.⁽¹⁹⁾
Realizing truth is more wonderful than words can express!⁴⁹

God uttered his first Bible prophecy at Genesis 3:15.⁵⁰ He there told Satan (and us all) He would raise up a savior of mankind. For 6000 years, we have all been trying to see the revelation of that promise. The Bible contains many prophecies. It prophesied in detail, for example, the succession of world powers that would rule the earth.⁵¹ No one understood those prophecies until we could look back and see those world powers actually did exist, just as the Bible said they would. We will likely only understand fully how the modern day Bible promises will be fulfilled, when we can look back on how they were fulfilled. Without knowing details, however: The promises of our salvation into the Promised Land will happen. We may be seeing it in our day in time. It also might be a few years off. There is a real danger here! If you believe those who teach we are not wandering in the wilderness and headed to the Promised Land, and they are wrong, it means you have followed a false teacher. Could following someone who is teaching lies, and by doing so failing to have faith in what God is doing, cost you your life? If we have faith in God's promises, and live a life in expectation of our deliverance, we will never be disappointed.⁵²

and bears will share the same pasture; their young will rest side by side. Lions and oxen will both eat straw. (8) Little children will play near snake holes. They will stick their hands into dens of poisonous snakes and never be hurt. (9) Nothing harmful will take place on the LORD's holy mountain [*the earth*]. Just as water fills the sea, the land will be filled with people who know and honor the LORD. (10) The time is coming when one of David's descendants will be the signal for the people of all nations to come together. They will follow his advice, and his own nation will become famous. (11) When that day comes, the Lord will again reach out his mighty arm and bring home his people who have survived in Assyria, Egypt, Pathros, Ethiopia, Elam, Shinar, Hamath, and the land along the coast. (12) He will give a signal to the nations, and he will bring together the refugees from Judah and Israel, who have been scattered all over the earth.

⁴⁹ Visit: <http://www.justbibletruth.com/HowCanFaithHelp.pdf>

⁵⁰ Genesis 3:15 GNB I will make you and the woman hate each other; her offspring and yours will always be enemies. Her offspring will crush your head, and you will bite her offspring's heel."

⁵¹ Visit: <http://www.justbibletruth.com/DisplayScroll.html>

⁵² Romans 5:1-10 CEV By faith we have been made acceptable to God. And now, because of our Lord Jesus Christ, we live at peace with God.

We will also never be believing a lie. Read the words of our Lord Christ Jesus and build absolute faith in what he taught. You can never be wrong with that as your life's course.

(2) Christ has also introduced us to God's undeserved kindness on which we take our stand. So we are happy, as we look forward to sharing in the glory of God. (3) But that's not all! We gladly suffer, because we know that suffering helps us to endure. (4) And endurance builds character, which gives us a hope (5) that will never disappoint us. All of this happens because God has given us the Holy Spirit, who fills our hearts with his love. (6) Christ died for us at a time when we were helpless and sinful. (7) No one is really willing to die for an honest person, though someone might be willing to die for a truly good person. (8) But God showed how much he loved us by having Christ die for us, even though we were sinful. (9) But there is more! Now that God has accepted us because Christ sacrificed his life's blood, we will also be kept safe from God's anger. (10) Even when we were God's enemies, he made peace with us, because his Son died for us. Yet something even greater than friendship is ours. Now that we are at peace with God, we will be saved by his Son's life.

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A Gathering Of Eagles

Luke 17:30 & 37



*All who come to God must believe that He exists,
and that He is good. Heb 11:6*

Luke 17:30 BBE So will it be in the day of the revelation of the Son of man. **Luke 17:37 BBE** And they, answering him, said, Where, Lord? And he said to them, Where the body is, there will the eagles come together.

Jesus's earthly remains, or his body, might be thought of as the work he did and left behind, as recorded by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Those Gospels are your hiding place in these days of trouble⁽¹⁸⁾ for our world. Many people will consider this foolishness.⁵³ Your life rests in your own palm⁽¹²⁾ as you decide to have faith, or to view it as foolishness.⁵⁴

⁵³ **1 Corinthians 1:18 MWT** ¹⁸ For the speech about the torture stake [*or cross*] is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who live, it is the power of God.

⁵⁴ **2 Corinthians 2:14-15 MWT** (14) I am grateful that God always makes it possible for Christ to lead us to victory. God also helps us spread the knowledge about Christ everywhere, and this knowledge is like the smell of perfume. (15) In fact, God thinks of us as a sweet odor that brings Christ to everyone. For people who are being saved, this odor has a sweet smell and leads them to eternal life. But for people who choose to remain lost, it has a bad smell and leads them to a horrible death. No one really has what it takes to do this work except through faith in Christ Jesus our lord.

Matthew 11:25-30 CEV At that moment Jesus said: My Father, Lord of heaven and earth, I am grateful that you hid all this from wise and educated people and showed it to ordinary people. (26) Yes, Father, that is what pleased you. (27) My Father has given me everything, and he is the only one who knows the Son. The only one who truly knows the Father is the Son. But the Son wants to tell others about the Father, so that they can know him too. (28) If you are tired from carrying heavy burdens, come to me and I will give you rest. (29) Take the yoke I give you. Put it on your shoulders and learn from me. I am gentle and humble, and you will find rest. (30) This yoke is easy to bear, and this burden is light.
