

The author, Jerry O'Donnell, of *What Does It Mean for the World to Have ONE MIND?* now releases a more direct revelation of current events in this new publication *I Am Come to Deceive the Whole World,* a perspective of a similar topic but vastly different because now it confirms predictions made in that book and presents the material from the perspective of Satan, who is attempting to deceive the whole world and doing a good job at it invisibly, incognito, or without a trace in the minds of every human being.

All scripture quotations, unless otherwise indicated, are taken from the King James Version. Public domain.

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Who Is Come to Deceive the Whole World?

"I am come to deceive the world", is the summary of Satan's words based upon Revelation 12:9, which says, "And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which <u>deceiveth the whole world</u>: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him."

According to *Psychology Today*, September 28, 2015, Phil Zuckerman, Ph.D., quotes a *YouGov* Survey in which only 57% believe Satan is real. What greater way of pulling off a deception but by deceiving people into believing the non-existence of the perpetrator? In other words, if someone does not believe in the existence of Satan, they will not see his deceptions. And of the 57% that do believe in a devil, do they picture him correctly? Satan, who was the "covering cherub" (Ezekiel 28:16), in other words, who served right next to God's throne, is simply a fallen angel. He does not have horns nor a tail. He is not red in color or carrying a pitchfork. This image simply aids in the disbelief of a devil, and many Christians are at fault for spreading such rumors.

Now, you may be one of those people who does not believe in the existence of the devil. You may actually believe in a devil, but only as a symbol of evil instead of a literal being. From your perspective, if you enjoy any fiction at all, in movies or readings, I ask that you would take a moment and indulge in a "What if" scenario with me. For those who do not need to imagine (because you do believe in a literal being called Satan), do continue to read and think upon these things from the perspective of the devil.

If you were Satan, like a glorified science-fiction-mastermindcharacter, what would you attempt to do in order to be able to pull off the greatest deception of all time? Would you try to discredit any and all resources that point out who you are, what your goal is, and even reveal what your methods are? Of course you would! Then, would you also attempt to squash any effort of people to enter into discussion about you? Of course you would! And in that we have the scenario of discrediting the Bible, the greatest resource that sheds light upon the dark acts of Satan and his activities, as well as discrediting and restricting freedom of speech, especially from pockets of people known as the true Bible believers - or as the Bible calls them, "the very elect" (Matthew 24:24). About them, the verse states, "For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if [it were] possible, they shall deceive the very elect" (Matthew 24:24). This shows how grand the deception is going to be. Only the very elect are going to be able to know what is going on, how to avoid the deceptions, and make it through.

Now the term "the very elect" does not sound like a large number of people. It is not. This is why "many are called, but few [are] chosen" (Matthew 22:14). And "the chosen" are not people predestined by God to be part of the group. These are people who have chosen God as their Savior, for even Joshua, well after Moses had died, posed the question, "choose you this day whom ye will serve" (Joshua 24:15). Joshua chose by saying on that day, "as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD" (Joshua 24:15). Even Moses chose right: "Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season" (Hebrews 11:25).

Did you know that only 24% of people accept the Bible as the literal Word of God? This was reported by *Gallup*, May 15, 2017, with an article by Lydia Saad. Again, according to *Gallup*, September 17, 2018 (http://worldpopulationreview.com/countries/united-states-

<u>population/</u>), they report that between Protestant/Other Christians and Catholics, there are 71.9% in the United States. That means, combining the two statistics, only a third of Christians believe in the Bible as the literal Word of God. That means, Satan's deception of discrediting the Bible is very much successful.

This has not always been the case. Beginning with Moses, he stated, "And the LORD commanded me at that time to teach you statutes and judgments, that ye might do them" (Deuteronomy 4:14). Here, we see Moses declaring what God told him; he wrote it down being the words of God. It was treated so much so as the words from God through the pen of Moses that it was commanded, "Take this book of the law, and put it in the side of the ark" (Deuteronomy 31:26).

Fast forwarding to King David, He stated, "I trust in thy word" (Psalms 119:42), and his son Solomon followed up with, "Every word of God [is] pure: he [is] a shield unto them that put their trust in him" (Proverbs 30:5).

Then over time we have Daniel, who "had a dream and visions of his head upon his bed: then he wrote the dream, [and] told the sum of the matters" (Daniel 7:1). In sharing these things, "I was astonished at the vision, but none understood [it]" (Daniel 8:27), meaning, the Book of Daniel is not something he constructed on his own, but a simple recording of what God had shown him, pointing to the real Author of the Bible being God, and the contributors to the Bible being mere recorders. Now, these recorders did not take dictation. They had the freedom to describe what they were told and what they saw, using their own words and experiences.

Continuing on, we have the prophet, Amos, declaring, "Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets" (Amos 3:7); so that means the recorders were actually prophets and they indeed received secret messages from God, meaning that they were communicated to specific people and not by a

voice thundering to all from the clouds of Heaven, and then those specific people recorded the things they heard and saw.

Now, why are Christians called Christian? The simple answer is because they are followers of Christ. Followers of Christ means, from Jesus' own words, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me" (John 10:27). "He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked" (1 John 2:6). "Whosoever cometh to me, and heareth my sayings, and doeth them, I will shew you to whom he is like: He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock. But he that heareth, and doeth not, is like a man that without a foundation built an house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great" (Luke 6:47-49). "Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me" (John 14:23-24).

Basically, a Christian does what Jesus Christ told the early Christians to do and they were responsible in each generation to, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you" (Matthew 28:19-20). This was not just a verbal activity. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John were all inspired of God to record what they recorded as Jesus' teachings. Admittedly, "there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written" (John 21:25), but what has been recorded is sufficient to order one's life according to the Christ-like way of life. And though people may call

themselves Christian, to be one is different than being in name only.

One thing Christ did do is show that He Himself accepted the Old Testament scriptures as the Word of God! "It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4). He further settled all discussion by stating, "It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God" (Matthew 4:7), "It is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve" (Matthew 4:10), "It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves" (Matthew 21:13), "Well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, This people honoureth me with [their] lips, but their heart is far from me" (Mark 7:6), and many more. The theme of His responses was always, "It is written", stating that scripture is the foundation of life. And it is was not the word, "It is written" for Jesus used another phrase. "Have ye not read what David did, when he was an hungred, and they that were with him" (Matthew 12:3), "Or have ye not read in the law, how that on the sabbath days the priests in the temple profane the sabbath, and are blameless?" (Matthew 12:5), "Have ye not read, that he which made [them] at the beginning made them male and female" (Matthew 19:4), "But as touching the resurrection of the dead, have ve not read that which was spoken unto you by God, saying, I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living" (Matthew 22:31-32), "And have ye not read this scripture; The stone which the builders rejected is become the head of the corner" (Mark 12:10), and "And as touching the dead, that they rise: have ye not read in the book of Moses, how in the bush God spake unto him, saying, I [am] the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob?" (Mark 12:26). The phrase is, "Have you not read...". That is a great question. "Have you not read the Bible?" Or has Satan successfully deceived you away from such?

Continuing on with trusting in the Bible being the literal word

of God, or at least it used to be widely accepted that way, we turn forward in time to after Jesus walked the earth to an apostle that became such after the time of Jesus. The apostle Paul wrote many years into his ministry to an up and coming preacher, the next generation, "All scripture [is] given by inspiration of God, and [is] profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

Now, taking a large leap in time, let us arrive in the 1500's, at the time of Martin Luther. He is credited with starting the Protestant Reformation, of which in October 2017, on the 500th anniversary, the protest was declared to be over. What was Martin Luther's issue? It was the fact that when he found a Bible to read for himself, and in all places, it was chained up in a cell for some symbolic reason, he noted how the church of the day, the Roman Catholic Church, had strayed away from what was actually taught in the Bible. There are over 42,000 different flavors of Christianity today, but in the 1500's, there were but two, only because of the schism that occurred creating an eastern and western flavor of Christianity. In the west was the Roman Catholic Church and in the east was the Eastern Orthodox.

The Roman Catholic Church far out number Eastern Orthodox, so for this continued discussion, we shall see that basically, the Roman Catholic Church was really the only church in town. It was this church that Martin Luther addressed his call to get back to the scriptures as the basis of theology, belief, and practice. Martin Luther had no interest in starting a new denomination. His interest was to undo what the popes over time had done to Christianity. The popes had taken the words conveyed from Jesus to Peter, who is considered the first pope by the Roman Catholic Church, "I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven" (Matthew 16:19), and chosen to apply them as an

authority of the church to be able to alter scripture, commandments, beliefs, practices, and such. These words were never intended to give human beings that much power. We were to take the scriptures just as they were written, and those who chose to break any of the precepts, principles, even a commandment, were declared bound in their sins. At the same time, if a person repented, changed his practice to obedience to the scriptures, he was declared loose from his sins.

In other words, a serial killer is bound to hell as he continues to kill. Upon repentance and a cessation of killing because the scriptures (specifically the commandments) declare that "Thou shalt not kill" (Exodus 20:13), they are loose from going to hell and are headed to Heaven. The scriptures are the unchanging keys, for over time popes have contradicted each other especially when there were three popes reigning at one time.

Again, the point we are making is not to criticize the Roman Catholic Church, but rather to point out how the scriptures were held as being the word of God, all the way through, so far, into the 1500's. But it continues, for when the Roman Catholic Church failed to change, believing they are above the Bible (The Catholic Record, September 1, 1923), those who believed in the scriptures as the word of God and agreed with Martin Luther eventually became known as Lutherans. However, Martin Luther was no super being, in that, as all humans experience, he died. Unfortunately, so did many die spiritually as new reformers introduced new material regarding the return to the scriptures. When another reformer preached, Lutherans and Roman Catholics both were largely rejecting the call to come back to the scriptures, yet when their leaders died, their moving forward into ordering beliefs according to the scriptures also died. And reformer after reformer experienced the same thing, hence the reason we have so many different denominations. In reality, there are still only two: those who adhere to the scriptures for their beliefs and practices and those who "hold the tradition of men" (Mark 7:8).

Now, if we look from Satan's perspective, he could not allow for this information to get out. Through many successive popes, Satan successfully was deceiving the whole world away from the expectations of Jesus. Jesus expected "If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love" (John 15:10) but such adherence was being changed over time from the belief of having the wrong authority. So, Satan introduced into the reform movements false reformers. Sure, they appeared to have scriptural truth, but mixed into their messages was error. And Satan did not care if even the whole world would become Christian, "For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one [point], he is guilty of all" (James 2:10). In other words, a little error accomplishes Satan's goal of deceiving people away from God's Word, away from the commandments.

But do not lose the point with the necessary details. The point is, the scriptures were held as being the directions from God through His prophets to the people up through even the 1800's. In fact, there were such arguments of great wrestling that caused further and further divisions.

Then something happened in the 1900's. A movement of unity was happening, but how does one unify with such differences? – Give up doctrines. Give up the differences. Give up the scriptures. It seemed that unification among Christians was more important than knowing what was right and what was wrong. And the Roman Catholic Church capitalized upon this in 1962-1965 in a council known as Vatican II, a plan to bring back her daughters. I say the word "daughters" because the Roman Catholic Church believes herself to be the "mother church", *The Catholic Gene*, November 9, 2011. And from *Encyclopedia.com*, "I acknowledge the holy Catholic Apostolic Roman Church for the mother and mistress of all churches; and I promise and swear true obedience to the bishop of Rome, successor to Saint Peter, prince of the apostles, and vicar of Jesus Christ."

Phrases such as, "We'll sort out the doctrines when we get up there", "Doctrines don't matter", "Everyone has their own beliefs", etc., all are mantras of doing away with the scriptures. Of all people to discredit the Bible, Christians should not be on that list, but they are one of the leading groups that criticizes the Bible. "Anyone can get whatever they want from the Bible!" "You have your interpretation and I'll have mine!" And yet, we are told, "Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son" (2 John 1:9). Therefore, all those people who interpret the Bible one way or another, get whatever they want out of it, believe that no one can properly understand the Bible, are all going to be lost in the end because the devil has successfully deceived those away from Christ's doctrine.

Think of it this way, people have no problem in labeling math formulas or even crediting math techniques to certain people, and others recognize that as well. The same goes with psychology. A specific outline to deal with whatever someone's problem is, be it raising children or dealing with a personal issue, again, credit is given to specific psychologists. Even scientific concepts get credited. But when people look at the doctrines of Christ, all of a sudden, no one seems to want to give Christ the credit. In other words, everyone leans toward twisting Christ's doctrine in a manner that suits their lifestyle. It may be found in the Bible by a single verse or two, but that does not make it Christ's doctrine. Of all doctrines on a given subject, only one is correct.

Now, how does one find that correct doctrine? According to Isaiah 28:9-10, the Bible says, "Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? [them that are] weaned from the milk, [and] drawn from the breasts. For precept [must be] upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, [and] there a little." Basically, every principle, but not nec-

essarily the direct wording, is to be taken into consideration. Every line or verse is to be taken into consideration. And those verses that contain multiple subjects, take that little portion that applies to the subject matter and consider it. So, after gathering all of these verses, the whole picture ought to be visible.

Getting back to the perspective of Satan, how else would Satan deceive people away from the book that reveals everything about him? How about introducing so many versions of the Bible that no one knows for sure when the correct wording is actually being spoken? And on top of that, the version that has been handed to the common people for whom the Bible was intended to begin with, Satan, through His instruments of human beings, would declare it to be too difficult to read.

Does anyone know the name of the fallen angel that became known as Satan or the devil? His name was Lucifer. How do we know this? Primarily because the *King James Version* (KJV) of the Bible tells us this. There is also a version similar to the King James Version (not that we advocate such) which also tells us the name Lucifer. It is called the *Douay-Rheims Bible*. There may be one or two other Bible versions that also identify Lucifer, but for the most part, no other versions do. That especially includes the popular *New International Version*, the *New King James Version*, the *New American Standard Bible*, and the *Revised Standard Version*.

Newer versions have a tendency to drop important parts of verses; for instance, Matthew 9:13 tells sinners that they are to repent, which means to stop sinning. This is not true of all versions of the Bible:

New International Version: But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

- **New Living Translation:** Then he added, "Now go and learn the meaning of this Scripture: 'I want you to show mercy, not offer sacrifices.' For I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners."
- **English Standard Version:** Go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."
- **Berean Study Bible:** But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."
- **New American Standard Bible:** "But go and learn what this means: 'I DESIRE COMPASSION, AND NOT SACRIFICE,' for I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners."
- Contemporary English Version: Go and learn what the Scriptures mean when they say, 'Instead of offering sacrifices to me, I want you to be merciful to others.' I didn't come to invite good people to be my followers. I came to invite sinners."
- **Good News Translation:** Go and find out what is meant by the scripture that says: 'It is kindness that I want, not animal sacrifices.' I have not come to call respectable people, but outcasts."
- **Holman Christian Standard Bible:** Go and learn what this means: I desire mercy and not sacrifice. For I didn't come to call the righteous, but sinners."
- **New Heart English Bible:** But you go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice,' for I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."

- **Aramaic Bible in Plain English:** "Go learn what this says, 'I require mercy and not a sacrifice', for I have not come to call the righteous but sinners."
- **GOD'S WORD® Translation:** Learn what this means: 'I want mercy, not sacrifices.' I've come to call sinners, not people who think they have God's approval."
- **Douay-Rheims Bible:** Go then and learn what this meaneth, I will have mercy and not sacrifice. For I am not come to call the just, but sinners.
- Darby Bible Translation: But go and learn what [that] is -- I will have mercy and not sacrifice; for I have not come to call righteous [men] but sinners.
- **English Revised Version:** But go ye and learn what this meaneth, I desire mercy, and not sacrifice: for I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.

But these have the correct calling.

- **King James Bible:** But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.
- **Webster's Bible Translation:** But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.
- **Weymouth New Testament:** But go and learn what this means, 'It is mercy that I desire, not sacrifice'; for I did not come to appeal to the righteous, but to sinners."
- **World English Bible:** But you go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice,' for I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

New King James Version: But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice.' For I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance.

How do we know the other versions are actually promoting error? Because in Matthew 4:17, they almost all quote the words of Jesus properly: "Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand". To enter Heaven, everyone is to repent, which is to stop committing the sin, or sins.

And just how does one read the Book of Revelation? The opening verse either tells people to simply read it, while other versions tell us that it is symbolic by using the word "signified" in the verse:

New International Version: The revelation from Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John.

King James Bible: The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John.

Furthermore, did you know that incorporated into the KJV Bible is a built-in dictionary? It is true. This helps people especially figure out symbols from the symbolic prophecies contained in the Bible. For instance, compare Revelation 12:17 to 19:10. Most versions do not connect the two verses together properly. In addition, the versions that use the word "about" means that it is simply talking about Jesus while the word "of" means that Jesus is in possession of something and is willing to provide it as a gift.

King James Version:

12:17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed,

which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

19:10 And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See [thou do it] not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

New International Version:

12:17 Then the dragon was enraged at the woman and went off to wage war against the rest of her offspring-those who keep God's commands and hold fast their testimony about Jesus.

19:10 At this I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "Don't do that! I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers and sisters who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For it is the Spirit of prophecy who bears testimony to Jesus."

In the KJ version, one can take the exact words of "testimony of Jesus" from Revelation 12:17, do a phrase search, and find them directly in Revelation 19:10. While in the NIV, as an example, looking up the phrase "testimony about Jesus" from Revelation 12:17, which erroneously implies the purpose of the whole Bible as opposed to a gift being given, and doing the same word search would yield verses not inclusive of Revelation 19:10 and would not tell us the correct meaning, as they would point to John 5:31 and Revelation 20:4 instead.

Also, simple meanings are made confusing. The KJV tells us

that the Book of Revelation is "signified" or "symbolized" by stating, "The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John". That means the items contained in the book are not to be taken literally. However, using the NIV as our example once again, it says, "The revelation from Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John" seems to be taken literally.

And who is not condemned? The NIV, again using it as the main example, implies all Christians avoid condemnation by stating, "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus", while the KJV qualifies it a bit further by stating, "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." Christians who continue to give in to the desires of their body are still under condemnation in the KJV Bible. Which is correct? Is this a salvation issue? Seeing that condemnation from God is a salvation matter, that means it is the most important issue to figure out!

But there are faithful people who adhere to not only studying the Bible, but only use the King James Version of the Bible; however, Satan does not let them alone. He tries to steal their time through distractions.

SATAN: I WILL DISTRACT YOU WITH POLITICS

One of the most influential distractions is what is called politics. Each side thinks their agenda is correct, and there seems to be no solution because there are only two choices with very little middle ground.

- People either want Trump impeached, or to stay in office.

 It is not like we can have a compromise that Trump be president only three days a week.
- People either want a wall, or they are against it. It is not like a half-height wall will appease wall builders, nor would enclosing only half the border appease anyone.
- People either want illegal immigrants to have easy entrance into our country, or not.
- People either want forced vaccinations, or not.
- People either want abortion on demand, or they want abortion outlawed.
- People either want gun control, or they do not. And no, banning certain guns does not appease the gun controllers, nor do gun allowance activists agree with a single banning.
- People want teachers to be trained and armed in classrooms, while others do not.
- People are either for, or against, all forms of marriage.
- People either believe climate change is a man-made issue

with man-made solutions, or not.

People either want Planned Parenthood shutdown, or they do not. It is not like funding 50% would appease either side.

People either support gender identity, or they do not.

People are either for, or against, a single-payer healthcare system.

People are either for, or against, providing government assistance towards illegal immigrants.

People are either for, or against, a free college education.

People are either for, or against, legalized marijuana. It is not like small plants would be considered middle ground.

People are either for, or against, sanctuary cities, or even states.

People are either for, or against, voter id cards.

People are either for, or against, an electoral college.

People are either for, or against, the death penalty. It is not like the middle ground happens to be just make people sick instead of dead.

People are either for, or against, fracking oil and natural gas.

People are either for, or against, term limits.

People are either for, or against, pipe lines.

People are either for, or against, affirmative action.

People are either for or against euthanasia.

And many, many, more divisive positions.

And to top it off, when one side gets the "power", they start making changes to appease their side, but when the other side eventually gets the "power", they reverse those changes. Therefore, the staunch political positions are never ending as it seems to swing back and forth.

And the final topper is that the media plays a large role in keeping the fire burning. With fake news, with one-sided views, and every other distortion of the facts slanting people's opinions, people either get fired up in support of,or against, the issue. And with multiple issues at hand, it is easy to just simply distract people non-stop.

How does God want us to handle these political issues? To answer this, we look at a scene in Jesus' life regarding politics. The Bible says, "Then went the Pharisees, and took counsel how they might entangle him in [his] talk. And they sent out unto him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, Master, we know that thou art true, and teachest the way of God in truth, neither carest thou for any [man]: for thou regardest not the person of men. Tell us therefore, What thinkest thou? Is it lawful to give tribute unto Caesar, or not?" (Matthew 22:15-17) Paying taxes to another nation which ruled over them was a definite political hot potato. If Jesus were to answer that the taxes ought to be paid, then it would have been declared that He was a political supporter of the Roman authority and a traitor to Israel. If, on the other hand, Jesus would answer with not supporting paying the taxes, then they would have handed Jesus over to the authorities as being a rebellious citizen. There is clearly no middle ground. Paying just a little is still paying, and paying nothing at all is rejecting the law of the land at that time.

Now, to show how we ought to treat political issues, we see first the understanding of the motive. The Bibles says, "But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, Why tempt ye me, [ye] hypo-

crites?" (Matthew 22:18) Too many times we are quick to give our opinion on the issues, when we ought to evaluate above being right or wrong; our answer ought to show Christ in it. When asked, "Are you for the wall, or not?" Do not be so quick to answer one way or the other, especially while others are witnessing your response. We may be leading people towards God or away from God with our answer. The wall will not matter if we make the choice towards glorifying God.

Then Jesus went on with, "Shew me the tribute money. And they brought unto him a penny. And he saith unto them, Whose [is] this image and superscription?" (Matthew 22:19-20) We need to then evaluate the impact of the political issue showing how human-made issues are just that — human-made. Is allowing the government to create more taxes so that everyone can have a college education really going to matter in God's scheme of things? No. Yes, it means less money in our pockets but God said, "Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things" (Matthew 6:31-32). We ought not be like everyone else, worried about such impact. More taxes means less for our use, and if we feel that we may not make ends meet because of tax after tax after tax, rely upon God because He knows we need the basic necessities.

And then the answer was given. "They say unto him, Caesar's. Then saith he unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's" (Matthew 22:21). In other words, "be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work, to speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, [but] gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men" (Titus 3:1-2). So, when taxes go up, pay them. When taxes go down, pay them, too. When illegal immigrants are allowed in, do not brawl – be gentle, and show meekness to them. When everyone is angry at Trump, do not join in with the evil speaking, especially since it

will not amount to any benefit. Besides, God "removeth kings, and setteth up kings" (Daniel 2:21). God allows certain evil rulers to be in position to allow fulfillment of prophecy, and He allows godly ones in office to stave off the evil. It is God who allows Trump in office, for better or worse. We need not concern ourselves about it.

And as a final note, remember, as a true Christian, we are commissioned by Jesus, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you" (Matthew 28:19-20). That is to every true Christian. Directly stated, we are to be "Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat" (2 Peter 3:12). Each of us is to be looking forward to the second coming and be involved in hasting, causing it to come quickly. How do we do that? A true Christian is to participate in the fact that "this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations" (Matthew 24:14).

By taking up political positions, declaring oneself to be a Republican or Democrat, polarizes people. In other words, it makes it difficult to share the gospel with others. A staunch Democrat is not going to listen to a staunch Republican, or the other way around, on any issue. They figure if they do not see eye to eye on politics, what else they share is also unbelievable.

SATAN: I WILL DISTRACT YOU WITH SPORTS

Sports have grown from a simple fun activity into a time-consuming, fanatical experience. A large portion of the channels on TV are dedicated to sports. Competition between entertainment networks boast of their sports network, be it cable or satellite or other delivery system. It has grown into the fact that simple sports are not satisfying so they have created fantasy versions of them. Important match-ups are regularly advertised in multiple media outlets. After a weekend of sports, the news increases the coverage to reveal the results and the impact of those results. Sports interrupt regularly scheduled programming now, especially since the "Heidi Bowl" incident of 1968 in which some network stations switched from broadcasting a football game over to watching a film entitled *Heidi*. The game was deemed to be over when it really was not, causing many sports fans to become very upset over missing "one of the greatest sports comebacks" ever.

Money and favors are frequently exchanged based upon the outcome. Gluttony and partying are highly encouraged. But overall, hours upon hours upon hours are wasted before a viewing mechanism that is broadcasting to people opposing one another and giving their all to be victorious, as if the outcome is going to impact life as we know it. Additionally, the principles portrayed in these events in no way shape or form help with the Christian character development whatsoever. Oh, they tout being good sportsmen towards each other, but in reality, good sportsmanship does not win games.

Many watch hockey for the fight to break out, car racing for the accidents, but beyond those obvious statements, fans of contact sports encourage their team to hit the other opponent hard, hoping that a "lesson is learned" or that they would be knocked out of the game. Even in the non-contact sport of baseball, people root for the pitcher to throw the ball close enough to "send a signal" or back the batter off the plate. The small amount of contact in baseball is also hard hitting. Runners are encouraged to run into a player in hopes that they will drop the ball. And does God really want his people watching one person pummel another individual to a bloody mess in a "sport" called boxing?

We are told that "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" (Jude 1:7). And many leave the understanding of this to mean that once we see sexual perversion, which we indeed do see and which is protected even by law, that the end is near. But what other sins did they commit? The Bible says, "Behold, this was the iniguity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness" (Ezekiel 16:49). "Abundance of idleness" is considered a sin! If people can waste so many hours watching a number of games, some being three hours long or more, that is the sin of idleness! Sure, sometimes we need to take a break and sit for a while, maybe a little rest, but an hour's worth of resting? That is what sleeping is for. This definitely hampers any activity for God. That includes Bible study time, both personally and in a group. Hardly anyone shows up when a church offers such to the members. Even church service in the morning is interrupted if a good sporting event is on TV.

So, what do sports portray and promote? Gambling has already been addressed, but now explicitly stated. Christians are to be good stewards, which means responsible with money, and "it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful" (1 Corinthians 4:2). Risky loss of funds, even in small amounts is not faithful. One does not have to have an addiction to gambling before it is a sin. It is a sin to

purposely put at risk funds that are all considered to be God's. Yes, life is a risk. Yes, we gamble on every choice we make. But an intelligent person does not justify just getting through life with purposeful, unnecessary risk-taking with money.

The Bible principle states, "[Let] nothing [be done] through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves" (Philippians 2:3). That means, every time (which is frequent) that a player or team states, "We're number one", they are breaking the principle. They definitely are not esteeming others better than themselves. Could you imagine an argument in sports in the opposite of what goes on today? — "Hey, opponent! You are number one!" And then they reply, "Oh, no, you are number one!" And back and forth they would go instead of this puffing-out-of-the-chest business that goes on.

Another Bible principle says, "Thou shalt not covet" (Exodus 20:17), yet, that is exactly what every player, every team, even the fans expend all energy for... they covet the trophy. Some covet it so much that they cheat, lie, and steal along with inflicting purposeful bodily harm. There has been the deflating of a football (Tom Brady), a whack across the knee in the Olympics (Tonya Harding towards teammate Nancy Kerrigan), drug use, gambling, and much more. And these are but a small sample of what has been exposed. There are numerous accounts of such that have not received as much attention as these, and there are numerous acts that have not been reported because the perpetrators have done a good job in concealing the facts.

"Thou shalt not kill" (Exodus 20:13) is another principle, even a commandment of God, but so many do not understand that such includes hurtful acts as well. That means all contact sports are pretty much breaking the commandment. Boxing is definitely an intentional hurt, but so is body slamming in wrestling and in hockey, hard tackles in football, and who knows what in rugby.

And all of this is for what purpose? "Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they [do it] to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible" (1 Corinthians 9:24-25). In this context, the word "corruptible" refers to the rusting out, aging, falling apart, even the forgetting about it. And that is what happens every year. No sooner does a team or even a player win the coveted prize than they are off again defending it or will soon be replaced by another winner and another and another. It is not uncommon for a losing team to shout at the winning team, "We'll get you next year!" Even the opposing fans get into it. They tell the fans, "Yeah, but now we'll see if they can hold onto the title next year!" Whatever happened about enjoying the moment, or the opposite, allowing others to enjoy the moment?

And overall, we are told, "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God" (1 Corinthians 10:31). Where does winning the title bring glory to God? Oh, there are a few players that will "thank Jesus" when they score, which is a mockery, for Jesus did not give them a special gift to catch a ball, score a point, win one for the _____ (fill in the blank). The special talents are for teaching others the saving gospel message.

God is not in the sports. He would never encourage the activities that take place that break all of these principles, plus others. And which team's prayers get answered if both are praying to win? In sports, when people say, "I knew you would win. I prayed for you and I had faith", what they are really saying is that they treat God as a superstition, even a genie. When the Bible says, "with God all things are possible" (Matthew 19:26), it is in the context of overcoming the world full of temptations, getting victory over sins, and dare it be said, living a perfect and sinless life. "Impossible!", you say. And that is the full context of the message: "With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible" (Matthew 19:26).

SATAN: I WILL DISTRACT YOU WITH HOLLYWOOD

But not everyone is into sports! That is alright. Satan uses Hollywood and gets a lot more mileage out of it. It shapes society and has a number of ways to keep the progress going. To go from married couples in separate beds to sex scenes during the day that are so sensual that nudity is not required, yet achieves the same effect as porn has on people. This does not lend itself to the maturing of the audience, rather it shows how far down that path of mind degradation we have come.

On top of that, when headline news announces a positive activity of the porn industry, as if it were mainstream, just like any other corporation achieving something, it shows further degradation of society in the area of sensuality. It used to be a back-alley purchase, to an exclusive area in video rentals, to now it being easily subscribed to, and offered even through the phone companies.

And if sex is not capturing enough interest, violence has greatly increased thanks to something called CGI, computer generated imagery. It is so real that the thought of aging actors may not be a concern in the future, but with it comes the ability to provide such detail. Violence in movies has gone from the noise and then seeing the result; for example, a gun is fired and there's now a body on the floor with a red spot. But now, through CGI, we see things are slowed down so slowly that the bullet is shown penetrating the skin, some initial blood droplets squirt out, advancing to show the bullet exiting the body with blood just bubbling out of the body. They even show the damage that the bullet is causing in between the entry and exit points. Slasher movies of the 1980s are a joke in comparison.

But sex and violence that turn society into sex-driven and angry people based upon the principle found in the Bible of 'by beholding, we are changed' (2 Corinthians 3:18) and the eye being the gateway to the mind, may not be capturing all of society. That is alright with Satan, for he has many ways to reach his goal of keeping even Christians in sin, for he knows that all it takes is to break one commandment and not have to break them all, "For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one [point], he is guilty of all" (James 2:10). That means that if the simple commandment of, "Thou shalt not covet" is broken, Satan wins. And it is done without sex, without violence. It is done with houses and food.

The "clean" content of those home improvement shows and the cooking programs all undermine the simplicity of life. Up through the 1800's, people were satisfied with a room for sleeping and one for eating. Houses now are expected to have a formal dining room along with the daily dining room, every child their own bedroom, numerous bathrooms (though it does beat the outhouse days), a study, man and woman 'caves', entertainment room, living room as well as the family room, and of course, plenty of storage. And if that is not tempting and somehow you are satisfied with raising a family in as few rooms as possible, the appearance of those rooms is greatly undermined.

Still functioning, Lighting Network quickly becomes unsatisfying after watching a few of these housing programs. Of course, redesigning the kitchen is a must. And what of our bathrooms?

Then if the houses are not of interest, food is definitely an effective distraction. So much for being satisfied with the simple meals. Every day has to present a new gourmet delicacy. The expense and effort to deliver meal after meal as well as the increase in spices, of which few are digestible (hence all of the gas pill commercials), is just feeding off the natural coveting found in the fleshly desires.

And let us not forget about those love story channels that

seem to increase in viewership during the holidays. The pattern is so predictable, yet many watch to see how many different ways people can be made to fall in love and live in pure bliss. A number of those movies create the scenario that the perfect man is actually boring while the risk taking and so-called "fun loving" man is the right one. And the number of times friends or family suggest to the confused woman, "follow your heart" or "what is your heart telling you" is guaranteed to pop up frequently. The Bible says, "The heart [is] deceitful above all [things], and desperately wicked: who can know it?" (Jeremiah 17:9). The heart is what gets people in trouble in most cases.

And then on top of that, somehow the actors of Hollywood have truly become idols, and from that status they are able to influence their fans on political issues. Who really cares what an actor or even a singer thinks on any given point? It is just an opinion. Their opinion is no more educated as compared to any other citizen on average, yet, when a certain celebrity speaks, anyone not agreeing with that opinion is somehow not "in the know", or informed.

What does the Bible have to say to all of this? "I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; [it] shall not cleave to me" (Psalms 101:3). "He that walketh righteously, and speaketh uprightly; he that despiseth the gain of oppressions, that shaketh his hands from holding of bribes, that stoppeth his ears from hearing of blood, and shutteth his eyes from seeing evil; He shall dwell on high: his place of defence [shall be] the munitions of rocks: bread shall be given him; his waters [shall be] sure" (Isaiah 33:15-16). And to think, many movies depict bribes, bloodshed, and evil.

SATAN: I WILL DISTRACT YOU WITH MUSIC

The world seems to march according to the drummer. It seems that people are easily influenced by music. As they say, "A spoonful of sugar makes the medicine go down"; well, in the game for influencing the populous, music seems to have the same effect. That is because people evaluate it less when connected to music. Take for instance the song, *Pumped Up Kicks*. Many people were humming the tune when it is a song about shooting kids!

The story of the Pied Piper, who, in the end, leads a bunch of kids away through music, is very fitting, only that today it is adults, too. People are willing to listen to the music despite the origins, despite the message, despite everything evil about it. "But it has a great beat!", is what they say. And all the while Satan is taking society down, down, down into immorality.

Most of the music today degrades the mind. With the subliminal messages and repetitive lyrics, people are influenced even if they deny it.

God does not approve of most of the music today, and when I say most, I am talking almost all of it. Satan is described as, "thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created" (Ezekiel 28:13). In other words, Lucifer was the leading musical angel of Heaven before becoming Satan. He did not lose that musical talent but rather has used it to greatly influence the content to become ungodly.

There is only one type of music that God accepts: "Praise ye the LORD. Sing unto the LORD a new song, [and] his praise in the con-

gregation of saints" (Psalms 149:1). Only songs that praise God are acceptable. And no, not all praise music is of God. Changing out the words from worldly lyrics to supposedly godly music, but keeping the actual musical part is still of the world. In fact, it is reported that most Christian music is sung by unbelievers. It is because there is less competition in the Christian environment having the same popularity as non-Christian venues. So, the non-believers do not care, and this is why many of the "Christian" songs get it wrong.

One of the problems in worldly music is that, well, it uplifts the world. It is coveting, adultery, killing (including anger), etc. all put to music. And seeing that music sticks in the mind more than any other means, brain-controlling thought is there.

Many people who have faced crisis situations have resorted to using foul language and dealt with the situation in an angry manner instead of having a "chaste conversation" (1 Peter 3:2), as opposed to a "vain conversation" (1 Peter 1:18), being "holy in all manner of conversation" (1 Peter 1:15). And in regard to self-control, the Bible teaches that we are to "keep under my body, and bring [it] into subjection" (1 Corinthians 9:27). Such people found that their minds were being conditioned to react differently through music as opposed to even regular Bible study. That shows how influential music really is.

And we know Satan is getting lots of mileage fom the use of music because it is inescapable. Unlike prior to the 1900's, music is literally everywhere. It is in the vehicles, at the stores, in the elevators, at restaurants. It sells products; it influences buying the product. And yes, that is different. Whatever store has the catchy jingle, the people usually end up being their customers. That is why a large amount of money is spent on jingle advertising. But in days gone by, subliminal messages were found in the music that malls used to play. Hidden underneath the song was suggestion for food and drink, hence why people were found with sodas in their hands when they were not even wanting a soda.

SATAN: I WILL DISTRACT YOU WITH GAIN

Gain is not necessarily trying to be wealthy; it can refer to making ends meet. Long ago, one parent, usually the dad, used to work one job providing for the family. After the 1960's, two incomes were required because the cost of living skyrocketed. With both parents having to contribute to the income just to run the home that meant Satan has more access to molding the children's minds. With latchkey kids spending more time with each other, after-school programs for children to simply wait for parents to be done with their jobs, and of course daycare, all these things tend towards children getting a street education instead of a godly one.

Then, add in there something unheard of in centuries past, family vacations, and we have parents working even more hours. And of course, what parent does not want to provide a better life than they had growing up? It is just that today's gadgets that "all of the kids have" are far more expensive than those of the prior generation.

Complicating matters is society's expectations. Every family ought to have a certain size home, a certain number of cars, and of course no one should be caught wearing the same outfits frequently. Further, society expects children to be enrolled into certain programs, involved in certain activities, etc. That means a lot of running around using up gas, dues and fees having to be paid, and many more expenses.

And while Satan has society so involved in running the rat race, God says, "Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye [are] cursed

with a curse: for ye have robbed me, [even] this whole nation. Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that [there shall] not [be room] enough [to receive it]" (Malachi 3:8-10). You see, if people are spending money on this, that, and the other thing, they do not have much, if at all, for funding the gospel message, yet Jesus said, "this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come" (Matthew 24:14). Well, the gospel certainly will not be paying for itself. It takes means to get the message out. And Satan is making sure those means do not reach the operation of spreading the gospel, something that every Christian is to be involved in.

On top of that, with all that has been described, people do not have time to be used of God in sharing the gospel, let alone, have personal Bible study time every day, making it easier for "science falsely so called" (1 Timothy 6:20), governments, and society itself able to promote the ways of Satan instead of God. Much of the political problems would be resolved if people would only study the Bible more. It identifies many evil and sinful acts and how to discipline those acts, even of gluttony. But people are told the many lies, supposedly of the Bible, and they believe the lies instead of discovering the truth for themselves.

So, people are then quick to yank God out of everything; though the tide is turning, and we wonder why there are school shootings, impatient drivers, and an angry world. "Because [there is] no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land. By swearing, and lying, and killing, and stealing, and committing adultery, they break out, and blood toucheth blood" (Hosea 4:1-2).

SATAN: I WILL DISTRACT YOU WITH FALSE RELIGIOUS TEACHINGS

"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6). "And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, [and] one shepherd" (John 10:16). "Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son" (2 John 1:9). "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, [thou] that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under [her] wings, and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate" (Matthew 23:37-38).

This is but a sampling of numerous teachings from Jesus to clearly show that the god of the Muslims, gods of the Hindus, gods of any religion that is not Christ's, is not the same religion. Either the Muslims are right and everyone else is wrong. Either Hindus are right and everyone else is wrong. Or Christianity is right and everyone else is wrong.

Going with the fact that only Jesus claims to be the "Son of God" (John 3:18), we are going to accept Christianity as the only true religion. This does not mean we condemn all other people but are commissioned by Jesus to "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations" (Matthew 28:19) and "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you" (Matthew 28:20).

But what of the Jewish religion? First, Christianity was born out

of that religion because of the rejection of Jesus as the promised Messiah. Therefore, referring to the Jews, "seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles" (Acts 13:46), and the fact that Jesus Himself stated that the capital of the nation, Jerusalem, which housed the physical representation of the religion was to be desolate, the Jewish religion is also not God's.

Further, all Christian denominations are not automatically God's people either. Those that teach that Israel is still God's favored nation and the Jews are still His favored people are in grave error. That is not what the Bible teaches. Additionally, when Jesus said that there ought to be "one fold" (John 10:16) that was not a blanket covering of every flavor of belief. Specifically, we are to have Christ's doctrines (2) John 1:9). Anything that is not Christ's is considered man-made, and to that Jesus says, "in vain they do worship me, teaching [for] doctrines the commandments of men" (Matthew 15:9). So many denominations are worshipping God in vain, especially since He also said, "But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God [is] a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship [him] in spirit and in truth" (John 4:23-24). Many worship but do so in vain. The denominations are vain, however, "God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved" (John 3:17). That means individuals in all of the denominations teaching error are not condemned, for God knows those who do so ignorantly. However, people are not to be left in error but invited to "Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues" (Revelation 18:4).

Satan of course has created over 42,000 different sects and divisions in the Christian religion to make it seemingly unbelievable that there could only be one true denomination. If you were to search diligently and find it, Satan would work to discourage you from joining it because many of the people who do become members do so be-

cause they cannot argue successfully against it, therefore remain unconverted. And it seems the unconverted greatly outnumber the converted, and therefore adds to the deception that there is no one true denomination. But, if one looks at only the doctrines and compares them to the Bible, then the fuller picture develops, and yes, you will see it is possible to have that "one fold".

Let's face it. If we think what was stated is error, then Jesus is a liar. We cannot have it both ways. And this is a truth because the Bible states, "[There is] one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who [is] above all, and through all, and in you all" (Ephesians 4:4-6).

Even that list reveals the erroneous denominations. The very fact that it is stated that there is "one faith" and "one body" tells us this to be so, but in the simple form, if people are able to choose their own version of baptism, that is not "one baptism" then. And no, this is not just a spiritual application. It is not multiple choice! The form of baptism is clearly depicted in Romans 6:3-4, which states, "Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." People cannot be buried through sprinkling, through just having faith, through anything else but full immersion. Also, Jesus was put in the tomb once and came out once, which means, multiple dunking is not part of the "one baptism". Now, any denomination accepting any other form of baptism than single immersion, or offering it along with other choices, is in error.

And when we say error, we mean error. The notion that people are simply mistaken does not match with God who demands exactness. Cain's offering was not acceptable because it was not the way

God declared it ought to be (Genesis 4). Everyone else drowned by trying to board other boats during the time of the flood except the specific boat that Noah built (Genesis 7). God rejected a king because he did not slaughter every single person in a particular country but spared just one individual, Agag, their king (1 Samuel 15:9). And the list goes on and on.

Jesus said, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me" (John 10:27). We believe the Bible to have recorded the words of Jesus, therefore, if we do not follow it, we are in error.

Now, it would be easy for me to simply state the denomination and have you simply evaluate it for yourself, but that is not the purpose of this content. If you are sincere, and sincerely seeking after God "with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind" (Matthew 22:37), you will be led to His fold. Besides, there should be enough clues in what you have read, as well as, if you continue on, of what you will read to narrow it down.

Another hint at who is in error is found in the book of Jude. Verse 4 says, "For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ." So, one of the false doctrines would be on grace. Another false doctrine would be on the understanding of "the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ".

Focusing upon the false grace, the word "lasciviousness" is used which includes the word "lust" as part of the definition. When people think of "lust", they usually focus upon the sexual. That would mean that "grace" would be sexually perverted, if one accepts "lasciviousness" at face value. But using the Bible as its own dictionary, "all that [is] in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world" (1 John 2:16). So, everything that is not of God, that is considered worldly, is

what grace would then permit to be used, but if you are still hung up on the sex definition, the Bible also has a definition for that too. "Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God" (James 4:4). It is basically the same definition... worldliness.

Now, if a denomination teaches that it does not matter if you remain worldly or not, you are still saved by grace, they are lying to you, and unfortunately, this poison is in most denominations. It is called "once saved, always saved", as if once you are saved, even you, yourself, cannot undo that choice. You have given up the freedom to choose. If you say, "No, that does not mean that", then you do not believe in "once saved, always saved". You cannot have it both ways. The reason a person cannot have it both ways is because every moment is that choice. Will a person be tempted today to give up Christianity because they like something the world offers instead of liking God more? We do not have to say every day, "I choose to be a Christian" nor do we have to one day say, "I am done being a Christian". We 'say' that at every choice. "Choose you this day whom ye will serve" (Joshua 24:15), and Paul answered that by stating, "I die daily" (1 Corinthians 15:31) because Jesus' requirement every day is, "If any [man] will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me" (Matthew 16:24).

Hardly a Christian believes in denying self of participating in the world. That is why worldly music, movies, TV, activities, and other entertainment remain so raunchy. With over 70% of this country being identified as Christian, all of those businesses should go bankrupt if everyone were taught and practiced denying worldly pleasures, face those temptations, and follow or obey "every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4). But the fact is, "once saved, always saved" makes for lax Christians who pat themselves on the back because they sing nice, might give a good offering, and even per-

form an act of kindness all the while mounting up unnecessary garbage in the house, watching filth on TV, staying away from activities that involve reaching out to the communities with the gospel, etc.

With the doctrine of "once saved, always saved", it seems like every Christian is headed to Heaven, but that is not what Jesus taught. He taught, "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide [is] the gate, and broad [is] the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait [is] the gate, and narrow [is] the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it" (Matthew 7:13-14). Peter even wrote, "And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?" (1 Peter 4:18). "Scarcely be saved" means that it is not as easy as one portrays, like the doctrine of "once saved, always saved" teaches.

Couple that doctrine with the doctrine that there would be a denial of Jesus Christ and we have a pathetic religion. Denying Jesus Christ is not denying that He ever existed. A corrupt denomination denies that He is "Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6) making Him but a prophet. Jesus was more than a prophet. He is the "mighty God!" He existed from "everlasting"! He is also known as the "Father" because "All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made" (John 1:3), which means, Jesus created Adam! The God of the Old Testament is not the heavenly Father, for sin separated us from Him. All communication was possible only through His Son. That is what is meant by "when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life" (Romans 5:10). Once Adam and Eve sinned, we needed reconciliation. Who did the reconciling? Jesus. No wonder the Bible says, "No man hath seen God at any time" (1 John 4:12), referring to the Father, for it cannot refer to Jesus as even Paul and Stephen even got to see Him (Acts 9:5 and Acts 7:56). And Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father,

but by me" (John 14:6). This means that here on earth, we will not have direct communication with the Father except it first go through Jesus Christ.

To deny Jesus is to deny what He offers and even commands. "He shall save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21). "He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil. Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God" (1 John 3:8-9). "Behold, thou art made whole: sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee" (John 5:14). "Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more" (John 8:11). "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect" (Matthew 5:48). "But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation" (1 Peter 1:15). "Be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless" (2 Peter 3:14).

"Impossible!", people say. "With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible" (Matthew 19:26). And this is what Jesus provides to accomplish it: "Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that [pertain] unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust" (2 Peter 1:2-4).

How do I know that this is what is meant by denying Jesus? "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of

those that are good, Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away" (2 Timothy 3:1-5). Every one of these sins has always been in the world, but once it reaches the church as being acceptable, know that we are in the last days. And we are here because not only is it acceptable, but even those without natural affection, as defined in Romans 1:1 as women lusting after women and men after men when naturally it should be a woman and man, are placed in office even as ministers! And what is the excuse? "No one can be perfect!" "Only Jesus is perfect!" "No one can stop sinning." Which is summed up in the phrase, "denying the power thereof". They deny the divine power that Jesus is willing to provide so that "they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts" (Galatians 5:24). And that is just it – people do not want to stop lusting, dwelling upon fantasy, sensuality, excitement, etc.

Now returning back to Jude where it stated that ministers would be "turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness" (Jude 1:4), which means that the congregations will be taught worldliness, also brings up another point. Grace seems to have replaced keeping God's Ten Commandments. Ask the average Christian if they are required to keep the Ten Commandments and they will usually reply with "no". Yet Jesus said, "If ye love me, keep my commandments" (John 14:15), referring to the Ten Commandments. How do I know? Because those exact words are in the Ten Commandment not by accident. "And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments" (Exodus 20:6). Much of what Jesus said can be found as quotes from the Old Testament, which is another plan of Satan to use deceptively.

He has most Christians close-minded to the Old Testament. Give a Christian a challenging quote from the Old Testament, like paying tithe (Malachi 3:8-9), and most are quick to say, "Oh, that's Old Testament", as if everything that a Christian no longer wants to follow can be dismissed with that phrase. This is inconsistent for "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever" (Hebrews 13:8) and "I [am] the LORD, I change not" (Malachi 3:6). And if Christians try to pull off the consistency of Jesus being New Testament only, they need to keep in mind, "He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me" (John 14:24), and "I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me" (John 5:30). Basically, most Christians are hypocrites, even unknowingly. God cannot be both consistent and yet dismiss the Old Testament. There are even a lot of future prophecies contained therein ready to be fulfilled and will come as a surprise since Satan has blinded people to anything coming out of the Old Testament So, Satan has tricked many into dismissing the Old Testament, which helps explain the New Testament, and that explains why Christians are so confused about the understanding of New Testament content. In addition, if the Old Testament was truly done away with through the life of Jesus Christ nearly 2,000 years ago, then why do all of the New Testament writers quote so much from the Old Testament? So, even in their own practice of quoting from the Old Testament well after the cross, gives testimony that the Old Testaments is still applicable to the modern Christian. It is not the documentation of Jewish history alone!

Besides, grace does not replace the obedience to the Ten Commandments. Paul cleared that up, if people would only read: "What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid" (Romans 6:15). But, so many ministers, most of whom are unconverted, leave off that part, keeping their congregation in sin, either knowingly or unknowingly since many ministers simply regurgitate what they have been taught. And what is the definition of sin? "Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law" (1 John 3:4). In fact, as Christians, "we establish the law" (Romans 3:31), which means to uplift it, pattern it, live it, and obey it instead of attacking it and breaking it whenever it suits.

The commandments are not the Ten Suggestions. They are the Ten Commandments!

And for those who think that grace still replaces the Ten Commandments and that grace is only offered since the cross, implying that obedience to the Ten Commandments is Old Testament stuff — think again! Where do you suppose the definition of grace is in the Bible? It is in the Old Testament and only the Old Testament. They were as much under grace back then as we are today. "And Moses made haste, and bowed his head toward the earth, and worshipped. And he said, If now I have found grace in thy sight, O Lord, let my Lord, I pray thee, go among us; for it [is] a stiffnecked people; and pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us for thine inheritance" (Exodus 34:8-9). Grace is pardon for our sins, something we do not deserve, a gift, and then the allowance to have inheritance, which is a reference to eternal life.

Moses broke the Ten Commandments, both literally and in His own life (Numbers 20:11-12)! If commandment keeping was required, Moses would then be lost because even a thousand animal sacrifices would not wash away a single sin "For [it is] not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins" (Hebrews 10:4). It was all symbolic pointing forward to Jesus, but once Jesus shed His blood, then went into effect what Jesus said, "For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins" (Matthew 26:28). That shedding of blood is both for those of Old and those in the New Testament times, which includes us.

And what of faith? "Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law" (Romans 3:31). "What shall we say then? [Is] the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet" (Romans 7:7). In other words, we need the Ten Commandments. They point out our need of a Savior both in needing

forgiveness, but as well revealing what sin is "Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin" (1 Peter 4:1).

Basically, "He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him" (1 John 2:4). And the goal of all of this is to state, "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not" (1 John 2:1). We are not to cheapen grace to permit us to freely sin! Jesus did not come down, live a sinless life, endure affliction, end up crucified, all so that it would make it easier for Christians to sin! God forbid! That is turning grace upside down. It is lasciviousness!

And all the denominations that participate in doing away with God's Ten Commandments are definitely not of God's fold. They are in apostasy. And they do it hypocritically! They are all for defending the Ten Commandments as a symbol but not as an application in one's personal life. And by the way, that is called idol worship. To create a symbol of an object to be reverenced and not be used in the guidance of one's life is object worship. Many Christians treat the Bible the same way. They make sure they own one but hardly use it.

The reality regarding the Ten Commandments is this: The commandments are not for the purpose of becoming saved, but because we *are* saved. They represent the character of a converted person.

Think of it this way: a patient enters the doctor's office because of the challenge in breathing. After a few tests a biopsy is performed, the patient is diagnosed with lung cancer. The doctor prescribes different treatments, encourages various activities, etc., and by some miracle, the lung cancer is cured. The patient being curious to know what caused the lung cancer finds out that smoking two packs a day, every day was the culprit. Now who in their right mind would expect the patient, who just being saved from dying of lung cancer,

would recommend that another such patient return to their old habit of smoking? The medical team just saved the person from dying at that moment in time. In other words, the medical team saved the patient from the results of smoking. In the desire to live, the patient will cease from ever smoking again, not to be cured, but to remain cured.

The same is in regards to the Ten Commandments. In one form or another, breaking them is killing us physically. People who do not make God out to be God and substitute other people in that place, especially self, will never be happy and will constantly be stressed, for if self is god and not God, self cannot be content or be satisfied. Such people try to interject themselves as often as possible into conversations, in comparing lifestyles, in everything. Worried who their competition is, selfish people suffer from heart attacks more so than unselfish people.

Those who idolize will sacrifice life for possessions, be it a house, a fine car, a career, a collection, even a reputation. Relationships tend to suffer. Possibly long hours are employed drawing away time from the family as well as taking care of themselves. Maybe they suffer even the lack of exercise and eating properly because that interferes with achieving the idol. Some people make gaming, and bingewatching, and other entertainments idols at the sacrifice of health by staying up all hours of the night.

Those who take God's name in vain, which is not only applied to saying, "Jesus", "Oh God", "Oh Gosh", in irreverent manners, but it also covers the foul words and even the softer foul words called euphemisms. Taking God's name in vain also covers calling oneself a Christian but not being one. A Christian does not participate in risky behavior, be it what is put into the body or what is done to the body. Christian behavior means that they avoid certain places as well as avoid certain activities. That means overall, the likelihood to die or suffer ill effects from such is greatly reduced.

Those who avoid keeping the Sabbath holy and do not allow the body to recover weekly from the stresses, seem to suffer more heart attacks, seem to not have time for family members, seem to be on edge more, have a higher rate of divorce, pop more meds, need more caffeine than others, and much more.

Those who do not honor mother and father also find that honoring authority to also be a challenge and could find themselves paying fines, even having to do jail time.

"Do not kill" is not just forbidding murdering another person, but it is inclusive of suicide. And when I say suicide, I mean both the quick method and long-term method. By destroying the body through unhealthful habits and practices tends towards having to be on more meds, having more ailments, more operations, and overall, a shorter lifespan.

Also, adultery does not forbid only sex outside of a proper marital relationship, but it also deals with many of the issues facing society. Improper use of the sexual activity leads to unwanted pregnancies, "ruined" life, "ruined" reputation, diseases, serious heartbreaks, irrational decisions, unexpected financial hardships, and much more.

Now stealing takes the risk of jail time and broken relationships if such thievery were to be against a friend or family member. Reputation is usually ruined as well.

Lying usually is found out, eventually. And when that happens, relationships are broken, loss of employment can result, challenge in finding a job occurs, and overall trust is gone for a long, long time, even to the point of not being able to be recovered.

And coveting simply causes unnecessary anxiety, body-damaging daydreaming, stress, debt, and much more.

So, when Jesus came He was described as being the person

that "shall save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21) and not "in sins", He came and "made thee whole" (Matthew 9:22), "made perfectly whole" (Matthew 14:36), "made whole: sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee" (John 5:14). And that is just it, Jesus can and will work on restoring the body from the damage that was caused, however, to continue to break the commandments will just simply continue the damaging process. Does that really make sense? "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and [that] the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which [temple] ye are" (1 Corinthians 3:16-17). In other words, those going to hell are simply those choosing selfdestruction. Jesus is trying to save people from that but if they persist and are close-minded, He has no choice but to let them go to hell. "Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel?" (Ezekiel 18:31). "Say unto them, [As] I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?" (Ezekiel 33:11). Do you hear His pleading? He does not want any to go to hell, but "he will make an utter end: affliction shall not rise up the second time" (Nahum 1:9). And for affliction, harm, even sin, not to rise up a second time, He cannot bring to Heaven those who persist in continuing affliction here and now.

You see, people think the Ten Commandments are all about obedience and disobedience. They are not. "The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have [it] more abundantly" (John 10:10). Satan, the thief, is trying to steal the life out of people through sin, be it little or big sins. Jesus is trying to provide a blessed life, and just like the smoking-induced cancer patient, it would make no sense for a Christian to go back to sinning to cause more issues in one's life espe-

cially after He, God, has forgiven all of our past sinning – free of charge, too!

But what happens is that people pit the Bible against itself because of their finite minds and selfish ways. Everyone desires to reach the goal with the least amount of effort. Most people take the elevator up because there is way too much effort in walking up fifty flights of stairs. Most people drive even a distance of a mile because it is too much effort to walk, and of course there is the time factor. There is nothing wrong with wanting to get to the goal with the least amount of effort, but when it comes to salvation, we need to be careful not to be reading into any verses meanings that were not intended. There is a safeguard for this.

The proper way to study the Bible is with two rules. The first is in Isaiah 28:9-10: "Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? [them that are] weaned from the milk, [and] drawn from the breasts. For precept [must be] upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, [and] there a little." If a person sincerely is seeking God's doctrine, lots of scripture will be involved and not just a verse or two.

That is much like what this publication consists of. If you scan over the whole publication, your eye should see tons of verses in italics. I would say, you should find more Bible verses in this publication than much of the other religious material that is available. So much material will quote a verse and then go on for pages with content that applies various human theories by quoting scientists, philosophers, even theologians, not realizing they are "Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth" (2 Timothy 3:7). The Bible is so easy to understand. It is the unlearning of error that is so hard.

What is necessary is to take lines or verses, precepts or principles, and even when verses address multiple subjects, take the portion that touches on the subject of study and put it all together. Further,

proper studying is not the same as reading. We are to gather the verses together and not simply read the stories. That is what is meant about getting off of the milk. The meat is in scripture comparison on the same subject from multiple writers.

The second rule is in 1 Corinthians 14:33, which says, "God is not [the author] of confusion." Upfront, realize that the Bible is not man-made. Men were just the writers. God is the Author. Now, God did not author by dictation; He left the person to write in their own use of the language, style of writing, and understanding of events. For instance, Daniel, in chapter 7 of his book, writes about four different beasts. He knows what a lion is, a bear, and even what a leopard happened to be, but has no clue about the fourth one so therefore resorts to a description. What this means overall though, is that God's Word needs to be understood without contradiction. So, if you have a verse that says the law has been done away with and another that says that the law has not been destroyed, they do not contradict. It is our understanding that makes them contradict.

Let us try a few examples.

Romans 3:20 says, "Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law [is] the knowledge of sin." Romans 3:28 says, "Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law." Galatians 2:16 says, "Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified." Galatians 3:11 says, "But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, [it is] evident: for, The just shall live by faith." And Galatians 5:4 says, "Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace."

Now, all of those verses seem to very much state that the Ten

Commandments are in no way, shape, or form to be part of a Christian's life, however, we have more verses to read. Romans 2:13 says, "(For not the hearers of the law [are] just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified." Matthew 5:17 says, "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil." Matthew 5:19 says, "Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach [them], the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven." 1 John 2:4 says, "He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him." Matthew 19:17 says, "If thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments." John 14:21 says, "He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him." Revelation 22:14 says, "Blessed [are] they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city."

And there are many more verses that we could quote but this is sufficient to show an apparent contradiction. Are the Ten Commandments important or not? We could pull the "trump" card, which is a term that means that nothing can beat it, by stating that Jesus specifically said to keep the commandments, therefore, nothing else needs to be discussed. And that would be a failure of "rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15), which means that there is a right way and whole lot of wrong ways. The other option is to lean upon the "least effort" understanding and simply preach using the earlier verses that shows that all effort is Christ's alone and ignore all of the verses that say the opposite. That may be popular, hence the existence of mega churches, but that is not soul saving truth. Even Jesus said, "Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able" (Luke 13:24). And to such minister

that tries to preach an easier gospel about entering Heaven, Jesus also said, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep" (John 10:1-2). The Bible is not a "choose a side", "pick your favorite verses", "you have your understanding and I have mine", etc., kind of book That is what Satan wants and anyone who believes that garbage is deceived and is in need of repentance.

So, how do we reconcile it then? First, it is true. Keeping the Ten Commandments does not earn justification at all, just like Romans 3:20, Romans 3:28, Galatians 2:16, Galatians 3:11, and Galatians 5:4 states; however, justification is not given to those with the intention of continuing to break the Ten Commandments, just like Romans 2:13 states. That is because "by the righteousness of one [the free gift came] upon all men unto justification of life" (Romans 5:18). Justification is a FREE gift. A person cannot earn it, pay for it, barter for it, or anything but receive it. But would you give a free puppy to a person that practices animal cruelty? Of course not! Would you give money to a boozer? You should not. Would you give a brand new car to someone that cannot drive? Of course not! And Jesus does not give justification to those that continue to break His commandments and have no intention of changing.

And what is nice about the Bible is that once a person works things out to the point that the proper understanding does not contradict, there are verses that state the summary of things. The Bible says, "Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear [the guilty]; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth [generation]" (Exodus 34:7). What does that mean? Look at the beginning of the verse. It says, "Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin". That is justification. It is clearing the record and presenting the person as if they had

not sinned just like Jude 24 says: "is able to keep you from falling, and to present [you] faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy." But notice the second half of Exodus 34:7, which says, "that will by no means clear [the quilty]; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth [generation]." And that means that justification is not for those people who remain guilty, which is done by continuing to break God's commandments, hence why the Bible says, "if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins" (Hebrews 10:26). So, when Paul wrote that "the doers of the law shall be justified", it clears up the matter. A person who keeps the commandments without fault technically needs no justification, however, "all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23), so all of us need that sin taken care of. We cannot pay more "tithes and offerings". We cannot say more prayers. We cannot make a pilgrimage. We cannot do a single thing to take care of that sin except "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us [our] sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). That is justification! But if we confess our sins, it is with the understanding that "repentance and remission of sins" (Luke 24:47) is taking place in one's life. In other words, if a person confesses that they are a bank robber, they stop robbing banks. If they confess that they have committed adultery, then they stop committing adultery.

Remember, Jesus said, "I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance" (Luke 5:32). "I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance" (Luke 15:7). "Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth" (Luke 15:10). We are not to stay in a sinning state. We are to stop sinning. That is what is meant by the fact that the "gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost" (1 Thessalonians 1:5). If you want to be filled

with the Holy Ghost, do not demonstrate activities of the Holy Ghost by "speaking in tongues" but rather go as "a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17), "walk in newness of life" (Romans 6:4), and "that our old man is crucified with [him], that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin" (Romans 6:6). "The gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek" (Romans 1:16). The gospel is not about Jesus and His activities of old providing a way for eternal life, but is about Jesus working in our lives in a present day miracle giving us the power to not give in to a single temptation, believing that "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God [is] faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear [it]" (1 Corinthians 10:13).

Now back to the point for just a moment. The selfish person will find the verses that apparently do away with the law, making a Christian life much easier to live and still have eternal life. They will convince themselves that all those verses that say otherwise are not for them. There are books that say that Hebrews was just for the Hebrew people, that Matthew was written for the Pharisees, that the Old Testament has no bearing on the New to the point that the Bible has no real application, and yet Christians eat it up to the potential exclusion of eternal life. Is anyone willing to risk eternal life like that? Obviously so, because that describes almost every Christian not of God's tiny little fold – the ones people love to call legalists; those who believe in obeying all of God's Ten Commandments, not because they are trying to be saved, but in response to Christ's saving grace. They basically are doing what Jesus said, "If ye love me, keep my commandments" (John 14:15) while the majority "shall revile you, and persecute [you], and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake" (Matthew 5:11). But it comes as no surprise, for "It is enough for

the disciple that he be as his master, and the servant as his lord. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more [shall they call] them of his household?" (Matthew 10:25).

Now here is a second example of trying to allow the Bible not to contradict itself, realizing it is we human beings who make it appear to be contradictory. This one will actually be easier. We will look at one verse. Romans 10:4 says, "For Christ [is] the end of the law for right-eousness to every one that believeth." Many Christians conclude that the law of Ten Commandments ended when Christ appeared, specifically, sacrificed Himself. Again, we must ask how that can be when there are so many verses after Christ died, called the New Testament, that state that we are to still keep the commandments. Believe it or not, it all has to do with the understanding of a little word called "end". That word "end" is frequently understood as meaning to stop. A dead-end road means that the road will not continue much further. The end of the game means the game is over. End of class, again, means class is over. End of the year means that the year is finished. But infrequently, the word "end" also means "result".

Could Romans 10:4 actually mean "For Christ [is] the **result** of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth."? It most certainly does mean that, for a number of reasons. First, it does not contradict all the verses and Jesus' own words that state that the Ten Commandments are still binding. Secondly, if the word "end" does mean "finished" then God is finished too because James wrote, "Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord" (James 5:11). Now we know God did not cease to exist in the days of Job, but if we substitute the word "result", it makes perfect sense then to read, "Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the **result** of the Lord." And we cannot simply say, "Well, James meant it one way and Paul meant it another" for that would be inconsistent when it is the exact same Greek word "telos".

And the third reason why we ought to understand that "Christ [is] the **result** of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth" is because that is the gospel. What do believers experience? We experience the results of what Christ has done because "all have sinned" (Romans 3:23) and making us "become a transgressor of the law" (James 2:11). "The law [is] the knowledge of sin" (Romans 3:20) and nothing more. "But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth [therein], he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed" (James 1:25), which means, the law is like a mirror in which we look into it to see the dirt, but the mirror does not clean at all, neither does the law. And when it comes to looking at the law identifying where we transgressed it, "Jesus Christ, [who is] the faithful witness, [and] the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood" (Revelation 1:5). "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God" (1 Corinthians 6:9-11). And that should be clear. Anyone committing sin despite claiming to be "saved" is going to be lost if they do not stop it. The phrase "were some of you" is past tense. And "all unrighteousness is sin" (1 John 5:17).

The bottom line is that Christ came because in the past, we had sinned and were lost. "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief" (1 Timothy 1:15) saving them "from their sins" (Matthew 1:21) "that he might destroy the works of the devil" (1 John 3:8). But if we are continuing in sin, that means the devil's works are still alive in us. Again, we may claim to be saved, but really are not, in fact, "He that committeth sin is of the devil" (1 John 3:8). We obvi-

ously are not referring to an "oops" situation, but that "oops" situation is not to be a way of life. We are fooling ourselves again if we think that grace permits the same sin to occur every day of our lives.

That does not mean every action is evil. Evil people can do good things to accomplish their evil goal. Also, keep in mind, evil is the opposite of holy. Things being "not so bad" is evil! Somewhere along the lines people have been deceived into thinking an acceptable life, though it is not holy, is somehow acceptable to God. It is not! It is evil. Harbor evil in the heart at any level is the opposite of surrendering all to God.

Let us do one more exercise containing scriptures that really look like the opposite of each other. Acts 9:7 says, "And the men which journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice, but seeing no man" while Acts 26:14 says, "And when we were all fallen to the earth, I heard a voice speaking unto me, and saying in the Hebrew tongue, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? [it is] hard for thee to kick against the pricks." So, who heard the voice? Was it only Paul in chapter 26, which is a retelling of chapter 9, or was it everyone according to Acts chapter 9? The simple solution to this is found when we bring another couple verses into the picture. John 12:28-29 says, "Father, glorify thy name. Then came there a voice from heaven, [saying], I have both glorified [it], and will glorify [it] again. The people therefore, that stood by, and heard [it], said that it thundered: others said, An angel spake to him." And for those that need a little more help, in Acts 9:7, everyone present heard the voice but they thought it was thunder, only Paul, as stated in Acts 26:14, perceived the voice of Jesus giving him personal instruction.

We could continue on and on but I believe you should understand by now that what appears to be contradiction in the Bible is actually our human understanding that is contradicting, not God's Word.

Again, the way Satan is deceiving people is that today it seems

there is a global push to believe we all serve the same God, yet such cannot be. In the Christian denominations, many doctrines are opposite of one another. And then beyond the walls of Christianity, we have Islam that declares that God has no Son, and yet Christianity, for the most part, says that God does have a Son. Either the Messiah came like Christians declare, or the Jews are right and the Messiah did not come yet. We cannot have it both ways in both comparisons.

SATAN: I WILL HIDE THE REAL ISSUE AT HAND

The Bible says, "All the world wondered after the beast" (Revelation 13:3). Of course, that does not mean every single person because Jesus even said, "As it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man" (Luke 17:26). In the days of Noah, it is said, "And GOD saw that the wickedness of man [was] great in the earth, and [that] every imagination of the thoughts of his heart [was] only evil continually" (Genesis 6:5). Now if that was every single human being, then that would have meant that everyone should have drowned, yet "Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD" (Genesis 6:8). So, there was a small exception. In fact, only "eight souls were saved by water" (1 Peter 3:20). And thus, it shall be when all the world wonders after the beast "a remnant shall be saved" (Romans 9:27), in fact, "if [it were] possible, they shall deceive the very elect" (Matthew 24:24). That means anyone short of that category will be lost. It is not "willy-nilly" belief in God. It takes a daily commitment.

But I will say that when the Bible says that all the world would wonder after the antichrist beast, that includes Christians, Muslims, Hindus, Jews, Buddhists, and even pagan tribes. Most of all, that includes atheists! But how can that be when the antichrist power "exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God" (2 Thessalonians 2:4)? Atheists have nothing to do with religion; in fact, many actively work against it in one way or another. When the Bible says, "They worshipped the beast, saying, Who [is] like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?", that does not mean they have to treat the antichrist like a god. That is foreign to atheists.

The word "worship" is frequently understood to mean bowing down, paying homage, etc. Just like the word "end" mostly means that it is "over and finished", but sometimes it also means "result", well, "worship" does mean to "bow down and pay homage", but it also means something else. This is what I really like about he King James Version of the Bible. We can use it to interpret itself. Please note that in 2 Kings 17:36, which says, "him shall ye worship, and to him shall ye do sacrifice" means that sacrifice and worship are synonymous. Then, when the Bible says, "to obey [is] better than sacrifice" (1 Samuel 15:22), we could understand it as, "to obey [is] better than worship". In other words, obedience is the ultimate way to worship, which is why it does not matter to antichrist where the mark of the beast is received, for people may "receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads" (Revelation 13:16).

So many Christians are looking forward to a future antichrist when the Bible is quite clear that "the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth [will let], until he be taken out of the way" (2 Thessalonians 2:7). "Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time. They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would [no doubt] have continued with us: but [they went out], that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us" (1 John 2:18-19). Antichrist is not a person; it is a theology within the Christian fold that causes people to fall away from the truth for "Let no man deceive you by any means: for [that day shall not come], except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition" (2 Thessalonians 2:3). Although, the "man of sin" is singular, from other Bible references and activities, it is more of a title for the lead position, for Daniel also saw in symbolic vision, "there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn [were] eyes like the eyes of man,

and a mouth speaking great things" (Daniel 7:8). It would be like stating the difference between "the leader of the United States is Trump" and "the leader of the United States is the president". People who use the reference "the man" as equivalent to Trump instead of man (generically speaking) to refer to the office of the presidency are missing the point of the reference to the "man of sin". Again, who is the leader of atheistic China? Is it Xi Jinping or is it President of the People's Republic of China? So, the man of atheistic China should be better known as president instead of a specific name. And that is the confusion people have about the antichrist. They assume the "man of sin" must refer to a specific person and such people have been on a hunt for that single person all the while that office has been active — since the day of the apostles, as the Bible just stated more than once.

Even Daniel declares, "I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn [were] eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things" (Daniel 7:8). Again, people try to pin this on a specific person, but since the "horns" represent "ten kings [that] shall arise" (Daniel 7:24), as in, ten countries led by ten different lines of kings, so it is with the eleventh horn that arises ruled by a single position, almost like a dictator.

To solidify this understanding of both 2 Thessalonians and Daniel 7 referring to a line of people with the title "man of sin", though not obvious to the public, and is not referring to one specific person, look at Daniel 2. From Daniel 2:31 to 36, Daniel reveals King Nebuchadnezzar's dream of a head of gold, arms and chest of silver, thighs of brass, legs of iron, and feet of iron and clay, and then turns around and says to the king, "Thou [art] this head of gold" (Daniel 2:38). Did Daniel literally mean King Nebuchadnezzar, or his position? Well, the fact that the other metals all represented kingdoms of Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome, along with the ten major countries of Europe, it would be

inconsistent to declare the head of gold to be a specific person. Besides, when Babylon fell, King Nebuchadnezzar is not to be found. "In that night was Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans slain. And Darius the Median took the kingdom, [being] about threescore and two years old" (Daniel 5:30-31). And Daniel 5:2 tells us that Belshazzar was related to "his father Nebuchadnezzar". So, the head of gold represented the title of king, and not a specific king. Therefore, with Bible consistency, Daniel 7 sees the same players in animal form. In Daniel 7:4-8, the lion is Babylon, the bear is the Medo-Persians, the leopard is Greece, and the big ugly beast is Rome, out of which came ten horns or Europe, matching the ten toes of Daniel 2. Now, looking closer at Europe (Daniel 7:8), Daniel sees another horn. It would be inconsistent to label four major kingdoms and not specific people, label ten countries and not specific people, but turn around and say that the eleventh horn, the antichrist, is a specific person. That just does not make sense and contradicts both John and Paul. So, unlike the ten horns ruled by political kings, the eleventh seems to be a bit different, but not a specific person, as no one person has never lived, since the cross, more than a hundred-some years and we are nearly 2,000 years later since John and Paul identified antichrist in their day already working. Therefore, it has to be another nation.

We know this to be true because the last generation of Christians is described to be mostly subject to the deceptions regarding the antichrist: "[Even him], whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved" (2 Thessalonians 2:9-10). That is because two groups are forming: those that are informed by the Word of God, and those that are not. When 96% of Christians declare the Bible as being in error, humanly created without any divine guidance, and full of fables, these are definitely Christians that are subject to be deceived, but God still has a few. "For when they shall say,

Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as [do] others; but let us watch and be sober" (1 Thessalonians 5:3-6).

In fact, Jesus' main concern of last day events was not the earthquakes, plagues, or other calamities, all of which were stated, but only once each. His main concern was to "Take heed that no man deceive you" (Matthew 24:4), "For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many" (Matthew 24:5), "And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many" (Matthew 24:11), "Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here [is] Christ, or there; believe [it] not. For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if [it were] possible, they shall deceive the very elect" (Matthew 24:23-24), "Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth: behold, [he is] in the secret chambers; believe [it] not" (Matthew 24:26). With the standard (or testing mechanism) gone, so many are open to all of these deceptions and then some. "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, [it is] because [there is] no light in them" (Isaiah 8:20)! The Ten Commandments and the scriptures are the standards to test every message with.

And speaking of those standards, the activity of the antichrist is two-fold. First, "it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practised, and prospered" (Daniel 8:12) and stated in past tense because like a video, Daniel received a vision almost in the semblance of time travel. He was able to watch it happen. So, the first activity is casting down the truth. Truth is a general term, so let us get more specific. The Bible says, "thy word is truth" (John 17:17). Therefore, antichrist would cast down the Word of God and just about every Christian is following the antichrist by criticizing the Bible.

The second activity of antichrist would be to "speak [great] words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time" (Daniel 7:25). Focusing upon "times and laws", that would be the Ten Commandments! Even the Ten Commandments refer to time of worship.

Now is that not concerning? Antichrist wants worship and, in the meantime, antichrist thinks he can change God's worship time.

So, let us recap. Antichrist wants to be worshipped. Worship is in the form of obedience. And all those who go along with the activities of antichrist by criticizing the Bible and being indifferent towards the Ten Commandments are technically part of the deceived ones.

Now, we are told that antichrist would be above everything that is called holy. We are told, "But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived. But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned [them]; And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture [is] given by inspiration of God, and [is] profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works" (2 Timothy 3:13-17). So, antichrist would be above the Holy Scriptures and everyone who criticizes the Bible is putting himself in that same position.

But that is not all that is called holy as "the law [is] holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good" (Romans 7:12). So, all that try to nail the Ten Commandments to the cross, agree with any changes, or simply replace them with grace or faith, are all on the side of antichrist.

But that, too, is not all that is called holy. God says, "If thou

turn away thy foot from the sabbath, [from] doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the LORD, honourable; and shalt honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking [thine own] words: Then shalt thou delight thyself in the LORD; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken [it]" (Isaiah 58:13-14). And God says, "Six days shall work be done, but on the seventh day there shall be to you an holy day, a sabbath of rest to the LORD: whosoever doeth work therein shall be put to death" (Exodus 35:2). And that death is not necessarily at the hands of humans, but of God in the fires of hell. The commandments specifically state, "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy" (Exodus 20:8) and not "make" it holy. The day is already holy for in the beginning before sin ever entered this planet, "God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it" (Genesis 2:3), which means He made it holy.

So, the three things that antichrist thinks itself to be above that which is holy – God's Word, the Ten Commandments, and specifically the Sabbath day, of which antichrist would think to change multiple time references to because Daniel used the word "times" (plural) and not just "time". That would mean the beginning and ending of the day, which God said, "Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years" (Genesis 1:14). And how was a day defined in the beginning? "And the evening and the morning were the third day" (Genesis 1:13). It is called sunset to sunset time instead of midnight to midnight. But that is just one aspect of time. Another aspect is the day itself. It appears the world has accepted the first day of the week as the Christian worship day when God said that day was the seventh.

But here is the most curious answer. How would antichrist convert the world to honoring their day, which is different from the

commandments, different from the Word of God? Just how is antichrist going to convert atheists, Muslims, Hindus, Satanists, Jews, witch doctors, and everyone else to even a wrong doctrine of Christianity? The answer is... antichrist will not do that. Then how will antichrist receive ultimate obedience by honoring their day instead of God's if the world does not convert? That is because "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird" (Revelation 18:2). Antichrist, also symbolically known as "Babylon the great" will incorporate, or gather, under her every foul spirit, habitation of devils, and cage of every unclean and hateful bird, symbolically referring to every single belief that people have. Antichrist will not convert people, but will openly accept all beliefs as long as they choose to honor their day.

Again, that is impossible, especially when Muslims have Friday; the Jews have Saturday as their holy days; and atheists do not keep holy days. Be careful of looking at outward appearances. What does the commandment of God command? It "[is] the rest of the holy sabbath unto the LORD" (Exodus 16:23); it "[is] the sabbath of rest" (Exodus 31:15), "a sabbath of rest to the LORD" (Exodus 35:2). And remember, "whosoever doeth [any] work in the sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death" (Exodus 31:15). If antichrist could just get everyone to simply rest and not work on that day, then antichrist will have achieved this goal, and they shall, because the Bible says so.

Now appealing to your reasoning skills, think really hard. Is there an issue that has captivated all minds in one form or another that even people who disagree with it would be willing to go along with? Keep in mind, the antichrist is also described as "the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth" (Revelation 17:18) and "all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies" (Revelation 18:3). In oth-

er words, this one thing is government supported, and when I say government, I am talking about all countries, or nearly all of the countries, will be in support of it and be led by the antichrist. Not only that, but merchants will be in full support of it as well, and, in general, will also find support. So, antichrist has the influence over the nations, over the merchants, and all forms of religion and non-religions, which would include evolutionists, atheists, and other non-religious groups. Continue to think really hard — is there a worldwide agreement, topic, issue, event, etc. happening right now?

Alright, the suspense is just about over. I just did not want to blurt it out and have your reaction be that it is "no big deal" because it is a big deal. This thing is happening now; nations are on board; merchants are supporting it and parading through the office of antichrist; even atheists are found inside the capital of antichrist and are on board and in support of the movements; and it is huge, all the while appealing to people's hearts, concerns, and even to the point that no one can argue against it fulfilling the part of the antichrist description "Who [is] like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?" (Revelation 13:4). In fact, most have chosen the antichrist to be the spokesperson for the movement, also fulfilling the fact that antichrist has "a mouth speaking great things" (Daniel 7:8). It is even at the point that if people do not go along with it, they are calling for jail time, confiscation of property, and even death to non-believers, fulfilling "that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed" (Revelation 13:15).

What is it? It is called Climate Change. Really? Yes, really. Look what the Bible says: "There shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. All these [are] the beginning of sorrows. Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake" (Matthew 24:7-9). What does the world blame for famines, pestilences, and earthquakes today? Climate Change. What follows these catastrophes? Delivering

people up, wanting people killed, and hated by all nations.

Now, I will provide a series of articles that will support all of these claims and they will not be just a few obscure sources, either; but this know, just about all the governments are on board despite the apparent pull-out by the United States. Many merchants have jumped on board not only being "green" but are instrumental in pushing the agenda. Atheists are mostly on board because they regard not even human life, since in their beliefs we are no more superior to other creatures and ought to be ashamed of what we have done to the planet. Even ministers are provided sermon notes and outlines to present climate change to their congregations.

Now, this is not a publication that is against the theory of Climate Change, nor is it a book for Climate Change. It is neither an attack or support of it, but a concern regarding the solution. With that in mind, please read the rest of this book with the focus upon the suggested implementation of a solution being Biblically predicted – which we are building up to.

Punish Climate Change Deniers:

From *The Washington Post*, December 18, 2018, "Climate-change deniers are a danger to our security". The article states, "At some point, maybe in 2020, Democratic candidates are going to start running on the very sensible conclusion that climate-change deniers are a menace to Americans' economic well-being, comfort and security." And what do you do with people who are a menace?

From *The Washington Times*, September 11, 2017, "Calls to punish skeptics rise with links to climate change, hurricanes". The article states, "Calls to punish global warming skepticism as a criminal offense have surged in the aftermath of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma, but it hasn't discouraged climate scientists like Judith Curry. 'Climate change denial should be a crime,' declared the Sept. 1 headline in the

Outline. Mark Hertsgaard argued in a Sept. 7 article in the Nation, titled 'Climate Denialism Is Literally Killing Us,' that 'murder is murder' and 'we should punish it as such.'" To punish murder as such would mean to meet murder with murder, or death penalty.

From The Washington Times, April 14, 2016, "Bill Nye, the science guy, is open to criminal charges and jail time for climate change dissenters" states, "Bill Nye 'the science guy' says in a video interview released Thursday that he is open to the idea of jailing those who deviate from the climate change consensus."

From *The Washington Times*, June 2, 2016, "California Senate sidelines bill to prosecute climate change skeptics" states, thankfully, "A landmark bill allowing for the prosecution of climate change dissent effectively died Thursday after the California Senate failed to take it up before the deadline." But the fact that it cleared two houses of senate in that state is still evidence of the worship going on regarding the issue of climate change.

Merchants on Board with Climate Change:

From *The Guardian*, November 14, 2018, "If celebrity victims of climate change can't silence the deniers, who can?" states, "Climate-change denial is dangerous, not because it has major governments by the throat, but because it is shameless: it will reject the facts on a page, and the evidence before its own eyes. It will blame anyone but the real culprits, and marshal that blame to suit a narrative of scarcity and threat. But there does come a point when rhetoric runs out of road, is swallowed up by a more awesome spectacle; the authentic human response to the bite of a reality that can't be denied for ever." And celebrities are a type of merchant.

From The Daily Mail, August 9, 2018, "YouTube will now place Wikipedia entries about global warming below videos 'refuting evidence of rising temperatures'" states, "YouTube is fighting back against

climate change deniers by implementing a fact-checking box below user-uploaded videos on the controversial topic."

From *Our World*, June 14, 2010, "Debate: How Can Social Media Save The Planet?" states, "Social media is transforming traditional media and influencing how we share news and information. Do you think platforms like Twitter, Facebook and YouTube really help us to address pressing global problems like climate change."

Nations on Board with Climate Change:

From USA Today, May 31, 2017, "195 countries signed Paris climate agreement, 2 oppose it. For now" states, "If President Trump makes good on a campaign pledge to withdraw the U.S. from the Paris climate agreement, the nation will be allied — environmentally speaking — with Nicaragua and Syria." And as mentioned, the process of pulling out is long and drawn-out, but even so, this clearly shows that just about every world government, except 2, are on board. However, from The Washington Post, November 7, 2017, "As Syria embraces Paris climate deal, it's the United States against the world" states, "At an international climate conference in Bonn on Tuesday, Syria announced its plans to join the Paris climate accord — an agreement forged in 2015 for nations to band together to slash global carbon emissions. That now leaves the United States as the only country to disavow the deal, after Trump this year announced intentions to withdraw from the agreement."

From *The New York Times*, June 1, 2017, "What to Expect as U.S. Leaves Paris Climate Accord" states, "The Trump administration plans to invoke the accord's formal withdrawal mechanism, a winding legal process that will take four years to complete and would lead to an official exit on Nov. 4, 2020, the day after the next presidential election. A future administration could, if it chose, rejoin." However, that does not stop large portions of the United States still remaining in the agreement as the Paris Agreement is open to states, counties, cities,

and other individual municipalities of the United States to be members. From Los Angeles Times, June 2, 2017, "A California-led alliance of cities and states vows to keep the Paris climate accord intact" states, "Led by California, dozens of states and cities across the country responded Friday to Trump's attack on the worldwide agreement by vowing to fulfill the U.S. commitment without Washington — a goal that is not out of reach."

Religious on Board with Climate Change:

From *Interfaith Power & Light*, they provide "Climate Prayers and Sample Sermons" (https://www.interfaithpowerandlight.org/clergy-corner/sample-sermons/).

From NBC News, April 22, 2018, "The gospel of climate change: Green pastors bringing environmentalism to evangelicals" states, "But there are other evangelicals who embrace the climate change modeling that is treated as gospel by most major scientific organizations. And they are repositioning the debate towards the concept of 'creation care' — the idea that humans are conscripted by the Bible to act as stewards for nature."

From United Nations Climate Change, June 19, 2015, "Pope Francis Joins Climate Fight" states, "Pope Francis called on Thursday on the world's 1.2 billion Catholics to join the fight against climate change. In a papal encyclical letter, Pope Francis declared that the science of climate change is clear and that the Catholic Church views climate change as a moral issue that must be addressed in order to protect the Earth and everyone on it."

From World Economic Forum, August 31, 2017, "Pope Francis isn't holding back on climate change" states, "Laudato Si triggered the establishment of Global Catholic Climate Movement in 2015. It brings together Catholics worldwide to raise the issue of climate change on the global agenda."

From Red, Green, and Blue, July 22, 2018, "World Council of Churches works to prevent climate change" states, "As part of the meeting, a public event on "the role of faith communities in advancing eco-justice" was organised at the Evangelical Church of the River Plate (IERP)."

From Daily Mail, December 10, 2016, "Catholic priests will have to preach about climate change as part of a drive by the church to cut global warming" states, "Catholic priests are now expected to learn about climate change, church chiefs have announced. It is part of a worldwide drive by the faith to increase environmental awareness."

From *The Alamo Torch*, December 24, 2018, "The God of Climate Change" states, "The public was overwhelmed with a tidal wave of climate change sermons warning that only by heeding the message of their unholy 'Redeemer', would the world be rescued from a coming planet destroying ice age." And there you have an obvious declaration that the Climate Change movement has reached the level of which the Bible predicted. It is now in competition with God, for God says in the first commandment, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me" (Exodus 20:3).

From Chicago Tribune, January 5, 2019, "Do you believe in God? Then you have a moral duty to fight climate change, writes Jim Antal" states, "After analyzing the history and social implications of climate change, Antal reimagines the role of church communities and their capacity to confront and resolve the problem."

From *Breitbart*, June 2, 2017, "Pelosi: Trump Dishonored God By Walking Away From Paris Accord" states, "Pelosi said, 'This is a matter of environmental justice. Lower income and minority families are disproportionately vulnerable to the ravages of the climate crisis. It's a civil rights issue. Environmental justice is. And we have a moral responsibility in addition to the national security, the economy and the health of our children. We have a moral responsibility. We must leave

future generations with a healthy, sustainable planet. Faith leaders, starting with the Holiness Pope Francis, to the evangelical community, have urged us to be responsible stewards of the beauty of God's creation. They believe as you live that this planet is God's creation and we have a moral responsibility to be good stewards of it."

Atheists and Non-religious on Board with Climate Change:

From The Catholic Herald, June 15, 2015, "Catholic, Orthodox Christian and atheist to present Pope's encyclical".

From Huff Post, June 17, 2015, "What the Pope and Thousands of Pagans Have in Common" states, "Pope Francis, however, appears to have made no such effort to distance himself from Pagans in the way his predecessor did."

Battle Brewing In the United States and United Kingdom:

From NPR, February 5, 2019, "Congressional Democrats Say Climate Change Is A Priority As They Control The House".

From The Wall Street Journal – The Star, February 15, 2019, "Green New Deal movement is a counter-reaction to decades of middle -class decline" states, "The Green New Deal (GND) is a political and grassroots movement that links climate change with poverty and aims to solve both crises at the same time."

From HuffPost, February 15, 2019, "Democrats Look To Declare National Emergency Over Climate Change, Not A 'Fake Crisis'".

From Forbes, February 15, 2019, "6 Compelling Reasons Climate Change Might Be A National Emergency" states, "National Security, Public Health, Sea Level Rise, Food supply and agricultural productivity, Infrastructure, and Water."

From *BBC*, February 15, 2019, "Climate strike: Schoolchildren protest over climate change".

Suggested Solution to Climate Change:

From CEO World Magazine, January 29, 2018, "A Modest Proposal for a Day of Rest" states, "Dr. Smadja's daring plan calls for an international day of rest (about 53 days per year) plus approximately 15 'holidays' where cumulatively there would be a cessation of all productive activity for approximately 70 days, or about 20% of the year. These days of 'non-activity' would help achieve the shared goal outlined in the Paris Climate Conference (COP21) of a 20% reduction of pollution globally by 2050, with the aim of keeping global warming below 2°C. Smadja brings together social, economic, ecological and theological principles to address the serious issue of climate change."

From *The Guardian*, September 17, 2009, "Slow Sunday: The simple solution to global warming" states, "We can enjoy Sunday once more with our family and friends. We can engage in gardening, writing, painting, walking, baking bread or simply spending time in contemplation. This will be good for our personal health as well as for the health of the planet."

From Climate CoLab, 2016, "One Emission-free Day Per Week Can Make A Profound Impact On Climate Change" states, "The organization's name borrowed symbolically from traditions' day of rest and conservation. Sabbath is not a new idea. Although Green Sabbath has no religious affiliations, its vision was inspired by essence of two traditions. One is the ancient tradition of Sabbath practiced in some form by all major faiths. The other is the likes of contemporary movements such as Paul McCartney's 'Meat Free Monday' and 'Wheatless Wednesday' that were introduced to encourage public to observe an ecological conservation day. A period of environmental rest."

Specific Solution to Climate Change:

According to *Liechtenstein Institute on Self-Determination,* August 2016, they say that Pope Francis was instrumental with his encyc-

lical on the environment in June 2015 to have all nations form an agreement known as the Paris Climate Accord. "Pope Francis addresses the intersecting concerns of environmental responsibility and authentic human development in the June 2015 papal encyclical Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home. Pope Francis extends Catholic environmental ethics to advocate for those at the margins of social consciousness who are most vulnerable to rapid environmental changes the global poor and future generations. Pope Francis' active collaboration with leading experts in climate science and development economics and his perspective as the first non-European Pope strengthens his contributions to ethical discourse on inter- and intra-generational justice, the preferential option for the poor, carbon mitigation policies, and common but differentiated responsibilities in international climate negotiations. His advocacy efforts in 2015 anticipated critical convocations of world leaders, including the UN General Assembly's ratification of the Sustainable Development Goals in September 2015 and the UN Climate Change Conference in Paris in December 2015, culminating in a unanimous decision among 195 governments to adopt the Paris Agreement. Pope Francis' contribution to discourse on international climate policies and sustainable development objectives inspired political cooperation leading up to pivotal international agreements."

This connection is reaffirmed through the United Nations. According to *UN Environment*, July 16, 2018 states, "It was just three years ago, on June 18 that Pope Francis launched Laudato si', an invitation to all for dialogue on the radical changes needed to repair our common home, the earth."

According to Wikipeida (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laudato_si), seems that the United Nations were specifically given early insight of the plans. "On 28 April 2015, in advance of the encyclical's release, the Vatican hosted a one-day conference on climate change, featuring Turkson, United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon (who delivered the keynote address), Ecuadorian president Rafael Cor-

rea and American economist Jeffrey Sachs."

According to *UN Climate Statement*, April 29, 2015, it states, "Vatican declaration: climate action is a moral and religious imperative".

So, what is the moral solution? Since the United Nations is in agreement with the papal encyclical and the papal encyclical helped form the Paris accord, what is in the encyclical as the solution? "237. On Sunday, our participation in the Eucharist has special importance. Sunday, like the Jewish Sabbath, is meant to be a day which heals our relationships with God, with ourselves, with others and with the world. Sunday is the day of the Resurrection, the 'first day' of the new creation, whose first fruits are the Lord's risen humanity, the pledge of the final transfiguration of all created reality. It also proclaims 'man's eternal rest in God'. In this way, Christian spirituality incorporates the value of relaxation and festivity. We tend to demean contemplative rest as something unproductive and unnecessary, but this is to do away with the very thing which is most important about work: its meaning. We are called to include in our work a dimension of receptivity and gratuity, which is quite different from mere inactivity. Rather, it is another way of working, which forms part of our very essence. It protects human action from becoming empty activism; it also prevents that unfettered greed and sense of isolation which make us seek personal gain to the detriment of all else. The law of weekly rest forbade work on the seventh day, 'so that your ox and your donkey may have rest, and the son of your maidservant, and the stranger, may be refreshed' (Ex 23:12). Rest opens our eyes to the larger picture and gives us renewed sensitivity to the rights of others. And so the day of rest, centred on the Eucharist, sheds it light on the whole week, and motivates us to greater concern for nature and the poor."

So clearly the specific solution is for all to come together for a day of rest – specifically Sunday.

Countries Already Implementing Solution or Looking Toward Implementation:

From Daily Mail, October 4, 2018, "Paris bans cars on first Sunday of every month to improve air quality" states, "Paris is expanding its car-free zones to include most of the city-centre, in a move to combat air pollution and open up more space to pedestrians."

From *The Guardian*, March 11, 2018, "Poland's Sunday trading ban takes effect" states, "Catholic church welcomes law that begins with ban on two Sundays a month, extending to all in 2020."

From *Jewish Press*, February 23, 2013, "Israel Adopts Sundays-Off" states "But, as proponants of the Sunday-Off plan repeatedly told us, it will make us just like all other nations."

From Reuters, September 9, 2018, "New Italian government plans to curb Sunday shopping: Di Maio" states, "In a bid to spur economic growth, the then Italian Prime Minister Mario Monti liberalized Sunday trading in 2012, despite pressure from the Roman Catholic Church and unions who said the country needed to keep its traditional day of rest."

From Catholic Herald, May 24, 2018, "How Europeans are fighting back against Sunday trading" states, "Campaigning against Sunday shopping allows populists to combine an economic message with a cultural one, standing in defence simultaneously of workers' rights and a Christian command."

From VOX, July 30, 2017, "Bogotá closes its roads every Sunday. Now everyone wants to do it." It states, "Word of it has gotten around, and more than 400 cities worldwide are now attempting their own radical acts of car traffic suppression. As with the superblocks of Spain, it's a sign that urbanites are seeing their streets as spaces that can be lived in."

From Pagal Parrot, July 26, 2018, "Why And Who Made Sun-

day an Off Day? A Rare History Fact You Never Knew Before" states, "In Indian, it was the Britishers who started the holiday system, initiated during the year 1843. This was done because the Britishers believed that Lord Jesus created this world in just 6 days and took rest on a Sunday. It is also believed that it was known as the "Sabbath" day means the day on which people would generally take rest from other worldly duties. "Sun does not set in the Empire." And that pretty much takes the worry out of Sunday keeping being an issue to those of the Hindu religion.

Representative for Climate Change:

From *UN Environment*, July 5, 2015, "Pope Francis, environmental leaders forge vision for global action" states, "Inspired by the third anniversary of the Pope's seminal encyclical on the issue – titled Laudato si'— political and religious leaders, scientists, economists and heads of civil society organizations came together to discuss how to awaken people to the gravity of the situation and inspire a 'massive movement' of cooperative action and moral responsibility to our planet."

From The Washington Post, September 25, 2015, "How Pope Francis helped awaken a deep religious tradition for care for the environment" states, "Just about every person who led and shaped the American conservation and early environmental movements grew up Protestant. What irony, then, that the one person who has done more to get people talking about the environment than anyone in decades is the supreme pontiff of the Catholic Church, Pope Francis."

From *Vatican News*, July 4, 2018, "Al Gore: Pope Francis a 'moral force' for solving climate crisis" Al Gore states, "Pope Francis's leadership has been an inspiration to all of us across the world, particularly when it comes to his strong and repeated emphasis on solving the climate crisis. I am grateful for and in awe of the clarity of the moral force he embodies. He also speaks in the most powerful way about

the most vulnerable among us — the poor — and helps all who listen to understand how they are uniquely affected by the climate crisis. In particular, his papal encyclical, Laudato si', marked a crucial step for the Catholic church in leading the world to commit to addressing the climate crisis ahead of the Paris Agreement."

From Tennessean, September 11, 2015, "Pope Francis, most influential political leader of our time" states, "Perhaps the most influential political leader of our time is an unlikely figure — Pope Francis. In a sense, he is the perfect pope for our time. We're increasingly seeing that it is dangerous to leave politics solely to politicians."

From ANSA, Agenzia Nazionale Stampa Associata, March 8, 2016, "Pope increasingly world's moral leader" states, "He is present on a global horizon and he addresses the issues facing humanity and the Church today with authority."

From *Psychology Today,* December 29, 2014, "The Eco-Pope?" states, "Pope Francis is emerging as a major climate change leader. With these astounding actions this pope, still in the first years of his papacy, looks set to become the world's leader on climate change, filling a decades-old leadership vacuum."

From Global Catholic Climate Movement, June 6, 2015, states "Representatives of World's Religions to Get Behind Pope Francis at June 28 March—And So Can You!"

From The Telegraph, January 8, 2019, "Scientists turn to Pope Francis and world's religions to save the planet" states, "But a group of scientists are pinning their hopes for the salvation of the planet, in the face of climate change and habitat destruction - on religion. The article singles out Pope Francis and the Roman Catholic Church, with its 1.2 billion-strong network of followers, as the key but calls for religious leaders of every stripe to be recruited."

Changed the law:

What does the Catholic Church state regarding God's Ten Commandments?

From *Convert's Catechism of Catholic Doctrine,* Rev. Peter Geiermann, C.SS.R., (1946), p. 50., a question and answer booklet, states:

- Q. Which is the Sabbath day? A. Saturday is the Sabbath day.
- Q. Why do we observe Sunday instead of Saturday? A. We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church, in the Council of Laodicea, (AD 336) transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday....
- Q. Why did the Catholic Church substitute Sunday for Saturday? A. The Church substituted Sunday for Saturday, because Christ rose from the dead on a Sunday, and the Holy Ghost descended upon the Apostles on a Sunday.
- Q. By what authority did the Church substitute Sunday for Saturday? A. The Church substituted Sunday for Saturday by the plenitude of that divine power which Jesus Christ bestowed upon her!

From *In An Abridgment of the Christian Doctrine,* Rev. Henry Tuberville, D.D. (R.C.), (1833), page 58 states:

- Q. How prove you that the church hath power to command feasts and holy days? A. By the very act of changing the Sabbath into Sunday, which Protestants allow of; and therefore they fondly contradict themselves, by keeping Sunday strictly, and breaking most other feasts commanded by the same church.
- Q. How prove you that? A. Because by keeping Sunday, they acknowledge the church's power to ordain feasts, and to command them under sin; and by not keeping the rest [of the feasts] by her commanded, they again deny, in fact, the same power.

From Cardinal James Gibbons, The Faith of Our Fathers (Avers

Publishing, 1978), page 108, it states, "But you may read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, and you will not find a single line authorizing the sanctification of Sunday. The Scriptures enforce the religious observance of Saturday, a day which we never sanctify."

From Chancellor Albert Smith for Cardinal of Baltimore Archdiocese, letter dated February 10, 1920, "If Protestants would follow the Bible, they should worship God on the Sabbath day by God is Saturday. In keeping the Sunday, they are following a law of the Catholic Church."

From *Our Sunday Visitor*, February 5, 1950, it states, "Practically everything Protestants regard as essential or important they have received from the Catholic Church... The Protestant mind does not seem to realize that in accepting the Bible and observing the Sunday, in keeping Christmas and Easter, they are accepting the authority of the spokesman for the church, the Pope."

From Louis Gaston Segur, *Plain Talk about the Protestantism of To-Day*, page 213, it stats, "Thus the observance of Sunday by the Protestants is a homage they pay, in spite of themselves, to the authority of the (Catholic) Church."

From *The Catholic Mirror*, September 23, 1893, it states, "The Catholic Church, for over one thousand years before the existence of a Protestant, by virtue of her divine mission, changed the day from Saturday to Sunday...".

From Catholic Priest T. Enright, CSSR, lecture at Hartford, KS, Feb 18, 1884, it was said, "I have repeatedly offered \$1000 to any one who can furnish any proof from the Bible that Sunday is the day we are bound to keep...The Bible says, "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy," but the Catholic Church says, "No, keep the first day of the week," and the whole world bows in obedience."

From Catholic Record, September 1, 1923, it states, "The

[catholic] Church is above the Bible, and this transference of the Sabbath observance is proof of that fact."

In a Letter from C.F. Thomas, Chancellor of Cardinal Gibbons on October 28, 1895 said, "Of course the Catholic Church claims that the change was her act...And the act is a <u>MARK</u> of her ecclesiastical power and authority in religious matters."

From American Catholic Quarterly Review, January 1883, it states, "Sunday...is purely a creation of the Catholic Church."

From *Catholic American Sentinel*, June 1893, it states, "Sunday...It is a law of the Catholic Church alone...".

From John A. O'Brien, *The Faith of Millions: the Credentials of the Catholic Religion Revised Edition* (Our Sunday Visitor Publishing, 1974) pages 400-401, "But since Saturday, not Sunday, is specified in the Bible, isn't it curious that non-Catholics, who claim to take their religion directly from the Bible and not from the Church, observe Sunday instead of Saturday? Yes, of course, it is inconsistent; but this change was made about fifteen centuries before Protestantism was born, and by that time the custom was universally observed. They have continued the custom even though it rests upon the authority of the Catholic Church and not upon and explicit text in the Bible. That observance remains as a reminder of the Mother Church from which the non-Catholic sects broke away—like a boy running away from home but still carrying in his pocket a picture of his mother or a lock of her hair."

What Others Say About the Changed Law

From Arthur Weigall, *The Paganism in Our Christianity*, (New York: Putnam's Sons, 1928) page 145, "The Church made a sacred day of Sunday...largely because it was the weekly festival of the sun; for it was a definite Christian policy to take over the pagan festivals endeared to the people by tradition, and to give them a Christian significance."

From Philipp Melanchton, a reformer during the 1500's, written in very old language, "He changeth the tymes and lawes that any of the sixe worke dayes commanded of God will make them unholy and idle dayes when he lyste, or of their owne holy dayes abolished make worke dayes agen, or when they changed ye Saterday into Sondaye...They have changed God's lawes and turned them into their owne tradicions to be kept above God's precepts."

Merchants Have Been Meeting with the Representative:

From *Crux*, February 14, 2019, "Pope meets head of Microsoft to discuss ethics in technology, AI" states, "The president of Microsoft, Brad Smith, told Pope Francis that a 'human voice' was needed to speak up in the world of technology today. 'A human voice like that of the Church' with its values and authority, he said, telling the pope, 'We appreciate your voice. We really feel this is a critical moment in time."

From Fortune, November 6, 2015, "This New Book Shows Pope Francis is a Smart Businessman" states, "In Merchants in the Temple, Nuzzi draws an admiring but startling portrait of Pope Francis.

From Chicago Tribune, June 2, 2018, "Pope summons oil executives to Vatican to talk climate change" states, "Pope Francis will meet with some of the world's oil executives next week, likely to give them another moral nudge to clean up their act on global warming."

From Inc., January 26, 2016, "Wait, Why Are Apple and Google Execs Meeting With the Pope?" states, "Both Cook and the Pope are described as being 'keen environmentalists,' according to one reporter. There's also the fact that Cook, while not a billionaire himself, has taken a variation of the so-called billionaire's pledge to give away his wealth."

From USA Today, August 29, 2016, "Facebook's Zuckerberg meets Pope Francis" states, "'We told him how much we admire his message of mercy and tenderness, and how he's found new ways to

communicate with people of every faith around the world,' wrote Zuckerberg."

From *The Wall Street Journal*, January 18, 206, "Business Leaders Move to Strengthen Vatican Ties" states that among the participants were "Christine Lagarde, managing director of the International Monetary Fund; Dominic Barton, managing director of McKinsey & Co.; Mark Cutifani, CEO of Anglo American PLC; and Robert Thomson, CEO of News Corp, which owns The Wall Street Journal."

From The Washington Post, August 30, 2016, "Why Pope Francis may be meeting with so many tech CEOs".

From ABC News, February 26, 2016, "Pope Francis, Instagram CEO Kevin Systrom Meet at Vatican, Discuss 'Power of Images'" states, "From photography demonstrating the plight of migrants in the Middle East and the effects of climate change in the arctic to the 2015 earthquake in Nepal, the gift illustrated the power of images to unite people around global moments and issues".

From *Unicef*, November 19, 2018, "First meeting of UNICEF Executive Director and Pope Francis in Rome" states, "UNICEF Executive Director Ms. Henrietta H. Fore met with His Holiness Pope Francis in Vatican City on Thursday, 15 November to discuss migrant and refugee children, the Generation Unlimited Partnership, and the 30th Anniversary Committee on the Rights of the Child, which will be marked in November 2019. During the private audience with the Pope, Ms. Fore began by thanking him for his moral leadership and messages to the world to welcome, protect and integrate migrants and refugees."

From People, April 28, 2018, "Katy Perry and Her 'Darling' Orlando Bloom Meet Pope Francis in Vatican City".

From Wired, March 7, 2018, "The Vatican Hosts A Hackathon" states, "The event, VHacks, is bringing together 120 students for a 36-hour hackathon aimed at finding technological solutions for three glob-

al issues the Catholic Church hopes to address: social inclusion, interfaith dialogue, and assistance for migrants and refugees."

From Next Billion, December 19, 2017, "The Pope Wants Vatican Startups to Fix Climate Change" states, "It's quite a cocktail: throw in some profit-seeking techies, mix in the age-old Roman Catholic Church and add a twist of anti-globalism. What you get is a startup hub."

The World is Following:

From Rome Reports, February 8, 2019, "Gallup rates Pope Francis as the world's best leader" states, "Pope Francis has been rated as the world's best leader. This is according to Gallup International's Annual Global Survey conducted in 55 countries."

From Charisma News, February 8, 2019, "Pope Francis, Leading Imam Sign Covenant Pushing Us Toward One-World Religion", states, "We know that the elite want a one-world religion, but to see the most important clerics from both Catholicism and Islam make such a dramatic public push for it is absolutely stunning."

From HuffPost, September 24, 2015, "Pope Francis Wants To Be President Of The World", which says, "But shrewdly, methodically and with a showman's flair, the soft-spoken, 78-year-old Argentinian Jesuit priest named Jorge Mario Bergoglio — Pope Francis — showed Thursday that he is running to become president of the planet."

From Scottish Catholic Observer, April 9, 2018, "Pope is a spiritual leader of the world, says UN secretary general", which says, "

From America Magazine, June 2, 2017, "Pope Francis is the most-followed world leader on Twitter—but Trump is closing in" states, "The pope is currently the most-followed global leader on the social networking platform, with close to 34 million followers spread across nine language accounts."

From *BBC*, March 24, 2016, "Pope more popular than world leaders – poll" states "WIN/Gallup said that the Pope heads the rankings when compared to the global popularity of political world leaders."

From Ventures Africa, March 24, 2016, "How Jorge Mario Bergoglio Aka Pope Francis Became the World's Most Popular Leader" states, "The results are in and Pope Francis has – quite unintentionally, it is presumed – surpassed many political leaders around the world to become the most popular and well liked of them all. The list of leaders Pope Francis eclipsed included US President Barrack Obama, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, UK Prime Minister David Cameron and French President Francois Hollande."

From *The Guardian*, September 23, 2015, "'Take what you need and leave the rest': why atheists love Pope Francis" states, "The pope ignites unprecedented secular excitement, and this week US crowds coming to see him will likely be infiltrated by many non-religious admirers."

From CNN, September 15, 2015, "The Pope: Not just for Catholics anymore" states, "Pope Francis may be the head honcho of the world's largest Christian church, but since he stepped into the papacy in March 2013, he's captured hearts across religious -- and even nonreligious -- lines."

From ADL, March 13, 2013, "ADL Congratulates New Pope Francis" states "We look forward to working with him to continue to foster Catholic-Jewish relations as we have with his predecessors."

Nation Leaders Have Been Meeting with the Representative:

From Kachema Kontolola, February 7, 2016, "It's Not Unusual to Meet The Pope...All World Leaders Do!". As an observation, how many world leaders visit any other religion as much world leaders meet with the head of Roman Catholicism? Very few meet leaders of

other religions. And just how many world leaders make an effort to visit another particular world leader? If it were not for the G7 and G20 meetings periodically, world leaders would simply continue to rely mostly upon voicing their opinions through the United Nations. Sure, world leaders do meet with their own appointments. Sure, the United States' president meets with other world leaders, but no other leader either visits or is visited by so many world leaders as does the pope.

From CNN, October 18, 2018, "Pope receives Kim Jong Un's invitation to visit North Korea" while "North Korea is the worst oppressor of religion", as the article states.

From The Washington Post, July 13, 2018, "In destination and demeanor, Trump's foreign travel departs from the norm" states, "Trump tallied 21 visits to other countries." Thinking that such is quite a few, from The Irish Times, March 25, 2018, "Pope mobile: Where has Pope Francis visited since 2013?" it tallies 34 countries. And John Paul II had visited 129 countries in his day. And since Trump has taken office, according to Wikipedia (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List of diplomatic visits to the United States), a total of 12 world leaders have visited the white house since Trump has been in office. In comparison, almost all nations have visited the Vatican at one point or another.

From The Georgia Bulletin, January 9, 2014, "Vatican hosts top world leaders; experts to push for end to Syrian war."

From America, November 9, 2017, "World leaders are meeting at the Vatican to discuss nuclear weapons. Here's why."

From Daily Mail, June 6, 2018, "Top cardinal joins politicians and industry leaders as the VATICAN attends Bilderberg's secretive annual meeting for the first time to discuss populism in Europe, fake news and Russia" states, "Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican Secretary of State, will meet with 130 carefully selected individuals at the Bilderberg

Group's latest secret meeting in Turin, Italy. It is the first time a high-ranking Vatican official has taken part in the Bilderberg Conferences."

From EWTN, September 27, 2018, "Vatican Diplomat Meets With World Leaders at UN General Assembly."

Religious Leaders Have Been Meeting with the Representative:

From *Crux*, November 28, 2017, "Pope Francis meets with religious leaders in Yangon", which says, "The pope was addressing Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu, Jewish and Christian leaders of various denominations who went to see him in the bishop's residence in Yangon, where he's residing during the first ever papal visit to Myanmar."

From *Vatican News*, December 14, 2017, "Pope meets Evangelical leaders to discuss religious freedom", which says, "Pope Francis met on Thursday with leaders of the World Evangelical Alliance who were in Rome to discuss closer cooperation with the Catholic Church, especially regarding issues of religious freedom. The WEA is a network of Protestant Churches in 129 nations representing more than 600 million evangelical Christians worldwide."

From National Catholic Reporter, July 9, 2014, "Pope Francis meets US televangelists", which says, "Certainly, Francis would want to encourage Catholic charismatics to feel at home, as well as build ecumenical relationships with the Pentecostal community."

From The New York Times, March 20, 2013, "Pope Meets Other Religious Leaders, Pledging Respect", which says, "Francis, who was formally installed a day earlier, greeted a diverse group of religious leaders in the ornate Clementine Hall inside the Apostolic Palace of the Vatican. Among them were Bartholomew I, the spiritual leader of Orthodox Christians, as well as other Orthodox leaders; representatives from different Protestant denominations; Jewish and Muslim leaders and advocates; and representatives of the Buddhist, Sikh, Hindu and Jainist faiths."

From Catholic News Agency, November 28, 2017, "Pope stresses peace in unscheduled meeting with Burma's religious leaders", which says, "The meeting included 17 interreligious leaders from the Hindu, Buddhist, Jewish, Muslim, Anglican, Baptist and Catholic faiths."

From Catholic News Agency, September 2, 2017, "Pope emphasizes peace-building in meeting with Korean religious leaders", which says, "Francis met with leaders of Korea's seven major religions, including Archbishop Hyginus Kim Hee-jong of Gwangju, president of the Korean bishops' conference."

From New York Post, April 25, 2018, "Pope Invites Mideast Religious Leaders To Attend Peace Summit", which says, "The Vatican said the encounter would be an 'ecumenical meeting for peace' where the religious leaders would discuss 'the dramatic situation of the Middle East that afflicts so many brothers and sisters in the faith.'"

From Aleteia, June 9, 2017, "Pope Francis and other religious leaders come together with 'Make Friends" effort', which says, "Pope Francis joined the Dalai Lama, the Grand Mufti of Egypt, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Chief Rabbis David Lau and Jonathan Sacks, Sri Sri Ravi Sankar, Hindu spiritual leader Amma and many other prominent religious leaders in a video montage calling for people of different religions to get to know each other."

From *BBC*, February 11, 2016, "Pope and Russian patriarch edge towards warmer relations", which says, "Pope Francis' meeting with Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia will be the first between a leader of the Roman Catholic Church and a spiritual head of Russian Orthodoxy since their Churches split in the 11th Century, mainly over the issue of papal authority."

From KUTV CBS, November 17, 2014, "LDS Apostle meets with Pope Francis, 300 other religious leaders".

From NPR, October 31, 2016, "In Show Of Unity, Pope Francis

Marks 500th Anniversary Of Protestant Reformation". Do they not know that the protest was over unbiblical doctrines that the Catholic Church had, and still has?

From Rome Reports, November 7, 2017, "Sunni Islam leader meets with Pope Francis for third time".

From Haaretz, August 31, 2017, "Jewish Leaders Meet Pope Francis, Commemorate Decree Repudiating Idea That Jews Killed Jesus", which says, "Half a century after the Second Vatican Council published its groundbreaking declaration on interfaith relations, Nostra Aetate, among other things exonerating Jews as a whole for Christ's death, a delegation of Jewish leaders met on Thursday with Pope Francis to mark the event and deliver a response to the landmark document." This article shows how compromising Bible truth is being practiced to achieve the gathering of all religions under her for the Bible says, "After these things Jesus walked in Galilee: for he would not walk in Jewry, because the Jews sought to kill him" (John 7:1).

Name another religious leader that meets as much with other religious leaders as does the pope. Sure, other religious leaders attempt to meet, but not a single one has met with as many as the pope has.

Every Belief Embraced:

From CNN, February 4, 2019, "Pope Francis makes first papal visit to Arab Gulf state" says, "Francis said the trip marks 'a new page in the history of relations between religions, confirming that we are brothers and sisters, even though we are different."

From Vatican News, February 4, 2019, "Pope in UAE: Address to Fraternity Conference - full text" states, "Today, we too in the name of God, in order to safeguard peace, need to enter together as one family into an ark which can sail the stormy seas of the world: the ark of fraternity."

From Charisma News, February 13, 2019, "After Signing One-World Religion Covenant, Pope Francis Makes His Next Push" states, "Just days after the pope signed the most important interfaith document in history, he had the opportunity to address global political leaders by video at the World Government Summit in Dubai. During his remarks he once again stressed the need for global unity, and he encouraged those attending to embrace 'sustainable development', but he also stressed that sustainable development will never succeed without 'solidarity'".

From The Washington Times, June 9, 2014, "Christ [is] the result of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth" states, "For the first time in Vatican history, the pope allowed for the reading of Islamic prayers and Koran readings from the Catholic facility. A Holy See spokesman said the prayers were supposed to be a "pause in politics," Breitbart reported. The pope said, too, that he hoped the interfaith prayers would foster peace specifically between Israelis and Palestinians, the news outlet said."

From Life Site, January 11, 2019, "Pope Francis's advocacy for Islam could destroy Europe" states, "Just as Francis seems to favor a one-world government, he also seems to be drawn by the vision of a one-world religion. He hasn't said so in so many words, but he has given several indications that he envisions an eventual blending of religions. This would not be the 'one flock, one shepherd' Church that Christ spoke of but something a bit more diverse. Francis frequently shows signs of indifferentism – i.e., the belief that all religions are of equal value. But in order for this to happen, it would be necessary for the respective faiths to dilute their doctrinal positions. Pope Francis seems quite willing to do this on the Catholic side. He has already made substantial concessions to the Chinese communist government on the appointment of bishops. He seems willing to alter Church teachings in order to build bridges with the LGBT "community" and other sexual revolutionaries. And, in general, he prefers to be guided by the

prompting of the Spirit rather than by the teachings of the Church."

From *Vatican News*, January 16, 2019, *Pope Francis: Christian Unity is not optional* states, "Pope Francis has appealed to Christians across the world to pray and to work for full Christian Unity." And keep in mind that the Vatican sees the Roman Catholic Church as the mother of all churches. According to *HuffPost*, May 19, 2013, *8 Things Catholics (and Other Christians) Want the New Pope to Do* states, "The Catholic Church is the mother of all churches." That means that with the successful ecumenical movement, the joining of denominations, they are joining under the Roman Catholic Church. That makes the other denominations her daughters. And in sharing a number of unbiblical doctrines, that fulfills the title in Revelation 17:5, which says, "THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS".

From The Guardian, February 4, 2019, Pope and grand imam sign historic pledge of fraternity in UAE states, "The pope and the grand imam of al-Azhar have signed a historic declaration of fraternity, calling for peace between nations, religions and races, in front of a global audience of religious leaders from Christianity, Islam, Judaism and other faiths." Yet the Bible says, "And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify [himself] in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many" (Daniel 8:25). Under the guise of peace, antichrist will eventually destroy the true believers.

From Zenit, June 19, 2015, "Vatican's Climate Expert, an Atheist, Speaks on Impact of Leader of World's 1.2B Catholics Tackling Environment Issue".

From Catholic Herald, March 14, 2018, "Stephen Hawking was a longtime member of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences".

From *Crux*, January 14, 2015, "Pope Francis makes surprise visit to Buddhist temple" states, "While there, according to a Vatican spokesman, Francis was shown a room with a statue of the Buddha

and two other holy figures in Buddhist tradition. His hosts also showed him a jar containing relics that are only opened occasionally, but which they opened for him."

From Independent, October 28, 2014, "Pope Francis declares evolution and Big Bang theory are real and God is not 'a magician with a magic wand" states, "But Pope Francis's comments were more in keeping with the progressive work of Pope Pius XII, who opened the door to the idea of evolution and actively welcomed the Big Bang theory. In 1996, John Paul II went further and suggested evolution was 'more than a hypothesis' and 'effectively proven fact'." Therefore, the pope declared that God did not speak and it happened, but rather God initiated the process of evolution and guided it so that we would be what we are today, which is a complete contradiction to Genesis 1.

From *Vatican News*, May 16, 2018, "*Pope meets Buddhists*, *Hindus, Jains, Sikhs*" states, "He said one needs to thank God when 'religious leaders actively foster a culture of encounter by offering an example of fruitful dialogue and by working together effectively in the service of life, human dignity and the care of creation."

From La Stampa, January 12, 2017, "The Pope: 'diversity is not a threat, let us build peace with confidence'" states "Francis prays for peace with Muslims, Hindu and Buddhists, 'A respectful but firm call to those who seek to foster division, hatred and violence in the name of religion'." Two concerns are revealed here. The first is in 1 Thessalonians 5:3, which says, "For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them." The second is found in 2 Corinthians 6:14, which says, "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?"

From Religious News Service, September 25, 2015, "At 9/11 site, pope prays with Muslims, Jews, Sikhs, Buddhists and Hindus".

From Twitter, January 15, 2018, "Asked what medicines he takes to keep fit, #PopeFrancis jokes 'I don't go to the doctor, I go to the witch'", and yet, there is a picture of a witch doctor laying hands upon the pope. "Turns out Bergoglio's Doctor is a Taoist practicing Reiki." [Novus Ordo Watch, January 15, 2018.]

Repeated from above but fitting for this section, from *Huff Post*, June 17, 2015, "What the Pope and Thousands of Pagans Have in Common" states, "Pope Francis, however, appears to have made no such effort to distance himself from Pagans in the way his predecessor did."

From Catholic News Agency, January 7, 2016, "In first prayer video, Pope stresses interfaith unity: 'We are all children of God'" states, "Pope affirms that all, regardless of their religious profession, are children of God, the faith leaders state their common belief in love."

From The Guardian, October 31, 2016, "Catholics and Lutherans sign joint declaration 'accepting common path".

From Crux, October 19, 2017, "Pope: Common witness of faith can strengthen Catholics, Methodists".

From The Christian Post, July 10, 2017, "Reformed Church Body Signs Declaration on Justification to 'Overcome Divisions' With Catholic Church".

From Real News Right Now, July 9, 2015, "Protestant Leaders Declare Reunification of Churches Under the Holy See".

From Scarboro Missions, 2010, "Pope John Paul II—Interfaith Giant" states, "John XXIII convened the Second Vatican Council out of a conviction that the Church was in need of a renewal. The theological breakthroughs of this 'Ecumenical Council' led to ground-breaking documents on interfaith dialogue, religious freedom and religious pluralism." Wait! The Bible says, "Thou believest that there is one God; thou

doest well" (James 2:19). God does not accept pluralism. "God [is] a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship [him] in spirit and in truth" (John 4:24).

From USA Today, February 23, 2018, "Demand for exorcisms is up threefold in Italy, so Vatican is holding conference" states "The Vatican hopes to step up its game against demon possessions with a weeklong international conference in April to address a threefold increase in demand in Italy alone for the services of exorcists." This is not biblical at all. Yes, Jesus and His disciples did cast out demons but not in this fashion. The Bible says regarding the strongest of demon possessions, "Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting" (Matthew 17:21).

From Crux, April 15, 2017, "Haitians mix Catholicism, Voodoo in Good Friday prayers for hope".

From Collective Evolution, January 25, 2018, "Multiple Catholic Priests Expose The Practice of 'Satanism' Within The Vatican".

SATAN: I WILL HAVE PEOPLE MARCH TO THE SLOGAN

The slogan that seems to be used quite often by politicians, religious, and others seems to be that of saying, "For the common good." Does anyone really know the sinister meaning behind that phrase, and why Americans ought to be astonished by the embracing of such a phrase? The phrase basically means that some one or group determines what is considered the "common good" and that becomes the practice for all. Basically, majority rules.

This country was not founded upon majority rule. There are countless laws, the constitution, and amendments that protect against such mass rule. This country was founded upon protecting the rights of the minority, primarily of those of religious beliefs.

- Why is the president not selected by popular vote? To protect the rights of minority-sized states from being out-voted by the populous states.
- Why is the senate with the majority not able to bring to the floor for voting anything it wants? Because there is a 60-40 rule that protects the minority party from being silenced.
- Why does it take two-thirds majority to over-rule a presidential veto? Because if the opposing party, as compared to the party of the president, were able to use simple majority, that would silence the office of the president.
- Why does it take two-thirds majority of states to call for an amendment or a constitutional convention? Because a simple majority would have too much power altering the constitution at will.

Those are but a few samples of where, unlike other governments, our government protects the minority view. Therefore, any politician on board with the phrase, "for the common good", is actually against the constitution.

Regarding the origins, according to *Wikipedia* (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Common_good), "The common good became a central concept in the modern tradition of Catholic social teaching, beginning with the foundational document, Rerum novarum, a papal encyclical by Pope Leo XIII, issued in 1891." In fact, part of "all the world wondering after" the Vatican, all who use the phrase and try to implement the principles of the "common good" are paying homage to the papacy.

From *Crux*, October 20, 2017, "'Civilize the market' for common good, care of creation, pope says" states, "'Political action must be placed truly at the service of the human person, the common good and respect for nature,' he said. 'Basically, we must aim at civilizing the market, working for an ethic that is friendly toward the person and his environment." And as we see, once again there is another connection with the environment – in other words, the climate change movement.

From Star Tribune, June 18, 2015, "Pope Francis: Climate as a 'common good'" states, "Francis explains that the climate is a common good, a good that is shared by all people. As evidence points to the kinds of human activity that contribute to negative repercussions, we need to respond to protect this common good."

Who else utters such a phrase?

[US President] From America, March 1, 2017, "Trump cites common good, but will he seek common ground?" states, "Certainly, Catholics and all people of goodwill can and should welcome a focus on the common good."

[Leader of the House] From CNN, January 4, 2007, "Pelosi: 'Let

us work together" states, "Let us stand together to move our country forward, seeking common ground for the common good."

[Leader of the Senate] From *Daily Citizen*, April 20, 2018, "Senate should protect Trump from himself" states, "Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., has gone to great lengths since the 2016 campaign season to prove his commitment to the success of Donald Trump. It's a choice that not only reflects the will of his state's voters, but also promotes the common good."

[Supreme Court] From Occasional Planet, March 22, 2015, "Should the Common Good Trump the Constitution?" states, "Two recent Supreme Court cases have been decided ways that, to a reasonable, person are clearly deleterious to the common good. Whatever their "constitutionality" might have been is clearly superfluous to the "common good" needs that had to be met. The Supreme Court, as with the legislative and executive branches of our government, must change to view its work as promoting the common good."

[England] From *Royal*, July 6, 2010, "A Speech by the Queen at the United Nations General Assembly, 2010" states, "In my lifetime, the United Nations has moved from being a high-minded aspiration to being a real force for common good."

[France] From *The Washington Post,* November 13, 2018, "The French president and the alt-right both get nationalism wrong" states, "When French President Emmanuel Macron denounced populist nationalism this week and called on world leaders to support institutions such as the United Nations that defend 'the common good of the world,' liberal elites cheered."

[Japan] From *The Sunday Morning Herald,* May 30, 2014, "Australia to embrace Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's announcement of stronger security role in Asia" states "Rory Medcalf, director of the international security program at the Lowy Institute, said Mr Abe

would be signalling "that a new Japanese willingness is there for the common good in Asia"."

[China] From *China Daily,* October 18, 2017, "Full text of Xi Jinping's report at 19th CPC National Congress" states, "A just cause should be pursued for the common good."

[Russia] From Newsweek, March 16, 2016, "Putin Says Russians Approve of Police Repression For Common Good".

[Germany] From *The Telegraph,* November 20, 2017, "Germany facing 'biggest crisis in 70 years' as president orders parties to return to coalition negotiations" states, "'The mission to form a government remains. You can not just hand back responsibility to the electorate,' he said. 'All political parties elected to parliament must act for the common good. I expect a demonstration of readiness to form a government in the near future.'"

[Spain] From *USC Dornsife*, October 2, 2018, "Spanish Prime Minister gives inspiring speech at *USC* during historic state visit" states, "Sánchez reminded students that they are "the change makers and the leaders of [their] own time." He urged them to avoid complacency by getting involved, telling them they have a responsibility to act in service of the common good."

[Italy] From *Presidenza Della*, May 6, 2015, "Speech by the *President of the Italian Republic, Sergio Mattarella, at Expo Milano 2015"* states, "We must recover, in a confrontation that is often fiery, the sense of the common good."

[Egypt] From Sage Journals, February 29, 2016, "Forcing the Common Good: The Significance of Public Diplomacy in Military Affairs".

[Switzerland] From Voltaire Network, "Remarks by Alain Berset to the 73rd Session of the United Nations General Assembly" states, "The current malaise warns us that we must do everything we can to

prevent a world in which we only look out for ourselves and to encourage a world of cooperation between states in which we strive for the common good, for causes such as peace, sustainable development and environmental protection."

[Mexico] From *The Denver Post,* January 8, 2006, "Mexican candidate promises to trim immigration to U.S." states, "'Changing the current economic system is indispensable,' he told a cheering crowd of supporters at the Federal Electoral Commission's headquarters in southern Mexico City. 'Not for ideological reasons, but for the common good.'" Keep in mind, Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador is the current president of Mexico.

[Canada] From World Economic Forum, May 22, 2018, "This is what Justin Trudeau thinks makes a good leader" states, "Trudeau said that it is critical to listen to others, particularly those from a different background and with different experience. The job of a leader is to find the common good, not to protect their own tribe, he said."

[India] From *Hindustan Times*, November 29, 2018, "Why President Kovind's Constitution Day speech is important" states, "there is the dilemma of weighing data privacy against the use of data for the greater common good."

[Greece] From *Thema News*, May 2, 2016, "Greek Pres. Pavlopoulos says ideals of Karaiskakis are pertinent today" states, "Sacrifice for the common good and putting differences aside are paramount."

[Turkey] From *Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen,* November 8, 2014, "Erdoğan and the Paradox of Populism" states, "Behind this claim stands the further assumption that the people have one common will that genuinely aims at the common good, and that the people's authentic leader – such as Erdoğan, who campaigned under the slogan "National Will, National Power" – can identify and implement it."

[Israel] From *The Israel Democracy Institute,* December 3, 2018, "Presentation of the Israeli Democracy Index to the President of Israel" states, "The best way to strengthen public trust in our elected officials and state institutions is to adopt a non-partisan, professional approach that seeks to promote the common good."

[Australia] From *Independent Australia*, November 30, 2018, "How to achieve a common good society" states, "Successful societies should be built around a common good and we need to examine which political ideology is best, writes John Lord."

[Netherlands] From *The Guardian*, December 17, 2018, "Netherlands PM uses Britain's Brexit 'chaos' as cautionary tale" states, "The Dutch prime minister, Mark Rutte, has written an open letter to the people of the Netherlands holding up Britain's Brexit "chaos" as a cautionary example of what can go wrong when a nation fails to pull together for the common good."

[Philippines] From *Republic of the Philippines*, February 18, 2017, "Duterte pitches for common good at PMA homecoming, 18 Feb. 2017" states, "BAGUIO CITY – President Rodrigo Duterte said Saturday that his administration continues to work to uplift the living conditions of Filipinos as he promised to uphold the common good."

[Brazil] From *Corriere Canadese*, October 30, 2018, "Jair Bolsonaro the conqueror will be the new leader of Brasil" states, "He promised transparency and commitment to a plan that includes all Brazilians, their ambitions and their needs. 'We'll place everything on the table for everyone to examine, in the interests of the country and the common good.'"

[Cuba] From Connected, AFLA, August 8, 2017, "Can a 'New Socialism' in Cuba Compete with 'Capitalism'?" states, "In theory, Cuba also satisfies that criterion. It is a small country, with a shared sense of its own history and culture. And it seems to me that The Revolution

has fostered some sense of the *common good*. One would think that feeling could be carried over into a 'democratic' Cuba." And the article is the one that italicized the words "common good".

[Vatican] From *Crux*, January 11, 2019, "Pope Francis builds on odd-couple match between the Vatican and the UN" states "The Catholic Church was global long before anyone thought to coin the term "globalization," and has always seen national differences relative and subordinate to the common good and a shared humanity."

And we could go on probably into every country; and in the United States, many state leaders, many mayors, and those in Washington D.C., all are on board with the slogan.

So, as we see, from the United Nations to individual nations to even parties within the United States, the slogan of "common good" is common place. The future scenario, connecting with climate change, is that for the good of the country, even the world. Under the climate change crisis, laws will be enacted trampling on the freedoms of others calling such people to sacrifice for the common good, as some of the above headlines referred to. And some headlines are not against using force to ram the "common good" through. And this is exactly what is expected in the future. "And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed" (Revelation 13:15). If the minority does not go along with the movement of the majority, then death ought to be the result.

And in regards to the Vatican quote, please note that none other organization is as well established globally pushing the "common good" than the Vatican itself. Unfortunately, her methods also involved being "drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus" (Revelation 17:6) as millions of Protestants were slaughtered at her hands during the dark ages, further connecting her with actions against Christ, or anti-Christ. During that time,

she "made war with the saints, and prevailed against them" (Daniel 7:21). "And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations" (Revelation 13:7).

Even a theatre group has put that scenario together. At the website https://griffintheatre.com.au/whats-on/kill-climate-deniers/, Griffin Theatre Company describes a play called *Kill Climate Deniers*. "Kill Climate Deniers centres on a militant cell of eco-activists that takes the audience hostage during a concert at Parliament House. Led by charismatic spokeswoman Catch, they demand Australia immediately cease all carbon emissions and coal exports—or they'll start executing their 1,700 hostages."

On December 24, 2012, Prof. Richard Parncutt posted "Death Penalty for Global Warming Deniers".

On May 7th, 2015, on a website called *Global Warming Is Real*, it states, "Al Gore wants climate change deniers punished".

SATAN: I WILL PUT ARGUMENTS IN PEOPLE'S MINDS AGAINST THIS CONCLUSION

Many argue against such importance in God's eyes so much so that they think this is an unbiblical position, at least in the New Testament. Initially, I would have to respond with asking several questions.

Are Christians so gullible as to think that if they can find a verse or two that hints at doing away with a specific day of worship that it is then alright to pick another day on their own, or no day at all? Where is the direct command for such a new day found in the New Testament? The original day was initiated with great power at creation followed by God's finger writing the day out on stone, again, demonstrated with great power and audibly spoken surrounded by serious commotion, for "all the people saw the thunderings, and the lightnings, and the noise of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking" (Exodus 20:18).

Where does the Bible state that a new day is holy? All of the activity that God performed on the first Sabbath with blessings and sanctifying it ought to find a counterpart in which such is lifted off the seventh day and placed upon the first day of the week, but there is none.

Do Christians honestly believe that for 4,000 years of Old Testament history where the Sabbath was to be observed, followed by Jesus Who kept it "as his custom was" (Luke 4:16), and that we will observe it through out eternity (Isaiah 66:23) that such a day would no longer be required

between the cross and the second coming? Do Christians really believe that the Sabbath observance is to be on hold for 2,000 years?

If the change of the Sabbath was established during or shortly after the ministry of Jesus, where does such a change actually exist? In fact, all one has to do is read Hebrews, chapter 4, and every argument against keeping the Sabbath is addressed as being in error, and it even declares with all certainty that the specific Sabbath day is still binding.

But let us address some of the so-called biblical arguments. Any other argument that is not biblical would mean people are choosing either self or another human being over a "Thus Saith the Lord". And we already know what God thinks of following such people, including ourselves.

Here is another series of questions. These are very simple. In fact, if you get one, you get them all.

- Why was Lucifer kicked out of Heaven? Disobedience. Specifically, Lucifer said, "I will be like the most High" (Isaiah 14:14). That is disobedience of the first commandment about having no other god but God.
- Why were Adam and Eve kicked out of the Garden of Eden?
 Disobedience. Specifically, she coveted the wisdom of
 knowing both good and evil (Genesis 3:6), the breaking of
 the tenth commandment.
- Why was Cain's sacrifice not acceptable? Disobedience. Specifically, Cain ignored the reason for the sacrifice: "without shedding of blood is no remission" (Hebrews 9:22). Therefore, Cain disobeyed his parents, the breaking of the fifth commandment.

Why was the world drowned with a flood? Disobedience. Spe-

- cifically, the people of the time were engaged in illicit sexual activity (Genesis 6:2), the breaking of the seventh commandment.
- Why were people scattered upon the face of the earth during the time that people were building the tower of Babel?

 Disobedience. Specifically, God gave the human race a certain promise (Genesis 9:13-15), His Word, and by their actions they showed that they did not trust their heavenly parent, which meant the breaking of the fifth commandment.
- Why were Sodom and Gomorrah burned? Disobedience. Specifically, the people of the time were also engaged in illicit sexual activity (Genesis 6:2), the breaking of the seventh commandment again.
- Why was Abraham brought to the ultimate test of having to sacrifice his son? Disobedience. Specifically, Abraham did not trust God but trusted in lying to preserve his life (Genesis 12:10-20, Genesis 20:1-18), breaking the ninth commandment.
- Why was a man stoned to death for going out into the wilderness to pick up sticks on the Sabbath day (Numbers 15:32-36)? Disobedience. Specifically, it broke the fourth commandment.
- Why was David not allowed to build the temple to honor God and had to wait until his son took the throne? Disobedience. Specifically, he had shed much blood (1 Chronicles 22:8), which is inclusive of the adultery and murder (2 Samuel 12:9) that was committed, breaking the sixth and seventh commandments.

Jumping into the New Testament, why were both Ananias and

Sapphira struck dead for not handing over all that was given them for the sale of the property as they promised (Acts 5:1-11)? Disobedience. Specifically, they idolized the amount of money they received as well as the attention they would receive, and withheld a portion to themselves, breaking the second commandment about idols, and the eighth regarding stealing.

Why did some exorcists, who used the name Jesus but were not converted, get trounced upon by demons (Acts 19:13-16)? Disobedience. Specifically, they were taking the name of Jesus in vain, breaking the third commandment.

Now, if in both the Old and New Testaments, people were either punished or had lost their souls over disobedience, how can we expect to go to Heaven while disobeying? We are fooling ourselves if we think we are going to Heaven while living in disobedience. In fact, Paul writes, "Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?" (Romans 6:16). It does not say, 'except you claim to be saved'. No. The bottom line is, disobedience is disobedience. What a person thinks of themselves, saved or not, is insignificant. A person can claim to be saved, but if they live in disobedience, they are disobedient and a hypocrite, because the Bible tells of what fruit a true believer is.

Since Paul contrasts the two obedience categories, let us examine the obedience of righteousness, which is also a reference to the Ten Commandments, "for all thy {God} commandments [are] righteousness" (Psalms 119:172). Let us examine people who disobeyed but will be saved, and the reason why they are saved. And you already know the reason that they shall be saved, in fact, if you get one right answer, you once again will get them all.

Why would a pagan king, named Nebuchadnezzar, who

thought himself to be a god (Daniel 4:30), breaking the first commandment, be saved? Repentance. Specifically, he stated, "I Nebuchadnezzar praise and extol and honour the King of heaven, all whose works [are] truth, and his ways judgment: and those that walk in pride he is able to abase" (Daniel 4:37).

Why would Titus, a pagan worshipper, be saved? Repentance. Specifically, "Titus, who was with me, being a Greek, was compelled to be circumcised" (Galatians 2:3). Though circumcision is not a requirement of the Christian faith, to win the Jews, Titus submitted himself to such, showing that he was willing to do whatever it took to serve God and seek after souls instead of serving idols, which broke the second commandment.

Why would Peter, a disciple of Jesus, who three times denied knowing Jesus and went as far as, "to curse and to swear, [saying], I know not the man. And immediately the cock crew" (Matthew 26:74), breaking the third commandment in a very big way? Repentance. Specifically, "Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee" (John 21:17).

Why would a Pharisee, named Nicodemus, who was strict about obeying all of God's laws, including the Sabbath, but could not understand what it meant to be "born of water and [of] the Spirit" (John 3:5), be saved? Repentance. Yes, he did actually break the Sabbath or fourth commandment, through the legalistic teachings that the Pharisees created making the Sabbath a burden instead of a delight (Isaiah 58:13), however, he then learned that "the Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath" and when Jesus died,

- "there came also Nicodemus, which at the first came to Jesus by night, and brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about an hundred pound [weight]. Then took they the body of Jesus, and wound it in linen clothes with the spices, as the manner of the Jews is to bury" (John 19:39-40).
- Why would Jacob be saved after tricking his father (Genesis 27:18-27), an act of disobedience to a parent? Repentance. Specifically, towards his brother, for Isaac had died. Jacob, now known as Israel (Genesis 32:28), "bowed himself to the ground seven times, until he came near to his brother" (Genesis 33:3).
- Why would John, one of Jesus disciples', who had killing in his heart (Luke 9:54), which breaks the sixth commandment, be saved? Repentance. And he showed it by penning the words, "And now I beseech thee, lady, not as though I wrote a new commandment unto thee, but that which we had from the beginning, that we love one another" (2 John 1:5).
- Why would the woman caught in adultery be saved? Repentance. Specifically, she was told, "Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more" (John 8:11), which did break the seventh commandment, but was forgiven.
- Why would a tax collector, Zacchaeus, be saved? Repentance. Specifically, he had idolized money so much that he stole, breaking the eighth commandment, from the taxpayers but said, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore [him] fourfold" (Luke 19:8).
- Why would lying Rahab (Joshua 2:5), which breaks the ninth commandment, be saved? Repentance. Of course, at first

she was not aware that all manner of lying is sin, so at "the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent" (Acts 17:30).

Why would Paul, the great person of coveting (Romans 7:7), be saved? Repentance. Specifically, he was breaking the tenth commandment but then became aghast at the thought of continuing therein by stating, "What shall we say then? [Is] the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet" (Romans 7:7).

Now, in each of the examples of repentance, not only was it shown what they did wrong but elsewhere evidence was given to show how they had changed. In other words, "My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth" (1 John 3:18). And even as John the Baptist stated, we are to "Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance" (Matthew 3:8). It is easy to claim to be "born again". It is easy to claim "I am saved!" It is even easier to say, "Jesus saves!" But it is a whole lot harder to actually put it to action, to actually live it. Our obedience does not earn Heaven. It reveals the heart; it reveals who we have become — a converted person into being a Christian. "Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works" (James 2:18).

So, let us address the arguments that people, not God, have against the Sabbath. Let us begin with the famous reason – keeping the "Lord's day". There is only one verse in the Bible that says those words. From the isle of Patmos, John receives a vision. He declares, "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet" (Revelation 1:9). There is no other evidence in the rest of the chapter that identifies the day that John is referring to, yet, many Christians are quick to call that day Sunday. On whose authority?

The only one that has claimed that to be so is one organization that changed the day, applied the term "Lord's day" to it, and passed it off to the whole world even before another denomination ever existed. That means, all who claim Sunday is the "Lord's day" are actually paying homage to the Roman Catholic Church. Jesus would say to such people, "[Ye] hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying, This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with [their] lips; but their heart is far from me. But in vain they do worship me, teaching [for] doctrines the commandments of men" (Matthew 15:9). The Bible does teach which day the Lord has. "For the Son of man is Lord even of the sabbath day" (Matthew 12:8).

Next up, let us address that the New Testament changed the Sabbath to Sunday. First of all, Sunday is not found in the Bible. A lot of people equate "the first day of the week" as Sunday, but that is not so. The Bible says, "And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years" (Genesis 1:14). So, when it comes to God's days, His days are based upon the movements of the sky. Basically, "the evening and the morning" (Genesis 1:5, 8, 13, 19, 23, 31) is the pattern. Specifically, sunset to sunset is God's schedule of a day and not mid-night to mid-night. Therefore, there is nowhere in the scriptures that Sabbath was ever moved to a pagan scheduled day, but the Roman Catholic Church declares that they have such power. And those who go along with them in keeping Sunday and not even the "first day of God's week", which would be Saturday night until Sunday night, acknowledge once again that they "made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition" (Matthew 15:6).

Even so, if Christians try to use "the first day of the week" to refer to Sunday, what do all eight New Testament references to the "first day of the week" say about such?

Matthew 28:1 "In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn

toward the first [day] of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre."

Obviously, this declares that the Sabbath day was completed and now a new day is starting, but that is all that this verse is declaring. There is no announcement of a new day of worship. In fact, these ladies had all just finished keeping the Sabbath holy and began to do their work as commanded also in God's commandment: "Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work" (Exodus 20:9).

Mark 16:1-2 "And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the [mother] of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint him. And very early in the morning the first [day] of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun."

This is Mark's rendering of the event and one ought to know that the ladies were indeed headed to the tomb of Jesus to work and not worship. Again, there is no declaration in this verse to suggest a change in the worship day.

Mark 16:9 "Now when [Jesus] was risen early the first [day] of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils."

Again, we have a simple statement of which day of the week this event took place, but nowhere do we see a new command to keep a different day holy.

Luke 24:1 "Now upon the first [day] of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spic-

es which they had prepared, and certain [others] with them."

And this is Luke's account of the women going to work by bringing the spices to the tomb, however, Luke adds even more detail by the use of the last verse in the prior chapter. Luke 23:56 states, "And they returned, and prepared spices and ointments; and rested the sabbath day according to the commandment." That means that in no uncertain terms, Jesus did not teach to keep a different day. These ladies certainly continued to keep the commanded day holy. And that is the point. We are to "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy" (Exodus 20:8) and not try to make another day holy. The Sabbath is already holy. We are just to keep God's holy day.

John 20:1 "The first [day] of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre."

And this is John's version in which we learn that indeed the days are kept according to sunset. These ladies went to work while experiencing the dark part of the day first. So, sometime after the sunset Saturday night and before it rose Sunday morning, they went to work just according to God's time schedule.

John 20:19 "Then the same day at evening, being the first [day] of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace [be] unto you."

Now here would have been a great opportunity for Jesus to declare the new worship day, however, He does not. Yes, they

are assembled, but for what reason? To worship? Nope. "For fear of the Jews." Again, this verse is just stating what day this event took place. Nothing more.

Acts 20:7 "And upon the first [day] of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight."

Now, here is a sermonizing event. We do have Paul preaching. We do have the disciples together. We even have breaking bread together, which means that they shared a meal together. But what we lack is a command to do this. Just because such an event is happening does not make it the example; well, maybe it ought to be an example. There is no forbiddance to assembling more often than just once a week. In this particular case, this was a farewell gathering as Paul was "ready to depart".

As a reminder, if there is any gathering for a special purpose that detracts from the Sabbath, such as a farewell, birthday, or other event, it ought to wait until after the Sabbath is over, like in this case.

And notice that Paul spoke all the way until midnight once the first day of the week began. Which would you find easier to accept? Did Paul start preaching Sunday morning all the way until midnight, if we accept the Catholic version? Or do we accept it as being an event that began after sunset Saturday night and Paul then speaking for a mere four or five hours until midnight? I would think the latter is more believable as opposed to Paul speaking for over fifteen hours, if he started at 9 am instead of 7 or 8 pm.

But why is this account even in the Bible? It is because "there sat in a window a certain young man named Eutychus, being fallen into a deep sleep: and as Paul was long preaching, he sunk down with sleep, and fell down from the third loft, and was taken up dead. And Paul went down, and fell on him, and embracing [him] said, Trouble not yourselves; for his life is in him. When he therefore was come up again, and had broken bread, and eaten, and talked a long while, even till break of day, so he departed. And they brought the young man alive, and were not a little comforted" (Acts 20:9-12). It is recorded because of the miracle performed and not to show that Christians were now meeting on the first day of the week.

In fact, using the reference "break bread", we find that Christians were "continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart" (Acts 2:46). If one takes "breaking bread" to mean the new holy day, that would mean every day is holy now, and it is not.

1 Corinthians 16:1-2 "Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. Upon the first [day] of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as [God] hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come."

A lot of ministers preach that this is a collection being taken up upon the first day of the week, making it the new church service day, even the new Christian worship day; however, that is not what the verse states. Yes, there is a collection, but what is commanded upon the first day of the week is to go out into the field, into the homes, into where ever, and gather together in storage so that when Paul comes through to take the collec-

tion that there is no delay. The first day of the week in this verse is not about going to church and taking up an offering, but rather a day to go work, which is consistent with the commandment regarding the Sabbath day. Laboring is to be done from the first day of the week until the sixth day of the week, and the seventh being God's Sabbath day is the day of rest.

Now many Christians are also taught that the Sabbath is not mentioned as to being kept anywhere in the New Testament. And if it is in the New Testament, many ministers will then follow up that it was being spoken to the Jews. In other words, they have their bases covered.

That argument does not hold according to the honest investigation of scriptures. First, if Christian Jews were expected to still keep the Sabbath but Christian Gentiles were not, that would mean God has a double standard, double set of rules. That is actually prejudice for or against a group of people based upon ethnicity. In other words, "Too bad for the Jew. They have more requirements as compared to the non-Jew." That contradicts the scriptures. "For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus" (Galatians 3:26-28).

That also means that all of the arguments that certain portions of scripture are for certain people and not for others, are utterly satanic. That gives humans the allowance to pick and choose what rules they want to follow and if they do not want to follow them, they just say, "Well, that was for the Pharisees", "That's for the Jews", "That was for Roman citizens", "That was for the people of Galatia", "That was for ...".

Also interesting is the fact that the New Testament, even the Sabbath references, were not stated by former Jews turned Christian, such as Matthew, Mark, John, Paul, James, Jude, or Peter, but also a pagan turned Christian, namely, Luke. In fact, Luke has a lot to say about the Sabbath between the books of Luke and Acts. If the Sabbath was not all that important or was considered a form of Judaizing Christianity, the act of trying to turn Christians into Jews, then why does Luke so carefully point these things out? The context does not show any disregarding of the Sabbath, but actually an expected keeping of it. Of the 54 references to the word "Sabbath" found in the New Testament, the books of Luke and Acts contain 26 of them. That is just shy of 50%! For a pagan who was not expected to keep the Sabbath, according to modern day scholars, he certainly wrote a lot about it.

And the strongest chapter dealing with all of the anti-Sabbath statements was not for the Hebrew people, but is applicable to all Christians. So, that means Hebrews, chapter 4, ought to be received as if God were addressing us personally, just like all of the scriptures in one form or another ought to be. Even Paul taught this. "Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come" (1 Corinthians 10:11). Paul was referring to all of the Old Testament and declaring that such is most applicable to those who are living at the time of the end of the world, which I believe, and the scriptures teach, that we are.

So, with that in mind, let us look at Hebrews 4 then.

Hebrews 4:1 "Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left [us] of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it."

The verse definitely declares that we are to enter into His rest, and it will be defined later as the Sabbath rest and not the popular notion of resting in His grace. With that said, notice

the verse starts off with the word "fear". Interestingly, the second coming of Jesus is symbolically described in Revelation 14:14 -16 as, "And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud [one] sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle. And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe. And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped." This is the great harvest at the end of time as Jesus spoke of: "But when the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come" (Mark 4:29), "Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn" (Matthew 13:30), "The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked [one]; the enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels" (Matthew 13:38-39).

Now, before Jesus shows up in Revelation 14:14-16, He sends warning messages contained symbolically in the form of angels: "And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters" (Revelation 14:6-7). Now, that is just the first angel, but take note that the messenger has the everlasting gospel, so whatever the messenger says is in accordance to the gos-

pel. And the first words of the messenger are "Fear God"! That matches Hebrews 4:1. Therefore, the world, before Jesus shows up, must not be fearing God, which means they are not entering into His rest. In fact, that messenger emphatically states that. Take careful note of the end of the message. It says, "worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters". Now why would God send a "worship" command if the world, especially Christians, were already worshipping correctly? He would not. That is like a parent telling a child to get out of bed and get ready for school when the child is already out of bed, fully dressed, and having breakfast. The parent would be wasting breath in commanding something that is already being done. Therefore, Christians and the world must not be worshipping God correctly.

But let us not stop there, even though this matches the message of the entire book, which is that Sunday is not the Lord's day and that we are calling people to worship God on His day instead of a man-made day, first instituted by Constantine, a supposed pagan convert. Later it was adapted by the Roman Catholic Church, of which Protestants cannot seem to stop paying homage to. I do not believe in coincidental use of words, especially when given as a command. Taking a closer look at the words carefully chosen, those words appear elsewhere in the Bible. The words "made heaven, and earth, and the sea" come directly out of the Ten Commandments. "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day [is] the sabbath of the LORD thy God: [in it] thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that [is] within thy gates: For [in] six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them [is], and rested the seventh day:

wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it" (Exodus 20:8-11). That is the commandment regarding the Sabbath day! Again, this is very fitting and goes along with Hebrews 4, and the entire content of this book.

John knew of this promise that is associated with keeping, not only the fourth commandment, but all ten, for He wrote, "Blessed [are] they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city" (Revelation 22:14). Many Bible versions do not support keeping the Ten Commandments and have changed the verse, but as stated earlier, the KJV is the trusted version. Between Catholic influence and Protestant liberalism, modern versions have perverted this verse. And so, the Ten Commandment are connected to eternal life just as Jesus taught: "if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments. He saith unto him, Which? Jesus said, Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Honour thy father and [thy] mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself" (Matthew 19:17-19). Now Jesus did not have opportunity to list all ten as He was interrupted, but clearly Jesus taught the Ten Commandments and eternal life go together.

And so, Hebrews 4 begins with the warning that on the subject of the Sabbath rest, be careful that no one falls short of it as in keeping it; and yet, most Christians fall short of it, claiming grace allows it. What a deception!

Hebrews 4:2 "For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard [it]."

So, anyone that thinks Sabbath keepers frustrate the gospel, reject the gospel to obey the law, ought to think twice about listening to some preacher saying these catch-phrases because here we see that Sabbath keepers indeed have the gospel.

The ones profited by the gospel are those who "Stand in awe, and sin not" (Psalms 4:4), who "Awake to righteousness, and sin not" (1 Corinthians 15:34), and who, "if any man [be] in Christ, [he is] a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Sabbath keepers also do not lack faith, as many try to accuse Sabbath keepers of, but rather, it is those that do not keep Sabbath that lack faith. It takes faith to believe God will provide a job that allows one to leave their employment in the middle of the afternoon on a Friday when the sun sets so early. It takes faith to believe the employer will not fire a Sabbath keeper when mandatory Saturday employment is required. It takes faith to know better deals are available outside of Saturdays, and if not, that the money not saved because the Sabbath keeper was unable to take advantage of the yard sale, discount shopping opportunity, etc., that such money would not affect the household. It takes faith when six days of bad weather finally breaks only for Saturday with a forecast of more bad weather starting Sunday that the yard work will not get out of hand, like cutting the grass that is overdue. It takes faith that whatever non-Sabbath keeper that called can wait for an answer to a non-Sabbath item after the Sabbath closes. It takes faith to keep the Sabbath, much more than simply mouthing the words, "I have faith...".

Hebrews 4:3 "For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter

into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world."

So, anyone who thinks salvation is only having belief ought to see this verse as applying to believers. Yes, we believe that Jesus died and rose and took our sins, but that means we cease doing the sinning part because He did take them, not only the penalty, but the desire to sin as well.

Hebrews 4:4 "For he spake in a certain place of the seventh [day] on this wise, And God did rest the seventh day from all his works."

Just in case anyone did not know, the expected rest day is the seventh day. God set the pattern and He expects all humans to follow that example for even in the commandment itself it is stated, "For [in] six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them [is], and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it" (Exodus 20:11).

Hebrews 4:5-6 "And in this [place] again, If they shall enter into my rest. Seeing therefore it remaineth that some must enter therein, and they to whom it was first preached entered not in because of unbelief."

In the context, the "some" are those who choose to obey. The "some" are not people who think about it and say, "That Sabbath thing is not for me." Clearly the verse tells us that the Sabbath still remains. It still exists. It still is expected to be kept.

Hebrews 4:7 "Again, he limiteth a certain day, saying in David, To day, after so long a time; as it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts."

All those who use the Book of Romans to justify the allowance of picking any day by saying, "One man esteemeth one day above another: another esteemeth every day [alike]. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind. He that regardeth the day, regardeth [it] unto the Lord; and he that regardeth not the day, to the Lord he doth not regard [it]" (Romans 14:5-6), ought to realize that such is a contradiction in scriptures to hold such a view. The proper understanding, since eating herbs is also mentioned in verse 2, is that Romans 14 is dealing with people who want to remember the feast days. Although they are not binding anymore, we are to allow a person to do their own thing regarding such. The chapter has nothing to do with the Sabbath day of the Ten Commandments.

We know this to be true because this verse states that the Sabbath is limited to a certain day. That certain day was spoken in verse 4. It is the seventh day of the week, being Friday sunset to Saturday sunset.

And notice there is a warning: "Harden not your hearts." People can get so bent out of shape, so worked up, so angry over the topic of keeping the Sabbath or not. Many Christians fling anathemas, denunciations, and even curses saying such things as "legalist", "Judaizers", "workers of salvation", etc. It is not legalistic. It is not working one's way to Heaven. And it certainly is not an attempt to turn the Christian religion back to the Jewish one, for they do not accept Jesus as the Messiah. It is Christians, however, that have left the obedience of God without a direct command from God to do so.

What do police officers using a speed trap expect motorists to

do? Obey the speed limit. What do parents expect, especially younger children, to do? Obey them, even explicitly. What do teachers expect of students? Once again, obedience. What do judges expect in a courtroom? Obedience. What do you think our Heavenly Father expects? Obedience. Jesus said, "It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4); "If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love" (John 15:10); "Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son" (2 John 1:9); "If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love" (John 15:10); and "If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me" (John 14:23-24).

Hebrews 4:8 "For if Jesus had given them rest, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day."

This is actually a rhetorical statement. Show us from Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John where Jesus established another day of rest? You will not find it. Sure, it appears that Jesus seemed to attack the Sabbath rules, but He only attacked those that the Pharisees created. Jesus said that it was a gift for mankind: "The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath. Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath" (Mark 2:27-28). So, when Jesus healed on the Sabbath, He was showing care for the sick is an acceptable Sabbath activity. Eating

something from a farmer's field was not considered farming on the Sabbath, despite what the Pharisees thought. And Jesus did many other things to show proper Sabbath observance.

And do keep in mind that what we call the four gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, were all written many years after Jesus died, rose, and ascended. That means that if the Sabbath was changed or done away with, there would have been no reason to stress it as much as those writers do.

Hebrews 4:9 "There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God."

Again, it is reiterated that the Sabbath rest, a twenty-four-hour period, and not just a day people go to church, is still binding. Further, notice that it is a rest to the people. The rest commandment, the keeping of the Sabbath, is not a commandment that is approached as, "Well, sun is going down on Friday, got to keep the Sabbath now." Nonsense! It ought to be approached as, "The sun is going down here on Friday! It's almost time to get a vacation from the world, to tell my boss that I no longer have to work for him, to let the housework and yardwork sit, to not be jostled at the stores, etc." It is truly to be an escape from the running around, rat race, etc., of the week.

We know people need this day because Satan has messed it all up. He has convinced even the Christian world to basically work in one form or another all seven days. People are dying from the stresses of work and life. People then save and save all year long to take a vacation for a week or two, wasting a whole lot of money, wasting a whole lot of traveling time, and when it is done, people need a rest from their vacation.

A weekly break for twenty-four-hours is what God has given to people to be refreshed. People who do keep it seem to live longer, are more patient, are kinder, are more relaxed, are just experiencing life a whole lot better just as Jesus promised: "The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have [it] more abundantly" (John 10:10).

Hebrews 4:10 "For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God [did] from his."

A sign that we have entered into rest is to cease from our daily toil of our own works. Our employers would receive no overtime nor shift work over the Sabbath hours. The housework, like laundry, cleaning, grocery shopping, would all be done. Even the yard work would not receive attention during the Sabbath hours. For the children, school work, projects, chores, and anything else that can be done the other six days ought to be laid aside even unfinished. God did not rest because He was tired, but rather His creative powers were contained in the first six days and laid aside during the seventh.

So, there is God trying to give a gift to the human race of which apparently is practiced in Heaven, and so many people reject it. A weekly vacation of twenty-four-hours is available and so refreshing that if people would just observe it, they would find that what is accomplished in the other six days would exceed that which is accomplished in using all seven days every week.

Hebrews 4:11 "Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief."

And the Sabbath rest is something to work towards, for the

world is set up against keeping the true Sabbath. High school football games are Friday nights, yard sales are on Saturday mornings typically, college football Saturday afternoons, and so a bit of resistance is involved, but even other work is involved outside of the Sabbath. For one, an employer ought to know that come sunset Friday to sunset Saturday that the Sabbath is observed. This may pose a challenge during the winter months as the sun sets very early, and it is not a matter of just being off the premise by sunset, but in the home, gathered with the family, welcoming it in.

Other work includes making sure there are enough groceries in the house, vehicles are fueled, clothing is in proper readiness, being clean and repaired if something was wrong with the outfit. Those who depend upon a wood burning stove should have enough wood piled up instead of going out and gathering wood during the Sabbath hours. Making sure there are enough clean dishes, bowls, and utensils is also necessary. Everything in keeping the house ought to be done by Friday afternoon. This is why the Bible calls sunset Thursday to sunset Friday the preparation day. It is not about the dos and don'ts of the Sabbath, but trying to get the most out of the Sabbath hours, primarily time with God and family togetherness without excuse of something else needing attention.

Even atheists acknowledge Sundays as a restful day, usually sitting back after a hard day of yard work on Saturday. If a day outing occurs, it is usually on a Sunday. Even secular commercials advertise slower Sundays. And this is how the whole world is already following the antichrist beast power without being part of the organization itself. It is called respecting the authority of an institution implemented long ago in the year 321 A.D., first by Constantine, and then adopted by the only church that was around in 328 A.D.

That is right. There were no splits, like in 1000 A.D. between east and western Catholics. There was no reformation creating thousands upon thousands of denominations. There was just one, which had good intentions to bringing into the church all of the pagans that worshipped their gods on Sunday; but good intentions or not, compromise makes the church impure, for truth is no longer truth when changed. Without a command from God, and solely by the council assembled, they took authority upon themselves to change the day, not only over to the first day of the week, but over to a pagan schedule of midnight to midnight. And since then, it has been received as tradition of men instead of obeying God.

"Of course the Catholic Church claims that the change (Saturday Sabbath to Sunday) was her act...And the act is a mark of her ecclesiastical authority in religious things." H.F. Thomas, Chancellor of Cardinal Gibbons.

"I have repeatedly offered \$1,000 to anyone who can prove to me from the Bible alone that I am bound to keep Sunday holy. There is no such law in the Bible. It is a law of the holy Catholic Church alone. The Bible says, 'Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.' The Catholic Church says: 'No. By my divine power I abolish the Sabbath day and command you to keep holy the first day of the week.' And lo! The entire civilized world bows down in a reverent obedience to the command of the holy Catholic Church." father T. Enright, C.S.S.R. of the Redemptoral College, Kansas City, in a lecture at Hartford, Kansas, February 18, 1884, printed in History of the Sabbath, p. 802.

"Protestants...accept Sunday rather than Saturday as the day for public worship after the Catholic Church made the change...But the Protestant mind does not seem to realize that...In observing the Sunday, they are accepting the authority of the spokesman for the church, the Pope." Our Sunday Visitor, February 15, 1950.

"It was the Catholic church which...has transferred this rest to Sunday in remembrance of the resurrection of our Lord. Therefore the observance of Sunday by the Protestants is an homage they pay, in spite of themselves, to the authority of the (Catholic) church." Monsignor Louis Segur, Plain Talk About the Protestantism of Today, p. 213.

"Sunday is our mark or authority...the church is above the Bible, and this transference of Sabbath observance is proof of that fact." Catholic Record of London, Ontario, September 1, 1923.

"Protestantism, in discarding the authority of the (Roman Catholic) Church, has no good reasons for its Sunday theory, and ought logically to keep Saturday as the Sabbath." John Gilmary Shea, American Catholic Quarterly Review, January 1883.

Hebrews 4:12 "For the word of God [is] quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and [is] a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

And God knows that the Sabbath topic is quite irksome to many. This is why, not only the Sabbath, but the whole Word of God is like a sword. It separates true Christians from those that are in name only.

If Jesus quoted the scriptures and even said, "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me" (John 5:39), and the apostles also

quoted the scriptures as well, stating, "All scripture [is] given by inspiration of God, and [is] profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works" (2 Timothy 3:16-17), and stating, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God" (2 Timothy 2:15), and the people "searched the scriptures daily" (Acts 17:11), then the position on the Sabbath issue ought to be settled upon the Word of God.

And we know this to be a fact, for the Bible describes the second coming event symbolically as, "And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him [was] called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes [were] as a flame of fire, and on his head [were] many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he [was] clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies [which were] in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he hath on [his] vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS" (Revelation 19:11-16). There is that "sword" again as well as making mention that "his name is called The Word of God". It is with that sword that it is determined who gets to go to Heaven and who does not. Contained in the Word of God is not a list of dos and don'ts to earn Heaven, but rather a list of dos and don'ts that reveal the saved heart.

No one in their right mind thinks an active murderer who claims to be a Christian is going to Heaven. All expect that per-

son to stop murdering to reveal they are a true Christian. Those who commit adultery yet claim to be a Christian, also would have to cease their adulterous ways. So, likewise, it is true with all of the commandments, even if we do not think they are so important, even on the outside, like that one about coveting. With the exception of some people who drool while coveting something, no one usually knows what is going on in the mind.

And then we have all of the recordings of actual Sabbath keeping that anti-Sabbath preachers simply dismiss as being a Jewish influence, claiming that, primarily, Paul, was trying to impress Jews so since he believed that supposedly he could keep any day of the week, chose to keep the Sabbath when around the Jews, but somewhere, when there were no Jews, he would keep Sunday. What nonsense! Look for yourself:

Acts 1:12 "Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey."

Why take note what type of journey one is taking, being on the Sabbath, if the Sabbath has been done away with? Keep in mind, Luke is the writer who wrote this many years after Jesus ascended, after Pentecost, after the conversion of Saul to Paul. Journeying on the Sabbath, which is a more leisurely method of journeying as opposed to the other six days, is being addressed. And do keep also in mind that the 200-step rule that many try to use against Sabbath keepers is one of those Pharisaical laws. A journey on the Sabbath is not a journey if limited to 200 steps.

Acts 13:13-14 "Now when Paul and his company loosed from Paphos, they came to Perga in Pamphylia: and John departing from them returned to Jerusalem. But when they departed from Perga, they came to Antioch in Pisidia, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and sat down."

So, Paul and his company went in on the Sabbath day to the synagogue. Some declare this to be an attempt of Paul to win Jews, and what greater audience time to accomplish such but on the Sabbath day. As will be demonstrated, this is Paul's regular practice. Besides, if Sunday were the new Christian holy day, why compromise? Cannot the gospel with Sunday keeping stand on its own without having to state it as "Jewish Sabbath"? Of course, it can, but the reason Paul entered the synagogue on the Sabbath was not to just try to win the Jews, but because he kept it.

Acts 13:27 "For they that dwell at Jerusalem, and their rulers, because they knew him not, nor yet the voices of the prophets which are read every sabbath day, they have fulfilled [them] in condemning [him]."

This is simply a statement of activity of what happened on the Sabbath and counts neither for or against the Sabbath references showing whether or not to keep it.

Acts 13:42-44 "And when the Jews were gone out of the synagogue, the Gentiles besought that these words might be preached to them the next sabbath. Now when the congregation was broken up, many of the Jews and religious proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas: who, speaking to them, persuaded them to continue in the grace of God. And the

next sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God."

Now, with both Jews and Gentiles already listening to every word of Paul, if Sunday were the new Christian day of worship, then Paul should have said, "I appreciate your interest in the gospel. Let us meet next Sunday to continue the message." But he did not say that. And no, he would not have lost any Jews because already the Jews were eager to hear no matter what day of the week he would speak. In fact, people forget, back then, hanging around the temple was a common, daily activity, unlike today in which people drag themselves to church, if at all, but once a week. Of course, devout Catholics attend daily church service, so in that regard, they are just as they were back then.

Also note that the expectation of the Gentiles was never to meet on Sunday, but on the Sabbath day. And also notice that these people were under the grace of God. Sabbath keepers are under grace despite preachers teaching that Sabbath keepers frustrate grace (Galatians 2:21).

And being in Antioch (Acts 13:14), that means the population was mostly Gentile. There was no need to cater to the Jews to keep gathering on the Sabbath. If the Jews really wanted to learn the truth, they would have joined in on Sunday, if that were the day of Christian gathering, but it was not.

Acts 15:21 "For Moses of old time hath in every city them that preach him, being read in the synagogues every sabbath day."

Again, we count this verse neither for nor against Sabbath keeping, as it is simply is a statement of Sabbath activity.

Acts 16:13 "And on the sabbath we went out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont to be made; and we sat down, and spake unto the women which resorted [thither]."

Here is the end of all arguments regarding Paul and his keeping of the Sabbath and not Sunday. Without out a Jew around, without a synagogue, being in a godless city known as Philippi of Macedonia (Acts 16:12), Paul escapes to find a secluded place to have Sabbath prayer time, Sabbath keeping time, Sabbath refreshing time. And low and behold, he finds some women also keeping the Sabbath, and joins them.

Acts 17:2 "And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures,"

And then we have the blatant statement that Paul's manner was to keep the Sabbath. In this case, three Sabbaths in a row, but the next one is even more significant.

Acts 18:4 "And he reasoned in the synagogue every sabbath, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks."

And just how many Sabbaths was that? According to Acts 18:11, the Bible says, "And he continued [there] a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them." That is 78 Sabbaths! Paul either is afraid to teach the new Christian holy day, or there is no such new holy day at all. Even by Paul's example, we ought to be keeping the Sabbath day of Friday sunset to Saturday sunset.

Remember, anyone can read into verses a meaning that they

desire, especially one that does away with obedience to the law of God, more especially, the fourth commandment. But is it not peculiar that people are holding out hope on a verse that seems to do away with something, yet there is nothing commanding for that something? The fact that anti-christ is so involved in preventing obedience to the Ten Commandments ought to cause one to be leery of any theology doing away with them, using even the biblical topics of grace or faith or once saved-always saved.

What it comes down to is the proper understanding of what it means to be saved, what the gospel message is all about, and the scope of the terms used in the Bible. Basically, "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first" (Romans 1:16). They Jews had the responsibility until time ran out for Daniel was told, "Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy" (Daniel 9:24), all of which was prophetic and symbolic in nature. Using God's "each day for a year" (Numbers 14:34, Ezekiel 4:6), that brought the end of the 70 weeks or 490 days being literal years of which Jesus told Peter, "Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven", which is 490, is to be treated as one lump number of years and not like many who toss the final 7 years into an ambiguous future. It ultimately came to an end when Stephen announced during a trial exactly 3½ years after Jesus "caused the sacrifice and the oblation to cease" (Daniel 9:27) for upon the true Lamb of God's death, "behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent" (Matthew 27:51) signally the end of the sacrificial system being acceptable. Jesus also "confirmed the covenant with many" (Daniel 9:27) for when Jesus died, it was "the blood of the everlasting covenant" (Hebrews 13:20) having "Jesus the mediator of the

new covenant" (Hebrews 12:24). And with that, the new covenant was not doing away with the Ten Commandments but rather, "This [is] the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them" (Hebrews 10:16). It was true that "the first [covenant] had also ordinances of divine service, and a worldly sanctuary" (Hebrews 9:1), but that was what was done away with, specifically "the law having a shadow of good things to come, [and] not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect" (Hebrews 10:1). That is why we do not kill animals now upon requesting forgiveness. We simply, "confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us [our] sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

And now that the Jews had been first with the gospel and did not responsibly present it to the world, Jesus said, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, [thou] that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under [her] wings, and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate" (Matthew 23:37-38). Jesus also predicted that after the stoning of Stephen, ending the 490 year period, "The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof" (Matthew 21:43), and that He would "miserably destroy those wicked men, and will let out [his] vineyard unto other husbandmen, which shall render him the fruits in their seasons" (Matthew 21:41). Even Luke records the actions of Paul speaking to the Jews, "It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles" (Acts 13:46). And so, now the Gospel distribution, the same message from Genesis, is in the hands of the Gentiles to responsibly take the saving power to the world, not one that teaches people to keep sinning, but to gain the victory over sin despite many, even of the

Christians who "Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away" (2 Timothy 3:5).

That message is that God "will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel" (Genesis 3:15), not only in the form of Jesus going to the cross defeating Satan but in each converted person to "Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me" (Psalms 51:10), and that you "be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness" (Ephesians 4:23-24) that "we have the mind of Christ" (1 Corinthians 2:16). And as a last day warning to "Fear God" (Revelation 14:7), something that is very lacking in the Christians today, we would have "The fear of the LORD [is] to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth" (Proverbs 8:13) for the opposite is that "he that sinneth against me wrongeth his own soul: all they that hate me love death" (Proverbs 8:36). And evil and sin are very much related where we ought to say to God, "Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done [this] evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, [and] be clear when thou judgest" (Psalms 51:4) because God is looking for the "sinner that repenteth" (Luke 15:7) since Jesus stated, "I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance" (Luke 5:32). Now, in our ignorance of what sin really is, "the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent" (Acts 17:30). And that is partly of when grace is applied, for Moses is the one who gives us the definition of grace, and it is found nowhere else in the Bible: "If now I have found grace in thy sight, O Lord, let my Lord, I pray thee, go among us; for it [is] a stiffnecked people; and pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us for thine inheritance" (Exodus 34:9). Even in ignorance, if we sin, we cannot make up for it, sacrifice for it, or do anything except to freely receive the pardon from God of which then grants us the inheritance or eternal life. So, for all those who have been falsely taught that keeping the Ten Commandments is an Old Testament thing and grace is a New Testament thing, here we see the law receiver himself, Moses, defining for us how every one, Old and New Testament, is saved – it is by grace alone. But when we receive grace from God, "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?" (Romans 6:1-2). And what is sin? "Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law" (1 John 3:4).

Therefore, we do not carelessly live sinning lives. The Ten Commandments are still binding, however, "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous" (1 John 2:1). So again, we are not to be sinning! Grace is for the "oops" moment, not a lax lifestyle. Anyone teaching such is "turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ" (Jude 1:4) because Jesus commanded, on more than one occasion, "go, and sin no more" (John 8:11) and "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect" (Matthew 5:48).

But we hear all the arguments that attack obedience, perfection, and such, but do not listen to them for "Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous" (1 John 3:7). Therefore, it is not legalism, nor even working one's way to Heaven by keeping the Ten Commandments. It is simply a way of life, for Heaven is nothing but law abiding. No angel commits adultery, steals, lies, covets, or even worships another god! "He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil" (1 John 3:8). And on the other side, we are told that if a person is truly born again, "Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God" (1 John 3:9). And if one does not think there are only

two choices, we are told either "keep the commandments" and "enter into life" (Matthew 19:17) or break them and go to hell, John followed up with, "In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother" (1 John 3:10).

It is the commandments that reveal true Christians, not to be saved, but because they are saved. It is their lifestyle because they realize, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second [is] like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets" (Matthew 22:37-40), which means that the first four commandments are about loving God and the last six show our love to our neighbors. Acts of kindness are not love; they are merely kind acts, but Jesus said, "If ye love me, keep my commandments" (John 14:15).

"Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous. For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, [even] our faith. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?" (1 John 5:1-5). And yet, so many Christians enjoy the world by being sport enthusiasts, Hollywood watchers (movies, TV, etc.), concert goers, provocative dressers, flashy jewelry wearers, pig roast and crab feast eaters, shirt advertising sin wearers, alcohol drinkers, foul mouth speakers, and entertainment goers. There are so many more things that Christians participate in these days that are so mindnumbing that Christians do not even know it is wrong! Who cares about the royal family! Who cares who wins the sporting crown! Who cares what the latest car model is! Who cares about anything that is

beyond our necessities and beyond working to spread the gospel! Please note that a secular job is not being condemned, but money gained from employment ought to take care of our needs and spread the gospel. Anything else is a waste of God's money.

Now, God wants us to be overcomers of the world, for God sees spiritually, "Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God" (James 4:4). "I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world" (John 17:15-16). "Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good" (Romans 12:21). "While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage" (2 Peter 2:19). And that is referring to the misuse of grace to the point that people think they can do whatever they want without the risk of losing salvation. Nonsense! What mockery! "For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning" (2 Peter 2:20). "I write unto you, young men, because ye have overcome the wicked one. I write unto you, little children, because ye have known the Father" (1 John 2:13). "I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one" (1 John 2:14). "To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God" (Revelation 2:7). "He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death" (Revelation 2:11). "He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death" (Revelation 2:11). "To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth [it]" (Revelation 2:17). "And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him

will I give power over the nations" (Revelation 2:26). "He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels" (Revelation 3:5). "Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, [which is] new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and [I will write upon him] my new name" (Revelation 3:12). "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne" (Revelation 3:21). "He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son" (Revelation 21:7). Therefore, all who are letting the world overcome them by using up time, money, attention, conversation, etc., please repent and be an overcomer instead of heading to destruction. If a person has a regular habit of sinning, that is not being an overcomer! And a regular habit does not have to be daily. If a person drinks alcohol every New Year's Eve, that is still a habit. If a person smokes only around certain friends that they see infrequently, that is still a habit. It does not matter how infrequent it is, if the sin is not hated, not being strived against, it is sin and that is not being overcome. It is also a lack of overcoming when a person is placed into similar situations and gives in to temptation each time, making the excuse that it is because of the circumstances. We are responsible for our reaction to circumstances. Circumstances have no power when we are an overcomer.

"Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof" (Romans 6:12). "Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto right-eousness?" (Romans 6:16) And that is the only two choices. Either we obey the Ten Commandments and are considered righteous and there-

fore live eternally, or we obey sin and die eternally. There is no, "Yes, I am sinning but I am under grace" group. Either the power of Jesus is working or the power of Satan is. "The soul that sinneth, it shall die" (Ezekiel 18:4, 20). "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever" (Hebrews 13:8). And when Jesus said, "Before Abraham was, I am" (John 8:58), He is the same "I Am" that Moses heard saying, "I AM hath sent me unto you" (Exodus 3:14) for when Paul recounted the desert experience of the Israelites, he declared, "that Rock was Christ" (1 Corinthians 10:4). There are many other New Testament verses that basically say that the God of the Old Testament is the same God of the New. It was, is, and will always be Jesus! Therefore, do not speak of, "Well, that was Old Testament", for Jesus said, "I [am] the LORD, I change not" (Malachi 3:6). So, yes, from the Old Testament, a person who continues to sin will die eternally.

So, will you go along with the rest of the world deceived into thinking grace permits sinning, preparing for the ultimate deception against the Ten Commandments that the whole world is on board with and racing to the final conclusion, or will you be one who survives like Daniel, Job, Joseph, Hananiah, Mishael, Azariah, and many others and be identified as, "Here is the patience of the saints: here [are] they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus" (Revelation 14:12)?

John summarizes things quite well:

1 John 3:1 "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not."

First off, grace, the gospel, salvation is declared in the beginning of the verse because the Father's love that He bestowed is the same as saying, "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" (John 3:16). But that grace, the gospel power, the receiving of the free gift of salvation changes a person so much so that those who are still unconverted will not know that new creature, the saved soul. Therefore, all the Christian people who hang around with unconverted friends and the unconverted friends are all "cool" with it, then the Christian is not a Christian. Our Christianity will cause rifts between friends and especially family. As a Christian withdraws from the world and becomes a true son of God or daughter of God, people are going to start saying, "What happen to you? Are you some type of Jesus freak now? You think you are holier than thou now?" And many more awful things will be said. And that all happens without Christians even opening their mouths. Try going out to dinner and everyone notices that water is the chosen beverage, because not only is the Christian avoiding alcohol that others at the table have ordered, but they noticed that the Christian knows that their "body is the temple of the Holy Ghost" (1 Corinthians 6:19) and will not take in the drug called caffeine as well as that horrible stomach destroying liquid called soda. The Christian takes a guiet moment to pray over the meal. Then, while all the friends are laughing it up gossiping, there's the Christian being all quiet. While all the friends are bragging about sports teams, sports players, celebrities, and such, again there is the Christian being all quiet. While the friends are planning on going to an event to watch some violent or romantic or anything containing a foul word themed movie, there is the Christian not wanting to go. Keep that up long enough and the friends will truly not understand because they do not know Jesus, and the friendships will cease. It will slowly drift away by not being invited anymore and eventually the chit chats on the computer or even over the phone will dwindle into the forgotten. No

wonder Jesus said, "He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me" (John 19:26). And that goes for friends as well.

1 John 3:2 "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is."

Once we become sons and daughters of God, we begin a change. We do not know what we will change into, but this we do know "that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform [it] until the day of Jesus Christ" (Philippians 1:6). In other words, every day will be an experience of becoming holier, for He said, "Be ye holy; for I am holy" (1 Peter 1:16). We will become less of the world and more of being godly. We will become wiser in our time. We will go from watching anything on TV to that which is not so violent to that which is not so sensual to that which contains no foul or implied foul words to avoiding that which shows no "dissing one another" or teasing to simply turning the TV off. It is a daily growing experience being like Paul who said, "I die daily" (1 Corinthians 15:31).

1 John 3:3 "And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure."

Where is that taught in Christianity today? Sure, Jesus is the only one Who is perfect, but that does not mean that from the moment we become converted that we are not able to live a purer life! In other words, speaking in a positive manner, a sign of becoming converted means we enter into a process of puri-

fication for Jesus said, "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect" (Matthew 5:48). And by the grace of God, it is possible. At the same time, we shall never declare to be perfect nor say that we have achieved it, for even Paul stated, "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but [this] one thing [I do], forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:13-14). Notice that though he did not reach the ability to declare his perfection, he pressed forward to that goal. Even Jesus said, "Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able" (Luke 13:24). "Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless" (2 Peter 3:14).

1 John 3:4 "Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law."

So, there is the definition of what sin is. Each Christian has to ask, "Is there sin in my life?" If so, that means we are transgressing the law, breaking the Ten Commandments. Therefore, anyone trying to nail the commandments, dismiss them, or simply declare that it has nothing to do with salvation must reevaluate that thought. If sin exists, then that means the law has to exist as well. And if we declare that sin does not matter, then go ahead and jump in bed with whoever you wish, murder any person you want, take whatever you want, lie through your teeth, and do whatever. Since we know that such is horrifying to a Christian, then that Christian just admitted the Ten Commandments are still binding. A Christian cannot claim the

law is not binding and yet hold up any standards whatsoever. Maybe that is why society is in the mess it is in now because Christians are all confused by stating that there are standards but they are not binding. That is an oxymoron. That is hypocrisy.

1 John 3:5 "And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin."

Jesus was born under rough conditions, lived a peasant life, walked this earth suffering what people suffer, suffered much at the hands of the Romans and Pharisees, and died all for the soul purpose to "save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21), turning around and resurrecting giving us "hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began" (Titus 1:2).

And here ends the controversy. Did Jesus merely do these things to remove the penalty, allowing Christians to claim to be saved all the while sinning not worrying because of the lack of repercussions now? Or did Jesus submit to those things, removing the desire to continue in that lifestyle of sinning, and provide the power to be an overcomer as well as providing grace where the person had fallen short, allowing them entrance one day into Heaven? The phrase "take away ours sins" means that there is no more sinning in our life. Yes, once again that does not mean we will never sin again, but "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous" (1 John 2:1). Again, it is an "oops" thing and not a lifestyle in which we keep calling upon the Advocate for forgiveness.

The problem is not that we cannot stop sinning. The problem is what we behold all day, every day. "We all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, [even] as by the Spirit of the Lord" (2 Corinthians 3:18). Instead of spending significant time in God's Word, listening to Christian hymns played properly, attending Bible studies, sharing the gospel, listening to truth-filled sermons, Christians are watching prideful activity in sports, listening to music that promotes worldly ways, ignoring people, climbing the corporate ladder, and listening to worldly messages. If we did things God's way, in which Satan says, "That's boring", we would be more like Jesus. And, as the verses says, "in Him is no sin", therefore, in us, we would not sin either if we allow the change to happen.

1 John 3:6 "Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him."

Now, I would have to state that if we did commit a sin, such is not a one strike and it's over deal. This verse simply is stating that if we abide in Jesus, we would not live a worldly lifestyle, and we would not continue excusing sin in our life. Anyone who tries to search the Bible for sins that people committed and say, "Well, if that person is going to Heaven, I am alright as I am because I am not as bad as they were" does not "have the mind of Christ" (1 Corinthians 2:16). To say, "David committed adultery and murder and the Bible says that He's going to Heaven, so I'm fine with my adulterous life since I am not trying to kill anyone", is utter nonsense. David would have been lost if he had not repented. Moses would have been lost if he had not repented of his sin. The same is true of everyone, including the apostle Paul. Using people's past sins to justify cur-

rent sinning is foolishness. Such people have not really met or known the true Jesus of the Bible if they are thinking that way.

1 John 3:7 "Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous."

And so, it is a deception when preachers teach their congregations to call the behaviour of commandment keeping people a righteous act in itself, as being legalists, Judaizers, and other such labels. These are all deceptions by unconverted ministers of which 99% are. All these ministers simply want the freedom to do what they want with a form of godliness about them. Some ministers who have left the faith admitted to taking the position in the first place solely because it was good income, job security, and attention satisfying. This verse clearly parallels other verses in the Bible with the use of "doeth righteousness". Romans 2:13 states, "For not the hearers of the law [are] just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified." Matthew 7:21 says, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven." James 1:22 teaches, "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves." The bottom line is that Christians are to be Christians and not simply claim the title.

1 John 3:8 "He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil."

How much plainer does it get? If the works of the devil still exist in a person, called sin, that person is of the devil and will

be lost, unless sins are repented of. Jesus, the Son of God, came to destroy the works of the devil.

1 John 3:9 "Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God."

Here is the Bible definition of a truly born-again person. If we are truly born-again, then we do not continue to commit sin. And when faced with sin, like Joseph, we will abhor it and flee from it. Inside of a true Christian is a hatred for sin, not a tolerance, not an "it's okay for you but not me" attitude, but a hatred. It used to be common that women were offended by come-ons, foul words, and much more unacceptable behavior. That is how every Christian should be, but instead, we sit around with friends and listen to every sentence containing a foul word or several at a time. We have become so accepting of the foul language that the ultimate foul word is accepted in common language. Again, I claim, nonsense! If we are truly born of God, there would be something inside of us that is sick of sin, which makes one not ever want to commit a single sin, and realize what it means to Christ. Basically, "[it is] impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put [him] to an open shame" (Hebrews 6:4-6). "Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit" (John 3:7-8).

Now, speaking of the Spirit, many are confused. Many think that if they can perform some demonstration of the gifts of the Spirit, especially 'speaking in tongues', that somehow that shows they have the Holy Spirit. Being born of the Spirit means that "when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment" (John 16:8). So, if a Christian is not sensing sin and being repulsed by it, sensing righteousness and wanting to do it, while keeping in mind the judgment, they are deceived. They are not born again. And to be born of the Spirit also means "That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit" (John 3:6), and we "walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit" (Romans 8:1).

Continuing on with the comparison between the flesh (acting out in our bodies whatever it urges) against the spirit, (doing the will of God only), we see that "What the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit" (Romans 8:3-5). And that is just it; most "born-again Christians" do not mind the things of the world. They jump whole-heartedly in. Although it is true that the law cannot save us, breaking the law, which is sin, will not continue in us because we will fulfill righteousness by walking after the spirit, living a godly life.

And the truly born-again "are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his" (Romans 8:9). "For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live" (Romans 8:13). Again, how "born-again Christians" can justify partaking

of the world is unbiblical. If a person is truly filled with the Spirit, the sinful deeds of the body will be mortified, and last I checked, "mortify" means to put to death.

"Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God" (2 Corinthians 7:1). And there is that phrase again that seems to be so offensive in the Christian world: perfecting holiness. Where is holy living among most "born-again Christians"? They believe it is upon arrival in Heaven.

"[This] I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are [these]; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told [you] in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit" (Galatians 5:16-25). Most "born-again" Christians" do not sense that wrestling match. They even discredit temptation. "Once they are saved, they cannot be lost", is the understanding based upon the false context of John 10:28-29: "And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any [man] pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave [them] me, is greater than all; and no

[man] is able to pluck [them] out of my Father's hand". They fail to read the condition to claim that promise. The verse in front of them is verse 27, which states, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:", taking note that there is a colon at the end of verse 27 leading into verses 28 and 29. Only when we hear God's voice, primarily from reading the Word and following or obeying it, then no man can pluck us out of God's hand. If we are not obeying God's Word, especially if we do not know God's Word, then we are fair game for the devil.

So, why does the devil tempt Christians? Is so that they can scrape their knee? Nonsense. It is because the devil knows that if he can get a Christian to choose to leave God, that means that such is another one who will be lost, just like an evil parent in a divorce battle. One parent does not love the kids but will do everything to try and take the kids because they know it hurts the other party. If this was not Satan's reward, a Christian giving up eternal life, he would not waste his time. He is not a prankster; he is a murderer (John 8:44). He wants to kill as many humans, especially Christians, as possible. Further, the fact that there is something called temptation means that it is directed at the Christian, for certainly it is not directed at the unconverted. Temptation is temptation to those who know what God expects. An unbeliever just does whatever he wants. And if a "born-again Christian" does not believe in temptation, then he must be discrediting the Bible, because the word appears quite a few times.

And "he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting" (Galatians 6:8). Here, we see the conclusion of the war between the flesh and the Spirit. If we have not success-

fully "crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts" (Galatians 5:24), we do not get everlasting life. Corruption is the decay of the person for "the soul that sinneth, it shall die" (Ezekiel 18:4).

1 John 3:10 "In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother."

So, this is the evidence of who is a child of God and who is not. A person claiming to be a child of God while excusing sin and lacking in complete obedience is a child of the devil, no matter how many tongues they speak. Righteous doing, law abiding, are not works toward Heaven, those are simply Christian lifestyles here on earth, as if already being a citizen of Heaven.

"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this [is] the whole [duty] of man" (Ecclesiastes 12:13).

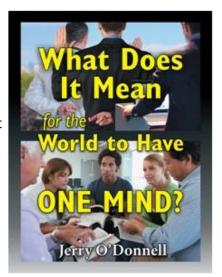
"Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience. Be not ye therefore partakers with them. For ye were sometimes darkness, but now [are ye] light in the Lord: walk as children of light: (For the fruit of the Spirit [is] in all goodness and righteousness and truth;) Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove [them]. For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret. But all things that are reproved are made manifest by the light: for whatsoever doth make manifest is light. Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light. See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming

the time, because the days are evil." (Ephesians 5:6-16).

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