

Unexpected

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1 First Things

1.1 Logo



I should explain what the logo is meant to be representing. The guy is a pen, which is me, which comes from my first poem in Philosophy Core, called Creative Process, where I refer to myself as doing Tai Chi, with my pen being my body. The idea is based on "the pen is mightier than the sword" so I created "the Bible is mightier than the pen".

The Bible is shooting out flames because in Ephesians it talks about spiritual warfare and the Bible is the only armament that is offensive. (It means offensive instead of defensive. These are common terms used in combat. The sword is the only spiritual weapon. All the other armaments expressed in Ephesians are protective and defensive in nature like a shield, a helmet, a breastplate, etc.) The flames are meant as in James when it talks about being purified by fire or struggles with temptation in our lives. Isaiah also was purified by a live coal to his lips by a Seraphim. So the usage of fire is not evil or anything violent. Think of it as purifying.

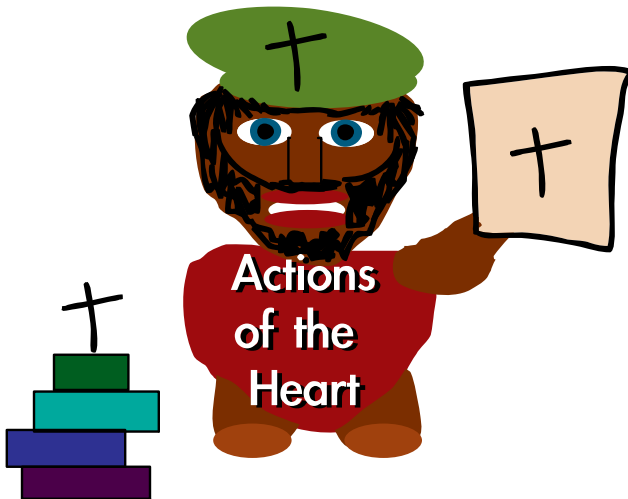
I would ideally like it to show the sword turned inward to his chest, symbolizing like in many fantasy books that when they defeat the great evil force in the world,

they are left with the greatest task, which is to defeat the evil within. The Bible is said to be a 2 sided sword, with the ability to cut between bone and marrow, and show the truth. Christ's tongue is said to be a 2 edged sword in Revelations, to defeat the Devil with. The reason I didn't show this is it looks like he is committing suicide.

The spiritual warfare is not against people, ideas, or even spirits. It is about fighting for the purity of our own minds. It is an internal thing. Like the Native American proverb "my greatest enemy is myself." This purity is in regard to our own sins and does not refer to purity in any other sense. But this is a process, not an outcome, as it is not possible for us to live without sin.

This warfare is only spiritual in the sense that it is not militant, social, economic, or political. This is for my own moral and ethical development and consists of practical qualities I try, with Christ's help, to cultivate like humility, compassion, kindness, and seriousness and do not correspond to anything supernatural.

1.2 Other Books



My text books and picture books contain most of my work over the past 10 years. These include my reading of

some 235 books containing the philosophical and religious thinking of the worlds cultures for several thousand years and the application of the main themes of some of the major Old Testament Prophets and major works of the New Testament.

The main point of this work is to get people to stop living their lives with their minds, but instead follow their hearts. I bring a radically different combination of viewpoints that you have not heard of before. I am not asking people to follow what I have written, but rather let the words stir up some sort of emotional response in your heart.

I challenge my readers to come up with their own unique ideas and that can lead the world in a new direction. We need a much broader diversity of ideas in our culture to deal with the problems we are facing in America and throughout the rest of the world.

1.3 For More Information

For more books and information, visit me on the web at <http://benjamin-newton.com/>

Feel free to send me e-mail regarding the books and website at <mailto:ben@benjamin-newton.com> I even enjoy constructive criticism

1.4 Cover Graphic



1.5 License

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1.6 The Unexpected

For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away. When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

1

The Free Thinking Christian Series was the introduction to my philosophy and theology and my next 2 books, *Justice and Hope* and *Total Person and Society* are my forays into social science about the problems America and Europe have caused in the rest of the world. *Unexpected* is a look at some of the positive things about America that have occurred unexpectedly. It is based on the idea that for Americans to improve the rest of the world, they have to have something positive to draw from as it is not motivating to be constantly berated for what your ancestors and people in power you did not vote for have done. This book is not a retraction from what I have written earlier, but a different perspective on similar situations. It is based on Genesis, Deuteronomy, Job, the Gospels, Acts and Romans.

¹1 Corinthians 13:9-12

2 Questions

2.1 How Can I?

2.1.1 Negativity

How can I be happy
When so many suffer?
How can I be content
When so many
Don't have enough to eat?
How can I be optimistic
When the world is heading
In such a dangerous direction?
There is so much material
To draw from about
Bad things going on
There is so little
To get inspired about
I believe in Heaven
And that God will
Make things right in the end
I believe God is at work
And constantly intervenes
To make things better
We live in a world
Where we hear no positive news
Although we have been
On the edge of a holocaust
For over 50 years
God has held that back
We keep on hearing about
The problems we cause
For the rest of the world
It seems bourgeois
To have a good time
When we know our wealth
Comes at the expense
Of others lives

2.1.2 Only One Man

How can we have peace

When we are so depressed?
How can we be motivated
To make a difference
When there is no time
To enjoy life?
If we can't have peace
That we have done
All that we can
Then how can we keep
Trying to make the world better?
If we blame ourselves
For all the world's problems
How are we going to
Have the energy to
Make the needed changes?
What is a white man to do?
Where is the place for us?
People that look like me
Have caused immense suffering
And are more wealthy
Than millions of others combined
I am sorry for what
The white man has done
But I am doing all that I can
To undo these things
I do not have the resources
Or the money and influence
To change these things
I am mentally ill
And this takes a lot out of me
I put most of my time
Into finding ways to
Reduce suffering
But I am only one man
And I have little control
Even over my own mind

2.1.3 Surprises

Most people look forward
To a warm sunny day

But I enjoy the rain
And the clouds
The heat is unbearable
And there is no relief
It stays hot now
For half the year
I always get excited
About the fall season
Finally activities start again
And the year starts anew
The weather turns cool
And we have darker skies
I even like the rain
The coolness is refreshing
And there is more magic
In the cloudy skies
Than in the heat of summer
I look forward to Wednesdays
Because that is when
I get my spending money
Most people look forward
To the weekends
But the buses only come
Once every hour or less
On the weekends
And it is hard to
Get out anywhere
I think complex things
Unfold in unexpected ways
People were so afraid of
A nuclear holocaust
That there were many years
Of no world wars
We have an economy
Based on greed
And yet the altruist experiment
Communism was more repressive
No one thought people
Would use computers or the Internet
Outside of science and business
And now everything is available

On the world wide web
No body thought we would
Still be using cars
Or that we wouldn't be
On Mars by now
Or that Apple would
Outsell IBM
After it shrunk to
2% market-share
Or that an idea
Without an organization
Or a company behind it
That gave away
The software for free
Could be a challenge
To the largest software corporation
In these ways
What we fear today
Or what we nearly
Fail to see the importance of
May be our hope for tomorrow
Because everything is more complex
Than we fully realize

2.2 What If?

What if the Chinese didn't close down their fleet of ships after Zheng He's expeditions in the Ming Dynasty (about 1433 AD) ?

The Chinese had the largest wooden ships ever built and more than any European power at that time - and may have sailed as far as the New World, but they could not afford to anymore with other projects and wars related to conflicts with Mongolia, as they didn't sail in order to make money.

2.2.1 Buddhists Missionaries

Coming off ships
Brimming with canons
Loaded with gold

And human slaves
Along the Swahili coast
We have a new religion
Coming to Africa
From the Chinese
Buddhism is spreading
Westward into the jungles
Of central Africa
Buddhism wasn't very popular
At first until we were
Allowed to keep
Our old religions
We said we were happy
With our own gods
And didn't need theirs
But they told us
If we didn't follow them
We would come back again
As a monkey
Or end up this life
In a crate headed for China
To work the rice fields
We were told how compassionate
This guy called Buddha was
We asked why they didn't
Feed the hungry locals
They said we had to give up
Everything and be a monk
Most of us signed up
As we had nothing
Until we found out
We had to beg for food
Buddhism didn't sound like
Much of an improvement
Buddhism sounded like
A religion for the wealthy
The Chinese government
Said they were just here
For trade and to make us
More civilized
We thought that meant

We would get rich
But it seemed the longer
The Chinese were here
The poorer we became
The continued to make
Improvements in infrastructure
So the Buddhists could
Spread their religion
We have trains all over Africa
They get our natural resources
On ships headed to China
Faster that way
We found out that most
Of the officials weren't Buddhists
And that Buddhism wasn't
Really Chinese anyway
We were told that Buddhists
Were pacifists
Although we saw many
Chinese soldiers who were Buddhist

2.2.2 European Backwaters

No one cares about Europe
Why would they?
They are few in number
And they don't have any money
The Buddhists were active here
But the Christians outlawed them
As heretics and put them in prison
They were not a European religion
There are no empires in Europe
And the countries are all really small
The whole land mass
Is smaller than China
They don't have anything of worth
To trade or to sell
They don't make good slaves
They look like ghosts
They are the color of death
And they are dressed in rags

They don't have any navies of any size
We could conquer them easily
But they have nothing worth taking
They believe in one God
And most can't read
They have no common language
We still are not sure
Whether to classify them
As humans or not
They have no culture like ours
The few people who can read
Spend most of their days praying
They are obsessed with their classics
Some stuff written down
1, 000-2,000 years ago
By a small empire called Rome
And an even smaller one called Greece

What if we found another world that worshipped Jesus and was much more technologically advanced than us?

2.2.3 Christian World

People from another world
Who look a lot like us
And can speak our languages
Appear in a museum
Of ancient artifacts
They tell us about their God
And His name is Jesus Christ
And they came to our world
As missionaries because
Their world is all Christian
They have been traveling
From world to world
For hundreds of years
To spread the Gospel
Through inventions of
Their own designs
They live in a world

That is a thousand years
More advanced than ours
They can also travel
Through time and space
They have never seen
A world as corrupt
And as evil as ours
That hasn't destroyed itself
They live communally
And they have no crime
Their society has lasted
For thousands of years
Without conflicts
They want to help us
But they say the problem
Is not that we haven't
Advanced in technology enough
But that we need to
Improve ourselves morally
They have no environmental problems
And have never had any in their history
They treat animals as equals
And eat entirely vegetarian
They have hundreds of billions of people
On their world
And they are self-sufficient energy wise
Even though their technology
Uses a lot of energy
Because they limit their use

What if Jesus came today?

2.2.4 Contemporary Jesus

If Jesus came today
He would be homeless
And hang out with
Strippers and escorts
He would be at the clubs
And at the political rallies
With anarchists and goths

He would be the son
Of a computer programmer
Who worked in a small business
Based on open source
His mother would be
An artist or designer
He would listen to reggae
And be vegetarian
He would live in a
Community house
With all possessions
Held in common
He would hand out flyers
For environmental causes
He would hang out
At poetry readings
And at Internet cafes
He would be a member
Of His local
Linux Users Group
And would use only
Open Source software
He would have served in Iraq
And in the Peace Corps
He would have
Started a new religion
And criticized the political elite
He would start a reform
Of the religious wrong
He would be a liberal
And speak out against
The conservative powers
People would follow Him
But not be able to explain why
The news would not film Him
And people would
Make fun of His followers
Pastors would say that
He was a heretic
They would ban Him
From church on Sunday

And the police would
Call Him an agitator
Bush would call Him
A terrorist leader
And He would be
Imprisoned without trial
He would be interrogated
And released to a mental hospital
He would form His own band
And He would have a blog
Where He would write poetry
With millions of monthly visitors

What if stuffed toys ran the world?

2.2.5 Toy Society

Children are prized above all
They are the friends
Of the powerful elite
The president's dump truck
Is pushed by a toddler
And the famous actors
Sign the diapers of their fans
The toy entrepreneurs
Load up the toy boxes
In their factories
And the children
Drive around the boxes
In battery operated
And joystick controlled
All terrain vehicles
The children go to play
At the toy research centers
To see what toys
Are the most popular
And for quality control
They are played with
Under supervision
Of the toy managers
To make sure they

Are safe for play
Day care for the toys
Is provided by toddlers
And teams of seamstresses
Are trained to be
The top surgeons
Of the toy leaders
Each toy is treasured
For its entire life
The toy gets a new
Assigned kid to look after
When the previous kid
Begins to grow up
No toys are ever given
To animals to martyr
There is always
A loving home
For every toy
They will always be warm
And kept clean and dry
There are always activities
To keep the toys busy
They have a great Christmas party
Where they meet new kids
And a holiday parade
Where all the toy stars
Are dressed up and honored
There are award ceremonies
For the kid's favorite
Toys of the year
When the kids grow up
They are used as heaters

What if farm animals ran the world?

2.2.6 Farm Society

The cows roam free
All over the midwest
Milk, cheese, and ice cream
Are free for every child

No animals are in prison
And they all have
Their own barns
With heated blankets
And human employees
To clean away the cow pies
Half the nation's wealth
Is in grain, crackers, and alfalfa
The currency is sugar
And no one eats meat
The pigs are the police
And everyone caught
Eating an animal's flesh
Is sent across the border
The sheep clear the
Wildflowers and weeds
So the human workers
Can plant the corn and wheat
For their cow leaders
All the extra paper
From all the books
Not recorded in farm animal
Languages are recycled
With the help of the goats
There is plenty of power
To run the mills
From all the cow pies
Cows are assigned
To each residential block
To keep the grass cut
There is no more
Need for cars
Nothing too small
To carry a cow
Is licensed to drive
There are new uses
For all the SUVs
They are all powered
By sugar cane
Left over from cow deserts

3 High School

3.1 Model United Nations

Conferences galore
Each school represents
A different country
Committees for human rights
Economic development
And the containment
Of nuclear weapons
A year of research
Comes down to a couple days
Of role playing
We overtook the campus
Of the college we met at
And all the conference rooms
Were booked for us
We wrote resolutions
Mostly serious
And they were kept
In effect for several years
We created books about
The countries we represented
We got off a few days
From our regular classes
Even the smallest island nations
Were represented
And there was great competition
For permanent members
Of the security council
One year I lead a committee
And I was president
Of our school club
We had a class devoted to
Preparation for the conference

3.2 Speech Team

A different speech
For every competition
A class to prepare

Quizzes on newspapers
Every week
I did as wide a variety
Of speeches as possible
I bombed at debate
And my persuasive speech
Didn't score high
I was embarrassed
With my impromptu speeches
I finally switched to
Interpretive readings
And enjoyed that much more
I didn't practice enough
To win any awards
But I enjoyed going
To different colleges
In the state
And seeing their campuses
And seeing people
From all over the state
We got to miss school
Stay in hotels, eat out
And go shopping

3.3 Political Action Committee

I started my own political club
After attending a Ross Perot
Local meeting group
I got to shake his hand
At a gathering in town
The club became non-partisan
Although they were
Mostly conservatives
I did most of the work
I made deserts to attract people
To the meetings
Which were during a school break
We went on a field trip
To Portland to hear
A former Major of New York

And a former US Secretary of Labor
My advisor was the health teacher
He was retiring soon
So he wasn't afraid of
Getting in trouble
With the administration
We sponsored a candidate
For school elections
And I kept detailed newsletters
About everything we had done

3.4 Cross Country

I started running
Because my dad told me
I had to do a sport
And this was the only sport
That they didn't cut
People off of the team
I started out barely
Able to run 3 miles
And was able to easily
Run 10 miles after
I graduated from high school
I remember going all over
The state for competitions
We ran along the beach
We ran in a marsh
We ran through forests
We ran in a reservoir
We ran at parks and at schools
We ran 3k and 5ks
We ran on the sidewalk
We ran around the track
We ran on bark
We ran 400 m laps
We ran 1 mile laps
We ran up hill
We did push-ups
We did sit-ups
We ran in the rain

And in the snow
I eventually began to like it

3.5 Cheerleading

My sophomore year
They were holding tryouts
In the spring season
And they were recruiting men
I tried out because I wanted
To try another sport
And I didn't know how hard it was
Once I starting trying to
Learn the dances and cheers
I figured I had no chance
But to my surprise
No other guy signed up
And they kept me
I was Spirit Man
And I was even on
The varsity team
The practices were 3 hours
Every day of the week
I had to buy a uniform
They soon realized I
Couldn't do the dances
So they let me off easy
We cheered at all the games
Both football and basketball
Our team went to state that year
And the crowds liked having me
I was invited back the next year
But I focused on running
And getting in shape
For the Army

4 Improvements

4.1 Computers

4.1.1 Painter

Most people paint on canvas
Instead of on the computer
But for many like myself
We cannot tolerate
Being around turpentine
Or other harsh chemicals
And so we would never be
Able to do oil painting
If there were not a program
That helped in this feat
Painter not only allows
A person to paint
In many different styles
But it also has
Hundreds of brushes
The pigments interact
With each other naturally
You can use a digital pen
To draw with
And you can even
Turn photos into
Painting with natural
Looking strokes
There is no other program
That is like it

4.1.2 LaTeX

LaTeX is based on the idea
Of structured documents
Document structure is an
Abstract concept
That people are familiar with
Although not with the name
How do you know
When a chapter begins
Or what is an index?
There is no set form

For any of these
Structural elements
You know in part
What it is based on intuition
The other aspect of
Understanding structure
Is consistent style
While there may be
Limitless variety in how
New chapters are marked
Or how we display an index
We can recognize it in part
Due to consistent design
Of every individual
Occurrence of each element
LaTeX allows you to
Mark where a chapter begins
Or what the title is
And it does the actual layout
For you by itself
You can modify any aspect
But no matter what style you use
Each chapter will look the same
You can easily transform
The document into
Many different uses
Like e-books, web pages,
And for printing on the press

4.1.3 Print on Demand

Print on demand
Is a very recent advance
In printing technology
That has revolutionized
How books are produced
Before print on demand
When you wanted to
Publish a book
Or put your logo
On a t-shirt or mug

You had to specify the
Quantity before it was printed
As it would cost too much
To print out individually
In fact, your price went
Down per item
The more you ordered
And then you had to
Have somewhere to store
The finished products
Print on demand is
Entirely different
Each book is printed
Or your logo stamped
Onto a t-shirt
One at a time
And there is no
Minimum order or
Any fees for warehousing
And as a side effect
You get to keep
Your copyright
Even after being published

4.1.4 Social Networking

Social networking
Allows different people
To form communities
On the Internet
And share their creations
Or their ideas
With each other
In a common environment
With ground rules
And most are supported
Entirely by ads
Basically, the advantage
To the host is that
They get free content
And the advantage to

The individual poster
Is their content is
Hosted for free
These communities
Are a collection of web pages
That are easily designable
Because they are based
On common templates
That are customizable
So they work the same
And the content producers
Don't have to design from scratch
There are social networks
For kids, college students,
Authors, book lists, music, videos
And even bookmarks
They are also great ways
To advertise products
And meet new people
Or keep in touch with friends

4.2 Ralph Nader

4.2.1 Vision

I was discouraged
For a long time
About working through the system
To affect the
Betterment of humanity
So little had been done
Through law and science
That I had believed
That the only route
For substantial change
And the method for
Making a dent in
Human and animal suffering
Was by God's direct intervention
That science was
Part of the problem

And the legal system
Was corrupt beyond repair
But then I saw a movie
About a man I voted for
And admired him
For the party he ran under
I was blown away by all
This one man has affected
And how many others
Were affected by his vision
Part one man crusader
But with an army
Of foot soldier activists
He got passed almost
Every consumer safety,
Environmental and humanitarian
Law that has helped curb
The tide against the
Excesses of corporate America

4.2.2 Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Thank God for Nader
We have a safer workplace
Because of him
We have protection
From being caught in machinery
There are limits on
What concentration of toxic chemicals
We are exposed to
We have protective equipment
Like goggles, face shields, and ear plugs
Power is cut off
Before making adjustments or repairs
To moving machinery
When working in enclosed areas
Like tanks, manholes, pits, and bins
There is enough air
And workers are checked on
Now we know what chemicals

And what infectious diseases
We are being exposed to
Miners are protected
From cave ins
Clean up of accidental releases
Of chemicals that are
Toxic, reactive or flammable
Are managed safely
He helped prevent
Repetitive stress injuries
He brought justice
For those who died
Because of manager negligence
All this happened
Because of him

4.2.3 Consumer Product Safety Commission

Alcohol, tobacco, and firearms
Automobiles, and food and drugs
Are regulated by the government
But what about everything else?
That is what the
Consumer Product Safety Commission does
Thank God for Ralph Nader
Its mission is to protect
Against unreasonable risk of injury
Its weapons are developing standards
Banning unsafe products
Recalling products already purchased
Researching possible problems with
Various consumer products
There is a phone number and website
For consumers to report problems
And they collect statistics
On injuries suffered by
Emergency room patients
Related to consumer products
All this happened
Because of him

4.2.4 Freedom of Information Act

Thank God for Ralph Nader
Did you know that you
Could ask the federal
Government for information
And that they are required
By law to send it to you?
As long as it is not classified
Or is part of our defense
Or national security
Or confidential information
Which would violate someone's
Personal privacy like medical records
And you have to be a US citizen
You can check the FBI web pages
And they release information all the time
Most of the information on UFOs
Came from this law
This law helps keep information
That doesn't need to be kept secret
For our safety from giving the feds
Too much power over us
It is just another way to limit
The power of government
And make it more accountable
To its tax payers
All this happened
Because of him

4.2.5 Environmental Protection Agency

We take the fact
That the government
Helps protect the environment
As something that we can depend on
But it was not always that way
Thank God for Ralph Nader
The government has an
Agency of 17, 000 people
Composed of engineers, scientists,

And environmental protection specialists
Lawyers, PR people, accountants,
And computer experts
The main areas of work done
Are assessment, research, and education
It sets and enforces many
Environmental laws along with
State and federal agencies
It also lets some of the responsibilities
For permits, monitoring and enforcement
Fall on the shoulders of other
State and federal agencies
Some of the things the EPA has helped with
Include a Energy Star,
A voluntary program for
Reducing the energy consumption
Of appliances and computers
They rate the fuel economy of cars
Based on how much they pollute
They test the concentration of air pollution
They outlawed the chemical DDT
Which killed off wildlife
They regulate the release of the
Toxic heavy metal mercury
All this happened
Because of him

4.2.6 Safe Drinking Water Act

The Safe Drinking Water Act
Ensures that all Americans
Have access to water that is
Safe to drink
Thank God for Ralph Nader
They limit the amount
Of toxic chemicals
That can be present in our
Drinking water
And even tougher goals
Which allow money to
Be taken from abusers

To clean up pollution with
None of the toxic heavy metal
Lead is allowed in water pipes
People who report violations
Are protected from retaliation
All communities must
Publish reports of water quality
Every year
New drinking water standards
Must be evaluated by how
Much they cost in relation to
Their expected benefits
States are given federal money
To clean up or monitor
Their local water sources
Drinking water is to be free
Of both infectious diseases
As well as toxic cleaning agents
Used to kill off harmful
Micro organisms
Water system operators
Must be certified to make sure
They keep the water safe
Information is released to the public
About what chemicals are in the water
Where their water originates
How it is cleaned
And how a private citizen
Can help keep it clean
Small water systems
Are given extra federal funds
To comply with the drinking water act
All this happened
Because of him

5 Blessings from the Bible

5.1 Spiritual Blessings

5.1.1 Old Testament

The Lord is my strength and song, and he is become my salvation: he is my God, and I will prepare him an habitation; my father's God, and I will exalt him.

2

And I have filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship, To devise cunning works, to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass, And in cutting of stones, to set them, and in carving of timber, to work in all manner of workmanship.

3

And he said, I will make all my goodness pass before thee, and I will proclaim the name of the Lord before thee; and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will shew mercy on whom I will shew mercy.

4

And Hannah prayed, and said, My heart rejoiceth in the Lord, mine horn is exalted in the Lord: my mouth is enlarged over mine enemies; because I rejoice in thy salvation. There is none holy as the Lord: for there is none beside thee: neither is there any rock like our God. Talk no more so exceeding proudly; let not arrogancy come out of your mouth: for the Lord is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed. The bows of the mighty men are

²Exodus 15:2

³Exodus 31:3-5

⁴Exodus 33:19

broken, and they that stumbled are girded with strength. They that were full have hired out themselves for bread; and they that were hungry ceased: so that the barren hath born seven; and she that hath many children is waxed feeble. The Lord killeth, and maketh alive: he bringeth down to the grave, and bringeth up. The Lord maketh poor, and maketh rich: he bringeth low, and lifteth up. He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill, to set them among princes, and to make them inherit the throne of glory: for the pillars of the earth are the Lord's, and he hath set the world upon them. He will keep the feet of his saints, and the wicked shall be silent in darkness; for by strength shall no man prevail. The adversaries of the Lord shall be broken to pieces; out of heaven shall he thunder upon them: the Lord shall judge the ends of the earth; and he shall give strength unto his king, and exalt the horn of his anointed.

5

This day is holy unto the Lord your God; mourn not, nor weep. For all the people wept, when they heard the words of the law. Then he said unto them, Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared: for this day is holy unto our Lord: neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the Lord is your strength. So the Levites stilled all the people, saying, Hold your peace, for the day is holy; neither be ye grieved. And all the people went their way to eat, and to drink, and to send portions, and to make great mirth, because they had understood the words that were declared unto them.

6

⁵1 Samuel 2:1-10

⁶Nehemiah 8:9b-12

Hear the word of the Lord, O ye nations, and declare it in the isles afar off, and say, He that scattered Israel will gather him, and keep him, as a shepherd doth his flock. For the Lord hath redeemed Jacob, and ransomed him from the hand of him that was stronger than he. Therefore they shall come and sing in the height of Zion, and shall flow together to the goodness of the Lord, for wheat, and for wine, and for oil, and for the young of the flock and of the herd: and their soul shall be as a watered garden; and they shall not sorrow any more at all. Then shall the virgin rejoice in the dance, both young men and old together: for I will turn their mourning into joy, and will comfort them, and make them rejoice from their sorrow. And I will satiate the soul of the priests with fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my goodness, saith the Lord.

7

Come, and let us return unto the Lord: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up. After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight. Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the Lord: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth.

8

I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely: for mine anger is turned away from him. I will be as the dew unto Israel: he shall grow as the lily, and cast forth his roots as Lebanon. His branches shall spread, and his

⁷Jeremiah 31:10-14

⁸Hosea 6:1-3

beauty shall be as the olive tree, and his smell as Lebanon. They that dwell under his shadow shall return; they shall revive as the corn, and grow as the vine: the scent thereof shall be as the wine of Lebanon. Ephraim shall say, What have I to do any more with idols? I have heard him, and observed him: I am like a green fir tree. From me is thy fruit found. Who is wise, and he shall understand these things? prudent, and he shall know them? for the ways of the Lord are right, and the just shall walk in them: but the transgressors shall fall therein.

9

Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls: Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation. The Lord God is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places. To the chief singer on my stringed instruments.

10

5.1.2 New Testament

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The

⁹Hosea 14:4-9

¹⁰Habakkuk 3:17-19

same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

11

I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine. And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled. And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves. I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. They are not of the

¹¹John 1:1-14

world, even as I am not of the world. Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth. As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth. Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me. Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world. O righteous Father, the world hath not known thee: but I have known thee, and these have known that thou hast sent me. And I have declared unto them thy name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them.

12

For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven: If so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked. For we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed,

¹²John 17:9-26

but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life. Now he that hath wrought us for the selfsame thing is God, who also hath given unto us the earnest of the Spirit. Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: (For we walk by faith, not by sight:) We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.

13

That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God. Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

14

Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:

15

Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through

¹³2 Corinthians 1:-8

¹⁴Ephesians 3:17-21

¹⁵Philippians 1:6

Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

16

Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the pre-eminence. For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell; And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven. And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreprouable in his sight: If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and

¹⁶Philippians 4:6-9

be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven

17

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

18

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

19

5.2 Temporal Blessings

5.2.1 Genesis

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth. And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the

¹⁷Colossians 1:12-23

¹⁸James 1:17

¹⁹1 Peter 1:3-5

earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat. And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so.

20

And God spake unto Noah, saying, Go forth of the ark, thou, and thy wife, and thy sons, and thy sons' wives with thee. Bring forth with thee every living thing that is with thee, of all flesh, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth; that they may breed abundantly in the earth, and be fruitful, and multiply upon the earth. And Noah went forth, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him: Every beast, every creeping thing, and every fowl, and whatsoever creepeth upon the earth, after their kinds, went forth out of the ark. And Noah builded an altar unto the Lord; and took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt offerings on the altar. And the Lord smelled a sweet savour; and the Lord said in his heart, I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake; for the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; neither will I again smite any more every thing living, as I have done. While the earth remaineth, seed-time and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.

21

And I will establish my covenant with you; neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by

²⁰Genesis 1:27-30

²¹Genesis 8:15-22

the waters of a flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth. And God said, This is the token of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for perpetual generations: I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth. And it shall come to pass, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud: And I will remember my covenant, which is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh. And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is upon the earth.

22

And the angel of the Lord called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time, And said, By myself have I sworn, saith the Lord, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

23

And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven: and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it. And, behold, the Lord

²²Genesis 9:11-16

²³Genesis 22:15-18

stood above it, and said, I am the Lord God of Abraham thy father, and the God of Isaac: the land whereon thou liest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed; And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: and in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed. And, behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for I will not leave thee, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of.

24

5.2.2 Deuteronomy

For the Lord thy God hath blessed thee in all the works of thy hand: he knoweth thy walking through this great wilderness: these forty years the Lord thy God hath been with thee; thou hast lacked nothing.

25

But as for thee, stand thou here by me, and I will speak unto thee all the commandments, and the statutes, and the judgments, which thou shalt teach them, that they may do them in the land which I give them to possess it. Ye shall observe to do therefore as the Lord your God hath commanded you: ye shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. Ye shall walk in all the ways which the Lord your God hath commanded you, that ye may live, and that it may be well with you, and that ye may prolong your days in the land which ye shall possess.

²⁴Genesis 28:12-15

²⁵Deuteronomy 2:7

That thou mightest fear the Lord thy God, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged. Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe to do it; that it may be well with thee, and that ye may increase mightily, as the Lord God of thy fathers hath promised thee, in the land that floweth with milk and honey. Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates. And it shall be, when the Lord thy God shall have brought thee into the land which he sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give thee great and goodly cities, which thou buildedst not, And houses full of all good things, which thou filledst not, and wells digged, which thou diggedst not, vineyards and olive trees, which thou plantedst not; when thou shalt have eaten and be full; Then beware lest thou forget the Lord, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.

²⁶Deuteronomy 5:31-33

²⁷Deuteronomy 6:2-12

Thou shalt therefore keep the commandments, and the statutes, and the judgments, which I command thee this day, to do them. Wherefore it shall come to pass, if ye hearken to these judgments, and keep, and do them, that the Lord thy God shall keep unto thee the covenant and the mercy which he sware unto thy fathers: And he will love thee, and bless thee, and multiply thee: he will also bless the fruit of thy womb, and the fruit of thy land, thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep, in the land which he sware unto thy fathers to give thee. Thou shalt be blessed above all people: there shall not be male or female barren among you, or among your cattle. And the Lord will take away from thee all sickness, and will put none of the evil diseases of Egypt, which thou knowest, upon thee; but will lay them upon all them that hate thee. And thou shalt consume all the people which the Lord thy God shall deliver thee; thine eye shall have no pity upon them: neither shalt thou serve their gods; for that will be a snare unto thee.

28

And that ye may prolong your days in the land, which the Lord sware unto your fathers to give unto them and to their seed, a land that floweth with milk and honey. For the land, whither thou goest in to possess it, is not as the land of Egypt, from whence ye came out, where thou sowedst thy seed, and wateredst it with thy foot, as a garden of herbs: But the land, whither ye go to possess it, is a land of hills and valleys, and drinketh water of the rain of heaven: A land which the Lord thy God careth for: the eyes of the Lord thy God are always upon it, from the beginning of the year

²⁸Deuteronomy 7:11-16

even unto the end of the year. And it shall come to pass, if ye shall hearken diligently unto my commandments which I command you this day, to love the Lord your God, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul, That I will give you the rain of your land in his due season, the first rain and the latter rain, that thou mayest gather in thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil. And I will send grass in thy fields for thy cattle, that thou mayest eat and be full. Take heed to yourselves, that your heart be not deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them; And then the Lord's wrath be kindled against you, and he shut up the heaven, that there be no rain, and that the land yield not her fruit; and lest ye perish quickly from off the good land which the Lord giveth you. Therefore shall ye lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes. And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt write them upon the door posts of thine house, and upon thy gates: That your days may be multiplied, and the days of your children, in the land which the Lord sware unto your fathers to give them, as the days of heaven upon the earth. For if ye shall diligently keep all these commandments which I command you, to do them, to love the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, and to cleave unto him; Then will the Lord drive out all these nations from before you, and ye shall possess greater nations and mightier than yourselves. Every place whereon the soles of your feet shall tread shall be yours: from the wilderness and Lebanon, from the river, the river Euphrates, even unto the uttermost sea shall your coast be. There

shall no man be able to stand before you: for the Lord your God shall lay the fear of you and the dread of you upon all the land that ye shall tread upon, as he hath said unto you. Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse; A blessing, if ye obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you this day: And a curse, if ye will not obey the commandments of the Lord your God, but turn aside out of the way which I command you this day, to go after other gods, which ye have not known.

29

At the end of every seven years thou shalt make a release. And this is the manner of the release: Every creditor that lendeth ought unto his neighbour shall release it; he shall not exact it of his neighbour, or of his brother; because it is called the Lord's release. Of a foreigner thou mayest exact it again: but that which is thine with thy brother thine hand shall release; Save when there shall be no poor among you; for the Lord shall greatly bless thee in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee for an inheritance to possess it: Only if thou carefully hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe to do all these commandments which I command thee this day. For the Lord thy God blesseth thee, as he promised thee: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, but thou shalt not borrow; and thou shalt reign over many nations, but they shall not reign over thee. If there be among you a poor man of one of thy brethren within any of thy gates in thy land which the Lord thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not harden thine heart, nor shut thine hand from thy poor brother: But thou shalt open thine hand wide unto him, and shalt

²⁹Deuteronomy 11:9-28

surely lend him sufficient for his need, in that which he wanteth. Beware that there be not a thought in thy wicked heart, saying, The seventh year, the year of release, is at hand; and thine eye be evil against thy poor brother, and thou givest him nought; and he cry unto the Lord against thee, and it be sin unto thee. Thou shalt surely give him, and thine heart shall not be grieved when thou givest unto him: because that for this thing the Lord thy God shall bless thee in all thy works, and in all that thou puttest thine hand unto. For the poor shall never cease out of the land: therefore I command thee, saying, Thou shalt open thine hand wide unto thy brother, to thy poor, and to thy needy, in thy land.

30

And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the Lord thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth: And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God. Blessed shalt thou be in the city, and blessed shalt thou be in the field. Blessed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep. Blessed shall be thy basket and thy store. Blessed shalt thou be when thou comest in, and blessed shalt thou be when thou goest out. The Lord shall cause thine enemies that rise up against thee to be smitten before thy face: they shall come out against thee one way, and flee before thee seven ways. The Lord shall command the blessing upon thee in thy storehouses, and in all

³⁰Deuteronomy 15:1-11

that thou settest thine hand unto; and he shall bless thee in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee. The Lord shall establish thee an holy people unto himself, as he hath sworn unto thee, if thou shalt keep the commandments of the Lord thy God, and walk in his ways. And all people of the earth shall see that thou art called by the name of the Lord; and they shall be afraid of thee. And the Lord shall make thee plenteous in goods, in the fruit of thy body, and in the fruit of thy cattle, and in the fruit of thy ground, in the land which the Lord sware unto thy fathers to give thee. The Lord shall open unto thee his good treasure, the heaven to give the rain unto thy land in his season, and to bless all the work of thine hand: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, and thou shalt not borrow. And the Lord shall make thee the head, and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath; if that thou hearken unto the commandments of the Lord thy God, which I command thee this day, to observe and to do them: And thou shalt not go aside from any of the words which I command thee this day, to the right hand, or to the left, to go after other gods to serve them.

31

When the most High divided to the nations their inheritance, when he separated the sons of Adam, he set the bounds of the people according to the number of the children of Israel. For the Lord's portion is his people; Jacob is the lot of his inheritance. He found him in a desert land, and in the waste howling wilderness; he led him about, he instructed him, he kept him as the apple of his eye. As an eagle stirreth up her nest, fluttereth over her young, spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh

³¹Deuteronomy 28:1-14

them, beareth them on her wings: So the Lord alone did lead him, and there was no strange god with him. He made him ride on the high places of the earth, that he might eat the increase of the fields; and he made him to suck honey out of the rock, and oil out of the flinty rock; Butter of kine, and milk of sheep, with fat of lambs, and rams of the breed of Bashan, and goats, with the fat of kidneys of wheat; and thou didst drink the pure blood of the grape.

32

5.2.3 Job

Call now, if there be any that will answer thee; and to which of the saints wilt thou turn? For wrath killeth the foolish man, and envy slayeth the silly one. I have seen the foolish taking root: but suddenly I cursed his habitation. His children are far from safety, and they are crushed in the gate, neither is there any to deliver them. Whose harvest the hungry eateth up, and taketh it even out of the thorns, and the robber swalloweth up their substance. Although affliction cometh not forth of the dust, neither doth trouble spring out of the ground; Yet man is born unto trouble, as the sparks fly upward. I would seek unto God, and unto God would I commit my cause: Which doeth great things and unsearchable; marvellous things without number: Who giveth rain upon the earth, and sendeth waters upon the fields: To set up on high those that be low; that those which mourn may be exalted to safety. He disappointeth the devices of the crafty, so that their hands cannot perform their enterprise. He taketh the wise in their own craftiness: and the counsel of the froward is carried headlong. They meet with darkness in the daytime, and grope in

³²Deuteronomy 32:8-14

the noonday as in the night. But he saveth the poor from the sword, from their mouth, and from the hand of the mighty. So the poor hath hope, and iniquity stoppeth her mouth. Behold, happy is the man whom God correcteth: therefore despise not thou the chastening of the Almighty: For he maketh sore, and bindeth up: he woundeth, and his hands make whole. He shall deliver thee in six troubles: yea, in seven there shall no evil touch thee. In famine he shall redeem thee from death: and in war from the power of the sword. Thou shalt be hid from the scourge of the tongue: neither shalt thou be afraid of destruction when it cometh. At destruction and famine thou shalt laugh: neither shalt thou be afraid of the beasts of the earth. For thou shalt be in league with the stones of the field: and the beasts of the field shall be at peace with thee. And thou shalt know that thy tabernacle shall be in peace; and thou shalt visit thy habitation, and shalt not sin. Thou shalt know also that thy seed shall be great, and thine offspring as the grass of the earth. Thou shalt come to thy grave in a full age, like as a shock of corn cometh in in his season. Lo this, we have searched it, so it is; hear it, and know thou it for thy good.

33

Which said unto God, Depart from us: and what can the Almighty do for them? Yet he filled their houses with good things: but the counsel of the wicked is far from me. The righteous see it, and are glad: and the innocent laugh them to scorn. Whereas our substance is not cut down, but the remnant of them the fire consumeth. Acquaint now thyself with him, and be at peace: thereby good shall come unto thee. Receive, I pray thee, the law from his

³³Job 5

mouth, and lay up his words in thine heart. If thou return to the Almighty, thou shalt be built up, thou shalt put away iniquity far from thy tabernacles. Then shalt thou lay up gold as dust, and the gold of Ophir as the stones of the brooks. Yea, the Almighty shall be thy defence, and thou shalt have plenty of silver. For then shalt thou have thy delight in the Almighty, and shalt lift up thy face unto God. Thou shalt make thy prayer unto him, and he shall hear thee, and thou shalt pay thy vows. Thou shalt also decree a thing, and it shall be established unto thee: and the light shall shine upon thy ways. When men are cast down, then thou shalt say, There is lifting up; and he shall save the humble person. He shall deliver the island of the innocent: and it is delivered by the pureness of thine hands.

34

God thundereth marvellously with his voice; great things doeth he, which we cannot comprehend. For he saith to the snow, Be thou on the earth; likewise to the small rain, and to the great rain of his strength. He sealeth up the hand of every man; that all men may know his work. Then the beasts go into dens, and remain in their places. Out of the south cometh the whirlwind: and cold out of the north. By the breath of God frost is given: and the breadth of the waters is straitened. Also by watering he wearieth the thick cloud: he scattereth his bright cloud: And it is turned round about by his counsels: that they may do whatsoever he commandeth them upon the face of the world in the earth. He causeth it to come, whether for correction, or for his land, or for mercy. Hearken unto this, O Job: stand still, and consider the wondrous works of God. Dost thou know

³⁴Job 22:17-30

when God disposed them, and caused the light of his cloud to shine? Dost thou know the balancings of the clouds, the wondrous works of him which is perfect in knowledge? How thy garments are warm, when he quieteth the earth by the south wind? Hast thou with him spread out the sky, which is strong, and as a molten looking glass? Teach us what we shall say unto him; for we cannot order our speech by reason of darkness. Shall it be told him that I speak? if a man speak, surely he shall be swallowed up. And now men see not the bright light which is in the clouds: but the wind passeth, and cleanseth them. Fair weather cometh out of the north: with God is terrible majesty. Touching the Almighty, we cannot find him out: he is excellent in power, and in judgment, and in plenty of justice: he will not afflict. Men do therefore fear him: he respecteth not any that are wise of heart.

35

Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said, Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up now thy loins like a man; for I will demand of thee, and answer thou me. Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding. Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof; When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy? Or who shut up the sea with doors, when it brake forth, as if it had issued out of the womb? When I made the cloud the garment thereof, and thick darkness a swaddlingband for it, And brake up for

³⁵Job 37:5-24

it my decreed place, and set bars and doors,
And said, Hitherto shalt thou come, but no
further: and here shall thy proud waves be
stayed? Hast thou commanded the morning
since thy days; and caused the dayspring to
know his place; That it might take hold of the
ends of the earth, that the wicked might be
shaken out of it? It is turned as clay to the
seal; and they stand as a garment. And from
the wicked their light is withholden, and the
high arm shall be broken. Hast thou entered
into the springs of the sea? or hast thou walked
in the search of the depth? Have the gates of
death been opened unto thee? or hast thou
seen the doors of the shadow of death? Hast
thou perceived the breadth of the earth? de-
clare if thou knowest it all. Where is the way
where light dwelleth? and as for darkness,
where is the place thereof, That thou shouldest
take it to the bound thereof, and that thou
shouldest know the paths to the house thereof? Know-
est thou it, because thou wast then born? or
because the number of thy days is great? Hast
thou entered into the treasures of the snow? or
hast thou seen the treasures of the hail, Which
I have reserved against the time of trouble,
against the day of battle and war? By what
way is the light parted, which scattereth the
east wind upon the earth? Who hath divided
a watercourse for the overflowing of waters, or
a way for the lightning of thunder; To cause
it to rain on the earth, where no man is; on
the wilderness, wherein there is no man; To
satisfy the desolate and waste ground; and
to cause the bud of the tender herb to spring
forth? Hath the rain a father? or who hath be-
gotten the drops of dew? Out of whose womb
came the ice? and the hoary frost of heaven,
who hath gendered it? The waters are hid as
with a stone, and the face of the deep is frozen. Canst
thou bind the sweet influences of Pleiades, or

loose the bands of Orion? Canst thou bring forth Mazzaroth in his season? or canst thou guide Arcturus with his sons? Knowest thou the ordinances of heaven? canst thou set the dominion thereof in the earth? Canst thou lift up thy voice to the clouds, that abundance of waters may cover thee? Canst thou send lightnings, that they may go, and say unto thee, Here we are? Who hath put wisdom in the inward parts? or who hath given understanding to the heart? Who can number the clouds in wisdom? or who can stay the bottles of heaven, When the dust groweth into hardness, and the clods cleave fast together? Wilt thou hunt the prey for the lion? or fill the appetite of the young lions, When they couch in their dens, and abide in the covert to lie in wait? Who provideth for the raven his food? when his young ones cry unto God, they wander for lack of meat.

36

5.2.4 Other Old Testament

And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the Lord that healeth thee.

37

Ye shall make you no idols nor graven image, neither rear you up a standing image, neither shall ye set up any image of stone in your land, to bow down unto it: for I am the Lord your God. Ye shall keep my sabbaths, and

³⁶Job 38

³⁷Exodus 15:26

reverence my sanctuary: I am the Lord. If ye walk in my statutes, and keep my commandments, and do them; Then I will give you rain in due season, and the land shall yield her increase, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit. And your threshing shall reach unto the vintage, and the vintage shall reach unto the sowing time: and ye shall eat your bread to the full, and dwell in your land safely. And I will give peace in the land, and ye shall lie down, and none shall make you afraid: and I will rid evil beasts out of the land, neither shall the sword go through your land. And ye shall chase your enemies, and they shall fall before you by the sword. And five of you shall chase an hundred, and an hundred of you shall put ten thousand to flight: and your enemies shall fall before you by the sword. For I will have respect unto you, and make you fruitful, and multiply you, and establish my covenant with you.

38

Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses. From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast. There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I sware unto their fathers to give them. Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant

³⁸Leviticus 26:1-9

commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest. This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success. Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

39

And Solomon went up thither to the brasen altar before the Lord, which was at the tabernacle of the congregation, and offered a thousand burnt offerings upon it. In that night did God appear unto Solomon, and said unto him, Ask what I shall give thee. And Solomon said unto God, Thou hast shewed great mercy unto David my father, and hast made me to reign in his stead. Now, O Lord God, let thy promise unto David my father be established: for thou hast made me king over a people like the dust of the earth in multitude. Give me now wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people: for who can judge this thy people, that is so great? And God said to Solomon, Because this was in thine heart, and thou hast not asked riches, wealth, or honour, nor the life of thine enemies, neither yet hast asked long life; but hast asked wisdom and knowledge for thyself, that thou mayest judge my people, over whom I have made thee king: Wisdom and knowledge is granted unto thee; and I will give thee riches, and wealth, and honour, such as none of the kings have had

³⁹Joshua 1:3-9

that have been before thee, neither shall there
any after thee have the like.

40

⁴⁰2 Chronicles 1:6-12

65

6 Faith and Confidence

6.1 Gospels

While he spake these things unto them, behold, there came a certain ruler, and worshipped him, saying, My daughter is even now dead: but come and lay thy hand upon her, and she shall live. And Jesus arose, and followed him, and so did his disciples. And, behold, a woman, which was diseased with an issue of blood twelve years, came behind him, and touched the hem of his garment: For she said within herself, If I may but touch his garment, I shall be whole. But Jesus turned him about, and when he saw her, he said, Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole. And the woman was made whole from that hour.

41

Now in the morning as he returned into the city, he hungered. And when he saw a fig tree in the way, he came to it, and found nothing thereon, but leaves only, and said unto it, Let no fruit grow on thee henceforward for ever. And presently the fig tree withered away. And when the disciples saw it, they marvelled, saying, How soon is the fig tree withered away! Jesus answered and said unto them, Verily I say unto you, If ye have faith, and doubt not, ye shall not only do this which is done to the fig tree, but also if ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; it shall be done. And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.

42

⁴¹Matthew 9:18-22

⁴²Matthew 21:19-22

And he asked the scribes, What question ye with them? And one of the multitude answered and said, Master, I have brought unto thee my son, which hath a dumb spirit; And wheresoever he taketh him, he teareth him: and he foameth, and gnasheth with his teeth, and pineth away: and I spake to thy disciples that they should cast him out; and they could not. He answereth him, and saith, O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him unto me. And they brought him unto him: and when he saw him, straightway the spirit tare him; and he fell on the ground, and wallowed foaming. And he asked his father, How long is it ago since this came unto him? And he said, Of a child. And oftentimes it hath cast him into the fire, and into the waters, to destroy him: but if thou canst do any thing, have compassion on us, and help us. Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth. And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief. When Jesus saw that the people came running together, he rebuked the foul spirit, saying unto him, Thou dumb and deaf spirit, I charge thee, come out of him, and enter no more into him. And the spirit cried, and rent him sore, and came out of him: and he was as one dead; insomuch that many said, He is dead. But Jesus took him by the hand, and lifted him up; and he arose. And when he was come into the house, his disciples asked him privately, Why could not we cast him out? And he said unto them, This kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting.

And in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots. And Peter calling to remembrance saith unto him, Master, behold, the fig tree which thou cursedst is withered away. And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them. And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.

44

And one of the Pharisees desired him that he would eat with him. And he went into the Pharisee's house, and sat down to meat. And, behold, a woman in the city, which was a sinner, when she knew that Jesus sat at meat in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster box of ointment, And stood at his feet behind him weeping, and began to wash his feet with tears, and did wipe them with the hairs of her head, and kissed his feet, and anointed them with the ointment. Now when the Pharisee which had bidden him saw it, he spake within himself, saying, This man, if he were a prophet, would have known who and what manner of woman this is that toucheth him: for she is a sinner. And Jesus answering said unto him, Simon, I have somewhat to say unto thee. And he saith, Master, say on. There was a certain

⁴⁴Mark 11:20-26

creditor which had two debtors: the one owed five hundred pence, and the other fifty. And when they had nothing to pay, he frankly forgave them both. Tell me therefore, which of them will love him most? Simon answered and said, I suppose that he, to whom he forgave most. And he said unto him, Thou hast rightly judged. And he turned to the woman, and said unto Simon, Seest thou this woman? I entered into thine house, thou gavest me no water for my feet: but she hath washed my feet with tears, and wiped them with the hairs of her head. Thou gavest me no kiss: but this woman since the time I came in hath not ceased to kiss my feet. My head with oil thou didst not anoint: but this woman hath anointed my feet with ointment. Wherefore I say unto thee, Her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much: but to whom little is forgiven, the same loveth little. And he said unto her, Thy sins are forgiven. And they that sat at meat with him began to say within themselves, Who is this that forgiveth sins also? And he said to the woman, Thy faith hath saved thee; go in peace.

45

And a woman having an issue of blood twelve years, which had spent all her living upon physicians, neither could be healed of any, Came behind him, and touched the border of his garment: and immediately her issue of blood stanchèd. And Jesus said, Who touched me? When all denied, Peter and they that were with him said, Master, the multitude throng thee and press thee, and sayest thou, Who touched me? And Jesus said, Somebody hath touched me: for I perceive that virtue is gone out of me. And when the woman saw that she was not hid, she came trembling, and falling down before him,

⁴⁵Luke 7:36-50

she declared unto him before all the people for what cause she had touched him, and how she was healed immediately. And he said unto her, Daughter, be of good comfort: thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace.

46

And the apostles said unto the Lord, Increase our faith. And the Lord said, If ye had faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye might say unto this sycamine tree, Be thou plucked up by the root, and be thou planted in the sea; and it should obey you. But which of you, having a servant plowing or feeding cattle, will say unto him by and by, when he is come from the field, Go and sit down to meat? And will not rather say unto him, Make ready wherewith I may sup, and gird thyself, and serve me, till I have eaten and drunken; and afterward thou shalt eat and drink? Doth he thank that servant because he did the things that were commanded him? I trow not. So likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do.

47

And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint; Saying, There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man: And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary. And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man; Yet because this widow

⁴⁶Luke 8:43-48

⁴⁷Luke 17:5-10

troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me. And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith. And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them? I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?

48

Now a certain man was sick, named Lazarus, of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha. (It was that Mary which anointed the Lord with ointment, and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick.) Therefore his sisters sent unto him, saying, Lord, behold, he whom thou lovest is sick. When Jesus heard that, he said, This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby. Now Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus. When he had heard therefore that he was sick, he abode two days still in the same place where he was. Then after that saith he to his disciples, Let us go into Juda again. His disciples say unto him, Master, the Jews of late sought to stone thee; and goest thou thither again? Jesus answered, Are there not twelve hours in the day? If any man walk in the day, he stumbleth not, because he seeth the light of this world. But if a man walk in the night, he stumbleth, because there is no light in him. These things said he: and after that he saith unto them, Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep. Then said his disciples, Lord, if he sleep, he shall do well. Howbeit Jesus spake of his death: but they thought that he had spoken of taking of rest in sleep. Then said Jesus unto them plainly, Lazarus is

⁴⁸Luke 18:1-8

dead. And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, to the intent ye may believe; nevertheless let us go unto him. Then said Thomas, which is called Didymus, unto his fellowdisciples, Let us also go, that we may die with him. Then when Jesus came, he found that he had lain in the grave four days already. Now Bethany was nigh unto Jerusalem, about fifteen furlongs off: And many of the Jews came to Martha and Mary, to comfort them concerning their brother. Then Martha, as soon as she heard that Jesus was coming, went and met him: but Mary sat still in the house. Then said Martha unto Jesus, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died. But I know, that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee. Jesus saith unto her, Thy brother shall rise again. Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day. Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this? She saith unto him, Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world.

49

6.2 Acts

And the next sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God. But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy, and spake against those things which were spoken by Paul, contradicting and blaspheming. Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you:

⁴⁹John 11:1-27

but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles. For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth. And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed. And the word of the Lord was published throughout all the region. But the Jews stirred up the devout and honourable women, and the chief men of the city, and raised persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them out of their coasts. But they shook off the dust of their feet against them, and came unto Iconium. And the disciples were filled with joy, and with the Holy Ghost.

50

At midday, O king, I saw in the way a light from heaven, above the brightness of the sun, shining round about me and them which journeyed with me. And when we were all fallen to the earth, I heard a voice speaking unto me, and saying in the Hebrew tongue, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks. And I said, Who art thou, Lord? And he said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest. But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee; Delivering thee from the people, and from the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee, To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins,

⁵⁰Acts 13:44-52

and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

51

6.3 Romans

For I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end ye may be established; That is, that I may be comforted together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me. Now I would not have you ignorant, brethren, that oftentimes I purposed to come unto you, (but was let hitherto,) that I might have some fruit among you also, even as among other Gentiles. I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise. So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also. For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

52

Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all, (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were. Who against hope believed in hope, that he might

⁵¹Acts 26:13-18

⁵²Romans 1:11-17

become the father of many nations; according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be. And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb: He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform. And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness. Now it was not written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him; But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead; Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.

53

Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; And patience, experience; and experience, hope: And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us. For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the

⁵³Romans 4:16-25

death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.

54

The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

55

Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost. And I myself also am persuaded of you, my brethren, that ye also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another. Nevertheless, brethren, I have written

⁵⁴Romans 5:1-11

⁵⁵Romans 6:8-15

the more boldly unto you in some sort, as putting you in mind, because of the grace that is given to me of God, That I should be the minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable, being sanctified by the Holy Ghost.

56

6.4 Other Letters

And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling. And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God. Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought: But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory: Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but

⁵⁶Romans 15:13-16

the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

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Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and

⁵⁷1 Corinthians 2:1-16

supplication for all saints; And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel, For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

58

Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the pre-eminence. For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell; And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven. And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreprouable in his sight: If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which

⁵⁸Ephesians 6:10-20

was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister

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But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober. For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night. But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation. For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him.

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But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses. I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things, and before Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession; That thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of

⁵⁹Colossians 1:12-23

⁶⁰1 Thessalonians 5:1-10

our Lord Jesus Christ: Which in his times he shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting.

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⁶¹1 Timothy 6:11-16