# **Receive Salvation** and Stay Saved

"Be Born Again"

#### The Lord Jesus Christ said,

'Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again," (John 3:3-7).

THIS BOOKLET HAS BEEN COMPILED AND PUBLISHED BY GLOBAL CHRISTIAN UNITY MINISTRIES IS TO SUPPORT THE CHURCHES OF JESUS CHRIST IN ALL NATIONS, IN WINNING AND RETAINING SOULS IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

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# Receive Salvation and Stay Saved

# **Global Christian Unity Ministries**

a.k.a. Christ Uniting People

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#### Disclaimer

**Without prejudice:** The views expressed in this booklet are basic biblical truths that are shared as part of education for everyone's benefit. They do not comprise hate speech for those who practice what God does not approve of in the Bible, as all people on earth are not perfect but are provided with choices to choose life-giving truths that would save their lives. The truths herein are meant to be lessons in transparency and to give all people the right to information, of which anyone reading this booklet can make an informed decision without being forced or coerced except when convicted by the Holy Spirit.

All scripture quotations in this volume are from the New King James Version (NKJV) and, in some instances from the Amplified version (AMP) of the Bible unless otherwise indicated.

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# PREAMBLE

# WHO CAN USE THIS BOOKLET?



This booklet, inspired by the Holy Spirit, can help both Christians and non-Christians.

**For the Christian**, this booklet might assist you to continue to grow in your Salvation in Christ Jesus.

It is intended to aid anyone and everyone to get "born again" and stay "saved" until one leaves this earth.

When a "born again" believer starts to live according to the leading of the Holy Spirit and less of themselves, we believe it is a process of the "perfecting of the saints" which is critical to enter heaven upon death, or when Jesus Christ returns for His "pure church"(1 Corinth 11:2). The Church is not a denomination or a group of people following a specific servant of God. It is the body of Christ. Albeit, we aspire that many Christians make it to heaven, therefore, must be pure in spirit, soul and body, holy and sanctified unto the Lord for us to enter God's presence. God is Holy.

"..[and He did this] to fully equip and perfect the saints (God's people) for works of service, to build up the body of Christ [the church];" Ephesians 4:12 AMP

**For the non- Christian**, this booklet will help you to understand the finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ and perhaps, the Holy Spirit will reveal important truths to you, by God's grace, so that you may be saved from perishing.

# CHAPTER 1: GOD LOVES YOU. SALVATION IS HIS WILL FOR YOU

#### God created man and there are three (3) points we should consider regarding his/her existence. Man is a three-part being – Spirit, Soul and Body.

We cannot see our Spirit – the consciousness, life and source of power that should be controlling the body and soul. The Bible states "God is a Spirit" and "we are created in His image". The spirit is the God part of us. It connects us to God, helps us to communicate with God and helps us to walk in His Spirit.

<sup>26a</sup> And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: ...<sup>27</sup> So God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them (Gen. 1:26-27 KJV).

<sup>7</sup>Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it (Ecclesiastes 12:7 KJV).

God loves you. That is why Jesus came to make all who believe on His name, sons and daughters of God, to be joint-heirs with Christ. Hence the opportunity for salvation is open to everyone who wants it.

#### What is Salvation?

The Gospel means Good news! It means God sent a solution for all sinners to be saved from God's judgement (Romans 5:9; 1 Thessalonians 5:9). Salvation means being saved from the righteous judgment and wrath of God. It is also to live a life of staying saved from the claws of the devil, once you have been made righteous before God.

All have sinned against God; however, those that deny His solution to save mankind are under the judgment of God. This judgment is known as damnation where all those who have refused to believe in Jesus are condemned. For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. (John 3:16-17 NKJV).

# God is a just and holy God

God is fair and just. God, from the beginning, has given people rules (His Word) which gives people choices between life and death.

<sup>19</sup> I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live, (Deut 30:19, NKJV).

God is holy and is LOVE. That is why He has provided a way of escape so that people will not face His righteous judgment.

#### Salvation is only through Jesus Christ

Jesus is the most important person in all of human history. He was sent by God to both Jews and non-Jews, believers and non-believers. He is **God in the flesh** (John 1:1,14; Col. 2:9), physically risen from the dead (John 2:19-21), **Lord** (Luke 24:34), and **Saviour** (Acts 5:30-32). He willingly came to die, as the slain sacrifice, for all people (Rom. 5:8; John 3:16) and to deliver all people from the righteous wrath of God, who created everyone and everything in earth and heaven, for His glory.

Who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works, (Titus 2:14).

WHAT IS THE ORIGINAL NAME OF JESUS CHRIST? JESUS THE NAZARENE IS YESHUA HA-NOZRI IN **HEBREW** AND ISHO NASRAYA IN ARAMAIC, HIS MOTHER-TONGUE. HIS NAME IS YESHUA HA MASHIACH (JESUS THE MESSIAH OR JESUS THE CHRIST), WHICH MEANS: YAHWEH (GOD) IS SALVATION.

## CHAPTER 2: THE BENEFITS OF BEING BORN AGAIN

#### Why should you be born again?

Being born again is the same as being saved. In the Old Testament, crying out to God would get people saved from literally perishing physically. However, it is a new commandment of the New Testament, from God, that for anyone to enter the Kingdom of God - a spiritual Kingdom which impacts the physical realm - they should be born again.

The Lord Jesus Christ said to Nicodemus,

'Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be **born again,**" (John 3:3-7).

#### The benefits of salvation

The following are benefits of being saved or being born again:

1. The **presence of God** brings His power of the Holy Spirit into your spirit, soul and body, which brings you knowledge and understanding, blessings, healing and deliverance, as well as God revealing Himself to those who love Him. These benefits are characteristic of eternal life. No matter the challenges, you will experience joy, peace and victory amidst all the troubles in this world, if you let the Holy Spirit reign in your life.

When you become a born-again Christian, you experience the pulsating presence of God in your human spirit, soul and body.

In this sense, Christianity is not a religion. It is a life-giving relationship with God. It is divinity in humanity. God the Father and Son, in the Holy Spirit, comes and dwells inside you.

Jesus answered, "If anyone [really] loves Me, he will keep My word (teaching); and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our dwelling place with him, (John 14:23, AMP).

- 2. You also **become sanctified to be a king and a priest unto God**(Rev 1:6; 1 Peter 2:9).; which means you will have authority to use the name of Jesus to have dominion over darkness, situations and systems in this world, using God's Word, worshipping God in Spirit and truth, standing right in His presence. Challenges of life will come but you will have power and dominion to fight the good fight of faith.
- 3. Being Born Again also gives you, as a follower and servant of Jesus Christ; **the power** to operate in the nine (9) supernatural gifts of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinth 12:8-10), so you can **preach**, **teach**, **heal the sick and cast out demons**, just like Jesus instructed us to be, as disciples of all nations (Matt 28:19; Matt 4:23-24; Mark 16:17).
- 4. The more you walk and live in God's will according to His word, the more **you are protected** by the blood of Jesus, the Holy Spirit and the angels from heaven. However, you are not protected from problems, injury or even death, but you will not die before your time. He promises to give us a long life (Psalm 91:16). Not only does God want each one of us to have a full lifespan, but also to have a life of abundance, in every area concerning us spiritually, materially, emotionally and physically (John 10:10). The Word of God gives us certain straightforward principles that will enable us to enjoy long life on earth.
- 5. You will go **to heaven** to live with God eternally when you die. Some Christians have even had the privilege of visiting heaven whilst still here on earth. Heaven is a real place.

## **Exercise your right to Eternal Life TODAY**

Exercise your right to have eternal life today, here and now! Receive your salvation. It's easy. Do not delay.

#### Nothing is greater or better than the miracle of salvation

Gaining eternal life while you live a short life on this earth is more important than gaining every material thing that you may ever desire on this earth yet lose your soul. Nothing on this earth is worth losing heaven for.

Also, you can have a good life on earth while in Christ. It will be challenging just as non-believers experience it but yours will have victory assured.

When we are told not to love the world, the Bible is referring to the world's corrupt value system. Satan is the little god of this world, and he has his own value system contrary to God's (2 Corinthians 4:4). The world is what we leave when we come to Christ- which is the greatest miracle. Isaiah 55:7 says that coming to God involves a forsaking of our own ways and thoughts. Loving the world means being devoted to the world's treasures, philosophies, and priorities. God tells His children to set their priorities according to His eternal value system. We are to "seek first" God's kingdom and His righteousness (Matthew 6:33). We enter into God's Kingdom when we become His children as opposed to just being His people or His creation.



# CHAPTER 3: WHAT DID GOD INTEND TO DO WHEN HE MADE 'MAN' IN HIS IMAGE?

The following section explains why God had to send Jesus to save the world after many attempts to present mankind the opportunity to be saved.

#### Man and woman were made in God's image- primarily spirit

When God said, *"Let Us make man in our image"* in Gen 1:26, who was He with and what was His plan? God was with the Holy Spirit and His Word (Jesus).

God is Father, Son (His Word) and Holy Spirit in One. We know this because "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.<sup>2</sup> He was with God in the beginning.<sup>3</sup> Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made."..."<sup>0</sup> He was in the world, and though the world was made through Him, the world did not recognize Him."...." The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father...." (John 1:1-14).

The Lord Jesus said, Before Abraham was, I Am (John 8:58).

When God was referring to man, the man, in this case, refers to mankind (both man and woman). The creation of man was in Genesis 1: 26-27, by God first creating in His mind and by speaking His mind, pronouncing His Word.

So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them (Gen 1:27).

God made 'man' (both male and female) in His own image, as a **spirit**, that has a soul and lives in a body.

In addition, in Gen 2:7, the bible says, "And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul."

However, Jesus Christ became a life-giving spirit: So it is written [in Scripture], "The first MAN, Adam, BECAME A LIVING SOUL (an individual);" the last Adam (Christ) became a life-giving spirit [restoring the dead to life]" (1 Corinth 15:45, AMP).

This shows us that God made man to live by God's Spirit, because God is Spirit, *Zoë*, eternal life.

The forming was a process by which God created them, but this does not make every woman belong to every man. Neither did God intend that every woman should be subservient to every man, only to her husband, if she is married, and is named after his name as his 'wo-man'.



A man was supposed to have one companion, not multiple companions

God gave Adam <u>a</u> companion (a woman) in bodily form like him, so he could be fulfilled in his fleshly needs, never lacking anything. Hence the bible says God gave Adam a wife, to be a *helper comparable to him*, not as a servant or slave, as is the tendency of some. Know this, the Holy Spirit is also our **helper**, whom Jesus **Christ** sent. Where the husband was weak, the woman would help to strengthen her husband, as support, comparable to him. God had earlier decided to give Adam a wife, whom He said would be a companion, as it was not good for a man to be alone (Gen 2:18). Eve was Adam's complete fleshly equal, endowed with an essential saving power that was opposite from his.

Note that immediately after making woman and Adam naming her (Adam did not create her. God did), the bible says in Gen 2:24, *"Therefore, a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh."* 

#### Originally designed for eternal life, no sickness, no death

The bible also shows in Genesis that God's original plan was that we were supposed to be naturally supernatural in spirit, soul and body. This implies Adam and Eve were originally both divine (spirit) and human (flesh) as Jesus was. But immediately they sinned, man's spirit became weak and the flesh overrode the spirit.

God intended us to always be healthy, full of peace and joy. Adam's and Eve's sin brought death, sickness, poverty, frustration and failure. These frustrations are intended by Satan to make man turn from God. The secret is to know that the source of all problems is Satan. So learn to resist the devil so that he should fail to take your soul away. "..*Resist the devil and he will flee from you*," (James 4:11).

# We were supposed to have dominion over every living thing on the earth

God said "let them have dominion" in plural, not one person. In verse 27 says, "So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. In verse 28 God said, "Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

God gave him dominion and put the rulership of earth into his hands. The fact that sin came from Satan through the woman, who was not present when God gave Adam instructions, does not exonerate Adam from the same sin. Adam sinned and lost his authority by succumbing to temptation. To atone this sin, God needed a second Adam. Only Jesus could reverse this and take the power over sin, death and hell back from Satan. "*He became sin for us by being nailed to the cross and tasting death for our sins*," (2 Corinth 5:21).

Further, Revelation 1:18 reads," *I am He that lives, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.*"

# We were supposed to be fruitful and multiply without struggle It was God's design that we are supposed to bear offspring without

struggle or pain.

"Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it;" Gen 1:28.

# God provided food, always abundantly supplied, in perfect peace

"And God said, "See, I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food. <sup>30</sup> Also, to every beast of the earth, to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which there is life, I have given every green herb for food"; and it was so" (Gen 1:29-30).

"And out of the ground the LORD God made every tree grow that is pleasant to the sight and good for food," (Gen 2:9).

The only restriction God put on Adam was:" *Of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, you shalt not eat of it; for in the day that you eat thereof you shall surely die*" (Gen 2:17).

Even after giving him that command, however, God let Adam choose. He let him decide whether or not Adam would obey.

God didn't force Adam to do anything because He didn't want him to be a slave. He wanted him to be a son. He wanted him to serve God out of his own free will and to only know good and never to know evil. But Adam made the wrong choice.

#### We were supposed to live holy lives in God's Holy presence

Adam and Eve initially knew no sin. That is why the bible says, "And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed," Gen 2:25. There was peace, no wars, no quarrels, no sin, and no fornication.

God intended for us to be always in His holy presence; therefore, never to be lonely because in His presence; in fellowship with Him, is fullness of joy - having a close relationship with Him as sons and daughters. That is why the bible says "*God was walking in the garden in the cool of the day* "(Gen 3:8), the beautiful garden where He had placed Adam and Eve and was looking for Adam. In God's presence there is purity; peace; no sin; no lies; no evil. So, after Adam

had sinned and hid from God because he realised he was naked, God asked Him, *Who told you that you were naked?* (Gen 3:11).

No effort or hard work was needed on Adam's and Eve's part. Adam was working as an overseer of all that God had created, meaning he was working for God, in unity with his wife, supporting each other. They would have been successful at God's original plan for them to be fruitful, multiply, replenish, subdue, and have dominion, if they had stayed faithful and united with God (Gen 1:28).



## CHAPTER 4: SO WHAT WENT WRONG?

#### The question is: what went wrong with God's original plan for us?

#### Sin and disobedience

In short, Adam and Eve sinned. disobeyed. Adam Note: the instructions had been given to Adam by God. That is why it is called the sin of Adam. He was made the overseer of the family and the entire human race. Because God is a holy and just judge, Adam and the woman suffered the of their consequences disobedience; they immediately died spiritually and eventually died physically. (Gen 2:17; Gen 3:16, 19; Romans 5:12).



#### What does this "death which came upon mankind" mean?

#### Man Fell from God's presence

Adam fell from the presence of God. He lost the blessing and the glory of God, brought the curse of deterioration and death upon all mankind by giving power to the devil to steal, kill and destroy God's creation. Falling from God's presence resulted in all the benefits that were supposed to come freely by His grace and love, to fall away.

Satan had already sinned and fallen from the presence of God before Adam was created. The spirit of disobedience came through Satan, who had already earlier disobeyed God and had been kicked out of heaven with one-third of the angels who are now demons working for Satan to destroy people's lives so that they also turn away from God (Ezek 28:12-19; Isa 14:12-14; Luke 10:18; II Peter 2:4; Jude 6; Rev 12:4). This is why he was already a bitter, jealous,

destructive spirit and still is until he is burnt and destroyed in an eternal lake of fire (Revelation 20:10).

You may ask why do 'man' (that means men and women) die? Why is this earth so full of troubles? Why is there so much pain when women give birth? Why do we work so hard to get and eat food? Why is it sometimes difficult to have children? Why is there poverty? Why so much sickness?

#### Trouble started when Adam disobeyed God's instruction.

God is a God of His Word. He makes a covenant and does not break His covenant. He is the God that loves but also expresses wrath at disobedience. After Adam sinned, God still made clothes for them at the same time, removed them from the Garden of Eden because God honours His word. He had warned Adam that if he disobeyed, he would surely die. Adam disobeyed. Hence the consequences of death came upon mankind.

#### However, there is the hope of redemption through Jesus Christ:

Therefore, as through one man's offence judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life (Roman 5:18).

#### The promise of a Conqueror of Satan

God then promised that a special offspring of the **woman** would someday conquer Satan because of Satan's evil participation in Adam and the woman's disobedience.

#### All have sinned and need a Saviour

Have you ever lied, stolen, lusted, coveted, or been angry with someone unjustly? God has said "You shall not steal; You shall not lie; You shall have no other gods before Me; You shall not murder,... "(Exodus 20:15); and "All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).

But you can be made righteous by humbling yourself before God, asking for forgiveness and repenting (turning away) from the sinful life.

Jesus came to die for sinners and to save them from the wrath of God, now and on judgment day "for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10; 9:56; Matt 15:24).

Jesus is the One you need. Not your works (Rom 3:10-12; Isaiah 64:6). It is only by the love and grace of God found in Jesus and His sacrifice that you can be delivered from the righteous wrath of God that will fall upon all who have broken His law and not repented. Only Jesus can save you from the wrath of God.

"He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose, the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil (1 John 3:8).

Death reigned from Adam to Moses (Rom 5: 14).

# Sin cannot go unpunished

God is a God of justice and order who must punish our sin, while at the same time being the God of love. God is the very first one who honours His principles and statutes that He set in place for all us to follow.

That is why God had to activate the honouring of one of His greatest principles of sacrificial giving – by taking part of Himself- His word that became flesh through His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ the Messiah (Hebrew: *Yeshua Hamashiach*) – by sending Him to the earth to be "punished" in our place, so that by faith in what He has done and in proclaiming Him as our Lord and Saviour, those who choose Him and follow His ways, shall no longer be condemned on the day of judgement.

#### **EVERYONE SHALL BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR THEIR LIVES ON EARTH** WHEN WE FACE THE RIGHTEOUS JUDGE- JESUS CHRIST.

#### CHAPTER 5: WHAT DID GOD TRY TO DO TO CLEANSE SINS?

God is a God of the second chance. This section explains what God tried to do to try and give man a chance to be reconciled to Him. Ultimately, Jesus was sent to die for the sins of mankind.

#### 5.1 God made a covenant with Noah

The Old Testament sets forth a gospel theme that people were saved from sin by grace through saving faith in the Lord and His promises. However, whenever man filled the earth with sin (corruption and violence), God would want to cleanse the earth if man continued to disobey Him. In Gen 6: 5 God saw that there was increasing corruption on earth. He first cut short the lifespan of mankind to 120 years (Gen 6:3).

#### The floods destroyed every living thing

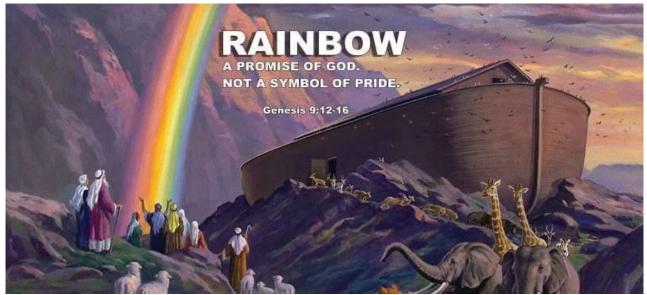
God was not pleased with sin and cleansed the earth. He saw that "the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually" (Gen 6:5). He had decided to blot out man and all creatures from the face of the earth when He remembered Noah "who was a righteous man, blameless in his generation. Noah walked with God." He told him to make an ark, thereafter in seven days caused it to rain 40 days and 40 nights "that all the high mountains under the whole heaven were covered.....<sup>22</sup> Everything on the dry land in whose nostrils was the breath of life died. <sup>23</sup>..... Only Noah was left, and those who were with him in the ark. <sup>24</sup> And the waters prevailed on the earth 150 days" (Gen 7:19-24).





Today there are fossils that show that Noah's ark rested on Mount Ararat in Turkey and that the fish of the sea did not even have a chance to swallow every human being that died.

After the floods, God made a covenant with Noah never to destroy the earth again by waters of a flood of which the rainbow would be a reminder. "... and I will remember My covenant which is between Me and you and every living creature of all flesh; the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh." (Gen 9:11-16).



Thereafter as mankind began to spread throughout the earth, God made a covenant with Abraham (father of many nations) who was first called Abram.

#### 5.2 God made a Covenant with Abraham

God first made a covenant with Abram promising his descendants the land of Canaan, and later made the covenant of circumcision, whereby God promised to make Abraham the father of many nations and the circumcision would be a sign of the covenant between Abraham and God (Gen 17:10-14). There is the Seed of Abraham (s*eed* being singular); there is the seed of Abraham *physically* (descendants of Abraham according to the flesh); and there is the seed of Abraham *spiritually* (those who, like Abraham, have faith in God).

The (singular) Seed of Abraham is Christ, as Galatians 3:16, quoting Genesis 12:7, says, "The promises were spoken to Abraham and his seed.

#### *Circumcision is of the heart*

Circumcision was done on the outward flesh, but it represented the acceptance of the covenant in the mind, including the willingness to obey the laws within the covenant.

When God told Israel, "*Therefore circumcise the foreskin of your heart, and be stiff-necked no longer*" (Deuteronomy 10:16), it meant that they were to remove their stubborn sinful thoughts from their minds. In other words, they were to purge sin from their lives and become obedient to the laws of God.

While circumcision served as a permanent reminder to Israel that they needed to obey God's laws, the fact that a man was circumcised did not mean he actually kept the law. Hence, to God, the physical act of circumcision was not nearly as important as the actual obedience that He required.

Thereafter, throughout the Old Testament God would allow the children of Israel to suffer under the hands of the oppressors each time they disobeyed Him and He would still forgive them whenever they cried out to Him because He always remembered His covenant with Abraham.

#### 5.3 God burnt down Sodom and Gomorrah

God sent brimstone and fire, and His angels to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah because He was displeased with the level of sin (lust and violence) in that city (Gen 19:24).

#### 5.4 The Ten Commandments and the Levitical laws

God, the loving Father and Creator of everything on earth, introduced the Levitical laws (Laws in the book of Leviticus) for the children of Israel, whom He chose because they were the most oppressed minority nation, under Pharaoh. They cried out to God and He answered their cry by sending a prophet, Moses, to rescue them. Because of the sinful nature in them, the 10 commandments had to be instituted.

After Moses had given the law, the Israelite nation had the sacrificial system to follow- the Levitical laws. Did the sacrifices really save them? Did the slaughtering of all those bulls and sheep really wash their sins away? No! Not even Solomon when he was king and sacrificed 144,000 animals (1 Kings 8:63) which drew God's attention and blessing. Despite all this, Solomon still later sinned through disobedience and fell from glory (1 Kings 10 and 11), despite God having made a law for every king in Deuteronomy 17: 14-20.

In Hebrews 10:4 we read, "For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins."

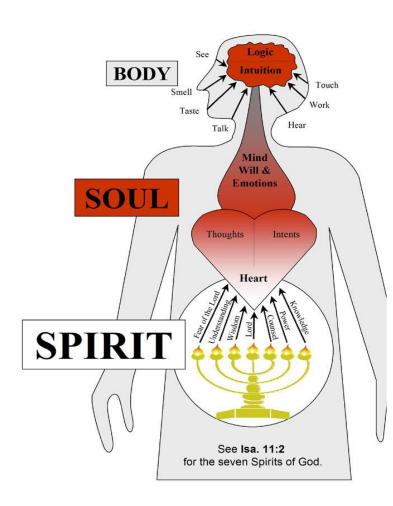
God saw that man will always sin and fall short of His glory, despite the sacrifices they made. They still went back to sin. *"There is NONE righteous, No NOT ONE"* (Romans 3:10).

#### *To be saved, we must recognize our own sinfulness*

Romans 5:12 teaches us that Adam's spiritual death has been passed down to all of humanity. This means we are ALL born spiritually dead. Adam and Eve would have lived forever had they not sinned. This is why each person MUST be born-again! The term "born-again" means "being born for the second time" after having been born into sin. There is the physical birth and then there is the spiritual birth. The sin nature was passed down to us from Adam. No one needs to teach a child how to lie, steal, cheat, etc. On the contrary, children need to be taught NOT to lie, steal or cheat, etc. The only two individuals who were ever born into this world without a fallen nature (sin nature) were Adam and Jesus Christ. But then Adam sinned against God.

The true circumcision of the heart is performed by the Holy Spirit who gives us a new heart. This is being "born again."

#### The threefold nature of man can be illustrated as follows:



To quote a portion from Dr. Clarence Larkin's book *Rightly Dividing The Word*, page 86, Philadelphia 1920:

**"In the outer circle the 'Body'** is shown as touching the Material world through the five senses of 'Sight,' 'Smell,' 'Hearing,' 'Taste' and 'Touch.'

**The Gates to the 'Soul'** are 'Imagination,' 'Conscience,' 'Memory,' 'Reason' and the 'Affections.'

**The "spirit" of man** receives impressions of outward and material things through the soul.

**The spiritual faculties of the 'spirit'** of man are 'Faith,' 'Hope,' 'Reverence,' 'Prayer' and 'Worship.'

Sometimes the spirit and soul are used interchangeably because of their close relatedness. However, spiritual matters are of a person's heart while the soul is of a person's mind/psyche and emotions.

"In his unfallen state, the 'spirit' of man was illuminated from Heaven, but when the human race fell in Adam, sin closed the window of the Spirit, pulled down the curtain, and the chamber of the spirit became a death chamber and remains so in every unregenerate heart until the Life and Light giving power of the Holy Spirit floods that chamber with the Life and Light giving power of the new life in Christ Jesus.

It develops then that the spirit of man, being the sphere of Godconsciousness, is the inner or private office of man where the work of regeneration takes place.

The man who has not been reborn has a wandering spirit and cannot understand or obey the things of God. However, thanks to our Lord Jesus Christ we CAN have a born again spirit that will lead us into all truth and teach us the things of God's Spirit. God's Word teaches us that for a person's spirit to be re-born he or she must confess with the mouth of their belief in the Lord Jesus.

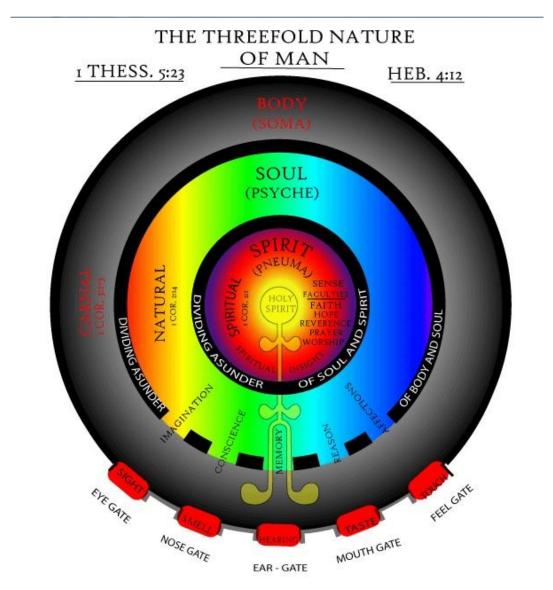
## 5.5. God had to sacrifice His Son to be the final scapegoat

God is love and had to make the final and ultimate sacrifice for man to be saved.

In the Bible book of Leviticus, a scapegoat is an animal which is ritually burdened with the sins of others then driven away. Jesus became the final scapegoat for sins, being crucified outside the city gates of Jerusalem on a hill called Golgotha.

The sacrifice of animals could not take away sin. An equal to greater sacrifice was needed, which could reverse the curse caused by Adam's sin- all of mankind after him was subject to sin and death. To reverse the curse, it required a sacrifice greater than that of animals and sinful humans to wash away sin and conquer death.

It had to be God Himself, in His own Son, born of the Holy Spirit and the virgin, so that the blood sacrifice could be Holy. Jesus resembled God's incarnation in Man. God is Spirit, so God had to put His Spirit in the virgin Mary to birth Jesus. Hence, He is the holy Son of God that had to have the features of man so He could bleed and die as a sacrifice – He became the Son of Man. In the Old Testament, only blood of the scapegoat could be sacrificed for the sin of people, as God also initially instituted the Levitical laws of sacrifice for sin to the children of Israel (however, are not Abrahamic covenant laws).



Source: Dr Clarence Larkin's book Rightly Dividing The Word, 1980.

# God of justice sacrificed Himself so He could save your soul

Since sin cannot go unpunished, God in His great love for us, poured out his justice on Christ, who took our punishment and died in our place. **He died my death so that I may live His life**. **He took my sin so I could take on His righteousness**. Our response, in total repentance and obedience to this justice, determines our eternal destiny.

#### Jesus did not sin, He is the purest humble sacrifice for your sins

All of us have sinned against God and deserve judgment. But Jesus never sinned (1 Pet. 2:22). He lived the Law of God perfectly. In this, He has a perfectly righteous standing before God. When the corrupt Jewish leaders forced Rome's hand into crucifying Jesus, God used this crucifixion as the means to place the sins of the world upon Jesus (1 Pet. 2:24; 1 John 2:2). Remember, no sinner could please God perfectly and no sinner could offer a perfect sacrifice to God. Only God in the flesh of Jesus could do that. This is how Jesus became sin on our behalf.

"He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him" (2 Corinth 5:21 NKJV).

The crucifixion of Jesus was prophesied about, by prophet Isaiah about 800 years before Christ was born:

"But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, and by His scourging, we are healed," (Isaiah 53:5 NASB).

#### Jesus lay down His own life as a lamb led to the slaughter

Jesus chose to obey God's plan fulfilling the scriptures by laying down His own life as the ultimate Passover Sacrificial Lamb to save all of humanity from perishing.

At the time of His betrayal and arrest, which He knew beforehand that it was going to take place; Jesus was not the victim, but willingly said He was the one they sought. He was in complete power at His trial, sentencing, and crucifixion. He could have stopped the process at any moment but He yielded Himself to obeying God. "He was led as a lamb to the slaughter and a sheep before its shearers, yet He did not open His mouth (Isaiah 53:7; Acts 8:32).

When Simon Peter, one of His disciples, cut off the right ear of the high priest's servant that came to arrest Jesus, Jesus told him to put his sword back into the sheath and said, "*Shall I not drink the cup which My Father has given Me* (John18;11)? Jesus even touched the man's ear that was cut off and healed him (Luke 22:51.

He gave of Himself to be ridiculed, mocked, shamed, beaten, spat upon, suffer the cold, rejected by the Jewish chief priests (out of envy). He endured the pain of 39 brutal lashes by Roman soldiers, lay down His life to be nailed on the cross- the cruel death that was designed for criminals instituted by Roman soldiers, bled and died.

When Jesus was dying on the cross, He said, *"It is finished"* (John 19:30) and gave up His Spirit- all this for YOU and me. He meant that God's plan was fully accomplished. **What a sacrifice!** 

This kind of cruel death, by being "*lifted up*" nailed to the cross, is what Jesus knew He would have to suffer when He had earlier said,

"And I, if and when I am lifted up from the earth [on the cross], will draw all people to Myself [Gentiles, as well as Jews]" (John 12:32 AMP).

The born-again believers that receive Him can proclaim their benefits:

He personally carried our sins in His body on the <sup>1</sup>cross [willingly offering Himself on it, as on an altar of sacrifice], so that we might die to sin [becoming immune from the penalty and power of sin] and live for righteousness; for by His wounds you [who believe] have been healed (1 Peter 2:24 AMP).

It is God's love for everybody in the whole world which made Him sacrifice His own Son to die the cruel and shameful death, which He did not deserve, on the cross.

#### Jesus fulfilled the law and set us free with His blood.

Now, there is no more need to sacrifice for sins to receive blessings, neither should you allow yourself to keep repeating the same sin after having known salvation, received the Holy Spirit and still turn your back on Him, otherwise, doing so is rebuffing what Jesus suffered for. By so doing you would be nailing **Him to the cross all over again**. It is as if to say, Jesus' death on the cross was in vain and does not mean anything to you.

Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage...." (Galatians 5:1&4).

The blood of Jesus is greater than that of bulls and lambs (Hebrews 9:13-10:18).

Also, it is critically important to follow all of His commandments, not some.

"After Christ said this about not being satisfied with the various sacrifices and offerings required under the old system," He then added, "Here I am. I have come to give my life" (Hebrews 10:9 TLB). Verse 18 says, "Now, when sins have once been forever forgiven and forgotten, there is no need to offer more sacrifices to get rid of them."

## CHAPTER 6: JESUS RESTORED GOD'S ORIGINAL PLAN

God's original plan for mankind was eternal life with Him so we could live in His presence. Any creator of an invention would expect that what they created is for their satisfaction and glory. Man was created for God's glory.

#### Grace saved us so we should not boast in our own salvation

God sent His Son to pay for our sins so we could be reconciled to God and live in His glorious presence again by the grace. This is why once a person is saved, no one should boast of being any better than other fellow Christians. We are all saved by grace through **faith** in Jesus Christ.

#### He gave us direct access as sons of God

Jesus, the Son of God, was sent to the earth as a firstborn among many brethren to open the channels of access to God for many to be saved, through His name.

And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" <sup>7</sup> Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ, (Galatians 4:6-7).

#### He gave us the sonship of believers

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children (sons) of God, to those who believe in His name: <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God, (John 1:10-14).

The veil leading into the holy of holies (of the Old Testament temple) between man and God was torn when Jesus became the sacrificial lamb of the cross at Calvary.

"And Jesus uttered a loud cry, and breathed His last. 38 And the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom" (Mark 15:37-38,; Matt 27:51;Luke 23:44-45).

# Jesus came to make all who believe in Jesus Christ to be equal children/heirs of God

. For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. <sup>27</sup> For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. <sup>28</sup> There is neither Jew nor Greek (no more racial segregation), there is neither slave nor free (<u>no</u> more discrimination according to social status), there is neither male nor female (no more gender discrimination); for you are all one in Christ Jesus.<sup>29</sup> And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise, "(Galatians 3:26-29).

# He gave us a life of dominion over sickness, demonic and physical oppression, poverty and failure

When you receive Jesus Christ, God's original plan for your life, your family and all of creation is restored through you. You become Abraham's seed whose promised blessings of Salvation from the oppression of Satan are bestowed upon you through faith.

This is the Good news of the Gospel, which believers need to also tell others about, so they too can enjoy what Jesus Christ brought for all who will believe in Him. Curses can only be broken by the power in the name of Jesus. Believe in Jesus Christ, His Word, in the power in His name, His blood and the Holy Spirit.

#### He gave us a life of faith, no more fear

Every Christian in the Body of Christ has been given a measure of faith, which needs to be nourished daily for it to grow in strength by meditating on God's Word.

"Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:17).

A lot of people have very little spiritual strength because they won't get into the Word enough. Even if you have received the Holy Ghost, it is not a quick fix. <u>There are foundations still to be dealt with.</u>

#### He came to put us on the Nominating Committee of Salvation

God, by saving us, did not put us on His Judgement Committee, nor did He assign us to the Election Committee. He put us on the Nominating Committee (to obey the Holy Spirit) ordering us to share the Gospel. The Lord also nominates to show Salvation to those He chooses both directly and indirectly. Many are also being saved directly by the Lord Jesus Christ, as He did with Paul.

# CHAPTER 7: CHALLENGES WHEN BORN AGAIN

## Defilement

The spiritual principles laid down for the children of Israel in the Old Testament still hold in our lives today. Demonic worship and the occult are all around us, just as they were in the land of Canaan.

Christians need an understanding of those things that the Lord says defiles a man such that what comes of their mouths and behaviours attracts curses. Jesus said in Matthew 15:18 that the things that come out of a person's mouth come from the heart and these are what defile a man. What comes from the heart is based on what one believes in and thinks (see section 11.9).

#### Unsolved problems still need to be dealt with

Many are also deceived by familiar spirits which pretend to be their ancestors that appear in dreams demanding rituals to be performed for them. Sacrificing to ancestors is an abomination against God and attracts dark deceiving spirits in the make-belief of blessings.

#### What does the Bible say about ancestor worship?

1. First, the Bible tells us that the spirits of the dead go to either heaven or hell and do not remain in the natural world (Luke 16:20-31; 2 Corinthians 5:6-10; Hebrews 9:27; Revelation 20:11-15). The belief that spirits continue to reside on earth after death and influence the lives of others is not scriptural.

2. Second, nowhere in the Bible are we told that the dead act as intermediaries between God and man. But we are told that Jesus Christ was given that role. He was born, lived a sinless life, was crucified for our sins, buried in a grave, resurrected by God, seen by a multitude of witnesses, ascended into heaven, and sits now at the right hand of the Father where He intercedes on the behalf of those who have placed their faith and trust in Him (Acts 26:23; Romans 1:2-5; Hebrews 4:15; 1 Peter 1:3-4). There is only one Mediator between God and man, and that is God's Son, Jesus Christ (1 Timothy 2:5-6; Hebrews 8:6, 9:15, 12:24). Only Christ can fill that role.

The Bible tells us in Exodus 20:3-6 that we are not to worship any god other than the Lord God. Furthermore, since diviners and sorcerers were thought to be able to contact the dead, they were also expressly forbidden by God (Exodus 22:18; Leviticus 19:32, 20:6, 27; Deuteronomy 18:10-11; 1 Samuel 28:3; Jeremiah 27:9-10).

The Lord Jesus explains in Luke 16:19-31 that the spirits of the dead cannot speak to us. They cannot help us or harm us. (Rich man and Lazarus: 31 "He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'

Satan has always sought to supplant God, and he uses lies about worshipping other gods and even ancestors to try to lead people away from the truth of God's existence. Ancestor worship is wrong because it goes against God's specific warnings about such worship, and it seeks to replace Jesus Christ as the Divine Mediator between God and mankind.

3. The Bible warns us that Satan sometimes pretends to be an angel of light (2 Corinthians 11:14). He may, therefore, sometimes pretend to be our ancestral spirit. His purpose is to lead us away from trusting in God alone. Hence, we sometimes people get healed after sacrificing to the spirits. Satan has a lot of stolen and fake power, but not nearly as much as God. By healing people temporarily, Satan wants us to leave the true faith and to obey deceiving spirits and to follow the teaching of demons to continuously offer sacrifices (1 Timothy 4:1).

God forbids us to consult the spirits of the dead (Leviticus 19:31; 20:6: 20:25; Deuteronomy 18:1011; Isaiah 8:19-20). So we read that God rejected and killed king Saul because he called up the spirit of Samuel from the dead (1 Chronicles 10:13-14). We may not bring sacrifices to anyone except God (Exodus 20:3; Acts 15:28-29; 1 Corinthians 8:46). All other sacrifices are sacrifices to demons (1 Corinthians 10:20; Luke 4:8).

We must always remember that Jesus made us free from the spirits (John 8:36; Hebrews 7:25). He set us free from the worthless manner of life handed down by our ancestors (1 Peter 1:18-19). We now belong to the family of Christ because we seek to do God's will (Matthew 12:46-50). Our old family should not keep us back from obedience to God (Acts 7:3; Luke 14:26-27; Matthew 10:37). **If we have to give up our family ties because of Christ, He promises to give us a hundred times more in return** (Mark 10:29-30). If I refuse to obey God, I remain part of the family of Satan (John 8:44).

**The ancestral spirits cannot intercede for us with God**. We have only one Mediator, Jesus Christ. Only he has the power to intercede for us (1 Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 7:25).

Countless Christians are plagued by stubborn spirits of mental illness, suicide, depression, alcoholism, drug addictions, physical illness, divorce, incest and poverty. These problems affect whole churches, families as well as individual destinies. Most discouraging situations, which may result from several factors. The frequently overlooked reason is a curse of family foundations on the person's life or family that has never been broken. Many churches are also cursed. This is a much-neglected area in Christian teaching today.

#### This is where deliverance comes in.

Curses come from three sources: From disobeying God; from the illegal claims by Satan and Legal claims by Satan.

The Lord Jesus, in almost all His instructions to the disciples, told them to cast out demons (Matt 10:1 & 8; Mark 3:15, 16:17, 6:3; Acts 8:7, Matthew 17:19-21), to which 23 bible verses speak about casting out demons. However, the curse from God may not be easy to remove except by confessing one's sins and repenting (turning away) completely from sins that deny God's sovereignty. The illegal claims by Satan are false accusations and may be easier to remove. The third claim is more difficult to remove if the sins were entered into knowingly as they formed a relationship in a covenant with Satan. Choose the right church and the correct ministry for deliverance by prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you in this decision. It is futile to seek deliverance or exorcism where the church does not believe in such. Neither is every church a church of Jesus Christ. Some call themselves a church by borrowing the word 'church' yet they represent Satan. That is why Jesus urges believers to be wise (Matt 10:16). The question is, why then are many Christians still so deceived? Also, why are so many still poor and suffering? The answer is ignorance.

*My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge* (Hosea 4:6 AMP).

Persecution caused by Satan's attacks will always pursue us, but the Lord Jesus assures us of victory, an overcoming life. The bible says;

#### **Expect Persecution as a normal part of life on earth**

The Lord Jesus said to His disciples, and to us that are being born again after the first apostles and disciples, in Matthew 10:16: "Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and harmless as doves." This is a command from the Lord Jesus, that we are to be aware of the devil's strategies, as he is a deceiver as per Rev 12:9, so that we will not be derailed by them. We can only be wise by being sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit through constant prayer and meditating on God's word as well as the correct handling of God's word in practising it in the way we live our lives.

#### Warning about the World's Hatred

In John15:18-25, Jesus teaches about a servant not being greater than his master in that if they hate you, know that you are His.

<sup>"18</sup>If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you".....<sup>20</sup> Remember the word that I said to you, 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you."....<sup>23</sup>He who hates Me hates My Father also. ....<sup>24</sup> If I had not done among them the works which no one else did, they would have no sin; but now they have seen and also hated both Me and My Father .....<sup>25</sup> But this happened that the word might be fulfilled which is written in their law, 'They hated Me without a cause.'

# CHAPTER 8: JESUS IS THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE

Jesus Christ is the only way by which man can be saved, have a relationship with God whilst still on earth and ultimately make it to Heaven.

#### <u>The way</u>

The way to enter the Kingdom of God is only through Jesus Christ. There is no other way and "*no other name on earth and under heaven by which man can be saved except by Jesus Christ*" (Acts 4:12; Philippians 2:9).

#### The way to God the Father and eternal life

Accepting Jesus as Lord and Saviour gives you direct access to an intimate relationship with God the Father. By the obedience of Jesus Christ to be crucified as a penalty for our sins, man has been presented with the opportunity to be saved from perishing.

The opportunity for Salvation was made available to all people after Jesus' death and resurrection around the years 29 to 33AD.

To clarify what *eternal life* means, the early Christian missionaries were seemingly simplistic about salvation and eternal life, perhaps due to the need then, to spread the Gospel to as many people as possible, in the simplest terms that could be communicated in different languages. However, "God overlooked the ignorance of earlier times, He now commands all men everywhere to repent" (Acts 17:30).

**Eternal life** is not only after one dies. Eternal life is attainable, by choice, both whilst on earth and in the afterlife.

- **On earth:** once a person gets born again, eternal life begins here on earth, which is a life of dominion, victory, joy and peace, no matter the challenges. The spirit of the person gets recreated.
- In paradise: Paradise is a waiting place of the spirits of the saints once the body dies and the spirit leaves the body, proved by the many recorded near-death experiences (NDEs) as reported by both believers and non-believers, including Moslems, who converted to

Christianity after seeing Jesus. This ties in with the story that Jesus told about the *Rich man and Lazarus* in Luke 16:19-31. The houses or mansions are still awaiting the saints to occupy them in heaven, as promised by the Lord Jesus.

- In heaven: After the flesh dies, the spirit and soul leaves the body and lives on. The length of time it takes for the spirit to get to heaven (according to earthly calculations) varies from person to person, as reports from NDEs and heavenly visitations show. Albeit, many reported facts consistently prove that heaven and hell are real places and that the distances to journey to the different parts of heaven are long according to earthly time frames.

**Proofs of the existence of heaven, hell, and paradise** are numerous, a few examples of which are according to what is written about the Lord Jesus, Apostle Paul, Steven the martyr, Moses, Elijah, Enoch, and the apostle John who wrote the book of Revelation, among many scripture texts.

There are also many NDEs which consistently report similar experiences of heaven and hell, showing God giving people a second chance.

# <u>The truth</u>

Man is a spirit being, has a soul and lives in a body. This is a triune being, created in the image of God. We know that God is a Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. So is man spirit, soul and body.

The Lord Himself said, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19).

Sadly, many do not realise that the things of the spirit are spiritually discerned and cannot be fathomed, interpreted or understood according to the human (natural) wisdom and mind. Human wisdom is limited because the real person, YOU, is a spirit (the immaterial or the supernatural) that has a soul (psyche and emotions) and lives in a body. *But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of* 

God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned (1 Corinthians 2:14).

# <u>The Life</u>

When you choose Jesus, you choose life; that is both a meaningful life with a God-ordained purpose, having eternal life - the life of light and no longer the life of darkness.

The life of a *born again* Christian is that of righteousness, peace and, joy in the Holy Spirit, as He becomes your ever-present helper, counsellor and guide. It is a life of supernatural victory by faith in Jesus Christ, a life of abundance, continuously supernatural provision for your needs, supernatural healing, blessing, and overcoming of every challenge despite seemingly difficult or impossible situations. It is also a life that is most fulfilling and meaningful, more than any other. Trust God and God alone as the source of everything.

There is no higher or better life than the life in Christ Jesus! The rest is either temporary happiness or vanity, chasing the wind.

"Earnestly remember your Creator before the silver cord [of life] is broken, or the golden bowl is crushed, or the pitcher at the fountain is shattered and the wheel at the cistern is crushed; <sup>7</sup> then the dust [out of which God made man's body] will return to the earth as it was, and the spirit will return to God who gave it. <sup>8</sup> "Vanity of vanities," says the Preacher. "All [that is done without God's guidance] is vanity (futility)" (Ecclesiastes 12:6-8 AMP).

#### CHAPTER 9: JESUS IS KNOCKING AT THE DOOR

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who is the source of God's true, unconditional and unending love, is the only way to accessing God the Father. He is still giving you a chance by knocking at the door of your heart. All you need to do is to open your heart and say 'yes' to His abundant love and life.



God is called the Father. God the Son, His seed that had to die for us in order for us to be reborn, is Jesus Christ. He works through His power -God the Holy Spirit whom Jesus sent to dwell in a believer after He has ascended to the Father in heaven. God is three in one, and these three persons in One God work together in a person's salvation.

God the Father calls us (John 6:44), the Jesus the Saviour redeems us (John 3:16-17) and the Holy Spirit sanctifies and shows us who Jesus is and why we need the Saviour (John 14:26, 15:26) and helps and teaches us as He hears what the Lord Jesus is telling Him, who in turn tells us through the Holy Spirit what the Father is saying (John 16:715).

If you do not yet know Jesus Christ, then God is not your Father, Jesus is not your Saviour, and the Holy Spirit is not your Comforter or Teacher and even if Jesus is not your Saviour, He will still be your Judge when you exit this earth (Rev 20:12-15).

You need to humble yourself, bend your knee, repent, confess your sins and trust in Jesus Christ because the name that matters most is Jesus Christ whom "God has highly exalted and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven

and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Phil 2:9-11).

Once you have accepted Jesus as your Lord and Saviour, He will help you, by the Spirit to change. God will accept you just as you are, but He will not leave you as you are. His Holy Spirit and His word (the bible) will start to teach you how to stay in Christ. This is why it is important to regularly attend a Word-based church that allows the Holy Spirit to flow to transform you as you open up your spirit to Him.

Do not delay, as you do not know how much time you have left on this earth. No one knows except God, who made you.

"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; <sup>28</sup> and I give eternal life to them, and they shall never perish; and no one shall snatch them out of My hand," (John 10:27-28).

When you follow Jesus Christ and live for God, keep away from sin lest something worse happens to you. Yes, you can, if you ask Him to help you!

## What can I expect if I become a true Christian?

You should know what to expect if you become a Christian. It is by choice.

Expect that you might end up with different friends and be prepared to find that many of your old habits and desires may also change, for the better.

It is not always easy in a world of moral decay. But fear not. Jesus brought His Holy Spirit to assist you. You become a new creation in your spirit and soul (2 Corinth 5:17).

After you become a born again Christian, the Lord comes to live in you and then begins to work changes in you - for the better.

#### Sometimes it is challenging but at most times it is very rewarding.

The following will happen to you when you get Born Again:

- 1. You will not fear anyone anymore and you will not fear the devil anymore, but you will fear God with a healthy, happy, holy reverence.
- 2. Christian conversion makes a change in your spirit; often times including the soul (heart-emotions and mind-psyche), which ultimately impacts the body. We view everything and everyone from a different standpoint. It sanctifies our common work; we find Christ integrated into everything we do, think and say.
- 3. You gradually start to become wise by grace as the wisdom of God starts to grow in you.
- 4. You will start to live in harmony with your Creator because you will know what is His will for your life, living every moment for God's glory (Ephesians 5:15-17). True Christians experience the very presence of God and God is holy.
- 5. Evil habits that cause you to sin start to run away gradually from you because Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit come and dwell in your spirit and soul. At the same time, you have to be determined to shirk bad habits off because the devil will keep trying to remind you to keep going back to them, which can result in a worse condition.
- 6. The word of God (the bible) starts to become clearer, by revelation to you. The word of God is life and spirit, so the Holy Spirit reveals truths, direction and counsel to every situation in your life, either directly and / or through the Word of God. What a wonderful life!
- 7. Also, if you become a Christian and continue to live in sinful ways, the Holy Spirit will gently and convincingly prod your heart and bring you to a place of complete repentance. You will learn to resist the devil. It is important that you listen and heed the nudging of the Holy Spirit, always.
- 8. You can even become hated without a cause. If you are not of the world, Jesus told us to expect trouble in John 14:18-25.

## Dealing with stubborn evil spirits

Sometimes repentance can be difficult, especially when Jesus brings you out of generational oppressions and afflictions such as drug addictions, abortions, homosexuality, lust, anger, pornography; sins brought about through covenants by self or by our forefathers (even up to the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> generations- Exodus 20:5; Deut 5:9), marine spirits, witchcraft, sorcery, *vudu*, occultic involvement, tarrot cards, palm reading, fortune telling, tattoos, stars etc.; which are all sins influenced by demonic spirits. Many people are usually not aware of afflictions that need deliverance. This is biblical in that confessing one's sins and those of our forefathers and the repentance from them, removes the rightful claims of Satan upon the cursed generation. This sets people free by God's mercy, which is God's way of forgiving people's sins both in the Old Testament and New Testament. Afflictions herein mentioned, are not good to one's life and destiny as they limit one's progress in many ways.

#### God will help you when you are His

You also need to understand that if you become a Christian you are no longer on your own. God's grace will assist you to continuously change and get perfected if you humble yourself by meditating on His word, prayer and fellowshipping. The Lord will work bad habits and bad things out of you over the rest of your life, provided you also let Him. God will work in your soul (mind and emotions) and body to make you more like Jesus by strengthening you spiritually. You can expect this because God is living in the hearts of all who have received Jesus Christ (John 1:12; 14:23).

When the will of man is surrendered to God, the Holy Spirit takes up His abode in the spirit of man.

#### The regenerated spirit gains spiritual understanding

Many people confess that they get nothing out of the Bible even though they attend church and read their Bibles regularly. Perhaps they do not know that they are not regenerated and that they need to yield their own will to the Spirit of God so that He can renew their human spirits. The deep things of God never will be understood by the world outside of Jesus Christ. Our Lord warned His disciples:

<sup>6</sup> "Do not give dogs what is holy, and do not throw your pearls before pigs, lest they trample them underfoot and turn to attack you (Matt 7:6-7 ESV).

The spirit of the unregenerate man has no more capacity to appreciate the things of God than a dog has to appreciate holy things, or a hog a genuine pearl necklace.

<sup>22</sup> Of them the proverbs are true: "A dog returns to its vomit,"<sup>[4]</sup> and, "A sow that is washed returns to her wallowing in the mud"(2 Peter 2:22) NIV.

This they did because the dog was a dog and the sow was a sow. No amount of religion or church activity can change the spirit of the unregenerate man.

Once you receive this precious Salvation, no matter the challenges we all pass through on this temporary earth, make sure you protect it until the last day you leave this earth, so you can make heaven.



#### CHAPTER 10: STEPS TO SALVATION

In order to receive salvation, there is one simple yet miraculous step you need to take even in your own private space.

#### **1) REPENT and RECEIVE SALVATION:**

Simply confess and repent from your sins. This means turning away from your sinful ways, by turning to God's ways and asking Jesus to come into your heart by saying the simple prayer of salvation (see page 49 of this Salvation booklet).

The bible says, "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): <sup>9</sup> that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation," (Romans 10:8-10).

**Both Jews and non-Jews have to do this to receive Jesus Christ** Repentance is toward God, for the Law comes from God, but faith is toward Jesus Christ (Acts 20:21).

Peter replied, to Jews who had realized they had crucified the Christ and wanted to be saved, "*Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit*" was the inspired answer (Acts 2:36-38).

Should you also be asking the same question as certain of the Jews did when they wanted to receive Jesus the Christ over 2000 years ago, the next step is what you simply have to do.

#### 2) GET BAPTISED IN WATER IN A LOCAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH:

Please note that some people receive the Holy Spirit before water baptism, depending on how the Holy Spirit permits.

Seal your commitment to Christ with water baptism by immersion. The Ethiopian eunuch took action on coming to a lake of water and asked Philip:

As they travelled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?" (Acts 8:36-37, NIV).

#### **3) RECEIVE THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT:**

The Holy Spirit is God's gift the Lord Jesus promised to all believers, who desire to receive Him. The Holy Spirit is God's Spirit on earth who was sent by Jesus Christ after He ascended to heaven, who guides, brings God's presence and gives the power to witness about Jesus and gives dominion over everything to His followers:

<sup>(16</sup> And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—<sup>17</sup> the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.<sup>18</sup> I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you (John 14:16-18, NKJV).

# The Lord Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit to His disciples, then and now:

"And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; <sup>5</sup> for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now," (Acts 1: 4-5). "... you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me<sup>[a]</sup> in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth,"(Acts 1:8).

He fulfilled the promise which He had also earlier made before His crucifixion in John 16:7. Note that when the Holy Spirit came on the day on Pentecost, while the 12 apostles among 120 disciples were with one accord breaking bread in the upper room, **all of them**, not some, received the Holy Spirit and spoke in other tongues:

And they were <u>all</u> filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance (Acts 2:1-4).

And now if you faithfully follow God's way - the way the Holy Spirit leads - you will become a begotten son of God! Remember that, Jesus Christ came to "*be the firstborn among many brethren*" (Romans 8:29).

"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God" (Romans 8:14).

#### Note: You receive the Holy Spirit the moment you get saved. But you need activation by Baptism of the Holy Spirit and you need to stay filled.

Baptism of the Holy Spirit is not an extra experience you need to seek; it is something you have from the moment you are saved. This baptism is a theological reality, an act by which Jesus Christ, through the agency of the Holy Spirit, places you into the Body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:13; John 7:37 -39).

"You are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him. And if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, yet the spirit is alive because of righteousness" (Rom. 8:9-10).

All you need is activation of the Holy Spirit by speaking in tongues often, praying in the Holy Ghost meditating on God's word.

<sup>19</sup> And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples,<sup>2</sup> He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.<sup>3</sup> And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism.<sup>4</sup> Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.<sup>5</sup> When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.<sup>6</sup> And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied" (Acts 19:1-6).

#### This is how God restored His original plan with mankind! He has given believers in Jesus Christ His Holy Spirit, thus He dwells in us and among us by His Spirit. What a beautiful life!

#### **PRAYER OF SALVATION: ENGLISH**

Father God, I come to You in the name of Jesus. I believe that you sent your Son Jesus Christ to die on the cross for me. I believe that He had to carry my sins on the cross for me yet He did not sin. I believe that He died, was buried and You raised Him from the dead on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day. I believe that He is coming back to judge the living and the dead, as He is the Messiah. Your Word says, "whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Acts 2:21). I confess that I have sinned against You and ask You to please forgive me of all my sins. I repent, turning away from my old ways. I ask you to come into my heart and make me your child. I accept Jesus to be my Lord and Saviour. I ask Jesus to wash my sins in His blood and make me clean so I can live for Your glory. Please send me Your Holy Spirit to come and dwell inside of me. I ask Your Holy Spirit to purify me of all unrighteousness, change me, mould me, sanctify me, save me from perishing. I believe that I am now born again. I am now a child of God. I now belong to Jesus. Thank You Lord Jesus for saving me. Amen. Hallelujah!

#### **UMTHANDAZO WENSINDISO: ISIZULU**

Baba waseZulwini, ngiza kuwe ngegama elinamandla likaJesu Kristu. Ngiyavuma ukuthi ngingumoni, futhi ngiphenduka kuzo zonke izono zami. Ngiyaqonda ukuthi uthumele iNdodana yakho uJesu Kristu ukuba eze emhlabeni ukuze ingifele. Manje ngiyakwamukela Wena Nkosi uJesu ukuba ungene enhliziyweni yami. Ngiyaqonda ukuthi uyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu. Ngiyakholwa ukuthi wangifela, wangcwatshwa futhi ngosuku lwesithathu wavuka futhi, ukuze ngibe nokuphila okuphakade. Ngikucela ukuba ugeze izono zami futhi ungenzele kabusha. Manje ngiyakwamukela enhliziyweni yami ukuba ube iNkosi yempilo yami. Ngikucela ukuthi ungigcwalise ngoMoya wakho oyiNgcwele. Ngingumntwana wakho manje. Manje ngizelwe kabusha. Ngiyethemba wena futhi ngihamba kuwe futhi ngikuwe wedwa. Ngiyabonga Nkosi Jesu ngokungisindisa. Amen. Hallelujah!

#### If you have said this prayer, CONGRATULATIONS! You are now a born-again child of God.

Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (2 Corinth 5:17).

**Now that you are born again or saved, The next steps from now on:** You will need to make God's word (The Holy Bible) the standard for your life. Join a bible-based living church where you can grow in fellowship with other believers. Get baptised by immersion underwater as a public declaration that you are a follower of Jesus Christ (Mark 16:16) and as a symbol of Christ's burial and resurrection (Colossians 2: 12-14; Romans 6:4) and as a symbol of your new life as a Christian, baptised in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit (Matt 28:19). Make sure you get baptised with the Holy Spirit (Acts: 5; Acts 2:8; Acts 19:2; Mark 1:8; Luke 3:16; John 1:33).

## CHAPTER 11: HOW TO PROTECT AND KEEP YOUR SALVATION

Know this! You are now stronger and a threat to the devil and the kingdom of darkness. Satan and his representatives are not going to leave you alone. He will be jealous and angrier with you. You will face attacks but Jesus, The Holy Spirit and the angels in heaven will protect you, provided you stay in Christ and you do not do the things the devil will tempt you to do. Remember, Jesus was also tempted by the devil 3 times soon after he had fasted for 40 days and 40 nights in Matthew 4:1-11. Hebrews 4:15 assures you that you are not alone: *"For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin."* 

You are now announced to the world. You are known in both the Kingdom of God and that of Satan. Satan no longer has power over you. So refuse to be moved from your position as newly born child/son and Christ's joint heir of God! However, "work out your salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God who works in you to will and to act on behalf of His good pleasure..., (Philippians 2:12-13).

When you submit to God, He will work in you, cover you, protect you against the devil. *"Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you" (James 4:7).* 

#### **11.1 RENEW YOUR MIND CONTINUOUSLY.**

You are now converted - a changed person - for God's Spirit and His word produces a renewing of your mind (Ephesians 4:23; Romans 12:2). Your whole concept and direction of life will be changed. God's Spirit is His very life imparted to you! You are now a begotten son of God.

However, you need to grow spiritually (2 Peter 3:18). It is "*To him that overcomes*" that Christ will grant to sit with Him on His throne, when He returns to earth (Revelation 3:21).

The real Christian life is truly a life of overcoming trials, tests and temptations; a life of spiritual growth through these trials which mature you into a true disciple of Jesus Christ; and the only truly joyful life - the abundant life - here and now! The devil is not going to stand aside and clap hands for you that you have received Christ. He will be angry, but he has no power over you because Jesus and God are far more powerful than the devil, his witches and all his agents. Do not fear. Jesus said, "fear not, I have overcome the world" (John 16:33). He also said, "I give you power (authority) to trample upon serpents and upon scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing shall by any means hurt you" (Luke 10:19). Note that Jesus did not say that you must tempt or underestimate the devil, but Jesus assures us that when the devil tries to attack, or if anyone tries to harm you, once you are in God's Kingdom, you are now protected by His blood, by the name of Jesus, by the power of the Holy Spirit and by God's angels, and you can now speak the Word of God with authority in the name of Jesus, as a son/daughter of the Kingdom of God and everything will obey your command. Yet we must endure and remain steadfast for it is he who endures to the end that shall be saved! Read this in your Bible in Matthew 10:22; 24:13; Mark 4:17; John 6:27; I Corinthians 9:24-27; Hebrews 10:26-27.

#### **11.2 PROTECT YOUR SPIRIT, SOUL AND BODY- YOUR DESTINY.**

When your human spirit is recreated, it needs to be spiritually protected, knowing that "....the weapons of our warfare are not carnal," (2 Corinth 10:4) and that whenever the challenges of life increase, you are not fighting against flesh and blood but against spirits "For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places," (Ephesians 6:12).

Since God is a Spirit and He deals with you based on who you are in the spirit (John 4:24) receiving Him will change how you relate with God and the world. You will learn to worship God in spirit and truth, based on who you become in the spirit and not on who you are in your flesh; i.e. not how you act or feel. The Lord Jesus mentioned that the Father seeks those who will worship Him in Spirit and truth, meaning from the level of their recreated spirit, which enables the soul to connect strongly with the Spirit of the Father in heaven.

For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ (John1:17).

This way, you will find out what your destiny is – that is, God, by His Spirit, will start to reveal to you truths that will help you to know Him and walk in your God-ordained purpose while still on this earth.

#### **11.3 MAKE GOD'S WORD (THE BIBLE) A DAILY STANDARD FOR YOUR LIFE.**

This means studying the word, meditating, speaking and doing what the word of God teaches. Studying the word renews your mind every day (Romans 12:2). Try to meditate at least morning and evening or twice a day (Joshua 1:8-9; Psalms1:2-3). Always ask the Holy Spirit to reveal what God is saying to you for that day, remembering that the revelation of God's word to every person is according to the Holy Spirit, not only according to what a pastor says. Remember, God wants to have a close and everlasting relationship with you.

This is Christianity- a direct relationship with God! You will find Him in His Word, because, as the Lord Jesus said, His words, "are spirit, and they are life" (John 6:63). The Lord Jesus promised that, whatever you ask the Father in the name of Jesus, God the Father will give it to you, (John 16:23).

The devil will not leave you alone. He might even try to test you to get you back into darkness, through your old habits and weaknesses. Use God's word to resist him and ask the Lord to help you.

#### **11.4 FAST AND PRAY OFTEN.**

Make time to pray, spending time with the Father as a priority and you will save a lot of time in doing your daily work. The Lord Jesus instructed us to pray to "our Father who art in heaven…" (Matthew 6:9-13). Remember to pray in the name of Jesus at the end because at the time Jesus taught this prayer, He had not yet been crucified and resurrected.

Also, "... pray for one another, that you may be healed and restored. The heartfelt and persistent prayer of a righteous man (believer) can accomplish much [when put into action and made effective by God—it is dynamic and can have tremendous power], (James 5:16 AMP).

Regular fasting can have a positive effect on your life, both physically and spiritually.

#### **11.5 STAY FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

Staying filled with the Holy Spirit means:-

- Letting the Holy Spirit provide the thrust to move the believer in the pathway of obedience. A Spirit-filled Christian isn't driven by his fleshly desires or self-will to progress. Instead, he allows the Holy Spirit to carry him in the right direction.
- No matter the hardships that come our way, in our spiritual lives we are commanded to yield to the total control of the Holy Spirit, so every emotion, thought, and act of the will is under His direction.

For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. 15 The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by Him, we cry, "Abba, Father." 16 The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. 17 Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in His sufferings in order that we may also share in His glory (Romans 8:14-17).

- When you surrender to the control of God's Spirit, you'll find Him producing amazing things in you - things that are entirely of His doing. Paul calls those marvellous blessings the "fruit of the Spirit," and they are: "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control" (Gal. 5:22-23).
- **Pray and speak in other tongues** often (1 Corinth 14:2, 4, 14, & 39; Jude 1:20; Ephesians 6:18; John4:24; Acts 2:3-4). Praying in the

Spirit is to pray in tongues, which edifies (enlightens, improves, strengthens, teaches and strengthens) you. This is a gift you ask the Holy Spirit to give you.

#### **11.6 PARTAKE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER/HOLY COMMUNION**

Jesus proclaimed that He is the Bread of Life and His Blood seals His covenant with those who believe upon His name. Therefore, partake of His bread and wine (His Body and Blood) *as often as you can* (whether alone or with others) and that as you do so, remember Him. Hence the Body of Christ does so, quoting the words that the Lord Jesus spoke as stated in Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:14-20, and 1 Corinth 11:23-26. There is power in the Blood of Jesus. There is protection, healing, deliverance and blessing.

The power in the Blood of Jesus that has washed you clean will continue to protect you.

#### **11.7** LOVE AND FORGIVE OFTEN AND LIVE PEACEABLY WITH OTHERS.

Stay obedient to the word of God, guarding your heart from all offence and forgiving all those who sin against you.

We are to walk in love by kindness, peace, patience, self-control (self-discipline), faithfulness, gentleness, self-control, demonstrating the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-26), forgiveness, saving souls.

Forgiveness is to be meted out abundantly, overflowing, and should be available to all, just as the measureless and unmerited mercy and grace of God is poured out upon us. Jesus said we are to forgive others "seventy times seven" (<u>Matthew 18:21-22</u>). Jesus was not limiting forgiveness to 490 times, a number that is, for all practical purposes, beyond counting. Christians with forgiving hearts do not limit the number of times they forgive; they continue to forgive with as much grace the thousandth time as they do the first time. Christians are only capable of this type of forgiving spirit because the Spirit of God lives within us, and it is He who provides the ability to offer forgiveness over and over, just as God forgives us over and over.

#### **11.8 GIVE SINCERELY FROM YOUR HEART TO THOSE NEAR YOU.**

It's important to be willing to give, both to the Lord and His Church and to other people in need both inside and outside the church, including your neighbours.

"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.<sup>7</sup> Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. (2 Corinthians 9:6-7) (NIV)

#### **11.9 GUARD YOUR HEART. CONDEMN NO ONE. JUDGE NO ONE.**

Avoid criticizing fellow Christians, Churches and Servants of God, as the bible says "touch not my anointed and do my prophets no harm" (1 Chronicles 16:22; Psalm 105:15) and keep your tongue from speaking evil. If a brother is sinning, tell them directly (Matt 18:15-20), and *"Guard your heart with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life,"* (Proverbs 4:23)" and "...out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks" (Matt 12:34; Luke 6:45).

## There are different types of "judging" with different meanings and applications.

The word "judge" can be used in three different ways in the New Testament. Sometimes judge is used to mean "decide or conclude in a legal verdict," "to differentiate between things", or "to discern what spirit is behind any action or words". So we judge between right and wrong, good and evil, righteous and unrighteous actions and words.

"Brothers and sisters, do not slander one another. Anyone who speaks against a brother or sister or judges them speaks against the law and judges it. When you judge the law, you are not keeping it, but sitting in judgment on it. <sup>12</sup> There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the one who is able to save and destroy. But you—who are you to judge your neighbour (James 11:4-16)?" **The linguistic dilemma:** Judgment is an ambiguous word, in Greek as in English: it may mean exercising a proper discernment, or it may mean sitting in judgment on people (or even condemning them), based on perceptions, right or wrong.

The kind of judging about the act of discernment - is not what Jesus is forbidding. In fact, throughout the Bible, we are commanded to discern.

The call to differentiate between good from evil is to judge, to discern, **correctly.** However, it is not our place to point fingers but to point people to the truth, correcting one another in love.

Even true prophets of God can be deceived by the devil, when he finds them at a point when their flesh, minds, hearts and/or spirit is manifesting their weakness (e.g. anger, jealousy, pride, slander, wrong information based on upbringing, education, misinformation, culture, association), knowing that none is perfect or sinless. The devil can intercept correct discernment or judgement at this point. So a humble and contrite heart moulded through the Word and prayer is needed while being continuously yielded to let the Holy Spirit do the work, and God takes His glory whilst closing doors to sin.

#### Two issues causing division in the Body of Christ:

1. Very often, accusation is the result of a culture that no longer understands the difference between discernment and condemnation. Jesus forbids condemning. He makes that clear in Luke 6: "Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned."

He's calling us to not condemn people, to not pass final judgment and not to declare them irretrievably guilty. This is the judgment that Jesus says is wrong.

2. Jesus is warning us against excluding anyone or seeing ourselves

or our group as inherently better than another. Jesus expects the Christian never to judge, never to condemn, never excluding, never to see anyone as without value or dignity - even the person we disagree with most.

A true Christian's role is to stand in agreement with God that every person in the world was worth dying for, that every person has a past which is wiped away once they are born again.

If Jesus did something, even once, in the Bible, we cannot stand in judgement against a fellow servant of God who does what Jesus did frequently and more, to whom God may have revealed how He is to heal or deliver His people through His gifts and methods. Jesus' ministry was for three years on earth. He said "greater works" shall those who believe in Him do (John 14:12). "

Today, by the power of God in His Holy Spirit, He is saving all categories of sinners including Satanists, witches, *sangomas*, prostitutes, drug addicts, murderers, armed robbers, Moslems, Buddhists, Hindus, and many of the Jews that denied Him at first. The bible also states in (John 20:30 and John 21:25) that there are many signs and miracles that Jesus did that are not recorded in the Bible, which implies that we do not have the full information about the walk of the Lord Jesus on earth. There is still a lot for us all to learn.

Of course, there are false prophets who are doing things that are contrary to God's word. The Bible warns that many false prophets will emerge before Christ's return. Similarly there were many false prophets during the Old Testament times. Therefore, we should be cautious of simply accepting every prophet just because they are accurate in the facts they state, which can also be using the spirit of divination. Ask The Holy Spirit what spirit is behind every prophecy, even from genuine servants of God. **This is because the devil can intercept the gifts in a servant of God, depending on what state of spiritual strength or sanctification the vessel is at the time.** 

#### **11.10** Make the most of the time you have –walk in the light

The bible has several teachings about the unfruitfulness of timewasting with the things of darkness, considering that man's life is very short on earth. Wherever you work (9-5 daily), do business, interact, be a representative of God's Kingdom by being the light.

You may have previously thought that only pastors and church leaders have a calling from God, but know this: every one that gets born-again is called by God to represent God's Kingdom wherever they are, including the workplace. **Use every opportunity you have to fulfil your purpose on earth – participate in fulfilling God's plan on earth.** 

The bible says,

"And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ (Colossians 3:23,24).

"Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. You are just a vapour that appears for a little while and then vanishes away" (James 4:14).

"Be very careful, then, how you live – not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil (Ephesians 5: 15-17).

#### **11.11 SPEAK THE WORD OF GOD WITHOUT FEAR.**

Never speak negative words about your life or your family or others because your words are powerful and may also lend you into trouble with God. What you say is what you get. The world refers to this as the power of positive speaking. Yet this is God's principles that have been applied by the world as if they originated from them.

The bible says, "Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof. (Proverbs 18:21).

Receive Salvation and Stay Saved

Your mouth is for speaking words that chart your course in life. That makes you different from animals. You need to prophesy by speaking blessings and what you want to see manifest in your life, family, loved ones, your workplace, career, business, your neighbourhood, environment and country to make it a better place.

## **11.12** FEAR GOD. HONOUR GOD.

To fear God is to keep and do all His commandments, as in obeying everything that Jesus commanded us to do and to be. It is to reverence, respect, worship and honour God the Father, who made heaven and earth.

It is also to live to please God, to hate evil; to live with a conscience that fears and avoids doing evil; to live in consideration of others and those who seem to be weaker than us; to serve God with sincerity and truth without any hidden motives; to exist in the consciousness of God's presence in the name of Jesus Christ; to exist in the consciousness of the consequences for our actions, thoughts and works when all will face God's judgement after this life and be answerable in eternity; and to build to last by letting God and only His Name be glorified for every success.

"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding" (Proverbs 9:10).

## **11.13 AVOID THE BACKSLIDDEN LIFE.**

Whether male or female, you are now a begotten 'son' of God - you can now call God, your Father! You are now a joint heir with Jesus Christ.

"This resurrection life you received from God is not a timid, grave-tending life. It's adventurously expectant, greeting God with a childlike "What's next, Papa?" God's Spirit touches our spirits and confirms who we really are. We know who He is, and we know who we are: Father and children. And we know we are going to get what's coming to us—an unbelievable inheritance! We go through exactly what Christ goes through. If we go through the hard times with Him, then we're certainly going to go through the good times with Him!" (Romans 8:17, Message Bible).

Importantly, make sure you live more according to the spirit and less according to the flesh.

"For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live," (Romans 8:13).

God knows it's not easy as the devil will not stop tempting you. But continuously make the Holy Spirit your helper by talking to Him and asking Him to help you. It is "*Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,*" *says the LORD of hosts*" (Zechariah 4:6).

#### **11.14 B**E WISE AS THE DAYS ARE EVIL.

Keep your body and mind clean from defilement. Your body is now the temple of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus said if a house has been cleaned, it needs to be filled with goodness so that bad spirits can be kept out, or else if sin is allowed to enter again, it will be worse than it was before. The same applies to someone that has been healed or delivered. Jesus said if you go back to the usual sinful ways after receiving your healing or deliverance, the worst will happen to you (John 5:13-14).

"When an unclean spirit goes out of a man, he goes through dry places, seeking rest, and finds none. 44 "Then he says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.' And when he comes, he finds it empty, swept, and put in order.45 "Then he goes and takes with him seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter and dwell there; the last state of that man is worse than the first. So shall it also be with this wicked generation" (Matthew 12:43)

Now, when an evil spirit is cast out, what happens to that spirit? Where does it go? Well, it wanders through waterless places seeking rest. No evil spirit leaves of its own choice. No man can free himself from the power of the evil spirit either. That is why the power of the Holy Spirit is needed to overcome it.

So fill your time and space with matters that build you up to greatness in God, even within your field of work. You can still enjoy

clean fun with clean entertainment and be even more fulfilled in Christ. The devil is initiating people into the kingdom of darkness by using subtle attractions through the internet (pornography, demonic images, and human trafficking), graffiti, FaceBook, signs, symbols, rituals, movies, books, toys, jewellery, hair extensions, human hair, newspapers, television, music, sounds, perfumes, masks, artefacts, clothing, brand names, tattoos, dreams, friends, tarrot cards, fortune tellers, star reading, palm reading, words and signs. Make sure your environment is both physically and spiritually clean and you listen to words and music that grow your faith and improve your life.

In spiritual warfare, there is no room for neutrality or for "sitting on the fence". You are either for Christ or against Christ. The Lord Jesus makes it plain in Matthew 12:30 where He says, "*He who is not with Me is against Me*."

#### **11.15** JOIN A BIBLE BELIEVING, SPIRIT-LED CHURCH

A bible-believing church which believes in the miracle working power of Jesus Christ by letting the flow of the 9 gifts of the Holy Spirit according to 1 Corinth 12, will grow you to maturity in Christ. True disciples of Jesus Christ become like Jesus and less of themselves.

Fellowshipping with fellow believers in Christ and acting by faith on the undiluted Word of God will mature you to be more like Christ, and to understand the season that we are in the Body of Christ, preparing for Jesus' second coming.

"..to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup> until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God.... we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, <sup>16</sup> from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love" (Ephesians 4:12-16, ESV).

His call for each of us is different. He has uniquely gifted every person to carry out a unique and valuable function in His kingdom, not denominations. While we are all created to be unique, the call of God in different ministerial offices (Eph 4:11-16) remains standard: - Jesus is greater than everyone and everything put together.

#### Walk in the miracle working power of Jesus Christ.

Even today, miracles are supposed to be a normal part of our Christian walk (1 Corinth 12:1-11), because Jesus is *"the same yesterday, today and forever"* (Hebrews 13:8). When Jesus was about to raise Lazarus from the dead, He said to Martha in John 11:40, *"Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God*?

Jesus also promised that "greater works" shall believers in His Name do because He was going to be with the Father (John 14:12). The resurrection life of our Lord Jesus Christ is a life of miracles. Refuse to doubt what God says in the inspired scriptures of the bible!

#### Have a great life in your walk with Jesus Christ!

#### Glorify our Father, Jehovah God, in Heaven. Yahweh! Jehovah, Yahweh is on the throne and requires you to worship HIM only.

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen..(Matt 6:9-13)

**Yahweh** means "The Lord" – Yahweh is derived from the Hebrew word for "I AM," it is the proper name of the divine person, coming from the verb which means to "exist," "be."

The **name**s of **God** (**YHWH** in **Hebrew**) can be used in worshipping Him: Yahweh (The Lord, Jehovah, the Self existing One) Adonai (Lord over all, Master, King of KINGS) Attivg Youm (Ancient of Days, Eternal) **El-Chuwl** (Creator who birthed us) **El-Deah** (All knowing God- Wisdom) **El-Gibhor** (Mighty God) El-Haggadol (Great God) **Elohim** (The One and Only Supreme God, Powerful and Mighty) **El-Elyon** (The Most High God) **El-Olam** - Everlasting God El-Roi (The strong One who sees) El Shaddai (Lord God Almighty) **El Qanna** (I AM the Lord your God, the jealous God) Yahweh Jireh (The Lord Will Provide) **Mekoddishkem** (The Lord who sanctifies you, makes you holy) Yahweh Nissi (The Lord My Banner) Yahweh –**Raah/Rohi** (The Lord My Shepherd) Yahweh **Rapha** /**Ropheka** (The Lord That Heals) Yahweh Shammah (The Lord is There) Yahweh **Sabaoth** (The Lord of Hosts) Yahweh **Shalom** (The Lord our Peace) Yahweh **Tsidkenu** (The Lord Our Righteousness- uprightness) Yahwen **Gmolah** (The God of recompense/reward/who repays)

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