

Unnatural Daze!!!

# Understand

Your Bible.

There once was a man who had never seen nor heard of trains, or their tracks. He was completely *ignorant* of trains. When he saw a railroad track, he stood between the rails gazing at them running off into the distance. A train was coming toward him and he took note it was running on the track. He then made use of this newfound *knowledge* to help him arrive at an *understanding*: the train would cause him harm in a short time. If the man makes use of his *knowledge* and his *understanding* to step off the tracks, he makes himself *wise*. If he remains on the track, he illustrates the willful choice to exchange being *ignorant* for being *stupid*. Discerning people see the train bearing down on mankind. Only the Bible can give you *knowledge* to preserve yourself alive in *wisdom*. These booklets (and [justbibletruth.com](http://justbibletruth.com)) help you see how easy it really is to *understand* your own Bible.

*Understand* your Bible!

And... Make yourself *wise*!

Being stupid, in a spiritual sense, means making the willful choice to deny or to refuse to know our Creator. Since God is the one teaching us to benefit ourselves,<sup>(GG)</sup> the one teaching us how not to harm and destroy other people, choosing to become spiritually stupid makes one worthy of death.<sup>A</sup>

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<sup>A</sup> Psalms 94:7-8 GW They say, "The LORD doesn't see it. The God of Jacob doesn't even pay attention to it." (8) Pay attention, you stupid people! When will you become wise, you fools?~

Psalms 92:4-7 GW You made me find joy in what you have done, O LORD. I will sing joyfully about the works of your hands. (5) How spectacular are your works, O LORD! How very deep are your thoughts! (6) A stupid person cannot know and a fool cannot understand (7) that wicked people sprout like grass and all troublemakers blossom like flowers, only to be destroyed forever.

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[justbibletruth.com/UnderstandYourBible.pdf](http://justbibletruth.com/UnderstandYourBible.pdf)

It can be printed in booklet format using Adobe Reader, available on most computers.

The Bible is a puzzle. You need to solve that puzzle to gain eternal life. Or, stated another way, the Bible is our guide book leading to eternal life and to happiness. In either case, your need is to understand what the Bible teaches!

Not to fret, just realize the Bible is easy to understand. About now, if you're smart, you are responding to that statement by wondering: "If the Bible is so easy to understand, why is there so much disagreement and fighting, and even killing, about what it says?" That answer is also simple. All the problems in understanding the Bible arise among people who are not listening to the right person explain to them what the Bible means. Now we assure you, you can trust us! And again, if you are a clever person, you are thinking: "Why would I imagine I can trust you! That is the one and only thing," you are likely observing, "that every single person who is trying to tell me what the Bible teaches actually *does* share in common. They each and every one say that exact same thing: "YOU CAN TRUST ME!" They have teachings that disagree with each other, to the point many are prepared to harm those who disagree with them, and yet each one asserts and even believes everyone can trust them." So then, realizing you know all that, why are we so bold as to assert you can trust us? Why, indeed, should you even consider doing so? You can trust us because we direct you to listen to the one and only person who actually can teach you about God.<sup>(EE)</sup> That one teacher is Jesus Christ, God's son. *Please consider and recognize how different what we are saying actually is!* The reason you can trust us is because we don't provide or use doctrinal books that encourage you to follow our teachings. Rather, we warn of your need to read for yourself what Jesus taught, as recorded in the *four short* Gospels by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. You need to recognize and look to Jesus as the one lone key to understanding the Bible! It is so-o-o simple. And... It is easy too. The reason you can trust us, again, is because we are not teaching what we believe. We direct you to read for yourself what Jesus taught.<sup>(P)</sup> We know of no church that is doing that! There is a reason they are not. Along with realizing Jesus's teachings as the key to the Bible, you must consider what will surely cause you problems in trying to understand what he came to teach. You must learn how to guard yourself against

being led astray<sup>B</sup> by people who imagine they are helping you. They think they know what Jesus taught, just like we do, and they want to teach you. We think we know what the Bible teaches as well, but we encourage you to read if for yourself from his own lips (in the Gospels). The whole of the Bible is about our need to put faith in Jesus, and then he, in turn, teaches us what his father sent him to teach<sup>(FF)</sup> (as recorded in the four short Gospel accounts of his life). So... If you don't learn how to avoid being misled by people who mean well and think they know what Jesus taught, but don't know at all, you will likely not be able to understand why and how Jesus is the simple and only key to the Bible. As you read what Jesus taught, please take special note of how often he warns against listening to religious people. He warns us both by his direct counsel to us,<sup>(B)</sup> and also in the example he set for us by the way he spoke to and warned them.<sup>C</sup>

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<sup>B</sup> [Matthew 7:15-24 CEV](#) Watch out for false prophets! They dress up like sheep, but inside they are wolves who have come to attack you. (16) You can tell what they are by what they do. No one picks grapes or figs from thornbushes. (17) A good tree produces good fruit, and a bad tree produces bad fruit. (18) A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot produce good fruit. (19) Every tree that produces bad fruit will be chopped down and burned. (20) You can tell who the false prophets are by their deeds. (21) Not everyone who calls me their Lord will get into the kingdom of heaven. Only the ones who obey my Father in heaven will get in. (22) On the day of judgment many will call me their Lord. They will say, "We preached in your name, and in your name we forced out demons and worked many miracles." (23) But I will tell them, "I will have nothing to do with you! Get out of my sight, you evil people!" (24) Anyone who hears and obeys these teachings of mine is like a wise person who built a house on solid rock. All who are doing what Jesus taught, are directing other people to Jesus's teachings. No exceptions, and no excuses. Being sincere is not the key. Obeying Jesus, and him alone, is the key. He is the one who came to teach us what his Father wants us to know.<sup>(EE)</sup> This booklet and website can help you see the need to come to know Jesus. These writings cannot, however, teach you to know Christ. Only the Gospel recordings of HIS TEACHINGS can do that! You need to have a faith built on being able to call to mind what Jesus said when you need guidance. We all need guidance all the time.

<sup>C</sup> [Matthew 12:30-42 CEV](#) Jesus is here speaking to the self-righteous and sanctimonious religious leaders of his day: **If you are not on my**

Your consideration of the Bible is timely because people of our day are being driven toward making such an examination. The terrible conditions of our day in time are driving people to look for God. Our simple encouragement, then, and also our warning, is that you must be very careful to look to Jesus alone as your instructor sent by God.<sup>(B)</sup>

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side, you are against me. If you don't gather in the harvest with me, you scatter it. (31) I tell you that any sinful thing you do or say can be forgiven. Even if you speak against the Son of Man, you can be forgiven. But if you speak against the Holy Spirit, you can never be forgiven, either in this life or in the life to come. (Jesus is likely talking about the spirit of truth he promised he would send us.)\* (32) (SEE 12:31) (33) A good tree produces only good fruit, and a bad tree produces bad fruit. You can tell what a tree is like by the fruit it produces. (34) You are a bunch of evil snakes, so how can you say anything good? Your words show what is in your hearts. (35) Good people bring good things out of their hearts, but evil people bring evil things out of their hearts. (36) I promise you that on the day of judgment, everyone will have to account for every careless word they have spoken. (37) On that day they will be told that they are either innocent or guilty because of the things they have said. (38) Some Pharisees and teachers of the Law of Moses said, "Teacher, we want you to show us a sign from heaven." (39) But Jesus replied: You want a sign because you are evil and won't believe! But the only sign you will get is the sign of the prophet Jonah. (40) He was in the stomach of a big fish for three days and nights, just as the Son of Man will be deep in the earth for three days and nights. (41) On the day of judgment the people of Nineveh will stand there with you and condemn you. They turned to God when Jonah preached, and yet here is something far greater than Jonah. (42) The Queen of the South will also stand there with you and condemn you. She traveled a long way to hear Solomon's wisdom, and yet here is something much greater than Solomon.~

\* John 14:15-18 ALT "If you are loving Me, keep My commandments. (16) "And I will ask the Father, and another Counselor [*or, Helper*] He will give to you, so that He shall dwell with you into the age [*fig., forever*]. (17) "The Spirit of the truth, whom the world is not able to receive, because it does not look upon [*or, watch [for]*] Him, nor knows Him. But you know Him, because He dwells with you and will be in you (18) "I will not leave you bereaved; I am coming to you.

These days of our lives are “unnatural days.”<sup>D</sup> The oppression brought upon mankind by the tribulation of our time causes everyone to live under great pressure – and that pressure causes them to exist in an unnatural daze.<sup>E</sup> Solving the puzzle of the Bible helps us understand why life is so harsh! As one politician was driven to ask: “Have we all gone completely nuts?”

Many people who see the bad and the silly things being done in our society agree with that politicians sentiments. Others, however, are still asking: “What oppression? What tribulation?” To enlighten those trying to ignore the obvious problems faced by mankind: One in every three of the world’s men, women and children are starving or malnourished. That’s just one trouble. Then add the hatred, violence, disease, crime, war, homelessness, and so called natural disasters; and more... There are few people left who are not being harmed themselves, or have someone close to them who is. The cause of the

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<sup>D</sup> Luke 21:10-11 ESV Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. (11) There will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences. And there will be terrors and great signs from heaven.~

Luke 21:22-26 CEV This time of punishment is what is written about in the Scriptures. (23) It will be an awful time for women who are expecting babies or nursing young children! Everywhere in the land people will suffer horribly and be punished. (24) Some of them will be killed by swords. Others will be carried off to foreign countries. Jerusalem will be overrun by foreign nations until their time comes to an end. (25) Strange things will happen to the sun, moon, and stars. The nations on earth will be afraid of the roaring sea and tides, and they won't know what to do. (26) People will be so frightened that they will faint because of what is happening to the world. Every power in the sky will be shaken.

<sup>E</sup> Ecclesiastes 7:7 ESV Surely oppression drives the wise into madness, and a bribe corrupts the heart.~

Hosea 9:7 MWT “The days of being given attention must come; the days of the due payment must come. Those of Israel will know [it]. The prophet will become foolish, the man of inspired expression will be driven mad on account of the abundance of your error, even hatred being abundant.”

tribulation our world is enduring is simple: It is because Satan has temporary control of our world.<sup>F</sup> He gained that fleeting authority by our own hand when our first parents (Adam and Eve) chose to follow him in rebellion against God. God has been allowing that rebellion to continue for 6000 years since Adam.<sup>G</sup> He has chosen to tolerate it because that is the best way to put an end to the problems Satan caused, forever. God continues though, even during the tribulation we have created, to extend love to his creation. That kindness and tolerance allows for each one of us to choose which side we are on in the issues Satan raised. God has allowed 6000 years of worsening trouble because He has appointed one to destroy and undo what Satan has done and incited.<sup>Q</sup> Satan inflames and supports all the problems that overwhelm mankind<sup>H</sup> for one simple reason: He doesn't

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<sup>F</sup> 1 John 5:19 BBE We are certain that we are of God, but all the world is in the power of the Evil One.~

Ephesians 6:11-13 CEV Put on all the armor that God gives, so you can defend yourself against the devil's tricks. (12) We are not fighting against humans. We are fighting against forces and authorities and against rulers of darkness and powers in the spiritual world. (13) So put on all the armor that God gives. Then when that evil day comes, you will be able to defend yourself. And when the battle is over, you will still be standing firm.~

John 12:26-31 BBE If any man is my servant, let him come after me; and where I am, there will my servant be. If any man becomes my servant, my Father will give him honour. (27) Now is my soul troubled; and what am I to say? Father, keep me from this hour. No: for this purpose have I come to this hour. (28) Father, give glory to your name. Then there came a voice out of heaven, saying, I have given it glory, and I will give it glory again. (29) Hearing the sound, a number of people who were there said that it was thunder: others said, An angel was talking to him. (30) Jesus said in answer, This voice came not for me but for you. (31) Now is this world to be judged: now will the ruler of this world be sent out.~

Matthew 4:8-9 CEV Finally, the devil took Jesus up on a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms on earth and their power. (9) The devil said to him, "I will give all this to you, if you will bow down and worship me."

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

<sup>H</sup> Job 1:7-12 GNB The LORD asked him, "What have you been doing?" Satan answered, "I have been walking here and there, roaming around



want you to have a chance to think about God, or, to have the freedom to learn how good God really is. Satan most certainly doesn't want you to know about him and his "authority of darkness."<sup>1</sup> He doesn't care which of his many lies he can persuade you to believe, as long as he can keep you ignorant of truth. In the midst of it all, however, God has given the solution in the form of truth. Please take to heart what that really means for you. If you wisely choose to recognize and understand that Satan is the ruler of this world system,<sup>(F)</sup> that knowledge should help you understand this: You don't actually have to take any action except being alive to be a follower of Satan. The whole world system is under his influence.<sup>(F)</sup> That's not to say everyone is a Satan worshiper. Most simply don't understand what is happening to them (they don't yet know about trains). They have never really learned anything about what God's word teaches.<sup>(JJ)</sup> They remain ignorant. Jesus, however, came to fix all that, as he is wiping away ignorance with truth. As we learn what Jesus taught and our ignorance departs, we must choose wisdom, or we turn ourselves into stupid (and bad) people.<sup>(ZZ)</sup> Thus, one thing Jesus is teaching you is this: If you merely follow along with this world's activities of buying, selling, marrying, and being given in marriage,<sup>J</sup> you will die in your

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the earth." (8) "Did you notice my servant Job?" the LORD asked. "There is no one on earth as faithful and good as he is. He worships me and is careful not to do anything evil." (9) Satan replied, "Would Job worship you if he got nothing out of it? (10) You have always protected him and his family and everything he owns. You bless everything he does, and you have given him enough cattle to fill the whole country. (11) But now suppose you take away everything he has--he will curse you to your face!" (12) "All right," the LORD said to Satan, "everything he has is in your power, but you must not hurt Job himself." So Satan left.

<sup>1</sup> Luke 22:52-53 BBE And Jesus said to the [*religious leaders*] chief priests and the captains of the Temple and the rulers, who had come against him, Have you come out as against a thief, with swords and sticks? (53) When I was in the Temple with you every day, your hands were not stretched out against me: but this is your hour, and the authority of [*darkness*] the dark power.

<sup>J</sup> Luke 17:26-30 BBE And as it was in the days of Noah, so will it be in the day of the Son of man. (27) They were feasting and taking wives and getting married, till the day of the overflowing of the waters, when

sins.<sup>k</sup> It's not that many of the things people make the center of their lives are bad or wrong. Buying and selling and marrying are not bad. What is bad, however, is letting those things be most important in your life. Anything you care more about than God has replaced God in your heart. Can't you see how that is bad? Jesus's Father teaches us to be happy, and to love and care for other people. Any and all other Gods we choose to worship teach (or cause) us to be selfish and to hate (to want to use and abuse) others. You are already on that track leading to death, along with this whole world, just by being born into the world under Satan's temporary influence. Being ignorant of that fact does not mean it is not true. You can step off the rut this world is running in only by making the free will choice to stop being Satan's follower. Jesus taught us how! The greed and selfish spirit that envelops this world is all of Satan's doing. All he needs you to do is live a life seeking riches and glory, or power over others, or any of the other things the world is running after, and he has successfully misled you. You don't have to understand you are misled; you just have to

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Noah went into the ark, and they all came to destruction. (28) In the same way, in the days of Lot; they were feasting and trading, they were planting and building; (29) But on the day when Lot went out of Sodom, fire came down from heaven and destruction came on them all. (30) So will it be in the day of the revelation of the Son of man.

<sup>k</sup> John 8:24-25 GNB That is why I told you that you will die in your sins. And you will die in your sins if you do not believe that 'I Am Who I Am'." (25) "Who are you?" they asked him. Jesus answered, "What I have told you from the very beginning.~

Matthew 16:15-17 GW He asked them, "But who do you say I am?" (16) Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God!" (17) Jesus replied, "Simon, son of Jonah, you are blessed! No human revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven revealed it to you.~

Matthew 3:13-17 CEV Jesus left Galilee and went to the Jordan River to be baptized by John. (14) But John kept objecting and said, "I ought to be baptized by you. Why have you come to me?" (15) Jesus answered, "For now this is how it should be, because we must do all that God wants us to do." Then John agreed. (16) So Jesus was baptized. And as soon as he came out of the water, the sky opened, and he saw the Spirit of God coming down on him like a dove. (17) Then a voice from heaven said, "This is my own dear Son, and I am pleased with him."

make the choice to ignore what God sent his son to teach you.<sup>L</sup> In choosing to ignore what Christ taught, you *make the willful choice* to try and remain ignorant; and, if you persist in that course, you judge yourself spiritually stupid.<sup>(FFF)</sup> Here again, then, is the key to understanding the Bible: Recognize Jesus as the only one who can give you knowledge to help you become wise.<sup>(EE)</sup> God sent his son to teach us what we need to know.<sup>(FF)</sup> & <sup>(L)</sup> Then, He inspired those teachings to be recorded by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John (only about 200 total pages in all four Gospels combined). If we want to stop being led along by Satan's spirit, we must learn what Jesus taught us about being good neighbors.<sup>(JJ)</sup> Read the Gospels! If you follow a sect of men (even well-meaning and well-intentioned men) by listening to their instructions

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<sup>L</sup> John 6:43-51a CEV Jesus told them: Stop grumbling! (44) No one can come to me, unless the Father who sent me makes them want to come. But if they do come, I will raise them to life on the last day. (45) One of the prophets wrote, "God will teach all of them." And so everyone who listens to the Father and learns from him will come to me. (46) The only one who has seen the Father is the one who has come from him. No one else has ever seen the Father. (47) I tell you for certain that everyone who has faith in me has eternal life. (48) I am the bread that gives life! (49) Your ancestors ate manna in the desert, and later they died. (50) But the bread from heaven has come down, so that no one who eats it will ever die. (51) I am that bread from heaven! Everyone who eats it (who learns and obeys what Jesus taught) will live forever...~

John 8:24-32 CEV That is why I said you will die with your sins unforgiven. If you don't have faith in me for who I am, you will die, and your sins will not be forgiven." (25) "Who are you?" they asked Jesus. Jesus answered, "I am exactly who I told you at the beginning.<sup>(K)</sup> (26) There is a lot more I could say to condemn you. But the one who sent me is truthful, and I tell the people of this world only what I have heard from him." (27) No one understood that Jesus was talking to them about the Father. (28) Jesus went on to say, "When you have lifted up the Son of Man, you will know who I am. You will also know that I don't do anything on my own. I say only what my Father taught me. (29) The one who sent me is with me. I always do what pleases him, and he will never leave me." (30) After Jesus said this, many of the people put their faith in him. (31) Jesus told the people who had faith in him, "If you keep on obeying what I have said, you truly are my disciples. (32) You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

about how you must serve God, you are in grave danger. Members of each one of the varied religious sects will slap each other on the shoulder and boast among themselves how fortunate they are to be among the lone group serving God, while not lifting a finger to actually help “their sheep” learn what Jesus taught. They keep their members droning along in the doctrinal track they have laid down for their sect. In that way, they are keeping their followers from ever having a personal thought about how they can please God; by actually learning from God’s own son how they can be kind to other people.<sup>M</sup> Cult leaders will accept your effort and/or your money, and even your worship, as they give strict directions on how you must please God. If you follow the directions of such men, who do you really serve? What they really teach you is how you can help them achieve *their* goals. They each one have a meeting schedule and study courses for their sect, but their effort is always to further, promote and protect their group. The one thing none of them do is actually read and study the Gospels with those who come to them for help. Whatever their varied sectarian teachings, and whatever “work” their sect has for their members, the one thing they all share in common is they will each one assure you of God’s blessings on you – *but only in exchange for your support of their sect*. Don’t believe them!<sup>(VV)</sup> The fact they are promoting their own teachings by calling their writings “spiritual food” should be your warning. Only the Bible is spiritual food.<sup>N & (L)</sup> If they were Jesus’s true followers, they would be studying (and teaching) the

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<sup>M</sup> Matthew 22:35-40 ALT And one of them, a lawyer, questioned, testing Him, and saying, (36) "Teacher, which [is] the great commandment in the Law?" (37) Then Jesus said to him, "'You will love the LORD your God with your whole heart [fig., your entire inner self] and with your whole soul and with your whole understanding.' [Deut 6:4,5] (38) "This is [the] first and great commandment. (39) "But a second [one is] similar to it, 'You will love your neighbor as yourself.' [Lev 19:18] (40) "On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

<sup>N</sup> 1 Corinthians 10:1-4 CEV (1) Friends, I want to remind you that all of our ancestors walked under the cloud and went through the sea. (2) This was like being baptized and becoming followers of Moses. (3) All of them also ate the same spiritual food (4) and drank the same spiritual drink, which flowed from the spiritual rock that followed them. That rock was Christ.<sup>(U)</sup>

Gospel accounts of Jesus's life, not promoting their own writings. Please be warned: We are each and every one of us making the choice to learn from Jesus by reading those Gospel recordings (actually, living in them as we read them over and over), or we are refusing to do so. Reading the sectarian teachings of some cult is not studying the Bible, right? The Bible makes it plain why none of us should ever imagine we can be teachers of other people. We are not teachers because the very best any one of us can be is a student of Christ.<sup>(RR)</sup> Contrarily, all the different religious sects are teaching their own doctrine as they each one study from their own books.<sup>(Y)</sup> Or, their members pay religious leaders to teach them (preach to them) by spinning some elaborate tale with a few scriptures scattered through. **True Christians are defined by the simple act of looking to Jesus – doing so by selectively studying his teachings only.** *Recognizing the modest truth that all any of us have to offer anyone else is for us to direct them to the teachings of Christ; that simple understanding distinguishes whether what we have is religion or Christianity.* We all have a natural desire to try and teach (help) other people. In our ignorance, many of us actually believe we have *more* to give than simply directing others to read what Jesus said. We can start to imagine we have learned something special, or, that we are specially blessed or gifted in some way. How grandiose and prideful such an attitude is! Even if someone were appointed to some special task by God, they would still need simply to direct others to Christ. If you have a gift from God, it is a gift better enabling you to direct others to Jesus's teachings. If you want to understand the Bible, you must have humility to recognize Jesus Christ as the one and only teacher appointed by God.<sup>(RR)</sup> So, once more we say, the key to understanding the Bible is that simple realization that no one can teach you about God except his son. That is so because it is God's arrangement.<sup>(EE)</sup> Having and reading the recorded teachings of Jesus is in some sense even better than being alive when Jesus gave mankind that knowledge. Those alive in Jesus's day only had access to what he said while he was in their presence. He traveled around spreading the truth<sup>o</sup> which meant many people may

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<sup>o</sup> Luke 4:40-44 CEV After the sun had set, people with all kinds of diseases were brought to Jesus. He put his hands on each one of them and healed them. (41) Demons went out of many people and shouted,

have only had exposure to him once or twice. Some of them might only have heard others tell them about Jesus. Using the Bible's inspired record of Jesus's life, we gain insight that even his own disciples didn't have. We have the intimate inspired record of his dealings with many people, including those disciples. We can effectively sit at the feet of Jesus for every single encounter God inspired to be recorded.<sup>P</sup> So, then, knowing the truth is a very good thing, and *it is easy to do, if you simply understand your need to actually listen to Christ*. The story recounted by the Bible is more exciting and wonderful than any story men could ever create or tell, and, it is true. The Bible reveals God's solution for the damage done and being done by Satan.<sup>Q</sup> That solution can protect *you*.<sup>(000)</sup> God's solution is made clear in the Bible, and then, it is all explained to us by God's son in the Gospels.<sup>R</sup> Doesn't wisdom dictate you at least consider the teachings of Jesus?

What stands as a deterrent in the mind of many when they contemplate the Bible is this: They know so many people who have already spent their whole lives trying to understand what the Bible

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"You are the Son of God!" But Jesus ordered the demons not to speak because they knew he was the Messiah. (42) The next morning Jesus went out to a place where he could be alone, and crowds came looking for him. When they found him, they tried to stop him from leaving. (43) But Jesus said, "People in other towns must hear the good news about God's kingdom. That's why I was sent." (44) So he kept on preaching in the Jewish meeting places in Judea.

<sup>P</sup> 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."

<sup>Q</sup> 1 John 3:8 BBE The sinner is a child of the Evil One; for the Evil One has been a sinner from the first. And the Son of God was seen on earth so that he might put an end to the works of the Evil One.

<sup>R</sup> Visit: <http://www.justbibletruth.com/JesusSaid.pdf>

teaches and they are not impressed by what they see in those people. So... If the Bible message truly is good and simple, why all the turmoil and confusion about what it teaches? Understanding the Bible actually is easy, but...<sup>s</sup> One problem most potential students share is they get sidetracked in their progress by becoming divided in their own heart.<sup>T</sup> Most become lost as they start to consider how they can use what they learn from the Bible for selfish gain: How can they use Bible knowledge to manipulate other people? Or... How can they use it to get people to like them, and/or, to accept them as part of some sect? (That is the same mentality that forms street gangs.) Perhaps the most common stumbling block: How can they use Bible teachings to make money?<sup>U</sup> Another problem is that many people are simply misdirected to religious doctrinal teachings. Many are beaten nearly senseless just by being alive in this world system. Then, they are beaten down some more by self-righteous religious zealots, trying to convince them they are not able to understand the Bible without the help of their sect. Those sects then misdirect potential Bible students to the group's "Bible study aids" as they usually call them. Most preachers (religious leaders) have no real interest in poor and lowly persons. People are being crushed under that self-righteous attitude: That non-members don't measure up to God's standards. Jesus was very different. He told the disciples of John that the poor and destitute were having the good

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<sup>s</sup> Luke 10:21 ALT In that hour Jesus was very glad in the Spirit [*or, in His spirit*] and said, "I praise You, Father, Lord of heaven and of the earth, that You hid these [*things*] from wise and intelligent [*people*] and revealed them to young children. Yes, Father, because in this way it became well-pleasing before You."

<sup>T</sup> Matthew 6:24 BBE No man is able to be a servant to two masters: for he will have hate for the one and love for the other, or he will keep to one and have no respect for the other. You may not be servants of God and of wealth [*literally mammon – riches or worldly interests*].

<sup>U</sup> 1 Timothy 6:3-5 CEV Anyone who teaches something different disagrees with the correct and godly teaching of our Lord Jesus Christ. (4) Those people who disagree are proud of themselves, but they don't really know a thing. Their minds are sick, and they like to argue over words. They cause jealousy, disagreements, unkind words, evil suspicions, (5) and nasty quarrels. They have wicked minds and have missed out on the truth. These people think religion is supposed to make you rich.

news told to them, and he mentioned it right alongside the miracles of helping people by healing their illnesses.<sup>v</sup> Religion was not helping lowly and meek persons in Jesus' day. Religion didn't teach the truth to the poor. They were busy trying to impress the rich. They are still the same! Christianity (the teachings of Jesus) teaches us to be kind to everyone, thus lifting the poor and neglected up from having been demoralized by this world. Religion just beats them down still more, or tries to use up what's left of them. Sharing what you learn from Jesus lifts people up as nothing else can!<sup>w</sup>

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<sup>v</sup> John had announced Christ as the Messiah and coming king. (Matthew 3:13-17 CEV Jesus left Galilee and went to the Jordan River to be baptized by John. (14) But John kept objecting and said, "I ought to be baptized by you. Why have you come to me?" (15) Jesus answered, "For now this is how it should be, because we must do all that God wants us to do." Then John agreed. (16) So Jesus was baptized. And as soon as he came out of the water, the sky opened, and he saw the Spirit of God coming down on him like a dove. (17) Then a voice from heaven said, "This is my own dear Son, and I am pleased with him.") Now, however, three years later, John was in prison. He no doubt expected Jesus to take rulership of the earth immediately. So... Why was John, as a faithful servant of God, now in prison? He needed Jesus to explain to him. Jesus told John the miracles he was doing did indeed prove he was the son of God. One of those miracles was teaching the good news to poor people: Matthew 11:2-6 BBE Now when John had news in prison of the works of the Christ, he sent his disciples (3) To say to him, Are you he who is to come, or are we waiting for another? (4) And Jesus, answering, said to them, Go and give news to John of the things which you are seeing and hearing: (5) The blind see; those who were not able to, are walking; lepers are made clean; those who were without hearing, now have their ears open; the dead come to life again, and the poor have the good news given to them. (6) And a blessing will be on him who has no doubts about me.

<sup>w</sup> Matthew 12:15-21 ESV Jesus, aware of this, withdrew from there. And many followed him, and he healed them all (16) and ordered them not to make him known. (17) This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah: (18) "Behold, my servant whom I have chosen, my beloved with whom my soul is well pleased. I will put my Spirit upon him, and he will proclaim justice to the Gentiles [*the nations*]. (19) He will not quarrel or cry aloud, nor will anyone hear his voice in the streets; (20) a bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering



Every sincere person who comes to God (and to the Bible) comes because they seek benefit, of course! The key, however, lies in seeking a benefit that is good for everyone, and not just you.<sup>x</sup> There is a scripture that explains it very well: (Hebrews 11:6 BBE) *And without faith it is not possible to be well-pleasing to him, for it is necessary for anyone who comes to God to have the belief that God is [that He exists], and that he is a rewarder of all those who make a serious search for him [that He is good].*

That scripture says “everyone” who comes to God does so, or must begin with, the belief God is a rewarder of those who seek him. In other words, they must believe in a God who is good. So, it clearly is not unscriptural to seek a reward at the hand of our Creator. Loving us and helping us is part of what defines God to be good. That same scripture (Heb. 11:6) also helps us recognize the key to our being able to avoid becoming divided in our heart,<sup>(T)</sup> as it says: The reward we seek *must be a reward from God.*<sup>(NNN)</sup> That infers *it must not be* a reward we dream up and pursue for ourselves. Jesus teaches us what rewards we can hope for. That is another way the world’s religions go wrong. They create their own doctrine to follow, and then replace the teachings of Jesus with their own rewards from their own sectarian writings.<sup>y</sup> What they are really doing is seeking their own glory. The glory they seek among men will then become their reward.<sup>z</sup> They

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*wick [a person with small hope and faith left] he will not quench, until he brings justice to victory; (21) and in his name the Gentiles [the nations] will hope."*

<sup>x</sup> 1 Timothy 6:6 CEV *And religion [Christianity] does make your life rich, by making you content with what you have.*

<sup>y</sup> Mark 7:5-8 CEV *The Pharisees and teachers asked Jesus, "Why don't your disciples obey what our ancestors taught us to do? Why do they eat without washing their hands?" (6) Jesus replied: You are nothing but show-offs! The prophet Isaiah was right when he wrote that God had said, "All of you praise me with your words, but you never really think about me. (7) It is useless for you to worship me, when you teach rules made up by humans." (8) You disobey God's commands in order to obey what humans have taught.*

<sup>z</sup> Matthew 6:1-5 ESV *"Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no*

arrogantly want to be teachers themselves,<sup>(RR)</sup> rather than simply directing people to Jesus as the one and only teacher of us all. It's really easy to test yourself! Does your religious group meet to actually read the teachings of Jesus Christ, or do they meet to study their organization's written materials. (They assert studying their literature is Bible study, of course, as they pour over and over their own books and magazines, containing a few chosen scriptures scattered through. That is not Bible study!) Does the group you associate with refer to themselves simply (and scripturally) as "Christians," or have they joined to come up with some other name to isolate and glorify their sect?<sup>AA</sup> To please God, we must be submissive to the life He desires us to have. Remember, again, that is not ever a hardship because God is the one teaching us to benefit ourselves.<sup>(GG)</sup> He wants us to be happy. As Jesus said, seeking our own life course leads to death. Giving up our selfish goals in order to follow Christ leads to life and happiness.<sup>BB</sup> Jesus gave his very life to bring us that knowledge.<sup>CC</sup> He came for the

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reward from your Father who is in heaven. (2) "Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward (they receive the glory among men they seek – trading it for the eternal life they could have through faith in Christ). (3) But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, (4) so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. (5) "And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.

<sup>AA</sup> Acts 11:26 YLT and having found him, he brought him to Antioch, and it came to pass that they a whole year did assemble together in the assembly, and taught a great multitude, the disciples also were divinely called first in Antioch Christians.

Genesis 11:4 MWT And they (the rebellious people) said: Come, let us make a city, and a tower whose top will go up as high as heaven; and let us make a great and celebrated name for ourselves, so that we may not be scattered over the face of the earth.

<sup>BB</sup> Matthew 10:39 CEV If you try to save your life, you will lose it. But if you *[are willing to]* give it up for me, you will surely find it.

<sup>CC</sup> John 10:14-18 BBE I am the good keeper *[shepherd]*; I have knowledge of my sheep, and they have knowledge of me, (15) Even as

purpose of teaching us<sup>DD</sup> what his Father wants us to know.<sup>EE</sup> Jesus taught us about his Father because he knows God's teachings mean *for us*.<sup>FF</sup> He knows everything his Father does is perfect, and

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the Father has knowledge of me and I of the Father; and I am giving my life for the sheep. (16) And I have other sheep which are not of this field: I will be their guide in the same way, and they will give ear to my voice (by reading the Gospels), so there will be one flock (Jews and Gentiles) and one keeper. (17) For this reason am I loved by the Father, because I give up my life so that I may take it again. (18) No one takes it away from me; I give it up of myself. I have power to give it up, and I have power to take it again. These orders I have from my Father.

<sup>DD</sup> John 18:37b BBE ... Jesus made answer, You say that I am a king. 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.

<sup>EE</sup> 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.

<sup>FF</sup> John 17:3 MWT And this means everlasting life, for them to take in knowledge of you, the only true God, and to know Jesus Christ, the one you sent forth.~

John 5:30 GNB "I can do nothing on my own authority; I judge only as God tells me, so my judgment is right, because I am not trying to do what I want, but only what he who sent me wants.~

John 12:49-50 GNB This is true, because I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent me has commanded me what I must say and speak. (50) And I know that his command brings eternal life. What I say, then, is what the Father has told me to say."~

John 5:19-24 BBE So Jesus made answer and said, Truly I say to you, The Son is not able to do anything himself; he is able to do only what he sees the Father doing; whatever the Father does the Son does it in the same way. (20) For the Father has love for the Son and lets him see everything which he does: and he will let him see greater works

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therefore, any disobedience to God brings harm and death.<sup>GG</sup> That simple understanding should help us realize the importance of

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than these so that you may be full of wonder. (21) In the same way, as the Father gives life to the dead, even so the Son gives life to those to whom he is pleased to give it. (22) The Father is not the judge of men, but he has given all decisions into the hands of the Son; (23) So that all men may give honour to the Son even as they give honour to the Father. He who gives no honour to the Son gives no honour to the Father who sent him. (24) Truly I say to you, The man whose ears are open to my word and who has faith in him who sent me, has eternal life; he will not be judged, but has come from death into life.

<sup>GG</sup> Isaiah 48:17 GNB The holy God of Israel, the LORD who saves you, says: "I am the LORD your God, the one who wants to teach you for your own good [*to benefit yourself*] and direct you in the way you should go.~

John 8:12 CEV Once again Jesus spoke to the people. This time he said, "I am the light for the world! Follow me, and you won't be walking in the dark. You will have the light that gives life."~

Psalms 119:96-142 CEV Nothing is completely perfect, except your teachings. (97) I deeply love your Law! I think about it all day. (98) Your laws never leave my mind, and they make me much wiser than my enemies. (99) Thinking about your teachings gives me better understanding than my teachers, (100) and obeying your laws makes me wiser than those who have lived a long time. (101) I obey your word instead of following a way that leads to trouble. (102) You have been my teacher, and I won't reject your instructions. (103) Your teachings are sweeter than honey. (104) They give me understanding and make me hate all lies. (105) Your word is a lamp that gives light wherever I walk. (106) Your laws are fair, and I have given my word to respect them all. (107) I am in terrible pain! Save me, LORD, as you said you would. (108) Accept my offerings of praise and teach me your laws. (109) I never forget your teachings, although my life is always in danger. (110) Some merciless people are trying to trap me, but I never turn my back on your teachings. (111) They will always be my most prized possession and my source of joy. (112) I have made up my mind to obey your laws forever, no matter what. (113) I hate anyone whose loyalty is divided, but I love your Law. (114) You are my place of safety and my shield. Your word is my only hope. (115) All of you worthless people, get away from me! I am determined to obey the commands of my God. (116) Be true to your word, LORD. Keep me alive and strong; don't let me be ashamed because of my hope. (117) Keep me safe and secure, so that I will always respect your laws. (118)

learning what the Bible teaches. Or, more succinctly, it should help us see the importance of learning what Jesus Christ taught.<sup>HH</sup>

By now, you should fully understand *why you can trust us*: Because we do not assert our own teachings. You can trust us because we direct you to Jesus Christ only. You must read for yourself what Jesus taught. By following that course, even if we (or anyone else) are confused in some part of *our* understanding, reading what Jesus taught provides you protection. What his Father wants you to know is contained in the four short Gospels by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.<sup>(EE)</sup> That awakening in you, your recognizing your need to listen to Jesus alone, is the whole key to understanding the Bible. The whole of the Bible is,

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You reject all deceitful liars because they refuse your teachings. (119) As far as you are concerned, all evil people are garbage, and so I follow your rules. (120) I tremble all over when I think of you and the way you judge. (121) I did what was fair and right! Don't hand me over to those who want to mistreat me. (122) Take good care of me, your servant, and don't let me be harmed by those conceited people. (123) My eyes are weary from waiting to see you keep your promise to come and save me. (124) Show your love for me, your servant, and teach me your laws. (125) I serve you, so let me understand your teachings. (126) Do something, LORD! They have broken your Law. (127) Your laws mean more to me than the finest gold. (128) I follow all of your commands, but I hate anyone who leads me astray. (129) Your teachings are wonderful, and I respect them all. (130) Understanding your word brings light to the minds of ordinary people. (131) I honestly want to know everything you teach. (132) Think about me and be kind, just as you are to everyone who loves your name. (133) Keep your promise and don't let me stumble or let sin control my life. (134) Protect me from abuse, so I can obey your laws. (135) Smile on me, your servant, and teach me your laws. (136) When anyone disobeys you, my eyes overflow with tears. (137) Our LORD, you always do right, and your decisions are fair. (138) All of your teachings are true and trustworthy. (139) It upsets me greatly when my enemies neglect your teachings. (140) Your word to me, your servant, is like pure gold; I treasure what you say. (141) Everyone calls me a nobody, but I remember your laws. (142) You will always do right, and your teachings are true.

<sup>HH</sup> John 3:16 BBE For God had such love for the world that he gave his only Son, so that whoever has faith in him may not come to destruction but have eternal life.<sup>(FF) & (DD)</sup>

as it itself explains, a tutor leading to the Christ.<sup>II</sup> Think what that really means. The Bible exists to direct us to Christ. Then Jesus, acting as God's Messiah, explains what the Bible means. Once you understand that simple arrangement of God,<sup>(EE)</sup> it should reveal your need to spend most of your energies becoming very familiar with the 5% of the Bible that records what Jesus taught – the Gospels. That's how you come to personally know Jesus, and to know the people he loved. That's where you learn how he dealt with people, and why. That's the only way you can really know Jesus: Really, personally, know him! The world's religions go so very wrong because they are all listening to other men tell them what Jesus taught. Many of the men they are listening to may even mean well.<sup>JJ</sup> The thing is, any and all self-proclaimed teachers are just men and women who are also (at best) learning what Jesus taught. Because we are all constantly learning, none of us are equipped to be teachers<sup>(RR)</sup> beyond our simple efforts to direct other people to what we are in turn learning from Christ. That is one thing understanding the Bible means! It ain't rocket science. You just need to guard yourself against well-meaning people who don't have a clue, or, who have only partial knowledge. Jesus is the only one you can rely on to teach you.<sup>KK</sup>

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<sup>II</sup> Galatians 3:23-29 CEV The Law controlled us and kept us [safe] under its power until the time came when we would have faith. (24) In fact, the Law was our [tutor] teacher [leading to Christ]. It was supposed to teach us until we had faith and were acceptable to God. (25) But once a person has learned to have faith, there is no more need to have the Law as a teacher. (26) All of you are God's children because of your faith in Christ Jesus (that requires knowing what he taught). (27) And when you were baptized, it was as though you had put on Christ in the same way you put on new clothes. (28) Faith in Christ Jesus is what makes each of you equal with each other, whether you are a Jew or a Greek, a slave or a free person, a man or a woman. (29) So if you belong to Christ, you are now part of Abraham's family, and you will be given what God has promised (when you read promises made in the Bible to Abraham and his seed, you can know that is for you based on your faith in the teachings of God's son).

<sup>JJ</sup> Visit: <http://www.justbibletruth.com/BeAGoodNeighbor.pdf>

<sup>KK</sup> Galatians 1:6-12 ESV I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel-- (7) not that there is another one, but there are some

As we learn and build faith in what Jesus taught, we start to recognize the glory of God.<sup>LL</sup> We come to understand more every day about how He loves and cares for us. We also start to see the value of helping other people know and understand what is true.

As an aid to help us understand the limit of what it is we can offer other people, or how we actually *can* be a help to them, we take as an example the organization known as Alcoholics Anonymous (AA). AA works to help people live in recovery from alcoholism. They are able to help, in part, by helping members see their personal need to recognize a “higher power.” Recognizing a God is their way of helping the individual alcoholic see the need to take responsibility for their life. It is a way to help them understand there are consequences to their actions. In recognizing what they call a “higher power,” the organization gives credit to God without forcing their associates to adopt their organizational beliefs about the details of who God is.<sup>MM</sup>

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who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. (8) But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed. (9) As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed. (10) For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ. (11) For I would have you know, brothers, that the gospel that was preached by me is not man's gospel. (12) For I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ. The revelation for each one of us comes from Christ and is contained in the Gospels.

<sup>LL</sup> John 11:40 BBE Jesus said to her, Did I not say to you that if you had faith you would see the glory of God?

<sup>MM</sup> Acts 17:22-23 ESV So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. (23) For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, 'To the unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. Romans 2:14-16 CEV Some people naturally obey the Law's commands, even though they don't have the Law. (15) This proves that the conscience is like a law written in the human heart. And it will show whether we are forgiven or condemned, (16) when God appoints

That is, in a sense, how the true followers of Christ Jesus function. The AA acknowledge their “higher power” as a real part of their lives. So do Christians. The members of AA also have humility to understand that “higher power” *is who He is.*<sup>NN</sup> It is not for them to define him. For their purpose, they don’t need to define him, just recognize him. Once their members learn to live with their burden of alcoholism in relation to the “higher power,” they are free to define (or learn more about) who that “higher power” (God) is, just as they personally choose. They no doubt selected that way of doing things to keep their organization from being fractured by religious bigotry and sectarianism. Christians try to avoid sectarianism as well. They simply tell people to join the group started by Jesus, joining that group by doing their best to learn and follow *his* teachings. As mentioned, their choice implies the AA realize it really isn’t up to any of us to define God at all!<sup>(MM)</sup> God is who he is. It follows that all we can do is learn what God teaches us about himself.<sup>(NN)</sup> Christians are the lone group looking to Christ, and directing others to Christ, to explain to us all who God is. So... Whether they fully understand or not,<sup>(MM)</sup> the AA organization demonstrates the difference between religion and Christianity. Please do not think we are saying AA members are all Christians, mind you, but the organization does seem similar to Christians in understanding the divisive danger inherent in “religion.”<sup>(VV)</sup> It appears they limit the religious component of their group because they have realized religions teach the varied sectarian and divisive doctrines of men. Whatever AA members do or do not understand, the true followers of Christ do understand the limits of what it is they have to offer other people. Christians don’t try to give what they don’t have to give. They realize God sent Jesus to teach us who his Father is.<sup>(EE) & (DD) & (FF)</sup> They also realize imperfect human Christians never overcome sin, but are in a constant state of learning to live with sinful inclinations through faith in Christ.<sup>OO</sup> If we are

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Jesus Christ to judge everyone's secret thoughts, just as my message says.

<sup>NN</sup> Exodus 3:14 BBE And God said to him, I AM WHAT I AM: and he said, Say to the children of Israel, I AM has sent me to you.

<sup>OO</sup> 1 John 1:8-10 GNB If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and there is no truth in us. (9) But if we confess our sins to



exerting ourselves to learn (by actually reading) what Jesus taught, we are constantly learning about our Father and about how better to please him. For most of us, it is not so much a desire to leave sin as an awakening of the desire to please our Father because of what we learn about him from Jesus. The reason we sin is because we think we love it. It's hard to want to leave something you think you love. As we come to understand God is teaching us to leave only things that cause us harm, that makes it a whole other thing. It is easy to leave things you understand and truly believe are killing you. When we see a man's face on TV after being ravaged by cancer from using tobacco, and then learn he died shortly after doing the ad, it makes us want to avoid dipping tobacco. Make no mistake, sin is killing you.<sup>PP</sup> Sin is not really fun, and it's not good. It's making you old and sick, and, if you fail to build faith in Jesus's teachings, will bring death. Sin is what keeps you distracted from realizing the truth, and, from accepting the gift of life.<sup>QQ</sup> As we attempt to understand what our personal limits are in our ability to help other people, we must recognize that what we know now, on this day, is not all we will know tomorrow, or on the day after that. The obvious problem that realization creates for each one of us is that it means *we don't know what we don't know*. The man from the example on our cover didn't know that he didn't know about trains, right up to the second he first saw a train. He was completely ignorant of any truth about trains. His ignorance was not a badness or even a weakness on his part. He simply had not had the opportunity to learn about trains. Spiritually speaking, none of us know what trains

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God, he will keep his promise and do what is right: he will forgive us our sins and purify us from all our wrongdoing. (10) If we say that we have not sinned, we make a liar out of God, and his word is not in us.

<sup>PP</sup> Romans 6:23 GW The payment for sin is death, but the gift that God freely gives is everlasting life found in Christ Jesus our Lord.

<sup>QQ</sup> 1 Timothy 6:17-19 GW Tell those who have the riches of this world not to be arrogant and not to place their confidence in anything as uncertain as riches. Instead, they should place their confidence in God who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. (18) Tell them to do good, to do a lot of good things, to be generous, and to share. (19) By doing this they store up a treasure for themselves which is a good foundation for the future. In this way they take hold of what life really is.

are out there that we don't even know exist. That is, however, what Jesus teaches us; that is why we need to rely exclusively on him. Jesus is God's son and he does know what we need to know. How could any of us really glorify ourselves to imagine we are teachers of, or even lords over, the faith of other people?<sup>RR</sup> We don't know what we are ignorant of, and so, we don't know what to teach. There is only one way we can always be safe as we try to help other people: We need simply to direct them to read for themselves what the son of God taught.<sup>(FF)</sup> We all need to understand this simple truth: We have each one of us been swimming like fish in Satan's deceitful environment all our lives. His lies permeate us in ways we don't even know. What we have been misled to believe, then, has become our God. As an example: There is much online and on TV about women who hate men. One woman posted she didn't hate men when she was young. She hates men only and solely because of the way she has been personally treated by them. Another confessed she doesn't think it is right for her to feel hatred toward men, but that she secretly does. She hates men because she secretly *believes* they are sexually promiscuous and view women as sexual toys or as a conquest. She believes if she gives herself to a man, he will consider himself finished with her and will move on emotionally, seeking his next "trophy." Sadly, these women are right in the case of many (possibly even most) men. Many men are perverts who see women as objects of fun for

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<sup>RR</sup> Matthew 23:5-13 CEV Everything they [*the religious leaders*] do is just to show off in front of others. They even make a big show of wearing Scripture verses on their foreheads and arms, and they wear big tassels for everyone to see. (6) They love the best seats at banquets and the front seats in the meeting places. (7) And when they are in the market, they like to have people greet them as their teachers. (8) But none of you should be called a teacher. You have only one teacher, and all of you are like brothers and sisters. (9) Don't call anyone on earth your father. All of you have the same Father in heaven. (10) None of you should be called the leader. The Messiah is your only leader. (11) Whoever is the greatest should be the servant of the others. (12) If you put yourself above others, you will be put down. But if you humble yourself, you will be honored. (13) You Pharisees and teachers of the Law of Moses are in for trouble! You're nothing but show-offs. You lock people out of the kingdom of heaven. You won't go in yourselves, and you keep others from going in.

them. Many of them are so ignorant or wicked as to take pride in such behavior.<sup>(F)</sup> But... The harm women who have such hatred are doing to themselves is that *all* men are not like that. Therefore, those women have built faith in what is not “truth.” What they believe is just another one of Satan’s lies. Hatred for the many deplorable attitudes and actions by some men is likely what drives some women to seek love from another woman. This is just an illustration to help see we are all deceived in ways we don’t even know. Most of us are led along by similar lies, as we relegate certain people we know into such stereotypical groups of bad or deficient behavior. We believe other races, or other language or social groups, or on the list goes; are lazy, or liars, or dishonest and bad in some way. The lies that we allow ourselves to believe then manifest as our God. Those lies (our faith) define what we can hope for, and even how we proceed in life. Jesus does actually teach us that some people are bad. Some of them will hate or abuse us, simply because we love Christ.<sup>55</sup> He also teaches us to have hope and to “believe” in the promises of God, and to have

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<sup>55</sup> Matthew 10:32-42 GNB "Those who declare publicly that they belong to me, I will do the same for them before my Father in heaven. (33) But those who reject me publicly, I will reject before my Father in heaven. (34) "Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the world. No, I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. (35) *[By telling them the truth which exposes who they are,]* I came to set *[wicked]* sons against their fathers, daughters against their mothers, daughters-in-law against their mothers-in-law; (36) your worst enemies will be the *[wicked]* members of your own family. (37) "Those who love their father or mother more than me are not fit to be my disciples; those who love their son or daughter more than me are not fit to be my disciples. (38) Those who do not take up their cross and follow in my steps *[of showing love for other people]* are not fit to be my disciples. (39) Those who try to gain their own life will lose it; but those who lose their life *[or are willing to give it up]* for my sake will gain it. (40) "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. (41) Whoever welcomes God's messenger because he is God's messenger, will share in his reward. And whoever welcomes a good man because he is good, will share in his reward. (42) You can be sure that whoever gives even a drink of cold water to one of the least of these my followers because he is my follower, will certainly receive a reward."

hope for all people.<sup>TT</sup> He teaches us not to imagine we are judges of who is bad.<sup>(NNN)</sup> A woman who hates men, or a man who hates women because he believes the lie that all women use sex as a tool to manipulate men, they have all believed the lies of Satan. Their "faith" (in Satan through his lies) has relegated each of them to a life without any real hope of a loving and cherished marital relationship. Marital relations are a gift from God! If we continue with this world to have faith in Satan's lies, we then live lives according to the hope (or lack of it) that results from that personal "faith" we have built. When we have faith in the lies Satan has told, it makes our very life an act of bowing down to him. Jesus's teachings, however, set us free of that slavery.<sup>(L - John 8:31 & 32)</sup> What Jesus teaches allows us to have a real hope in what is good. If this sounds to you like a fairy tale that is too good to be true, it surely indicates you have become enslaved to the lies of Satan.<sup>UU</sup> Break free!<sup>(L - John 8:31-32)</sup> You are the one who will be most

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<sup>TT</sup> Romans 15:7-13 GNB Accept one another, then, for the glory of God, as Christ has accepted you. (8) For I tell you that Christ's life of service was on behalf of the Jews, to show that God is faithful, to make his promises to their ancestors come true, (9) and to enable even the Gentiles to praise God for his mercy. As the scripture says, "And so I will praise you among the Gentiles; I will sing praises to you." (10) Again it says, "Rejoice, Gentiles, with God's people!" (11) And again, "Praise the Lord, all Gentiles; praise him, all peoples!" (12) And again, Isaiah says, "A descendant of Jesse will appear; he will come to rule the Gentiles, and they will put their hope in him." (13) May God, the source of hope, fill you with all joy and peace by means of your faith in him, so that your hope will continue to grow by the power of the Holy Spirit.~

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 GW (4) Love is patient. Love is kind. Love isn't jealous. It doesn't sing its own praises. It isn't arrogant. (5) It isn't rude. It doesn't think about itself. It isn't irritable. It doesn't keep track of wrongs. (6) It isn't happy when injustice is done, but it is happy with the truth. (7) Love never stops being patient, never stops believing, never stops hoping, never gives up.

<sup>UU</sup> Psalms 11:3-7 GW When the foundations of life are undermined, what can a righteous person do?" (4) The LORD is in his holy temple. The LORD'S throne is in heaven. His eyes see. They examine Adam's descendants. (5) The LORD [allows] tests [to come upon] righteous people, but he hates wicked people and the ones who love violence. (6) He rains down fire and burning sulfur upon wicked people. He makes

benefited by your building faith in what God's son taught. We are each one of us making the very same choice: We are learning what Jesus taught, and are thereby being set free of the lies promoted by Satan;<sup>(L)</sup> or, we are following along without true hope on the unrepentant world's tracks to the grave.<sup>(K)</sup> Eternal life and happiness is a gift from God. Your simple need is to accept it through faith in Christ. Being humble to recognize the only real benefit we can be to other people rests in our directing them to learn for themselves what Jesus taught, helps us avoid driving them away from Christ by our own lack of knowledge, or by our hateful sectarianism in teaching organizational doctrine (our own beliefs) instead of the Bible. Spreading judgment and hate is what religion does to this world.<sup>vv</sup> Spreading what Jesus taught is not like that. Jesus's teachings promote hope and faith and peace and love.<sup>ww</sup>

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them drink from a cup filled with scorching wind. (7) The LORD is righteous. He loves a righteous way of life. Decent people will see his face.

<sup>vv</sup> Matthew 24:23-28 LITV Then if anyone says to you, Behold, here is the Christ! Or, Here! Do not believe. (24) For false christs and false prophets will rise up. And *they* will give great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect [*or, the ones being chosen*]. (25) Behold, I tell you beforehand. (26) Then if they say to you, Behold, *He is* in the wilderness; do not go out. Behold, *He is* in the inner rooms; do not believe. (27) For as the lightning comes forth from *the* east and shines as far as *the* west, so also will be the coming of the Son of Man. (28) For wherever the dead body may be (the remains of Jesus are his teachings), there the eagles will be gathered.

<sup>ww</sup> Ephesians 3:14-20 MWT I kneel in prayer to the Father. (15) All beings in heaven and on earth receive their life from him. (16) God is wonderful and glorious. I pray that his Spirit will make you become strong followers (17) and that Christ will live in your hearts because of your faith. Stand firm and be deeply rooted in his love. (18) I pray that you and all of God's people will understand how wide or long or high or deep Christ's love is. (19) I want you to know all about Christ's love, although it is too wonderful to be measured. Then your lives will be filled with all that God is [*God's spirit*]. (20) I pray that Christ Jesus and the church [*followers of Christ*] will forever bring praise to God. His power at work in us can do far more than we dare ask or imagine. Amen.

Jesus came to give us knowledge of his Father.<sup>XX</sup> He is the only one who can do that.<sup>YY</sup> It was God's purpose in sending his son to the earth.<sup>(DD)</sup> All any of us can really know to tell others, then, is to parrot what Jesus said. None of us can tell others who God is! We can't tell them who God is because we only know what we have learned from Jesus about who God is up to this day in our lives. And, as imperfect people, even our understanding of *what we have learned* may be flawed and inaccurate (until we gain more knowledge and/or a better understanding). Jesus truly knows his Father and he is the only one who does.<sup>(EE)</sup> So again, all any of us have to give anyone else is to direct them to the teachings of Jesus Christ as recorded in the four short Bible Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. There is never any reason for hostility, or argument, or judgment, or hatred. We should express only loving kindness in directing people to those same writings (the Gospels) where we have faith we are learning the truth. The truth is SO VERY SIMPLE!!!<sup>(EE)</sup> Build a faith in what you personally know Jesus Christ taught. The only way you can do that is to read the Gospel accounts of his life, over and over. That's how you come to know, not only Jesus Christ, but the people he loved as well. That's how you understand why Jesus loved those people. That is knowing Jesus! Knowing Jesus, in turn, teaches you to know his Father.<sup>(EE)</sup>

Your alternatives are to proclaim your own righteousness, or to join some group who assert your righteousness is achieved through an approved membership in their sect. Well, you can also try to pretend all this tribulation and spiritual warfare doesn't even exist, in some effort to remain ignorant of truth. You can't remain ignorant!<sup>ZZ</sup> One

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<sup>XX</sup> Luke 4:43 CEV But Jesus said, "People in other towns must hear the good news about God's kingdom. That's why I was sent."<sup>(DD)</sup>

<sup>YY</sup> Matthew 1:20-21 GNB While he was thinking about this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, descendant of David, do not be afraid to take Mary to be your wife. For it is by the Holy Spirit that she has conceived. (21) She will have a son, and you will name him Jesus---because he will save his people from their sins."<sup>(FF)</sup>

<sup>ZZ</sup> John 15:22-24 GNB They would not have been guilty of sin if I had not come and spoken to them; as it is, they no longer have any excuse for their sin. (23) Whoever hates me hates my Father also. (24) They

terrible mistake you can make is to proclaim your own righteousness.<sup>AAA</sup> If you want to assert you are upright and have no need of Christ,<sup>(OO)</sup> no man can stop you. Not even God will stop you. Nobody really wants to stop you. That is because *that choice is your responsibility* and that choice defines who you are as a person.<sup>BBB</sup> Acknowledging your own personal need for help is the first step in becoming wise!<sup>CCC</sup> You must decide who you are in your own heart, and, if you choose wisely, God provides you a defense of your hope.<sup>DDD</sup> That defense must come from your own lips and it must be based, for sure, in your knowledge of the teachings of God's son.<sup>EEE</sup> If

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would not have been guilty of sin if I had not done among them the things that no one else ever did; as it is, they have seen what I did, and they hate both me and my Father.

<sup>AAA</sup> Matthew 9:10-13 GW Later Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house. Many tax collectors and sinners came to eat with Jesus and his disciples. (11) The Pharisees saw this and asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" (12) When Jesus heard that, he said, "Healthy people don't need a doctor; those who are sick do. (13) Learn what this means: 'I want mercy, not sacrifices.' I've come to call sinners, not people who think they have God's approval."

<sup>BBB</sup> John 15:15-16 GNB I do not call you servants any longer, because servants do not know what their master is doing. Instead, I call you friends, because I have told you everything I heard from my Father. (16) You did not choose me; I chose you and appointed you to go and bear much fruit (direct others to Jesus's teachings), the kind of fruit that endures. And so the Father will give you whatever you ask of him in my name.

<sup>CCC</sup> Mark 2:17 GW When Jesus heard that, he said to them, "Healthy people don't need a doctor; those who are sick do. I've come to call sinners, not people who think they have God's approval."

<sup>DDD</sup> 1 Peter 3:13-15 MWT Indeed, who is the man that will harm you if you become zealous for what is good? <sup>14</sup> But even if you should suffer for the sake of righteousness, you are happy. However, the object of their fear do not you fear, neither become agitated. <sup>15</sup> But sanctify the Christ as Lord in your hearts, always ready to make a defense before everyone that demands of you a reason for the hope in you, but doing so together with a mild temper and deep respect.

<sup>EEE</sup> Proverbs 16:1 GW The plans of the heart belong to humans, but an answer on the tongue comes from the LORD.~

you choose to justify or glorify yourself, saying (or indicating by your life course) you have no need of Christ's teachings to help you change your life, you are by that act bringing yourself down to the grave. We are each and every one judging ourselves by our faith in Christ's teachings.<sup>FFF</sup> To live forever, you must give up selecting and seeking your own course for life (seeking your own glory).<sup>GGG</sup> You must replace your selfish course with faith in God's provision of life through Christ Jesus. The truth of the Bible is this: Christ is restoring paradise.<sup>HHH</sup> Only

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Proverbs 16:1 YLT Of man *are* arrangements of the heart, And from Jehovah an answer of the tongue.

<sup>FFF</sup> John 12:46-50 GNB I have come into the world as light, so that everyone who believes in me should not remain in the darkness. (47) If people hear my message and do not obey it, I will not judge them. I came, not to judge the world, but to save it. (48) Those who reject me and do not accept my message have one who will judge them. The words I have spoken will be their judge on the last day! (49) This is true, because I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent me has commanded me what I must say and speak. (50) And I know that his command brings eternal life. What I say, then, is what the Father has told me to say."

<sup>GGG</sup> John 12:25 ALT "The one affectionately loving his life will lose it, and the one hating his life in this world will keep it to eternal life.

<sup>HHH</sup> Isaiah 11:1-12 GNB The royal line of David is like a tree that has been cut down; but just as new branches sprout from a stump, so a new king (Christ Jesus) will arise from among David's descendants. (2) The spirit of the LORD will give him wisdom and the knowledge and skill to rule his people. He will know the LORD's will and honor him, (3) and find pleasure in obeying him. He will not judge by appearance or hearsay; (4) he will judge the poor fairly and defend the rights of the helpless. At his command the people will be punished, and evil persons will die. (5) He will rule his people with justice and integrity. (6) Wolves and sheep will live together in peace, and leopards will lie down with young goats. Calves and lion cubs will feed together, and little children will take care of them. (7) Cows and bears will eat together, and their calves and cubs will lie down in peace. Lions will eat straw as cattle do. (8) Even a baby will not be harmed if it plays near a poisonous snake. (9) On Zion, God's sacred hill, there will be nothing harmful or evil. The land will be as full of knowledge of the LORD as the seas are full of water. (10) A day is coming when the new king from the royal line of David will be a symbol to the nations. They will gather in his royal city and give him honor. (11) When that day comes,



*your faith* can carry you alive into that paradise.<sup>(HHH – Job 33:24-29)</sup> Faith in what Jesus taught is not a sacrifice; faith in truth is the only course that will make you happy.<sup>III</sup> Your sacrifice to God is not your faith,

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the Lord will once again use his power and bring back home those of his people who are left in Assyria and Egypt, in the lands of Pathros, Ethiopia, Elam, Babylonia, and Hamath, and in the coastlands and on the islands of the sea. (12) The Lord will raise a signal flag to show the nations that he is gathering together again the scattered people of Israel and Judah and bringing them back from the four corners of the earth.

Psalms 37:9-11 ESV For the evildoers shall be cut off, but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land. (10) In just a little while, the wicked will be no more; though you look carefully at his place, he will not be there. (11) But the meek shall inherit the land and delight themselves in abundant peace.~

Psalms 37:29 ESV The righteous shall inherit the land and dwell upon it forever.~

Job 33:24-29 GNB 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;~

1 Corinthians 15:22-28 GNB (22) For just 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. (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. (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.

<sup>III</sup> James 1:22-27 GW Do what God's word says. Don't merely listen to it, or you will fool yourselves. (23) If someone listens to God's word but doesn't do what it says, he is like a person who looks at his face in a

then, but your free will voice telling other people they too ~~need~~ *have opportunity* to learn what Jesus taught.<sup>JJJ</sup> Faith in Christ, as the son of God,<sup>KKK</sup> is the theme and purpose of the Bible. If you persist in proclaiming your own glory and/or that of your sect,<sup>(AAA)</sup> or in hoping in anything other than God's Messiah, it would seem an indication you have no real faith in God. Faith is your own choice and it is for you

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mirror, (24) studies his features, goes away, and immediately forgets what he looks like. (25) However, the person who continues to study God's perfect teachings that make people free and who remains committed to them will be blessed [*or, will be happy in doing it*]. People like that don't merely listen and forget; they actually do what God's teachings say. (26) If a person thinks that he is religious but can't control his tongue, he is fooling himself. That person's religion is worthless. (27) Pure, unstained religion, according to God our Father, is to take care of orphans and widows when they suffer and to remain uncorrupted by this world.

<sup>JJJ</sup> Hebrews 13:15-16 GW Through Jesus we should always bring God a sacrifice of praise, that is, words that acknowledge him. (16) Don't forget to do good things for others and to share what you have with them. These are the kinds of sacrifices that please God.

<sup>KKK</sup> John 20:30-31 GW Jesus performed many other miracles that his disciples saw. Those miracles are not written in this book. (31) But these miracles have been written so that you will believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and so that you will have life by believing in him.

alone to build. No one really knows what your choice is except you and Christ, and his Father of course.

You can rest assured in this most wonderful truth: Christ is seated in heaven<sup>LLL</sup> and you are being divided into one of two groups.<sup>MMM</sup> The only real glory you will ever have will come to you from God.<sup>NNN</sup> And that, is what Jesus came to teach. Faith in Christ can help you in ways you cannot imagine. It can preserve you alive!<sup>OOO</sup> & (HHH – Job 33:24-29)

If this booklet and justbibletruth.com prove useful to you, it is most surely because you are a lover of truth. As you well know, there are many wealthy and powerful organizations using their sectarian

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<sup>LLL</sup> Ephesians 1:15-20 CEV I have heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all of God's people. (16) So I never stop being grateful for you, as I mention you in my prayers. (17) I ask the glorious Father and God of our Lord Jesus Christ to give you his Spirit. The Spirit will make you wise and let you understand what it means to know God. (18) My prayer is that light will flood your hearts and that you will understand the hope that was given to you when God chose you. Then you will discover the glorious blessings that will be yours together with all of God's people. (19) I want you to know about the great and mighty power that God has for us followers. It is the same wonderful power he used (20) when he raised Christ from death and let him sit at his right side in heaven.

<sup>MMM</sup> 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.

<sup>NNN</sup> 1 Corinthians 4:3-5 MWT (3) it is a trivial matter to me if I am judged by you or even by a human tribunal [*religious leaders*]. In fact, I don't judge myself. (4) I don't know of anything against myself, but that doesn't prove that I am right. The Lord is my judge. (5) So don't judge anyone until the Lord returns. He will show what is hidden in the dark and what is in everyone's heart. Then God will be the one who praises each of us.

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

teachings to control their “sheep,” (or, their “flock”). (Remember, it was the religious leaders who primarily tried to turn people away from Christ.)<sup>PPP</sup> All the different sects share a hatred for the truth because truth exposes them for what they are. We see examples in the news of that happening: We see people who recognize the hatred and judgment spread by sectarian religious groups, and who are bold to speak openly about what they see. When we see religious bigotry and sectarianism being exposed by ex-members of some sect, it is encouraging for all lovers of truth. The façade of righteousness used by religion to deceive people for centuries is being ripped away by honesty and truth. It is God’s time for her (religion) to be revealed!<sup>QQQ</sup>

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<sup>PPP</sup> John 7:45-49 GNB When the guards went back, the chief priests and Pharisees (religious leaders) asked them, "Why did you not bring him (Jesus)?" (46) The guards answered, "Nobody has ever talked the way this man does!" (47) "Did he fool you, too?" the Pharisees asked them. (48) "Have you ever known one of the authorities or one Pharisee to believe in him? (49) This crowd does not know the Law of Moses (or, today they say, they are not members of our sect), so they are under God's curse!"

<sup>QQQ</sup> Revelation 17:1-2 ESV Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the judgment of the great prostitute (religion) who is seated on many waters, (2) with whom the kings of the earth have committed sexual immorality, and with the wine of whose sexual immorality the dwellers on earth have become drunk."

Revelation 17:15-17 ESV (15) And the angel said to me, "The waters that you saw, where the prostitute is seated, are peoples and multitudes and nations and languages. (16) And the ten horns that you saw, they and the beast will hate the prostitute. They will make her desolate and naked, and devour her flesh and burn her up with fire, (17) for God has put it into their hearts to carry out his purpose by being of one mind and handing over their royal power to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled.

Revelation 19:1-6 ESV After this I heard what seemed to be the loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, crying out, "Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, (2) for his judgments are true and just; for he has judged the great prostitute who corrupted the earth with her immorality, and has avenged on her the blood of his servants." (3) Once more they cried out, "Hallelujah! The smoke from her goes up forever and ever (the destruction of religion is a touchstone forever, so wickedness will never again need to be tolerated – at all)." (4) And

It is encouraging when we see upright excommunicated, shunned, expelled, disfellowshipped, or simply cast aside members of religious cults who have faith to refuse to cower before their religious leaders (former and false friends who have become their tormentors).<sup>(NNN)</sup> Rather, they choose to speak openly about what they have seen, thus exposing sectarian religion.<sup>RRR</sup> We often see, too, how self-proclaimed and so called "still faithful members" of one of those groups will follow up by saying terrible things about those who expose their group's hateful activity. Be assured, then, religion will attack our efforts to spread the truth. They will say bad things about us. Two things we have heard them say is that our message is simplistic and repetitive. As a little girl once said to her grandfather after he made a statement that was painfully obvious: "Well duh"... They are absolutely right on both counts! Our message is simple and it is repetitive. Jesus gave thanks to his Father because the message of truth was simple and easy to understand.<sup>(EE)</sup> Obviously, any true follower of Jesus will have that same *simple* message. So... Of course

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the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who was seated on the throne, saying, "Amen. Hallelujah!" (5) And from the throne came a voice saying, "Praise our God, all you his servants, you who fear him, small and great." (6) Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out, "Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. Revelation 19:10-13 ESV (10) Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, "You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God." For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy. (11) Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. (12) His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself. (13) He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. Jesus Christ is the word of God. You must listen to him and him alone.

<sup>RRR</sup> Acts 4:18-20 MWT So they [*the religious leaders*] called them and charged them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. (19) But Peter and John answered them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, judge for yourselves. (20) As for us, we cannot stop speaking about what we have seen and heard."

our message is simple! As to their claim that our message is repetitive, again, they are right. Jesus Christ is your only acceptable teacher.<sup>(RR)</sup> There are only so many ways we can tell people they should make the personal effort to read the short Gospel accounts of Jesus teachings - for themselves. We feel that message is worth repeating because so few people seem to understand what "listening to Jesus" really means... Many people believe what Jesus taught is what they are learning from some sectarian religious membership. They are not! For those of us who have had respect for religion drummed into us since we were little, reverence for religion can be hard to let go of. People also hope in religion, of course, because all those many sectarian groups are working hard to convince everyone that is what they should do! Men who glorify themselves (and/or their sect) need to make you to believe you are dependent on them for your hope. They have made keeping you in membership the purpose of their life. They are, in fact, by steering you toward faith in a membership in their sect, trying to replace Christ in your life!<sup>SSS</sup> They each one have complicated doctrine to convince you of your need for their cult leaders to interpret the Bible for you. Interpreting the Bible for you is what Jesus came to do.<sup>(EE)</sup> Our message needs to be repetitive, then, because those sects are very good at deceiving people, and they are working hard to do so.<sup>(VV)</sup> Some religious sects have a facade of great glory and pomp among men. Be cautious... If some sect of men is able to convince you your faith has power over gravity, does that make it so? If you stand on a cliff and jump off, will faith built on their teachings save you? From what we learn from Jesus, apparently not.<sup>TTT</sup> (We do not presume to judge what your faith

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<sup>SSS</sup> Mark 13:21-23 GNB "Then, if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Messiah!' or, 'Look, there he is!'---do not believe it. (22) For false Messiahs and false prophets will appear. They will perform miracles and wonders in order to deceive even God's chosen people [*or, the ones being chosen*], if possible. (23) Be on your guard! I have told you everything ahead of time.

<sup>TTT</sup> Luke 4:9-13 ESV And he [*Satan*] took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, (10) for it is written, "'He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you,' (11) and "'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.'"

can do. If you had good reason for such a jump, it is *your faith* you would have to rely on and it is between you and God what your faith would do for you.<sup>UUU</sup> That is one of the wonderful things about this whole matter of faith. Faith is for each of us to build and to have, and what it is and can do is then between us and God.)<sup>VVV</sup> For your faith to help you, however, it must be faith based in truth. Some people have faith they will be blessed by God for cutting off another man's head in public. No matter how real that faith might be, such faith does not please God or protect the sinner! Faith in foolishness will not help those who have it. Jesus is the only one who has teachings you can help you build a faith that you can then rely on.<sup>WWW</sup> So again... Of course our message is repetitive. We say over and over to learn for yourself what Jesus taught. Religionists know if you realize that simple truth, you will also realize you have no need of them. You need only Christ Jesus. Once you realize that, you have no need of us. We thus glorify our message by the very things they highlight as the glaring difference between ours and theirs. We tell you to read what Jesus Christ taught, and that makes our message come from God. It is

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(12) And Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" (13) And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.

<sup>UUU</sup> Matthew 21:18-22 ESV In the morning, as he was returning to the city, he became hungry. (19) And seeing a fig tree by the wayside, he went to it and found nothing on it but only leaves. And he said to it, "May no fruit ever come from you again!" And the fig tree withered at once. (20) When the disciples saw it, they marveled, saying, "How did the fig tree wither at once?" (21) And Jesus answered them, "Truly, I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what has been done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, 'Be taken up and thrown into the sea,' it will happen. (22) And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith."

<sup>VVV</sup> John 16:23 ESV In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you.

<sup>WWW</sup> John 6:66-68 ESV After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. (67) So Jesus said to the Twelve, "Do you want to go away as well?" (68) Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, (Jesus had just told his followers they had to be directed to him by his Father.)

simple. And, that is its glory! All the religious sects tell you your need is to learn their doctrine, and then, to express faith in them. Jesus warned us about religion.<sup>(V)</sup> Religion has made herself into the “disgusting thing that causes desolation”<sup>xxx</sup> by teaching doctrines of men in place of God’s teachings.<sup>(Y)</sup> Those teachings cause hatred and division (sectarianism – thus, disgusting things).<sup>(U)</sup> Such religious trainers are then “standing in a holy place” by their act of claiming their teachings are what God sent his son to teach.<sup>(xxx)</sup> Jesus also said in that scripture: “let the reader use discernment.” Are you discerning? Are there any doubts left about what is truth? Ask yourself this simple question: Who is helping you to read and understand the Bible? Join us as we join Jesus in **saying praying: We publicly praise you LORD, Father of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from wise and intellectual men and women and have revealed them to ordinary persons.**<sup>(EE)</sup> Praise be to God through Christ Jesus our Lord.<sup>yyy</sup> These are the simple and clear teachings from the Bible. Don’t

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<sup>xxx</sup> Matthew 24:15-16 MWT “Therefore, when YOU catch sight of the disgusting thing that causes desolation, as spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in a holy place, (let the reader use discernment,) <sup>16</sup> then let those in Judea begin fleeing to the mountains.

<sup>yyy</sup> Romans 16:25-27 MWT Now to him who can make you firm in accord with the good news I declare and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the sacred secret which has been kept in silence for long-lasting times <sup>26</sup> but has now been made manifest and has been made known through the [*teachings of Christ*] prophetic scriptures among all the nations in accord with the command of the everlasting God to promote obedience by faith; <sup>27</sup> to God, wise alone, be the glory through Jesus Christ forever. Amen. . . ~

Philippians 1:8-11 CEV God himself knows how much I want to see you. He knows that I care for you in the same way that Christ Jesus does. (9) I pray that your love will keep on growing and that you will fully know and understand (10) how to make the right choices. Then you will still be pure and innocent when Christ returns. And until that day, (11) Jesus Christ will keep you busy doing good deeds that bring glory and praise to God.~

1 Corinthians 15:24-28 CEV (24) Then after Christ has destroyed all powers and forces, the end will come, and he will give the kingdom to God the Father. (25) Christ will rule until he puts all his enemies under his power, (26) and the last enemy he destroys will be death. (27) When the Scriptures say that he will put everything under his



let religious zealots make it confusing for you. Never believe any doctrine using words not even found in the Bible. Never believe any doctrine based on only a few scriptures. Never believe any doctrine... Read the words of Jesus Christ for yourself. What Jesus taught is not a doctrine because it comes directly from his Father and our God.<sup>(FF)</sup>

To sum up and recap the claim of this booklet, then, here is the solution to the puzzle about the organization and structure of the Bible. The whole of the Bible (outside the Gospels) is a tutor leading to the Christ.<sup>(II)</sup> All the law and the prophets, and the record of how God dealt with mankind and with the Jewish nation, it all exists to direct us to the promised Messiah.<sup>ZZZ</sup> All the books that follow the Gospels are to help us have faith in Jesus Christ as that Messiah of Old Testament promise. Then, in the center of it all, the four short books of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John actually contain the teachings of the Messiah.<sup>(DD)</sup> Isn't it wonderful how simple that really is? You need only to make it your life goal to get to know God's Messiah by reading what he taught, over

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power, they don't include God. It was God who put everything under the power of Christ. (28) After everything is under the power of God's Son, he will put himself under the power of God, who put everything under his Son's power. Then God will mean everything to everyone.<sup>ZZZ</sup> Genesis 3:15 GNB I will make you [*Satan*] and the woman [*Eve*] hate each other; her offspring [*all of us who love what is good*] and yours will always be enemies. Her offspring [*Jesus Christ is the Messiah, and he is the primary seed of the woman\**] will crush your head, and you will bite her offspring's heel."

\* Matthew 16:13-17 GW When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" (14) They answered, "Some say you are John the Baptizer, others Elijah, still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." (15) He asked them, "But who do you say I am?" (16) Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God!" (17) Jesus replied, "Simon, son of Jonah, you are blessed! No human revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven revealed it to you."

and over.<sup>(P)</sup> That is the most important thing in life.<sup>AAAA</sup> You can't buy it, steal it, coerce it, or be granted it by powerful individuals or groups. It is a free gift from God for you to accept. Can you really imagine you know Christ if you read what he taught one time, or, even worse, if you are content to let other people tell you what he said? Any and all self-proclaimed religious teachers are just other students of Christ, at best!<sup>(RR)</sup> So... They can't know what they don't know! They may be standing you right in the middle of the tracks. Jesus Christ himself is the only teacher we have who truly knows what you need to know.<sup>(RR)</sup> & <sup>(FF)</sup> He is the only one who can teach you. That is his Father's will and process.<sup>(EE)</sup> Understanding the importance of what Jesus taught amounts to knowing the truth that will set you free.<sup>(L - John 8:31-32)</sup> There is more to it, though! My knowing the truth is a good thing, but that doesn't mean I am a person who is building true faith<sup>BBBB</sup> in what

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<sup>AAAA</sup> **Matthew 13:44-48 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.

<sup>BBBB</sup> **Hebrews 10:30-39 CEV** We know that God has said he will punish and take revenge. We also know that the Scriptures say the Lord will judge his people. (31) It is a terrible thing to fall into the hands of the living God! (32) Don't forget all the hard times you went through when you first received the light. (33) Sometimes you were abused and mistreated in public, and at other times you shared in the sufferings of others. (34) You were kind to people in jail. And you gladly let your possessions be taken away, because you knew you had something better, something that would last forever. (35) Keep on being brave! It will bring you great rewards. (36) Learn to be patient, so that you will please God and be given what he has promised.<sup>(HHH - Job 33:24-29)</sup> (37) As the Scriptures say, "God is coming soon! It won't be very long. (38) The people God accepts will live because of their faith. But he isn't pleased with anyone who turns

Jesus taught.<sup>(NNN)</sup> I must become wise by actions that demonstrate what my faith truly is.<sup>CCCC</sup> I must become a person of loving kindness. Become wise! Choose freedom and life.<sup>DDDD</sup>

The following Bible translations may have been quoted in this document:

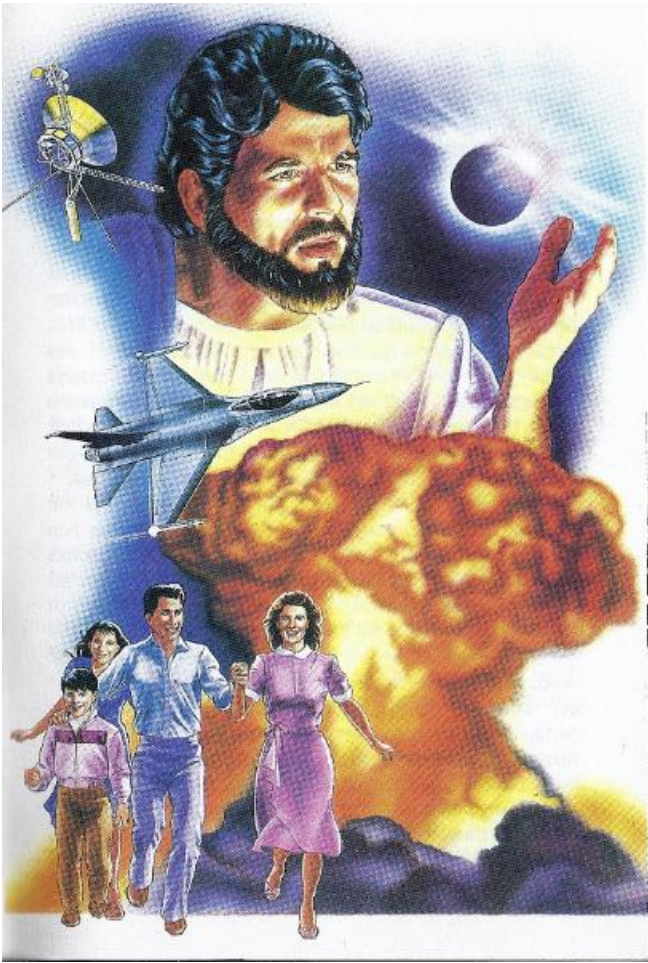
- ALT - Analytical Literal Translation (1999-2001 by Gary F. Zeolla)
- ASV - American Standard Version (by the American revision committee in 1897).
- Darby - 1884, 1889 Darby Bible (John Nelson Darby)
- DRB - 1899 Douay-Rheims Bible
- BBE - 1949, 1964 Bible in Basic English (Cambridge Press)
- LITV - Literal Translation of the Holy Bible (1976-2000 by J. P. Green)
- KJV - King James Version (1769)
- MKJV - Modern King James Version (1962-1998 by J. P. Green Sr.)
- MWT - Modern World Translation
- Webster - 1833 Webster Bible (Noah Webster)
- RV - Revised Version (King James Revised Version)
- YLT - Young's Literal Translation (1862, 1898)

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back." (39) We are not like those people who turn back and get destroyed. We will keep on having faith until we are saved.

<sup>CCCC</sup> James 2:15-19 MWT If a brother or sister (in Adam) is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, (16) and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good are you? (17) So also, faith by itself without works is dead. (18) But someone will say, "You have works and I have faith." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by means of my works. (19) You believe there is one God do you? You do well. The demons also believe--and shudder!

<sup>DDDD</sup> Deuteronomy 30:19-20 ESV (19) I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, (20) loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them."



Christ is examining the earth as the tribulation brought by our disobedience to our Creator drives wise persons to seek truth. You are being sorted for life by your faith in Jesus's teachings; or, you are not.<sup>(MMM)</sup> If you refuse to learn, that choice makes you spiritually stupid.<sup>(A)</sup> You must know who you are, as defined by what you personally know Jesus taught. No man or group can give you life. Only Christ... Read the Gospels.

That simple truth is all there is! It really is just that simple.

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