

# Vera Vita Ministries Doctrinal Statement

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Vera Vita Ministries is a corporation which is organized to proclaim the gospel in Europe and beyond, planting and building up churches, edifying believers through biblical teaching and discipleship, and providing training for Christian leaders. The words "Vera Vita" mean "truth and life" in Italian and reflect the true life found only through saving faith in Jesus Christ.

As such, Vera Vita Ministries exists as a servant to facilitate the carrying out of the Great Commission. Vera Vita Ministries is governed by church leaders who have come to the following understanding of God's truth, as expressed in the Word of God. As a result, as an organization, Vera Vita Ministries holds to doctrinal position as explained in this document.

- 1) All board members will affirm and embrace the Vera Vita Ministries doctrinal statement.
- 2) All teaching staff will affirm and embrace the Vera Vita Ministries doctrinal statement.
- 3) Everything Vera Vita Ministries as an organization proclaims and teaches, and all the material we produce, and all the policies and procedures we follow, and all the conduct of our organization will be in harmony with the Vera Vita Ministries doctrinal statement..

We rejoice that God has led us as a corporation and a ministry to embrace an understanding of Scripture, of God, and of His work that will guard us and help us spread the glory of God through Jesus Christ throughout the world. May we be faithful to God to proclaiming His truth.

## 1. Scripture, the Word of God Written

1.1 We believe and teach that the Bible, consisting of the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments, is the infallible Word of God, verbally inspired by God,<sup>1</sup> and without error<sup>2</sup> in the original manuscripts.

1.2 We believe and teach that God's intentions, revealed in the Bible, are the supreme and final authority in testing all claims about what is true and what is right.

Though the Bible is not exhaustive in its address of the matters of life, it is nevertheless comprehensive. This means that Scripture provides a framework by which all things can be understood rightly in light of who God is and what he expects of people, even if it does not explicitly address a given situation.

1.3 We believe and teach God's intentions are revealed through the intentions of inspired human authors, even when the authors' intention was to express divine meaning of which they were not fully aware, as, for example, in the case of some Old Testament prophecies.<sup>3</sup> Thus the meaning of biblical texts is a fixed historical reality, rooted in the historical, unchangeable intentions of its divine and human authors. However, while meaning does not change, the application of that meaning may change in various situations. Nevertheless it is not legitimate to infer a meaning from a biblical text that is not demonstrably carried by the words that God inspired.<sup>4</sup>

1.4 Therefore, the process of discovering the intention of God in the Bible (which is its fullest meaning) is a humble and careful effort to find in the language of Scripture what the human authors intended to communicate. Limited abilities, traditional biases, personal sin, and cultural assumptions often obscure biblical texts. Therefore the work of the Holy Spirit is essential for right understanding of the Bible,<sup>5</sup> and prayer for His assistance belongs to a proper effort to understand and apply God's Word.<sup>6</sup>

## 2. The Trinity, One God as Three Persons

2.1 We believe in one<sup>7</sup> living,<sup>8</sup> sovereign,<sup>9</sup> and all-glorious<sup>10</sup> God, eternally existing in three<sup>11</sup> unchanging<sup>12</sup>, infinitely excellent and admirable Persons: God the Father,<sup>13</sup> fountain of all being;<sup>14</sup> God the Son,<sup>15</sup> eternally begotten,<sup>16</sup> not made, without beginning,<sup>17</sup> being of one essence<sup>18</sup> with the Father; and God the Holy Spirit, proceeding in the full, divine essence,<sup>19</sup> as a Person,<sup>20</sup> eternally from the Father and the Son. Thus

each Person in the Godhead is fully and completely God, yet distinct in function and role relationship.<sup>21</sup>

2.2 We believe and teach that God is supremely joyful<sup>22</sup> in the fellowship of the Trinity, each Person beholding and expressing His eternal and unsurpassed delight in the all-satisfying perfections of the triune God.

## 3. God's Eternal Purpose and Election

3.1 We believe and teach that God, from all eternity,<sup>23</sup> in order to display the full extent of His glory<sup>24</sup> for the eternal and ever-increasing enjoyment<sup>25</sup> of all who love Him,<sup>26</sup> did, by the most wise and holy counsel of His will,<sup>27</sup> freely and unchangeably<sup>28</sup> ordain<sup>29</sup> and foreknow<sup>30</sup> whatever comes to pass.

3.2 We believe and teach that God upholds and governs all things – from galaxies<sup>31</sup> to subatomic particles,<sup>32</sup> from the forces of nature<sup>33</sup> to the movements of nations,<sup>34</sup> and from the public plans of politicians<sup>35</sup> to the secret acts of solitary persons<sup>36</sup> – all in accord with His eternal, all-wise<sup>37</sup> purposes to glorify Himself, yet in such a way that He never sins,<sup>38</sup> nor ever condemns a person unjustly;<sup>39</sup> but that His ordaining and governing all things is compatible with the moral accountability<sup>40</sup> of all persons created in His image.

3.3 We believe and teach that God's election is an unconditional<sup>41</sup> act of free grace<sup>42</sup> which was given through His Son Christ Jesus before the world began.<sup>43</sup> By this act God chose, before the foundation of the world, those who would be delivered from bondage to sin<sup>44</sup> and brought to repentance<sup>45</sup> and saving faith<sup>46</sup> in His Son Christ Jesus.

## 4. God's Creation of the Universe and Man

4.1 We believe and teach that God created the universe,<sup>47</sup> and everything in it in six literal days,<sup>48</sup> out of nothing,<sup>49</sup> by the Word of His power. Having no deficiency in Himself, nor moved by any incompleteness in His joyful self-sufficiency,<sup>50</sup> God was pleased in creation to display His glory<sup>51</sup> for the everlasting joy<sup>52</sup> of the redeemed, from every tribe and tongue and people and nation.<sup>53</sup>

4.2 We believe and teach that God directly created Adam from the dust of the ground and Eve from his side. We believe and teach that Adam and Eve were the historical parents of the entire human race;<sup>54</sup> that they were created male and female equally in the image of God,<sup>55</sup> without sin;<sup>56</sup> that they were created to

glorify<sup>57</sup> their Maker, Ruler, Provider, and Friend by trusting His all-sufficient goodness, admiring His infinite beauty, enjoying His personal fellowship, and obeying His all-wise counsel; and that, in God's love and wisdom, they were appointed differing and complementary roles in marriage as a type of Christ and the church.<sup>58</sup>

## **5. Man's Sin and Fall from Fellowship with God**

5.1 We believe and teach that, although God created man morally upright, man was led astray from God's Word and wisdom by the subtlety of Satan's deceit,<sup>59</sup> and chose to take what was forbidden,<sup>60</sup> and thus declare his independence from, distrust for, and disobedience toward his all-good and gracious Creator. Thus, our first parents, by this sin, fell from their original innocence and communion with God.<sup>61</sup>

5.2 We believe and teach that, as the head of the human race, Adam's fall became the fall of all his posterity, in such a way that corruption, guilt, death, and condemnation belong properly to every person.<sup>62</sup> All persons are thus corrupt by nature,<sup>63</sup> enslaved to sin,<sup>64</sup> and morally unable<sup>65</sup> to delight in God and overcome their own proud preference for the fleeting pleasures of self-rule.

5.3 We believe and teach God has subjected the creation to futility,<sup>66</sup> and the entire human family is made justly liable to untold miseries of sickness,<sup>67</sup> decay,<sup>68</sup> calamity,<sup>69</sup> and loss.<sup>70</sup> Thus all the adversity and suffering in the world is an echo and a witness of the exceedingly great evil of moral depravity in the heart of mankind; and every new day of life is a God-given, merciful reprieve from imminent judgment, pointing to repentance.<sup>71</sup>

## **6. Jesus Christ, the Incarnate Son of God**

6.1 We believe and teach that in the fullness of time<sup>72</sup> God sent forth His eternal Son as Jesus the Messiah,<sup>73</sup> conceived by the Holy Spirit,<sup>74</sup> born of the virgin Mary.<sup>75</sup> We believe and teach that, when the eternal Son became flesh,<sup>76</sup> He took on a fully human nature,<sup>77</sup> so that two whole, perfect, and distinct natures were inseparably joined together in one Person, without confusion or mixture. Thus the Person, Jesus Christ, was and is truly God<sup>78</sup> and truly man,<sup>79</sup> yet one Christ and the only Mediator between God and man.<sup>80</sup>

6.2 We believe and teach that Jesus Christ lived without sin, though He endured the common infirmities

and temptations of human life.<sup>81</sup> He preached and taught with truth and authority unparalleled in human history.<sup>82</sup> He worked miracles, demonstrating His divine right and power over all creation: dispatching demons,<sup>83</sup> healing the sick,<sup>84</sup> raising the dead,<sup>85</sup> stilling the storm,<sup>86</sup> walking on water,<sup>87</sup> multiplying loaves,<sup>88</sup> and foreknowing and declaring what would befall Him and His disciples,<sup>89</sup> such as his death and resurrection, ascension and return<sup>90</sup>, and including the betrayal of Judas<sup>91</sup> and the denial, restoration, and eventual martyrdom of Peter.<sup>92</sup>

6.3 We believe and teach that His life was governed by His Father's providence with a view to fulfilling all Old Testament prophecies concerning the One who was to come,<sup>93</sup> such as the Seed of the woman,<sup>94</sup> the Prophet like Moses,<sup>95</sup> the Priest after the order of Melchizedek,<sup>96</sup> the Son of David,<sup>97</sup> and the Suffering Servant.<sup>98</sup>

6.4 We believe and teach that Jesus Christ suffered voluntarily<sup>99</sup> in fulfillment of God's redemptive plan,<sup>100</sup> that He was crucified under Pontius Pilate,<sup>101</sup> that He died,<sup>102</sup> was buried<sup>103</sup> and on the third day rose from the dead<sup>104</sup> to vindicate the saving work of His life and death<sup>105</sup> and to take His place as the invincible, everlasting Lord of glory.<sup>106</sup> During forty days after His resurrection, He gave many compelling evidences of His bodily resurrection<sup>107</sup> and then ascended bodily into heaven,<sup>108</sup> where He is seated at the right hand of the Father,<sup>109</sup> interceding for His people<sup>110</sup> on the basis of His all-sufficient sacrifice for sin, and reigning until He puts all His enemies under His feet.<sup>111</sup>

## **7. The Saving Work of Christ**

7.1 We believe and teach that by His perfect obedience to God<sup>112</sup> and by His suffering and death<sup>113</sup> as the immaculate Lamb of God,<sup>114</sup> Jesus Christ obtained forgiveness of sins<sup>115</sup> and the gift of perfect righteousness<sup>116</sup> for all who trusted in God prior to the cross<sup>117</sup> and all who would trust in Christ thereafter.<sup>118</sup> Through living a perfect life and dying in our place, the just for the unjust, Christ took upon Himself our punishment,<sup>119</sup> appeased the wrath of God against us,<sup>120</sup> vindicated the righteousness of God in our justification,<sup>121</sup> and removed the condemnation of the law against us,<sup>122</sup> thus reconciling us to God and providing us peace with God.<sup>123</sup>

7.2 We believe and teach that the atonement of Christ for sin warrants and impels a universal offering of the gospel to all persons, so that to every person it may be truly said, God gave His only begotten Son so that whoever believes in Him might not perish but have eternal life.<sup>124</sup> Whosoever will may come<sup>125</sup> for cleans-

ing at this fountain, and whoever does come, Jesus will not cast out.<sup>126</sup>

We believe and teach that upon the basis of the efficacy of the death of the Lord Jesus Christ, the believing sinner is freed from the punishment, the penalty, the power, and one day the very presence of sin, declared righteous, given eternal life, and admitted to the family of God.<sup>127</sup>

7.3 We believe and teach, moreover, that the death of Christ did obtain more than the bona fide offer of the gospel for all; it also obtained the omnipotent New Covenant<sup>128</sup> mercy of repentance<sup>129</sup> and faith<sup>130</sup> for God's elect. In His death, Christ expressed a special covenant love to His friends,<sup>131</sup> His sheep,<sup>132</sup> His bride.<sup>133</sup> For them He obtained the infallible and effectual working of the Spirit to triumph over their resistance and bring them to saving faith.<sup>134</sup>

We believe and teach that our justification is made sure by Jesus Christ's literal physical resurrection from the dead; and that Christ is now ascended to the right hand of the Father<sup>135</sup> where He is our Advocate<sup>136</sup>, our sympathetic High Priest<sup>137</sup>, and is now preparing a place for those who love Him.<sup>138</sup>

## 8. The Saving Work of the Holy Spirit

8.1 We believe and teach that the Holy Spirit has always been at work in the world, sharing in the work of creation,<sup>139</sup> awakening faith in the remnant of God's people,<sup>140</sup> giving triumphs in battle,<sup>141</sup> empowering the preaching of prophets<sup>142</sup> and inspiring the writing of Scripture.<sup>143</sup> Yet, when Christ had made atonement for sin, and ascended to the right hand of the Father, He inaugurated a new era of the Spirit by pouring out the promise of the Father on His Church.<sup>144</sup>

8.2 We believe and teach that the newness of this era is marked by the unprecedented mission of the Spirit to glorify the crucified and risen Christ.<sup>145</sup>

We believe and teach that He does this by giving the disciples of Jesus greater power to preach the gospel of the glory of Christ,<sup>146</sup> by opening the hearts of hearers that they might see Christ and believe,<sup>147</sup> by revealing the beauty of Christ in His Word and transforming His people from glory to glory,<sup>148</sup> by calling all the nations into the sway of the gospel of Christ,<sup>149</sup> and, in all this, thus fulfilling the New Covenant promise to create and preserve a purified people<sup>150</sup> for the everlasting habitation of God.<sup>151</sup>

We believe and teach that the Holy Spirit is the supernatural and sovereign agent in regeneration, baptizing all believers into the Body of Christ<sup>152</sup>, indwelling, sanctifying, instructing, and empowering them for ser-

vice, and sealing them unto the day of redemption<sup>153</sup>.

We believe and teach that the Holy Spirit is the divine Teacher Who guided the apostles into all truth. Every believer possesses the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit from the moment of salvation, and it is the duty of all those born of the Spirit to be filled with the Spirit.<sup>154</sup>

We believe and teach that God the Holy Spirit is sovereign in the bestowing of all His gifts for the perfecting of the saints today; and that speaking in tongues (unlearned languages) and the working of sign miracles gradually ceased as the New Testament Scriptures were completed and their authority became established.<sup>155</sup>

8.3 We believe and teach that, apart from the effectual work of the Spirit, no one would come to faith,<sup>156</sup> because all are dead in trespasses and sins;<sup>157</sup> that they are hostile to God, and morally unable to submit to God or please Him,<sup>158</sup> because the pleasures of sin appear greater than the pleasures of God.<sup>159</sup> Thus, for God's elect, the Spirit triumphs over all resistance,<sup>160</sup> awakens the dead,<sup>161</sup> removes blindness,<sup>162</sup> and manifests Christ in such a compellingly beautiful way through the Gospel that He becomes irresistibly attractive to the regenerate heart.

8.4 We believe and teach that the Holy Spirit does this saving work in connection with the presentation of the Gospel of the glory of Christ and never apart from it.<sup>163</sup> Thus neither the work of the Father in election, nor the work of the Son in atonement, nor the work of the Spirit in regeneration is a hindrance or discouragement to the proclamation of the gospel to all peoples and persons everywhere. On the contrary, this divine saving work of the Trinity is the warrant and the ground of our hope that our evangelization is not in vain in the Lord. The Spirit binds His saving work to the gospel of Christ, because His aim is to glorify the Christ of the Gospel.<sup>164</sup> Therefore we do not believe that there is salvation through any other means than through receiving the gospel by the power of the Holy Spirit.<sup>165</sup>

## 9. The Justifying Act of God

9.1 We believe and teach that in a free act of righteous grace God justifies the ungodly by faith alone apart from works,<sup>166</sup> pardoning their sins,<sup>167</sup> and reckoning them as righteous and acceptable in His presence.<sup>168</sup> Faith is thus the sole instrument<sup>169</sup> by which we, as sinners, are united to Christ, whose perfect righteousness and satisfaction for sins is alone the ground of our acceptance with God.<sup>170</sup> This acceptance happens fully and permanently at the first instant of justification.<sup>171</sup> Thus the righteousness by which we come into

right standing with God is not anything worked in us by God, neither imparted to us at baptism nor over time, but rather is accomplished for us, outside ourselves, and is imputed to us.

9.2 We believe and teach, nevertheless, that the faith, which alone receives the gift of justification, does not remain alone in the person so justified, but produces, by the Holy Spirit,<sup>172</sup> the fruit of love<sup>173</sup> and leads necessarily to sanctification.<sup>174</sup> This necessary relation between justifying faith and the fruit of good works gives rise to some biblical expressions which seem to make works the ground or means of justification,<sup>175</sup> but in fact simply express the crucial truth that faith that does not yield the fruit of good works is dead, being no true faith.<sup>176</sup>

## 10. God's Work in Faith and Sanctification

10.1 We believe and teach that justification and sanctification are both brought about by God through faith,<sup>177</sup> but not in the same way. Justification is an act of God's imputing and reckoning;<sup>178</sup> sanctification is an act of God's imparting and transforming.<sup>179</sup> Thus the function of faith in regard to each is different. In regard to justification, faith is not the channel through which power or transformation flows to the soul of the believer, but rather is the occasion of God's forgiving, acquitting, and reckoning as righteous.<sup>180</sup> But in regard to sanctification, faith is indeed the channel through which divine power and transformation flow to the soul,<sup>181</sup> and the sanctifying work of God through faith does indeed touch the soul and change it into the likeness of Christ.

10.2 We believe and teach that the reason justifying faith necessarily sanctifies in this way is fourfold:

First, justifying faith is a persevering, that is, continuing, kind of faith.<sup>182</sup> Even though we are justified at the first instant of saving faith,<sup>183</sup> yet this faith justifies only because it is the kind of faith that will surely persevere. The extension of this faith into the future is, as it were, contained in the first seed of faith, as the oak in the acorn. Thus the moral effects<sup>184</sup> of persevering faith may be rightly described as the effects of justifying faith.

Second, we believe and teach that justifying faith trusts in Christ not only for the gift of imputed righteousness and the forgiveness of sins,<sup>185</sup> but also for the fulfillment of all His promises to us based on that reconciliation.<sup>186</sup> Justifying faith magnifies the finished work of Christ's atonement, by resting securely in all the promises of God obtained and guaranteed by that all-sufficient work.<sup>187</sup>

Third, we believe and teach that justifying faith embraces Christ in all His roles:<sup>188</sup> Creator,<sup>189</sup> Sustainer,<sup>190</sup> Savior,<sup>191</sup> Teacher,<sup>192</sup> Guide,<sup>193</sup> Comforter,<sup>194</sup> Helper,<sup>195</sup> Friend,<sup>196</sup> Advocate,<sup>197</sup> Protector,<sup>198</sup> and Lord.<sup>199</sup> Justifying faith does not divide Christ, accepting part of Him and rejecting the rest. All of Christ is embraced by justifying faith, even before we are fully aware of, or fully understand, all that He will be for us. As more of Christ is truly revealed to us in His Word, genuine faith recognizes Christ and embraces Him more fully.<sup>200</sup>

Fourth, we believe and teach that this embracing of all of Christ is not a mere intellectual assent, or a mere decision of the will, but is also a heartfelt, Spirit-given (yet imperfect) satisfaction in all that God is for us in Jesus.<sup>201</sup> Therefore, the change of mind and heart that turns from the moral ugliness and danger of sin, repentance,<sup>202</sup> is included in the very nature of saving faith.

10.3 We believe and teach that this persevering, future-oriented, Christ-embracing, heart-satisfying faith is life-transforming,<sup>203</sup> and therefore renders intelligible the teaching of the Scripture that final salvation in the age to come depends on the transformation of life,<sup>204</sup> and yet does not contradict justification by faith alone. The faith which alone justifies, cannot remain alone, but works through love.<sup>205</sup>

10.4 We believe and teach that this simple, powerful reality of justifying faith is God's gift<sup>206</sup> which He gives unconditionally in accord with God's electing love,<sup>207</sup> so that no one can boast in himself,<sup>208</sup> but only give all glory to God for every part of salvation.<sup>209</sup> We believe and teach that the Holy Spirit is the decisive agent in this life-transformation, but that He is supplied to us and works holiness in us though our daily faith in the Son of God<sup>210</sup> whose trustworthiness He loves to glorify.<sup>211</sup>

10.5 We believe and teach that the sanctification, which comes by the Spirit through faith,<sup>212</sup> is imperfect and incomplete in this life.<sup>213</sup> Although slavery to sin is broken,<sup>214</sup> and sinful desires are progressively<sup>215</sup> weakened by the power of a superior satisfaction in the glory of Christ, yet there remain remnants of corruption in every heart that give rise to irreconcilable war,<sup>216</sup> and call for vigilance in the lifelong fight of faith.<sup>217</sup>

10.6 We believe and teach that all who are justified will win this fight. They will persevere in faith and never totally and permanently surrender to the enemy of their souls.<sup>218</sup> This perseverance is the promise of the New Covenant,<sup>219</sup> obtained by the blood of Christ,<sup>220</sup> and worked in us by God Himself,<sup>221</sup> yet not so as to diminish, but only to empower and encourage, our vigilance;<sup>222</sup> so that we may say in the end, I have

fought the good fight,<sup>223</sup> but it was not I, but the grace of God which was with me.<sup>224</sup>

## **11. Living God's Word by Meditation and Prayer**

11.1 We believe and teach that faith is awakened and sustained by God's Spirit<sup>225</sup> through His Word<sup>226</sup> and prayer.<sup>227</sup> The good fight of faith is fought mainly by meditating on the Scriptures<sup>228</sup> and praying<sup>229</sup> that God would apply them to our souls.

11.2 We believe and teach that the promises of God recorded in the Scriptures are suited to save us from the deception of sin by displaying for us, and holding out to us, superior pleasures in the protection, provision, and presence of God.<sup>230</sup> Therefore, reading,<sup>231</sup> understanding,<sup>232</sup> pondering,<sup>233</sup> memorizing,<sup>234</sup> and savoring<sup>235</sup> the promises of all that God will be for us in Jesus are primary means of the Holy Spirit to break the power of sin's deceitful promises in our lives. Therefore it is needful that we give ourselves to such meditation day and night.<sup>236</sup>

11.3 We believe and teach that God has ordained to bless<sup>237</sup> and use<sup>238</sup> His people for His glory through the means of prayer, offered in Jesus<sup>239</sup> name by faith.<sup>240</sup> All prayer should seek ultimately that God's name be hallowed, and that His kingdom come, and that His will be done on earth as it is done in heaven.<sup>241</sup> God's sovereignty over all things is not a hindrance to prayer, but a reason for hope that our prayers will succeed.<sup>242</sup>

11.4 We believe and teach that prayer is the indispensable handmaid of meditation, as we cry out to God for the inclination to turn from the world to the Word,<sup>243</sup> and for the spiritual ability to see the glory of God in His testimonies,<sup>244</sup> and for a soul-satisfying sight of the love of God,<sup>245</sup> and for strength in the inner man to do the will of God.<sup>246</sup> By prayer God sanctifies His people,<sup>247</sup> sends gospel laborers into the world,<sup>248</sup> and causes the Word of God to spread and triumph over Satan and unbelief.<sup>249</sup>

## **12. Christ's Church and Her Ordinances**

12.1 We believe in the one universal Church, composed of all those, in every time and place, who are chosen in Christ and united to Him through faith by the Spirit in one Body, with Christ Himself as the all-supplying, all-sustaining, all-supreme, and all-authoritative Head.<sup>250</sup> We believe and teach that the ultimate purpose of the Church is to glorify God<sup>251</sup> in the everlasting and ever-increasing gladness of worship.<sup>252</sup>

12.2 We believe it is God's will that the universal Church find expression in local churches<sup>253</sup> in which believers agree together to hear the Word of God proclaimed,<sup>254</sup> to engage in corporate worship,<sup>255</sup> to practice the ordinances of baptism<sup>256</sup> and the Lord's Supper,<sup>257</sup> to build each other's faith through the manifold ministries of love,<sup>258</sup> to hold each other accountable in the obedience of faith through biblical discipline,<sup>259</sup> and to engage in local and world evangelization.<sup>260</sup> The Church is a body in which each member should find a suitable ministry for His gifts;<sup>261</sup> it is the household of God in which the Spirit dwells;<sup>262</sup> it is the pillar and bulwark of God's truth in a truth-denying world,<sup>263</sup> and it is a city set on a hill so that men may see the light of its good deeds and give glory to the Father in heaven.<sup>264</sup>

12.3 We believe and teach that baptism is an ordinance of the Lord by which those who have repented and come to faith<sup>265</sup> express their union with Christ<sup>266</sup> in His death and resurrection,<sup>267</sup> by being immersed in water<sup>268</sup> in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.<sup>269</sup> It is a sign of belonging to the new people of God, the true Israel,<sup>270</sup> and an emblem of burial<sup>271</sup> and cleansing,<sup>272</sup> signifying death to the old life of unbelief, and purification from the pollution of sin.

12.4 We believe and teach that the Lord's Supper is an ordinance of the Lord<sup>273</sup> in which gathered believers<sup>274</sup> eat bread, signifying Christ's body given for His people, and drink the cup of the Lord, signifying the New Covenant in Christ's blood.<sup>275</sup> We do this in remembrance of the Lord, and thus proclaim His death until He comes. Those who eat and drink in a worthy manner partake of Christ's body and blood, not physically, but spiritually, in that, by faith, they are nourished with the benefits He obtained through His death, and thus grow in grace.<sup>276</sup>

12.5 We believe and teach that each local church should recognize and affirm the divine calling of spiritually qualified men to give leadership to the church through the role of pastor-elder in the ministry of the Word and prayer. Women are not to fill the role of pastor-elder in the local church, but are encouraged to use their gifts in appropriate roles that edify the body of Christ and spread the gospel.<sup>277</sup>

## **13. Christ's Commission to Make Disciples of All Nations**

We believe and teach that the commission given by the Lord Jesus to make disciples of all nations is binding on His Church to the end of the age.<sup>278</sup> This task is to proclaim the Gospel to every tribe and tongue and people and nation,<sup>279</sup> baptizing them, teaching them

the words and ways of the Lord,<sup>280</sup> and gathering them into churches<sup>281</sup> able to fulfill their Christian calling among their own people. The ultimate aim of world missions is that God would create, by His Word, worshippers who glorify His name through glad-hearted faith and obedience.<sup>282</sup> Missions exists because worship doesn't. When the time of ingathering is over, and the countless millions of the redeemed fall on their faces before the throne of God, missions will be no more. It is a temporary necessity. But worship abides forever. Worship, therefore, is the fuel and the goal of missions.

## **14. Death, Resurrection, and the Coming of the Lord**

14.1 We believe and teach that when Christians die they are made perfect in holiness,<sup>283</sup> are received into paradise,<sup>284</sup> and are taken consciously into the presence of Christ, which is more glorious and more satisfying than any experience on earth.<sup>285</sup>

14.2 We believe in the blessed hope<sup>286</sup> that at the end of the age Jesus Christ will return to this earth personally,<sup>287</sup> visibly,<sup>288</sup> physically,<sup>289</sup> and suddenly<sup>290</sup> in power and great glory,<sup>291</sup> and that He will gather His elect,<sup>292</sup> raise the dead,<sup>293</sup> judge the nations, and establish His kingdom.<sup>294</sup> We believe and teach that the righteous will enter into the everlasting joy of their Master,<sup>295</sup> and those who suppressed the truth in unrighteousness<sup>296</sup> will be consigned to everlasting conscious misery.<sup>297</sup>

14.3 We believe and teach that the end of all things in this age will be the beginning of a never-ending, ever-increasing happiness in the hearts of the redeemed, as God displays more and more of His infinite and inexhaustible greatness and glory for the enjoyment of His people<sup>298</sup> and for His eternal glory.<sup>299</sup>

## **15. The Spirit of This Affirmation and the Unity of the Church**

15.1 We do not believe that all things in this affirmation of faith are of equal weight, some being more essential, some less. We do not believe that every part of this affirmation must be believed in order for one to be saved.

15.2 Our aim is not to discover how little can be believed, but rather to embrace and teach the whole counsel of God.<sup>300</sup> Our aim is to encourage a hearty adherence to the Bible, the fullness of its truth,<sup>301</sup> and the glory of its Author. We believe biblical doctrine stabilizes saints in the winds of confusion<sup>302</sup> and strengthens the church in her mission to meet the great

systems of false religion and secularism. We believe that the supreme virtue of love is nourished by the strong meat of God-centered doctrine.<sup>303</sup> And we believe that a passion for the supremacy of God in all things by the saving of and edifying of God's elect through Jesus Christ is sustained in an atmosphere of deep and joyful knowledge of God and His wonderful works.<sup>304</sup>

15.3 We believe that the cause of unity in the Church<sup>305</sup> is best served, not by finding the lowest common denominator of doctrine, around which all can gather, but by elevating the value of truth, stating the doctrinal parameters of church or school or mission or ministry, seeking the unity that comes from the truth, and then demonstrating to the world how Christians can love each other<sup>306</sup> across boundaries rather than by removing boundaries. In this way, the importance of truth is served by the existence of doctrinal borders, and unity is served by the way we love others across those borders.

15.4 We do not claim infallibility for this affirmation and are open to refinement and correction from Scripture.<sup>307</sup> Yet we do hold firmly to these truths as we see them and call on others to search the Scriptures to see if these things are so.<sup>308</sup> As conversation and debate take place, it may be that we will learn from each other, and the boundaries will be adjusted, even possibly folding formerly disagreeing groups into closer fellowship.

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NOTE: The many biblical descriptions of God's work in salvation are diverse. Therefore, similar or identical terms may be used differently in different contexts. Our aim in this affirmation of faith is not to limit how biblical writers can use the terms we use here, or to say that the terms of this affirmation may not be used differently by the biblical writers in various contexts, but rather our aim is to claim that the reality described here is in fact biblical reality.

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from: The Holy Bible, New King James Version

- 1 "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness," (2 Timothy 3:16) "for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit." (2 Peter 1:21) "[There are some things] in [Paul's epistles] which are hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures." (2 Peter 3:16) "If anyone thinks himself to be a prophet or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things which I write to you are the commandments of the Lord." (1 Corinthians 14:37) "These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual." (1 Corinthians 2:13) "He said to them, 'How then does David in the Spirit call Him 'Lord,' saying: 'The LORD said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool"'?" (Matthew 22:43-44) "'But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.'" (John 14:26) "'However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. "He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you." (John 16:13-14)
- 2 "Every word of God is pure; He

is a shield to those who put their trust in Him." (Proverbs 30:5) "God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?" (Numbers 23:19) "The words of the LORD are pure words, Like silver tried in a furnace of earth, Purified seven times." (Psalms 12:6) "that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us." (Hebrews 6:18) "'Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.'" (Matthew 24:35) "in hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began . . ." (Titus 1:2) "'Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.'" (John 17:17) "Jesus answered and said to them, "You are mistaken, not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God." (Matthew 22:29)

- 3 "Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you, searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow." (1 Peter 1:10-11) "Now this he did not say on his own authority; but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation," (John 11:51)
- 4 "[There are some things] in [Paul's epistles] which are hard to understand, which untaught and un-

stable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures." (2 Peter 3:16) "[Satan said to Jesus] "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written: 'He shall give His angels charge over you,' and, 'In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.'" Jesus said to him, "It is written again, 'You shall not tempt the LORD your God.'" (Matthew 4:6-7)

- 5 "Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one. For "who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?" But we have the mind of Christ." (1 Corinthians 2:12-16)
- 6 "Open my eyes, that I may see Wondrous things from Your law." (Psalms 119:18) "Blessed are You, O LORD! Teach me Your statutes!" (Psalms 119:12) "[I pray that] the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints," (Ephesians 1:18)
- 7 "'Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD [is] one!" (Deu-



teronomy 6:4)

- 8 "Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.'" (Matthew 16:16; see also 2 Corinthians 6:16; 1 Timothy 4:10; Hebrews 3:12; Revelation 7:2)
- 9 "'I know that You can do everything, And that no purpose of Yours can be withheld from You." (Job 42:2) "But our God is in heaven; He does whatever He pleases." (Psalms 115:3) "They shall drive you from men, your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field, and they shall make you eat grass like oxen. They shall wet you with the dew of heaven, and seven times shall pass over you, till you know that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomever He chooses." (Daniel 4:25) "And at the end of the time I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my understanding returned to me; and I blessed the Most High and praised and honored Him who lives forever: For His dominion is an everlasting dominion, And His kingdom is from generation to generation. All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; He does according to His will in the army of heaven And among the inhabitants of the earth. No one can restrain His hand Or say to Him, "What have You done?"' (Daniel 4:34-35) "In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will . . ." (Ephesians 1:11) "Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that.'" (James 4:15) See notes 31, 33-38, 47, 48.

- 10 "Yes, they shall sing of the ways of the LORD, For great is the glory of the LORD." (Psalms 138:5)
- 11 "'Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit," (Matthew 28:19) "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen." (2 Corinthians 13:14)
- 12 "Jesus Christ [is] the same yesterday, today, and forever." (Heb 13:8) "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning." (Jas 1:17)
- 13 "No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him." (John 1:18) "Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God." (John 5:18) "'Not that anyone has seen the Father, except He who is from God; He has seen the Father.'" (John 6:46) "Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, 'I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.'" (John 20:17) "'Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.'" (Acts 2:33) "To all

who are in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ." (Romans 1:7) "that you may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ." (Romans 15:6) "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," (1 Peter 1:3) "Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ." (Philemon 1:3)

- 14 "yet for us there is one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we for Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom are all things, and through whom we live." (1 Corinthians 8:6)
- 15 "but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name." (John 20:31) "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made." (John 1:1-3) "Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God." (John 5:18) "'Not that anyone has seen the Father, except He who is from God; He has seen the Father.'" (John 6:46) "'Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us.'" (Matthew 1:23)

“All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father. Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and the one to whom the Son wills to reveal Him.” (Matthew 11:27) “I and My Father are one.” (John 10:30) “but if I do, though you do not believe Me, believe the works, that you may know and believe that the Father is in Me, and I in Him.” (John 10:38) “And he who sees Me sees Him who sent Me.” (John 12:45) “If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and from now on you know Him and have seen Him.” (John 14:7) “of [Israel] are the fathers and from whom, according to the flesh, Christ came, who is over all, the eternally blessed God. Amen.” (Romans 9:5) “For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily;” (Colossians 2:9) “[We are] looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,” (Titus 2:13) “who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,” (Hebrews 1:3) “But to the Son He says: “Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your Kingdom.” (Hebrews 1:8) “Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have obtained like precious faith with us by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ . . .” (2 Peter 1:1) “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the

End, the First and the Last.” (Revelation 22:13)

- 16 “He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.” (Colossians 1:15-16) “For to which of the angels did He ever say: “You are My Son, Today I have begotten You”? And again: “I will be to Him a Father, And He shall be to Me a Son”? But when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says: “Let all the angels of God worship Him.” (Hebrews 1:5-6) “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth . . . No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.” (John 1:14,18)
- 17 “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” (John 1:1)
- 18 “For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily;” (Colossians 2:9)
- 19 “But Peter said, “Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit . . . You have not lied to men but to God.” (Acts 5:3-4) “Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?” (1 Corinthians 3:16) “But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. For what man knows the

things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God.” (1 Corinthians 2:10-11) “Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.” (Romans 8:27)

- 20 “But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.” (John 14:26) “But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me.” (John 15:26) “However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. “He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.” (John 16:13-14) “But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.” (1 Corinthians 12:11) “And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.” (Ephesians 4:30)
- 21 “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit [be] with you all. Amen.” (2 Corinthians 13:14)
- 22 “[Sound doctrine] according to the glorious gospel of the blessed [=happy] God which was commit-

ted to my trust.” (1 Timothy 1:11) “His lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’” (Matthew 25:23) “These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full.” (John 15:11) “And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare it, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.” (John 17:26) “Behold! My Servant whom I have chosen, My Beloved in whom My soul is well pleased [delights]! I will put My Spirit upon Him, And He will declare justice to the Gentiles.” (Matthew 12:18) “When He prepared the heavens, I [Wisdom, Word, the Son] was there, When He drew a circle on the face of the deep, When He established the clouds above, When He strengthened the fountains of the deep, When He assigned to the sea its limit, So that the waters would not transgress His command, When He marked out the foundations of the earth, Then I was beside Him as a master craftsman; And I was daily His delight, Rejoicing always before Him,” (Proverbs 8:27-30)

- 23 “[He] saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began,” (2 Timothy 1:9) “according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord,” (Ephesians 3:11) “just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that

we should be holy and without blame before Him in love,” (Ephesians 1:4) “He [Christ] indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you” (1 Peter 1:20) “All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.” (Revelation 13:8)

- 24 “For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.” (Romans 11:36; see also Ephesians 1:6, 12, 14) “Also your people shall all be righteous; They shall inherit the land forever, The branch of My planting, The work of My hands, That I may be glorified.” (Isaiah 60:21; see also 43:7) “Now My soul is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save Me from this hour’? But for this purpose I came to this hour. ‘Father, glorify Your name.’ Then a voice came from heaven, saying, ‘I have both glorified it and will glorify it again.’” (John 12:27-28) “Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: ‘Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You,’” (John 17:1) “I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do.” (John 17:4) “[God highly exalted Christ so that] that every tongue [will] confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” (Philippians 2:11)
- 25 “Delight yourself also in the LORD, And He shall give you the desires of your heart.” (Psalms 37:4) “Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!”

(Philippians 4:4) “His lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’” (Matthew 25:23) “And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.” (Revelation 21:4)

- 26 “But as it is written: ‘Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.’” (1 Corinthians 2:9) “And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.” (Romans 8:28)
- 27 “In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will,” (Ephesians 1:11)
- 28 “God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?” (Numbers 23:19) “And also the Strength of Israel will not lie nor relent. For He is not a man, that He should relent.” (1 Samuel 15:29)
- 29 “Remember the former things of old, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things that are not yet done, Saying, ‘My counsel shall stand,

- And I will do all My pleasure,” (Isaiah 46:9-10) “The lot is cast into the lap, But its every decision is from the LORD.” (Proverbs 16:33) “There are many plans in a man’s heart, Nevertheless the LORD’S counsel—that will stand.” (Proverbs 19:21)
- 30 ““Present your case,” says the LORD. “Bring forth your strong reasons,” says the King of Jacob. “Let them bring forth and show us what will happen; Let them show the former things, what they were, That we may consider them, And know the latter end of them; Or declare to us things to come. Show the things that are to come hereafter, That we may know that you are gods; Yes, do good or do evil, That we may be dismayed and see it together.” (Isaiah 41:21-23) “I am the LORD, that is My name; And My glory I will not give to another, Nor My praise to carved images. Behold, the former things have come to pass, And new things I declare; Before they spring forth I tell you of them.” (Isaiah 42:8-9; see also Genesis 15:13; 40:13,19; Exodus 3:19; Deuteronomy 31:16; Psalm 34:20; Isaiah 44:6-8; 44:24-28; 45:11; 45:20-21; 46:8-11; 48:1-6; Zechariah 12:10; John 6:64; 19:36-37)
- 31 “[God] commands the sun, and it does not rise; He seals off the stars;” (Job 9:7) “Lift up your eyes on high, And see who has created these things, Who brings out their host by number; He calls them all by name, By the greatness of His might And the strength of His power; Not one is missing.” (Isaiah 40:26)
- 32 ““Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father’s will. “But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.” (Matthew 10:29-30) “For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.” (Colossians 1:16-17)
- 33 “For He says to the snow, ‘Fall on the earth’; Likewise to the gentle rain and the heavy rain of His strength. He seals the hand of every man, That all men may know His work. The beasts go into dens, And remain in their lairs. From the chamber of the south comes the whirlwind, And cold from the scattering winds of the north. By the breath of God ice is given, And the broad waters are frozen. Also with moisture He saturates the thick clouds; He scatters His bright clouds. And they swirl about, being turned by His guidance, That they may do whatever He commands them On the face of the whole earth. He causes it to come, Whether for correction, Or for His land, Or for mercy.” (Job 37:6-13) “He sends out His command to the earth; His word runs very swiftly. He gives snow like wool; He scatters the frost like ashes; He casts out His hail like morsels; Who can stand before His cold? He sends out His word and melts them; He causes His wind to blow, and the waters flow.” (Psalms 147:15-18) “Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, “Peace, be still!” And the wind ceased and
- there was a great calm. But He said to them, “Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith?” And they feared exceedingly, and said to one another, “Who can this be, that even the wind and the sea obey Him!”” (Mark 4:39-41)
- 34 “The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; He makes the plans of the peoples of no effect. The counsel of the LORD stands forever, The plans of His heart to all generations.” (Psalms 33:10-11) “If a trumpet is blown in a city, will not the people be afraid? If there is calamity in a city, will not the LORD have done it?” (Amos 3:6) “Who is he who speaks and it comes to pass, When the Lord has not commanded it? Is it not from the mouth of the Most High That woe and well-being proceed?” (Lamentations 3:37-38) ““But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive.” (Genesis 50:20)
- 35 ““And the ten horns [= kings] which you saw on the beast, these will hate the harlot, make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh and burn her with fire. “For God has put it into their hearts to fulfill His purpose, to be of one mind, and to give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled.” (Revelation 17:16-17) “The king’s heart is in the hand of the LORD, Like the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes.” (Proverbs 21:1) “The lot is cast into the lap, But its every decision is from the LORD.” (Proverbs 16:33)

- 36 "A man's steps are of the LORD; How then can a man understand his own way?" (Proverbs 20:24) "A man's heart plans his way, But the LORD directs his steps." (Proverbs 16:9)
- 37 "O LORD, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom You have made them all. The earth is full of Your possessions—" (Psalms 104:24) "to God, alone wise, be glory through Jesus Christ forever. Amen." (Romans 16:27) "For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe." (1 Corinthians 1:21)
- 38 "He is the Rock, His work is perfect; For all His ways are justice, A God of truth and without injustice; Righteous and upright is He." (Deuteronomy 32:4) "This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all." (1 John 1:5) "Let no one say when he is tempted, 'I am tempted by God'; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone." (James 1:13) "Certainly not! Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar. As it is written: 'That You may be justified in Your words, And may overcome when You are judged.'" (Romans 3:4)
- 39 "For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse," (Romans 1:20) "For there is no

partiality with God. For as many as have sinned without law will also perish without law, and as many as have sinned in the law will be judged by the law" (Romans 2:11-12) "Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, all of whose works are truth, and His ways justice. And those who walk in pride He is able to put down." (Daniel 4:37)

- 40 "Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God." (Romans 3:19)

- 41 "for [Jacob and Esau] not yet being born, nor having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works but of Him who calls, it was said to her, 'The older shall serve the younger.' As it is written, 'Jacob I have loved, but Esau I have hated.' What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? Certainly not! For He says to Moses, 'I will have mercy on whomever I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whomever I will have compassion.' So then it is not of him who wills, nor of him who runs, but of God who shows mercy. For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, 'For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I may show My power in you, and that My name may be declared in all the earth.' Therefore He has mercy on whom He wills, and whom He wills He hardens." (Romans 9:11-18) "For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many

noble, are called. But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, that no flesh should glory in His presence. But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption—that, as it is written, 'He who glories, let him glory in the LORD.'" (1 Corinthians 1:26-31) "Jesus answered them, 'I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in My Father's name, they bear witness of Me. 'But you do not believe, because you are not of My sheep, as I said to you. 'My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. 'And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. 'My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand.'" (John 10:25-29) "'I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word.'" (John 17:6) "'All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out. 'For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. 'This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should

- raise it up at the last day.” (John 6:37-39) “And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.” (Romans 8:28-30)
- 42 “Even so then, at this present time there is a remnant according to the election of grace. And if by grace, then it is no longer of works; otherwise grace is no longer grace. But if it is of works, it is no longer grace; otherwise work is no longer work. What then? Israel has not obtained what it seeks; but the elect have obtained it, and the rest were blinded. Just as it is written: “God has given them a spirit of stupor, Eyes that they should not see And ears that they should not hear, To this very day.”” (Romans 11:5-8)
- 43 “[God] saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began,” (2 Timothy 1:9) “just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love,” (Ephesians 1:4)
- 44 “But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered.” (Romans 6:17) “For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death.” (Romans 8:2)
- 45 “And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth,” (2 Timothy 2:24-25) “When they heard these things they became silent; and they glorified God, saying, “Then God has also granted to the Gentiles repentance to life.”” (Acts 11:18)
- 46 ““No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.” (John 6:44) “And [Jesus] said, “Therefore I have said to you that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him by My Father.”” (John 6:65) “For to you it has been granted on behalf of Christ, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake,” (Philippians 1:29) “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.” (Ephesians 2:8-9) ““All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father. Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and the one to whom the Son wills to reveal Him.” (Matthew 11:27) “Jesus answered and said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.” (Matthew 16:17) “Now a certain woman named Lydia heard us. She was a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, who worshiped God. The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul.” (Acts 16:14)
- 47 “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.” (Genesis 1:1)
- 48 “The earth is the LORD’S, and all its fullness, The world and those who dwell therein. For He has founded it upon the seas, And established it upon the waters.” (Psalms 24:1-2)
- 49 “By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.” (Hebrews 11:3) “has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;” (Hebrews 1:2) “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.” (John 1:1-3)
- 50 See note 24. “Then Moses said to God, “Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they say to me, ‘What is His name?’ what shall I say to them?” And God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” And He said, “Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’”” (Exodus 3:13-14)

"I will not take a bull from your house, Nor goats out of your folds. For every beast of the forest is Mine, And the cattle on a thousand hills. I know all the birds of the mountains, And the wild beasts of the field are Mine. "If I were hungry, I would not tell you; For the world is Mine, and all its fullness. Will I eat the flesh of bulls, Or drink the blood of goats? Offer to God thanksgiving, And pay your vows to the Most High. Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me."" (Psalms 50:9-15) ""Nor is [God] worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things." (Acts 17:25)

- 51 "Everyone who is called by My name, Whom I have created for My glory; I have formed him, yes, I have made him."" (Isaiah 43:7)
- 52 "And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, And come to Zion with singing, With everlasting joy on their heads. They shall obtain joy and gladness, And sorrow and sighing shall flee away." (Isaiah 35:10) ""His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'" (Matthew 25:23)
- 53 "And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation," (Revelation 5:9) "After these things I looked,

and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"" (Revelation 7:9-10)

- 54 "And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being." (Genesis 2:7) "So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them." (Genesis 1:27) "And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man." (Genesis 2:21-22) "For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive." (1 Corinthians 15:22) "And so it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being." The last Adam became a life-giving spirit." (1 Corinthians 15:45) "Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who had not sinned according to the likeness of the transgression of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come." (Romans 5:14)
- 55 "So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them." (Genesis 1:27) ""Whoever sheds man's blood, By man his blood shall be shed; For

in the image of God He made man." (Genesis 9:6) "With [the tongue] we bless our God and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the similitude of God." (James 3:9)

- 56 "Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day." (Genesis 1:31)
- 57 See note 53.
- 58 "Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church. For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church. Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband." (Ephesians 5:22-33) "And

the LORD God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him." (Genesis 2:18)

- 59 "Truly, this only I have found: That God made man upright, But they have sought out many schemes." (Ecclesiastes 7:29) "Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?" (Genesis 3:1) "And the LORD God said to the woman, "What [is] this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." (Genesis 3:13) "But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ." (2 Corinthians 11:3)
- 60 ""but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."" (Genesis 2:17) "So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate." (Genesis 3:6)
- 61 "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 coverings. And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees

of the garden." (Genesis 3:7-8) "Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned" (Romans 5:12) "For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead." (1 Corinthians 15:21)

- 62 "Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned— (For until the law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law. Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who had not sinned according to the likeness of the transgression of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come. But the free gift is not like the offense. For if by the one man's offense many died, much more the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many. And the gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned. For the judgment which came from one offense resulted in condemnation, but the free gift which came from many offenses resulted in justification. For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.) Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life. For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many

will be made righteous." (Romans 5:12-19)

- 63 "in [sin] you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others." (Ephesians 2:2-3)
- 64 "Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness? . . . For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness." (Romans 6:16,20)
- 65 "But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned." (1 Corinthians 2:14) "Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God." (Romans 8:7-8) "Yet the LORD has not given you a heart to perceive and eyes to see and ears to hear, to this very day." (Deuteronomy 29:4)
- 66 "For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope;" (Romans 8:20)



67 "Not only that, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body." (Romans 8:23)

68 "Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day." (2 Corinthians 4:16)

69 "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written: "For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter."" (Romans 8:35-36)

70 "But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope." (1 Thessalonians 4:13)

71 "Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?" (Romans 2:4)

72 "But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law," (Galatians 4:4)

73 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have ever-

lasting life. "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved." (John 3:16-17) "Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."" (Matthew 16:16)

74 "Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I do not know a man?" And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God." (Luke 1:34-35)

75 "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us."" (Matthew 1:23; see also Luke 1:34-35)

76 "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth." (John 1:14)

77 "Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil," (Hebrews 2:14) "Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people." (Hebrews 2:17)

78 See note 17.

79 "who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be

equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross." (Philippians 2:6-8; see notes 76 and 77)

80 "For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus," (1 Timothy 2:5)

81 "For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin." (Hebrews 4:15)

82 "The officers answered, "No man ever spoke like this Man!"" (John 7:46) "Then they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, "What is this? What new doctrine is this? For with authority He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey Him."" (Mark 1:27) "And they sent to Him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that You are true, and teach the way of God in truth; nor do You care about anyone, for You do not regard the person of men." (Matthew 22:16)

83 "Then they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, "What is this? What new doctrine is this? For with authority He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey Him."" (Mark 1:27)

84 "And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sick-

ness and all kinds of disease among the people.” (Matthew 4:23)

85 “Jesus answered and said to them, “Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: “The blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them. “And blessed is he who is not offended because of Me.”” (Matthew 11:4-6)

86 “Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, “Peace, be still!” And the wind ceased and there was a great calm.” (Mark 4:39)

87 “Now in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went to them, walking on the sea.” (Matthew 14:25)

88 “Then He commanded the multitudes to sit down on the grass. And He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples; and the disciples gave to the multitudes. So they all ate and were filled, and they took up twelve baskets full of the fragments that remained.” (Matthew 14:19-20)

89 ““Now I tell you before it comes, that when it does come to pass, you may believe that I am He.”” (John 13:19)

90 “From that time Jesus began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day.” (Matthew 16:21) ““When the Son of Man

comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. “All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides [his] sheep from the goats. “And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. “Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:” (Matthew 25:31-34)

91 ““But there are some of you who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who would betray Him.” (John 6:64) “When Jesus had said these things, He was troubled in spirit, and testified and said, “Most assuredly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me.”” (John 13:21) “Jesus answered, “It is he to whom I shall give a piece of bread when I have dipped it.” And having dipped the bread, He gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon.” (John 13:26) ““You know that after two days is the Passover, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified.”” (Matthew 26:2) “Now after the piece of bread, Satan entered him. Then Jesus said to him, “What you do, do quickly.”” (John 13:27)

92 “And the Lord said, “Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. “But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren.” But he said to Him, “Lord, I am ready to go with You, both to prison and to death.” Then He said, “I tell you,

Peter, the rooster shall not crow this day before you will deny three times that you know Me.”” (Luke 22:31-34) ““Most assuredly, I say to you, when you were younger, you girded yourself and walked where you wished; but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will gird you and carry you where you do not wish.” This He spoke, signifying by what death he would glorify God. And when He had spoken this, He said to him, “Follow Me.”” (John 21:18-19)

93 “Then He said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! “Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?”” (Luke 24:25-26)

94 “And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.”” (Genesis 3:15) “And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.” (Romans 16:20)

95 ““I will raise up for them a Prophet like you from among their brethren, and will put My words in His mouth, and He shall speak to them all that I command Him.”” (Deuteronomy 18:18) ““and that He may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before, “whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began. “For Moses truly said to the fathers, “The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your brethren. Him you shall hear in all

things, whatever He says to you. 'And it shall be that every soul who will not hear that Prophet shall be utterly destroyed from among the people.'" (Acts 3:20-23)

- 96 "The LORD has sworn And will not relent, "You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek." (Psalms 110:4) "So also Christ did not glorify Himself to become High Priest, but it was He who said to Him: "You are My Son, Today I have begotten You." As He also says in another place: "You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek";" (Hebrews 5:5-6)
- 97 "Of the increase of His government and peace There will be no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this." (Isaiah 9:7) "The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham:" (Matthew 1:1) "saying, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose Son is He?" They said to Him, "The Son of David.'" (Matthew 22:42)
- 98 "Behold, My Servant shall deal prudently; He shall be exalted and extolled and be very high . . . He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities;

The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all." (Isaiah 52:13, 53:3-6) "'For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.'" (Mark 10:45)

- 99 "'No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father.'" (John 10:18)
- 100 "'Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death;" (Acts 2:23)
- 101 "'For truly against Your holy Servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered together "to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose determined before to be done." (Acts 4:27-28)
- 102 "So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit." (John 19:30) "For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures," (1 Corinthians 15:3)
- 103 "Then they took the body of Jesus, and bound it in strips of linen with the spices, as the custom of the Jews is to bury. Now in the place where He was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid." (John

19:40-41) "and that He was buried . . ." (1 Corinthians 15:4)

- 104 "and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures," (1 Corinthians 15:4) "'He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay." (Matthew 28:6)
- 105 "[He] was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification." (Romans 4:25)
- 106 "Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." (Philippians 2:9-11) "'[God] has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.'" (Acts 17:31)
- 107 "to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God." (Acts 1:3)
- 108 "Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, who also said, "Men of

Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.” (Acts 1:9-11)

109 “Hereafter the Son of Man will sit on the right hand of the power of God.” (Luke 22:69) “Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.” (Acts 2:33) “Him God has exalted to His right hand [to be] Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.” (Acts 5:31) “If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.” (Colossians 3:1)

110 “Who [is] he who condemns? [It is] Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.” (Romans 8:34) “Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast [our] confession.” (Hebrews 4:14) “My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.” (1 John 2:1)

111 “For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet.” (1 Corinthians 15:25) “But to which of the angels has He ever said: ‘Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool’?” (Hebrews 1:13)

112 “Therefore, as through one man’s offense judgment came to all men,

resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man’s righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life. For as by one man’s disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man’s obedience many will be made righteous.” (Romans 5:18-19)

113 “For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,” (1 Corinthians 15:3) “who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed.” (1 Peter 2:24) “For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit,” (1 Peter 3:18) “[They] being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed,” (Romans 3:24-25) “For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died,” (2 Corinthians 5:14) “For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.” (Romans 5:6) “Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.” (Romans 8:34) “For to this end Christ died and rose and lived again, that He might be Lord of both the dead and the living.” (Romans 14:9) “I do not set aside

the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain.” (Galatians 2:21)

114 “The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, ‘Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!’” (John 1:29)

115 “In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace” (Ephesians 1:7) “in [Him] we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.” (Colossians 1:14) “Therefore let it be known to you, brethren, that through this Man is preached to you the forgiveness of sins;” (Acts 13:38)

116 “For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.” (2 Corinthians 5:21) “[May I] be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith;” (Philippians 3:9) “But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference;” (Romans 3:21-22)

117 “For what does the Scripture say? ‘Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.’” (Romans 4:3) “. . . whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were

previously committed, to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.” (Romans 3:25-26)

118 “[He is]the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.” (Romans 3:26) “Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law.” (Romans 3:28) ““knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.” (Galatians 2:16)

119 “There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus . . . For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh,”(Romans 8:1,3) “Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"),” (Galatians 3:13)

120 “among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Je-

sus,” (Ephesians 2:3-6) “[We] wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.” (1 Thessalonians 1:10) “Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.” (Romans 5:9) “For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,” (1 Thessalonians 5:9)

121 “whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.” (Romans 3:25-26)

122 “And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.” (Colossians 2:13-14) “Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"),” (Galatians 3:13)

123 “Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not

only [that], but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us. For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. And not only [that], but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.” (Ro 5:1-11)

124 ““For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” (John 3:16) ““Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations . . .” (Matthew 28:19) “[Christ will present you blameless to God] if indeed you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard, which was preached to every creature under heaven, of which I, Paul, became a minister.” (Colossians 1:23) ““But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerus-

alem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” (Acts 1:8)

125 “. . . Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.” (Revelation 22:17) “but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life.” (John 4:14)

126 “All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.” (John 6:37)

127 “As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep.” (John 10:15) “whom God set forth [as] a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed,” (Rom 3:25) “But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” (Ro 5:8) “For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died; and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again.” (2Cor 5:14-15) “who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed.” (1Pet 2:24) “For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit,” (1Pet 3:18)

128 “Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you.’” (Luke 22:20) “In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.’” (1 Corinthians 11:25) “But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a better covenant, which was established on better promises.” (Hebrews 8:6) “And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.” (Hebrews 9:15; see also 12:24) “Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.” (Hebrews 13:20-21)

129 See note 45.

130 See note 46.

131 “Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends.” (John 15:13)

132 “I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own. ‘As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep.’” (John 10:14-15)

133 “Husbands, love your wives, just

as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,” (Ephesians 5:25)

134 “And they sang a new song, saying: ‘You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation,’” (Revelation 5:9) “[Jesus prays] ‘I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me . . . I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours . . . And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth.’” (John 17:6,9,19) “[Caiaphas] being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, and not for that nation only, but also that He would gather together in one the children of God who were scattered abroad.” (John 11:51-52) “He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?” (Romans 8:32)

135 “and said, ‘Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!’” (Acts 7:56)

136 “And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.” (1John 2:2) “Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.” (Heb 7:25)

137 “Let us therefore come boldly to

- the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.” (Heb 4:16)
- 138 “In My Father’s house are many mansions; if [it were] not [so], I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.” (John 14:2)
- 139 “You send forth Your Spirit, they are created; And You renew the face of the earth.” (Psalms 104:30) “The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.” (Genesis 1:2)
- 140 “Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.” (Romans 8:7-9)
- 141 “The Spirit of the LORD came upon him, and he judged Israel. He went out to war, and the LORD delivered Cushan-Rishathaim king of Mesopotamia into his hand; and his hand prevailed over Cushan-Rishathaim.” (Judges 3:10)
- 142 “Then the Spirit of the LORD will come upon you, and you will prophesy with them and be turned into another man.” (1 Samuel 10:6)
- 143 “for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.” (2 Peter 1:21) “He said to them, “How then does David in the Spirit call Him
- ‘Lord,’ . . .” (Matthew 22:43, referring to Psalm 110:1). See note 1.
- 144 “Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.” (Luke 24:49) “Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.” (Acts 2:33)
- 145 “However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. “He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.” (John 16:13-14) “But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.” (John 7:39)
- 146 “But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” (Acts 1:8)
- 147 “For I will not dare to speak of any of those things which Christ has not accomplished through me, in word and deed, to make the Gentiles obedient— in mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God, so that from Jerusalem and round about to Illyricum I have fully preached the gospel of Christ.” (Romans 15:18-19) “Now a certain woman named Lydia heard us. She was a
- seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, who worshiped God. The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul.” (Acts 16:14) “The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit.” (John 3:8)
- 148 “Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.” (2 Corinthians 3:17-18)
- 149 “But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” (Acts 1:8) “Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run swiftly and be glorified, just as it is with you,” (2 Thessalonians 3:1) “For I will not dare to speak of any of those things which Christ has not accomplished through me, in word and deed, to make the Gentiles obedient— in mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God, so that from Jerusalem and round about to Illyricum I have fully preached the gospel of Christ.” (Romans 15:18-19) “As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, “Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” (Acts 13:2) “And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the

Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.” (Acts 4:31)

150 ““But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. “No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.”” (Jeremiah 31:33-34) ““And I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from doing them good; but I will put My fear in their hearts so that they will not depart from Me.” (Jeremiah 32:40)

151 “And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: “I will dwell in them And walk among them. I will be their God, And they shall be My people.”” (2 Corinthians 6:16) ““in whom the whole building, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord,” (Ephesians 2:21)

152 “For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.” (1 Corinthians 12:13)

153 ““And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and

of righteousness, and of judgment: “of sin, because they do not believe in Me; “of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; “of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.” (John 16:8-11) “But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.” (Romans 8:9) “who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.” (2 Corinthians 3:6) “In Him you also [trusted], after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,” (Ephesians 1:13)

154 ““However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own [authority], but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.” (John 16:13) “But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.” (Romans 8:9) “And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit,” (Ephesians 5:18) “But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things . . . But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.” (1 John 2:20,27)

155 “There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit [of all]: for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another [different] kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.” (1 Corinthians 12:4-11) “Truly the signs of an apostle were accomplished among you with all perseverance, in signs and wonders and mighty deeds.” (2 Corinthians 12:12) “But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ’s gift. Therefore He says: “When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave gifts to men.” (Now this, “He ascended” —what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.) And He Himself gave some [to be] apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,” (Ephesians 4:7-12) “Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have



heard, lest we drift away. For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard [Him], God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?" (Hebrews 2:1-4) "Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing." (1 Thessalonians 5:11)

156 See notes 45 and 46.

157 "But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus," (Ephesians 2:4-6)

158 "Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God." (Romans 8:7-8)

159 "'and the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.'" (Mark 4:19)

160 "But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered." (Romans 6:17) "Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to

the law of God, nor indeed can be. So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His." (Romans 8:7-9)

161 See note 157.

162 "whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them. For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ." (2 Corinthians 4:4-6)

163 "Now a certain woman named Lydia heard us. She was a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, who worshiped God. The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul." (Acts 16:14) "But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord . . . whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them . . . God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ." (2 Corinthians 3:18;

4:4,6)

164 "'[The Holy Spirit] will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.'" (John 16:14)

165 "'Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.'" (Acts 4:12) "For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus," (1 Timothy 2:5) "Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin. But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference;" (Romans 3:19-22) "that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel," (Ephesians 3:6) "Through [Christ] we have received grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations for His [= Christ's] name," (Romans 1:5) "'Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, "because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.'" (Acts 17:30-31) "For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD

shall be saved." How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!" (Romans 10:13-15)

166 "not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life." (Titus 3:5-7) "Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law." (Romans 3:28) "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus," (Romans 3:23-24) "Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt. But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness," (Romans 4:4-5) "'knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.'" (Galatians 2:16) "Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,"

(Romans 5:1) "Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith." (Galatians 3:24) "You have become estranged from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace." (Galatians 5:4) "Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith;" (Philippians 3:8-9)

167 "just as David also describes the blessedness of the man to whom God imputes righteousness apart from works: "Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, And whose sins are covered; Blessed is the man to whom the LORD shall not impute sin."" (Romans 4:6-8)

168 See note 116.

169 "Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law." (Romans 3:28) "Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt. But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness," (Romans 4:4-5) See note 166.

170 "Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life. For as by one man's disobedience

many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous." (Romans 5:18-19) "For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him." (2 Corinthians 5:21) "and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith;" (Philippians 3:9) "'Behold, the days are coming," says the LORD, "That I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; A King shall reign and prosper, And execute judgment and righteousness in the earth. In His days Judah will be saved, And Israel will dwell safely; Now this is His name by which He will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS." (Jeremiah 23:5-6)

171 "Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ," (Romans 5:1)

172 "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law." (Galatians 5:22-23)

173 "For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working through love." (Galatians 5:6) "Now the purpose of the commandment is love from a pure heart, from a good conscience, and from sincere faith," (1 Timothy 1:5) "since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of your love for all the saints; because of the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, of which you heard before

in the word of the truth of the gospel,” (Colossians 1:4-5) “We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love his brother abides in death.” (1 John 3:14) “He who does not love does not know God, for God is love . . . If someone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?” (1 John 4:8,20) “And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.” (1 John 4:16)

174 “But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth,” (2 Thessalonians 2:13) “to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me.” (Acts 26:18) “Therefore we also pray always for you that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness and the work of faith with power,” (2 Thessalonians 1:11; see also 1 Thessalonians 1:3) “Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.” (James 2:17) “For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.” (James 2:26) “and made no distinction between us and them, purifying their hearts by

faith.” (Acts 15:9) “Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He who says, “I know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.” (1 John 2:3-4) “Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him.” (1 John 5:1)

175 “Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord” (Hebrews 12:14) “For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.” (Romans 8:13-14) “envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.” (Galatians 5:21) “For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.” (Galatians 6:8-9) “Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.” (John 5:28-29) “Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunk-

ards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.” (1 Corinthians 6:9-10) “And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him. “So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses.”” (Matthew 18:34-35) “Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar? Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect? And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, “Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.” And he was called the friend of God. You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only. Likewise, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out another way?” (James 2:21-25)

176 “Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. But someone will say, “You have faith, and I have works.” Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble! But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead? . . . For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.” (James 2:17-20,26)

177 “[I send you] to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power

of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me.” (Acts 26:18) “and made no distinction between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.” (Acts 15:9) See note 176.

178 “For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.”” (Romans 4:3) “But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness,” (Romans 4:5) “And when all the people heard Him, even the tax collectors justified God, having been baptized with the baptism of John.” (Luke 7:29) ““But wisdom is justified [= justified] by all her children.”” (Luke 7:35) “And He said to them, “You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is highly esteemed among men is an abomination in the sight of God.” (Luke 16:15)

179 “[To the] elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace be multiplied.” (1 Peter 1:2) “Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.” (1 Thessalonians 5:23) “For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness.” (1 Thessalonians 4:7) “I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness

leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness . . . But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life.” (Romans 6:19,22)

180 “Therefore He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, does He do it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? —” (Galatians 3:5) See notes 168 and 171.

181 See notes 173, 174, 176, 177.

182 “They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but they went out that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us.” (1 John 2:19) “being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;” (Philippians 1:6) “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.” (Philippians 2:12-13) [Note that these next three texts represent three successive settings in Abraham’s life in which his (persevering) faith is said to be reckoned as righteousness.] “For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.”” (Romans 4:3 = Genesis 15:6) “And not being weak in faith, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah’s womb. He

did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform. And therefore “it was accounted to him for righteousness.”” (Romans 4:19-22 = Genesis 17:17) “Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar? Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect? And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, “Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.” And he was called the friend of God.” (James 2:21-23 = Genesis 22:10)

183 See note 171.

184 See notes 175 and 176.

185 “[I count all as rubbish that I may] be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith;” (Philippians 3:9) “But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference;” (Romans 3:21-22) ““To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins.”” (Acts 10:43)

186 “He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully convinced that what He had promised He

was also able to perform. And therefore "it was accounted to him for righteousness." (Romans 4:20-22) "[He will present you blameless] if indeed you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard, which was preached to every creature under heaven, of which I, Paul, became a minister." (Colossians 1:23) "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." (Hebrews 11:1) "but Christ as a Son over His own house, whose house we are if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end." (Hebrews 3:6) "Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him," (Romans 6:8) "However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life." (1 Timothy 1:16)

187 "For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us." (2 Corinthians 1:20)

188 "that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." (Romans 10:9) "And this is His commandment: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, as He gave us commandment." (1 John 3:23) "[They were] testifying to Jews, and also to Greeks, repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ." (Acts 20:21) "'knowing

that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified." (Galatians 2:16) "since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of your love for all the saints;" (Colossians 1:4) "For though I am absent in the flesh, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good order and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ." (Colossians 2:5) "and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus." (2 Timothy 3:15) "but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name." (John 20:31) "For to you it has been granted on behalf of Christ, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake," (Philippians 1:29)

189 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made." (John 1:1-3)

190 "And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist." (Colossians 1:17) "who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power" (Hebrews 1:3)

191 "'For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior,

who is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:11)

192 "'You call me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am." (John 13:13)

193 "After they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit did not permit them." (Acts 16:7)

194 "'I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you." (John 14:18) "'Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." (John 14:27) "For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also abounds through Christ." (2 Corinthians 1:5)

195 "For I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayer and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ," (Philippians 1:19)

196 "'Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends. "You are My friends if you do whatever I command you. "No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you." (John 15:13-15)

197 "My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous." (1 John 2:1)

198 "But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one." (2 Thessalonians

3:3)

199 “that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.” (Romans 10:9)

200 “Therefore let us, as many as are mature, have this mind; and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal even this to you.” (Philippians 3:15)

201 “And Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.” (John 6:35) “Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome. For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.” (1 John 5:1-4) ““And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. “For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. “But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God.”” (John 3:19-21) “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things

not seen.” (Hebrews 11:1) “By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.” (Hebrews 11:24-26)

202 ““Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance,” (Matthew 3:8) “Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God,” (Hebrews 6:1) “When they heard these things they became silent; and they glorified God, saying, “Then God has also granted to the Gentiles repentance to life.”” (Acts 11:18) ““but declared first to those in Damascus and in Jerusalem, and throughout all the region of Judea, and [then] to the Gentiles, that they should repent, turn to God, and do works befitting repentance.” (Acts 26:20) “Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and long-suffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?” (Romans 2:4)

203 See notes 176 and 177.

204 See note 175.

205 “For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working through love.” (Galatians 5:6) See note 175.

206 See notes 45 and 46.

207 “But we are bound to give thanks

to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth,” (2 Thessalonians 2:13) “For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.” (Romans 8:29-30)

208 “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.” (Ephesians 2:8-9) “For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, that no flesh should glory in His presence.” (1 Corinthians 1:26-29)

209 “For I will not dare to speak of any of those things which Christ has not accomplished through me, in word and deed, to make the Gentiles obedient—” (Romans 15:18) “But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption— that, as it is written, “He who glories, let him glory in

- the LORD.” (1 Corinthians 1:30-31) “But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.” (1 Corinthians 15:10) “For who makes you differ from another? And what do you have that you did not receive? Now if you did indeed receive it, why do you boast as if you had not received it?” (1 Corinthians 4:7) “[May He] make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.” (Hebrews 13:21) “For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.” (Romans 11:36)
- 210 “Therefore He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, does He do it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? —” (Galatians 3:5)
- 211 ““However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. “He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.” (John 16:13-14)
- 212 “But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth,” (2 Thessalonians 2:13)
- 213 “Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I

press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.” (Philippians 3:12) “If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.” (1 John 1:8-10) “My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.” (1 John 2:1) “Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors.” (Matthew 6:11-12) “Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.” (Romans 6:11-13) “I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.” (Galatians 5:16-18)

- 214 “For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.” (Romans 6:14) “But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that

form of doctrine to which you were delivered.” (Romans 6:17)

- 215 “But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.” (2 Corinthians 3:18) “For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.” (1 Corinthians 1:18) “For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.” (Hebrews 10:14) “but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen.” (2 Peter 3:18)
- 216 “I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.” (Galatians 5:16-18) “Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul,” (1 Peter 2:11)
- 217 “Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; but exhort one another daily, while it is called “Today,” lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.” (Hebrews 3:12-13) “Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.” (1 Timothy 6:12) “I have

fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.” (2 Timothy 4:7-8)

218 “For false christs and false prophets will rise and show signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.” (Mark 13:22) “And the Lord said, “Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. “But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren.”” (Luke 22:31-32) “My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. “And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. “My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father’s hand. “I and My Father are one.”” (John 10:27-30) “Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.” (Romans 8:30) “For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end,” (Hebrews 3:14) “They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but they went out that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us.” (1 John 2:19) “[He] will also confirm you to the end, that you may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God

is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.” (1 Corinthians 1:8-9) “being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;” (Philippians 1:6) “Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.” (1 Thessalonians 5:23-24) “For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.” (2 Timothy 1:12) “[You] are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.” (1 Peter 1:5)

219 “And I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from doing them good; but I will put My fear in their hearts so that they will not depart from Me.” (Jeremiah 32:40)

220 “In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”” (1 Corinthians 11:25)

221 “Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight,

through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.” (Hebrews 13:20-21)

222 “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.” (Philippians 2:12-13)

223 “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.” (2 Timothy 4:7-8)

224 “But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.” (1 Corinthians 15:10)

225 See notes 45 and 46.

226 “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” (Romans 10:17)

227 “Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, “Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!”” (Mark 9:24) “And the Lord said, “Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. “But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when



you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren.” (Luke 22:31-32) “the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power” (Ephesians 1:18-19) “Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run swiftly and be glorified, just as it is with you,” (2 Thessalonians 3:1) “Therefore we also pray always for you that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness and the work of faith with power,” (2 Thessalonians 1:11)

228 “And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints—” (Ephesians 6:17-18) “For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.” (Hebrews 4:12) “Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night. He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does

shall prosper.” (Psalms 1:1-3)

229 “Incline my heart to Your testimonies, And not to covetousness.” (Psalms 119:36) “Open my eyes, that I may see Wondrous things from Your law.” (Psalms 119:18) “Teach me Your way, O LORD; I will walk in Your truth; Unite my heart to fear Your name.” (Psalms 86:11)

230 “as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature” (2 Peter 1:3-4) “for you had compassion on me in my chains, and joyfully accepted the plundering of your goods, knowing that you have a better and an enduring possession for yourselves in heaven.” (Hebrews 10:34) “By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.” (Hebrews 11:24-26) “Therefore let us go forth to Him, outside the camp, bearing His reproach. For here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come.” (Hebrews 13:13-14)

231 “by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ” (Ephesians 3:4)

232 “Therefore do not be unwise, but

understand what the will of the Lord is.” (Ephesians 5:17) See note 234.

233 “Consider what I say, and may the Lord give you understanding in all things.” (2 Timothy 2:7)

234 “Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You!” (Psalms 119:11)

235 “Delight yourself also in the LORD, And He shall give you the desires of your heart.” (Psalms 37:4) “Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good; Blessed is the man who trusts in Him!” (Psalms 34:8)

236 “But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night.” (Psalms 1:2)

237 “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 4:6-7) ““Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. “For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. “Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? “Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? “If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!” (Matthew 7:7-11)

238 “Now I beg you, brethren, through the Lord Jesus Christ, and through the love of the Spirit, that

- you strive together with me in prayers to God for me, that I may be delivered from those in Judea who do not believe, and that my service for Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints,” (Romans 15:30-31) “and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel,” (Ephesians 6:19) ““Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.”” (Matthew 9:38)
- 239 ““And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.” (John 14:13; see also 15:16; 16:23-24,26)
- 240 “If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.” (James 1:5-8)
- 241 ““In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven.” (Matthew 6:9-10)
- 242 ““Thus says the Lord GOD: "I will also let the house of Israel inquire of Me to do this for them: I will increase their men like a flock. "Like a flock offered as holy sacrifices, like the flock at Jerusalem on its feast days, so shall the ruined cities be filled with flocks of men. Then they shall know that I am the
- LORD.”” (Ezekiel 36:37-38)
- 243 “Incline my heart to Your testimonies, And not to covetousness.” (Psalms 119:36)
- 244 “Open my eyes, that I may see Wondrous things from Your law.” (Psalms 119:18) “the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,” (Ephesians 1:18)
- 245 “Oh, satisfy us early with Your mercy, That we may rejoice and be glad all our days!” (Psalms 90:14)
- 246 “For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man,” (Ephesians 3:14-16) “For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy;” (Colossians 1:9-11)
- 247 “And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love to one another and to all, just as we do to you, so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming
- of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.” (1 Thessalonians 3:12-13)
- 248 ““Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.”” (Matthew 9:38)
- 249 “Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run swiftly and be glorified, just as it is with you,” (2 Thessalonians 3:1)
- 250 “And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.” (Colossians 1:18) “And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church,” (Ephesians 1:22) “that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel,” (Ephesians 3:6) “but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ— from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.” (Ephesians 4:15-16) “For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body.” (Ephesians 5:23)
- 251 “to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places,” (Ephesians 3:10) ““You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. "Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a bas-

ket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:14-16)

252 "And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth." Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice: "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain To receive power and riches and wisdom, And strength and honor and glory and blessing!" (Revelation 5:9-12)

253 "At that time a great persecution arose against the church which was at Jerusalem" (Acts 8:1) "Aquila and Priscilla greet you heartily in the Lord, with the church that is in their house." (1 Corinthians 16:19)

254 "And He Himself gave . . . pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ," (Ephesians 4:11-12) "I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching." (2

Timothy 4:1-2)

255 "And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ," (Ephesians 5:18-20) "And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord." (Colossians 3:15-16)

256 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit," (Matthew 28:19)

257 "For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me." In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes." (1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

258 "There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are differences of ministries, but the same

Lord. And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:" (1 Corinthians 12:4-7) "How is it then, brethren? Whenever you come together, each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification." (1 Corinthians 14:26) "Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness." (Romans 12:6-8)

259 "Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted." (Galatians 6:1) "Brethren, if anyone among you wanders from the truth, and someone turns him back, let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins." (James 5:19-20) "Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened . . . But now I have written to you not to keep company with anyone named a brother, who is sexually immoral, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or an extortioner—not even to eat with such a person. For what [have] I [to do] with judging those also who are outside? Do you not judge those

who are inside? But those who are outside God judges. Therefore "put away from yourselves the evil person." (1 Corinthians 5:7,11-13) "And if anyone does not obey our word in this epistle, note that person and do not keep company with him, that he may be ashamed. Yet do not count [him] as an enemy, but admonish [him] as a brother." (2 Thessalonians 3:14-15)

260 "Walk in wisdom toward those [who are] outside, redeeming the time. [Let] your speech always [be] with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one." (Colossians 4:5-6) "whenever I journey to Spain, I shall come to you. For I hope to see you on my journey, and to be helped on my way there by you, if first I may enjoy your [company] for a while." (Romans 15:24) "because they went forth for His name's sake, taking nothing from the Gentiles. We therefore ought to receive such, that we may become fellow workers for the truth." (3 John 7-8) "And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, "teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, [even] to the end of the age." Amen." (Matthew 28:18-20)

261 "For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. For in fact the body is not one member but

many. If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I am not of the body," is it therefore not of the body? And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I am not of the body," is it therefore not of the body? If the whole body [were] an eye, where [would be] the hearing? If the whole [were] hearing, where [would be] the smelling? But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased." (1 Corinthians 12:13-18)

262 "[We have] been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief [cornerstone], in whom the whole building, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit." (Ephesians 2:20-22)

263 "[I am writing these things to you so that] if I am delayed, you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth." (1 Timothy 3:15)

264 "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. "Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all [who are] in the house. "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:14-16)

265 "[You have been] buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with [Him] through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead." (Colossians 2:12) "There is also an

antitype which now saves us—baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ," (1 Peter 3:21) "For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ." (Galatians 3:26-27) "Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." (Acts 2:38) "Then Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his household. And many of the Corinthians, hearing, believed and were baptized." (Acts 18:8) "and were baptized by him in the Jordan, confessing their sins." (Matthew 3:6)

266 "For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit." (1 Corinthians 12:13)

267 "Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." (Romans 6:3-4)

268 "Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, "See, [here is] water. What hinders me from being baptized?" Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the

Son of God." So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him. Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing." (Acts 8:36-39) "Now John also was baptizing in Aenon near Salim, because there was much water there. And they came and were baptized." (John 3:23) "Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." (Romans 6:4)

269""Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit," (Matthew 28:19)

270"For he is not a Jew who [is one] outwardly, nor [is] circumcision that which [is] outward in the flesh; but [he is] a Jew who [is one] inwardly; and circumcision [is that] of the heart, in the Spirit, not in the letter; whose praise [is] not from men but from God." (Romans 2:28-29) "Therefore [it is] of faith that [it might be] according to grace, so that the promise might be sure to all the seed, not only to those who are of the law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all" (Romans 4:16) "Therefore know that [only] those who are of faith are sons of Abraham." (Galatians 3:7) "John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. Then all the land of Judea, and those from Jerus-

alem, went out to him and were all baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins." (Mark 1:4-5)

271 See note 267.

272"let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water." (Hebrews 10:22)

273 See note 257.

274"Now in giving these instructions I do not praise [you], since you come together not for the better but for the worse. For first of all, when you come together as a church, I hear that there are divisions among you, and in part I believe it . . . Therefore when you come together in one place, it is not to eat the Lord's Supper . . . What! Do you not have houses to eat and drink in? Or do you despise the church of God?" (1 Corinthians 11:17-20,22)

275 See note 257.

276"The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? For we, [though] many, are one bread [and] one body; for we all partake of that one bread." (1 Corinthians 10:16-17) "Then Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you. "Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. "For My flesh is food indeed, and My blood is drink indeed. "He who eats My flesh and drinks My

blood abides in Me, and I in him. "As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on Me will live because of Me . . . It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and [they] are life." (John 6:53-57,63)

277"and He Himself gave . . . pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ," (Ephesians 4:11-12) "Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine." (1 Timothy 5:17) "So when they had appointed elders in every church, and prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord in whom they had believed." (Acts 14:23) "For this reason I left you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking, and appoint elders in every city as I commanded you—" (Titus 1:5) ""but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word."" (Acts 6:4) "And I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in silence. For Adam was formed first, then Eve." (1 Timothy 2:12-13)

278"and Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, "teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, [even] to the end of the age."

Amen.” (Matthew 28:18-20)

279 “And they sang a new song, saying: “You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation,” (Revelation 5:9)

280 See note 278.

281 “So when they had appointed elders in every church, and prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord in whom they had believed.” (Acts 14:23)

282 “Through Him we have received grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations for His name,” (Romans 1:5) ““But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him.” (John 4:23) “Now I say that Jesus Christ has become a servant to the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises [made] to the fathers, and that the Gentiles might glorify God for [His] mercy, as it is written: “For this reason I will confess to You among the Gentiles, And sing to Your name.” And again he says: “Rejoice, O Gentiles, with His people!” And again: “Praise the LORD, all you Gentiles! Laud Him, all you peoples!”” (Romans 15:8-11)

283 “But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and church of the firstborn [who are]

registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect,” (Hebrews 12:22-23)

284 “And Jesus said to him, “Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.”” (Luke 23:43)

285 “For I am hard pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, [which is] far better.” (Philippians 1:23; cf. 2 Corinthians 5:1-9; Revelation 6:9-11. On the issue of whether Paul conceives of the body and soul as separable, see 2 Corinthians 12:2-3.)

286 “[We are] looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,” (Titus 2:13)

287 “Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, who also said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This [same] Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.”” (Acts 1:9-11)

288 “But He kept silent and answered nothing. Again the high priest asked Him, saying to Him, “Are You the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?” Jesus said, “I am. And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven.”” (Mark 14:61-62)

289 “For our citizenship is in heaven,

from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.” (Philippians 3:20-21) ““Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have.” When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. But while they still did not believe for joy, and marveled, He said to them, “Have you any food here?” So they gave Him a piece of a broiled fish and some honeycomb. And He took [it] and ate in their presence.” (Luke 24:39-43) See note 286.

290 “For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. For when they say, “Peace and safety!” then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape.” (1 Thessalonians 5:2-3)

291 ““Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.” (Luke 21:27)

292 ““And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.” (Matthew 24:31)

293 “For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive [and] remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend

from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive [and] remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.” (1 Thessalonians 4:15-17)

294 “For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, afterward those [who are] Christ’s at His coming. Then [comes] the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power.” (1 Corinthians 15:22-24) “I charge [you] therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom.” (2 Timothy 4:1) ““But you are those who have continued with Me in My trials. “And I bestow upon you a kingdom, just as My Father bestowed [one] upon Me, “that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.”” (Luke 22:28-30)

295 “You will show me the path of life; In Your presence [is] fullness of joy; At Your right hand [are] pleasures forevermore.” (Psalms 16:11) ““His lord said to him, ‘Well [done], good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’” (Matthew 25:23) ““And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”” (Matthew 25:46) ““And everyone who has left houses or brothers or

sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name’s sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life.” (Matthew 19:29) ““For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” (John 3:16) “For the wages of sin [is] death, but the gift of God [is] eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 6:23) “Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, And to present [you] faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy . . . [Be] glory and majesty, Dominion and power, Both now and forever. Amen.” (Jude 24-25)

296 “For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,” (Romans 1:18)

297 “And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, Some to everlasting life, Some to shame [and] everlasting contempt.” (Daniel 12:2) ““His winnowing fan [is] in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”” (Matthew 3:12; see also 18:8; 10:28; 12:32; 25:41,46; 26:24; Mark 3:29; 9:43-48; Luke 16:26; Jude 12-13.) “These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power,” (2 Thessalonians 1:9) ““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.”” (Revelation 14:11; see also 19:3; 20:10)

298 “[God] raised [us] up together, and made [us] sit together in the heavenly [places] in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in [His] kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.” (Ephesians 2:6-7) “You will show me the path of life; In Your presence [is] fullness of joy; At Your right hand [are] pleasures forevermore.” (Psalms 16:11) “For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known.” (1 Corinthians 13:12) “But as it is written: “Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.”” (1 Corinthians 2:9)

299 See Revelation 4 and 5

300 ““For I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God.” (Acts 20:27)

301 “Paul, a bondservant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God’s elect and the acknowledgment of the truth which accords with godliness,” (Titus 1:1) “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.” (1 Timothy 6:3-5) “Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons,” (1 Timothy 4:1)

302 “[We minister for the building up of the body of Christ] till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,” (Ephesians 4:13-14)

303 “Now the purpose of the commandment is love from a pure heart, [from] a good conscience, and [from] sincere faith,” (1 Timothy 1:5)

304 “And those who know Your name will put their trust in You” (Psalms 9:10)

305 “[There is] one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who [is] above all, and through all, and in you all.” (Ephesians 4:4-6)

306 ““A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. "By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”” (John 13:34-35)

307 “For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known.” (1 Corinthians 13:12) “but grow in

the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him [be] the glory both now and forever. Amen.” (2 Peter 3:18)

308 “These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily [to find out] whether these things were so.” (Acts 17:11)