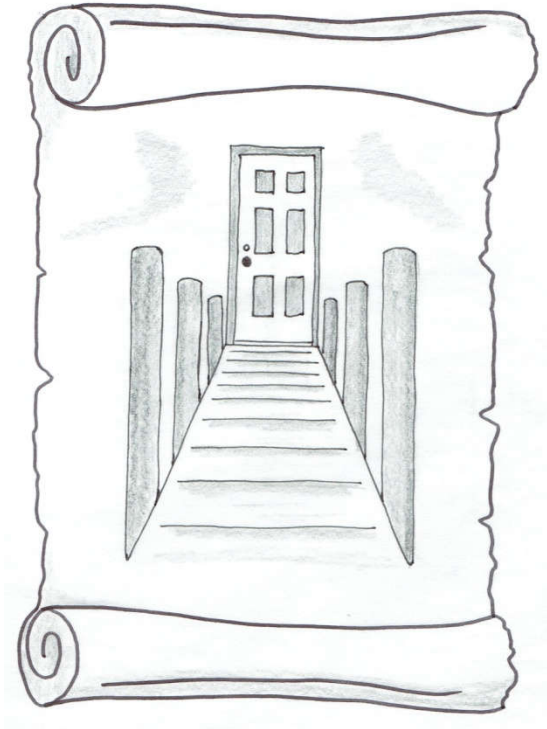


Made In Truth

Love has a Door – Truth is the Door!



Why is the Bible so important?

FIRST EDITION

The Greatest Harvest of Treasure!

For whosoever shall call upon
the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Romans 10:13

**Basic biblical understanding of
The essence of life and applications**

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Introduction

First, thank you for taking a look; I've written this book not to overwhelm you in any way, reason why I say that is because the subject matter is life, and I know how difficult life can be at times, at the same time, we cannot deny that there are many things in life that brings us much joy.

I remember when I first decided to read the Bible, I was in High School and thought, I'll start with the book of Revelation, seem to be the most interesting at that time, but I was somewhat depressed when I finished it. I didn't have a good grasp on the entire message, and it was this grasp that empowered me to see the treasure within it.

My hope is that God will give you a thirst for His Word, and that you'll cultivate that gift; the message of this booklet points you to the Bible, I know that it is difficult when we're young, but make an effort; the subjects written within are guiding points for you to understand more the life you've been given and the world you live in.

When I was young I remember wanting such guidance, but the thought remained within me and so today I want you to take advantage of it, read it until you realize that there's no better book than the Bible, and then pass it on to a person that needs such thirst for God's Word.

Read it next week or next year, but ready before it's too late.

Like a treasure

I have good news for you, this isn't a winning lottery ticket or the inheritance of a great ancestor, much less of a promotion or a salary raise, none of those things, so if you were hoping for something like that, take a hike, this book ain't for ya!

The good news I have for you go well beyond all those things and much more, but you have to be patient and stay with me on this journey, because in a way it is like obtaining clues to locate a treasure, patience is key, you know why? Because the treasure is so great, that it has been guarded in such a way that only through patience can it be located.

It's the treasure of a lifetime! But before we begin, let me warn you that there will be many obstacles to make you doubt of such treasure, so that you'll turn back, you'll have to be strong, you'll have the tools you need to overcome this journey, but overwhelming times may come, therefore remember the tools, they'll remind you of that great hope.

Before you were born, you had an enemy, a thief that wanted to steal away your treasure, either by destroying you right from the get go or by enticing you into things that would only make dull the tools you'll need for your journey, as you grow older the enemy will attack you with the abundance of things to keep you busy or by the lack of them to make you chase after the wind, hence delaying the finding of your treasure.

Boundaries and Joy

If you had a special drone that could survey life from high altitude, what would it see, well, you might say little trees like tiny broccoli and towns that look like microchips and I would say, well, I'm not talking about that, I'm talking about the important areas of life! But like tiny trees and towns, we're going to explore the structure of life from above, the intrinsic!

There are many, many angles to look at life from, but this is a very important one, because it has to do with the spiritual infrastructure that God has set for us to live in; there is a boundary that God has set for His children, towards the center within that boundary is Him, God is love and our hearts long for joy, which is a branch of love, the boundary itself are those things that God has told us not to do, and beyond that boundary are troubles and the further away you go from the center where God is, the darker it gets.

The illustration above, although simple, is very accurate in terms of how life works, crossing the boundary does not mean God will strike you dead right away, He has placed mercy for you to grab a hold of, but if you continue in the wrong path, darkness will make you stumble, you won't be able to see.

The opposite is true, the obedience of His word will draw us closer to Him, and that means we'll experience joyfulness; everybody experiences difficult times in life, but a child of God can be sure God will take care of him/her, God is faithful.

Section Notes:

Treasure, Boundaries and Joy

Boundaries (Knowledge of)

Why did everything have to be, or start, the way it did?
Meaning the way Adam sinned and why was God's punishment so heavy on Adam? Furthermore, why did we have to suffer for what Adam did?

I probably put too many questions there, but here's the way I understand it, and that with Biblical backing, of course.

FREE WILL! It is a wonderful gift, after all, who wants to love by force? Who wants to love God by force? Does God want us to love Him by force? No! In love we obey, how much obedience can we get from a child if the child does not love us? Ah, but FREE WILL has implications, many as you know!

The first connection to make is that free will requires a recipient, who has to be alive, but because of the nature of free will, this being could attempt to self destruct, in fact it would be easier to fall into thousands of self-destructive ways, quick or slow, than to keep the original given status, perhaps of perfection.

The only way to protect life is through perfect truth, as mentioned before; there are many subtle ways of destruction, but what if man does not want the perfect truth? I mean, he has FREE WILL to reject it, even if it means self-destruct; then again he is not fully aware of what he has, of his own life and of his own value, of being made in God's Image.

So Adam's fall triggered something called decay, and even though at first glance decay is not something we would want, when looked from a different angle, it's actually something good, that angle is: "It could have been a lot worse", meaning man could have been thrown immediately into Hell, and God had perfect right to do so, after all, we are His creation.

So decay is a slow death, but it also is God's mercy, time enters the picture and now even though we're not in eternity, we have the opportunity to be re-established to that eternity, to a perfection where there's no time, nor decay; but most importantly, we have the opportunity to be connected to the heart of our creator, you see, it's very easy to take a piece of bread, not so natural to be thankful, to share that bread or even in sacrifice, to give the bread away to someone else.

God is willing to give us eternity, He is willing to make us perfect, but those are things, we need to love Him, and not by force, yet this FREE WILL keeps pulling us in the opposite direction! This mercy time is for us to eat the Word of Truth, because God's Word is perfect, therefore if we eat something of perfection, perfection will be within us, this is called Sanctification, the process of reading God's Word, which is the bread of life, that's the door God made for us to be restored, not just into perfection, but to HIM!

Our blood had Adam's nature, but Jesus shed His blood, so that through faith in HIM, we may receive perfect blood.

Life

Our journey begins with life, such beautiful thing, but soon in our younger years we realize that there's something wrong with the world, from accidents to tragedies and at the end of every bad road, death.

As we grow older our tenacity to overcome increases, but in many cases only to give up deflated and that after many years have gone by, and yet the world remains in a constant downward, spiraling down more and more on that bad road.

Suddenly our awareness kicks in, this is where I need to grab your attention, although if you're a younger reader, I wish you would stay on this journey so that you wouldn't have to go through all the attacks the enemy will throw at you, yes they can be avoided, but only by properly applying the tools.

This awareness is our window of opportunity, imagine you're a fish in the ocean, there's a bait, this booklet is that bait, I want you to be willing to come out of that ocean we call the world and see a whole new life, don't back out now, I got ya little fishy!

Although I bring some humor to my writing, the subject matter is of upmost importance, your very life depends on it, not on what I have to say, but in the subject matter, you only have one life, so even if you imagine you have another twenty lives, don't gamble, there's nothing more serious than your very life.

The Bible

What I have to say is nothing compare to what is written within the pages of the Bible, I'm referring to God's Word, this booklet is like a road sign pointing you to God's Word in the Bible; as mentioned before, there will be many obstacles, the enemy does not want you to read the Bible, why? Because it contains God's Word, it is only God's Word that can place you on the fastest track to locate your treasure.

Think about this, the Bible is a book like no other, about 40 prophets have books within it, many of them did not know each other, yet the message they wrote throughout a period of about 1,500 years is one hundred percent in alignment with the Bible's central message, it's the oldest book in the entire history of mankind and perhaps the only book that has been attacked the most, as in people trying to burn it, or defame it.

You won't go far without the Bible, in fact you won't be able to take even one little step in the right direction without God's Word, perhaps this sounds opinionated, but it is impossible to think otherwise after reading the Bible and make all the corresponding logical connections that the truth begs for.

Your journey begins with belief, primarily in the fact that God created man in His image, and gave him a soul. We have to explore Your Belief and remove obstacles, our most important tool is the TRUTH, this tool is the highway to your Belief.

Greater than the Bible

I believe the Bible was put together under God's inspiration, much in the same way the prophets were inspired by God to write His Word, God is the writer, prophets were His writing instruments; perhaps that sounds a bit of a stretch, but it's not, simply because we need to understand that the power of God is greater than the will of man.

From beginning to end the Bible contains the main message of God, which is that Jesus Christ is our King, the other message all across is that we are being rescued by His mercy, the Bible contains many layers of information, so that we may learn different things that are needful at different times in our lives and during different situations, it is the book of hope, of love, of miracles, and it is the most wonderful book in the whole entire world, simply because it contains God's Word.

That is what makes the Bible great, God's Word, man does not have to walk blind, God has given him His living Word, what does this mean? That even though the Bible is very important, in particular because there are many false religions in the world that come up with their own books; the Lord Jesus Christ, whom God's Word is greater than the Bible, than the scriptures, the Bible itself cannot save us, but Jesus can!!!

John 5:39 Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.

Your Belief

Our minds are tender and in way empty after we're born, the capacity of the mind to capture language is super amazing, for lack of a better word, it's program is magnificent, for instance, how come animals cannot wire their brains to understand?

Well, there are many questions of such caliber that I want you to think about, questions are like doors, you nock and then you get an answer, at this point you have to verify if it's the right answer, sounds strange, but it is the best mechanism of communication and understanding, the interaction of truth.

If I sound close-minded, I sound close-minded! and that to you, so what can you do? But here's the challenge, here's the first step, this is critical, if you're between 25 and 35 years of age, you need to rethink just about everything you have learned of the world, by using the logical connections of what is truth.

The problem is that the world has gotten an advantage on your brain, not only through the school system, even all the way through college and even doctorates, but also through the world's tentacles, like entertainment, addictions, and even things that seem benevolent, like work and caring for others.

You believe you're doing good, but if your belief is not grounded in the Truth, is nothing; now your feathers may be ruffled right now, but the TRUTH has a source, and it ain't your heart, you must ground your belief to the TRUTH, it's the way.

Where's the Truth?

Mankind was given the truth: the Truth is God's Word. I know that sounds simple, but I believe that it isn't understood unless your actions begin to reflect your grounding to the same; in other words, we cannot make the Truth up, it already is, it has been in existence before the Earth was made, truth=existence.

Science will tell you that there was a big bang, that space-time holds futuristic promises, that quantum mechanics explains multi-verses and many other "string" theories; you're looking at the wrong stuff, science is blind, and in case you haven't noticed, it doesn't have a heart, in fact, I believe the very fact that you're reading this booklet implies that you're seeking something greater, and yes, as mentioned before, even that treasure! All I'm trying to say in a nutshell of science is that it is a dead-end road, fair warning.

Truth is God's Word and God's Word is found in the Bible, if you can, memorize that first line. We read in the Bible that in the beginning God created the Heaven and the Earth, I have mentioned the beginning of the Bible to make the connection with the first chapter of the book of John (within the Bible also), which says that In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

The connection we ought to make, is with John 1:14, telling us that Jesus is the Word of God, such truth is like a gift that needs unwrapping, this is the journey of truth, stay calm!

And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

John 1:14

So God made us?

Yes, God made mankind, the very first man was Adam, this may sound strange to you because of your “programming”, and many people would say you’re being brainwashed to believe such things, but I tell you, many brains need to be washed from believing the things that this world has imposed upon people’s minds, don’t be naive into thinking they have all this technology, science, engineering and many other fields to better mankind, I wanted to believe that when I was younger, and yes there are many people that mean well, but the truth is that “evil takes by force”, and there are many people that for the love of money do manipulate people in unthinkable ways.

As the loving Father that God is to us, I believe that He won’t let His children to go hungry and He Himself tells us in the Bible, that man shall not live by bread alone, but by every Word of God, so it is God that protects His children’s food, meaning His Word, God protects His Word within the Bible, this knowledge is critical, it is a grounding truth, keep it.

Why do I say or rather write all those things, things that sound somewhat irrelevant, simply because there are truths that won’t remain in you unless your trust in God is anchored within you; no grounding, no strength! Like this truth:

So God created man in his *own* image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

Genesis 1:27

What's next?

Let's recap a bit on what we have learned, starting with the most important thing: Truth has a source, Jesus is the Truth, Jesus is God's Word. So our belief needs to be aligned with God's Word, why? Because He made us, the fact that God made us, means that we belong to Him, and because we were created through the Truth, He has ownership of us, it is this ownership that gives Him authority over us, He is our King!

That last part was not part of what we learned previously, but it is the logical extension, the conclusion of the logical points that have been established. This is how our reasoning needs to operate; with foundational truths, logical connections and the results are intelligent choices, wise decisions.

Our foundational journey is concluded with the knowledge that man was created with a soul, this is perhaps the most difficult truth to assimilate, given that in a way it makes you part of the Biblical story, kind of like telling you, you're part of this and there's no exit, except the one God provided us with.

Genesis 2:7 And the LORD God formed man *of* the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

A man is made with three elements: flesh, soul and spirit, it's our makeup, just like the Earth, with layers we cannot see, but they're there, in this case, God is telling us how we're made.

The Soul

The soul is the true definition of your identity in the background of the supernatural, the importance of the soul is clearly implied by Jesus in the following verse:

Mark 8:36 For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

You might be wondering, how come things aren't as clear as when I learn things from science or other subjects; well, there are people that serve the enemy and do not regard God's Word in honor, therefore there are things that are concealed, patience is the key, but if you love the truth, righteousness and life, you'll be persistent seeking that treasure! I know you will.

So logically speaking, how can we find this wonderful treasure if we cannot attend such discovery? What I'm saying is basically what Jesus said in Mark 8:36, even though you may have a treasure, but what if your soul is nowhere to be found? How will you then be able to enjoy your treasure?

The identity of the soul is rooted in the creation of Adam, because we are his descendants, but God provided a door, to cleanse that corrupted identity, so He provided His mercy through the Truth, that is why Jesus was crucified, to destroy that old nature, this is key to keep in mind, the process is called "Being born again", when Jesus was crucified, He made atonement for our souls, we're passed from death to life.

The importance of the Bible

What we've read so far are glimpses of what is written within the pages of the Bible, my hope is that it will give you a framework of understanding, it is unfortunate that God's Word is suppressed in many ways, even within our minds, since there are years in which it seems that we're allergic to it, "nothing more boring than the bible", have we not said that?

But you know, there are many things in this life that we can compare in parallel to the Bible, and I say that so that we can see its importance from many different angles, for instance:

When we're young we don't like vegetables, granted not everyone was like that, but I would think our taste kind of dictated our choices, and so we build our list of preferences, based on taste, only thing is that over time they'll prove to be the wrong choices.

The same is with our eyes, don't our eyes drift toward the fastest more impressive cars, or movies, or meals, and eventually we end up in debt because our choices were based on taste, looks or immediate gratification? Now we're trapped! The hardest things in life are the ones worth fighting for, the world will drift towards looks, taste, pleasures, luxuries, these lead to trouble, tragedy or death, but...

The Bible prepares us, we need to be ready, God has given us a blueprint to follow, what's done today, will impact tomorrow.

The supernatural

So far, you've learned external things, basically how things came to be and how things are; man's nature, or perhaps I should say: man's sinful nature, through inheritance, dictates that we ought to reject such things the Bible speaks of, reason why is because that nature is selfish, it wants its own way, and cannot accept that there's someone greater than him, much less to rule over him, our condition deeper and darker than we think.

But we cannot change reality, and if you come to believe and love the Lord Jesus, you'll come to the conclusion that His way is way better than ours, there's no comparison, yes there's a clash for the time being, but this is God's time of mercy towards mankind, some may say, we hear all these things, but nothing ever happens; what God hopes for, is that through His mercy, mankind will repent of trespassing, of disobedience.

Heaven is greater than Earth, the visible things were made from the invisible things, we were made, I know that's hard to grasp, but it is the reality, we are like a tool in man's hand, and I know that's even harder to believe, but it is true!!

The Bible opens a door into the supernatural, the right way, God wants us to partake of His Kingdom, His way, in order.

John 3:12 If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things?

Section Notes:

Boundaries (Knowledge of)

Sin

Perhaps our perception of sin is incorrect, the world will always down-play sin, what's the big deal? Then man falls.

The first sin, basically the sin that got us all into this mess was done by Eve, whom disobeyed God's Word and ate from the tree that God forbade them from eating, she also gave fruit to eat to her husband and he ate, therefore both disobeyed.

So again, many would say, what's the big deal? The question/statement is careless and without basis, even in our fallen nature we can discover within the Bible that God's nature is perfection, even holiness; if I could describe holiness I would say it is the combination of perfection with perfect love, a little redundant, but I think it makes perfect sense.

To sin is basically to fall into a hole, as an example to put things into perspective; there are sins that are of small nature, more like errors, like dropping a glass by mistake, you may get hurt, but it was a trespass against life, your life, a small trespass, nevertheless a trespass, now there are other trespasses of bigger nature, like attempting to kill someone, that's a bigger hole, so the question is how do you get out of that one? Any transgression towards life is a sin, life has value!

God is eternal, and something to grasp is that God Himself is life, so our trespasses are against Him directly, so if we don't repent, how deep is that hole? Can you climb out of it?

Pride

Speaking of sin and how deep those missiles of sin go into the fabric of life, a specific sin worth talking about is pride, Adam and Eve committed the first sin, but Lucifer which was an Angel in Heaven fell into the sin of pride and he has not repented, nor would he, so he was cast out of Heaven, so imagine how deep is the hole he made for himself.

Not only because his trespass was against God, but in a way, he knew better, in other words, he had more than enough within himself to overcome that pride, his transgression was grievous, in a way it was because of Lucifer that man fell, I say not in whole, because man could have said no to sin.

Just like Lucifer, man had the gift of free will, goes to show that you may have all the freedom in the world, but you cannot choose the consequence, that's why it's good to know your environment, even before you enter into it, you do not want to fall, sort of like a nuclear plant, you need training and titles before you can even scroll through even an empty hallway.

God wants to rescue mankind from that giant hole called hell, which was made for the devil, it wasn't made for man, but pride can certainly pave our way there; therefore we must put away pride, so that we don't fall, it's that simple.

Proverbs 16:18 Pride *goeth* before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

Exposure

I wasn't going to put this one in, but it is that important.

There used to be some cameras that had a square flash, you would press the button to take a picture and the flash would illuminate the area, it was the light that made it possible for the camera to capture what was exposed by the light, it was recorded, in a flash.

Matthew 6:23 But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great *is* that darkness!

Men, fathers, young men, what we expose ourselves to, what our children are exposed to, is changing them, little by little, one flash of light at a time, as they watch, as we watch killing games, as we watch pornography, as we watch mockery and filthiness, we're being changed, one flash at a time and little by little our hearts become darker and darker, setting up the stage for a damned soul; Men, fathers, young men, let not that happen to you, get a grip on the destiny of your soul, while you can, what legacy will you leave your children, a mess?

The Lord commands you to protect your family and offer your body as a living sacrifice, which is good and acceptable.

Job 28:28 And unto man he said, Behold, the fear of the Lord, that *is* wisdom; and to depart from evil *is* understanding.

Our mouths

Out of one mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing:
my brethren, these things ought not so to be.

James 3:10

If we say holy is the name of the Lord, how is it that out of our mouths people hear variations of the same? Shadows of the Name of the Lord, are they not? Have you not heard of euphemisms, I believe there's not much to exhort here, for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks, God will not force anyone to love him, so why not make the love we give God free from spots, pure! Don't we control of our tongue?

We as Christians have perfected the art of reducing the volume of the same words, perhaps there's a conviction proceeding from the conscience when realizing that reducing the volume does not reduce the weight; we need to change!

There needs to be more awareness that the devil is seeking whom he may devour, the Christian should seek holiness, which means that he or she is enrolled in the process of Sanctification, the perfection of our words, starting from the heart, I say that not to bring judgment, but as an exhortation.

For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same *is* a perfect man, *and* able also to bridle the whole body.

James 3:2

Living Sacrifice

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service.

Romans 12:1

Every sin that a person does is outside the body, but in the case of fornication, that persons sins against his/her own body.

God wants us to enjoy what life has to offer the right way, in case you haven't notice our evil tendency is to have things right away, but there's a price for that, much, much higher.

Seeking to do things God's way is a lifelong endeavor, if we're God's children, He will train us, and like a loving father, He won't discard us on failures or sins we commit, it does not mean we can take advantage of His mercy, in fact, He knows exactly how to increase the volume on His correction, and things can always get worse, if we so choose to take that path.

Therefore, it is advised to be a man of one woman, and that in marriage, and a woman of one man and that in marriage as well, in purity a man is not to touch a woman until marriage.

There is forgiveness, but we must protect our bodies not just from sexual trespass, but from tattoos, piercings, cuttings, addictions, etc. God made us without the need of those things, don't add or remove, be content with your body.

Our old nature

We have learned how things are externally; the supernatural realm is more real than what is visible, due to our awareness through the Bible. We have covered sin and pride, which really is a big chunk of our old nature, when I say old nature; I'm referring to the nature that we inherited through Adam.

After the first sin, decay came into existence, so the entire universe fell out of sync with perfection, and so did our bodies, the first man Adam lived 930 years, and after the great flood God reduced man's lifespan to 120 years, this was gradual, I believe that through it all we can see God's mercy taking place.

Today we only live about half of that, give or take, but that's not the major problem at all, the major problem is that we're not concerned with our eternity, this life is only the beginning, when God created man, He gave him a soul, the material, the fabric of this soul is eternal, so in a way, this life is just the beginning, but we can choose: the beginning of what, Heaven or Hell? That's the reality we're faced with, but let's take a look at what the Bible says about our old nature:

Matthew 15:19 For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies:

Does that sound accurate? Perhaps we should verify more.

Beginnings of idolatry

Years ago after reading the old testament, I came to the conclusion that idolatry is something that's not pleasing to God, we read about it in much of the old testament, in the new testament it says, children keep away from idols.

Idolatry is expressed through the making of statues and just about anything man can imagine, animals and such; the problem comes when the mind or the heart of a person places affection on that thing, or begins to trust such thing, or begins to confide in such thing, and we end up with what we have today, many false religions, far away from the right path.

I've come to believe that one of the best ways to fend against such evil is to see God's creation, whatever God had made, as copyrighted, meaning man is not to make a copy of it, make cars, airplanes, trains, tools, etc the list goes on, so there's no shortage on what man can make, therefore we should stay away from what's copyrighted.

The Bible clearly tells us not to make statues, things made with man's hands to be worshiped, and that's the point, nothing deserves the worship that belongs to our Heavenly Father, why set a a stumbling block for our children, even for us?

Lest ye corrupt *yourselves*, and make you a graven image, the similitude of any figure, the likeness of male or female,

Deuteronomy 4:16

The blackness of the soul

Romans 1:28-32 And even as they did not like to retain God in *their* knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.

Notice how it says at the beginning, “as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge”, remember how we mentioned before that God is life, without him with simply wither, we need God in order to live life, otherwise corruption begins to set in, weird choices creep in and it’s a matter of time before a trespass places the man into a hole so deep, he can’t work his way out anymore.

There are other verses that testify to our old nature, and I call it old nature because we don’t have to keep it, it’s a choice, realize that there’s a better choice, choose life that you may live! The hole you’re in will only get darker and deeper.

1 Timothy 1:9, 2 Timothy 3:2, Titus 1:16, 1 Peter 3:20

The world outlook

The condition within a man, of which we have learned some in the previous section, does reflect in the world as a whole, what do you see in the world today? Just take a look!

To sum it up, there's much evil in the world; there's much corruption, homosexuality, abortions, suicides, the hatred of people, wars, all kinds of abuse, pains, tragedies and more.

Sooner or later we'll realize that the world isn't getting any better, young people tend to believe that, simply because they are hopeful, but the world takes advantage of that hope and sends their mind in the wrong direction, a young person does not know the inner workings and craftiness of man, many young people fall into the trap that leads them to reject God and thereby rejecting life itself, like rejecting water in thirst.

Many women fall into the trap of abortion, believing that it's okay to get rid of their baby, and this, the bond between a mother and a child is supposed to be one of the strongest bonds, yet the craftiness of the enemy through the systems of the world manages to convince women of such atrocity.

Is God doing something about it? Yes He is, it may not seem that way, especially if we look at the world without even attempting to read one page of the Bible, notice how in Romans 1:28 it says, "God gave them to a reprobate mind", to sum it up, if you don't want to life, you won't partake of life.

What's an example for?

Jude 7 Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

To a non-believer or basically a person that has not read the Bible (because if you read it, at the very least you'd be giving yourself the opportunity to understand it), the above verse may look as a tragedy, and there have been many tragedies in the world, but we know that God is merciful, and that mercy has a point in which correction or punishment are needed.

Sodom and Gomorrha are now an examples to us; righteousness is nothing to play with, God is serious about His creation, about man and the role He has given him, and we should too, His goal for us is to have a joyful life, under the canopy of His wing, it is not His will that we perish, but if we do perish is because of our own choices, He has given us free will and He will not trespass, He made an exit for us, a Door, a wonderful door named Jesus, our only exit, there's no such thing as beautiful light in Hell, light is of Heaven, God is Light.

How many times have you heard science warn you of hell? Zero, because it hasn't been proven that it exists, well, just because it hasn't been proven, does not mean it doesn't exist, get ready for the roller coaster, but it really doesn't have to be that way; you do not even want 3 seconds of torment in Hell.

The man, the world and hell

What's the prognosis, what's the consensus, what's the scoop in the coop (like my wife says), take a look at the world, worth keeping? Take a look at yourself; do you want to live a million years in that old broken and corrupted nature? The Bible talks about that scary place called Hell, what's the prospect then?

The truth is that WE ALL deserve to go to HELL, because our hearts are beyond repair, the condition of the world is in part proof of that. What do we have that we can say, this is perfect! Nothing!! We have nothing good, even us, none of us are good, we're filthy and without God we're hopeless.

Hell is a place of torment and lack of rest; I've heard those things many times, and for many years I did not grasp it, even though I thought I understood, you know how I knew I understood? When I made my choice to seek the Lord, then I knew I was rejecting Hell, and what a wonderful choice it is.

The Lord Jesus gives us a glimpse of what is Hell like, in Luke 16:19-31 (it's on the next page), there's also a short movie about it based on that scripture, it was produced by Crown Ministries – the Rich man and Lazarus

These things are not to put fear in you, but to make you aware of reality, God is good. You may ask, why then does He cast people into Hell? This is because of people's choices, God is good and perfect, there's no reason for people to reject Him.

Luke 16:19-31 There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day: And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores, And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame. But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented. And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that *would come* from thence. Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house: For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment. Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them. And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent. And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.

Be real, let it go!

Contentment – We need to tone down our wants and begin exploring what contentment means, there's a reason for the Psalmist to say "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want", it direct us to contentment, shining light to the fact that we have all we need in Christ.

Vanity – This happens when contentment is nowhere to be found within your mind, it will drive you poor and fill you with problems, sounds almost like a plague. Stay away from it, if you have this issue, read the book of Proverbs over and over.

Pride- We touched on this one before, yet it is a big one amongst us, why are men prideful? There's not a man on this Earth that has anything of value, the only thing we have of value is the Mercy of the Lord Jesus, and that may drift from us if we continue in pride, nothing complex here.

Immaturity – I remember a time when I thought I had a good definition for maturity, this ain't a yoke; but seriously, if you ask me know, I think maturity is doing the things that need to be done, whether we like them or not, even in sacrifice, not easy and yes, easier said than done, but we must mature!

Addictions – You know what an addiction looks like when you see it, so now that you know what the trash looks like, take it out to the curb where the garbage truck can pick it up and take it out of your sight, we men take the trash out! Capiche!?

Traps to stay away from

Let me put it this way, how many healthy meals are out there? Too many to count, right?! Yet, I believe in a person's life time, that person won't be able to experience all the good and healthy meals that are out there; so it is the case of doing the best you can with the best you got, you just won't have enough time. I don't say that to discourage you, but to make you aware, so that you can maximize your efforts on this Earth.

One of the most common traps is waste of time and entertainment, in fact the kind of go together many times. Other traps include the obtaining many things, things will make you a slave of things, or borrowing money, it becomes a form of slavery because it's easier to borrow than to pay. All these traps have something in common, they take up your time, and they can also keep you in bondage, meaning you can't do other things because now you're compromised.

Jesus tells us that when we sin, we become slaves, many of us take that lightly only to find out that it is true years later, so it's a lifelong experience to realize that we've been slaves, but the good news is that we ought to ask ourselves the question, do we want to keep being slaves? Because if not, then we ought to pray and ask the Lord Jesus to set us free! He is the Truth and God's Word says that the Truth shall set us free, His Way!

World class traps

The world has fallen into many major traps, but we need to recognize that these traps are made of individuals, the sickness starts somewhere, the weakest link, those who don't read God's Word and don't want to retain Him in their knowledge.

One of the biggest traps go directly against God's Word, which discredits the Bible from the very first verse, which says that in the beginning God created the Heaven and the Earth, so why is science saying that there was a big bang? Because the enemy is the father of lies and his children profess those same lies.

The next big trap is the belief that man came from bacteria many millions of years ago, when the Bible clearly says that God created man in His image, very important. If only they knew how deep the hole is they're making for themselves.

Survival of the fittest, under the guise that it is natural selection, the biggest problem with this is that because man does not believe that God created man, his belief defaults that man must be an animal and therefore he can behave like an animal, this gives place to evil ideas like eugenics and population control; there's great evil in this world, no doubt.

There are many other traps, many others, but the best way to tell a fake dollar bill is to know a real one real well, so that when the fake one shows up you can tell what doesn't line up. Therefore read the Bible, study God's Word, stay true!

Section Notes:

Beyond the boundaries

God's Power unto Salvation

1 Corinthians 15:14 And if Christ be not risen, then *is* our preaching vain, and your faith *is* also vain.

Here's something you don't already know, but the awareness of the implications is where we all differ; we're all going to die, the flesh will return to the dust from where we were made, and then what? Isn't that terrifying to you? What if your soul continues living? And what if that living is worse than the worse life anyone could have on this earth? Behold the Gospel!

1 Corinthians 15 is an amazing chapter, there are many like that, but the Gospel is the power that God has given us so that we BE SAVED! It is unfortunate that for many, including me, have taken years to grow into that awareness, the world did a "good" job in keeping me blind, but truth, brings awareness, then belief, then action, and in this line of thought, that action is the reading of the scriptures, the belief is spiritually amplified, then faith begins making a home within the person's being, faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God.

God's Word has power to save us, this Word is the Lord Jesus, the only person in all history to overcome the world, the only person willing and capable to destroy death and the enemy! It wasn't His personal bandera, if He did what He did, it was for YOU and I, God's gift is yours now! But rejection has an eternal price, because God's gift is perfect and pure!!!

The Gospel

In Luke 7:37-48 we read a story of love and forgiveness, in the same way, we are not in position, ourselves, to redeem ourselves, think of yourself as a slave, that has been put up on a platform before other people, up for sale, you got nothing, not even a penny, you cannot redeem yourself; so is the case of each and everyone one of us, I know is certain in my case.

But thanks be to God for His mercy, which we find in Jesus, whom said unto Simon in Luke 7:47, “for she loved much: but to whom little is forgiven, [the same] loveth little.” This encapsulates the essence of the Gospel, we got nothing, yet we can love because we’re thankful, and through this love, not only we’re able to do good, but as we give it, it is transformed back to us into our own forgiveness; we have nothing, so if we’re able to love is because God loved us first, if we have that capacity to love, is because God is opening the door to our Salvation, and that this the Truth, God’s Grace is available.

John 1:14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

The Gospel is realizing our trespasses and repenting
The Gospel is realizing we need Jesus, our redeemer
The Gospel is welcoming with open arms God’s Gift.

The four Gospels testify of God’s gift to you, it is your Gift!

Jesus answered and said unto her, **If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water.**

John 4:10

Yield of Refiner's fire

One of the parts of scripture that speaks loud to me is the parable of the ten virgins, which seems to address people within the church, but the central point of this parable is the oil, in old times, olives used to be pressed down with a heavy stone that would roll and press the olives for oil, we are those olives!

How do we know when we're being press down? When difficult times come, so what can the olive do? Roll quickly to the edge and avoid giving up the oil? No, but it's not enough to stay on the path of the roller, oil comes out depending on how we handle those situations, you see, difficult situations will come, no matter if you're a believer or not, the question for everyone is how will you respond to those situations?

Our response must contain the power that God has given us to overcome; making use of this power is what creates the oil, if the non-believer asks in his/her heart, how do I get that power? First know that God is willing to receive you if you seek the truth, if you seek righteousness, it doesn't mean that you know what righteousness and truth mean! It means that you're seeking it, searching it like a man that lost a bar of gold!

The power is God's Word, the tools we can use are within His Word: the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, longsuffering, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance; also patience, hope, endurance, you have to use those tools in order to overcome!

Section Notes:

God's Power unto Salvation

The good direction

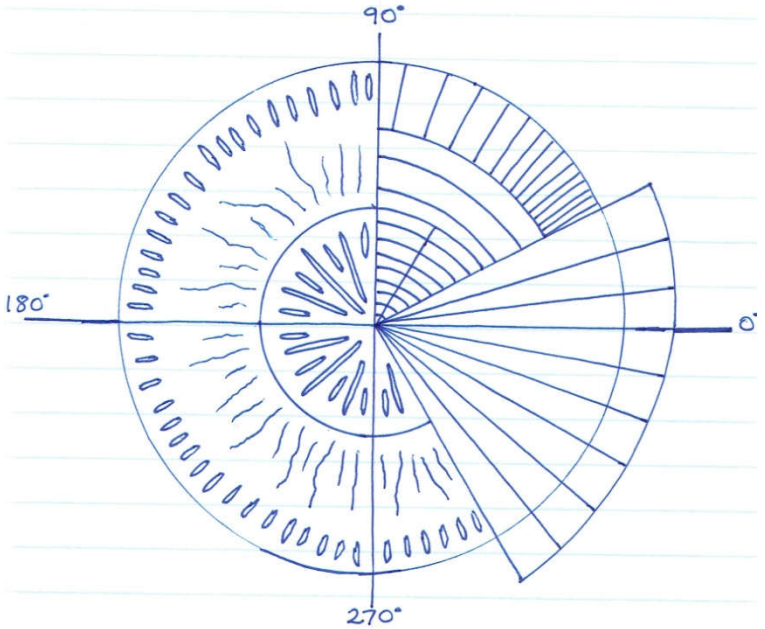
Despite the fact that we know how the world is, despite the fact that we know of all the filthiness that comes out of our hearts, we still protect our “goodness”, but we’re defiled.

We had a dog that sometimes would ignore us in such a way that if he could talk, it would go like this, we would say: Basil! Come back! And this little Chihuahua would stop, look back for about three seconds and then continue his merry way, as if he was saying, “I’m sure you ain’t taking to me!”, and that’s exactly how we are many times when we open the Bible and read God’s Word.

But listen, back 2,000 years ago, the people decided to release Barabbas instead of Jesus, even though, pay attention, Jesus did not commit one transgression, Barabbas on the other hand, whom had committed murder was accepted by the people; that to say, that we are all known for bad choices.

This is the great part, now that you have endured the bad news with patience as mentioned in the beginning, we’re going to shift our direction, I truly hope you’ll join me and many, many others that have made the choice to follow Jesus, it is the best choice you can make, not in perfection, for we’re still broken on this earth, but in thanksgiving for His mercy.

The good choice, the golden choice, the best choice, this is like a giant gate decorated with gold swirls wonderful bells.



“Does a man need to know how the eye works in order to see?”

Commitment

Commitment to what? Simple and short answer, to God's will, why? Because He is Life! Imagine a drone with, as we sometimes say, "a mind of its own", which by the way it's not that far fetch, yet let's continue, this drone one day decides to just leave, yep, take off and never come back, but let's say everything about this drone is, as we like to say, "proprietary", and you say to yourself, there's not a charger in the world that can charge it, because it is "proprietary!".

He won't go far! So it is our case without God, there's no light in darkness, which is life's mode of operation, to move into darkness is to accept the downgrade of destruction, just to think about not being able to understand language or even think rationally, these are all features of being in the light, God's light, scripture tell us that He is light.

So when we say "I DO!", we're committing to God first, then to the wife; our commitment to everything that is good and right on this Earth is by proxy a commitment to God Himself.

We all have difficult moments in life, moments in which our commitment like a bicycle wheel wobbles, but if we're still here, you better believe that bicycle is still moving, so don't lose hope, in particular when those deflating moments take place, when all your efforts are not seen and the enemy shows you that neon sign that says resign; don't! Instead, pray to God for Healing, God is faithful and He's 100% committed!

The promised land

Do you have a thirst in your heart? If you long for the following things, your address will one day be in Heaven, in God's timing, of course! Oh the joy of such wonderful truths!

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

Galatians 5:22-23

Even on this Earth we can begin to partake of that great treasure God has prepared for His children.

For me it was love; I remember asking the question when I was about 10 or 12, is there anything greater than love? I believe God has to do with these kind of questions, and so I've come to the conclusion throughout the years that there's nothing greater that our hearts can long for, but love! Love is the ultimate fulfillment, plus the Bible confirmed this truth to me, when reading that "God is Love", it is written.

Life is a taste of eternity, the good of it; the bad are remnants of our old nature, but if unchecked, they can grow and become a hindrance, an addiction, and ultimately a death trap.

Real treasure

How can we not choose such wonderful things that God has prepared for His children, whatever we think is of value in this world, is already decaying, even if it lasts a long time, our bodies are decaying, God promises not only eternal life, but newness of life, the Lord Jesus makes all things new:

Revelation 21:5 And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.

Your choice to follow Jesus is the beginning of your treasure, He is the door to Heaven, there's no other way. Have you ever contemplated something and thought, I wish I could enjoy this more, perhaps a beautiful mansion, you can only behold it with your eyes; well, this treasure, this gift that God is giving us not only can be seen, but it can be lived, as in felt with your being, remember God is love, God is light, from Him we receive exceeding joy, there's no greater fulfilling treasure.

This eternal treasure has been revealed to us through the Bible, yet we're still in this broken world, what does that mean? It means that you need to protect it, it means that you need to abide in the Lord, it means that you need to recognize that the boundaries God has set in place are for our own good.

I love life and I hope you do too, but the life we are to love more is the one God is offering to us, eternal life in His Son.

Forgiveness

Where the rubber meets the road; the Lord's prayer says: "forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors." We're all Christians until we face the realities of our hearts, not easy.

God did forgive us, with His own blood, so, in thankfulness we cannot put a limit on how thankful we should be. When Jesus said "It is finished!", we were automatically forgiven and the gift of Salvation was immediately available to every man. The Gospel is that God has reconciled us with Him through Jesus.

Think of it as a gift you give to someone else, the gift is wrapped, but they have the freedom to open it, or not, so it is with our Salvation, if we never read the Bible, how then can we know, and if we don't know, how then can we be saved?

Luke 7:37-48 And, behold, a woman in the city, which was a sinner, when she knew that *Jesus* sat at meat in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster box of ointment, And stood at his feet behind *him* weeping, and began to wash his feet with tears, and did wipe *them* with the hairs of her head, and kissed his feet, and anointed *them* with the ointment. Now when the Pharisee which had bidden him saw *it*, he spake within himself, saying, This man, if he were a prophet, would have known who and what manner of woman *this is* that toucheth him: for she is a sinner. And Jesus answering said unto him, Simon, **I have somewhat to say unto thee.** And he saith, Master, say on. **There was a certain creditor which had two debtors: the one**

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

Her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much: but to whom little is forgiven, *the same* loveth little.

Love is the key to forgiveness; In God's nature this holds true, He commands us to love Him, because He wants to forgive us.

Leaving the bridge

1 Corinthians 2:9 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

What makes every other religion or philosophy nothing in comparison to Christianity? That the man Jesus, resurrected from the death, you may think this is a common occurrence, but you'd be wrong, because this isn't any man, this man never sinned, His birth was prophesied, even hundreds of years prior, it would just be foolish to ignore such things.

Making the decision to follow Christ is like crossing a burning bridge, you cannot do it on your own, because the flesh wants to be safe, the world pulls you and there's nothing of benefit in doing so, yes, as far as the eye can see. But God in His mercy tells us that the just shall walk by faith and not by sight, so we walk across this bridge knowing that once the journey is over, there's no turning back, for not only it wouldn't make sense to follow the world, but that bridge will no longer be there.

To live a life in Christ is to live a life of thankfulness, because of this thankfulness Christians do serve and love, we desire to serve the Lord, and this service isn't blind, we know there are needs in this world, and so we want to fulfill needs, if we can:

Luke 12:48 ...For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required:...

What is Heaven like

In a way we know a lot about Heaven, and that by reason of what we know of this world, perhaps this verse gives us that understanding:

Luke 13:30 And, behold, there are last which shall be first, and there are first which shall be last.

The world is upside down in many ways, so Heaven is somewhat the opposite, yet not quite, we have to be careful.

Revelation 21:4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

When I think of Heaven, I think of Love emanating from God, producing such inward joyfulness, I guess perhaps, close to what a baby feels when you see him smiling to the point of sound. Well, beyond such joys, I think is a place of peace, totally underrated on this earth, even though we have plenty of reasons to want peace; another one is rest, the joy of REST!

Learning more

The Bible is filled with hope, with some warnings, with much wisdom, with lessons on how to approach certain situations, and perhaps one of the most valuable teachings is that our choices yield consequences.

We need to pay attention to what God is telling us through His Word, because our time of mercy, our lifetime is drawing to a close, if not by reason of years, by reason of the end of times.

There are many indicators that we are living in the end of times, what does this mean? It means we need to be ready, we need to prepare, the Lord Jesus is going to come back and gather His saints, yes that means you, if you have believed that God sent Him to rescue you, listen, there's no room for doubts and yes YOU are certainly included, I know so, I believe so, I have read it because it is written in the Bible:

John 1:12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name:

There you have it, you've read it, don't ignore it, it applies to you, it says "But as many as received him", have you received Him through belief? There you go, hold fast to that truth!

2 Timothy 1:7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

Iniquity against the soul

To the world the Bible, and even the Word of God is foolishness, let not that sickness of transgression fall upon you, because the price that you'll have to pay is terrible beyond belief, not only you would taste death, but also experience the second death, and be thrown into eternal damnation into the lake of fire, these are not scary tactics, it doesn't get any more real than that, don't test it with your life, it's foolishness.

John 3:16-17 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

Pay attention here, please forgive me if I'm pressing the point beyond what's reasonable, but the thought of losing a soul into eternal fire is like a monstrous terrifying nightmare, that just goes on without time for rest, it's actually worse than that.

John 3:18-19 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

Evil deeds = Worker of Iniquity

Your new journey

There's a parable given by the Lord Jesus conveying the caliber of such treasure we gain when we seek the Lord, when we seek His kingdom, it was in a way what inspire me to write this booklet:

Matthew 13:44 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field.

Sometimes before we let go off something we ought to let it go within our hearts first, in the old testament the Israelites had departed Egypt, but many have gone back to Egypt in their hearts; our hearts are important, and God knows we need a new heart, He also gives us the opportunity to ask Him through prayer, for others and even for a new heart.

There are many other parables, wonderful sayings of the Lord Jesus, urging us to walk in the narrow path, I hope the Lord gives you a thirst for His Word, and that you'll take the time, to little by little, commit yourself to Him, listen, the flesh, our minds and our hearts, don't have that inclination, it's sort of like going to work, most of us don't have that natural inclination, yes perhaps it is built over time, but it ain't natural, and so is the case with reading God's Word; know for a fact that when you read it, He is building you up from the ground up, doing a perfect work within you, science can't do that!!

A new Christian

The Christian walk may seem difficult and it is, but it is a walk where you're not alone, not only the Church is to walk with you, but God is walking with you, so that there's no obstacle that cannot be removed for God's children, this through faith and as it is written, faith can move mountains, but only if we truly believe, we have to cultivate our faith through His Word.

The Lord wants you to blossom, not as a robot: programmed to pray the same over and over, thought there are things that we need to pray for frequently, one of them being His protection, He wants you to blossom into the unique YOU He has created, for His glory and in that glory, we rejoice.

Nevertheless, there are certain things a Christian does, remember these things should always be within the bounds of love, in thankfulness, He sustains us, and so we give back of that which He has given us.

The first step of the new Christian is that of faith, confessing belief in the Lord Jesus Christ as written in Matthew 10:32, it is a lifetime commitment, professed in public, even through baptism, immersed in water; with bowed hearts and eyes wide opened, no shame in the righteousness of God through faith.

Matthew 10:32 Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.

His love within you

Matthew 5:3-16 Blessed *are* the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed *are* they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. Blessed *are* the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed *are* they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. Blessed *are* the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed *are* the pure in heart: for they shall see God. Blessed *are* the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. Blessed *are* they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are ye, when *men* shall revile you, and persecute *you*, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you. Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Yep, that's what my heart longs for, the blessedness. I believe my heart fits well in many cases, yet I know that in many cases I do go astray, but the Lord is merciful and brings me back.

Practicalities

A Christian that does not pray... hmm... interesting!

I remember watching a movie long time ago, very basic and simple, yet the truth within it exhorts us to live out our walk, so here are some of the things a Christian does:

The Bible - It is recommended to read a portion of your Bible, daily if possible, this sets the stage for a meaningful prayer.

Prayer - It is recommended to pray often, giving thanks, asking for safety, forgiveness and blessings; pray for God's Church.

Church - Irons sharpens iron, we must learn to love one another in the bonds of Christ and in the practice of charity.

Charity - God blesses a cheerful giver, it is better to give than to receive, but rejoice in both, use it also to encourage.

Encourage - With God's word strengthen others, and in love share the hope of Salvation! Souls thirst for merciful justice.

Justice – Righteousness comes from God's Word in the Bible, read it, God's Word is a double edge sword, be ready.

Be Ready - Let the Lord sanctify you through His Word, that you be ready and willing by frequently reading the Bible.

We are called to love one another as brothers and sisters in Christ, this love can be expressed through help in many ways.

Eating life

Take a deep breath! Man has been breathing since... ever since man was created man has been breathing, what else has been man doing since he was made? He's been eating; our bodies do not manufacture what our bodies require to live, interesting huh? So who does? We could say, the Earth! But who made the Earth? Isn't interesting that everything the body needs to stay alive, the Earth manufactures? Almost like a match made in Heaven.

Much can be said about the food we're stuck with today, filled with chemicals, preservatives, additives, and don't forget yellow five, but all of these are relatively new, yet man survived all those thousands of years without man's chemicals!

The problem takes place when a dependency is created, then the body is automatically downgraded, not paying attention to what we're eating compounds to the problem, not paying attention to how much we're eating compounds to the problem, our bodies were made for the food God intended, not for second class copies of molecular deformities that the body simply stores away because it doesn't know what to do with it, much like all the trash we sometimes pile in the garage.

The exhortation here, is that you may have all the good intentions in the world, to love your grandchildren, to build great things for your family, but will you really be able to do those things if you don't measure yourself? Vegetables and fruit should be the bulk of our eating, balance with fermented foods, two meals a day, don't eat late, say no more than yes!

Sanctification

God has given us His Word in the Bible, since God's Word is perfect, it has the power to change us, this transformation is guided by His Word, so that we become more and more like His only begotten Son, our Lord Jesus.

The process of this transformation through His Word is called Sanctification, you're becoming His saint, it's very good!

John 17:17-19 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth. As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.

The Word of God is the Beginning!

Ephesians 5:22-28 Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so *let* the wives *be* to their own husbands in every thing. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.

Every man

Once we survey the landscape of life, the status of the world, and even the hearts and minds within ourselves, we must conclude, that if we're sincere, we're going down; unless we do something about it, it's not going to get better on its own, we must recognize the urgency that life needs to be protected, and we also need to realize that it can only be protected with the truth, without the truth life cannot be sustained.

I know the above can sometimes come across somewhat confusing, but we need to remember this, and it will eventually make sense, even through our own experiences, truth and life cannot be separated, and we depend on both.

We need to learn that God rescues through His Word, if we have any power is because it was given to us from God, otherwise, we cannot do anything.

We're all called, but as it is written, many are called, but few are chosen. Every man needs to read the Bible, and the sooner in life the better, that way he can avoid the snares of this life and thereby be better equipped to fight the good fight.

As much as we want to believe, we're not in authority, yes we are stewards, but even a steward consults his master when making decisions, Jesus is in authority, He is the King of Kings and our job is to learn to love and obey the King, our Master.

Made for more

Man, do you want to be a civilian in war or a soldier for Christ?

I ask this because most men are passive even within the Church, even I have seen myself in such way many times, but we are called to be soldiers in Christ, we've been given an Armour, therefore we must put on the Armour of God!

But before that, consider your weaknesses, because we don't want to fall in battle, you need to be committed in mind, in heart and in action, you cannot have a divided mind, your mind was given to sanctification, therefore we must constantly pray for the Lord to renew our minds, so that we be ready.

Man, you are the main atom in the molecule, what is a family without the man? a broken family! what is a church without a pastor? sheep waiting for wolves! what is a nation without The Church? A fallen nation! See what you've done, oh man of sin! Therefore know, God has called us to keep our posts!

But the story does not end there, every man is entitled to nothing, yet every man can receive from the mercy of Jesus, but as mentioned before we must let go of the things of this world, in particular of our cursing and sexual desires, trash them out, let go of idolatry, false imaginations, bring every thought to submission under Christ, that we be found faultless and repented. The day will come for us to stand, will we?

A child's legacy

There are two aspects to this subject, the first one is whom you are as parent, the example you're giving your children, basically what is it that your child is absorbing just from watching your behavior, the way you handle yourself and situations, that's a legacy in the making, daily taking place.

The second one is the instruction you're giving your children, is it instruction in love or in anger? And what's the content of that instruction, just so you can have things your way or something that you know that child will need later in life?

Build up the child or destroy the child, that is your question.

Mark 9:42 And whosoever shall offend one of *these* little ones that believe in me, it is better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he were cast into the sea.

If you change through the power of God's Word, your child will have a good legacy and good instruction, it's an intentional daily choice, think what you're setting before your child, will it build him/her up, or is that destroying him/her, little by little.

If your child says no to candy, think about what s/he saying not to, applaud a good decision and encourage the child even more, teach a child the value of freedom, what is a virtue, why is love important, what is right and what is wrong, prepare your child, help your child love God's Word, give him life!

Strategy for the man

If a man wants to serve the Lord, he must begin at home, and first within himself, it all begins with the process of sanctification, he needs to read God's Word, every day, reflect frequently upon it, and put it into practice, begin the walk!

As a man reads God's Word, he will encounter purifying truths, these are of utmost importance, if possible, he ought to memorize those verses and replay them in his mind, because he will be reminded that there are things that ought not to be in his life, so he must ask God for help and in as much as he can, take action, according to scriptures and in the light of the new covenant. We've been in mud, but that was the old man.

There's too much at stake for each man not to keep his post, the knowledge of the truth, salvation, the abundant life, the legacy for his children, fellowship and the reward of eternal joyfulness; so let go of anger, frustrations, cursing and lies!

This process of sanctification for every man has to be constant, diligent and intentional. He can practice the legacy of gathering his family and pray, he can instruct his children with the wisdom he's been given, he is called to protect his family, he is also called to feed and rejoice with his family.

This man needs to be engaged with God's Word, you never stop being a soldier as long as you've been deployed, therefore put on the full armour of God and fight the good fight!

Ephesians 6:10-18 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

When the man is spiritually healthy, his family can become healthy, his church can become healthy and his nation can become healthy, I say “can become”, because it ain’t automatic, we all have free will, but the man has done his job.

This is how we change a nation that is falling, or that has fallen, if we’re still alive, there’s still hope, for we have a great God, merciful and all powerful. We change a nation from the inside out, beginning with the heart of every man, then his mind, his mouth, his actions, one at a time; a changed man will stand!

Strategy for pastors

If a pastor has been called by God, that pastor will render an account to God, of course, in the light of the new covenant.

There's no judgment here, I said the above because a pastor knows better, yet take the example of Moses, his father in law whom exhorted him to delegate and that because the burden of the work with the people was great.

There's a similarity here, there's a spiritual battle and many pastors, best I understand are falling, why? This isn't good, because if a pastor falls, what about the sheep? Pastors need to be strong in the faith, but they're still flesh and blood, they also fight temptations and the attacks of the enemy.

The Church can help, it is a spiritual battle, don't go it alone, here's a Biblical strategy:

Before each service have a group of five men pray for you; each of the five men draws a paper from a bag, each of the five papers have an element of the Armour of God, and so his prayer is along those lines, to the intent that God will dress you with His Armour, and your church will benefit in turn.

Moses had that burden, and when the Church was established, we read in **Acts 6:4** "But we will give ourselves continually to prayer..." Notice it says "we", therefore select ten men of prayer, and have the congregation vote for five, every year.

The house is burning

A man goes to the doctor for a heart issue, but his doctor sends him to a psychiatrist; we have fallen into the trap of believing that the problems we have are not what we think.

Why is this happening? Because we don't know the difference between right and wrong, how can we? When we don't read the Bible, this used to be Christian nation, what happened? As a nation we have chosen to believe man, rather than God.

We believed that a woman has the right to abortion and that a man has the right to change his gender; the United States is going through very difficult times, take a look at the things the nation of Israel has been through, first His chosen people then the gentiles, it will get worse if I read that correctly.

What's the solution? Many pastors mention this "if my people..." Meaning the church, needs to humble itself and pray... AND TURN FROM THEIR WICKED WAYS!

2 Chronicles 7:14 If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and **seek my face**, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

That's it, the land is healed when we turned to God, in repentance and with a humble heart, it begins with the man of the house, every man needs to ask God for healing.

Faded glory

I'm not talking about an out of style brand; the United States was able to enjoy, unlike any other nation, a glory that could only come from above, safety, strength and power!

Starting with the commitment of the Pilgrims back in 1620 with the Mayflower Compact and principles of a nation engraved on the Pilgrim's Monument, establishing humble beginnings with Thanksgiving, the United States thrived because of a faithful people, not perfect, but faithful, the founding fathers knew there was a nation to protect, so they grafted the Constitution of the United States, that great document to keep the law at bay and the citizen in safety.

Battleships, lighthouses and barns became symbol of the might that God have poured onto this nation, but all of those were blessings that could not stand on their own.

Mark 10:43 But so shall it not be among you: but whosoever will be great among you, shall be your minister:

The strength, the power, the might of the United States of America rested in the covenant of faithfulness of His people, a faithfulness of self-governance, beginning with the man, expanding to his family, the church and the nation; that's why the healing of the land is not in armies or in the economy, for it is only God whom can heal the land, if we the people, which are called by His name, shall humble ourselves and pray...

Revival

Luke 21:3 And he said, **Of a truth I say unto you, that this poor widow hath cast in more than they all:**

The word revival is not in the Bible and it has been somewhat of a hazy concept in my mind, not saying it's invalid, but it lacks clear and applicable actions. I would think the anatomy of revival consists primarily of repentance, followed by worship, I could be wrong, but I think the expected end result is for people to turn back to God, but what does that look like?

Just like the widow's mite, we may think we have nothing to offer in terms of "revival", where does a country turn when it needs revival, without asking, that country turns to you! You are that widow; only difference is that you may not have made that choice, to give it all you got.

And although the verse above refers to money, I want you to think in terms in righteousness, and not the righteousness of man, or what we think is right; think the righteousness of God! and what is written in His Word! You may think that making that little choice may not have much of an impact, but it does, every choice we make either gets us closer to the Lord or away from the Lord, so if it's right, give it all you got, for His glory!

Put away witchcraft, put away rock and roll, put away pornography, put away video games, put away gossip, protect life, stop cursing; do right and God will restore, that's revival!

Section Notes:

Closer to the light of joy

Inviting cells

Wouldn't you agree that perhaps many of the issues or problems we have could have been avoided if we had not open the door to them, not saying they are all our fault, granted there are circumstances beyond our control, but if knowingly we take a step in the wrong direction, wouldn't it be fair to at the very least, acknowledge it? This is in fact the beginning of repentance, which if followed by a genuine request of forgiveness to our Heavenly Father, would immediately put us on the right path, because God is faithful!

The reason why I mentioned the above, is because sometimes we make our prison cells inviting, we decorate it to the point that it looks and feels more comfortable than the free world, in this analogy context, the view of how dangerous bondage can be is much more clear; so there have been many times when we have made a prison cell just because we want to add decor to it, it wasn't there in the first place, so the untold desire is to find a place to express some of those inner-desires.

Such is the case of the news few topics, things that have infiltrated the "christian" life, things that have intercepted the trajectory of Sanctification, things that seem so transparent and in alignment with our walk, that no much thought is given in terms of filtration and verification, just to see if in fact is not aligned with God's Word, it gets a free pass; and who can deliver someone who doesn't want to be set free?

Cultural christian

Romans 1:25 Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.

Are we changing the truth of God into a lie? Are we “christians” because we like Christmas? Are we “christians” because we like kind neighbors? Are we “christians” because we like all the benefits that Christianity has brought about into this world, and can’t deny that Christianity has many positives?

Is my christianity along the lines of whatever makes me feel good? After all, we all consider ourselves good people, therefore if it makes me feel good, chances are my tendency to do this or that must be the right way to go about it.

But may our conscience be guided by the Lord and not by our own understanding. The belief that Santa knows things you know even know about your children should raise a red flag, but he’s not real you say, well, our children don’t see God with their own eyes, yet we tell them God is real, besides isn’t all knowing an attribute that belongs to God and God only?

As silly as it sounds, snowman follows a the poor man’s quick route to idolatry, but many would say, that’s a stretch, or how about Easter, what’s up with the eggs and no chicken to be found, is that even Biblical, have you looked into it? Are we not to look into scriptures? What falsehood are we part of?

Not of works

What does that mean? The gift of God is Christ Jesus, He is the door. Remember Jesus is the Truth, and God is Love.

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, **I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.**

It is because of the value of God's gift that we ought to be thankful, Salvation is like a ticket out of a land riddle with violence, more can be said about it when taking into consideration that many have taken the wrong path and ended up in Hell, this thankfulness needs to be worked out.

Philippians 2:12 Wherefore, my beloved, as ye 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.

Many religions have gone the path of "works", thinking that their salvation depends on their efforts, which is false, because even if they could "work it", what about their sins, and the law? Yet, we do work out our Salvation through thankfulness.

Jesus was sinless, moreover, there was a requirement to fulfill, the Law, men back then could not fulfill the law that God gave them through Moses; as recorded in the book of Exodus in the Bible, much less men of today, plus to break one law, means we have broken the entire law. A man without sin died on a cross for our sins, so that we may live and have eternal life!

Not a virtual reality

A young mind is tender and moldable, the world under enemy's direction knows how to take advantage of this, what is it? God created the universe, He created nature, He is the one that gives man a clear mind, not to dwell in vain imaginations, because they contain falsehood, so if it's not of the truth, it is not of God.

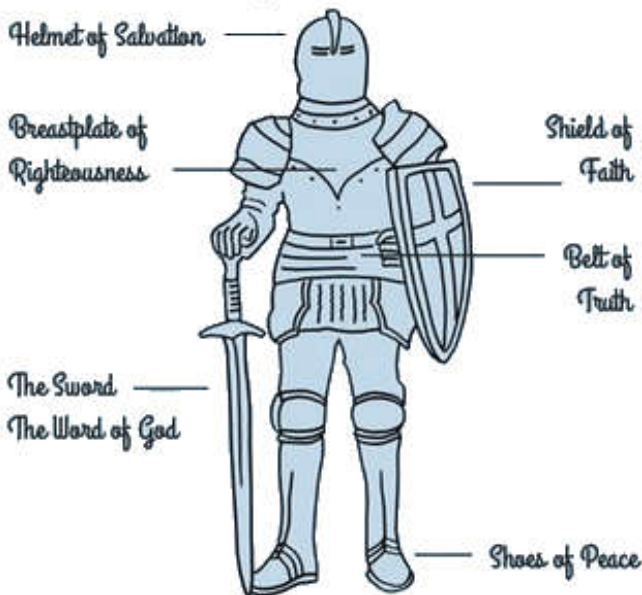
Today's world is filled with minds that drift towards their own virtual reality, a place of harmony, equilibrium and balance in their minds, a place not subject to criticism nor contradiction, yet not a place of the reality of God's creation; God does not want us to live in our own reality, God wants us to pursue the reality He has created for us, because that's the only reality that will endure and stand.

Oh how crafty the enemy is, placing minds in bondage through video games, horror movies, fiction that corrupts and re-arranging the thinking structure of people, so that they're compelled to say things like "your truth is not my truth", yet even though history can be ignored, the reality of God cannot, and it is this reality that has worked through history to demonstrate that the imaginations of man, their virtual realities and pride of them, along with the rest of wicked branches it creates, will only find a place of destruction.

These things we have seen from the Great Flood, to Sodom and Gomorrah, as well as many other tragedies in the world.

The Armour of God - The Biblical garment to stand

Ephesians 6:10-20



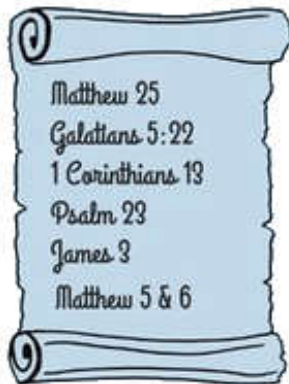
Proper Wedding Garments



The Commandments

Remember Matthew 22:11-14

Please be ready now for that day!



Resources

The Bible should be your primary resource. Beyond this, perhaps get a study Bible, here are some useful resources:

Christian Radio

In particular if you commute to work, it is the best spent time, listening to a good Christian radio; now don't fall for the music, even "christian" music can become a trap of false beliefs.

Books

My Utmost for His Highest is an excellent book to dive deep into profound truths; The Pilgrim's Progress is another excellent resource.

Movies

Many of the movies from the Christiano brothers have a good message, God provides series by Crown Ministries, Amazing Grace, the End of the Spear.

Music

I recommend being very selective with your music, this is the area where most people fall trap of, doctrinally inaccurate music. The older the music the more accurate, ask yourself this question, what's greater, the rhythm that gets you moving or the glory that it brings to the Lord and truth.

There are many more resources, but the idea here is to complement our walk with the Lord to bring Him glory!

Biblical tools for your journey

Patience

As mentioned in the Bible, in your patience you possess your souls; so you must put out the fires of frustration and anger with patience, there are many other situations where it can be used, remember patience is inward, is part of whom you are.

Faith

No one knows what the next minute holds, but if you love the Lord, then you know who holds your future, and to know that God is love and perfect, means that you're in perfect safety.

Trust

Trust in the Lord, be not anxious, let not your heart be troubled, The Bible says trust in God, trust also in the Lord Jesus, our life on this Earth isn't eternal, but our home in Heaven will be, remember your soul will need a good home!

Contentment

Many of the traps we read before are there for those who cannot abide or remain in contentment, so contentment in itself is great gain, know that if you have little is for a good reason, know that if you have much is for a good reason, commit whatever you have to the Lord, be content.

Seek purity

Seek the excellence of a pure heart, a clean mind, honest actions, good will, perfect words, persevere through the Lord.

Christian vocabulary

Towards God

Reverence

Obedience

Fasting

Faith

Humbleness

Trust

Repentance

Devotion

Respect

Prayer

Love

Honesty

Loyalty

Belief

Responsibility

Honor

Our Gifts

Freedom

Free Will

Insight

Life

Adoption

Compassion

Forgiveness

Peace

Comfort

Relief

Courage

Strength

Dignity

Perseverance

Liberty

Choice

Grace

Life

Promise

Mercy

Healing

Happiness

Guidance

Protection

Rest

Salvation!

Patience

Light

Hope
Respect
Joy
Sacrifice

Persistence
Humility
Service
Wisdom

Applications

Character
Attitude
Behavior
Intentionality
Commitment
Resilience

Integrity
Meekness
Care
Resolve
Endurance
Relentlessness

God's Attributes

Power
Love
Light
Excellence
Judgment
Glory
Giver
Rescuer
Friend
Good
Mercy
All knowing
All powerful

Truth
Righteousness
Perfection
Might
Holiness
Generous
Deliverer
Authority
Father
Life
Grace
All seeing
Faithfulness

Pilgrim's baggage

These don't need to be in your vocabulary, yet I place them here, that you may know the burden you ought not to be carrying, be strong and courageous, stay in the light!

Sin	Lies	Fear
Jealousy	Uncleanness	Infirmity
Bondage	Chains	World
Antichrist	Destruction	Doubt
Greed	Waste	Anger
Hatred	Shame	Revenge
Vengeance	Guilt	Sadness
Death	Worry	Anxiety
Loneliness	Sorrow	Suffering
Danger	Turmoil	Weariness
Temptation	Indifference	Conviction
Swearing	Lust	Apathy
Neglect	Despair	Depression
Anguish	Torment	Blindness

My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into
divers temptations;

James 1:2

The list can grow bigger and darker, stay in the light, didn't I say stay strong and be courageous, your heart belongs to God!

How much to learn

Not to be overwhelmed, but there's the reality that an entire life won't be enough to explore, learn, and rejoice on all the spiritual things God has given His children, what a wonderful bounty, the riches and joys in God, our creator, are immense!

Morals	Virtues	Values
Principles	Ethics	Laws
Manners	Rules	Duties
Obligations	Priorities	Habits
Models	Examples	Disciplines
Rewards	Parallels	Analogies
Parables	Lessons	

Faith, the invisible bridge

The fullness of time dictates that there's something every person on Earth, within the realm of intrinsic capacity, should be able to use, which is a belief in God. There's no excuse.

Hebrews 11:6 But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

As physical beings, we are subject to the environment we are in, and although we may think of ourselves as super beings, we're not, we were made of dust and to dust we shall return, yet if we're in the Lord, we won't taste death, but in order to live we must believe in Him, in Jesus, by faith.

Our inputs, or five senses can only transmit enough data, yet even within this data man could discern that creation, even at its basic level is filled with mathematical calculations, symmetry, sequences and order, there's so much more to be said, all pointing that the universe was created by a mind, and not just any mind, a perfect mind.

Through our senses, we perceive this wonderful perfection, but the heart processes all that in a different way, the priorities of the heart are different from the priorities of the mind, who's in charge? We're opportunistic beings, as long as there's energy we ignore the heart, when power's out, the heart is called and the heart will call out to God, by faith!

Future plans

Well, my hope is that you were able to gather not only the hard truths, but also the great hopes; these are the things that make up reality, and to ignore them only accumulates the burden, sort of like in the Pilgrim's Progress.

The reality that God has given us through His Word, truly is the beginning of the most wonderful treasure, today we see not in full awareness, with senses that only tell a fraction of the story, at the most basic level, we're not able to capture all the colors, the spectrum of light is bigger than our fading eyes can see, the smell of flowers is amazing, but how much more amazing is all of God's creation if we could breath it all in and be perfectly aware it. Wouldn't that be wonderful?

That's why I wrote this booklet, because I don't want you to miss that treasure, but most importantly, I don't want us, YOU and I, to miss the treasure of GOD'S LOVE!!! I know we're heathens, we're rascals, we're many times where we're not to be, but God is merciful, we just have to call upon His name, HE IS FAITHFUL TO BRING US BACK!!!

This is the first edition of the booklet, I hope to refine it more, in particular with pictures and other topics, also with additional resources, those are the immediate plans I have in mind, I hope it becomes a work of legacy, many things I mentioned are things I wished I knew when I was younger; that's exactly why I wrote them, so that you may benefit!

Section Notes:

Resources

In your patience possess ye your souls.

Luke 21:19

For where your treasure is,
there will your heart be also.

Matthew 6:21

**Make sure the Anchor is the written Truth!
Now, that will hold!**

The year is 2024, if I'm not mistaken the idea of writing a book started back in 2012, soon after that it was downgraded to a booklet, 12 years have passed since then.

2020 marked the year of a virus and revealed much evil in the world, hurricanes and fires have riddled the United States, among many other tragedies.

I know that if the Lord Jesus delays is because He is merciful and is waiting for people to repent and come to the knowledge of the Truth, as it is written in the Bible.

Nevertheless we the people need to be in prayer and walking in righteousness best we can, nobody is perfect, only the Lord Jesus; the Church needs to wake up and stand up for what is right, lest we go through what the church in Germany went through in the 1940's, an apathy in the face of adversity.

By the way, I have a website, though it's not as complete as this booklet and also a youtube channel, hoping to soon begin publishing additional material:

<https://madeintruth.net> [for latest edition]
<https://www.youtube.com/@madeintruthdotnet>

Thanks for reading, God bless you abundantly,
All through His loving kindness and mercy!

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Email comments to: **r25@madeintruth.net**