

Additional Footnotes

Matthew

- 3:11 Every Christian is indwelt and baptized by the Holy Spirit at the time of salvation [Spirit Baptism].
- 4:17 Jesus' first message was repentance. Also, that you must repent to enter the kingdom. The main theme of repentance is for the person to repent of their sins—turn away from sin. Repent = immediately stop what you are doing—stop your sin and change.
- 5:43-45 Love, bless, do good, pray for your enemies
- 6:9-13 debts = sins; debtors = sinners = those who sin against us.
- 6:33 Seek God and seek His righteousness. Then and only then, will all things be added to you.
- 7:1 This forbids hypocrisy and a condemning spirit rising from self-righteousness. It does not condemn true discernment. As the context reveals, this does not prohibit all types of judging. There is a righteous kind of judgment that we are supposed to exercise with careful discernment. "Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment." *John 7:24* Censoring, hypocritical, self-righteous or other kinds of unfair judgments are forbidden. However, in order to fulfill the Commandments that follow in Matt 7:6, it is necessary to discern dogs and swine (verse 6) from one's own brethren. Do not exercise final judgment and condemn someone into Hell because only Jesus can do that.
- 7:6 This principle is why Jesus Himself did not do miracles for unbelievers. This is to be done in respect for what is holy, not merely out of contempt for the dogs and swine. Nothing here contradicts the principle of verse 5:44. That verse governs personal dealings with one's enemies. This principle governs how one handles the gospel in the face of those who hate the truth.
- 7:8 "everyone who asks receives"
- 7:11 "ask Him!"
- 7:13 "difficult is the way which leads to life"
- 7:13-14 Two gates, two ways, two destinations and two groups of people.
Wide gate = most people → Hell.
"difficult is the way" = Christianity is not easy. Christ continually emphasized the difficulty of following Him. Salvation is by grace alone, but it is not easy. It calls for knowledge of the truth, repentance, submission to Christ as Lord, and a willingness to obey His will and His Word. Faith is an active ongoing relationship with Jesus throughout life.
- 7:21-23 "I never knew you." These people were never saved! They deluded themselves into thinking they were going to heaven, but instead Jesus refuses to let them into the kingdom because they practiced lawlessness throughout their life without repentance. Practice lawlessness = active rebellion—people who willingly, without remorse or repentance practice sin—workers of sin.
- 9:9 to be a disciple, you must follow Jesus— this is a commitment and requires more from a person than just belief in Jesus. The true definition of a Christian is a follower of Jesus.
- 10:5-6 here lost sheep = nonbelievers
- 10:13-14 With Evangelism, you preach to households (one, few or several persons) and you preach to cities (hundreds to thousands).
- 10:38 A call to discipleship— follow Jesus no matter what.
- 11:12 "And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force." *Matt 11:14*
And from the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force. Despite persecution (human violence) the zealous and bold Christian (the violent) will press into the kingdom (seek and obtain salvation) see Luke 16:16.

- 12:31-32 Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit = Rejection of the Holy Spirit. i.e. Not believing His testimony of Jesus.
- 12:37 By confession of faith (saying out loud) and Accepting and Receiving Jesus, a person is saved. Also by saying you do not Accept and Receive Jesus, you are condemned to Hell.
- 13:15 People understand with their heart (their spirit). We are spirit-beings. Understanding begins in the heart, not the mind.
- 16:19 The unrepentant person is bound in sin and not forgiven; whereas the repentant person is loosed (released) from sin and is forgiven. Whatever is not forgiven on earth is not forgiven by God in heaven. Whatever is forgiven on earth is forgiven by God in heaven.
- 17:5 God the Father is commanding the disciples to listen to His Son Jesus.
- 18:6 Believers are portrayed here as little children of Jesus.
- 18:13-14 Refers to believer that goes astray. Here the concept is spiritual devastation, not eternal destruction.
- 18:15-17 “Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother. But if he will not hear, take with you one or two more, that ‘by the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.’ And if he refuses to hear them, tell it to the church. But if he refuses even to hear the church, let him be to you like a heathen and a tax collector.
With the sinning brother, the goal of church discipline is restoration— reconciliation.
- 18:34-35 You must forgive your brother sincerely and genuinely from your heart.
- 23:10 Remember Jesus is Jesus the Christ.
- 24:10 “many will be offended”— Lit. “caused to stumble”—this includes professing believers who fall away—and even turn against “one another” in shocking acts of spiritual treachery. Those who fall away in such a manner give evidence that they never were true believers at all.
- 24:13 The ones who persevere are the same ones who are saved—not the ones whose love grows cold. This does not suggest that our perseverance secures our salvation. Scripture everywhere teaches precisely the opposite: God, as part of His saving work secures our perseverance. True believers are “kept by the power of God through faith for salvation” (1 Pet. 1:5). The guarantee of our perseverance is built into the New Covenant promise. Perseverance = Obedience = Not practicing lawlessness (rebellion to the law, i.e., sin)
- 25:1-3 five virgins were not prepared = not saved. They did not have the oil = the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit was not in them.
- 25:15 Talents: 5+5 =10 talents; 2+2 =4 talents; 1+0 =1 talent. One believer was given 5 talents, and another believer was given 2 talents, both doubled their gifts and did the best they could with their gifts. Therefore, Jesus gives both believers the same reward in heaven. “well done good and faithful servant... I will make you ruler over many things.” i.e. Just do the best you can with the gifts God gave you, that’s all Jesus asks of you.
- 26:27-28 Remission of sins = Forgiveness of sins. Absolution = a freeing from guilt – a Pardon. Forgiveness of sin – a freeing from the penalty of sin.
Give thanks during Communion. Also note “all of you”—Jesus wants “all” of us to do Communion. The body of Christ broken for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.
- 26:39 Our job is to obey the Father. His will not ours is to be done—His will be done.
- 27:27-35 Jesus was scourged (whipped with metal hooks that tear off flesh), beaten and crucified.
- 27:32 You must carry the Cross as Jesus did. i.e. suffer for Jesus, die for Jesus. Christianity is not easy; the disciple is to have a daily life of hard work for Jesus.
- 27:45 Jesus had to be separated (forsaken) by God the Father for a moment in time on the Cross so that He could be the sin sacrifice for mankind. Upon His death, Jesus was immediately restored to the Father.
- 27:51-52 Jesus is the firstborn of the Resurrection. He had to be resurrected first, those from the grave could appear afterwards.

28:19-20 Jesus commands the believer to tell nonbelievers about Him so that they too can be converted and saved. Our job as Christians with the Great Commission is just to tell the truth of the gospel to the nonbeliever. The Holy Spirit convicts the nonbeliever's heart of the truth, turns the nonbeliever's heart to Jesus and brings him to Christ, who in turn brings the new believer to the Father.

Mark

- 1:4 If you truly commit to Jesus and love Jesus, you will repent of many sins in your life and lifestyle. You will do this because you want to please Jesus and follow Him. You must have repentance to have forgiveness. Repentance → Forgiveness. No repentance = No forgiveness. John's water baptism symbolized repentance— becoming the people of God genuinely and inwardly. The people were repenting in anticipation of the Messiah's arrival. Once Jesus the Christ arrived, water baptism symbolizes the believers identification with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection. The believer repents from his old life of sin and begins his new life in Christ.
- 2:8-9 Perception is done in a person's spirit. Reason is done in a person's heart.
- 3:28-29 Blasphemy of the Holy Spirit = Refusing and Rejecting the Holy Spirit = Disrespecting the Holy Spirit. You Receive and Accept the Holy Spirit and Jesus, or refuse and reject the Holy Spirit and Jesus.
This verse refers to nonbelievers who were never saved—those that refuse and reject the witness of the Holy Spirit about Jesus. Believers receive the witness of the Holy Spirit, whereas, nonbelievers refuse and reject.
- 4:12 "turn" to God and "turn" away from sin—180° turning = repentance → forgiveness.
- 4:18 riches, worries (cares) + desires choke the word → No fruit.
- 4:20 Hear word. Accept word. Bear fruit.
God opens the minds and hearts of believers and transforms their lives. The results of which is they produce spiritual fruit.
- 6:12 So they went out and preached that people should repent [the 12 disciples are sent out by Jesus]
- 12:31 3 levels- Love your neighbor
Love your neighbor as yourself
Love your neighbor as Christ loves you
- 13:13 Endurance through tribulation does not produce salvation; it is Spirit-empowered perseverance and proof of salvation for the person who endures.
- 14:36 "nevertheless" Thank God for Jesus' nevertheless— that He chose to do the Father's will, not His will. The Father's will was for Jesus to suffer and die for our sins.

Luke

- 1:15-16 "turn" 180° "to the Lord their God"
- 1:17 turn the hearts of the disobedient, to the Lord their God
- 2:11 Christ the Lord—Jesus the Christ
- 3:21-22 The Holy Spirit took form—God the Holy Ghost
- 4:1-2 Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit
- 4:5-7 The devil tried by temptation to get Jesus to sin by worshipping another being. This would negate the plan of God by contaminating, blemishing and removing the perfect sinless sacrifice. Note: The fact that Jesus did not commit one single sin throughout His entire life is evidence and proof enough that He is the Christ, the Messiah, the Son of God.
- 7:16 Only God—the True Living God—the Christian God has the power of resurrection.

- 8:13 Faith is more than belief. It is following Christ and total Commitment to Christ. The ABC's of Faith: A—Admit you are a sinner, B—Believe in the Lord Jesus, and C—Commitment to Christ. Call upon Him as Lord and Savior and Confess Him as Lord and God in your life. Just because someone believes Jesus is the Christ does not make him saved (even the demons believe). This passage refers to people who believe for awhile and then “fall away” from Jesus. Those who “fall away” give evidence that they never were true Christians at all.
- 8:13 But the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. There is a difference between Non-saving faith and Saving faith. With Non-saving faith, a person's faith is so weak that they believe for a while, then fall away (separate from Christ) when temptation, tribulation or persecution appears in their life. Fall away = the exact opposite of Repentance. The person separates from God and falls into sin.
- 8:14 cares, riches and pleasures choke the word → No fruit
- 9:1-2 all demons, deliverance, healing, preaching. Pay attention to words all and if.
- 9:11 Preaching and healing go together.
- 9:23 Take up his cross daily. Deny yourself and follow Jesus.
- 9:47 We are spirit-beings. Thoughts originate in our hearts, not our minds. Free will is in our heart— our spirit.
- 11:2-4 Forgive everyone
- 11:26 Demons are male gender.
- 12:47-48 Different degrees of punishment in Hell. The level of punishment is proportional to which the unfaithful behavior is willful. Note: ignorance is not a defense or excuse. The individual is expected to learn and follow the will of Jesus and the Father. Much given → Much required. Much committed → Of him they will ask the more.
- 13:23-28 A true Christian cannot lose their salvation. However the real issue is: Are you a true Christian in the first place? Or do you just think you are saved, when in fact, you are not saved at all. In this Scripture, Jesus is telling these “church goers” that He does not know them, to depart from Him, for they are workers of iniquity. To be a true Christian, there must be Repentance in your life. See Appendix for articles on Repentance and Genuine Saving Faith. In this passage, these people clearly never had a relationship with Christ; though they deluded themselves into thinking they knew Jesus.
- 14:18-20 God is more willing to save sinners than sinners are to be saved.
- 14:27 take his cross = bear his cross = suffer for Christ = call to discipleship = total commitment to Christ even unto physical death = full surrender = life devotion to the death for Christ. This commitment = Hating ones own life.
- 14:27 “bear his cross”— Christianity is not easy.
- 15:4-7 lost sheep... there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents (saved person) than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance (self righteous people who are not saved and have not repented).
- 15:4-10 God takes the initiative in seeking sinners to repentance—nonbelievers → believers. The Shepherd seeks out the lost sheep (nonbelievers). The Shepherd (Jesus then His disciples) are to seek the nonbeliever. This is Evangelism. One lost sheep that is found by Jesus = sinner who repents. The 99 persons = the self-righteous. “my sheep which was lost” refers to a sinner who then later repents. Note: the active search of the shepherd [Jesus] to retrieve his lost sheep. Initially the sheep is lost (not saved) but later is found (saved). Jesus did not come to call the self-righteous, but the sinner to repentance. Jesus came to call the sinner to repentance (nonbeliever → believer). Jesus came to save the lost sheep.
- 15:18-19 You need to confess before God that you are a sinner and repent. God seeks to save sinners and rejoices each time one repents and is converted. Note: The son did not go back to prodigal living, he did not later fall away.

- 16:16 “The law and the prophets were until John [the Baptist]. Since that time the kingdom of God has been preached, and everyone is pressing into it.”
While the Pharisees were busy opposing Christ, sinners were entering the kingdom in droves.
- 18:29-30 Disciples receive many blessings here on earth.
- 19:10 Jesus came to save sinners from Hell and give them eternal life in heaven.
- 19:16-17 Good and faithful servant.
- 22:19-20 Faith can fail, therefore keep the faith. Person can fall away, like the angels in heaven that left heaven and fell away with Satan. That separated themselves from God. Jesus establishes communion as an ordinance for worship. See 1 Cor. 11:23-26. In communion, the cup becomes the cup of remembrance of Christ’s offering.
- 23:42-43 When you die, your spirit and soul immediately go to heaven to be with Jesus. Your glorified body occurs at the resurrection of the Just. You receive your new glorified spiritual body at the Second Coming of Christ.
Note: here the sinner confessed Jesus as Lord. “today”—when a believer dies, his soul and spirit immediately go to heaven to be with Jesus.
- 24:36-40 Christ in His resurrected body still bears the wounds of the piercing of His Crucifixion.
- 24:41-45 Christ has a real resurrected body that eats food—again demonstrating He truly was raised from the dead. Jesus becomes glorified upon His Ascension
- 24:46-48 Preachers must preach repentance and forgiveness of sins.
It was absolutely necessary for the Christ to suffer. Jesus’ suffering ending in death was how He paid for our sins.

John—The Gospel of John, the apostle

- 1:6-7 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. (John the apostle is writing about John the Baptist in this verse.)
“all through him”—through John the Baptist— the importance and the power of the witness and testimony of the believer.
- 1:32-34 He [God the Father] tells John the Baptist about Jesus— “He [Jesus] who baptizes with the Holy Spirit”— Holy Spirit Baptism.
- 3:5-7 “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’” (born of the Holy Spirit = the indwelling of the believer by the Holy Spirit upon acceptance of Jesus as his or her Lord and Savior.)
Your spirit is the part of you that is “born again.” We are spirit-beings.
- 3:7 Holy Spirit born into the person. This occurs when the Holy Spirit indwells the believer upon the moment of Salvation.
- 3:16 The Father sacrificed His Son and the Son sacrificed Himself for us, so that we can have everlasting life.
- 3:19 An evil man loves his sin instead of Jesus. Sin is his lord and the unsaved person chooses to continue to sin instead of following the Commands of Jesus. Unsaved individual chooses sin and darkness instead of choosing Jesus.
- 3:20 You cannot practice evil as a habitual lifestyle.
- 3:21 Person must not only believe the truth, but do the truth.
- 3:36 Believing in the Father does not give everlasting life. Only believing in the Son gives salvation—eternal life. Rejection of the Son incurs the wrath of the Father. (Insert 1)
In the Old Testament, salvation was given upon belief in the Father and the Coming of the Christ. With the New Testament Covenant, salvation is given solely upon belief in Jesus the Christ. You cannot have the Father without the Son with the New Testament Covenant. To attempt to do so is futile and infuriates the Father.

- 4:23 Worship the Father with your heart honestly, truthfully and sincerely.
- 4:25 People knew that the Christ would come to earth. Jesus is the Jewish man's Christ.
- 4:42 The Christ = The Savior of the world.
- 5:37 God the Son [Jesus] spoke to Moses Abraham.
- 5:39-40 Come to Jesus as you are that you may have eternal life. If you wait until you "clean up first": 1) You will never be able to clean up, and 2) You might die before you accept Christ and then you → Hell.
- 6:33-35 Bread gives life. Bread gives physical life on earth. Bread (Jesus) gives eternal life in heaven. Jesus gave His flesh and blood on the Cross. Food gives you physical life. The Bible, the Word of God, and Jesus gives you food (the bread of life) for eternal life in heaven.
- 6:37 Eternal Security of the believer. Cannot lose your salvation.
- 6:53-56 "eats My flesh and drinks My blood" = to Receive and Accept (inside your heart) what Jesus did on the Cross for you— the Sacrifice of His body and blood for your salvation. You must receive Christ into you. Internalize Jesus. Upon acceptance of Christ, Jesus is in you.
- 6:57-58 Food and drink gives life— here the flesh and blood of Jesus gives eternal life.
- 6:63 Words of Jesus give eternal life. He is the Word.
- 7:24 While Jesus forbade harsh, censoring judgment that self-righteous legalism promotes (Matt 7:1), He demanded the exercise of moral and theological discernment. Do not deny the power and wisdom of the Holy Spirit within you. He will guide you in all true and discernment. He will fill you with righteous indignation and wrath when the lie and the false prophets, false teachers, false religions and false doctrine falls upon you from the enemy.
- 11:27 The Jews know from the Old Testament that the Christ, the Savior, would come into the world some time in the future.
- 14:15 "If you love Me, keep My commandments."
(If you love Jesus, obey Him. See appendix, Jesus' Call to Obedience.)
Faith and obedience go together hand in hand because you love Jesus. Note: This is a call to obedience, however, obedience does not bring about salvation. It is instead, a sign of genuine saving faith or salvation. Obedience and keeping Jesus' commandments are outwards signs of inner love for Jesus. God says in Exodus 20:6, "For I the LORD your God, am a jealous God... but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments."
Genuine Saving Faith = Love + Works that demonstrate your love for God.
True love for God → ↑ Good works, ↓ Bad works
- 14:16 1) He = the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is a Person. 2) forever—the Holy Spirit indwells the believer forever. He [Holy Spirit] does not jump out of a person because of the person's sins that occur later or in the future.
- 14:19 Because of Jesus' Resurrection, you are guaranteed your resurrection from death to eternal life. Jesus is the First Resurrection, then humans are resurrected after Him. The Resurrection of Jesus guarantees the resurrection of the believer. As Jesus lives, so shall you.
- 15:13 This is a reference to the supreme evidence and expression of Jesus' love and the Father's love who sent His Son to die for us—Jesus' sacrificial death upon the cross.
- 15:22-24 Because of Jesus' words and deeds, sinners are without excuse.
- 15:26 The Holy Spirit comes from the Father. The Father can send Him or Jesus can send Him, i.e. initiate to release of the Holy Spirit to you.
- 16:7 Him = the Holy Spirit is a Person.
- 16:8-11 Sin without Jesus is judged. Nonbeliever will die in his sin in the Second Death—spiritual death. The Great White Judgment.

- 16:13 “He will guide you into all truth”— The Holy Spirit will direct you to and show you the truth. E.g. 1) Show you Jesus, who is the truth; 2) Convict you of right (righteousness) and wrong (sin); 3) Teach you to know when someone is speaking correctly about Jesus (correct doctrine) and when someone is a false teacher speaking incorrectly about Jesus (false doctrine); 4) Show you the lies of the devil regarding false god worship and false religions.
- 16:14-15 The path of the Gospel and blessings from God: God the Father → God the Son → God the Holy Spirit → Believer. The path of Salvation: The Holy Spirit brings the nonbeliever to Jesus, who in turn, takes the believer to the Father.
- 16:23 In your prayers, ask the Father and Jesus for what you need and desire, and always remember to say and pray, “in Your name Jesus” or “in the name of Jesus.” There is power in the very name of Jesus. The power of God is released and declared when you say: “in the name of Jesus.”
- 19:34-37 For these things were done that the Scripture should be fulfilled. ““Not one of His bones shall be broken.” And again another Scripture says, “They shall look on Him whom they pierced.”
The Crucifixion of Jesus was fulfillment of the prophecy of Zech 12:10 in the Old Testament, which indicates God Himself was pierced when His representative, the Shepherd, [Zech 13:7, 11:4, 8, 9, 15-17] was pierced. The Zech 12:10 prophesy of the Messiah being pierced has a double meaning. Not only does it talk about the Crucifixion, but also refers to the Second Coming of Christ, “they will look on Me whom they pierced.” Remember at the Second Advent of Christ, Jesus still retains the wounds of His Crucifixion. See Zech 12:10-11.
“And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced.
Yes they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son and grieve for Him as one grieves for his firstborn. In that day, they shall be a great mourning at Hadad Rimmon in the plain of Megiddo.” *Zech 12:10-11*
Here, “I” in “I will pour” refers to God and “Me” in “look on Me whom they pierced” is Jesus. The anguish and sorrow of the Jews because of their wounding of God’s Shepherd, in the Zechariah passage, is prophetic of the 2nd Coming of the Son of God. At the return of Messiah, the Jews shall mourn for their rejection and killing of their King at His 1st Coming.
- 20:23 “If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any (do not forgive) they are retained (not forgiven).”
This verse does not give authority to Christians to forgive sins. Jesus was saying that the believer can boldly declare the certainty of a sinner’s forgiveness by the Father because of the work of His Son if that sinner has repented and believed in the Gospel [As Scripture says, you must Repent and Believe in the Gospel] Mark 1:14-15. The believer can with certainty also tell those who refuse and reject the message of God’s forgiveness through faith in Christ that their sins, as a result are not forgiven. The unrepentant person is bound in sin (unforgiven) whereas a repentant person is loosed from sin (forgiven).
- 21:15-17 Scriptures states three times that you must love Jesus: Feed My lambs. Tend My sheep. Feed My sheep.

Acts

- 1:3 Suffering—again it is emphasized that the suffering of Jesus was necessary for our Atonement—our Redemption.
- 1:4-5 Jesus’ main disciples were Spirit Baptized on the Day of Pentecost.
- 1:9 He was taken up, [the Ascension] and a cloud received Him out of their sight.”

Additional Footnotes

- 2:21 The ABC's of salvation: A—Admit you are a sinner and that Jesus paid and died for your sins, B—Believe Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and C—Call upon Jesus to receive and accept Him as your personal Lord and Savior.
- 3:6 [Man lame from birth at temple gate called beautiful] In the name of Jesus Christ
- 3:19 Repentance → Conversion → Forgiveness
- 6:6 note: the disciples prayed first, then laid hands on person for healing.
- 7:30-32 “And when forty years had passed, an Angel of the Lord [Jesus in pre-incarnation form] appeared to him in a flame of fire in a bush, in the wilderness of Mount Sinai... ‘I am the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.’ ”
- 7:38-39 with the Angel [Jesus] who spoke to him on Mount Sinai, and with our fathers, the one [Moses] who received the living oracles to give to us
- 7:42-43 When you love someone, you turn to them completely. When you leave someone, you turn away from them completely.
- 8:14-17 He [Holy Spirit] ... Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.
Note: the Holy Spirit did not indwell believers at Water Baptism. Again, distinction between Water Baptism and Spirit Baptism.
- 9:36-40 [Tabitha, which is translated Dorcas in Joppa, resurrected to life] she became sick and died... But Peter put them all out, and knelt down and prayed.
- 10:19-20 Here the Holy Spirit is directly talking to Peter and is identified as “I” –i.e. a Person
- 10:42-43 “And He [Jesus] commanded us to preach to the people... through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins.”
- 10:47-48 Note: Spirit Baptism occurred first, then believers were Water Baptized. Water Baptism is an outward public declaration of faith and is a revealing outward sign of inner faith.
- 11:17 The Holy Spirit is given as a gift upon Belief in Jesus. Belief brings Spirit Baptism, not Water Baptism.
- 14:15 Turn to the living God.
- 15:1-2 Salvation = Jesus. Salvation is not Jesus + You (works, deeds, the Law).
False doctrine— that you must follow the law of Moses to be saved, i.e., Jesus + Works.
True doctrine is salvation through Jesus alone. Salvation is only through the finished, completed work of Christ on the Cross alone. Your works only result in rewards, not salvation. Salvation is through grace alone, through faith alone, through Jesus alone and through the finished work of the Cross alone. Salvation is given by grace through faith alone—it is therefore kept by grace through faith alone.
- 15:5-11 The religious leaders—the legalists were teaching that believers had to keep the law of Moses. The first of three speeches of how salvation is by grace through faith alone. Peter gives the first speech how God saved Gentiles in the early day of the church without a requirement of circumcision, law keeping or ritual— referring to the salvation of Cornelius and his household. If God did not require any additional qualification for salvation, neither should the legalists. The legalists could have argued that Cornelius and the others could not have been saved because they did not meet the requirements of the law. To disprove this false doctrine, Peter again reiterates that God gave them the Holy Spirit, thus proving the genuineness of their salvation.
- 15:10 “a yoke”—A description of the law and the legalism of the religious leaders. The legalists expected the Gentiles to carry a load and follow law that they themselves were unwilling to bear.
- 15:11 Affirmation that salvation is by grace through faith alone.
- 15:12 Paul with second speech.
- 15:13 James with third speech in defense of salvation by grace through faith alone.

- 15:19 The decision of the Jerusalem Council, after considering all the evidence, was that keeping the law and observing rituals were not requirements for salvation. The Jewish believers (Jews that accepted Christ) were to cease troubling and annoying the Gentiles.
James and the other leaders did not want the Gentiles to revel in their freedom in Christ. James proposed that the Gentiles abstain from 4 pagan idolatrous practices that were violations of the law of Moses so as to not offend the Jewish believers:
1) Eating food offered to pagan gods (foods offered to pagan gods was often sold in temple butcher shops). 2) Sexual immorality = Sexual sins in general, but particularly the orgies associated with the worship of pagan gods. 3) Things strangled, and 4) from blood = Dietary Restrictions.
- 15:25 Preaching is distinct from Teaching. Preaching is allowing the Holy Spirit to speak through you and testify of Jesus Christ so that souls can be saved. Preaching brings souls to Jesus.
- 15:28-29 Sexual sins in general, but particularly the orgies associated with the worship of pagan gods.
- 17:2-3 Jesus' suffering on the Cross which ended in death, provided our Atonement—our Redemption—our payment for our sins. Jesus substituted Himself for us on the Cross.
- 17:18 In Evangelism, you must preach the Resurrection.
- 18:5-6 Paul was compelled by the Spirit, and testified to the Jews that Jesus is the Christ.
- 18:8 Progress of Faith: Hearing, Belief and Water Baptism.
Water baptism almost always follows true belief. It's timing can be same day of salvation, next day or years later. With Christian water baptism, the believer identifies with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection. Beware of a person who says he is a "Christian," but refuses to get water baptized some time in his life.
- 18:28 for he [Apollos] vigorously refuted the Jews publicly, showing from the Scriptures that Jesus is the Christ.
- 26:19-21 that they should repent, turn to God, and do works befitting repentance.
Repent: 1) Turn to God, 2) Turn away from sin and do ↑ Good works and ↓ Bad works.
- 19:4-6 Here, repentance includes believe on Jesus.
- 26:6 "the hope of the promise"—The coming of the Messiah and His Kingdom.
- 26:19-21 Summary of Repentance = Turn to God and do works. "Repent, turn to God, and do works befitting repentance." With repentance, I personally believe the first step is complete turning to Jesus, then you turn away from sin. Come to Jesus as you are with your sin, then the Holy Spirit in you and Jesus in you gives you the strength and power to turn away from sin. In fact, with your complete turning to Jesus and surrender to Him as Lord, you are already sinning less with this commitment to the true living God.

Romans

- 1:5 Grace = the unmerited favor which God shows guilty sinners. Salvation is a gift from God wholly separate from any human effort or achievement.
"obedience to the faith"— True saving faith always produces obedience and submission to the Lordship of Jesus Christ (16:19,26; cf. 10:9,10; cf. Matt. 7:13,14,22-27; James 2:17-20).
- 1:28-32 These rebellious practitioners of sin are not convicted of their sin, are not sorry or remorseful of their sin and they even approve of others doing the same sin and often promote others to practice the same sin. (e.g., Episcopalian homosexual priest in the news.)
- 2:4-9 If you do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness and practice evil, you → hell.
- 2:22 Even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe.
- 3:22 God can bestow His righteousness on all who believe, Jew or Gentile, because all men fall short of the divine standard.

- 3:24 The sinner receives this gift of God's grace by faith alone. Sanctification, the work of God by which He makes righteous those whom He has already justified, is distinct from justification but without exception always follows it. With sanctification, you see the Holy Spirit in the man and you see Jesus in the man. Sanctification—The believer is made more holy over time by the work of the Holy Spirit. If you have the Holy Spirit in you, you will become more holy over time.
- 3:25 Propitiation = Reconciliation. Reconciliation with God can only be accomplished by the believer's acceptance of Christ and His perfect sacrifice on the Cross.
- 4:11 Circumcision was an outward sign of Abraham's inner faith. Seal = Sign. Abraham was already saved by faith prior to his circumcision.
- 5:1 Reconciliation = Peace with God the Father. Believers are reconciled to God because of their faith in Jesus.
- 6:6-7 "freed from sin"—Believers are no longer in bondage to sin. They do not live in sin. Believers have died to sin—no longer slaves of sin—no longer follow sin and pursue sin.
- 6:12-14 do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts... sin shall not have dominion over you [see Genesis 4:7—Sin desires to rule over us, but instead we are to rule over sin]. Note: Sinners have a natural love for sin. However, the true Christian loves Jesus more and puts Jesus first before sin. The believer does not let sin rule him and he repents from his sin.
Sin is not to rule you.
- 6:15 Just because we are saved by grace, this does not give us a license to sin. We do not have a free credit card to sin.
- 8:9 If the Holy Spirit is truly in you, you do not live in the flesh.
- 8:10 If Christ is in you, there will be righteousness visible in your life.
- 8:18 Hope in the Greek language = earnest expectation. It does not mean the same thing in the English language. It is much more definitive in Greek.
- 8:27 He [the Father]... He [the Holy Spirit]
- 8:30 Predestined = Chosen by God.
- 8:35 The love of Christ = Christ's love for us.
- 8:38 "nor any other created thing"—In case anything or anyone might be left out, this covers everything but God the Creator Himself.
- 10:9-13 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will [shalt] be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved."
Here, the believer is confessing his submission to the Lordship of Christ.
- 10:17 Note: Faith comes by hearing the word of God = Preaching and witnessing = by the power of the spoken word. The oral word—the spoken word brought people to Christ for 1600 years. Remember, the written word only became available to the masses when the printing press was invented in the 1600's and then bibles were printed and made available for everyone.
- 11:22 Genuine Saving Faith always perseveres.
- 12:2 "renewing of your mind"—transformation that occurs as the Holy Spirit changes our thinking through consistent study of Scripture and God's word.
- 16:26 All nations know of Jesus—they just refuse and reject Him. e.g. All nations know what B.C. and A.D. means.

1 Corinthians

- 4:12-13 Bless— to ask divine favor for someone or something. To bless—e.g. “may blessings come upon you from God.” See Matt 5:43-45 where we are to love, bless, do good and pray for our enemies.
Entreat— to implore— to ask earnestly for someone to do something. Sometimes as ministers, we actually beg a person to see the truth— the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- 5:9-13 “named a brother”—this is an evil person who calls himself a Christian, but is not a true Christian. He is in fact a false Christian. This person may even be an active church goer, however, remember many people in church are not saved and the devil can do his greatest harm by being inside the church system.
- 6:9-11 Do not be deceived with false doctrine saying it is acceptable to practice evil.
- 6:12 We are not under the power of sin. Justification— free from the penalty of sin.
Sanctification— free from the power of sin.
Glorification— free from the presence of sin.
- 8:1-3 God knows the believer who truly loves Him.
- 10:6 Four sins: idol worship, sexual immorality, testing God, complaining.
- 10:7 3,000 people were executed for instigating idol worship along with an immoral orgy of Sinai. Play = Gross sexual relations which followed the excessive feasting.
- 10:8 23,000 = 3,000 killed by the Levites and 20,000 by plague. “destroyer”—the same angel (death angel) slain the firstborn of the Egyptians, the 70,000 men because of David’s census and the entire Assyrian army of 185,000 that was besieging Jerusalem.
- 11:24 By taking Communion (the Lord’s Supper), you remember and thank Jesus for what He did on the Cross for you—The Sacrifice of His body and blood for your sins; to give you eternal life (the First Coming). Also with Communion, you acknowledge that Christ is coming back with His Second Coming.
- 11:28 During Communion, examine yourself to see if you are truly “in Christ” and are there issues in your life that you need to repent of—to change for the better.
- 12:4-7 diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit... wisdom, knowledge, faith, healings, miracles, prophecy, discerning of spirits, tongues, interpretations of tongue [other gifts: Rhema Word, words of knowledge, power in battle against evil]
- 15:1-2 i.e. Keep the faith. The believers had heard the gospel, believed it and had been saved by it.
- 15:16-19 If Christ is risen, then you are risen.
If Christ is not risen, then you are not risen.
If you are not risen, then Christ is not risen.
Conclusion: the Resurrection of Christ guarantees our resurrection to eternal life 100%.
The Resurrection of Christ is the cornerstone of Christianity—it is our only hope and promise. And God keeps His Word and keeps His promises 100%. God is unable to lie.
His Word is Absolute Truth.
- 15:22-23 When a believer dies on earth, his soul and spirit immediately go to heaven to be with Jesus, and the believer is glorified. The believer receives his spiritual body at Jesus’ Second Coming with the Resurrection of the just.

2 Corinthians

- 4:4 “has blinded”—Satan blinds men to God’s truth through the world system he has created. Without a godly influence, man left to himself will follow that system, which panders to the depravity of the unbelievers and deepens their moral darkness (Matt 13:19).
- 7:9-10 Must have repentance before salvation. Repentance → Salvation.

- 12:21 To find the Corinthians still living in unrepentant sin would both humiliate and sadden Paul. This warning was designed to prevent that from happening. Note: You cannot practice fornication, uncleanness and lewdness.
- 13:3 Paul was going to use his apostolic authority and power to deal with any sin and rebellion he found there.
- 13:5 You need to examine the genuineness of your faith. Do you have genuine saving faith? Are you in Christ? Is Jesus in you? Is the Holy Spirit actually in you?

Galatians

- 1:6-7 turning away— better translated, “deserting”— military desertion, which was punishable by death. Galatians’ believers were voluntarily deserting Grace to pursue the legalism taught by the false teachers.
 “I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ to a different gospel, which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ.”
 “Grace of Christ”—God’s free and sovereign act of mercy in granting salvation through the death and resurrection of Christ, totally apart from any human work or merit. “Different gospel”—The Judaizers perversion of the true gospel. They added the requirements, ceremonies and standards of the law as necessary prerequisites for salvation.
 “pervert the gospel of Christ”—By adding law to the gospel of Christ, the false teachers were effectively destroying Grace. Grace = Jesus. Salvation = Jesus. Salvation is not Jesus + you. Salvation is given by Grace and is kept by Grace alone. A true Christian cannot lose their salvation. A true Christian cannot jump out of the Father’s hand. A true Christian can never be separated from the Father—can never be separated from the love of God and can never be separated from the love of Christ.
 These false teachers were turning the message of God’s underserved favor toward sinners into a message of earned and merited favor. “The gospel of Christ”—the good news of salvation by Grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone, by His completed finished work on the Cross alone. Once saved, always saved. God does not suddenly change the rules whereby after salvation you have to perform works and deeds and follow the law to keep your salvation. This would be illogical. Salvation is given by Grace alone and is kept by Grace alone. There is eternal security of the believer. A true Christian cannot lose their salvation.
- 2:20-21 The Father sacrificed His Son and the Son sacrificed Himself for us, so that we can have eternal life.
- 3:8-9 “all the nations shall be blessed.” All the nations will receive the blessing of salvation through Jesus Christ—the Messiah promised to mankind through the bloodline of Isaac the son of Abraham.
- 4:29 born of the Holy Spirit—born again. Holy Spirit indwelling the believer forever.
- 5:16 “Walk in the Spirit”— All believers have the presence of the indwelling Holy Spirit as the personal power for living to please God. The form of the Greek verb translated “walk” indicates continuous action or habitual lifestyle.
- 5:17 The flesh = The physical body, mind, will, emotions and evil desires of the heart which are all subject to sin.
- 6:7-8 “Sows to his flesh”— pandering to the flesh’s evil desires.
 “Corruption”— degeneration, as in decaying food. Sin always corrupts and when left unchecked, always makes a person progressively worse in character. In contrast to this, is regeneration, which occurs in an individual when the Holy Spirit indwells him. With regeneration, the person’s character improves with time and there is a transformation—a change— within the person in his heart and on the outside with his deeds. “Jesus on the inside changing me on the outside.”

Ephesians

- 2:8 Also God does not suddenly change His mind and become illogical where initially salvation is given by faith alone, then afterwards salvation is kept by faith + works. Salvation is given by grace and is kept by grace. Salvation is given by faith alone and is kept by faith alone.
- 4:6 God the Father is in you as is Jesus Christ as is the Holy Spirit.
- 4:11 (A P E P T) Apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, teachers
- 4:19 “being past feeling”—unbelievers are morally insensitive. As they continue to sin and turn away from God, they become still more apathetic about moral and spiritual things.
“Lewdness... uncleanness”—unbelievers are behaviorally depraved. As they willingly keep succumbing to sensuality and licentiousness, they increasingly lose moral restraint, especially in the area of sexual sins. Impurity is inseparable from greediness, which is a form of idolatry (worship of money).
- 4:22-23 “Put off” to strip away, as in taking off old filthy clothes. This describes repentance from sin and submission to God at the point of salvation. Note with repentance, turning to God and turning away from sin go together, hand in hand, two sides of same coin, they are not separate, but one.
The very act of turning to God demonstrates that you are already sinning less because you are turning away from the world to Jesus—you are turning away from unbelief to belief. The “old man”—The worn out, useless and unconverted sinful nature corrupted by deceit. Salvation is a spiritual union with Jesus Christ that is described as the death plus burial of the old self and the resurrection of the new self walking in newness of life. This is the transformation of the believer.
- 4:23 “be renewed in the spirit of your mind”—When a person becomes a Christian, God gives him a completely new spiritual and moral capability that a mind apart from Christ could never achieve.
- 4:24 “put on the new man”—the renewal of the mind in salvation brings not simply a renovation of character, but transformation of the old self to the new self.
“which was created according to God”—In Christ, the old self no longer exists as it had in the past; the new self is created in the very likeness of God.
“in true righteousness and holiness”—Righteousness relates to the Christians moral responsibility to his fellow men reflecting the second table of the law, while holiness refers to his responsibilities to God, reflecting the first table.
- 5:3-7 No fornicator (person who practices fornication as a continual lifestyle) will inherit the Kingdom of Heaven. Again we are reminded not be deceived by false teachers with false doctrine.
- 5:8-10 fruit of the Spirit—goodness, righteousness and truth.
- 6:12 Rulers of darkness... Spiritual hosts of wickedness.
- 6:13 Supplication = Humble request.
- 6:15 Gospel of peace = peace and reconciliation with God through Jesus Christ. Here God gives us the strength to stand firm against the enemy.

Philippians

- 1:19 The Spirit = The Holy Spirit of Jesus Christ.
- 2:12-13 “Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.”
“obeyed”—Their faithful response to the divine commands Paul had taught them.
“work out your own salvation”—to continually work to bring something to fulfillment or completion. It cannot refer to salvation by works (Rom. 3:21-24, Eph. 2:8-9), but it does refer to the believer’s responsibility for active pursuit of obedience in the process of sanctification.
“Fear and trembling”—the attitude with which Christians are to approach God in regards to their salvation and sanctification.
- 3:9 Faith in Christ—Faith is the confident, continuous confession of total dependence on and trust in Jesus Christ for the necessary requirement to enter God’s kingdom. And that requirement is the righteousness of Christ, which God imputes to every believer.
- 4:22 “put off”—To strip away.

Colossians

- 1:15 Greek word for “image” is eikon. English word “icon” is derived from this. It means, “copy” or “likeness.” Jesus Christ is the perfect image, the exact likeness of God and is in the very form of God. “firstborn over all creation”—Firstborn in this context clearly means highest in rank, not first created.
- 1:21-23 “continue in the faith” ... with a new disposition that loves God, hates sin, desires obedience and is energized by the indwelling Holy Spirit. Rather than defect from the gospel they heard, true believers will remain solid on Christ who is the only foundation and will remain faithful by the enabling grace of God (Phil 1:6, 2:11-13). This is the perseverance of the saints. Keep the faith.
- 1:23 “continued in the faith” = obedience—those who have been reconciled will persevere in faith and obedience because in addition to being declared righteous, they are actually made new creatures with a new disposition that loves God, hates sin, desires obedience and is energized by the indwelling Holy Spirit.
- 2:12 Water Baptism represents you identifying with the death, burial and Resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- 2:13 All trespasses—all the sins of your life—every sin: past, present and future.
- 3:12-14 “as Christ forgave you,” so you also must forgive.

1 Thessalonians

- 4:7-8 “For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness. Therefore he who rejects this does not reject man, but God, who has also given us His Holy Spirit.”
sanctification— refers to a state of being set apart from sin to holiness. Here refers to being set apart from sexual impurity.
- 4:17 “caught up”— After the dead came forth, their spirits already with the Lord (2 Cor. 5:8, Phil 1:23) are now being joined to resurrected new bodies (1 Cor. 15:35-50); the living Christians will be raptured, literally snatched away.

2 Thessalonians

- 2:3-4 Note: “the falling away” and “the man of sin is revealed” is stated within the same sentence. This is an event which is clearly and specifically identifiable and unique, the consummate act of rebellion. The “falling away” is the abomination of desolation that takes place at the midpoint of the Tribulation, spoken of in Dan. 9:27, Dan. 11:31 & Matt. 24:15. This man is not Satan, although Satan is the force behind him and he has motives like the desires of the devil (Isaiah 14:13-14). At this moment, the Antichrist demands the worship of the world. In this act of Satanic self-deification, he commits the Great Apostasy in defiance of God. This great apostasy event also includes the world at this moment in time, falling away from God and receiving the Antichrist as God. Also, “the falling away” can be viewed as a general apostasy upon the earth, whereby, earth-dwellers globally reject Christ and are willing to accept and receive the Antichrist. Remember, “fallen angels” fell away from God—rejected God and separated themselves from God—physically and spiritually. Evil angels “left” with Satan, i.e., they chose to defect and align with the devil. Falling away means a defection, a desertion, a separation. There is parallel between the evil angels and Satan falling away from God before Adam and Eve to the earth-dwellers of the Great Tribulation and the Antichrist falling away from God and Jesus Christ.
- 2:11-12 The wrath of abandonment of God for nonbelievers who reject Him.

1 Timothy

- 1:1 Jesus is the Hope
- 2:15 saved in childbearing if they continue in faith, love, and holiness, with self-control.
So you shall serve the LORD your God, and He will bless your bread and your water. And I will take sickness away from the midst of you. No one shall suffer miscarriage or be barren in your land; I will fulfill the number of your days.
Exodus 23:25-26
- [Proper worship brings due rewards, not only good harvests and a good water supply but also physical health, including fertility and safe pregnancies.]
- 4:11 Ministers are to command the Commandments of Jesus as Jesus did.
- 5:8 A person who intentionally does not provide for his family is not a true Christian— he has denied the faith. This person does not have compassionate Christian love for even his own family.
- 5:19-20 rebuke = to scold in a sharp way, to reprimand
- 6:3-5 If anyone teaches otherwise and does not consent to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which accords with godliness, he is proud, knowing nothing, but is obsessed with disputes and arguments over words, from which come envy, strife, reviling, evil suspicions, useless wranglings of men of corrupt minds and destitute of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain. (Pretend to be godly to make money) From such withdraw yourself.
False teachers are in a state of apostasy. Although they once knew and seemed to embrace the truth, they turned to openly reject it. False teachers reject doctrine which accords with godliness. Teaching not based on Scripture will always result in an unholy life. Instead of godliness, false teachers will be marked by sin. (2 Peter 2:10-22, Jude 4, 8-16)

2 Timothy

- 1:1 Jesus is the Hope and the Promise
- 2:19 A mark of God's ownership of believers is their pursuit of holiness (1 Cor. 6:19-20; 1 Pet. 15-16). Seal = Mark.
- 2:24-26 Correct people regarding the Gospel with Gentleness, teaching, patience and humility. Correct with Love for your neighbor. The devil also has a will for people to follow.
- 2:25 "God... will grant them repentance." All true repentance is produced by God's sovereign grace (Eph. 2:7) and without such grace human effort to change is futile (Jer. 13:23). When God by grace, grants saving faith, it includes the granting of repentance from sin. Neither is a human work. Jer. 32:39-40. "I will put My fear in their hearts so that they will not depart from Me." I personally believe that a person cannot repent from their sin or a sinful life (i.e., life of unrepentant sin) without the power of Jesus and the Holy Spirit working in their hearts. Remember song—"Jesus on the inside changing me on the outside"
- 3:1-5 false teachers (Apostates)
unholy, unloving, unforgiving... lovers of pleasure... having a form of godliness but denying it's power
Characteristics of false teachers within the church during end times. Their teaching does great harm. Their outward form of Christianity and virtue makes them all the more dangerous and their followers never come to an understanding of God's saving truth in Jesus Christ. False teachers never come to the knowledge of the truth. i.e. They are not saved.
- 3:8-9 disapproved = debased— useless, without value
- 3:16 "reproof"—Rebuke for wrong behavior or wrong belief. The Scripture exposes sin that can then be dealt with confession and repentance.

Titus

- 1:15-16 False teachers are corrupt on the inside ("mind and conscience") and the outside ("works" and "disobedient"). Also, the believer has within him, a built-in lie detector and truth detector called the Holy Spirit and we intrinsically know right and wrong because God's law is written on our hearts.
The outwardly despicable things that those men practiced were simply reflections of their inner corruption. If the mind is defiled, it cannot accurately inform the conscience, so conscience cannot warn the person. When the conscience is accurately and fully infused with God's truth, it functions as the warning system God designed.
- 3:4-7 "washing of regeneration"—Salvation brings divine cleansing from sin and the gift of a new, Spirit-generated, Spirit-empowered and Spirit-protected life as God's own children and heirs. This is the new birth. The Holy Spirit is the agent of the "working of regeneration."

Hebrews

- 2:14 Jesus came to earth to die. This is the ultimate purpose of the Incarnation. By dying, He was able to conquer spiritual death in His Resurrection. By conquering death, Jesus rendered Satan powerless against all who are saved. Satan's use of the power of death is subject to God's will. Satan has to have legal claim. Nonbelievers are often claimed to death by the devil.
"partaken"—means fellowship, communion or partnership.

- 3:6 “if we holdfast”—This is not speaking of how to be saved or remain saved. It means rather that perseverance in faithfulness is proof of real faith. The one who abides in Christ gives evidence of his genuine membership in the household.
 “hope”—This hope rests in Christ Himself, whose redemptive work has accomplished our salvation.
- 3:12 Just as the evil angels did with leaving heaven to go with Satan, a nonbeliever departs spiritually from God. The evil angels departed both physically and spiritually in their separation from God.
- 3:14 Partaker = Participator.
 Partake = Participate. Deeper meaning partake— To eat or drink. To accept. To receive. Internalize. Take into your being Christ and what He did on the Cross.
 “if we hold the beginning of our confidence” = Perseverance.
- 3:15 Four terms describing rebellion: 1) rebelled, 2) sinned, 3) did not obey, and 4) unbelief.
- 5:9 Because of the perfect righteousness of Jesus Christ and His perfect sacrifice for sin, He became the cause of salvation. True salvation evidences itself in obedience to Christ, from the initial obedience to the gospel command to repent and believe (Acts 5:32; Rom. 1:5; 2 Thess. 1:8; 1 Pet. 1:2,22, 4:17) to a life pattern of obedience to the Word (Rom. 6:16).
- 6:1-3 R = Repent from sin and faith toward God.
 “Repentance from dead works”—turning away from evil deeds that bring death (Ezek. 18:4; Rom. 6:23) and turning to God. Remember under the New Testament covenant faith directed only toward the Father is unacceptable without faith in His Son, Jesus Christ (Acts 4:12; James 2:14-20)
- 6:4-8 For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame. For the earth which drinks in the rain that often comes upon it, and bears herbs useful for those by whom it is cultivated, receives blessing from God; but if it bears thorns and briers, it is rejected and near to being cursed, whose end is to be burned. [bad deeds]

Repentance

- 1) turn to God—draw near to God
- 2) turn away from sin—separate from sin

Fall Away = the exact opposite of Repentance

- 1) turn away from God—separate from God (Christ)
- 2) turn to sin—fall into sin

Just like the Evil Angels who left with Satan, they separated from God
 fell to earth
 fell into sin with humans on earth

If after hearing all the truth, a person still falls away from Jesus, they will not be able to repent and come to Jesus. There is simply nothing else that can be said or done that will bring them to the Lord.

This passage refers to a nonbeliever who has heard the full complete testimony of the Holy Spirit about Jesus; yet he refuses Christ and falls away and separates himself from Christianity. This individual is so hard in their heart that any additional ministry to them would be to no avail and the person will never repent.

i.e. If person did not repent with the full and complete testimony of the Holy Spirit, they will not repent in the future.

[These are individuals who have received the maximum witness of the Holy Spirit]

- those who were once enlightened
- tasted the heavenly gift
- partakers of the Holy Spirit
- tasted the good word of God and the powers [signs and wonders] of the age to come.

If they fall away (separate from God) to renew them again to repentance

1. They crucify again... the Son of God
2. Put Him to an open shame

10:5-7 "a body You have prepared for Me... 'Behold, I have come' " [The Incarnation—God the Son was given a human body by God the Father]

10:26-31 For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace? For we know Him who said, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. And again, "The LORD will judge His people." It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

10:38-39 Now the just shall live by faith:

But if anyone draws back,
My soul has no pleasure in him."

But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.

If we sin willfully

Two possibilities exist with this passage:

- 1) Some theologians believe this statement refers to saved person who falls into sin and loses salvation
- 2) Some theologians believe this statement refers to person who thinks they are saved, but in fact, are not saved and then falls into sin. (I personally believe in this 2nd category).

Note: The result is the same whether you believe category 1 or 2 exists. If we sin willfully (fall into sin intentionally and presumptuously without repentance) we are not saved and → Hell.

It actually does not matter whether you believe category 1 or 2 is real. What matters is the Bible simply says what it says.

If we sin willfully: we → Hell. That's all you have to know.

If we sin willfully

- after we have received the knowledge of the truth
- certain fearful expectation of judgment
- fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries
- worse punishment
- trampled, the Son of God underfoot
- counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing
- insulted the Spirit of Grace
- Vengeance is Mine, I will repay
- The LORD will judge His people, it is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God
- if anyone draws back
My soul has no pleasure in him

- draws back to perdition
- 11:1 Faith is the substance of salvation (eternal life), the evidence of salvation (eternal life). True faith is not based on empirical evidence, but on divine assurance (trust in God).
- 11:1 Faith is the substance of heaven: the evidence of heaven.
- 12:1-2 Always keep your focus on Jesus who you place directly in front of you throughout your life.
- 12:26-27 God will separate good angels and believers from evil angels and nonbelievers. Good angels and believers will remain in heaven and evil angels and nonbelievers will be cast into Gehenna—the Lake of Fire.
- 13:8-9 The Word of Jesus 2000 years ago is constant and is Absolute Truth. Any man or cult that later chooses to alter or change the Word of God is an instrument of Satan himself.
- 13:15 Try to thank God from your heart as often as you can. God wants you to pray to Him, to talk with Him, to have a personal relationship with Him.

James

- 1:14-15 with temptation, desire → sin → death (spiritual death)
- 2:13 A person who shows no mercy or compassion for people in need demonstrates that he has never responded to the Great Mercy of God, and as an unredeemed person will receive only strict, unrelieved judgment in eternal hell (Matt 5:7). Remember, mercy is when a person does not get the punishment he deserves. E.g., the believer deserves to go to hell because he is guilty of his sin, but God shows mercy and pardons him because God loves and forgives the believer, His child.
The person whose life is characterized by mercy is ready for the day of judgment, and will escape all the charges that strict justice might bring against him because by showing mercy to others, he gives genuine evidence of having received God's mercy. Definition of Mercy—refraining from punishing a guilty offender. Mercy is when a guilty person does not get the punishment they deserve. They instead get pardoned. We as sinners are guilty of our sin and we deserve → hell. However, believers—children of God— are given mercy by God and we do not go to Hell. God forgives the guilty sinner because of His love, kindness and compassion. God shows mercy for the believer because of His love for His child.
M (mercy) = L (love) + F (forgiveness).
- 2:17-18 Works are the outward sign of inner faith. Just as professed compassion or love without action is phony, 1) the kind of faith that is without works or love is mere empty profession, and 2) is not genuine saving faith.
- 2:18 3) Faith determines salvation. Works demonstrate (show) salvation. Works are visible evidence of genuine saving faith. Cause (faith) → Effect (works). 4) Obedience demonstrates (shows) faith. Disobedience may evidence false Christians. 5) Continued rebellion and lawlessness without repentance evidences non-saving faith. 6) There are people who think they are Christians, but they are not Christians. There are people who think they are saved, but they are not saved. 7) 80% of Americans think they are Christians, when in fact, they are not. Remember few find the narrow gate.
Most people → Hell.
- 2:21 “justified by works”—The work that James said justified Abraham was his offering up of Isaac, an event that occurred many years after he first exercised faith and was declared righteous before God (Gen 12:1-7; 15:6). Abraham's offering of Isaac demonstrated the genuineness of his faith and the reality of his justification before God. James is emphasizing the vindication before others of a man's claim to salvation. James' teaching perfectly complements Paul's writings; salvation is determined by faith alone and demonstrated by faithfulness to obey God's will alone.
- 2:22 Just as a fruit tree has not arrived at its goal until it bears fruit; faith has not reached its end or fullness until it demonstrates itself in a righteous life.
- 4:17 The sin of omission—not doing good when you should.

- 5:15 Those who are sick, who called for the elders, showed they had a contrite (sorrowful), repentant heart, and that part of their time with the overseers would involve confessing their sins to God. Often in healing, it is necessary for the sinner to confess his sin or sins and repent of them. He can do this individually between himself and God, or publicly with Christian witnesses— in this passage, it involves confession of sins before the elders. Remember only God has the power to forgive sins.
- 5:19-20 “if anyone among you”—these are people in church who are professing believers who have strayed from the truth. Such people are in grave danger and the church must call them back to the true faith.
Death here means eternal death – eternal separation from God and eternal punishment in Hell. The Good News of the Gospel is that God’s forgiving Grace is given to those who turn from their sins and exercise faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (Repentance). Christianity is harder than you think and more involved than just saying a sinner’s prayer and you falsely believing that you don’t have to turn away from your sins. Christianity is a relationship with Jesus and like all relationships, it is difficult. See Matt 7:13-14 “difficult is the way which leads to life”—It is hard and difficult to Repent but Repentance is necessary for Forgiveness of sins.
- 5:20 here, “sinner” describes the unregenerate. These are people with dead faith, not sinning true believers. Those who go astray doctrinally, will also manifest an errant lifestyle, one not lived according to biblical principles. A person who wanders from the truth puts his soul in jeopardy. Death here is eternal death—eternal separation from God and eternal punishment in hell.

1 Peter

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.” *1 Peter 1:3-5*

- 1:3-5 Even faith is empowered by God. The Christian’s continued faith in God is the evidence of God’s keeping power. At the time of salvation, God energizes faith, and continues to preserve it. Saving faith is permanent, it never dies. When you truly love someone, you never stop loving them no matter what. When you truly love Jesus (Saving faith) you never stop loving Him.

1:5 “kept by the power of God.” Supreme power, omniscience, omnipotence, and sovereignty, not only keep the inheritance (v.4), but also keep the believer secure. No one can steal the Christian’s treasure, and no one can disqualify him from receiving it. See *notes on Rom. 8:31-39*. **through faith**. The Christian’s response to God’s election and the Spirit’s conviction is faith, but even faith is empowered by God (*see note on Eph. 2:8*). Moreover, the Christian’s continued faith in God is the evidence of God’s keeping power. At the time of salvation, God energizes faith, and continues to preserve it. Saving faith is permanent; it never dies. See *notes on Matt. 24:13; Heb. 3:14*. Salvation is given by the grace of God and it is kept by the grace of God.

- 1:6-9 Through trials the genuineness of your faith is tested by God. Faith = loving Jesus without seeing Him and believing in Jesus without seeing Him.
- 1:22 “love one another fervently”— The love indicated here by Peter is the love of choice, the kind of love that can respond to a command. “Fervently” means to stretch to the limits. Only those whose “souls” have been “purified,” i.e., saved, have the capacity to love like this. Such love exhibits itself by meeting others at the point of their need. Only a person who is saved, who has Jesus in him, can love like this.

- 1:23 “Not of corruptible seed but incorruptible”— The spiritual life implanted by the Holy Spirit to produce the new birth is unfailing and permanent. The Spirit uses the Word to produce life. It is the truth of the gospel that saves.
- 2:24 “we having died to sins”—This passage has double meaning: 1) Sin was killed in our lives once and for all—it has no penalty or punishment for us now by being in Christ. 2) We no longer are to live for sin—we died to sin. We no longer live to sin but instead we live to follow Christ and His righteousness.
The believer’s response should be, “My job is to obey You Father. Your will be done, not mine.”
Christ suffered as the Christian’s substitute. To bear sins was to be punished for them (Num. 14:33, Ezek. 18:20). Christ bore the punishment and the penalty of sin for believers, thus satisfying a holy God. This great doctrine of the substitutionary atonement is the heart of the gospel. Actual atonement, sufficient for the sins of the whole world, was made for all who would ever believe, namely the elect— the saved believers. (Atonement = reconciliation with God). This is true by the miracle of being in Christ. We died to sin when Christ died for our sin. Christ paid for our sins once and for all sins.
“live for righteousness”— Not only have we been declared just and the penalty for our sins paid by His suffering and His death, but we have risen to walk in new life, empowered by the Holy Spirit. Through the wounds (stripes) of Christ at the cross, believers are healed spiritually from the deadly disease of sin and all the sins of their life are forgiven.
- 2:25 “sheep going astray... returned to the Shepherd” = to turn toward (returned)— refers to the repentant faith a person has at salvation.
- 3:19 “preached”—Between Christ’s death and resurrection, His living spirit went to the demon spirits bound in they abyss and proclaimed that, in spite of His death, He had triumphed over them.
“spirits in prison”—This refers to fallen angels (demons) who were permanently bound because of heinous wickedness. The demons who are not so bound resist such a sentence. In the end, they will all be sent to the eternal lake of fire. The demons of Noah’s day were extremely wicked, vile, anti-God and promoted sexual sin. Even 120 years of Noah’s preaching could not convince any of the human race beyond 8 people to believe in God. God bound these demons permanently in the abyss until their final sentencing.
- 4:3 lewdness = unbridled, unrestrained sin, an excessive indulgence in sensual pleasure
lewdness— describes unbridled, unrestrained sin, an excessive indulgence in sensual pleasure. “Revelries” has the idea of an orgy.
- 4:14 reproached = shamed, disgraced, accused of a fault

2 Peter

- 2:20-22 These are people who fall back into life of unrepentant sin.
- 3:9 Jesus delays His coming because He is patient and desires the time for His people to repent and come to Christ.
- 3:10 At the end of the Millennial kingdom, before the creation of the new heavens and new earth, the physical universe is destroyed by fire.

1 John

- 1:9 Continual confession is an indication of genuine salvation. While the false teachers would not admit their sin, the genuine Christian admitted and forsook it (Ps 32:3-5, Prov 28:13). The term “confess” means to say the same thing about sin as God does; to acknowledge His perspective about sin. Confession of sin characterizes genuine Christians, and God continually cleanses those who are confessing. Rather than focusing on confession for every single sin as necessary, John has especially in mind here, a settled recognition and acknowledgment that one is a sinner in need of cleansing and forgiveness.
- 2:1 “so that you may not sin”—Although a Christian must continually acknowledge and confess sin, he is not powerless against it. Fulfilling the duty of confession as a sinner does not give a person license to sin.
Propitiation—the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross satisfied the demands of God’s holiness for the punishment of sin. So Jesus propitiated or satisfied God. In terms of redemption, Christ actually paid the penalty only for those who would repent and believe (Christians). Remember, most of the people in the world will be condemned to Hell to pay for their own sins, so they could not have been paid for by Christ. Jesus is Holy God, but He actually satisfied fully the wrath of God eternally only for the elect who believe. The pardon of sin is offered to the whole world, but received only by those who believe.
- 2:3-6 Obedience to God’s commands constitutes objective assurance that one is genuinely saved. Obedience is the external visible proof of salvation. False teachers failure to obey God’s commands objectively demonstrate that they are not saved. Jesus’ life of obedience is the Christian’s example and pattern. Those who claim to be Christians ought to live as He did (John 6:38) since they possess His Spirit’s presence and power. Those genuinely born again display the habit of obedience. Obedience results in the assurance of salvation.
- 2:16 Lust = strong desire for evil things. Flesh = refers to the sin nature of man, the rebellious self that is dominated by sin and in opposition to God.
- 2:19-21 Those genuinely born again endure in faith and fellowship and the truth (1 Cor 11:19, 2 Tim 2:12).
“they went out from us... none of them were of us.” The first characteristic of antichrists, i.e. false teachers and deceivers is that they depart from the faithful. They arise from within the church and depart from true fellowship and lead people out with them (Satan does his greatest work from within the church, e.g. evil Popes—the inquisition during the middle ages).
The doctrine of Perseverance of the saints—Those genuinely born again endure in faith and fellowship and the truth. The ultimate test of true Christianity is endurance (Mark 13:13; Heb 3:14). The departure of people from the truth and the church is their unmasking. The Holy Spirit guards the believer from error. Christ as the Holy One imparts the Holy Spirit as their illuminating guardian from deception (your heart knows the truth because the Holy Spirit and Jesus is in your heart).
You can’t be a total “idiot or jerk” and still think you are saved. You do not have a free license to sin because you are a Christian (Rom 6). The Holy Spirit guides the believer into knowing “all things.” True Christians have a built in lie detector and persevere in the truth. Those who remain in heresy and apostasy manifest the fact that they were never genuinely born again.
- 2:29 Those truly born again as God’s children have their heavenly Father’s righteous nature (1 Pet 1:3, 13-16). As a result, they will display characteristics of God’s righteousness. John looks from effect (righteous behavior) to cause (being born again) to affirm that righteous living is the proof of being born again (James 2:20,26; 2 Pet. 3:11).
Cause and effect. The effect is righteous behavior. The cause is being born again.
Righteous living is the proof of being born again.
- 4:3 Any person or doctrine that denies the Incarnation of Jesus Christ is spirit of Antichrist.
See Matt 11:28-30

- 4:20 He who loves God must love his brother.
 5:1-4 Jesus' burden is light (not heavy, not burdensome).
 5:11-12 He who has Jesus, has life; he who does not have Jesus, does not have life.

FALSE CHRISTIAN	Person is a liar when he:	
	<u>Says</u>	<u>Does</u>
• 1J 1:6-7	he "has fellowship with Jesus"	Walks in darkness
• 1J 2:4	"I know Jesus"	Does not keep Jesus' Commandments
• 1J 4:20-21	"I love God"	Hates his brother
TRUE CHRISTIAN		
• 1J 2:3	we know Jesus <u>if</u> we keep His Commandments	
• 1J 2:5-6	"whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him"	
• 1J 3:24	"he who keeps His Commandments abides in Him and He in him"	
• 1J 4:16	"he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him" abides— lives in, resides, habitats	
• 1J 5:1-4	we love God when we keep His Commandments	
• 2J 1:6	"This is love, that we walk according to His commandments"	

2 John

- 1:9-11 Abide means constant adherence—an ongoing active process and life of Love for and Obedience to Christ.
 Failure to be faithful to the fundamental, sound doctrine of the faith (a proper view of the person and work of Christ, love, obedience) marks a person as having never been born again. Abide means constant adherence to sound doctrine. The fundamental concepts of Christianity do not change and are not subject to alteration just because society changes and becomes more unholy, sinful and tolerant of evil. Do not have fellowship with false teachers, because if you do, you are actually assisting the spread of their false doctrine by appearing to accept their false teachings.

Jude

- 1:4 Lewdness with lasciviousness, lust, sexual immorality. People who were false teachers replace grace for sexual immorality. They turn grace into a license to sin. They use grace as an excuse to practice lewdness. The practice of sin without remorse or repentance is actually a form of unbelief. Lewdness also literally means unrestrained vice or gross immorality. This describes the shameless lifestyle of one who irreverently flaunts God's grace by indulging in unchecked and open immorality. The apostates disowned Christ as sovereign Lord and disdained any recognition of Christ as honorable Lord by their wicked behavior. They pervert the gospel.
- 1:12-13 Twice dead = second death = death of the spirit = condemnation to eternal Hell—Gehenna

Revelation

- 1:1-2 “The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show His servants—things which must shortly take place.”—God gave Jesus the Book of Revelation to show His [Jesus] disciples—things which must shortly take place. Remember the Book of Revelation’s full title is: The Revelation of Jesus Christ.
- 1:7 “Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him.”—Fulfillment of Zech 12:10-11.

2:4-6 Fallen— to fall away— to separate from— to no longer be in love with Christ— to no longer have the close personal relationship with Him as you did when you first fell in love with Him and Accepted Him as your Lord and Savior.

2:14 Balaam tried unsuccessfully to prostitute his prophetic gift and curse Israel for money offered him by Balak, king of Moab. So Balaam devised a plot to have Moabite women seduce Israelite men into intermarriage and fornication at the front lines of battle. The result was the blasphemous union of Israel with fornication and idolatrous feasts for false god worship. See Numbers 25:1-4.

Now Israel remained in Acacia Grove, and the people began to commit harlotry with the women of Moab. They invited the people to the sacrifices of their gods, and the people ate and bowed down to their gods. So Israel was joined to Baal of Peor, and the anger of the LORD was aroused against Israel. Then the LORD said to Moses, “Take all the leaders of the people and hang the offenders before the LORD, out in the sun, that the fierce anger of the LORD may turn away from Israel.” *Numbers 25:1-4*

Israel engaged in acts of sexual immorality with the women of Moab. Since this was part of the pagan cult that was worshipped by the Moabites, the Israelites joined in these idolatrous practices. The Israelites yoked themselves to Boal of Peor—the false god of the Moabites and the Midianites. False god worship is a violation of the First Commandment.

“to eat things sacrificed to idols, and to commit sexual immorality.” (Rev 2:14) –This refers to worship of false gods and fornication. Jesus hates false god worship and sexual immorality. In the original KJV Bible, the word for sexual immorality is fornication.

See Exodus 32:6-11, 28 and 1 Cor 10:8— where 23,000 died because of the combination of false god worship and sexual sins.

Then they rose early on the next day, offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play. And the LORD said to Moses, “Go, get down! For your people whom you brought out of the land of Egypt have corrupted themselves. They have turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them. They have made themselves a molded calf, and worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, ‘This is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!’” And the LORD said to Moses, “I have seen this people, and indeed it is a stiff-necked people! Now therefore, let Me alone, that My wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them. And I will make of you a great nation.” Then Moses pleaded with the LORD his God...” *Exodus 32:6-11*

In this Old Testament passage, regarding the worship of the golden calf, the people “rose up to play”. This includes the drunken and sexual immoral activities so common to idolatrous fertility cults in their revelry. God expects ethical alertness and moral discernment.

2:15 “the doctrine of the Nicolaitins, which thing I hate.”— This false doctrine like Balaam led people into immorally and wickedness. Followers led a life of self-indulgence, giving in to sensual temptations and abandoning themselves over to pleasure. These apostates

(the Nicolaitins) perverted grace and replaced liberty with license to sin, especially with sexual sins.

The doctrine of Nicolaitins promotes: 1) false god worship—“eat things sacrificed to idols” and 2) sexual immorality.

Just like the golden calf the combination of these two sins incurs the wrath of God—Jesus hates the doctrine of the Nicolaitins.

Jesus does not want us to follow a false doctrine that promotes the practice of sexual sins.

2:20-21 Sexual Immorality = Fornication.

2:23 Only faith saves. Works do not save, but they do evidence salvation. (James 2:14-26)

3:10 Tribulation tests a person’s faith. The church of Philadelphia is kept from the Great Tribulation.

5:6 Jesus bears the wounds of His Crucifixion for eternity. Note: Jesus is the one who releases the seals upon the earth (including the first seal, which is the Antichrist).

6:1-17 During the Great Tribulation, which climaxes with the Day of the Lord, God unleashes His judgment and wrath upon the earth in intensifying waves (7 seals, 7 trumpets and 7 bowls)

6:9 Fifth seal = souls of the martyrs. Sixth seal = great earthquake. Seventh seal = silence in heaven.

9:3-4 Believers have the seal of God on their foreheads. Nonbelievers who reject Christ take the Mark of the Beast and place it in the forehead or right hand.

9:15-16 The four angels here are four Evil Angels.

9:18-21 Amazing how the “bad heart” still rejects Christ in spite of the punishment by God upon the earth. The earth-dwellers (nonbelievers) still refuse to repent.

11:7 Satan gives the Antichrist his power and the reader should consider the possibility that the spirit of Satan indwells the Antichrist as it did Judas Iscariot. Note: The Antichrist receives full satanic power at the 3 ½ year mark— the beginning of the Great Tribulation— when the abomination of desolation occurs.

11:12 “Come up here”— see Rev. 4:1-2.

12:2-4 Stars of heaven = Evil Angels that left with Satan.

13:13-14 He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men. And he deceives those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived.

Rev 13:3, 13:12, 13:14 Observe closely, the Antichrist never dies. He fakes his death to deceive people with a fake resurrection. You cannot be resurrected if you never died in the first place. Satan does not have the power of resurrection. Only the true living God has the power of resurrection.

14:9-10 Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, “If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb.”

14:11 “And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name.”

Rev 14:9-11 The person who takes the mark of the beast is damned [Lake of Fire].

“no rest day or night”— punishment in Hell and the Lake of Fire is eternal and constant for the nonbeliever.

14:12 Note: True Christians (saints) have faith in Jesus and keep the commandments of God.

14:17-19 The vine of the earth (nonbelievers) in contrast to the vine of Jesus with His branches (believers).

17:14 Called, chosen and faithful (those who keep the faith, believers). Those who stay loyal. A true Christian will always keep the faith. i.e. Keep their relationship with Christ— in fact, over time the true Christian’s relationship with Christ gets stronger and stronger

because he truly loves Jesus. With true love, a relationship always gets closer and stronger and a person's love grows.

"chosen"— We choose Jesus, then God chooses us, who is outside the time dimension before the foundation of the heavens and earth. Another perspective is that God knows who will and will not choose Jesus because He knows the heart of a man. Therefore, He chooses those that He knows will accept and receive Jesus.

19:20-21 "cast alive into the lake of fire"— Nonbelievers, i.e. those people who refuse and reject Jesus Christ, the Son of God, are thrown alive into the Lake of Fire to be tormented by fire every day and night for eternity—forever.

20:4-5 These are the tribulation saints who refused to take the Mark of the Beast and would not worship the image of the Antichrist. They were then executed by the Antichrist and his totalitarian global political system.

20:6 Second Death = the death of the spirit = damned into Hell and the Lake of Fire for eternity.

20:11-15 The Great White Throne Judgment of Jesus where nonbelievers are judged, sentenced and then thrown into the Lake of Fire. Their names are not written in the Book of Life and their level of punishment in Gehenna is determined by their deeds in life. Believers stand before Jesus at the Bema Seat Judgment at the First Resurrection. This occurs right after Armageddon at the Second Coming of Christ. The believer's names are written in the Book of Life and their rewards in heaven are determined by their deeds on earth.

Only faith in Jesus, not deeds, gets you into heaven. However, once in heaven, your rewards in heaven are determined by all your deeds on earth— good or bad— written in the Book of Deeds.

Nonbelievers on the other hand, at the Second Coming of Christ, remain in Hell for 1,000 years and await final judgment at the Great White Throne Judgment of Christ. Hell is a holding cell for nonbelievers for 1,000 years while Christ reigns on the earth during the Millennial Kingdom. Then on Judgment Day, the nonbelievers are taken from Hell, stand before Christ, receive Judgment, and are cast into eternal prison— Gehenna— the Lake of Fire and receive the second death.

Believers

Are born on earth, die on earth, born into heaven,
die once, born twice (born again = second birth).

Nonbelievers

Are born once, die twice (die in the body and die in the spirit. i.e. forever damned).

Remember all people live for eternity. There is no annihilation— a doctrine which falsely believes that nonbelievers don't exist anymore. The doctrine of Annihilation is a lie. The devil and his children do not get off that easy. All people live forever. The real issue is: does this person 1) Live in heaven forever experiencing the love, glory and blessings of God, or does he 2) Live in hell, totally separated from God and is tormented in the fire day and night forever.

21:1-2 The New Heaven and New Earth. The First Heaven and First Earth is destroyed by God.

21:3-4 "the tabernacle of God" = Jesus.

21:22-24 All nations— all people on earth have the opportunity to choose Christ and become Christians. It is not a defense, not an excuse for a person from another nation or culture to say they are not guilty because their parents or nation or society brought them up as children to believe a false religion. All people are accountable, God says "My people perish for lack of knowledge." People die the Second Death and → Lake of Fire because they did not seek the truth and therefore did not find the truth which is the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Jesus is the only way to heaven. By no other name on earth is there salvation.