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HOW TO FIND JOY IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE



Dr. Andy Woods
Senior Pastor – Sugar Land Bible Church
President – Chafer Theological Seminary

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Answering Ten Questions 

- 1) Who wrote it? – Paul
- 2) To Whom was it written? – The Believers at Philippi
- 3) Where was it written from? – Rome
- 4) When was it written? – A.D. 62
- 5) What was the book's occasion? – Five contacts
- 6) Who are the opponents? – Four opponents threatening joy
- 7) What is the book's purpose? – To give joy during adversity
- 8) How is it organized (outline)? – Four-part outline
- 9) What is it about? – Joy during adversity
- 10) What makes the book different? – Personal & informal

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Outline


- Ch 1 – God can use negative circumstances to bring about positive results
- Ch 2 – Christ's example of servanthood
- Ch 3 – Avoiding legalism
- Ch 4 – Reliance upon Christ's strength for daily life



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Positive Results of Imprisonment
(Phil. 1:12-30)

- Captive audience (Phil. 1:12-13)
- Church's boldness in preaching (Phil. 1:14-18)
- Greater prayer (Phil. 1:19)
- Protection from martyrdom (Phil. 1:20-26)



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Outline


- Ch 1 – God can use negative circumstances to bring about positive results
- Ch 2 – Christ's example of servanthood
- Ch 3 – Avoiding legalism
- Ch 4 – Reliance upon Christ's strength for daily life



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Genesis 3:2-3


"² The woman said to the serpent, 'From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat; ³ but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat from it or touch it, or you will die.'"



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Genesis 3:1, 4

"¹ Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, "Indeed, has God said, 'You shall not eat from any tree of the garden?'" ...⁴ The serpent said to the woman, 'You surely will not die!'"



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COMPLICATION OF THE SIMPLE

2 Cor 11:3


"But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted by from the simplicity that is in Christ." (Italics mine)



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Galatians 3:3


“Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?”



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Avoid Legalism
(Phil. 3)


- Legalists vs. true believers (Phil. 3:1-3)
- Paul's transition away from legalism (Phil. 3:4-14)
- Other items to embrace in lieu of legalism (Phil. 3:15-4:3)



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Avoid Legalism
(Phil. 3)

- **Legalists vs. true believers (Phil. 3:1-3)**
- Paul's transition away from legalism (Phil. 3:4-14)
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Legalists vs. True Believers
(Phil. 3:1-3)

1. Command to Rejoice (1)
2. Threat Posed by Legalists (2)
3. Characteristics of those walking by the Spirit (3)



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Legalists vs. True Believers
(Phil. 3:1-3)

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Three Tenses of Salvation			
Phase	Justification	Sanctification	Glorification
Tense	Past	Present	Future
Saved from sin's:	Penalty	Power	Presence
Scripture	Eph 2:8-9; Titus 3:5	Phillip 2:12	Rom 5:10

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Order of Paul's Letters

- Galatians (A.D. 49)
- 1-2 Thessalonians (A.D. 51)
- 1-2 Corinthians (A.D. 56)
- Romans (A.D. 57)
- Ephesians, Colossians, Philemon, Philippians (A.D. 60-62)
- 1 Timothy, Titus (A.D. 62-66)
- 2 Timothy (A.D. 67)




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Legalists vs. True Believers
(Phil. 3:1-3)

- Command to Rejoice (1)
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Types of Pharisees		
Type	Overthrown	
Justification	Matt 5:20	
Sanctification	Galatians	
Ecclesiology	Acts 15	

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2. Threat Posed by Legalists
(Phil. 3:2)

1. Dogs
2. Evil workers
3. Circumcision



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2. Threat Posed by Legalists
(Phil. 3:2)


1. Dogs
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2. Threat Posed by Legalists
(Phil. 3:2)


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Legalists vs. True Believers
(Phil. 3:1-3)


1. Command to Rejoice (1)
2. Threat Posed by Legalists (2)
3. Characteristics of those walking by the Spirit (3)



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3. Characteristics of those walking by the Spirit
(Phil. 3:3)


1. Genuinely circumcised
2. Spiritual worshippers
3. Glory in Christ
4. Put no confidence in the flesh



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3. Characteristics of those walking by the Spirit
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3. Characteristics of those walking by the Spirit
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Paul's Transition Away From Legalism
(Phil. 3:4-14)

- A transitionary & general statement (Phil. 3:4)
- Eight reasons for Paul's fleshly confidence (Phil. 3:5-6)
- Paul's new spiritual priorities (Phil. 3:7-14)



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Eight Reasons for Paul's Fleshly Confidence
(Phil. 3:5-6)

1. Circumcision
2. Israeli
3. Benjaminite
4. Hebrew of Hebrews
5. Pharisee
6. Persecutor of the Church
7. Zeal
8. Blameless



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Eight Reasons for Paul's Fleshly Confidence
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(Phil. 3:5-6)

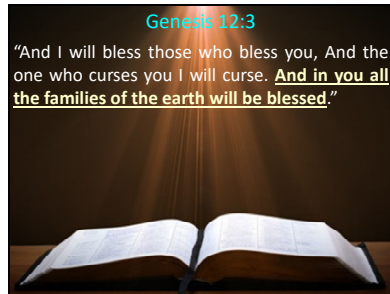
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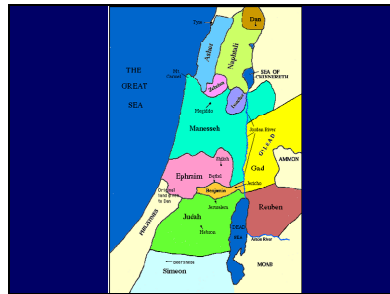
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Eight Reasons for Paul's Fleishly Confidence
(Phil. 3:5-6)

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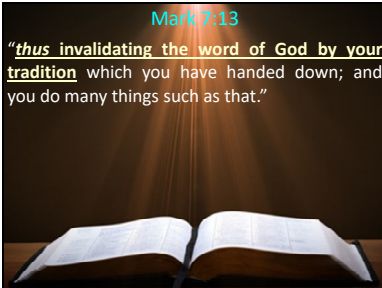
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Mark 7:13


"thus invalidating the word of God by your tradition which you have handed down; and you do many things such as that."



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(Phil. 3:5-6)

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Paul's Transition Away From Legalism
(Phil. 3:4-14)

- A transitional & general statement (Phil. 3:4)
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- Paul's new spiritual priorities (Phil. 3:7-14)



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Paul's New Spiritual Priorities
(Phil. 3:7-14)

1. Rejection of fleshly things (7)
2. Embracing of spiritual things (8-14)
 - A. Knowing Christ (8)
 - B. Christ's righteousness (9)
 - C. Fellowship of His sufferings (10)
 - D. Resurrection (11-12)
 - E. Prize (13-14)



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 - E. Prize (13-14)



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Matthew 7:21-23


"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven *will enter*.²² Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?'²³ And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.'"



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Paul's New Spiritual Priorities
(Phil. 3:7-14)

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Three Transfers / Imputations

Adam's Sin to All Humanity 	Humanity's Sin to Jesus Christ 	Christ's Righteousness to Believers 
Hamartiology Rom. 5:12	Christology 2 Cor. 5:21	Soteriology Phil. 3:9

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Paul's New Spiritual Priorities
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 - D. **Resurrection (11-12)**
 - E. Prize (13-14)



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1 Corinthians 15:20-23

²⁰But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep. ²¹For since by a man came death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead. ²²For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive. ²³But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's at His coming."



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Paul's New Spiritual Priorities
(Phil. 3:7-14)


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 - D. Resurrection (11-12)
 - E. **Prize (13-14)**



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1 Corinthians 9:24-27


"Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but *only* one receives the **prize**? Run in such a way that you may win. ²⁵ Everyone who competes in the games exercises self-control in all things. They then *do it* to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. ²⁶ Therefore I run in such a way, as not without aim; I box in such a way, as not beating the air; ²⁷ but I discipline my body and make it my slave, so that, after I have preached to others, I myself will not be **disqualified**."



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Avoid Legalism
(Phil. 3)


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Other Items to Embrace in Lieu of Legalism
(Phil. 3:15-4:3)


- Maturity (Phil. 3:15-16)
- Avoiding license (Phil. 3:17-19)
- Heavenly and eternal perspective (Phil. 3:20-21)
- Unity (Phil. 4:1-3)



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Ephesians 4:11-16

¹¹ And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers,¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ;¹³ until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which . . .



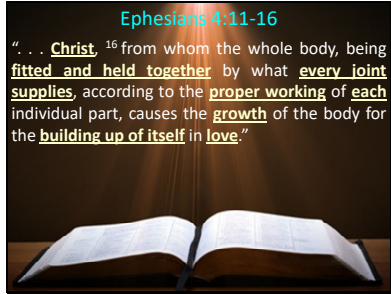
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Ephesians 4:11-16

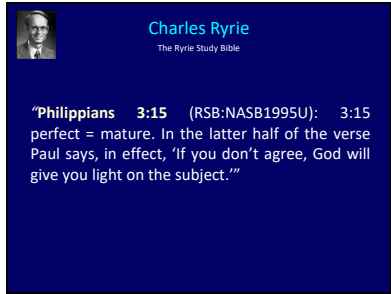
“... belongs to the fullness of Christ.¹⁴ As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming;¹⁵ but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even . . .



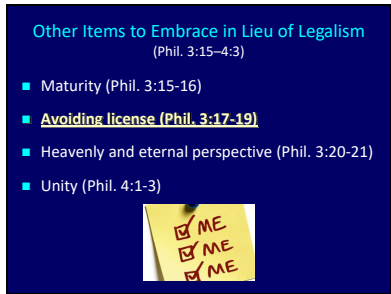
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Examples of Humble Service
(Phil. 2)

1. Christ (Phil. 2:5-16)
2. **Paul (Phil. 2:17-18)**
3. Timothy (Phil. 2:19-24)
4. Epaphroditus (Phil. 2:25-30)



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Charles Ryrie
The Ryrie Study Bible

"Philippians 3:17 (RSB:NASB1995U): 3:17 Not many believers can exhort others to imitate them (the literal meaning of follow)."

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Other Items to Embrace in Lieu of Legalism
(Phil. 3:15-4:3)

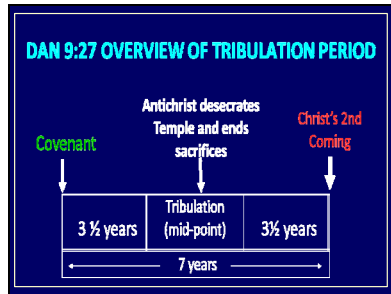
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- Unity (Phil. 4:1-3)



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RAPTURE DISTINCT FROM SECOND ADVENT	
Rapture (1 Thess 4:13-17; 1 Cor 15:51-57)	Second Coming (Rev 19:11-16)
Christ comes in the air (1 Thess 4:16)	Christ comes to the earth (Zech 14:4)
For His saints (1 Thess 4:15-17)	With His saints (Rev 19:14)
Blessing (1 Thess 4:18)	Judgment (Rev 19:15)
Effects only believers (1 Thess 4:16)	Effects both believers and unbelievers (Rev 19:15)
Invisible (1 Thess 4:16)	Visible to all (Rev 1:7)
Announced only by an archangel (1 Thess 4:16)	Involves myriads of angels (Jude 14)
Resurrection (1 Cor 15: 51)	No resurrection
Rescue of the church (1 Thess 1:10)	Rescue of Israel (Matt 23:37-39)

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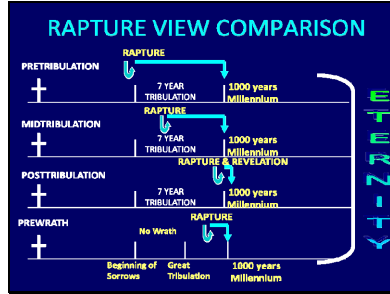


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When Will the Rapture Take Place?

- Pre-tribulation rapture theory
- Mid-tribulation rapture theory
- Post-tribulation rapture theory
- Pre-wrath rapture theory
- Partial rapture theory

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Pretribulationism is not Escapism

- Trials (John 16:33)
- Man's wrath (2 Tim 3:12)
- Satan's wrath (Eph 6:11-12)
- World's wrath (John 15:18-19)

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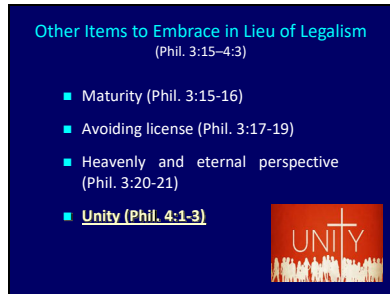
Romans 8:19-23

¹⁹For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now. ²³And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our body.

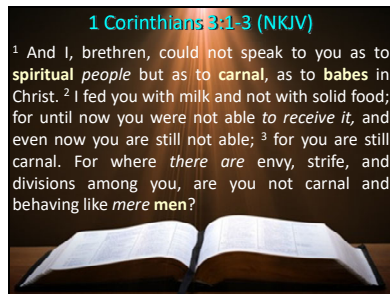
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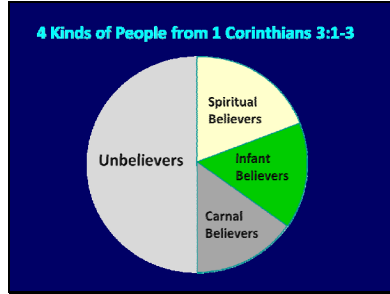
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Conclusion

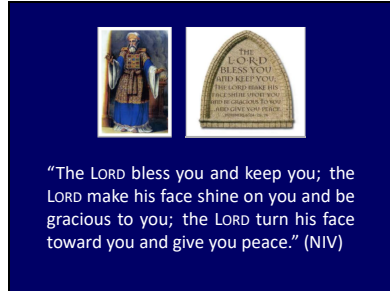
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A small cartoon illustration of a man with a stern, somewhat grumpy expression, wearing a dark suit and tie. The word "Legalist" is written in red, stylized text at the bottom of the image.

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2

Rev. 22:15- Outside are the **dogs** and the sorcerers and the immoral persons and the murderers and the idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices lying.

3

Rom. 2:28-29-²⁸ For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh. ²⁹ But he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that which is of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter; and his praise is not from men, but from God.

John 4:24-God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.

5-6

Gen. 17:12-And every male among you who is **eight days old** shall be circumcised throughout your generations, a *servant* who is born in the house or who is bought with money from any foreigner, who is not of your descendants.

Rom. 3:2-Great in every respect. First of all, that they were entrusted with the oracles of God.

Rom. 9:4-5-⁴ who are Israelites, to whom belongs the adoption as sons, and the glory and the covenants and the giving of the Law and the *temple* service and the promises, ⁵ whose are the fathers, and from whom is the Christ according to the flesh, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

Acts 22:3-I am a Jew, born in Tarsus of Cilicia, but brought up in this city, **educated under Gamaliel**, strictly according to the law of our fathers, being zealous for God just as you all are today.

Acts 7:58-When they had driven him out of the city, they *began* stoning *him*; and the witnesses laid aside their robes at the feet of a young man named Saul.

Acts 8:1-Saul was in hearty agreement with putting him to death. And on that day a great persecution began against the church in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles.

1 Cor. 15:9-For I am the least of the apostles, and not fit to be called an apostle, because I **persecuted** the church of God.

Eph. 3:8-To me, **the very least of all saints**, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unfathomable riches of Christ.

Philip. 3:6-as to zeal, **a persecutor of the church**; as to the righteousness which is in the Law, found blameless.

1 Tim. 1:12-15-¹²I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because He considered me faithful, putting me into service, ¹³ even though I was formerly a blasphemer and

a persecutor and a violent aggressor. Yet I was shown mercy because I acted ignorantly in unbelief; ¹⁴and the grace of our Lord was more than abundant, with the faith and love which are *found* in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost *of all*.

Rom. 10:2-For I testify about them that they have a zeal for God, but not in accordance with knowledge.

John 16:2-They will make you outcasts from the synagogue, but an hour is coming for everyone who kills you to think that he is offering service to God.

8

Gen. 4:1 (KJV)-And Adam **knew** Eve his wife; and she **conceived**, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the LORD.

9

Gen. 3:7-Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loin coverings.

Gen. 3:21-The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them.

10

John 15:20-Remember the word that I said to you, 'A slave is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you; if they kept My word, they will keep yours also.

12

Rom. 7:24-Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death?

Rom. 13:14-But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to *its* lusts.

Gal. 5:13-For you were called to freedom, brethren; only *do not turn* your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

1 John 1:9-If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 Cor. 4:8-13-⁸You are already filled, you have already become rich, you have become kings without us; and indeed, *I wish that you had become kings so that we also might reign with you.* ⁹For, I think, God has exhibited us apostles last of all, as men condemned to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, both to angels and to men. ¹⁰We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are prudent in Christ; we are weak, but you are strong; you are distinguished, but we are without honor. ¹¹To this present hour we are both hungry and thirsty, and are poorly clothed, and are roughly treated, and are homeless; ¹²and we toil, working with our own hands; when we are reviled, we bless; when we are persecuted, we endure; ¹³when we are slandered, we try to conciliate; we have become as the scum of the world, the dregs of all things, *even* until now.

15-16

1 Pet. 2:2-like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may **grow** in respect to salvation.

17

1 Cor. 11:1-Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ.

18

Gal. 2:21- I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness *comes* through the Law, then Christ died needlessly.

19

Gal. 5:13-For you were called to freedom, brethren; only *do not turn* your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

Rom. 13:14-But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to *its* lusts.

Rom. 6:12-Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts

Col. 3:2-Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.

20

Acts 16:12- and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia, a *Roman* colony; and we were staying in this city for some days.

Heb. 11:10-for he was looking for the city which has foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

21

1 Cor. 15:50-51-⁵⁰ Now I say this, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.⁵¹ Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed.

1 Cor. 15:53-54-⁵³ For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality.⁵⁴ But when this perishable will have put on the imperishable, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written, "DEATH IS SWALLOWED UP in victory.

Gen. 3:19- By the sweat of your face You will eat bread, Till you return to the ground, Because from it you were taken; For you are dust, And to dust you shall return.

2 Cor. 4:16-Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.

Matt. 28:18-And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth."

4:1-3

John 13:35-By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

John 17:23- I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me.

1 Cor. 6:7-Actually, then, it is already a defeat for you, that you have lawsuits with one another. Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be defrauded?

Eph. 4:2-3-² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, ³ being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Philip. 2:3-4-³ Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; ⁴ do not *merely* look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.

Philip. 2:5-11-⁵ Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, *and* being made in the likeness of men. ⁸ Being found in

appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

John 17:17-Sanctify them in the **truth**; Your word is truth.

John 17:19-For their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they themselves also may be sanctified in **truth**.

Conclusion

Num. 6:24-26- ²⁴ The LORD bless you, and keep you;
²⁵ The LORD make His face shine on you, And be gracious to you;
²⁶ The LORD lift up His countenance on you, And give you peace.'