

Scriptural Compendium of Doctrine

Introduction

It is crucial that our doctrines are formed by Scripture, and not the persuasive words of men. This is why relevant proof texts are important in expositions of teaching. Therefore, it is helpful to have a dictionary of critical doctrine that is supported entirely by Bible verses and not reasoning.

Here I have tried to avoid unnecessary comment, except where it is essential to explain something. This should be a useful resource for establishing doctrine.

I have refrained from basing this compendium on theological books to avoid being directed by the thoughts of men. My main tool was a concordance.

Let us know, let us pursue the knowledge of the LORD. His going forth is established as the morning; He will come to us like the rain, like the latter *and* former rain to the earth. Hos 6:3

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General Revelation

This is the unspecific revelation of God in nature. It reveals the power and some other attributes of God but it gives no saving knowledge. Salvation only comes by Special Revelation. There is no Common Grace or a prevenient grace associated with General Revelation in nature. Thus the intelligent design in nature demonstrates God's power, wisdom, sovereignty and planning; showing order, beauty, interdependence and harmony.

The sun, the moon, and the stars, all the host of heaven, ... which the LORD your God has given to all the peoples under the whole heaven as a heritage. Deut 4:19

When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have ordained. Ps 8:3

For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise You, for I am fearfully *and* wonderfully made; marvellous are Your works, and *that* my soul knows very well. Ps 139:13-14

What may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown *it* to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes* are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse. Rm 1:19-20

Authority: Special Revelation

The Bible (Scripture)¹ is the word of God and the source of the Gospel

Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God. Lk 4:4

He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures. Lk 24:45

To whom the word of God came (and the Scripture cannot be broken). Jn 10:35

The gospel of God which He promised before through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures, concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Rm 1:1-3

Faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. Rm 10:17

For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope. Rm 15:4

Now to Him who is able to establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret since the world began but now has been made manifest, and by the prophetic Scriptures has been made known to all nations, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, for obedience to the faith. Rm 16:25-26

The sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Eph 6:17

The Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. 2 Tim 3:15

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 complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Tim 3:16-17

¹ 'Scripture' means sacred writings.

The word of God *is* living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Heb 4:12

As also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you, as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable *people* twist to their own destruction, as *they do* also the rest of the Scriptures. 2 Pt 3:15-16

The word of God is superlative because it supremely manifests God's character
You have magnified Your word above all Your name. Ps 138:2

God's word is true

The Scripture cannot be broken. Jn 10:35

The entirety of Your word *is* truth. Ps 119:160

Your word is truth. Jn 17:17

Rightly dividing the word of truth. 2 Tim 2:15

God's word is living and powerful

For the word of God *is* living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Heb 4:12

The OT honours the Scriptures

I will praise His word. Ps 68:4

I will praise His word. Ps 68:10 [Twice.]

He will exalt the law and make *it* honourable. Isa 42:21

Jesus honoured the Scriptures

I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled. Matt 5:18

Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the Scriptures'. Matt 21:42

Have you not read what was spoken to you by God, saying, 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? Matt 22:31-32

He said to them, 'How then does David in the Spirit call Him "Lord"'. Matt 22:43 [Jesus refers to Ps 110.]

How then could the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must happen thus? Matt 26:54

All this was done that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled. Matt 26:56

You do not know the Scriptures nor the power of God? Mk 12:24

David himself said by the Holy Spirit: 'The LORD said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool"'. Mk 12:36

The Scripture cannot be broken. Jn 10:35

The apostles honoured the Scriptures

This Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke before by the mouth of David. Acts 1:16

The Holy Spirit spoke rightly through Isaiah the prophet to our fathers. Acts 28:25

To them [Jewish patriarchs] were committed the oracles of God. Rm 3:2

Through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope. Rm 15:4

The Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham. Gal 3:8

Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says: 'Today, if you will hear His voice'. Heb 3:7 [Referring to Ps 95.]

Prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke *as they were* moved by the Holy Spirit. 2 Pt 1:21

Theology (The Godhead)

The Trinity

Then God said, 'Let Us [plural] make man in Our [plural] image, according to Our [plural] likeness'. Gen 1:26

Then the LORD God said, 'Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil'. Gen 3:22

And the LORD said, 'Indeed the people *are* one and they all have one language, and this is what they begin to do; now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them. Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language'. Gen 11:6-7

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Matt 28:19

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen. 2 Cor 13:14

For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. 1 Jn 5:7 [Not in ASV, NASB, RSV, NRSV, etc.]

The Father is God

These are just a sample; there are scores of such.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Eph 1:2-3

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Phil 1:1

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. We give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Col 1:2-3

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Thess 1:1

Our God and Father. 1 Thess 3:13

To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Thess 1:1

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Thess 1:2

Grace, mercy, and peace from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord. 1 Tim 1:2

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. 2 Tim 1:2

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour. Titus 1:4

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Phm 1:3

We bless our God and Father. Jm 3:9

The foreknowledge of God the Father. 1 Pt 1:2

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Pt 1:3

God the Father. 2 Pt 1:17

Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! 1 Jn 3:1

God the Father. 2 Jn 1:3

God the Father. Jude 1:1

The Son is God

See Christology.

The Spirit is God

See Pneumatology.

The Being of God

Self existence (aseity)

God has life in himself; underived life.

With You *is* the fountain of life. Ps 36:9

'Who has performed and done *it*, calling the generations from the beginning? I, the LORD, am the first; and with the last I *am* He.' Isa 41:4

In Him was life. Jn 1:4

The Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself. Jn 5:26

Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life'. Jn 11:25

Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life'. Jn 14:6

He gives to all life, breath, and all things. Acts 17:25

For of Him and through Him and to Him *are* all things. Rm 11:36

Who alone has immortality. 1 Tim 6:16

The Word of life -- the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us. 1 Jn 1:1-2

God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. 1 Jn 5:11

Yahweh

The divine name, 'I am who I am'. It is made up of the Hebrew consonants YHWH,² which are called the Tetragrammaton. This is vocalised as 'Yahweh' or possibly 'Javeh'. Usually it is translated as 'LORD' in capital letters (as opposed to 'Lord' translating *Adonai*).

² That is the Hebrew *Yod, He, Waw, He*. Some prefer JHVH.

Later Hebrews would not pronounce the divine name out of superstition, and replaced it with *Adonai* ('Lord'). When *Adonai* and *YHWH* appeared side by side they read *Elohim* ('God') for the latter.

It is considered that the Massoretes put the vowel points for *Adonai* in *YHWH* indicating that 'Lord' should be read instead of the divine name.

The shortened form, Yah or Jah is also used and this appears in the names of certain people (e.g. Jehoshaphat).

God said to Moses, 'I AM WHO I AM'. And He said, 'Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, "I AM has sent me to you"'. Exod 3:14

In the day that the LORD [*Yahweh*] God [*elohim*] made the earth and the heavens. Gen 2:4

And Aaron made a proclamation and said, 'Tomorrow *is* a feast to the LORD'. Exod 32:5

The LORD of hosts *is* with us; the God [*elohim*] of Jacob *is* our refuge. Selah. Ps 46:11

Extol Him who rides on the clouds, by His name YAH, and rejoice before Him. Ps 68:4

For YAH, the LORD, [YHWH] *is* my strength and song; He also has become my salvation. Isa 12:2
[NB the KJV has 'Lord Jehovah'.]

Trust in the LORD [YHWH] forever, for in YAH, the LORD, [YHWH] *is* everlasting strength. Isa 26:4

I shall not see YAH, the LORD [*Yah*] in the land of the living. Isa 38:11

N.B. 'Jehovah' is not a Biblical word. It is a compound word that was invented by a Jesuit in the Middle Ages, based on the vowel points of *Adonai* mixed with *YHWH*. However, some Protestant scholars make an argument that it represents the original sound of *YHWH*, which they prefer to represent as *JHVH*.

Spirituality

God is spirit.

Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? Ps 139:7

God *is* Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth. Jn 4:24

Now the Lord is the Spirit. 2 Cor 3:17

To the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God. 1 Tim 1:17

The Father of spirits. Heb 12:9

Eternity

God exists outside of time and has no limitations.

The LORD, the Everlasting God. Gen 21:33

The LORD shall reign forever and ever. Exod 15:18

I raise My hand to heaven, and say, 'As I live forever'. Deut 32:40

Blessed *be* the LORD God of Israel from everlasting to everlasting! 1 Chron 16:36

Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever You had formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, You *are* God. ... For a thousand years in Your sight *are* like yesterday when it is past, and *like* a watch in the night. Ps 90:2-4

I *am* He, I *am* the First, I *am* also the Last. Indeed My hand has laid the foundation of the earth, and My right hand has stretched out the heavens. Isa 48:12-13

Thus says the High and Lofty One who inhabits eternity. Isa 57:15

But the LORD *is* the true God; He *is* the living God and the everlasting King. Jer 10:10

You, O LORD, remain forever; Your throne from generation to generation. Lam 5:19

How great *are* His signs, and how mighty His wonders! His kingdom *is* an everlasting kingdom, and His dominion *is* from generation to generation. Dan 4:3

I blessed the Most High and praised and honoured Him who lives forever: For His dominion *is* an everlasting dominion, and His kingdom *is* from generation to generation. Dan 4:34

The LORD will reign over them in Mount Zion from now on, even forever. Mic 4:7

Are You not from everlasting, O LORD my God, my Holy One? Hab 1:12

Since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes* are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* His eternal power and Godhead. Rm 1:20

The everlasting God. Rm 16:26

To the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, *be* honour and glory forever and ever. Amen. 1 Tim 1:17

Simplicity (or the unity of simplicity)

God is not complex; he is not made up of parts. God is not a compound, composite being; he is indivisible. The three Persons of the Trinity are not three parts of God but of one essence. There is no distinction between the divine essence and the divine attributes; God is not an eternal essence to which attributes have been added. God is not essence plus attributes, he is essence expressed in attributes. God is not truthful, he is truth. Simplicity describes that God is the perfect, infinite, fulness of being.³

Simplicity does not belong to angels or men; these are complex. Men are composed of spirit, soul and body; angels are spirit and immaterial (spiritual) body. People show a difference between existing, being, living, knowing, willing, acting etc. This is compound life. No creature is simple.

Every attribute of God is identical with his essence.

THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS. Jer 23:6

In Him was life. Jn 1:4

That was the true Light. Jn 1:9

Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me'. Jn 14:6

Of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God -- and righteousness and sanctification and redemption. 1 Cor 1:30

God is light. 1 Jn 1:5

God is love. 1 Jn 4:8

³ Many rational, unorthodox and liberal theologians deny this aspect of God.

Uniqueness (unity of singularity)

There is one God. There are no other gods of any sort.

You shall have no other gods before Me. Exod 20:3

The LORD Himself *is* God; *there is* none other besides Him. Deut 4:35

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD *is* one! Deut 6:4

No one is holy like the LORD, for *there is* none besides You, nor *is there* any rock like our God. 1 Sam 2:2

You are great, O Lord GOD. For *there is* none like You, nor *is there any* God besides You. 2 Sam 7:22

Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: 'I *am* the First and I *am* the Last; besides Me *there is* no God'. Isa 44:6

'The LORD *is* one', and His name one. Zech 14:9

And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. Jn 17:3

There is no other God but one. For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as there are many gods and many lords), yet for us *there is* one God, the Father, of whom *are* all things, and we for Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom *are* all things, and through whom we *live*. 1 Cor 8:4-6 There are many so-called gods in false religions that all emanated from the original idolatry in Sumeria and Old Babylonia after the flood. Demons promote these religions and enjoy the worship offered to fabled gods. Yet all these gods are mere myths.

God is one. Gal 3:20

For *there is* one God. 1 Tim 2:5

Transcendence

Beyond or above the range of normal or merely physical human experience; existing apart from and not subject to the limitations of the material universe.

Be exalted, O God, above the heavens. Ps 57:5

No one has seen God at any time. Jn 1:18

Not that anyone has seen the Father, except He who is from God; He has seen the Father. Jn 6:46

To the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, *be* honour and glory forever and ever. Amen. 1 Tim 1:17

Who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see. 1 Tim 6:16

Immanence (omnipresence)

God is permanently pervading and sustaining the universe. God indwells his creation and all its processes. God is unlimited by space. The counterpart to transcendence.

Therefore know this day, and consider *it* in your heart, that the LORD Himself *is* God in heaven above and on the earth beneath; *there is* no other. Deut 4:39

The LORD your God, He *is* God in heaven above and on earth beneath. Jos 2:11

Will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain You. 1 Kg 8:27

Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? Ps 139:7

The eyes of the LORD *are* in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good. Prov 15:3

Hell and Destruction *are* before the LORD; so how much more the hearts of the sons of men. Prov 15:11

Thus says the LORD: 'Heaven *is* My throne, and earth *is* My footstool'. Isa 66:1

Though they dig into hell, from there my hand shall take them; though they climb up to heaven, from there I will bring them down; and though they hide themselves on top of Carmel, from there I will search and take them; though they hide from My sight at the bottom of the sea, from there I will command the serpent, and it shall bite them; though they go into captivity before their enemies, from there I will command the sword, and it shall slay them. I will set My eyes on them for harm and not for good. Amos 9:2-4

Heaven *is* My throne, and earth *is* My footstool. What house will you build for Me? Acts 7:49

In Him we live and move and have our being. Acts 17:28

The fullness of Him who fills all in all. Eph 1:23

And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. Col 1:17

Omniscience

God knows all things perfectly.

And the LORD said to her: 'Two nations *are* in your womb, two peoples shall be separated from your body; *one* people shall be stronger than the other, and the older shall serve the younger'. Gen 25:23

The king of Egypt will not let you go, no, not even by a mighty hand. Exod 3:19

Then it shall be, when many evils and troubles have come upon them, that this song will testify against them as a witness; for it will not be forgotten in the mouths of their descendants, for I know the inclination of their behaviour today, even before I have brought them to the land of which I swore *to give them*. Deut 31:21

For the LORD *is* the God of knowledge; and by Him actions are weighed. 1 Sam 2:3

You alone know the hearts of all the sons of men. 1 Kg 8:39

The LORD has shown me that he will really die. 2 Kg 8:10

Elisha answered, 'The LORD has shown me that you *will become* king over Syria'. 2 Kg 8:13

The LORD searches all hearts and understands all the intent of the thoughts. 1 Chron 28:9

The LORD knows the thoughts of man, that they *are* futile. Ps 94:11

Great *is* our Lord, and mighty in power; His understanding *is* infinite. Ps 147:5

The eyes of the LORD *are* in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good. Prov 15:3

The everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, neither faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable. Isa 40:28

Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations. Jer 1:5

For My eyes *are* on all their ways; they are not hidden from My face, nor is their iniquity hidden from My eyes. Jer 16:17

I know the things that come into your mind. Ezek 11:5

He reveals deep and secret things; He knows what *is* in the darkness, and light dwells with Him. Dan 2:22

He who forms mountains, and creates the wind, who declares to man what his thought *is*, and makes the morning darkness, who treads the high places of the earth -- The LORD God of hosts *is* His name. Amos 4:13

The eyes of the LORD, which scan to and fro throughout the whole earth. Zech 4:10

Your Father who sees in secret. Matt 6:4

For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him. Matt 6:8

God knows your hearts. Lk 16:15

God, who knows the heart. Acts 15:8

He who searches the hearts. Rm 8:27

The LORD knows the thoughts of the wise, that they are futile. 1 Cor 3:20

There is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things *are* naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we *must give* account. Heb 4:13

God is greater than our heart, and knows all things. 1 Jn 3:20

FOREKNOWLEDGE

God knows all events in the future.

And the LORD said to her: 'Two nations *are* in your womb, two peoples shall be separated from your body; *one* people shall be stronger than the other, and the older shall serve the younger'. Gen 25:23

The king of Egypt will not let you go, no, not even by a mighty hand. Exod 3:19

The LORD has shown me that he will really die. 2 Kg 8:10

Elisha answered, 'The LORD has shown me that you *will become* king over Syria'. 2 Kg 8:13

Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations. Jer 1:5

Known to God from eternity are all His works. Acts 15:18

For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son. Rm 8:29

Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father. 1 Pt 1:2

Impassibility

God is incapable of suffering or feeling pain. If God suffers then he has changed. Impassibility does not deny emotions in God. God has emotions, but these are voluntary and purposeful, not reactions to events or suffering caused by emotional pain. God cannot suffer because he is not subject to anything but is all-powerful. [There is a debate amongst theologians whether God is passible or impassible. Classic historical theologians and confessions affirm impassibility.]

The Strength of Israel will not lie nor relent. For He *is* not a man, that He should relent. 1 Sam 15:29

I *am* the LORD, I do not change. Mal 3:6

Now when the people saw what Paul had done, they raised their voices, saying in the Lycaonian *language*, 'The gods have come down to us in the likeness of men!' And Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul, Hermes, because he was the chief speaker. ... But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard this, they tore their clothes and ran in among the multitude, crying out and saying, 'Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men with the same nature as you'. Acts 14:11-15 [In other words, God is not like us.]

GOD HAS EMOTIONS

These are represented as anthropomorphisms.

The LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. Gen 6:6

How often they provoked Him in the wilderness, *and* grieved Him in the desert! Ps 78:40

In all their affliction He was afflicted, and the Angel of His Presence saved them; in His love and in His pity He redeemed them. Isa 63:9

Let my eyes flow with tears night and day, and let them not cease. Jer 14:17

My heart churns within Me; My sympathy is stirred. Hos 11:8

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God. Eph 4:30

I was angry with that generation. Heb 3:10

Impeccability

God cannot sin. Christ was unable to be overcome by sin, as well as being able to not sin. The eternal Word (Logos) was always united to Christ's human nature and the Word cannot sin. Since Christ is God he is immutable; therefore he could not sin, which meant change, falling.

The ruler of this world is coming, and he has nothing in Me. Jn 14:30

For He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin for us. 2 Cor 5:21

For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathise with our weaknesses, but was in all *points* tempted as *we are*, *yet* without sin. Heb 4:15

For such a High Priest was fitting for us, *who is* holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners. Heb 7:26

The precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. 1 Pt 1:19

Who committed no sin, nor was deceit found in His mouth. 1 Pt 2:22

In Him there is no sin. 1 Jn 3:5

Omnipresence (see immensity)

Immensity is the relation of the infinite essence of God to space. He transcends all spatial limitations. All of the infinite essence of God is always present in every point of infinite space.

Omnipresence is the more familiar term; God is always present everywhere.

Immutability

God does not change his character or his mind.

God *is* not a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man, that He should repent [*nacham* – to be sorry]. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good? Num 23:19

The Strength of Israel will not lie nor relent. For He *is* not a man, that He should relent ['to be sorry']. 1 Sam 15:29

The counsel of the LORD stands forever, the plans of His heart to all generations. Ps 33:11

The LORD's counsel -- that will stand. Prov 19:21

I know that whatever God does, It shall be forever. Nothing can be added to it, and nothing taken from it. Eccles 3:14

I *am* the LORD, I do not change. Mal 3:6

For the gifts and the calling of God *are* irrevocable. Rm 11:29

They will all grow old like a garment; like a cloak You will fold them up, and they will be changed. But You are the same. Heb 1:11-12

The immutability of His counsel. Heb 6:17

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning. Jm 1:17

The attributes of God

The character of God.

The doctrine of simplicity means that in reality there is no difference between God's being and God's attributes. His attributes are what he is in his being. Thus God does not have wisdom; he is wisdom. However, for ease of understanding and for classification, I have separated his being (what God essentially is) from his attributes (the character that God expresses).

For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes* are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* His eternal power and Godhead. Rm 1:20

Holiness

God is utterly separate from the material universe subsisting in a state of moral perfection. God can neither sin, cause to sin or tolerate sin. Absolute moral purity.

Who *is* like You, O LORD, among the gods? Who *is* like You, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders? Exod 15:11

For I *am* the LORD your God. You shall therefore consecrate yourselves, and you shall be holy; for I *am* holy. Lev 11:44

As for God, His way *is* perfect. 2 Sam 22:31

You *are* not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness, nor shall evil dwell with You. Ps 5:4

Holy, holy, holy *is* the LORD of hosts. Isa 6:3

I *am* the LORD, your Holy One. Isa 43:15

Thus says the High and Lofty One who inhabits eternity, whose name *is* Holy: 'I dwell in the high and holy *place*'. Isa 57:15

You are of purer eyes than to behold evil, and cannot look on wickedness. Hab 1:13

Your Father in heaven is perfect. Matt 5:48

Holy *is* His name. Lk 1:49

As He who called you *is* holy, you also be holy in all *your* conduct, because it is written, 'Be holy, for I am holy'. 1 Pt 1:15-16

God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. 1 Jn 1:5

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come! Rev 4:8

You alone *are* holy. Rev 15:4

Holiness is the crucial, fundamental attribute and the only one that is mentioned in triple form for emphasis, 'Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty'.

Sovereignty

God is Lord over all things.

All kings shall fall down before Him; all nations shall serve Him. Ps 72:11

God *is* the God of gods, the Lord of kings. Dan 2:47

God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Phil 2:9-11

He who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords. 1 Tim 6:15

Authorities and powers having been made subject to Him. 1 Pt 3:22

He is Lord of lords and King of kings. Rev 17:14

KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. Rev 19:16

Omnipotence

God is all-powerful.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Gen 1:1

I *am* Almighty God. Gen 17:1

Is anything too hard for the LORD? Gen 18:14

O Lord GOD, You have begun to show Your servant Your greatness and Your mighty hand, for what god *is there* in heaven or on earth who can do *anything* like Your works and Your mighty *deeds*? Deut 3:24

The LORD *is* great and greatly to be praised; He *is* also to be feared above all gods. 1 Chron 16:25

I know that You can do everything, and that no purpose *of Yours* can be withheld from You. Job 42:2

Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and outstretched arm. There is nothing too hard for You. Jer 32:17

For behold, He who forms mountains, and creates the wind, who declares to man what his thought *is*, and makes the morning darkness, who treads the high places of the earth -- The LORD God of hosts *is* His name. Amos 4:13

With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible. Matt 19:26

With God nothing will be impossible. Lk 1:37

The things which are impossible with men are possible with God. Lk 18:27

The exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power. Eph 1:19

Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us. Eph 3:20

For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. Col 1:16-17

Great and marvellous *are* Your works, Lord God Almighty! Rev 15:3

Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns! Rev 19:6

Wisdom

God is supremely wise; his knowledge is applied in perfect application. He works the best designs by the best means.

O LORD, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom You have made them all. The earth is full of Your possessions. Ps 104:24

The LORD by wisdom founded the earth; by understanding He established the heavens. Prov 3:19

He has made the earth by His power, He has established the world by His wisdom, And has stretched out the heavens at His discretion. Jer 10:12

Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, for wisdom and might are His. And He changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and raises up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding. Dan 2:20-21

Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable *are* His judgments and His ways past finding out! Rm 11:33

Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. 1 Cor 1:24-25

We speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden *wisdom* which God ordained before the ages for our glory. 1 Cor 2:7

The manifold wisdom of God. Eph 3:10

To the knowledge of the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Col 2:2-3

Justice

God is just; impartial, fair, reasonable and true in judgment.

Therefore know that the LORD your God, He *is* God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments; and He repays those who hate Him to their face, to destroy them. He will not be slack with him who hates Him; He will repay him to his face. Deut 7:9-10

For the LORD your God *is* God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality nor takes a bribe. He administers justice. Deut 10:17-18

There is no iniquity with the LORD our God, no partiality, nor taking of bribes. 2 Chron 19:7

You *are* just in all that has befallen us; for You have dealt faithfully. Neh 9:33

He shall judge the world in righteousness, and He shall administer judgment for the peoples in uprightness. Ps 9:8

The LORD is known *by* the judgment He executes. Ps 9:16

Righteousness and justice *are* the foundation of Your throne; mercy and truth go before Your face. Ps 89:14

Of the increase of *His* government and peace *there will be* no end ... To order it and establish it with judgment and justice. Isa 9:7

I, the LORD, search the heart, / test the mind, even to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his doings. Jer 17:10

The LORD *is* righteous in her midst, He will do no unrighteousness. Every morning He brings His justice to light; He never fails. Zeph 3:5

God shows no partiality. Acts 10:34

He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. Acts 17:31

He is faithful and just. 1 Jn 1:9

Truth

God is consistent in himself. There is no contradiction in him. God is trustworthy and speaks the truth.

The Strength of Israel will not lie. 1 Sam 15:29

Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life'. Jn 14:6

Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth. Jn 17:17

God, who cannot lie. Titus 1:2

It *is* impossible for God to lie. Heb 6:18

FAITHFULNESS,

God is loyal, constant and steadfast. God keeps his promises

Your mercy, O LORD, *is* in the heavens; Your faithfulness *reaches* to the clouds. Ps 36:5

Your faithfulness You shall establish in the very heavens. Ps 89:2

Your faithfulness *endures* to all generations. Ps 119:90

Great *is* Your faithfulness. Lam 3:23

Goodness

God always does what is exactly right for any given circumstance; he cannot do evil. Benevolence, complacency, mercy, and grace. God is infinitely wise and righteous in expression to his creatures. Complacency is the loving approval of God's perfections and of the reflected image of them in his creatures.

Goodness is often the translation of *chesed* in the OT, which means covenanted loving kindness. It is only applied to the elect.

The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness [*chesed*] and truth'. Ex 34:6

How great *is* Your goodness. Ps 31:19

The riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance? Rm 2:4

GRACE

God is full of grace and unmerited favour and kindness to the elect. God's goodness exercised in unmerited kindness and care to the elect.

And the LORD passed before him and proclaimed, 'The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness [chesed] and truth'. Ex 34:6

Having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He has made us accepted in the Beloved. In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence. Eph 1:5-8

The grace of God that brings salvation. Titus 2:11

MERCY

God is full of compassion and forgiveness for the elect, despite their sins. Pity for his people in their miseries. Goodness exercised towards God's people in their weaknesses.

You in Your mercy have led forth the people whom You have redeemed. Exod 15:13

Showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments. Exod 20:6

The LORD is longsuffering and abundant in mercy. Num 14:18

The LORD your God, He *is* God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments. Deut 7:9

The mercy of the Most High. Ps 21:7

I trust in the mercy of God forever and ever. Ps 52:8

As a father pities *his* children, *so* the LORD pities those who fear Him. Ps 103:13

'With everlasting kindness I will have mercy on you', says the LORD, your Redeemer. Isa 54:8

He was moved with compassion. Matt 9:36

PATIENCE

God is longsuffering.

You, O Lord, *are* a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering and abundant in mercy and truth. Ps 86:15

The riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance? Rm 2:4

What if God, wanting to show *His* wrath and to make His power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath prepared for destruction. Rm 9:22

The God of patience. Rm 15:5

The patience of Christ. 2 Thess 3:5

LOVE / BENEVOLENCE / COMPLACENCY

The love of God is centred in his Son, and by extension to every elect person in Christ. The goodness of God exercised towards the elect as being in Christ. Benevolence is God's goodness exercised to the elect. Complacency is divine approval.

The love of God. Lk 11:42

The love of God. Jn 5:32

The love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit. Rm 5:5

The love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Rm 8:39

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God. 2 Cor 13:14

The love of God. 2 Thess 3:5

The love of God. Titus 3:4

The love of God. 1 Jn 2:5

The love of God. 1 Jn 3:17

God is love. 1 Jn 4:8

The love of God. 1 Jn 4:9

God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us. 1 Jn 4:12

God is love. 1 Jn 4:16

The love of God. 1 Jn 5:3

Keep yourselves in the love of God. Jude 1:21

WRATH & HATE

God's wrath, abhorrence and hatred is targeted to those not in Christ, the reprobate sinners. People who are not elect are hated.

'Wrath' is hatred and extreme anger turned into condemnation. 'Abhorrence' is an intense form of hatred and disgust.

Wrath is the goodness of God exercised towards the reprobate.

You sent forth Your wrath. Exod 15:7

My wrath will become hot, and I will kill you with the sword. Exod 22:24

That My wrath may burn hot against them. Exod 32:10

The wrath of the LORD was aroused against the people. Num 11:33

For wrath has gone out from the LORD. Num 16:46

You provoked the LORD to wrath. Deut 9:8

You provoked the LORD to wrath. Deut 9:22

You hate all workers of iniquity. Ps 5:5

The LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man. Ps 5:6

The LORD tests the righteous, but the wicked and the one who loves violence His soul hates. Ps 11:5

The wrath of God came against them. Ps 78:31

We have been consumed by Your anger, and by Your wrath we are terrified. Ps 90:7

Therefore the wrath of the LORD was kindled against His people, so that He abhorred His own inheritance. Ps 106:40

These six *things* the LORD hates, Yes, seven *are* an abomination to Him: A proud look, A lying tongue, Hands that shed innocent blood, A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that are swift in running to evil, A false witness *who* speaks lies, And one who sows discord among brethren. Prov 6:16-19

He who is abhorred by the LORD. Prov 22:14

All their wickedness *is* in Gilgal, For there I hated them. Because of the evil of their deeds I will drive them from My house; I will love them no more. All their princes *are* rebellious. Hosea 9:15

I dismissed the three shepherds in one month. My soul loathed them. Zech 11:8

Esau I have hated. Mal 1:3

The wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness. Rm 1:18

Is God unjust who inflicts wrath? Rm 3:5

Esau I have hated. Rm 9:13

Because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Eph 5:6

The wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. Col 3:6

I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not enter My rest'. Heb 3:11

You hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. Rev 2:6

The doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which thing I hate. Rev 2:15

Texts on God's wrath can be multiplied into the hundreds.

The decree: the eternal plan and purpose of God

What is it called?

I will declare the decree: the LORD has said to Me, 'You *are* My Son, today I have begotten You. Ps 2:7

The counsel of the LORD. Ps 33:11

The determined purpose ... of God. Acts 2:23

The mystery of His will. Eph 1:9-12

The manifold wisdom of God. Eph 3:10

The decree is eternal

God is not bound by time; his counsels were in eternity

The counsel of the LORD stands forever, the plans of His heart to all generations. Ps 33:11

Your purpose determined before to be done. Acts 4:23

We speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden *wisdom* which God ordained before the ages for our glory. 1 Cor 2:7

His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began. 2 Tim 1:9

The decree is wise

All the works of the Lord are done in wisdom.

O LORD, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom You have made them all. The earth is full of Your possessions. Ps 104:24

To Him who by wisdom made the heavens. Ps 136:5

The LORD by wisdom founded the earth; by understanding He established the heavens. Prov 3:19

He has made the earth by His power, He has established the world by His wisdom, And has stretched out the heavens at His discretion. Jer 10:12

Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable *are* His judgments and His ways past finding out! Rm 11:33

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence, having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself. Eph 1:7-9

To the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church. Eph 3:10

The decree is free

God's works are unconditional, not contingent on anything.

Can *anyone* teach God knowledge. Job 21:22

Behold, God is exalted by His power; who teaches like Him? Who has assigned Him His way, or who has said, 'You have done wrong'? Job 36:22-23

Who has directed the Spirit of the LORD, or as His counsellor has taught Him? With whom did He take counsel, and who instructed Him, and taught Him in the path of justice? Who taught Him knowledge, and showed Him the way of understanding? Isa 40:13-14

For who has known the mind of the LORD? Or who has become His counsellor? Rm 11:34

For 'who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?' 1 Cor 2:16

The purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will. Eph 1:11

Statements of this purpose

The counsel of the LORD stands forever, the plans of His heart to all generations. Ps 33:11

The LORD's counsel -- that will stand. Prov 10:21

The LORD of hosts has sworn, saying, 'Surely, as I have thought, so it shall come to pass, and as I have purposed, *so* it shall stand ... This *is* the purpose that is purposed against the whole earth, and this *is* the hand that is stretched out over all the nations. For the LORD of hosts has purposed, and who will annul *it*? His hand *is* stretched out, and who will turn it back?' Isa 14:24-27

Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times *things* that are not *yet* done, Saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure,' Isa 46:10

The determined purpose and foreknowledge of God. Acts 2:23

Your purpose determined before to be done. Acts 4:23

We speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden *wisdom* which God ordained before the ages for our glory. 1 Cor 2:7

His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began. 2 Tim 1:9

What is the objective of this plan?

Having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth -- in Him. In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory. Eph 1:9-12

He put all *things* under His feet, and gave Him *to be* head over all *things* to the church. Eph 1:22

That now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church. Eph 3:10

The purpose involves predestination of all things

God *is* the Judge: He puts down one, and exalts another. Ps 75:7

I form the light and create darkness, I make peace and create calamity [evil]; I, the LORD, do all these *things*. Isa 45:7

Who *is* he *who* speaks and it comes to pass, *when* the Lord has not commanded *it*? Lam 3:37

Is it not from the mouth of the Most High that woe [evil] and well-being proceed? Lam 3:38

If a trumpet is blown in a city, will not the people be afraid? If there is calamity [evil] in a city, will not the LORD have done *it*? Amos 3:6

You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered together to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose determined before to be done. Acts 4:27-28

Having predestined us to adoption as sons. Eph 1:5

We have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will. Eph 1:11

God controls sin for his purpose but is not the author of it

Let no one say when he is tempted, 'I am tempted by God'; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. Jm 1:13

The constituents of this plan: his work of creation

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Gen 1:1

In six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth. Ex 20:11

The LORD made the heavens. 1 Chron 16:26

You alone *are* the LORD; You have made heaven, The heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and everything on it, the seas and all that is in them, and You preserve them all. The host of heaven worships You. Neh 9:6

When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have ordained. Ps 8:3

By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth. Ps 33:6 [There are scores of further references stating this in the OT.]

For of Him and through Him and to Him *are* all things, to whom *be* glory forever. Amen. Rm 11:36

One Lord Jesus Christ, through whom *are* all things, and through whom we *live*. 1 Cor 8:6

God who created all things through Jesus Christ. Eph 3:9

For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. Col 1:16-17

[God] has in these last days spoken to us by *His* Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds. Heb 1:2

The worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible. Heb 11:3

By the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water. 2 Pt 3:5

You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power; for You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created. Rev 4:11

By Him who lives forever and ever, who created heaven and the things that are in it. Rev 10:6

Worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water. Rev 14:7

The constituents of this plan: his work in providence

Holding up the universe

Your faithfulness *endures* to all generations; You established the earth, and it abides. They continue this day according to Your ordinances, for all *are* Your servants. Ps 119:90-91

In Him all things consist. Col 1:17

Upholding all things by the word of His power. Heb 1:3

You created all things, and by Your will they exist. Rev 4:11

God owns the world, not Satan

Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth. Gen 14:19

The earth *is* the LORD's. Exod 9:29

All the earth *is* Mine. Exod 19:5

Heaven and the highest heavens belong to the LORD your God, also the earth with all that is in it. Deut 10:14

The earth *is* the LORD's, and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein. Ps 24:1

I have made the earth, the man and the beast that *are* on the ground, by My great power and by My outstretched arm, and have given it to whom it seemed proper to Me. Jer 27:5

The earth *is* the LORD's, and all its fullness. 1 Cor 10:26

Maintaining sustenance of mankind

The LORD *is* good to all, and His tender mercies *are* over all His works. Ps 145:9 Note: unlike some bad translations, the word 'love' does not appear in this verse. The Lord is good to all in giving sustenance by controlling the weather and seasons. 'Tender mercies' is *racham* (compassion) not *chesed* (covenant love).

Your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. Matt 5:45

He did not leave Himself without witness, in that He did good, gave us rain from heaven and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness. Acts 14:17

He gives to all life, breath, and all things. Acts 17:25

Controlling climate and weather

The LORD sent thunder and hail. Exod 9:23

The LORD brought an east wind on the land all that day and all *that* night. Exod 10:13

The LORD caused the sea to go *back* by a strong east wind all that night. Exod 14:21

The LORD cast down large hailstones. Jos 10:11

The LORD sent thunder and rain. 1 Sam 12:18

He says to the snow, 'Fall *on* the earth'; likewise to the gentle rain and the heavy rain of His strength. Job 37:6

He commands and raises the stormy wind, which lifts up the waves of the sea. Ps 107:25

He gives snow like wool; He scatters the frost like ashes; He casts out His hail like morsels; who can stand before His cold? He sends out His word and melts them; He causes His wind to blow, *and* the waters flow. Ps 147:16-18

Fire and hail, snow and clouds; stormy wind, fulfilling His word. Ps 148:8

He who forms mountains, and creates the wind. Amos 4:13

The LORD sent out a great wind on the sea, and there was a mighty tempest on the sea. Jonah 1:4

Controlling world history

When the Most High divided their inheritance to the nations, When He separated the sons of Adam, He set the boundaries of the peoples. Deut 32:8

His [man's] days *are* determined, the number of his months *is* with You; You have appointed his limits, so that he cannot pass. Job 14:5

My times *are* in Your hand. Ps 31:15

Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, the days fashioned for me, when *as yet there were* none of them. Ps 139:16

Wail, O gate! Cry, O city! All you of Philistia *are* dissolved; for smoke will come from the north, and no one *will be* alone in his appointed times. Isa 14:31

Who says of Cyrus, '*He is* My shepherd, and he shall perform all My pleasure'. Isa 44:28

Thus says the LORD to His anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have held -- to subdue nations before him and loose the armour of kings, to open before him the double doors, so that the gates will not be shut. Isa 45:1

Both these kings' hearts *shall be* bent on evil, and they shall speak lies at the same table; but it shall not prosper, for the end *will still be* at the appointed time. Dan 11:27

[God] Allowed all nations to walk in their own ways. Acts 14:16

He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their pre-appointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings. Acts 17:25

Note God's control of nations such as Israel, Edom, Babylon, Assyria etc. in the OT.

Controlling good and bad things

BAD THINGS

I form the light and create darkness, I make peace and create calamity [evil]; I, the LORD, do all these *things*. Isa 45:7

Who *is* he *who* speaks and it comes to pass, *when* the Lord has not commanded *it*? Lam 3:37

Is it not from the mouth of the Most High that woe [evil] and well-being proceed? Lam 3:38

If a trumpet is blown in a city, will not the people be afraid? If there is calamity [evil] in a city, will not the LORD have done *it*? Amos 3:6

GOOD THINGS

God meant it [trials] for good. Gen 50:20

The LORD has promised good things to Israel. Num 10:29

Not one thing has failed of all the good things which the LORD your God spoke concerning you. All have come to pass for you; not one word of them has failed. Jos 23:14

He filled their houses with good *things*. Job 22:18

Acquaint yourself with Him, and be at peace; thereby good will come to you. Job 22:21

Blessed *is* the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; but his delight *is* in the law of the LORD. Ps 1:1-2

Blessed *are* all those who put their trust in Him. Ps 2:12

Blessed *is* the nation whose God *is* the LORD. Ps 33:12

Blessed *is* the man *who* trusts in Him! Ps 34:8

God *is* our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Ps 46:1

God who performs *all things* for me. Ps 57:2

Who satisfies your mouth with good *things*, *so that* your youth is renewed like the eagle's. Ps 103:5

How much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him! Matt 7:11

All things work together for good to those who love God. Rm 8:28

The constituents of this plan: his work of salvation

Salvation *belongs* to the LORD. Ps 3:8

The LORD *is* my light and my salvation. Ps 27:1

But the salvation of the righteous *is* from the LORD. Ps 37:39

O Lord, my salvation! Ps 38:22

The salvation of God. Ps 50:23

From Him *comes* my salvation. Ps 62:1

Our God *is* the God of salvation; and to GOD the Lord *belong* escapes from death. Ps 68:20

For God *is* my King from of old, working salvation in the midst of the earth. Ps 74:12

Show us Your mercy, LORD, and grant us Your salvation. Ps 85:7

Behold, God *is* my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid; 'for YAH, the LORD, *is* my strength and song; he also has become my salvation. Isa 12:2

The LORD our God *is* the salvation of Israel. Jer 3:23

Salvation *is* of the LORD. Jonah 2:9

Therefore let it be known to you that the salvation of God has been sent to the Gentiles. Acts 28:28

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation. Rm 1:16

... and not in any way terrified by your adversaries, which is to them a proof of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that from God. Phil 1:28

God from the beginning chose you for salvation. 2 Thess 2:13

Salvation *belongs* to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb! Rev 7:10

Alleluia! Salvation and glory and honour and power *belong* to the Lord our God! Rev 19:1

The constituents of this plan: his work of glory

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy *to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us. Rm 8:18

Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified. Rm 8:30

Our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory. 2 Cor 4:17

When Christ *who is* our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory. Col 3:4

God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory. 1 Thess 2:12

He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Thess 2:14

The Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. 1 Pt 4:14

The God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus. 1 Pt 5:10

The centrality of Christ in this plan

He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love. Eph 1:4

In Him we have redemption through His blood. Eph 1:7

That in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth -- in Him. Eph 1:10

In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory. Eph 1:11-12

To the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly *places*, according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. Eph 3:10-11

In whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him. Eph 3:12

He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the pre-eminence. For it pleased *the Father that* in Him all the fullness should dwell, and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross. Col 1:17-20

It pleased *the Father that* in Him all the fullness should dwell, and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross. Col 1:19-20

Christology

The divinity of Jesus Christ

Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, 'Truly You are the Son of God'.
Matt 14:33

They came and held Him by the feet and worshiped Him. Matt 28:9

When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, 'All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth'. Matt 28:17-18

And they worshiped Him. Lk 24:52

No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared *Him*. Jn 1:18

He who does not honour the Son does not honour the Father who sent Him. Jn 5:23

He who has seen Me has seen the Father. Jn 14:9

Thomas answered and said to Him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed'. Jn 20:28-29

These are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name. Jn 20:31

And they stoned Stephen as he was calling on *God* and saying, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit'.
Acts 7:59

The glory of Christ, who is the image of God. 2 Cor 4:4

Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God.
Phil 2:6

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the pre-eminence. For it pleased *the Father that* in Him all the fullness should dwell. Col 1:15-19

For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily. Col 2:9

And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh.
1 Tim 3:16

In these last days spoken to us by *His* Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of *His* glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high. Heb 1:2-3

'Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom, and strength and honour and glory and blessing!' And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying: 'Blessing and honour and glory and power *be* to Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, forever and ever!' Rev 5:12-13

The eternity of, and eternal generation of the Son

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. Jn 1:1-4

The only begotten of the Father. Jn 1:14

No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared *Him*. Jn 1:18

God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son. Jn 3:16

The only begotten Son of God. Jn 3:18

God who created all things through Jesus Christ. Eph 3:9

He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. Col 1:17

For to which of the angels did He ever say: 'You are My Son, today I have begotten You'? And again: 'I will be to Him a Father, and He shall be to Me a Son'? Heb 1:5

You, LORD, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, And the heavens are the work of Your hands. Heb 1:10

Christ did not glorify Himself to become High Priest, *but it* was He who said to Him: 'You are My Son, Today I have begotten You'. Heb 5:5

In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. 1 Jn 4:9

'I am the Alpha and the Omega, *the* Beginning and *the* End', says the Lord, 'who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty'. Rev 1:8

The humanity of Jesus Christ

'Incarnation' means 'in the flesh' in Latin. Christ became a man but remained God. The divine was not changed into the human or mingled with humanity. It did not become some new compound nature. The divine took the human into union with itself; he took a human soul into union with himself. This did not change the Godhead or the properties of Deity, but it did affect the manifestation of God.

Jesus did not lose his divine glory as a man⁴ but it was hidden from men, though it was occasionally revealed in part (Matt 17:1-2).

Jesus said to him, 'Foxes have holes and birds of the air *have* nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay *His* head'. Matt 8:20 [Note: Jesus used this favourite expression many times.]

Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ. Matt 1:16

'Is this not the carpenter, the Son of Mary, and brother of James, Joses, Judas, and Simon? And are not His sisters here with us?' And they were offended at Him. Mk 6:3

She brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. Lk 2:7

A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, 'Give Me a drink'. Jn 4:7 [Jesus experienced thirst.]

⁴ The Kenosis doctrine says that he did. This theory, based on a mistranslation of Phil 2:7, affirms that Christ emptied himself of divine attributes; some even say that he laid aside his Godhead and became a human soul.

And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry. Matt 4:2 [Jesus experienced hunger.]

Jesus wept. Jn 11:35 [Jesus empathised with men and knew sadness and grief.]

Suddenly a great tempest arose on the sea, so that the boat was covered with the waves. But He was asleep. Matt 8:24 [Jesus experienced fatigue.]

The grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ. Rm 5:15

For *there is* one God and one Mediator between God and men, *the* Man Christ Jesus. 1 Tim 2:5 [In order to mediate between God and man, Jesus had to be both God and man.]

Jesus is the God-Man

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

Jesus Christ our Lord, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh, *and* declared *to be* the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead. Rm 1:3-4

For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God *did* by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh. Rm 8:3

According to the flesh, Christ *came*, who is over all, *the* eternally blessed God. Amen. Rm 9:5

God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law. Gal 4:4

Every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Phil 2:11

The early church attacks on Christ as God and man

The truth is that Christ is one Person but with two natures (God and man) in union but not mixed.

Dynamic Monarchianism or Adoptionism

Monarchianism' is used to denote the primacy of God the Father. Jesus was a 'mere man' until he was adopted by God to be his Son. Christ was only a man under the influence of God.

Modalistic Monarchianism or Modalism or Patripassianism or Sabellianism

Patripassianism means, 'the father suffers'. Christ is simply a mode of the one God with no personal existence of his own. God is one; the Father, Son and Spirit are modes of working (or expressions) of the one God.

Arianism

The Son was created by God the Father, before time and from nothing, therefore, the Son cannot be pre-existent or eternal; he is a creature but not one of the creatures. It denied that the Son was of one essence with the Father.

Apollinarianism

The two natures of Christ could not exist within one person, therefore, the human nature had to be diminished; Christ cannot be fully God and fully man at the same time. Therefore, Christ had one active principle alone, the divine Logos. Christ's human flesh had no independent mind or will; the Logos replaced Christ's human spirit. This denies that Christ had a human personality. The result is that Christ is neither God nor man.

Nestorianism

The heresy attributed (falsely) to Nestorius is that Jesus is two persons. The heresy fails to do justice to the union of Christ's two natures in one person and the union of the logos with a human nature in Christ.

Eutychianism

Jesus had neither a divine nature, nor a human nature, but a composite new sort of nature that was part human – part divine. It is an early type of Monophysitism (Jesus only had one nature).

Monophysitism

The name means 'one-nature' in Greek. Christ only has one nature. This was emphasised to protect the unity of Christ's person. Christ's human nature is diminished.

Monothelitism

The name means 'one will' in Greek. Monothelites were Monophysites who particularly opposed the idea of two wills in Christ, as well as two natures. They taught that Christ only had one will.

Jesus is the promised Messiah

He fulfilled the Messianic prophecies:

- Born in Bethlehem (Mic 5:2).
- Born of a virgin (Isa 7:14).
- His advent was while Judah existed and while the second temple was still standing (Gen 49:10; Dan 9:25; Hag 2:9).
- Of the tribe of Judah, of the family of David (Gen 22:18, 49:10; 2 Sam 7:16; Isa 11:1-9).
- Would live in humble circumstances (Isa 53:2).
- Would manifest miracles (Isa 35:3-6, 42:7, 61:1-3).
- Would be despised and rejected by men (Isa 49:7, 53:3-7).
- Would die violently including his body being pierced (Isa 53:8; Dan 9:26; Ps 22:16; Zech 12:10).
- Would rise from the dead and ascend on high (Ps 16:9-11, 68:18).

The NT shows the fulfilment of all these prophecies to the letter.

The character of Christ*Sinless*

In Him there is no sin. 1 Jn 3:5

The ruler of this world is coming, and he has nothing in Me. Jn 14:30

For He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin for us. 2 Cor 5:21

We do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathise with our weaknesses, but was in all *points* tempted as *we are*, yet without sin. Heb 4:15

For such a High Priest was fitting for us, *who is* holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners. Heb 7:26

Who committed no sin, nor was deceit found in His mouth. 1 Pt 2:22

In Him there is no sin. 1 Jn 3:5

Righteous

Have nothing to do with that just Man. Matt 27:19

Certainly this was a righteous Man! Lk 23:47

Such a High Priest was fitting for us, *who is* holy, harmless [without guile], undefiled, separate from sinners. Heb 7:26

Who committed no sin, nor was deceit found in His mouth. 1 Pt 2:22

Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust. 1 Pt 3:18

Jesus Christ the righteous. 1 Jn 2:1

If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone who practices righteousness is born of Him. 1 Jn 2:29

Full of grace and truth

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

For the law was given through Moses, *but* grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. Jn 1:17

Loving

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. Jn 13:34

As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. Jn 15:9

This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Jn 15:12

By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. 1 Jn 3:16

Caring

How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under *her* wings. Matt 23:37

'My little daughter lies at the point of death. Come and lay Your hands on her, that she may be healed, and she will live.' So *Jesus* went with him. Mk 5:23-24

He said to her, 'Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction.' Mk 5:34

The Lord said, 'Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift *you* as wheat. But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail'. Lk 22:31-32

I have come that they may have life. Jn 10:10

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. Jn 10:11

Truthful

Teacher, we know that You are true, and teach the way of God in truth. Matt 22:16

You seek to kill Me, a Man who has told you the truth which I heard from God. Jn 8:40

I tell the truth. Jn 8:45

Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life'. Jn 14:6

Humble

Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to *the point of* death. Phil 2:8

Christ did not glorify Himself. Heb 5:5

Perseverance

Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross. Heb 12:2

Consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself. Heb 12:3

Faithful

A merciful and faithful High Priest. Heb 2:17

Christ Jesus, who was faithful to Him who appointed Him. Heb 3:2

Obedient

Not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. Jn 6:38

The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him. Jn 8:29

I have kept My Father's commandments. Jn 15:10

The Incarnation: God manifest in the flesh*Was prophesied*

The virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel. Isa 7:14

For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isa 9:6

Was revealed on Earth

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. Jn 1:14

You [Mary] will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end. Lk 1:31-33

And the angel answered and said to her, '*The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God*'. Lk 1:35

Jesus Christ our Lord, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh, *and declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead.* Rm 1:3-4

From whom, according to the flesh, Christ *came*, who is over all, *the* eternally blessed God. Rm 9:5

When the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. Gal 4:4-5

God was manifested in the flesh. 1 Tim 3:16

Jesus Christ has come in the flesh. 1 Jn 4:2

Jesus Christ has come in the flesh. 1 Jn 4:3

The phases of the incarnation*Humiliation*

This refers to the suffering and patience of Jesus as a man while on Earth. His humiliation is evidenced in being rejected by men, especially by his own people, being attacked, being castigated and ridiculed, being poor, being hungry, thirsty and tired, and the sufferings of his passion.

The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone. Mk 12:10

So also the Son of Man will be in His day. But first He must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation. Lk 17:24-25

For this reason the Jews persecuted Jesus, and sought to kill Him. Jn 5:16

Coming to Him *as to* a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God *and* precious. 1 Pt 2:4

When He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten. 1 Pt 2:23

The Passion

This is the culmination of his life on Earth when he was tortured and crucified to redeem men.

The ploughers ploughed on my back; they made their furrows long. Ps 129:3

I gave My back to those who struck *Me*, and My cheeks to those who plucked out the beard; I did not hide My face from shame and spitting. Isa 50:6

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole garrison around Him. And they stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him. When they had twisted a crown of thorns, they put *it* on His head, and a reed in His right hand. And they bowed the knee before Him and mocked Him, saying, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' Then they spat on Him, and took the reed and struck Him on the head. And when they had mocked Him, they took the robe off Him, put His *own* clothes on Him, and led Him away to be crucified. Matt 27:26-31

Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and to the scribes; and they will condemn Him to death and deliver Him to the Gentiles; and they will mock Him, and scourge Him, and spit on Him, and kill Him. And the third day He will rise again. Mk 10:33-34

So Pilate, wanting to gratify the crowd, released Barabbas to them; and he delivered Jesus, after he had scourged *Him*, to be crucified. Mk 15:15

And when they had come to the place called Calvary, there they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on the right hand and the other on the left. Lk 23:33

So then Pilate took Jesus and scourged *Him*. And the soldiers twisted a crown of thorns and put *it* on His head, and they put on Him a purple robe. Then they said, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' And they struck Him with their hands. Jn 19:1-3

And He, bearing His cross, went out to a place called *the Place* of a Skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha, where they crucified Him, and two others with Him, one on either side, and Jesus in the centre. Now Pilate wrote a title and put *it* on the cross. And the writing was: JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. Jn 19:17-19

For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures. 1 Cor 15:3

Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit. 1 Pt 3:18

Entombment

This is the three days (actually part days) buried in the tomb.

They made His grave with the wicked -- But with the rich at His death. Isa 53:9

When Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and laid it in his new tomb which he had hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a large stone against the door of the tomb, and departed. Matt 27:59-60

And Nicodemus, who at first came to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds. Then they took the body of Jesus, and bound it in strips of linen with the spices, as the custom of the Jews is to bury. Now in the place where He was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. So there they laid Jesus, because of the Jews' Preparation *Day*, for the tomb was nearby. Jn 19:39-42

When they had fulfilled all that was written concerning Him, they took *Him* down from the tree and laid *Him* in a tomb. Acts 13:29

He was buried. 1 Cor 15:4

The resurrection appearances

This is the period after the resurrection whereby Christ appeared to his disciples and friends to prove that he was alive.

He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. And go quickly and tell His disciples that He is risen from the dead, and indeed He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him. Matt 28:6-7

Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had appointed for them. When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and spoke to them. Matt 28:16-18

Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, 'Peace to you!' Then He said to Thomas, 'Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand *here*, and put *it* into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing.' And Thomas answered and said to Him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed *are* those who have not seen and *yet* have believed.' Jn 20:26-29

Whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it. Acts 2:24

This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses. Acts 2:32

Whom God raised from the dead, of which we are witnesses. Acts 3:15

Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. Acts 4:10

The God of our fathers raised up Jesus whom you murdered by hanging on a tree. Acts 5:30

Him God raised up on the third day, and showed Him openly, not to all the people, but to witnesses chosen before by God, *even* to us who ate and drank with Him after He arose from the dead. Acts 10:40-41

God raised Him from the dead. Acts 13:30

He was seen for many days by those who came up with Him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are His witnesses to the people. Acts 13:31

He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep. 1 Cor 15:4-6

The God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead. Heb 13:20

The Ascension

This is the rising of Christ from the Earth in a cloud and being taken into heaven to sit at the right hand of God, exalted crowned king of the universe. Jesus is now seated in the glory.

Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. Acts 1:9

Him God has exalted to His right hand *to be* Prince and Saviour. Acts 5:31

He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things. Eph 4:10

God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory. 1 Tim 3:16

Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God. Heb 4:14

We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens. Heb 8:1

For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, *which are* copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us. Heb 9:24

The heavenly session

Christians have a Saviour who is not only God and King but also a man, acting for them. Jesus lives to make intercession for the saints and is able to pray effectively since, being a man, he knows their sufferings and can sympathise with them. Jesus also controls all things to work for the good of the saints, even in their tribulations.

Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. Rm 8:34

Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast *our* confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathise with our weaknesses, but was in all *points* tempted as *we are, yet* without sin. Heb 4:14-15

He, because He continues forever, has an unchangeable priesthood. Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them. Heb 7:24-25

We have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. 1 Jn 2:1

The purpose of the Incarnation (the work of Christ)*To propitiate God for the elect*

Christ Jesus, whom God set forth *as* a propitiation by His blood. Rm 3:24-25

He Himself is the propitiation for our sins. 1 Jn 2:2

He loved us and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins. 1 Jn 4:10

To redeem the elect

The redemption that is in Christ Jesus. Rom 3:24

God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law. Gal 4:4-5

Who [Christ] gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself *His* own special people. Titus 2:14

Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. Heb 9:12

Knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, ... but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. 1 Pt 1:18-19

For You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your blood. Rev 5:9

To save the elect

He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you. 1 Pt 1:20

Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. Eph 5:24-27

Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. 1 Tim 1:15

To take away the sins of the elect

For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. Matt 26:28

What the law could not do ... God *did* by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin. Rm 8:3

You know that He was manifested to take away our sins. 1 Jn 3:5

You shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins. Matt 1:21

Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! Jn 1:29

He has appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself. Heb 9:26

To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood. Rev 1:5

To secure justification for the elect

Who was delivered up because of our offences, and was raised because of our justification. Rm 4:25

To sanctify the elect

We have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once *for all*. Heb 9:10

To destroy the works of the devil

For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil. 1 Jn 3:8

The titles of Christ

Prophet

A prophet is the human messenger of God; one who conveys God's words to men.

No one knows the Son except the Father. Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and *the one* to whom the Son wills to reveal *Him*. Matt 11:27

The multitudes said, 'This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth of Galilee'. Matt 21:11

Jesus of Nazareth, who was a Prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people.
Lk 24:19

The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared *Him*. Jn 1:18

This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world. Jn 6:14

Truly this is the Prophet. Jn 7:40

For I have given to them the words which You have given Me. Jn 17:8

I have given them Your word. Jn 17:14

Moses truly said to the fathers, 'The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your brethren. Him you shall hear in all things, whatever He says to you. And it shall be *that* every soul who will not hear that Prophet shall be utterly destroyed from among the people.'
Acts 3:22-23

This is that Moses who said to the children of Israel, 'The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your brethren. Him you shall hear.' Acts 7:37

Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God. 1 Cor 1:30

The Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true.
1 Jn 5:20

Priest

A priest is someone authorised to draw near to God and to represent men to God; a mediator.

That He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things *pertaining* to God. Heb 2:17

Consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus. Heb 3:1

We have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God.
Heb 4:14

So also Christ did not glorify Himself to become High Priest, *but it was* He who said to Him: 'You are My Son, Today I have begotten You'. As *He* also *says* in another *place*: 'You *are* a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek'. Heb 5:5-6

Called by God as High Priest 'according to the order of Melchizedek'. Heb 5:10

Even Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek. Heb 6:20

Christ came *as* High Priest of the good things to come. Heb 9:11

King

Someone with authority to rule over a kingdom.

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

He who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords. 1 Tim 6:15

Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. Rev 1:5

For He is Lord of lords and King of kings. Rev 17:14

KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. Rev 19:16

The kingdom over which Christ rules is designated as

THE KINGDOM OF GOD

I must preach the kingdom of God. Lk 4:43

THE KINGDOM OF CHRIST

Assuredly, I say to you, there are some standing here who shall not taste death till they see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom. Matt 16:28

He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed *us* into the kingdom of the Son of His love. Col 1:13

THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force. Matt 11:12

There is no difference between the kingdom of heaven and the kingdom of God as claimed by Dispensationalists to teach that one is Jewish and the other is Gentile. Dispensationalism teaches that the kingdom of heaven is earthly, political and Davidic, (Jewish) while the kingdom of God is spiritual, God's world-wide kingdom.

We must emphasise that there is only one kingdom of God, not two as claimed by Dispensationalism. The terms, 'kingdom of heaven' and 'kingdom of God' are synonymous; as proved by Matt 19:23-24 where Jesus uses both terms interchangeably, and their use in Luke's parallel passages to those in Matthew (e.g. Matt 11:12-13 with Lk 16:16; Matt 10:7 with Lk 9:2; Matt 4:12,17 with Mk 1:14-15).

CHRIST'S KINGDOM IS SPIRITUAL

The king is spiritual and not earthly.

The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many. Matt 20:28

Jesus answered, 'My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here'. Jn 18:36

Jesus' throne is in heaven

Who being the brightness of *His* glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high. Heb 1:3

Jesus' sceptre is spiritual

The LORD said to my Lord, 'Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool'. The LORD shall send the rod of Your strength out of Zion. Rule in the midst of Your enemies! Ps 110:1-2

The citizens of the kingdom are spiritual

God *is* Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth. Jn 4:24

Jesus' government is spiritual

This *is* the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' says the LORD of hosts. Zech 4:6

Jesus laws are spiritual

God *is* Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth. Jn 4:24

Fulfil the law of Christ. Gal 6:2

The blessings and penalties of the kingdom are spiritual

For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds.
2 Cor 10:4

Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ. Eph 1:3

CHRIST IS THE GLORIFIED GOD-MAN SEATED AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD THE FATHER RULING THE UNIVERSE

The LORD said to my Lord, 'Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool'. Ps 110:1

Behold, *One* like the Son of Man, Coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought Him near before Him. Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion *is* an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom *the one* which shall not be destroyed. Dan 7:13-14

Jesus said to him, '*It is as* you said. Nevertheless, I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven'. Matt 26:64

After the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God. Mk 16:19

For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son. Jn 5:22

Who *is* he who condemns? *It is* Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. Rm 8:34

Which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated *Him* at His right hand in the heavenly *places*, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. And He put all *things* under His feet, and gave Him *to be* head over all *things* to the church. Eph 1:20-22

Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Phil 2:8-11

If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Col 3:1

Who being the brightness of *His* glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right

hand of the Majesty on high, having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they. Heb 1:3-4

But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honour, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone. Heb 2:9

But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God. Heb 10:12

Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him. 1 Pt 3:22

Pneumatology

The divinity of the Holy Spirit

The earth was without form, and void; and darkness *was* on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. Gen 1:2

But they rebelled and grieved His [The Lord] Holy Spirit; So He turned Himself against them as an enemy. Isa 63:10

In him is the Spirit of the Holy God. Dan 4:8

The Spirit of the Holy God is in you. Dan 4:9

The Spirit of the Holy God is in you. Dan 4:18

In whom is the Spirit of the Holy God. Dan 5:11

She was found with child of the Holy Spirit. Matt 1:18

The love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us. Rm 5:5

Sanctified by the Holy Spirit. Rm 15:16 – With, Of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God -- and righteousness and sanctification and redemption. 1 Cor 1:30. Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit. 1 Pt 1:2. I am the LORD who sanctifies them. Ezek 20:12. I am the LORD who sanctifies you. Lev 22:32 / Lev 20:8 / Ex 31:13. Sanctification is by God. The Holy Spirit is God.

The Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God. 1 Cor 6:19

The Spirit of God. 1 Cor 12:3

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God. Eph 4:30

God, who has also given us His Holy Spirit. 1 Thess 4:8

He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit. Titus 3:5

God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit. Heb 2:4

And have become partakers of the Holy Spirit. Heb 6:4

The Holy Spirit sent from heaven. 1 Pt 1:12

Prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. 2 Pt 1:21

The personality of the Spirit

The Holy Spirit is not a thing or some ethereal object or force; he is a Person. Personal pronouns are used of him.

However, when He [*ekionos*, masculine pronoun], the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own *authority*, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. Jn 16:13

Jesus saw him

When He had been baptised, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. Matt 3:16

And immediately, coming up from the water, He saw the heavens parting and the Spirit descending upon Him like a dove. Mk 1:10

He has a name

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Matt 28:19

He spoke

As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, 'Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them'. Acts 13:2

Thus says the Holy Spirit. Acts 21:11

The Holy Spirit spoke rightly through Isaiah the prophet to our fathers. Acts 28:25

He sent people out

So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia, and from there they sailed to Cyprus. Acts 13:4

He constrained

For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit, and to us. Acts 15:28

They were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia. After they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit did not permit them. Acts 16:6-7

Paul was compelled by the Spirit. Acts 18:5

He helps

Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. Rm 8:26

He testifies

The Holy Spirit testifies in every city. Acts 20:23

He distributes as he wills

But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills. 1 Cor 12:11

He is a comforter

And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever - the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. Jn 14:16-17

‘Helper’ is *parakletos*, i.e. an advocate, a counsellor, someone who pleads for someone in defence, a legal assistant, an intercessor etc. It is used of Christ (1 Jn 2:1). This can only be a living person. A ‘helper’ whom you know and who dwells with you is not a force but a person.

He is sent

The Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send. Jn 14:26

Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper [*parakletos*] will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment. Jn 16:7-8

The Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him. Acts 5:32

You received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, ‘Abba, Father’. Rm 8:15

The Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God. 1 Cor 6:19

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed. Eph 4:30

By this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us. 1 Jn 3:24

In some of these cases the Greek pronoun is a neuter of Greek grammatical necessity but the application is to a person. Scholars affirm this (such as Robertson).

Names of the Spirit

The Spirit of God

The Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. Gen 1:2

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. Rm 8:14

The Spirit of God dwells in you? 1 Cor 3:16

The Spirit of the Lord

The Spirit of the LORD came upon him. Jud 3:10

The Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon him. Jud 14:6

The Spirit of the LORD *is* upon Me. Lk 4:18

The Spirit of the Father

The Spirit of your Father. Matt 10:20

I will pour out My Spirit. Joel 2:28

The Spirit of the Son

The Spirit of His Son. Gal 4:6

The Holy Spirit

They rebelled and grieved His Holy Spirit. Isa 63:10

The Holy Spirit will teach you. Lk 12:12

The Spirit of Truth

The Spirit of truth. Jn 14:17

The Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father. Jn 15:26

The Spirit

The Spirit lifted me up and took me away. Ezek 3:14

In sanctification of the Spirit. 1 Pt 1:2

The Spirit of grace

The Spirit of grace, Heb 10:29

The Paraclete

I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper [*parakletos*], that He may abide with you forever. Jn 14:16

The Helper, the Holy Spirit. Jn 14:26

But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me. Jn 15:26

Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. Jn 16:7

The procession of the Spirit*Proceeds from the Father*

The Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name. Jn 14:26

Proceeds from the Son

The Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father. Jn 15:26

If I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. Jn 16:7

The Spirit glorifies Christ, not himself

He will not speak on His own *authority*, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare *it* to you. All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare *it* to you. Jn 16:13-15

The work of the Holy Spirit*To glorify Jesus*

He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare *it* to you. All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare *it* to you. Jn 16:14-15

For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. 1 Jn 5:7

To inspire Scripture

The Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you. Jn 14:26

However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own *authority*, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. Jn 16:13

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. These things we also speak, not in words

which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. 1 Cor 2:12-13

All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God. 2 Tim 3:16

Prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke *as they were* moved by the Holy Spirit. 2 Pt 1:21

Conviction of sin

When He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment. Jn 16:8

Regeneration

See 'Salvation, Regeneration'.

Conversion

See 'Salvation, Conversion'.

Sanctification

Sanctification of the Spirit. 1 Pt 1:2

See 'Salvation, Sanctification'.

He inspires the character of Christ in saints

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Gal 5:22

Teaching, guiding

The Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you. Jn 14:26

When He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth. Jn 16:13

Indwelling saints

I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes. Ezek 37:27

And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever -
- The Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. Jn 14:16-17

You are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. Rm 8:9

If the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you. Rm 8:11

As many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. Rm 8:14

The Spirit of God dwells in you? 1 Cor 3:16

Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God. 1 Cor 6:19

The whole building, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit. Eph 2:21-22

The Holy Spirit who dwells in us. 2 Tim 1:14

By this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us. 1 Jn 3:24

By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit.
1 Jn 4:13

Note that saints can grieve or suppress the indwelling Spirit by ignoring or disobeying his influences.

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.
Eph 4:30

Do not quench the Spirit. 1 Thess 5:19

Aiding prayer

The Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, 'Abba, Father'. Rm 8:15

Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. Rm 8:26

God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, 'Abba, Father!' Gal 4:6

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit. Eph 6:18

Praying in the Holy Spirit. Jude 1:20

Assurance

The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God. Rm 8:16

By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit.
1 Jn 4:13

See 'Salvation, Assurance'.

Perseverance

See 'Salvation, Doctrines of Grace'.

Regarding the 'baptism in/with the Spirit'

I indeed baptise you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.
Matt 3:11

I indeed baptised you with water, but He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit. Mk 1:8

John answered, saying to all, 'I indeed baptise you with water; but One mightier than I is coming, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire'.
Lk 3:16

For John truly baptised with water, but you shall be baptised with the Holy Spirit not many days from now. Acts 1:5

Then I remembered the word of the Lord, how He said, 'John indeed baptised with water, but you shall be baptised with the Holy Spirit'. Acts 11:16

Many Charismatics term this 'the baptism IN the Spirit'. The Greek word *en* in the above texts can be translated as in, with or by. However, the grammatical and theological context demands it be translated as 'with'. There is no baptism into a dimension of the Spirit; rather the Spirit baptises us into the body of Christ (Gal 3:27).

The idea of a baptism in the Spirit to get a special blessing or experience as something secondary after conversion first became popular with Methodists who associated it with sinless perfection and a baptism of perfect love (notably Fletcher Madeley [1729-1785]). Charles Finney [1792-1875] and his colleague Asa Mahan saw the baptism as a means of gaining power as well as sanctification. After them, Americans in the Holiness Movement (influenced by Wesley) used this idea to promote an experience that produced holiness and power. Edward Irving's heretical group saw it as the means of gaining the gift of tongues. The Keswick Higher Life Movement saw the baptism as a means of improving sanctification. Then the American Pentecostals claimed that this was a necessary second experience to gain access to Pentecostal power, producing gifts of the Spirit and especially tongue speaking. [At first many Pentecostals taught that it obviated learning foreign languages for missionary activity, but the repeated failures of tongues to communicate anything made them abandon this idea.]

In all these cases the baptism in the Spirit was a name given to a mystical experience based on heightened emotional suggestibility, often after a long church meeting (originally called 'tarrying meetings'). Charismatics today use this false experience to produce many things: some claim it can be used to promote evangelism (those who experienced a spirit baptism are called saved, often if they just fell to the ground, frequently associated with the experience). The Alpha Course is one such example. Many teach that it produces the gift of tongues (or sometimes prophecy), like the classical Pentecostals. Other radicals claim that it imparts supernatural power to heal or work wonders. One small Pentecostal cult teaches that it enables believers to handle snakes without toxic effects (in fact many are injured and die).

The mentions of the baptism in the Gospels and Acts 1:5 are a simple prophecy regarding the fulfilment on the Day of Pentecost when the Spirit was outpoured on the whole church once for all time. The description in Acts of the outpouring of the Spirit on the apostles is not a protocol for repeated observance to get an experience; it was the fulfilment of Jesus' promise to send the Spirit to the whole church. He said that he would send the Spirit to the church; Pentecost was that outpouring.

Any subsequent filling of the Spirit is simply that – a filling. It is not a new thing; it is not a major change; it is not a second blessing; it is not a necessary qualification for abundant blessing. As believers get bigger in spirit their capacity for the Spirit is increased and they require a new filling, or when a believer faces a new challenge he needs more of the Spirit. Our sins and errors diminish the Spirit's influence in us. Believers should therefore seek to be filled every day. Thus the apostles are subsequently filled on many occasions (e.g. Acts 4:8, 31, 13:9).

Thus no believer needs to be exhorted to seek a special second 'baptism' of the Spirit. In fact, this verges on blasphemy since the Spirit has already done all necessary baptising work.

The application of salvation by the Spirit brings the presence of God the Father and Jesus to our hearts. The saved convert has God dwelling in him by the Spirit. How could he need something new in addition? How could he be lacking anything? **'And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work'**, (2 Cor 9:8). If we have an abundance for every good work, we do not need a special spiritual experience, a new baptism of the Spirit, in order to achieve our work for God. God is in us giving power to do his will from conversion (Phil 2:13).

The outpouring of the Spirit does several things:

- It gives the Spirit to the whole church.
- The Spirit then indwells every believer at regeneration. No convert is without the indwelling Spirit.
- It gives believers power to live right as they walk in the Spirit.
- It seals them and gives them a guarantee of salvation.
- It confirms that we are sons of God (Rm 5:5).
- It inspires prayer (Rm 8:26).
- Most importantly, it unites the believer in Christ and to every other believer.

For by one Spirit we were all baptised into one body -- whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free -- and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. 1 Cor 12:13 Note: all have been made to drink of the Spirit by this baptism that occurred at Pentecost. 'Were all baptised' is an aorist tense referring to a definite past event. 'Have all been made to drink' is also an aorist tense.

For as many of you as were baptised [aorist] into Christ have put on Christ. Gal 3:27

The washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. Titus 3:5-7 [Note: the Holy Spirit has been poured out abundantly on believers. There is no need to claim a bigger portion or a second reception. There is nothing needed after an abundant reception of the Spirit.]

The gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. Acts 10:45 The Spirit had been poured out on the Gentile elect at the same time as the Jewish apostles. The outpouring on Cornelius much later was not a new transaction in heaven but the result of Pentecost.

The Charismatic and Pentecostal doctrine of the 'baptism in the Spirit' is a serious error.

Verses contradicted by the Charismatic idea of a second blessing spirit baptism

God promises us all things in Christ; we are complete in him. Thus any claim that a believer has to do something extra in addition to conversion in order to get a special blessing or power from God is actually blasphemy, since it contradicts and dishonours Christ's work in us. It also contradicts these verses:

Of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. Jn 1:16

But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God -- and righteousness and sanctification and redemption -- that, as it is written, 'He who glories, let him glory in the LORD'.
1 Cor 1:30-31

God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work. 2 Cor 9:8

For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptised into Christ have put on Christ. Gal 3:26-27

Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ. Eph 1:3

For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him.
Col 2:9-10

Christ *is* all and in all. Col 3:11

As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. 1 Pt 4:10

Angelology

Angels are an order of spirit beings above men

For You have made him [man] a little lower than the angels. Ps 8:5

But in the Last Day, fallen angels are judged by saints

Do you not know that we shall judge angels? 1 Cor 6:3

Angels praise God

Bless the LORD, you His angels, who excel in strength, who do His word, heeding the voice of His word. Ps 103:20

Praise Him, all His angels; praise Him, all His hosts! Ps 148:2

Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice: 'Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom, and strength and honour and glory and blessing!' Rev 5:11-12

Note that angels don't sing praise; that is reserved for the redeemed and angels have not been redeemed. Angels only 'say' praise.⁵

Angels are ministering spirits of God and to assist the elect before conversion

Today they protect the elect before the point of conversion. In the OT period they were more active in delivering the elect since the Holy Spirit did not yet indwell saints (Jn 7:39).

So Jacob went on his way, and the angels of God met him. Gen 32:1

Who makes His angels spirits, His ministers a flame of fire. Ps 104:4

He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways. Ps 91:11

Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation? Heb 1:14 [After conversion saints have no need of angels since they have God in their hearts.]

Some angels are used in destruction and death

For the LORD will pass through to strike the Egyptians; and when He sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the LORD will pass over the door and not allow the destroyer to come into your houses to strike *you*. Exod 12:23 The destroyer is identified as angels in Ps 78:49.

⁵ Regarding Job 38:7, 'When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?' Note that angels are not specified. If 'sons of God' are angels (which is possible but not certain) the morning stars are the heavens praising God. Creation is often described by anthropomorphism, such as trees clapping or hills jumping (Ps 29:6, 98:8, 114:4; Isa 55:12).

When the angel stretched out His hand over Jerusalem to destroy it, the LORD relented from the destruction, and said to the angel who was destroying the people, 'It is enough; now restrain your hand'. 2 Sam 24:16

By sending angels of destruction *among them*. Ps 78:49

Then the angel of the LORD went out, and killed in the camp of the Assyrians one hundred and eighty-five thousand; and when *people* arose early in the morning, there were the corpses -- all dead. Isa 37:36

He cried with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea, saying, 'Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads'. Rev 7:2-3

The holy angels in heaven are elect

I charge *you* before God and the Lord Jesus Christ and the elect angels. 1 Tim 5:21

Some elect angels are archangels, or chief angels

The Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. 1 Thess 4:16

Michael the archangel. Jude 1:9

Only two angels are named

Michael

'Who is like God'. Appears to be a captain of war.

Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me. Dan 10:13

No one upholds me against these, except Michael your prince. Dan 10:21

At that time Michael shall stand up, the great prince who stands *watch* over the sons of your people. Dan 12:1

Michael the archangel in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Moses. Jude 1:9

War broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought. Rev 12:7

Gabriel

'Warrior of God'. Appears to be used as a messenger and communicator.

I heard a man's voice between *the banks of* the Ulai, who called, and said, 'Gabriel, make this *man* understand the vision'. Dan 8:16

While I *was* speaking in prayer, the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, reached me about the time of the evening offering. Dan 9:21

The angel answered and said to him, 'I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God, and was sent to speak to you and bring you these glad tidings'. Lk 1:19

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth. Lk 1:26

Satan's rebellion caused a third of the angels to rebel

And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon [Satan] having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads. His tail drew a third of the stars [angels] of heaven and threw them to the earth. Rev 12:3-4

War broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought. but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. Rev 12:7-9

These fallen angels are now called demons / evil spirits and exist above the Earth

I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Lk 10:18

God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast *them* down to hell and delivered *them* into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment. 2 Pt 2:4 Note: 'Hell' here is *Tartarus* (the Greek underworld), not the Lake of Fire or Hades. According to Eph 2:2 this is the aerial region above the Earth, the lower atmosphere.

According to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience. Eph 2:2

Demons

Greek *daimon* meaning: a minor god, and inferior deity, an evil spirit. Wrongly translated as 'devils' in the KJV.

They shall no more offer their sacrifices to demons. Lev 7:7

They even sacrificed their sons and their daughters to demons. Ps 106:37

Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Matt 10:8

The things which the Gentiles sacrifice they sacrifice to demons and not to God, and I do not want you to have fellowship with demons. 1 Cor 10:20

Giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons. 1 Tim 4:1

For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, *which* go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world. Rev 16:14

Evil spirits

He cured many of infirmities, afflictions, and evil spirits; and to many blind He gave sight. Lk 7:21

Certain women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities. Lk 8:2

The diseases left them and the evil spirits went out of them. Then some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists took it upon themselves to call the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits. Acts 19:12-13

The evil spirit answered and said, 'Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are you?' Then the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them. Acts 19:15-16

Foul spirits

Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit. Rev 18:2

Unclean spirits

And when He had called His twelve disciples to *Him*, He gave them power *over* unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease. Matt 10:1

When an unclean spirit goes out of a man, he goes through dry places, seeking rest, and finds none. Matt 12:43

He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey Him. Mk 1:27

There was a man in their synagogue with an unclean spirit. Mk 1:23

Those who were tormented with unclean spirits. Lk 6:18

Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit. Lk 9:42

For unclean spirits, crying with a loud voice, came out of many who were possessed. Acts 8:7

Lying spirits

The LORD said to him, 'In what way?' So he said, 'I will go out and be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.' And the LORD said, 'You shall persuade *him*, and also prevail. Go out and do so.' Therefore look! The LORD has put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these prophets of yours. 1 Kg 22:22-23 / 2 Chron 18:21-22

Principalities and powers

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*. Eph 6:12

Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it. Col 2:15

Angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him. 1 Pt 3:22

The Devil

The Devil is the leader of the demons or fallen angels.

Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons. Matt 12:24

In which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience. Eph 2:2

Put on the whole armour of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*. Eph 6:11-12

And they had as king over them the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in Hebrew *is* Abaddon, but in Greek he has the name Apollyon. Rev 9:11

His precise position before the heavenly rebellion is unknown but many believe that he was an archangel who fell due to his hubris.

He is a person not a force.

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry. Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, 'If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread'. Matt 4:1-3

You are of *your* father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and *does not* stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *resources*, for he is a liar and the father of it. Jn 8:44

Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. 2 Cor 11:14

He has many names.

The Devil

Greek, *diabolos* = slanderer. Does not appear in Hebrew.

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. Matt 4:1

Condemnation as the devil. 1 Tim 3:6

That through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil. Heb 2:14

He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil. 1 Jn 3:8

Satan

Hebrew *Satan*, Greek *Satanas* = adversary.

Satan stood up against Israel, and moved David to number Israel. 1 Chron 21:1

Satan also came among them. Job 1:6

Satan came also among them to present himself before the LORD. Job 2:1

Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the Angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to oppose him. Zech 3:1

Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve'. Then the devil left Him. Matt 4:10-11

This woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has bound. Lk 13:16

Then Satan entered Judas. Lk 22:3

To turn *them* from darkness to light, and *from* the power of Satan to God. Acts 26:18

And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly. Rm 16:20

Lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices. 2 Cor 2:11

For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. 2 Cor 11:14

Lucifer

Hebrew for 'light-bearer' or 'morning star'.

How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! *How* you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations! For you have said in your heart: 'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation On the farthest sides of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High'. Isa 14:12-14 Ostensibly spoken of the King of Babylon (verse 4), but appears to be applied to Satan by poetic extension.

Compare

Son of man, take up a lamentation for the king of Tyre, and say to him, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "You *were* the seal of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone *was* your covering: the sardius, topaz, and diamond, Beryl, onyx, and jasper, sapphire, turquoise, and emerald with gold. The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes was prepared for you on the day you were created. You *were* the anointed cherub who covers; I established you; you were on the holy mountain of God; you walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones. You *were* perfect in your ways from the day you were created, till iniquity was found in you. By the abundance of your trading you became filled with violence within, and you sinned; therefore I cast you as a profane thing out of the mountain of God; and I destroyed you, O covering cherub, from the midst of the fiery stones. Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendour; I cast you to the ground, I laid you before kings, that they might gaze at you. You defiled your sanctuaries by the multitude of your iniquities, by the iniquity of your trading; therefore I brought fire from your midst; it devoured you, and I turned you to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all who saw you. All who knew you among the peoples are astonished at you; you have become a horror, and *shall be* no more forever.'" Ezek 28:12-19

Beelzebub (Baalzebub)

Greek for 'lord of the house'. Originally the name of a Philistine deity, 'lord of the flies'. Used as the ruler of demons.

Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons. Matt 12:24

Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons. Lk 11:15

Apollyon

And they had as king over them the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in Hebrew *is* Abaddon, but in Greek he has the name Apollyon ['Destroyer']. Rev 9:11

He also has several titles:

Your adversary

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. 1 Pt 5:8

The Dragon

Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought. Rev 12:7

The great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan. Rev 12:9

When the dragon saw that he had been cast to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male *Child*. Rev 12:13

And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ. Rev 12:17

He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is *the* Devil and Satan. Rev 20:2

The Serpent

The great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan. Rev 12:9

He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is *the* Devil and Satan. Rev 20:2

Prince of the power of the air

In which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience. Eph 2:2

God of this world

Whose minds the god of this age has blinded. 2 Cor 4:4

His power is limited

The Devil rules the world through sin. By controlling sin he controls men. He has no authority over the Earth because that is the province of God; God is the ruler of the earth, it is his possession. God is also the ruler of history (see 'providence'), through his sovereignty and predestination. The Devil does not control nations. However, God allows him a measure of influence according to his own purpose. Neither does the Devil control human circumstances, such as bad events. God's sovereignty is supreme, but God allows Satan to control certain things according to his will.

Satan can only act according to God's permissive will,

And the LORD said to Satan, 'Behold, all that he has *is* in your power; only do not lay a hand on his *person*'. So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD. Job 1:12

And the LORD said to Satan, 'Behold, he *is* in your hand, but spare his life'. Job 2:6

Christians can resist him,

Put on the whole armour of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. Eph 6:11

Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Jm 4:7

Your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith. 1 Pt 5:8-9

The Christian's warfare is against demons, not humans

Nor give place to the devil. Eph 4:27

Put on the whole armour of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. Eph 6:11

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*. Eph 6:12

Resist the devil. Jm 4:7

Your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith. 1 Pt 5:8-9

Seraphim may be a higher rank of angels or something else

The name *saraph* means: serpent, fiery serpent, poisonous serpent (fiery from burning effect of poison); seraph, seraphim: majestic beings with 6 wings, human hands and voices in attendance upon God. It is impossible to say more with certainty. They appear to be beings connected with the glory of God's throne ensuring holiness.

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His *robe* filled the temple. Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he

covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one cried to another and said: 'Holy, holy, holy *is* the LORD of hosts; the whole earth *is* full of His glory!' And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke. So I said: 'Woe *is* me, for I am undone! Because I *am* a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, The LORD of hosts.' Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal *which* he had taken with the tongs from the altar. Isa 6:1-6

Cherubim are not angels

They are never called angels but they are called living beings.

They represent redeemed creation, holding the place of the elect in heaven. They serve God and testify to him. Only the elect and the cherubim are said to dwell with God.

He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life. Gen 3:24

You shall make two cherubim of gold; of hammered work you shall make them at the two ends of the mercy seat. Exod 25:18

The LORD of hosts, who dwells *between* the cherubim. 1 Sam 4:4

O LORD God of Israel, *the One* who dwells *between* the cherubim. 2 Kg 19:15

You who dwell *between* the cherubim, shine forth! Ps 80:1

He dwells *between* the cherubim. Ps 99:1

The glory of the LORD went up from the cherub. Ezek 10:4

The sound of the wings of the cherubim was heard *even* in the outer court, like the voice of Almighty God when He speaks. Ezek 10:5

The cherubim appeared to have the form of a man's hand under their wings. Ezek 10:8

Their whole body, with their back, their hands, their wings, and the wheels that the four had, *were* full of eyes all around. Ezek 10:12

The cherubim were lifted up. This *was* the living creature I saw by the River Chebar. Ezek 10:15

Then the glory of the LORD departed from the threshold of the temple and stood over the cherubim. And the cherubim lifted their wings and mounted up from the earth in my sight. When they went out, the wheels *were* beside them; and they stood at the door of the east gate of the LORD's house, and the glory of the God of Israel *was* above them. Ezek 10:18-19

This *is* the living creature I saw under the God of Israel by the River Chebar, and I knew they *were* cherubim. Each one had four faces and each one four wings, and the likeness of the hands of a man *was* under their wings. And the likeness of their faces *was* the same *as* the faces which I had seen by the River Chebar, their appearance and their persons. They each went straight forward. Ezek 10:20-22

The cherubim lifted up their wings, with the wheels beside them, and the glory of the God of Israel *was* high above them. Ezek 11:22

The word of the LORD came expressly to Ezekiel the priest, the son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the River Chebar; and the hand of the LORD was upon him there. Then I looked, and behold, a whirlwind was coming out of the north, a great cloud with raging fire engulfing itself; and brightness was all around it and radiating out of its midst like the colour of amber, out of the midst of the fire. Also from within it came the likeness of four living creatures. And this was their appearance: they had the likeness of a man. Each one had four faces, and each one had four

wings. Their legs were straight, and the soles of their feet were like the soles of calves' feet. They sparkled like the colour of burnished bronze. The hands of a man were under their wings on their four sides; and each of the four had faces and wings. Their wings touched one another. The creatures did not turn when they went, but each one went straight forward. As for the likeness of their faces, each had the face of a man; each of the four had the face of a lion on the right side, each of the four had the face of an ox on the left side, and each of the four had the face of an eagle. Thus were their faces. Their wings stretched upward; two wings of each one touched one another, and two covered their bodies. And each one went straight forward; they went wherever the spirit wanted to go, and they did not turn when they went. As for the likeness of the living creatures, their appearance was like burning coals of fire, like the appearance of torches going back and forth among the living creatures. The fire was bright, and out of the fire went lightning. And the living creatures ran back and forth, in appearance like a flash of lightning. Now as I looked at the living creatures, behold, a wheel was on the earth beside each living creature with its four faces. The appearance of the wheels and their workings was like the color of beryl, and all four had the same likeness. The appearance of their workings was, as it were, a wheel in the middle of a wheel. The appearance of the wheels and their workings was like the color of beryl, and all four had the same likeness. The appearance of their workings was, as it were, a wheel in the middle of a wheel. When they moved, they went toward any one of four directions; they did not turn aside when they went. As for their rims, they were so high they were awesome; and their rims were full of eyes, all around the four of them. When the living creatures went, the wheels went beside them; and when the living creatures were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up. Wherever the spirit wanted to go, they went, because there the spirit went; and the wheels were lifted together with them, for the spirit of the living creatures was in the wheels. When those went, these went; when those stood, these stood; and when those were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up together with them, for the spirit of the living creatures was in the wheels. The likeness of the firmament above the heads of the living creatures was like the colour of an awesome crystal, stretched out over their heads. And under the firmament their wings spread out straight, one toward another. Each one had two which covered one side, and each one had two which covered the other side of the body. When they went, I heard the noise of their wings, like the noise of many waters, like the voice of the Almighty, a tumult like the noise of an army; and when they stood still, they let down their wings. A voice came from above the firmament that was over their heads; whenever they stood, they let down their wings. And above the firmament over their heads was the likeness of a throne, in appearance like a sapphire stone; on the likeness of the throne was a likeness with the appearance of a man high above it.

Ezek 3:5-26

Errors about angels

Angels are not the souls of dead people

Many people think that 'good' people, such as 'innocent' children, become angels when they die. This is utter nonsense. Angels were created by God before mankind. Angels were created as spirit beings.

Who makes His angels spirits, His ministers a flame of fire. Ps 104:4

Angels are not extraterrestrial aliens

Such as the Anunnaki⁶ and so on.

There are no living beings outside Earth. Genesis gives us the story of the creation of the universe and it centres on life on Earth where the crown of creation is mankind, created to

⁶ Various spellings. Deities seen in ancient Sumerian, and other, myths purported to be aliens visiting Earth by many today.

be God's stewards of the Earth. There is no mention of life elsewhere and no reason for it. The divine testimony is on Earth.

If man is the object of the divine testimony and created in God's image, there is no more powerful, more intelligent, more privileged, more advanced, beings on distant planets. Indeed, the objects in space (sun, moon and stars) were created to serve the Earth.

Then God made two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night. *He made* the stars also. God set them in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth, and to rule over the day and over the night. Gen 1:16-18

Then Joshua spoke to the LORD in the day when the LORD delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel: 'Sun, stand still over Gibeon; and Moon, in the Valley of Aijalon'. So the sun stood still, and the moon stopped, till the people had revenge upon their enemies. *Is* this not written in the Book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and did not hasten to go *down* for about a whole day. And there has been no day like that, before it or after it, that the LORD heeded the voice of a man; for the LORD fought for Israel. Jos 10:12-14

The sun to rule by day, for His mercy *endures* forever; the moon and stars to rule by night. Ps 136:8-9

'Behold, I will bring the shadow on the sundial, which has gone down with the sun on the sundial of Ahaz, ten degrees backward'. So the sun returned ten degrees on the dial by which it had gone down. Isa 38:8

Thus says the LORD, who gives the sun for a light by day, the ordinances of the moon and the stars for a light by night. Jer 31:35

Fallen angels did not procreate with humans before the flood to create hybrid monsters
The source of this idea arises from this passage:

Now it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them, that the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they *were* beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose. And the LORD said, 'My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, for he *is* indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years'. There were giants on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men and they bore *children* to them. Those *were* the mighty men who *were* of old, men of renown. Gen 6:1-4

Note

- If God wanted to say that fallen angels mated with humans he would have used the word 'angel', 'spirit' or 'demon'; he did not.
- 'Sons of God' is a term occasionally and poetically used by Job to refer to angels (Job 1:6, 2:1, 38:7), but to good angels not fallen angels. It does not refer to angels elsewhere. It is impossible that demons could be called 'sons of God'.
- 'Son's of God' is usually a term to describe the elect: Matt 5:9; Lk 20:36; Rm 8:14, 19; Gal 3:26.
- The passage is referring to the fact that righteous men were ruined by intermarriage with women from sinful families. These righteous men were probably of the line of Seth: the line that began to call on the name of the Lord (Gen 4:25-26).
- It is impossible for a demon or spirit to mate with a physical human being. Demons are spirit beings that are immaterial. They have no corporeal form, even if they mimic humans.

- The fact that there were giants (Nephilim) on the Earth, both then and afterwards, is irrelevant.
- These giants were all killed in the flood. However, Giants arose later in the post-flood period (such as Goliath), the sons of Rephaim and the sons of Anak. Yet these giants were not the result of the procreation of fallen angels. Giantism did not require hybridisation of angels and men to produce a chimera.

Anthropology (Man)

Man as created

Holy

Then God said, 'Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness'. Gen 1:26

In the day that God created man, He made him in the likeness of God. Gen 5:1

God made man upright. Eccles 7:29

God's steward on Earth

Then God said, 'Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth'. So God created man in His *own* image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth'. Gen 1:26-28

Out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought *them* to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam called each living creature, that *was* its name. So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. Gen 2:19-20

The fear of you and the dread of you shall be on every beast of the earth, on every bird of the air, on all that move *on* the earth, and on all the fish of the sea. They are given into your hand. Gen 9:2

For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and creature of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by mankind. Jm 3:7

Man and woman

So God created man in His *own* image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Gen 1:27

And the LORD God said, '*It is* not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him'. ... And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man. And Adam said: 'This *is* now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man'. Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. Gen 2:18-24

Man is not from woman, but woman from man. Nor was man created for the woman, but woman for the man. 1 Cor 11:8-9

Let a woman learn in silence with all submission. And I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in silence. For Adam was formed first, then Eve. And Adam was not

deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression. Nevertheless she will be saved in childbearing if they continue in faith, love, and holiness, with self-control. 1 Tim 2:11

Man as fallen

What is sin?

Sin is lack of conformity to God's holiness and righteousness. Its essence is rebellion to God's will; its manifestation is transgression of God's law. All men are under sin (see Total Depravity).

Hebrew words

- *Chata*: to go out of the way; to miss the mark.
- *Pasha*: to transgress.
- *Avah*: to twist; to act perversely.

Greek words:

- *Hamartia*: to miss the mark, to err, to wander from God's law, to do wrong. This is the most common word for sin in the NT.
- *Harmartema*: disobedience, unwillingness to be led in truth, rebellion.
- *Parabasis*: transgression, a going over, violation, breach of law.
- *Paraptoma*: trespass, a false step, a blunder, deviation from truth.
- *Paranomia*: law-breaking, iniquity.
- *Poneria*: iniquity, wickedness, perversity.
- *Plane*: error, disregard of the right, go astray.
- *Agnoema*: error, a sin of ignorance.
- *Kakos*: evil, actual wrong, opposition to God's righteousness, base.
- *Poneros*: evil, evil that causes labour, pain, sorrow; bad, worthless.
- *Asebeia*: ungodliness, no fear of God, no likeness to God.
- *Apeitheia*: disobedience, unpersuadable, obstinacy, rejection of truth.
- *Parakoe*: disobedience, refusal to hear.
- *Apistia*: unbelief, refusing to have faith.
- *Anomia*: lawlessness, contempt of law and authority.
- *Adikia*: unrighteousness, lit. not rightness.
- *Adikema*: wrongdoing, wrong, injury, misdeed, a concrete act of unrighteousness.

Many other words could be added to this list; man's behaviour is also: loveless, a rejection of God, illegal, sensual, anarchy, etc.

But sin [*Hamartia*], taking opportunity by the commandment, produced in me all *manner of evil* desire. For apart from the law sin [*Hamartia*] was dead. Rm 7:8

For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression [*Parabasis*] and disobedience received a just reward. Heb 2:2

For if you forgive men their trespasses, [*Paraptoma*] your heavenly Father will also forgive you. Matt 6:14

He was rebuked for his iniquity [*Paranomia*]. 2 Pt 2:16

Receiving in themselves the penalty of their error [*Plane*] which was due. Rm 1:27

The people's sins committed in ignorance [*Agnoema*]. Heb 9:7

He will destroy those wicked [*Kakos*] men miserably. Matt 21:41

If you then, being evil [*Poneros*]. Matt 7:11

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness [*Asebeia*] and unrighteousness [*Adikia*] of men. Rm 1:18

The spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience [*Apeitheia*]. Eph 2:2

For as by one man's disobedience [*Parakoe*] many were made sinners [*Hamartolos*]. Rm 5:19

Now He did not do many mighty works there because of their unbelief [*Apistia*]. Matt 13:58

Whoever commits sin [*Hamartia*] also commits lawlessness, [*poieo*] and sin [*Hamartia*] is lawlessness [*Anomia*]. 1 Jn 3:4

So the master commended the unjust [*Adikia*] steward. Lk 16:8

If it were a matter of wrongdoing [*Adikema*] or wicked [*Poneros*] crimes [*rhadiourgema* 'villainy']. Acts 18:14

See 'Salvation, Doctrines of Grace, Total Depravity'.

The origin of sin – the Fall of Adam

And He said, 'Who told you that you *were* naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?' Then the man said, 'The woman whom You gave *to be* with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate'. And the LORD God said to the woman, 'What *is* this you have done?' The woman said, 'The serpent deceived me, and I ate'. So the LORD God said to the serpent: 'Because you have done this, You *are* cursed more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you shall go, And you shall eat dust All the days of your life. And I will put enmity between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel'. To the woman He said: 'I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; In pain you shall bring forth children; Your desire *shall be* for your husband, And he shall rule over you'. Then to Adam He said, 'Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, "You shall not eat of it": Cursed *is* the ground for your sake; In toil you shall eat *of* it All the days of your life. Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, And you shall eat the herb of the field. In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground, For out of it you were taken; for dust you *are*, and to dust you shall return'. Gen 3:11-19

Mortality

As a result of the Fall all men are born in sin and stand guilty before God. Sin brings death. This death is first the death of the human spirit towards God (which is why Adam did not physically die immediately). In the fulness of time, deadness of spirit and the fulness of sin lead to physical death.

Sin leads directly to loss of communion with God and eternal death (the result of sin) is eternal separation from God.

Of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die. Gen 2:17 [Lit. 'dying you shall die'.]

The soul who sins shall die. Ezek 18:4

Those who practice such things are deserving of death. Rm 1:32

Just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned. Rm 5:12

To whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin *leading* to death, or of obedience *leading* to righteousness? Rm 6:16

The wages of sin *is* death. Rm 6:23

As in Adam all die. 1 Cor 15:22

The sting of death *is* sin. 1 Cor 15:56

You *He made alive*, who were dead in trespasses and sins. Eph 2:1

You, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh. Col 2:13

Sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death. Jm 1:15

Under a curse

The earth was cursed because of man but man suffers under that curse, struggling to survive. Man is also under the curse of the law.

To Adam He said, 'Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, "You shall not eat of it": Cursed *is* the ground for your sake; In toil you shall eat *of* it all the days of your life. Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, and you shall eat the herb of the field. In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for dust you *are*, and to dust you shall return.' Gen 3:17-19

The ground which the LORD has cursed. Gen 5:29

The curse has devoured the earth, and those who dwell in it are desolate. Therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned. Isa 24:6

For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse; for it is written, 'Cursed *is* everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them'. Gal 3:10

Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us. Gal 3:13

Under the dominion of sin

Sin reigned in death. Rm 5:21

For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace. Rm 6:14 [Thus sinful men are under the dominion of sin.]

Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin *leading* to death, or of obedience *leading* to righteousness? But God be thanked that *though* you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. Rm 6:16-17

Under the dominion of Satan

You are of *your* father the devil. Jn 8:44

Now the ruler of this world will be cast out. Jn 12:31

The ruler of this world is coming. Jn 14:30

The ruler of this world. Jn 16:11

The prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience. Eph 2:2

The whole world lies *under the sway of* the wicked one. 1 Jn 5:19

That serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world. Rev 12:9

Totally depraved in every area of character
See 'The Doctrines of Grace'.

Man as the image of God

Man was created as the image of God.

Then God said, 'Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.' So God created man in His *own* image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Gen 1:26-27

In the day that God created man, He made him in the likeness of God. Gen 5:1

In the image of God He made man. Gen 9:6

Theologians debate as to exactly what this image consisted of, suggesting: rationality, soul, intelligence and so on. This matters little since the image was lost. In reality the image was holiness; in Eden man was holy and like God until the Fall.

Natural, sinful men do not have the image of God; they are not like God at all. The NT does not state that sinners retained God's image. Objections include:

For a man indeed ought not to cover *his* head, since he is the image and glory of God; but woman is the glory of man. 1 Cor 11:7

But this refers to saints and not sinners. Saints in Christ are sanctified and in the image of God. 'Image' here is *eikon*, an exact representation, a living embodiment of God, a visible manifestation of an invisible reality.

Men, who have been made in the similitude of God. Jm 3:9

'Similitude' is not 'image'. *Homoiosis* means: a making like, likeness, similar. This refers to having independent will, unlike animals that act on instinct. The Bible states that animals are dumb (i.e. not having independent will or rationality; 2 Pt 2:16; Isa 56:10).

Natural men today are not in the image of God but of Satan due to sin.

You are of *your* father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. Jn 8:44 [Spoken to religious leaders.]

The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the sons of the wicked *one*. Matt 13:38

You [*Elymas*] son of the devil, *you* enemy of all righteousness. Acts 13:10

He who sins is of the devil. 1 Jn 3:8

The children of the devil are manifest: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God. 1 Jn 3:10

Cain *who* was of the wicked one. 1 Jn 3:12

Man in Christ

United to Christ

Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Rm 6:11

There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. Rm 8:1

The gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Rm 6:23

We, *being* many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. Rm 12:5

The testimony of Christ was confirmed in you. 1 Cor 1:6

Of Him [God] you are in Christ Jesus. 1 Cor 1:30

For by one Spirit we were all baptised into one body -- whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free -- and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. 1 Cor 12:13

I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. Gal 2:20

Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ. Eph 1:3

That in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth -- in Him. In Him also we have obtained an inheritance. Eph 1:10-11

But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in *His* kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. Eph 2:4-7

We are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus. Eph 2:10

The saints in Christ. Phil 1:1

God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. 1 Jn 5:11-12

We are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life. 1 Jn 5:20

A new creature

Jesus answered and said to him, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God'. ... 'Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God'. Jn 3:3-5

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation. Gal 6:15

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus. Eph 2:10

If anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. 2 Cor 5:17

A new covenant

This is My blood of the new covenant. Matt 26:28

Who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant. 2 Cor 3:6

In that He says, 'A new *covenant*', He has made the first obsolete. Heb 8:13

He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance. Heb 9:15

Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant. Heb 12:24

A new family

For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Rm 8:29

We, *being* many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. Rm 12:5

Brethren, through the Lord Jesus Christ. Rm 15:30

For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also *is* Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptised into one body -- whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free -- and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. For in fact the body is not one member but many. 1 Cor 12:12-14

The church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all. Eph 1:22-23

Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God. Eph 2:19

We are members of one another. Eph 4:25

We are members of His body. Eph 5:30

The brethren in the Lord. Phil 1:14

He is the head of the body. Col 1:18

His body, which is the church. Col 1:24

Components of man

May your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Thess 5:23

Spirit

The vehicle to commune with God. In reprobates this vessel is dead towards God. The key words are *ruach* in the OT and *pneuma* in the NT.

The LORD God formed man *of* the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; [i.e. the spirit] and man became a living being [lit. 'soul']. Gen 2:7

All in whose nostrils *was* the breath of the spirit of life. Gen 7:22

The God of the spirits of all flesh. Num 16:22

There is a spirit in man. Job 32:8

Into Your hand I commit my spirit. Ps 31:5

The spirit will return to God who gave it. Eccles 12:7

Who gives breath to the people on it, and spirit to those who walk on it. Isa 42:5

For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name *is* Holy: 'I dwell in the high and holy *place*, with him *who* has a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones. For I will not contend forever, nor will I always be angry; for the spirit would fail before Me, and the souls *which* I have made.' Isa 57:15-16

The LORD, who stretches out the heavens, lays the foundation of the earth, and forms the spirit of man within him. Zech 12:1

Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? Heb 12:9

DEATH IS THE DEPARTING OF THE SPIRIT

His spirit departs, he returns to his earth. Ps 146:4

Then the dust will return to the earth as it was, and the spirit will return to God who gave it. Eccles 12:7

Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit. Matt 27:50

So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, 'It is finished!' And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit. Jn 19:30

The body without the spirit is dead. Jm 2:26

THE FACULTY OF INTUITION

The spirit of my understanding. Job 20:3

The spirit of a man *is* the lamp of the LORD, searching all the inner depths of his heart. Prov 20:27

An excellent spirit, knowledge, understanding. Dan 5:12

Jesus perceived in His spirit. Mk 2:8

The spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him. Eph 1:17

Be renewed in the spirit of your mind. Eph 4:23

THE FACULTY OF COMMUNION

True worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God *is* Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth. Jn 4:23-24

God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of His Son, that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers. Rm 1:9

The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God. Rm 8:16

For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one. For 'who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?' But we have the mind of Christ. 1 Cor 2:11-16

He who is joined to the Lord is one spirit *with Him*. 1 Cor 6:17

If I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful. 1 Cor 14:14

I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding. 1 Cor 14:15

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with your spirit. Gal 6:18

The Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. 2 Tim 4:22

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with your spirit. Phm 1:25

THE FACULTY OF CONSCIENCE

See 'heart / conscience'.

The spirit within me compels me. Job 32:18

The LORD *is* near to those who have a broken heart, and saves such as have a contrite spirit.
Ps 34:18

A broken spirit, a broken and a contrite heart. Ps 51:17

Take heed to your spirit. Mal 2:15

Therefore take heed to your spirit, that you do not deal treacherously. Mal 2:16

His spirit was provoked within him. Acts 17:16

Paul was compelled by the Spirit. Acts 18:5

Heart

The heart is the gateway between the soul and the spirit. It contains the conscience of the spirit and the higher mind of the soul. The key words are *leb / lebab* in the OT and *kardia* in the NT.

For the word of God *is* living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Heb 4:12 [The separation of the soul and spirit reveals the heart.]

By sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken. Prov 15:13

The spirit of a man *is* the lamp of the LORD, searching all the inner depths of his heart.
Prov 20:27

CONSCIENCE

Therefore my spirit is overwhelmed within me; my heart within me is distressed. Ps 143:4

A pure heart, a good conscience. 1 Tim 1:5

I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts. Heb 8:10

Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Heb 10:22

If our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things. Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God. 1 Jn 3:20-21

MIND

Every intent of the thoughts of his heart *was* only evil continually. Gen 6:5

My heart and in My mind. 1 Sam 2:35

A loyal heart and with a willing mind. 1 Chron 28:9

Who has put wisdom in the mind? Or who has given understanding to the heart? Job 38:36

Try my mind and my heart. Ps 26:2

My heart was grieved, and I was vexed in my mind. Ps 73:21

I meditate within my heart, and my spirit makes diligent search. Ps 77:6

I, the LORD, search the heart, test the mind. Jer 17:10

The thoughts and intents of the heart. Heb 4:12

I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts. Heb 8:10

I am He who searches the minds and hearts. Rev 2:23

THE HEART DRIVES THE CHARACTER

Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it *spring* the issues of life. Prov 4:23

You obeyed from the heart. Rm 6:17

Believe in your heart. Rm 10:9

With the heart one believes. Rm 10:10

Soul

The vehicle to commune with other men and the world. The key words are *nephesh* in the OT and *psuche* in the NT.

Notice

And Mary said: 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Saviour'.
Lk 1:46-47

Mary's soul responds to the inner work in her spirit, which had been touched by the Spirit of God. Her spirit (*pneuma*) had rejoiced (a definite past event with repercussions in the present, the aorist tense), causing her soul (*psuche*) to magnify (present active tense) God. This shows the difference between spirit and soul. The soul reacts to the operations in the spirit.

As the LORD lives, who made our very souls. Jer 38:16

Behold, all souls are Mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is Mine; the soul who sins shall die. Ezek 18:4

VOLITION

Set your heart and your soul to seek. 1 Chron 22:19

Sought Him with all their soul. 2 Chron 15:15

My soul refuses. Job 6:7

My soul chooses. Job 7:15

His soul desires. Job 23:13

I take counsel in my soul. Ps 13:2

Who has not lifted up his soul to an idol. Ps 24:4 [I.e. chosen idolatry.]

Our soul waits for the LORD. Ps 33:20

My soul refused. Ps 77:2

My soul clings. Ps 119:25

My soul keeps Your testimonies. Ps 119:167

I wait for the LORD, my soul waits. Ps 130:5

My soul still seeks. Eccles 7:28

The soul *who* seeks. Lam 3:25

EMOTIONS

His soul was strongly attracted to Dinah. Gen 34:3

The anguish of his soul. Gen 42:21

Their soul abhorred. Lev 26:43

Our soul loathes. Num 21:5

Anguish of soul. Deut 28:65

Bitterness of soul. 1 Sam 1:10

The desire of your soul. 1 Sam 23:20

My soul shall be joyful. Ps 35:9

The sorrow of my soul. Ps 35:12

My soul thirsts for God. Ps 42:2

My soul is bowed down. Ps 57:6

My soul thirsts for You. Ps 63:1

My soul refused to be comforted. Ps 77:2

My soul longs. Ps 84:2

My soul *longs* for You like a thirsty land. Ps 143:6

The desire of *our* soul *is* for Your name and for the remembrance of You. Isa 26:8

With my soul I have desired You in the night. Isa 26:9

My soul will weep. Jer 13:17

INTELLECT

My soul knows. Ps 139:14

THE HIGHER MIND OR *NOUS*

Greek

- *Nous* - the mind, the faculties of perceiving and understanding, judging, determining, the intellectual faculty, reason, the capacity for spiritual truth, the higher powers of the soul, the faculty of perceiving divine things.
- *Noema* - what results from directing one's mind (*nous*), the content of thinking, thought, (what is in the) mind, the capacity for thinking understanding, mind, reasoning, purposes conceived by thinking design, scheme.

God gave them over to a debased mind. Rm 1:28

The law of my mind. Rm 7:23

With the mind I myself serve the law of God. Rm 7:25

Be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Rm 12:2

Let each be fully convinced in his own mind. Rm 14:5

Joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. 1 Cor 1:10

Be renewed in the spirit of your mind. Eph 4:23

Puffed up by his fleshly mind. Col 2:18

Not to be soon shaken in mind. 2 Thess 2:2

Even their mind and conscience are defiled. Titus 1:15

The mind which has wisdom. Rev 17:9

Bringing every thought into captivity. 2 Cor 10:5 [*Noema*]

THE BASIC MIND, THE LOWER MIND

Greek

- *Dianoia* - the mind as a faculty of understanding; thoughts.
- *Phronema* - what one has in the mind, thoughts
- *Phroneo* – to have understanding, be wise, to think, to have an opinion.
- *Gnome* - the faculty of knowledge, mind, reason, that which is thought or known, judgment, opinion, mind concerning what ought to be done, resolve, purpose, intention.
- There are many other words translated as: ‘sound mind’, ‘willing mind’, ‘mindful’, ‘act of thinking’, ‘thoughts’ etc.

The carnal mind. Rm 8:7 [*Phronema*]

Be of the same mind toward one another. Rm 12:16 [*Phronema*]

The same judgment. 1 Cor 1:10 [*Gnome*]

Be of good comfort, be of one mind. 2 Cor 13:11 [*Phronema*]

Have no other mind. Gal 5:10 [*Phronema*]

The desires of the flesh and of the mind. Eph 2:3 [*Dianoia*]

Being of one accord, of one mind. Phil 2:2 [*Phronema*]

Let this mind be in you. Phil 2:5 [*Phronema*]

Let us be of the same mind. Phil 3:16 [*Phronema*]

And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works. Col 1:21 [*Dianoia*]

Set your mind on things above. Col 3:2 [*Phroneo*]

I will put My laws in their mind. Heb 8:10 [*Dianoia*]

Gird up the loins of your mind. 1 Pt 1:13 [*Dianoia*]

These are of one mind. Rev 17:13 [*Gnome*]

Body

The vehicle to express things physically in a material world.

Surely this needs no proof texts. The human body is usually identified by the Greek word *soma* in the NT.

Death is the separation of the body from the spirit and soul.

'O LORD my God, I pray, let this child's soul come back to him'. Then the LORD heard the voice of Elijah; and the soul of the child came back to him, and he revived. 1 Kg 17:21-22

Father, 'into Your hands I commit My spirit'. Having said this, He breathed His last. Lk 23:46

They stoned Stephen as he was calling on *God* and saying, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit'. Acts 7:59

The disposition of man

The divine order is: the Holy Spirit indwells the human spirit and guides the person. The human spirit should then direct the soul, the executive faculty of man. The body then follows the direction of the soul. This order secures a man to do the will of God.

In unspiritual Christians this order is reversed. The soul dominates the person, ignoring the spirit (and thus the Holy Spirit, grieving him) and the selfish soul directs the body. This may not revert to outright serious sins but reveals selfishness and pride. Thus emotions become emotionalism or even mysticism, the will becomes self-assertion, and the mind becomes unguided intellectualism. These lead to characterisations of people who can be described as: intellectual, emotional or wilful – where one faculty dominates the rest so that the soul is unbalanced.

In gross sinners the situation is worse. The spirit is dead towards God and the soul dominates but is given to sin, thus its faculties are over-exaggerated: normal emotions become lust, volition becomes domineering and the mind becomes proud intellectualism.

In figurative terminology the characteristics of the fallen Adamic nature are described as the old man, or the old nature. This is the predisposition of fallen men. When Christians put on the old nature they act like fallen men. When the soul (a neutral vessel) is dominated by the old nature it becomes flesh. Thus the Christian is then said to be 'fleshly'.

We know that the law is spiritual, but I am carnal, [*sarkikos*, 'fleshly'] sold under sin. Rm 7:14

The natural [*psuchikos*, soulish] man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned. 1 Cor 2:14

He who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is *rightly* judged by no one. 1 Cor 2:15 This is the divine order.

I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual *people* but as to carnal, [*sarkinos*, 'fleshly']⁷ as to babes in Christ. 1 Cor 3:1 This is the soul given over to the old nature.

You are still carnal [*sarkikos*, 'fleshly'].⁸ For where *there are* envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal [*sarkikos*] and behaving like *mere* men? 1 Cor 3:3 This is behaving like the flesh.

It is sown a natural body, [*psuchikos*, soulish] it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, [*psuchikos*, soulish] and there is a spiritual body. 1 Cor 15:44

However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural, [*psuchikos*, soulish] and afterward the spiritual. 1 Cor 15:46

⁷ *Sarkinos*: consisting of flesh, composed or made of flesh, fleshly, as relating to the earthly sphere of existence. In distinction from *Sarkikos*, has to do with the body and living in the body; *sarkikos* has to do with living for the body, i.e. to satisfy bodily desires; relating to human existence.

⁸ *Sarkikos*: fleshly, in the manner of the flesh, carnal belonging to the earthly sphere of existence, material, physical, of behaviour, having the characteristics of *sarx* [flesh] in its sensual, sinful tendencies worldly, carnal.

These are sensual [*psuchikos*, soulish] persons, who cause divisions, not having the Spirit. Jude 1:19

This wisdom does not descend from above, but *is* earthly, sensual, [*psuchikos*, soulish] demonic. Jm 3:15

Not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart [*psuche*, 'soul']. Eph 6:6

Soteriology (Salvation)

The problem to be fixed

- Man's sin brings guilt and this must be punished by divine condemnation.
- Man must be brought back to his place before the Fall to avoid condemnation.
- Man must regain purity and holiness to avoid condemnation.
- But man cannot redeem himself because he must render perfect obedience to the law and he already has sin. No man can regain lost purity.
- No man can gain surplus obedience to redeem another.
- There needs to be a man who lives a perfectly holy life of obedience to God but who also has an infinite value to his person to attain surplus purity. This can only be a person who is God and also a man. This infinite person must also be a real human being who obeys God's law perfectly.

Redemption promised

And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel. Gen 3:15 The Seed to come of Eve is the deliverer from Satan. That Seed is Jesus Christ, the Saviour of mankind.

Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel. Isa 7:14 [Thus this person is both man and God.]

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isa 9:6 [Again, man and God.]

Behold, My Servant shall deal prudently; He shall be exalted and extolled and be very high. Just as many were astonished at you, so His visage was marred more than any man, and His form more than the sons of men; so shall He sprinkle many nations. Kings shall shut their mouths at Him; for what had not been told them they shall see, and what they had not heard they shall consider. Isa 52:13-15

Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted. But He *was* wounded for our transgressions, *He was* bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace *was* upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way; and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth. He was taken from prison and from judgment, and who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgressions of My people He was stricken. And they made His grave with the wicked -- but with the rich at His death, because He had done no violence, nor *was any* deceit in His mouth. Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He has put *Him* to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see *His* seed, He shall prolong *His* days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand. He shall see the labour of His

soul, *and* be satisfied. By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, for He shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong, because He poured out His soul unto death, and He was numbered with the transgressors, and He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors. Isa 53:4-12

Seventy weeks are determined for your people and for your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sins, to make reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy. Know therefore and understand, *that* from the going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince, *there shall be* seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublesome times. And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself. Dan 9:24-26

And it shall come to pass *that* whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be deliverance, as the LORD has said, among the remnant whom the LORD calls. Joel 2:32

In that day a fountain shall be opened for the house of David and for the inhabitants of Jerusalem, for sin and for uncleanness. Zech 13:1

Redemption typified

In all the Levitical sacrificial offerings. Each one illustrates an aspect of Christ's atonement.

Burnt offering

Typifies the dedication of Christ to be consumed to do his Father's will.

Not My will, but Yours, be done. Lk 22:42

Grain offering

Typifies the perfect humanity of Christ (absence of leaven – symbolic here of sin) plus the presence of oil (symbolic of the Spirit).

For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathise with our weaknesses, but was in all *points* tempted as *we are, yet* without sin. Heb 4:15

Peace offering

Typifies the peace that Christ secures for the believer.

We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Rm 5:1

Sin offering

Typifies that Christ was made sin for us and suffered for us.

For He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. 2 Cor 5:21

Trespass offering

Typifies that Christ atoned for our sins and transgressions.

And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses. Col 2:13

Christ's substitutionary sacrifice

Jesus suffered and died in the place of the elect.

God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Rm 5:8

For He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. 2 Cor 5:21

Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us. Gal 3:13

For He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. Eph 5:2

He has appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself. Heb 9:26

Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. Heb 9:28

Who Himself bore our sins in His own body. 1 Pt 2:24

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust. 1 Pt 3:18

Christ's penal atonement

The blood of Christ (i.e. the life of Christ given up in voluntary death as a sacrifice) is the payment for the sins of the elect. His death is a penal payment for their sins. The penalty of sin is paid for by the death of Christ.

'Atonement' means to make satisfaction; the satisfaction is by the blood of Christ. The word 'atonement' occurs 99 times in the OT referring to the Levitical sacrificial offerings, which were a type of Christ's substitutionary death.

Hebrew

The Hebrew word *kaphar* meant 'to cover or purge away' sin. In the OT sin is expiated by covering it.⁹

You shall offer a bull every day *as a* sin offering for atonement [*kippu*]. You shall cleanse the altar when you make atonement [*kapha*] for it, and you shall anoint it to sanctify it. Exod 29:36

Blessed *is he whose* transgression *is* forgiven, *whose* sin *is* covered. Ps 32:1

Greek words:

The NT includes these three words to convey atonement.

Katallage: a change or exchange, restoration of favour, a change from enmity to love to make a reconciliation.

And not only *that*, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation [*katallage*]. Rm 5:11

Apolutrosis: deliverance by a ransom.

⁹ Note Gen 6:14, 'Make yourself an ark of gopherwood; make rooms in the ark, and cover it [*kaphar* – atonement or to cover] inside and outside with pitch [*kopher* – a ransom]'. The typology is that the sealing of the ark with pitch saved those inside from the wrath of God's judgment. The ark is thus a type of Christ and the pitch is the atonement.

Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. Rm 3:24

Hilasmus: propitiation.

He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.
1 Jn 2:2

Thus divine satisfaction is secured by: propitiation, reconciliation, restoration of favour and payment of a ransom. The satisfaction is to the law and justice of God.

Penal substitution

The church of God which He purchased with His own blood. Acts 20:28

How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience. Heb 9:14

Knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, ... but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. 1 Pt 1:18-19

The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. 1 Jn 1:7

To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood. Rev 1:5

Christ's atonement secures

Propitiation with God for the elect

Christ Jesus, whom God set forth *as* a propitiation by His blood. Rm 3:25

To make propitiation for the sins of the people. Heb 2:17

He Himself is the propitiation for our sins. 1 Jn 2:2

He loved us and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins. 1 Jn 4:10

Propitiation means: 'to turn away anger', 'to appease'. Christ propitiated God to clear the way for fellowship between man and God.

Reconciliation of the elect with God

If when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. Rm 5:10

We also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation. Rm 5:11

God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ. ... that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them. 2 Cor 5:18-19

And by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross. Col 1:20

You, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight. Col 1:21-22

Justification of the elect

Justification is the forgiveness of sins, effected by the transfer of our sins to Christ, who suffered for them, and his righteousness to us so that we stand righteous before God. The establishment of a sinner in a legally righteous standing before God. Justification is the

declaration of God that the law is satisfied by the righteousness of Christ, which is imputed to believers.

You were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God. 1 Cor 6:11

IT IS NOT BY LAW OR HUMAN WORKS

By Him everyone who believes is justified from all things from which you could not be justified by the law of Moses. Acts 13:39

By the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified. Rm 3:20

We conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law. Rm 3:28

A man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified. Gal 2:16

No one is justified by the law. Gal 3:11

IT IS AN ACT OF GOD

In His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. Rm 3:25-26

It is God who justifies. Rm 8:33

IT IS BASED ON THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF CHRIST

Christ *is* the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes. Rm 10:4

But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God -- and righteousness and sanctification and redemption. 1 Cor 1:30

THE MEANS: THE GIFT OF FAITH, WHICH IS GIVEN BY GRACE ALONE

It is not faith plus something (as in Roman Catholicism).

Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. Rm 3:24

We conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law. Rm 3:28

God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith. Rm 3:30

Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness. Rm 4:3

To him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness. Rm 4:5

And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which *he had while still* uncircumcised, that he might be the father of all those who believe, though they are uncircumcised, that righteousness might be imputed to them also. Rm 4:11

Having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Rm 5:1

The grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many. Rm 5:15

The free gift *which came* from many offences *resulted* in justification. Rm 5:16

The free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life. Rm 5:18

The Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand. Gal 3:8

That we might be justified by faith. Gal 3:24

Having been justified by His grace. Titus 3:7

THE BASIS: THE BLOOD / DEATH OF CHRIST (PASSIVE OBEDIENCE)

The guilt of the sins of the elect is imputed to Christ who penally suffered for them.

Having now been justified by His blood. Rm 5:9

Now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. Eph 3:13

How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? Heb 9:14

Without shedding of blood there is no remission. Heb 9:22

The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. 1 Jn 1:7

THE BASIS: THE LIFE OF CHRIST (ACTIVE OBEDIENCE)

The righteous life of Christ, gained from perfect obedience to the law, is imputed to the elect in justification. The death of Christ saves from sin; the life of Christ gives us righteousness. Justification does not give believers the personal holiness that is Christ's but the legal merit of his righteous obedience is imputed (accounted) to them.

The righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ. Rm 3:22

It [righteousness] shall be imputed to us who believe in Him who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead. Rm 4:24

Having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. Rm 5:9

For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. Rm 5:10

For if by the one man's offence death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.) Rm 5:17

Through one Man's righteous act *the free gift came* to all men, resulting in justification of life. Rm 5:18

For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous. Rm 5:19

Grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Rm 5:21

Christ *is* the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes. Rm 10:4

Of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God -- and righteousness. 1 Cor 1:30

For He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. 2 Cor 5:21

Being filled with the fruits of righteousness which *are* by Jesus Christ. Phil 1:11

Not having my own righteousness, which *is* from the law, but that which *is* through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith. Phil 3:9

THE BASIS: THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST

[Jesus] who was delivered up because of our offences, and was raised because of our justification. Rm 4:25

THE BASIS: THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

You were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God. 1 Cor 6:11

THE RESULT: PEACE WITH GOD

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Rm 5:1

For He Himself is our peace. Eph 2:14

And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight. Col 1:21-22

Adoption of the elect

The accompaniment of justification. It is the act of making sinners into sons and legal heirs with Christ.

Adoption proceeds from the Father based upon the merits of the Son and is applied to saints by the ministry of the Spirit.

As many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. Jn 1:12-13

You received the Spirit of adoption. Rm 8:15

God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, 'Abba, Father!' Gal 4:4-6

SONSHIP

As many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. Rm 8:14

The sons of God. Rm 8:19

I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the LORD Almighty. 2 Cor 6:18

For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. Gal 3:26

To redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. Gal 4:5

Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, 'Abba, Father!' Gal 4:6

Having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself. Eph 1:5

You are all sons of light. 1 Thess 5:5

BECOMING A LEGAL HEIR OF AN INHERITANCE

The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, if children, then heirs - heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ. Rm 8:16-17

If you *are* Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. Gal 3:29

That the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel. Eph 3:6

Having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. Titus 3:7

An inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you. 1 Pt 1:4

He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son. Rev 21:7

SINCE ALL THE ELECT ARE SONS OF GOD, THEY ARE ALL BRETHREN TO EACH OTHER

Fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ. Eph 3:6

We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. ... By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down *our* lives for the brethren. 1 Jn 3:14-16

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him. 1 Jn 5:1

Redemption of the elect

A releasing effected by the payment of a ransom. Buying back. Liberation by the paying of a ransom. The ransom is paid to God's justice and law, not the Devil or anything else. Redemption is the result of atonement.

REDEMPTION IS THE WORK OF GOD

The LORD redeems the soul of His servants. Ps 34:22

He [God] has sent redemption to His people. Ps 111:9

With Him [God] *is* abundant redemption. And He shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities. Ps 130:7-8

The LORD, The Redeemer. Isa 49:7

The LORD, your Redeemer. Isa 54:8

I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death. Hos 13:14

THE RANSOM IS PAID TO GOD

None *of them* can by any means redeem *his* brother, nor give to God a ransom for him -- For the redemption of their souls *is* costly. Ps 49:7-8

MAN CANNOT REDEEM ANOTHER MAN

None *of them* can by any means redeem *his* brother, nor give to God a ransom for him -- For the redemption of their souls *is* costly. Ps 49:7-8

ONLY THE GOD-MAN CAN REDEEM MAN

Jesus had to be a man under law in order to redeem men; but he also had to be God to redeem an infinite number of men. The value of the life of the Son of God as a Person is of infinite value, hence 'precious blood'.

The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many. Matt 20:28

Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God set forth *as* a propitiation by His blood. Rm 3:24-25

Of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God -- and righteousness and sanctification and redemption. 1 Cor 1:30

Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us. Gal 3:13

God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. Gal 4:4-5

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace. Eph 1:7

The Son of His love, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins. Col 1:13-14

Christ Jesus, who gave Himself a ransom. 1 Tim 2:6

Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself *His* own special people. Titus 2:14

With His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. Heb 9:12

For this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance. Heb 9:15

You were not redeemed with corruptible things, *like* silver or gold, from your aimless conduct *received* by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ. 1 Pt 1:18-19

ASSURANCE OF FINAL REDEMPTION IS BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

Redemption is consummated at the return of Christ when the body is resurrected and glorified. This is the final redemption.

The Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption. Eph 1:13-14

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Eph 4:30

Sanctification of the elect

This is the making clean, morally pure, of the elect that begins with regeneration (implanting spiritual life in the believer) and continues until the resurrection of the body.

The whole Trinity is involved in the work of sanctification:

THE FATHER SANCTIFIES

May the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Thess 5:23

Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom *be* glory forever and ever. Amen. Heb 13:20-21

THE SON SANCTIFIES

That He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. Eph 5:26-27

Who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself *His* own special people. Titus 2:14

THE SPIRIT SANCTIFIES

You were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God. 1 Cor 6:11

God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth. 2 Thess 2:13

DEFINITIVE OR LEGAL SANCTIFICATION

This is the past tense of sanctification. The human spirit is sanctified and all past sins cleansed. This is something God does in heaven. If occurs at conversion along with justification and adoption following faith.

Purifying their hearts by faith. Acts 15:9

Those who are sanctified by faith in Me. Acts 26:18

To those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called *to be* saints. 1 Cor 1:2

Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God -- and righteousness and sanctification and redemption. 1 Cor 1:30

God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth. 2 Thess 2:13

You were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God. 1 Cor 6:11 ['Were sanctified' is an aorist tense referring to a completed act in the past with ongoing effects.]

God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth. 2 Thess 2:13

PROGRESSIVE SANCTIFICATION

This is the present tense of sanctification. The soul is gradually being cleansed and purified over time. The more the believer puts on the new man and forms good habits, the more the soul is cleansed. This purifying is accompanied by growth in grace. This is something the believer does on Earth.

Sanctify them by Your truth. Jn 17:17

Beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God. 2 Cor 7:1

Those who are being sanctified. Heb 2:11 [Present tense.]

You have purified your souls. 1 Pt 1:22

Cleanse *your* hands, *you* sinners; and purify *your* hearts, *you* double-minded. Jm 4:8

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 Jn 1:9

Everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure. 1 Jn 3:3

Progressive sanctification is achieved by:

- A new disposition: Putting off the old man (nature) and putting on the new. Putting on Christ. Putting on the armour of God.
- A life of repentance: Walking in the light; walking in truth. Renewing of the mind.
- A new fellowship and guidance: Being filled with the Spirit and walking in the Spirit.
- A new obedience: Obeying God's law; fulfilling the Law of Christ.

A new disposition

Put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.
Eph 4:24

Put on the new *man* who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him.
Col 3:10

Put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to *fulfil its* lusts. Rm 13:14

Put on the armour of light. Rm 13:12

By the armour of righteousness. 2 Cor 6:7

Put on the whole armour of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*. Therefore take up the whole armour of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Eph 6:11-13

A life of repentance

'Repentance' means a change of heart and mind; going in a new direction.

Jesus spoke to them again, saying, 'I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life'. Jn 8:12

Now *you are* light in the Lord. Walk as children of light. Eph 5:8

If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. 1 Jn 1:7

Walk in the truth. 3 Jn 1:3

I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth. 3 Jn 1:4

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. Rm 12:2

Be renewed in the spirit of your mind. Eph 4:23

A new fellowship and guidance

Be filled with the Spirit. Eph 5:18 Note: 'be filled' is a Greek present imperative, which has the effect of being a present continuous. Thus it means 'keep being filled'.

There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. Rm 8:1

The righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. Rm 8:4

Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. Gal 5:16

If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Gal 5:25

A new obedience

Fulfil the law of Christ. Gal 6:2

He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles. Acts 1:2

Keeping the commandments of God *is what matters*. 1 Cor 7:19

Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He who says, 'I know Him', and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. 1 Jn 2:3-4

A new commandment I write to you. 1 Jn 2:8

Failures must be dealt with by confession of sin, asking God for forgiveness as a son and seeking the cleansing of the blood of Christ.

I acknowledged my sin to You, and my iniquity I have not hidden. I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the LORD', and You forgave the iniquity of my sin. Selah Ps 32:5

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin *is* always before me. Ps 51:2-3

He who covers his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes *them* will have mercy. Prov 28:13

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 Jn 1:8

There is no full sanctification of the soul in this life before the return of Christ; no instant perfection; no sinless perfection.

There is none righteous, no, not one. Rm 3:10

I find then a law, that evil is present with me, the one who wills to do good. For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man. But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. Rm 7:21-23

For we all stumble in many things. If anyone does not stumble in word, he *is* a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body. Jm 3:2

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ... If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us. 1 Jn 1:8-10

FINAL SANCTIFICATION

This is the future tense of sanctification. The body will be cleansed and changed at the coming of Christ. Then all sins will be cleansed and the person made perfect. This occurs when the saints are caught up in the air at the Second Coming.

That He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. Eph 5:27

So that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints. 1 Thess 3:13

May the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it. 1 Thess 5:23-24

Regeneration of the elect

Regeneration is being born again into eternal life. It precedes the gifts of faith and repentance.

As many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. Jn 1:12-13

Jesus answered and said to him, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God'. ... Jesus answered, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God'. Jn 3:3-5

That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Jn 3:6

And you *He made alive*, who were dead in trespasses and sins. Eph 2:1

Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit. Titus 3:5

Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. 1 Pt 1:3

Having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God. 1 Pt 1:23

Everyone who practices righteousness is born of Him. 1 Jn 2:29

Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God. 1 Jn 3:9

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God. 1 Jn 5:1

We know that whoever is born of God does not sin; but he who has been born of God keeps himself, and the wicked one does not touch him. 1 Jn 5:18

Conversion of the elect

THE GIFT OF FAITH

Saving faith is real apprehension of God's promises; unconditional trust. It is something God gives the elect by his grace through knowledge of the truth. It is not something worked up by man. Human faith is merely assent to known truth or assent induced by persuasion.

Jesus answered and said to them, 'This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent.' Jn 6:29

Now when they had come and gathered the church together, they reported all that God had done with them, and that He had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles. Acts 14:27

And when he desired to cross to Achaia, the brethren wrote, exhorting the disciples to receive him; and when he arrived, he greatly helped those who had believed through grace. Acts 18:27

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. Eph 2:8-9

For to you it has been granted on behalf of Christ, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake. Phil 1:29

Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith. Heb 12:2

THE GIFT OF REPENTANCE

Repentance is a thorough change of mind and a commitment to follow Christ. It is the source of a new behaviour.

Him God has exalted to His right hand *to be* Prince and Saviour, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. Acts 5:31

When they heard these things they became silent; and they glorified God, saying, 'Then God has also granted to the Gentiles repentance to life.' Acts 11:18

The goodness of God leads you to repentance. Rm 2:4

... correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth. 2 Tim 2:25

For you know that afterward, when he [Esau] wanted to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought it diligently with tears. [I.e. man cannot find repentance without divine help.] Heb 12:17

EXAMPLES: TRUE REPENTANCE

David said to Nathan, 'I have sinned against the LORD'. 2 Sam 12:13

Against You, You only, have I sinned, and done *this* evil in Your sight -- That You may be found just when You speak, *and* blameless when You judge. Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin my mother conceived me. Ps 51:4-5

I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants'. Lk 15:18-19

And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise *his* eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' Lk 18:13

EXAMPLES: FALSE REPENTANCE

And Pharaoh sent and called for Moses and Aaron, and said to them, 'I have sinned this time. The LORD is righteous, and my people and I are wicked. Entreat the LORD, that there may be no more mighty thundering and hail, for it is enough. I will let you go, and you shall stay no longer'. ... And when Pharaoh saw that the rain, the hail, and the thunder had ceased, he sinned yet more; and he hardened his heart, he and his servants. Exod 9:27-28, 34

Then Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron in haste, and said, 'I have sinned against the LORD your God and against you'. ... But the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he did not let the children of Israel go. Exod 10:16, 20

Then Saul said to Samuel, 'I have sinned, for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD and your words, because I feared the people and obeyed their voice'. 1 Sam 15:24

'I [Judas] have sinned by betraying innocent blood'. And they said, 'What *is that* to us? You see *to it!*' Then he threw down the pieces of silver in the temple and departed, and went and hanged himself. Matt 27:4-5

Perseverance of the elect to the end

See 'The Doctrines of Grace'.

The importance of union with Christ

He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him. Jn 6:56

Because I live, you will live also. Jn 14:19

Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? 1 Cor 6:15

He who is joined to the Lord is one spirit *with Him*. 1 Cor 6:17

For by one Spirit we were all baptised into one body. 1 Cor 12:13

I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. Gal 2:20

For as many of you as were baptised into Christ have put on Christ. Gal 3:27

You have put off the old man with his deeds, and have put on the new *man* who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him. Col 3:9-10

He who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us. 1 Jn 3:24

By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit. 1 Jn 4:13

This union makes believers the dwelling place of God on earth

Do you not know that you are the temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you? 1 Cor 3:16

Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's. 1 Cor 6:19-20

You are the temple of the living God. As God has said: 'I will dwell in them and walk among *them*. I will be their God, and they shall be My people'. 2 Cor 6:16

Fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief *cornerstone*, in whom the whole building, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit. Eph 2:19-22

In Christ

The blessings of salvation are not gifts that God gives because of Christ. The vital factor is that God gives us his Son and all the blessings of eternal life and salvation are IN his Son. We have eternal life IN CHRIST. We have salvation IN CHRIST. We have redemption IN CHRIST.

The redemption that is IN CHRIST JESUS. Rm 3:24

The gift of God *is* eternal life IN CHRIST JESUS our Lord. Rm 6:23

There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are IN CHRIST JESUS. Rm 8:1

The love of God which is IN CHRIST JESUS our Lord. Rm 8:39

Those who are sanctified IN CHRIST JESUS. 1 Cor 1:2

That we might become the righteousness of God IN HIM. 2 Cor 5:21

Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* IN CHRIST. Eph 1:3

IN HIM we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace. Eph 1:7

IN HIM also we have obtained an inheritance. Eph 1:11

He Himself is our peace. Eph 2:14

Partakers of His promise IN CHRIST. Eph 3:6

IN WHOM we have boldness and access with confidence through faith IN HIM. Eph 3:12

You are complete IN HIM. Col 2:10

Faith and love which are IN CHRIST JESUS. 1 Tim 1:14

The promise of life which is IN CHRIST JESUS. 2 Tim 1:1

Grace which was given to us IN CHRIST JESUS. 2 Tim 1:9

Salvation which is IN CHRIST JESUS. 2 Tim 2:10

Every good thing which is in you IN CHRIST JESUS. Philem 1:6

Shared offices

Since we are in Christ, we share in the offices that Christ holds through covenantal union.

In Him also we have obtained an inheritance. Eph 1:11

You are complete in Him. Col 2:10

While Christ is the consummation of these offices, believers share in the functions of those offices.

PROPHET

When He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own *authority*, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. Jn 16:13

If anyone speaks, *let him speak* as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, *let him do it* as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen. 1 Pt 4:11

But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things. 1 Jn 2:27

PRIEST

You shall be named the priests of the LORD, they shall call you the servants of our God. Isa 61:6

You also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 1 Pt 2:5

Blessed and holy *is* he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ. Rev 20:6

KING

You *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvellous light. 1 Pt 2:9

To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. Rev 3:21

And have made us kings and priests to our God; and we shall reign on the earth. Rev 5:10

The doctrines of Grace

Total Depravity

Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man *was* great in the earth, and *that* every intent of the thoughts of his heart *was* only evil continually. Gen 6:5

And the LORD smelled a soothing aroma. Then the LORD said in His heart, 'I will never again curse the ground for man's sake, although the imagination of man's heart *is* evil from his youth; nor will I again destroy every living thing as I have done.' Gen 8:21

Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin my mother conceived me. Ps 51:5

The wicked are estranged from the womb; they go astray as soon as they are born, speaking lies. Ps 58:3

Do not enter into judgment with Your servant, For in Your sight no one living is righteous. Ps 143:2

This *is* an evil in all that is done under the sun: that one thing *happens* to all. Truly the hearts of the sons of men are full of evil; madness *is* in their hearts while they live, and after that *they go* to the dead. Eccles 9:3

But we are all like an unclean *thing*, and all our righteousnesses *are* like filthy rags; we all fade as a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away. Isa 64:6

The heart *is* deceitful above all *things*, and desperately wicked; who can know it? Jer 17:9

For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within and defile a man. Mk 7:21-23

Jesus answered, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, "You must be born again".'¹ Jn 3:5-7

You are of *your* father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and *does not* stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *resources*, for he is a liar and the father of it. Jn 8:44

What then? Are we better *than they*? Not at all. For we have previously charged both Jews and Greeks that they are all under sin. As it is written: 'There is none righteous, no, not one; There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God. They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one.' Rm 3:9-12

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

And you *He made alive*, who were dead in trespasses and sins. Eph 2:1

And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses. Col 2:13

To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled. They profess to know God, but in works they deny Him, being abominable, disobedient, and disqualified for every good work. Titus 1:15-16

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *ours* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us. 1 Jn 1:8-10

In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor *is* he who does not love his brother. 1 Jn 3:10

Unconditional election

The LORD delighted only in your fathers, to love them; and he chose their descendants after them, you above all peoples, as *it is* this day. Deut 10:15

Blessed *is the man* you choose, and cause to approach *you, that* he may dwell in your courts. We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, of your holy temple. Ps 65:4

All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father. Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and *the one* to whom the Son wills to reveal *Him*. Mt 11:27

For many are called, but few *are* chosen. Mt 22:14

And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened. Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or 'There!' do not believe it. For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. Mt 24:22-24

And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them? Lk 18:7

For as the Father raises the dead and gives life to *them*, even so the Son gives life to whom He will. Jn 5:21

Now when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and glorified the word of the Lord. And as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed. Acts 13:48

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose. For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified. What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who *can be* against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? *It is* God who justifies. Rm 8:28-33

And not only *this*, but when Rebecca also had conceived by one man, *even* by our father Isaac (for *the children* not yet being born, nor having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works but of Him who calls), it was said to her, 'The older shall serve the younger.' As it is written, 'Jacob I have loved, but Esau I have hated.' Rm 9:10-13

Concerning the gospel *they are* enemies for your sake, but concerning the election *they are* beloved for the sake of the fathers. For the gifts and the calling of God *are* irrevocable. Rm 11:28-29

Just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will. Eph 1:4-5

But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth. 2 Thess 2:13

[God] who has saved us and called *us* with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began. 2 Tim 1:9

REPROBATION

For the wicked are reserved for the day of doom; they shall be brought out on the day of wrath. Job 21:30

The LORD has made all for Himself, yes, even the wicked for the day of doom. Prov 16:4

While I was with them in the world, I kept them in your name. Those whom you gave me I have kept; and none of them is lost except the son of perdition [Judas], that the Scripture might be fulfilled. Jn 17:12

What if God, wanting to show *His* wrath and to make His power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath prepared for destruction. Rm 9:22

But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honour and some for dishonour. 2 Tim 2:20

'A stone of stumbling and a rock of offence.' They stumble, being disobedient to the word, to which they also were appointed. 1 Pt 2:8

By covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words; for a long time their judgment has not been idle, and their destruction does not slumber. 2 Pt 2:3

The Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the Day of Judgment. 2 Pt 2:9

For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ. Jude 4

... wandering stars for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever. Jude 13

Limited atonement (or Particular Redemption)

'Surely for this iniquity there will be no atonement for you, Even to your death,' says the Lord GOD of hosts. Isa 22:14

He shall see the labour of His soul, *and* be satisfied. By His knowledge my righteous Servant shall justify many, for he shall bear their iniquities. Isa 53:11

And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call his name JESUS, for he will save his people from their sins. Mt 1:21

The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many. Mt 20:28

For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. Mt 26:28

Blessed *is* the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed His people. Lk 1:68

And Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. He who comes to me shall never hunger, and he who believes in me shall never thirst. But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. All that the Father gives me will come to me, and the one who comes to me I will by no means cast out.' Jn 6:35-37

I am the good shepherd; and I know my *sheep*, and am known by my own. As the Father knows me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. Jn 10:14-15

1 Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: 'Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son also may glorify you,

2 'as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as you have given Him.

3 'And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

4 I have glorified you on the earth. I have finished the work which you have given me to do.

5 'And now, O Father, glorify me together with yourself, with the glory which I had with you before the world was.

6 'I have manifested your name to the men whom you have given me out of the world. They were yours, you gave them to me, and they have kept your word.

7 'Now they have known that all things which you have given me are from you.

8 'For I have given to them the words which you have given me; and they have received *them*, and have known surely that I came forth from you; and they have believed that you sent me.

9 'I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours.

10 'And all mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them.

11 'Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through your name those whom you have given me, that they may be one as we *are*.' Jn 17:1-11

'I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in me through their word; that they all may be one, as you, Father, *are* in me, and I in you; that they also may be one in us, that the world may believe that you sent me.' Jn 17:20-21

When they heard these things they became silent; and they glorified God, saying, 'Then God has also granted to the Gentiles repentance to life.' Acts 11:18

Now a certain woman named Lydia heard *us*. She was a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, who worshiped God. The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul. Acts 16:14

Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. Acts 20:28

... among whom you also are the called of Jesus Christ; To all who are in Rome, beloved of God, called *to be* saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Rm 1:6-7

Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified. Rm 8:30

... that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had prepared beforehand for glory, even us whom he called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles? Rm 9:23-24

... so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation. Heb 9:28

Irresistible Calling

... those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. Jn 1:12-13

John answered and said, 'A man can receive nothing unless it has been given to him from heaven'. Jn 3:27

For as the Father raises the dead and gives life to *them*, even so the Son gives life to whom He will. Jn 5:21

'No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.' ... And He said, 'Therefore I have said to you that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him by My Father'. Jn 6:44, 65

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. Rm 8:14

So then *it is* not of him who wills, nor of him who runs, but of God who shows mercy. Rm 9:16

Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit. 1 Cor 12:3

And you *He made alive*, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in *His* kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. Eph 2:1-9

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling. Eph 4:4

[God], who has saved us and called *us* with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began. 2 Tim 1:9

And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance. Heb 9:15

Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures. Jm 1:18

But as He who called you *is* holy, you also be holy in all *your* conduct. 1 Pt 1:15

But you *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvellous light. 1 Pt 2:9

But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle *you*. 1 Pt 5:10

His divine power has given to us all things that *pertain* to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue. 2 Pt 1:3

For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world -- our faith. 1 Jn 5:4

Jude, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, To those who are called, sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ. Jude 1

These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those *who are* with Him *are* called, chosen, and faithful. Rev 17:14

Perseverance of the saints

His favour *is for* life. Ps 30:5

But now, thus says the LORD, who created you, O Jacob, and He who formed you, O Israel: 'Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called *you* by your name; you *are* mine. When you pass through the waters, I *will be* with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, nor shall the flame scorch you.' Isa 43:1-2

'For the mountains shall depart and the hills be removed, but my kindness shall not depart from you, nor shall my covenant of peace be removed,' says the LORD, who has mercy on you. Isa 54:10

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

What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them goes astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine and go to the mountains to seek the one that is straying? And if he should find it, assuredly, I say to you, he rejoices more over that *sheep* than over the ninety-nine that did not go astray. Even so it is not the will of your Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish. Mt 18:12-14

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. Jn 3:16

He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him. Jn 3:36

Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life. Jn 5:24

And Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. He who comes to me shall never hunger, and he who believes in me shall never thirst. But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. All that the Father gives me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.' Jn 6:35-37

My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given *them* to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch *them* out of My Father's hand. Jn 10:27-29

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. Rm 5:8-10

There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. Rm 8:1

For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified. What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who *can be* against us? Rm 8:29-31

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? *Shall* tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written: 'For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.' Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Rm 8:35-39

... so that you come short in no gift, eagerly waiting for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will also confirm you to the end, *that you may be* blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God *is* faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. 1 Cor 1:7-9

No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God *is* faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear *it*. 1 Cor 10:13

Jude, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to those who are called, sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ. Jude 1

The New Covenant

Part of salvation is the enactment of a new covenant with the elect. The New Covenant replaces the Old Covenant (the Law of Moses). The Covenant is a unilateral means of establishing friendship between former enemies. God's people are covenant people. It is not a bilateral contract or compact.

The Old Covenant was the Law of Moses, specifically, which is cancelled (Heb 8:13). The New Covenant is the fulfilment of the Abrahamic Covenant where God promised to produce a people as a blessed nation. The Abrahamic Covenant was not isolated for Israel alone at all, it was for the whole world (hence 'father of many nations') and was achieved in the New Covenant where Christ is the centre, not some earthly nation.

Many theologians speak about a) a covenant between the Father and Son in eternity (the Covenant of Redemption) leading to the Covenant of Grace; and b) a Covenant of Works between God and Adam. The problem is that there is not a shred of evidence for any of these. Furthermore, divine covenants are brought in by God to repair broken relationships with man, therefore they were not necessary before the creation of man.

For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. Matt 26:28 / Mk 14:24-25 / Lk 22:20

In the same manner *He* also *took* the cup after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink *it*, in remembrance of Me'. 1 Cor 11:25

He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance. Heb 9:15

Jesus has become a surety of a better covenant. Heb 7:22

He has obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a better covenant, which was established on better promises. Heb 8:6

Fulfilment of the Abrahamic Covenant

'I will make My covenant between Me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly.' Then Abram fell on his face, and God talked with him, saying: 'As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you, and you shall be a father of many nations. No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you a father of many nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and your descendants after you. ... Then God said: 'No, Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac; I will establish My covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, *and* with his descendants after him. And as for Ishmael, I have heard you. Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly. He shall beget twelve princes, and I will make him a great nation. But My covenant I will establish with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear to you at this set time next year." Gen 17:2-7, 19-21

May God Almighty bless you, and make you fruitful and multiply you, that you may be an assembly of peoples; and give you the blessing of Abraham, to you and your descendants with you. Gen 28:3-4

Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw *it* and was glad. Jn 8:56

The father of circumcision to those who not only *are* of the circumcision, but who also walk in the steps of the faith which our father Abraham *had while still* uncircumcised. For the promise that he would be the heir of the world *was* not to Abraham or to his seed through the law, but through the righteousness of faith. ... Therefore *it is* of faith that *it might be* according to grace, so that the promise might be sure to all the seed, not only to those who are of the law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all (as it is written, 'I have made you a father of many nations') Rm 4:12-17

Nor *are they* all children because they are the seed of Abraham; but, 'In Isaac your seed shall be called'. That is, those who *are* the children of the flesh, these *are* not the children of God; but the children of the promise are counted as the seed. Rm 9:7-8

Only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham. And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, *saying*, 'In you all the nations shall be blessed'. So then those who *are* of faith are blessed with believing Abraham. Gal 3:7-9

Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, Cursed *is* everyone who hangs on a tree), that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith. Gal 3:13-14 (C.f. Gen 28:4)

Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, 'And to seeds', as of many, but as of one, 'And to your Seed', who is Christ. And this I say, *that* the law, which was four hundred and thirty years later, cannot annul the covenant that was confirmed before by God in Christ, that it should make the promise of no effect. Gal 3:16-17

If you *are* Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. Gal 3:29

For it is written that Abraham had two sons: the one by a bondwoman, the other by a free-woman. But he *who was* of the bondwoman was born according to the flesh, and he of the free-woman through promise, which things are symbolic. For these are the two covenants: the one from Mount Sinai which gives birth to bondage, which is Hagar -- for this Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and corresponds to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children -- but the Jerusalem above is free, which is the mother of us all. Gal 4:22-26

Fulfilment of the promise to Jeremiah

Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah -- not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. Jer 31:21-33

Internalisation and empowerment of the Moral Law of God

The Moral Law was passed orally from God to Adam and thence to the Patriarchs, becoming established in tradition. This moral content was then subsumed into the moral aspects of the Mosaic Law, summarised in the Ten Commandments. The Moral Law was then subsumed into the New Covenant as the law of Christ. The difference is that the Mosaic Law commanded, but gave no grace to perform. Those under the New Covenant

have power in the will to perform God's laws. Thus the Moral Law and the Law of Christ forbid: murder, fornication, greed, adultery, stealing, lying, etc. Both are summarised as: 'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself' (Lk 10:27).

Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for *His* good pleasure. Phil 2:12-13

The stature of Jesus

The Mosaic Moral Law (e.g. 10 Commandments) is not the standard of morality and character; Christ is.

For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Rm 8:29

We all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord. 2 COR 3:18

My little children, for whom I labour in birth again until Christ is formed in you. Gal 4:19

Till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ. Eph 4:13

Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus. Col 1:28

All things new

Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. 2 Cor 5:17

Then He who sat on the throne said, 'Behold, I make all things new'. Rev 21:5

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a **new creation**. Gal 6:15

So as to create in Himself **one new man** *from* the two, *thus* making peace. Eph 2:11

Put on **the new man** which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness. Eph 4:24

Put on **the new man** who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him. Col 3:10

A **new and living way** which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh. Heb 10:20

Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for **new heavens and a new earth** in which righteousness dwells. 2 Pt 3:13

A **new commandment** I write to you. 1 Jn 2:8

A **new name** written which no one knows except him who receives *it*. Rev 2:17

The New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And *I will write on him* My new name. Rev 3:12

They sang a new song. Rev 5:9

They sang as it were a **new song** before the throne. Rev 14:3

Now I saw a **new heaven** and a **new earth**, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. Then I, John, saw the holy city, **New Jerusalem**. Rev 21:1-2

The place of the Mosaic Law

TEMPORARY

What purpose then *does* the law *serve*? It was added because of transgressions, till the Seed should come to whom the promise was made. Gal 3:19

PRECURSOR TO THE MESSIAH

What purpose then *does* the law *serve*? It was added because of transgressions, till the Seed should come to whom the promise was made. Gal 3:19

But before faith came, we were kept under guard by the law, kept for the faith which would afterward be revealed. Therefore the law was our tutor [guardian, guide] to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. Gal 3:23-24

MAGNIFIES SIN

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

By the law *is* the knowledge of sin. Rm 3:20

Where there is no law *there is* no transgression. Rm 4:15

The law entered that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more. Rm 5:20

When we were in the flesh, the sinful passions which were aroused by the law were at work in our members to bear fruit to death. Rm 7:5

I would not have known sin except through the law. Rm 7:7

When the commandment came, sin revived and I died. And the commandment, which *was* to *bring* life, I found to *bring* death. For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it killed *me*. Rm 7:9-11

What purpose then *does* the law *serve*? It was added because of transgressions. Gal 3:19

IS FULFILLED AND COMPLETED IN CHRIST

Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfil. For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled. Matt 5:17-18

Do we then make void the law through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law. Rm 3:31

Christ *is* the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes. Rm 10:4

Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law. Gal 3:13

HAS THEREFORE ENDED

Having abolished in His flesh the enmity, *that is*, the law of commandments *contained* in ordinances. Eph 2:15

Having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. Col 2:14

For on the one hand there is an annulling of the former commandment because of its weakness and unprofitableness, for the law made nothing perfect; on the other hand, *there is the* bringing in of a better hope, through which we draw near to God. Heb 7:18-19

For if that first *covenant* had been faultless, then no place would have been sought for a second. Heb 8:7

In that He says, 'A new *covenant*', He has made the first obsolete. Now what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away. Heb 8:13

Christians have died to the law and are now under the law of Christ

The law of Christ is the new Covenant, walking in the Spirit, putting on the new man, growing in grace.

You are not under law but under grace. Rm 6:14

You also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be married to another. Rm 7:4

The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. Rm 8:2

If you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Gal 5:18

Fulfil the law of Christ. Gal 6:2

He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. Jn 14:21

If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love. Jn 15:10

He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles. Acts 1:2

Keeping the commandments of God *is what matters*. 1 Cor 7:19

Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He who says, 'I know Him', and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. 1 Jn 2:3-4

We keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight. 1 Jn 3:22

He who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. 1 Jn 3:24

By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome. 1 Jn 5:2-3

This is love, that we walk according to His commandments. 2 Jn 1:6

[Those] who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ. Rev 12:17

Blessed *are* those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city. Rev 22:14

Note: Ignoring law and being licentious is Antinomianism; this is wrong behaviour. Being dead to the Law of Moses does not free me from any law; it frees me from Mosaic legalism. The purpose of Mosaic Law was to magnify sin and drive men to Christ for deliverance from it and death. Once in Christ we serve the law of Christ under the New Covenant by walking in the Spirit in a life of repentance towards God. The Law of Christ includes the Moral Law that existed before the Mosaic Law was written down and is exhibited in the Patriarchs. Thus the Law of Christ includes many commandments. We are not free from commandments.

Assurance of salvation

Comes by our faith

He who believes and is baptised will be saved. Mk 16:16

He who believes in Him is not condemned. Jn 3:18

He who believes in the Son has everlasting life. Jn 3:36

We believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved. Acts 15:11

Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved. Acts 15:31

If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. Rm 10:9

Full assurance of faith. Heb 10:22

Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? 1 Jn 5:5

Comes by the presence of the Spirit in us

But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. Rm 8:9

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, 'Abba, Father'. The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God. Rm 8:14-16

Do you not know that you are the temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you? 1 Cor 3:16

Do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? 1 Cor 6:19

God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee. 2 Cor 1:21

God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. 2 Cor 5:5

You are the temple of the living God. As God has said: 'I will dwell in them and walk among *them*. I will be their God, and they shall be My people'. 2 Cor 6:16

Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, 'Abba, Father!' Gal 4:6

You were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory. Eph 1:13-14

The Holy Spirit who dwells in us. 2 Tim 1:14

By this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us. 1 Jn 3:24

By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit. 1 Jn 4:13

He who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself. 1 Jn 5:10

Is helped by our baptism

He who believes and is baptised will be saved. Mk 16:16

Repent, and let every one of you be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Acts 2:38

Arise and be baptised, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord. Acts 22:16

Comes by our confession

Whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. Matt 10:32

I say to you, whoever confesses Me before men, him the Son of Man also will confess before the angels of God. Lk 12:8

If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. Rm 10:9

By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God. 1 Jn 4:2

Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. 1 Jn 4:15

Comes by our fruit and obedience; especially loving the brethren

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

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. 1 Jn 4:7-8

If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us. 1 Jn 4:12

And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment 1 Jn 4:16-17

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. 1 Jn 5:1-2

For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. 1 Jn 5:3

Is seen in overcoming the world

For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world -- our faith. Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? 1 Jn 5:4-5

Ecclesiology

Ecclesia

The Greek word translated 'church' is *ecclesia*, which means a body of people called out for a purpose. It was originally a gathering of citizens called out from their homes into a public place, an assembly of the people convened at the public place of the council for the purpose of deliberating policy.

It has two meanings in the NT: a) the whole body of Christians scattered throughout the earth and those in heaven (the 'universal church'); b) the local assembly of faithful Christians in a given place (the 'local church'). Some people designate *ecclesia* as 'the militant church (on Earth)' and the 'heavenly church'.

'Church' is, therefore, not to be applied to buildings. It refers to the body of Christ. It is variously called 'the church of God' or 'the church of Christ'.

The church is the body of Christ

We, *being* many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. Rm 12:5

The body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also *is* Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptised into one body. 1 Cor 12:12-13

You are the body of Christ, and members individually. 1 Cor 12:27

And He put all *things* under His feet, and gave Him *to be* head over all *things* to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all. Eph 1:22-23

The church is the elect

To those who are the called according to *His* purpose. Rm 8:28

Whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified. Rm 8:30

The vessels of mercy, which He had prepared beforehand for glory. Rm 9:23

The election of grace. Rm 11:5

He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world. Eph 1:4

God from the beginning chose you for salvation. 2 Thess 2:13

Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father. 1 Pt 1:2

The church is the bride of Christ

I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present *you as* a chaste virgin to Christ. 2 Cor 11:2

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her. Eph 5:25

'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church. Eph 5:31-32

Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. Rev 21:2 [The New Jerusalem is the church: Gal 4:26; Heb 12:22; Rev 3:12]

Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife. Rev 21:9

The church is the priesthood of God

You also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 1 Pt 2:5

And has made us kings and priests to His God and Father. Rev 1:6

And have made us kings and priests to our God; and we shall reign on the earth. Rev 5:10

They shall be priests of God and of Christ. Rev 20:6

The church is the people of God

God at the first visited the Gentiles to take out of them a people for His name. Acts 15:14

For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: 'I will dwell in them and walk among *them*. I will be their God, and they shall be My people'. 2 Cor 6:16

You are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvellous light; who once were not a people but are now the people of God. 1 Pt 2:9-10

Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them *and be* their God. Rev 21:3

The church is the household of God

The house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.
1 Tim 3:15

Christ as a Son over His own house, whose house we are. Heb 3:6

You also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house. 1 Pt 2:5

The time *has come* for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if *it begins* with us first, what will *be* the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God? 1 Pt 4:17

The church is the temple of God

You [pl.] are the temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you? 1 Cor 3:16

For the temple of God is holy, which *temple* you [pl.] are. 1 Cor 3:17

Your [pl.] body is the temple of the Holy Spirit. 1 Cor 6:19

You [pl.] are the temple of the living God. 2 Cor 6:16

In whom the whole building, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord.
Eph 2:21

He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God. Rev 3:12

The church is the key part of God's kingdom

Preaching the gospel of the kingdom. Matt 4:23 [Repenting and becoming a Christian was synonymous with entering the kingdom.]

Blessed *are* the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Matt 5:3

It has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven. Matt 13:11

The good seeds are the sons of the kingdom. Matt 13:38

Unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Jn 3:3

The kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. Rm 14:17

He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed *us* into the kingdom of the Son of His love. Col 1:13

These *are my* only fellow workers for the kingdom of God. Col 4:11

Walk worthy of God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory. 1 Thess 2:12

That you may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you also suffer. 2 Thess 1:5

We are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken. Heb 12:28

The kingdom which He promised to those who love Him. Jm 2:5

And has made us kings and priests to His God and Father. Rev 1:6

I, John, both your brother and companion in the tribulation and kingdom. Rev 1:9

And have made us kings and priests to our God; and we shall reign on the earth. Rev 5:10

Note

The kingdom is bigger than the church but contains the church. The kingdom is the reign and rule of God – which in its strictest form is only Christ, the only true obedient Son. But it includes all those in Christ – the church, the elect. Thus the natural world that obeys

God's rule is part of the kingdom. The Christian family at home is part of the functioning kingdom, though it is not a formal meeting of the church. Elect angels are part of God's kingdom. The universe is part of the kingdom. The human element in the kingdom is the church.

The church is the testimony of God on Earth

Arise, shine; for your light has come! and the glory of the LORD is risen upon you. Isa 60:1

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. Matt 5:16

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you. Matt 28:19-20

Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. Mk 16:15

And you also will bear witness, because you have been with Me from the beginning. Jn 15:27

You shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth. Acts 1:8

And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. Acts 4:33

We are His witnesses. Acts 5:32

He commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is He who was ordained by God *to be* Judge of the living and the dead. Acts 10:42

The ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. Acts 20:24

Children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world. Phil 2:15

You *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvellous light. 1 Pt 2:9

We have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son *as* Saviour of the world. 1 Jn 4:14

The church's message to the world

What is the Gospel in essence?

- Be convicted of sin and understand the need of salvation (Lk 15:21; Jn 16:8; 1 Cor 14:24-25).
- Believe in Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour (Jn 7:38; Acts 9:42, 16:31; Gal 2:16). Receive Christ (Jn 1:12). Come to Christ (Matt 11:28, Jn 6 35, 37).
- Call upon the Lord for salvation (Joel 2:32; Acts 2:21; Rm 10:13).
- Submit and yield to God (2 Thess 1:8; Jm 4:7; Heb 5:9; 1 Pt 4:17).
- Repent (Lk 13:5; Acts 3:19, 8:22, 17:30, 26:20).
- Be baptised to demonstrate your faith and repentance (Acts 2:38, 8:36-37, 16:31-33).

The church performs good works

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. Eph 2:10

Be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share. 1 Tim 6:18

Be a pattern of good works; in doctrine *showing* integrity, reverence, incorruptibility. Titus 2:7

His own special people, zealous for good works. Titus 2:14

Those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable to men. Titus 3:8

Let our *people* also learn to maintain good works, to *meet* urgent needs, that they may not be unfruitful. Titus 3:14

Let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works. Heb 10:24

What *does it* profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Jm 2:14

The local church meets in a house

Saul, he made havoc of the church, entering every house [*oikos*]. Acts 8:3

Greet the church that is in their house. Rm 16:5

The church that is in their house. 1 Cor 16:19

The church that *is* in his house. Col 4:15

The church in your house. Phm 1:2

Note

The apostles never established any church, anywhere, in anything other than a home.

Objection 1: what about, '[Paul] reasoning daily in the school of Tyrannus' (Acts 19:9). Paul lectured and disputed in the lecture hall of Tyrannus. This was a hall rented by Paul in order to preach the Gospel through disputation and debate, which was a common form of street entertainment then. Note the next verse, 'this continued for two years, so that all who dwelt in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks'. This was not a place of worship or breaking bread, which would have been forbidden by the Ephesian magistrates, it was an evangelistic outreach.

Objection 2: what about, 'they were all with one accord in Solomon's Porch' (Acts 15:12). This was a normal place for groups to meet up informally. These gatherings were not for worship because the temple police would never have allowed worship of Jesus in the temple precincts. It was just a gathering place and walkway.

In fact this 'porch' was a portico; the word 'porch' is *stoa*, meaning a portico or veranda. It was a colonnade on the east of the temple, so called from a tradition that it was a relic of Solomon's temple left standing after the destruction of Jerusalem by the Babylonians. It would have been a sort of thoroughfare with many people passing by; hardly suitable for private worship.

The church is a community of baptised people

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Matt 28:19

Repent, and let every one of you be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Acts 2:38

When they believed Philip as he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were baptised. Acts 8:12

Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptised him. Acts 8:38

He commanded them to be baptised in the name of the Lord. Acts 10:48

The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul. And when she and her household were baptised ... Acts 16:14-15

So they said, 'Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household'. ... And immediately he and all his family were baptised. Acts 16:31-33

Why are you waiting? Arise and be baptised, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord. Acts 22:16

The church celebrates the Lord's Supper every Sunday

And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. Acts 2:42

Breaking bread from house to house. Acts 2:46

Now on the first *day* of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread. Acts 20:7

The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? For we, though many, are one bread and one body; for we all partake of that one bread. 1 Cor 10:16-17

When you come together in one place, it is not to eat the Lord's Supper. 1 Cor 11:20 [Spoken in criticism since this was not being done properly in Corinth.]

The Lord's Supper is also called 'breaking bread' and 'the Eucharist'. The origin of 'Eucharist' is the late Middle English, from Old French *eucariste*, based on ecclesiastical Greek *eukharistia* 'thanksgiving', from the Greek *eukharistos* 'grateful', from *eu* 'well' + *karizesthai* 'offer graciously' (from *karis* 'grace').

Some Protestants call it 'Holy Communion' (e.g. Anglicans) while Catholics call it the 'Mass'.

Sacraments

Theologians have designated baptism and the Lord's Supper as 'sacraments', though this is not a Biblical word. A sacrament is an external sign or ritual that symbolises an internal, invisible grace or truth. The origin of the word is the Middle English, from the Old French *sacrement*, from the Latin *sacramentum* meaning 'solemn oath' (from *sacrare*, 'to hallow', from *sacer* 'sacred'), used in Christian Latin as a translation of Greek *mustērion*, 'mystery'.

The Protestant denominations, since the Reformation, have only these two sacraments. Roman Catholics have seven (baptism, confirmation, the Eucharist, penance, anointing of the sick, ordination, and matrimony).

The church meets for edification

Let us pursue the things *which make* for peace and the things by which one may edify another. Rm 14:19

Let each of us please *his* neighbour for *his* good, leading to edification. Rm 15:2

Comfort each other and edify one another. 1 Thess 5:11

That the church may receive edification. 1 Cor 14:5

Let it be for the edification of the church *that* you seek to excel. 1 Cor 14:12

We do all things, beloved, for your edification. 2 Cor 12:19

For the edifying of the body of Christ. Eph 4:12

According to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love. Eph 4:16

Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers. Eph 4:29

The church is led by a team of equal elders

He sent to Ephesus and called for the elders [*presbuteros*] of the church. Acts 20:17

Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. Acts 20:28 [Note: 'overseers' is *episkopos* (often translated as 'bishops' in the KJV). The overseers were the elders (verse 17 with verse 28). 'Elder' was a Jewish term; 'overseer' was a Greek term.]

Paul went in with us to James, and all the elders [*presbuteros*] were present. Acts 21:18

He Himself gave some *to be* apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers. Eph 4:11 [Note: apostles, prophets and evangelists have no authority as such in the local church; see below. Pastors and teachers are the same office, a 'pastor-teacher'; this is confirmed in the Greek structure of the verse. Thus a pastor-teacher is an elder. Teaching is didactic instruction while 'pastor' refers to shepherding or guarding and feeding the sheep.]

To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops [*episkopos*] and deacons. Phil 1:1

If a man desires the position of a bishop, [*episkopos*] he desires a good work. 1 Tim 3:1

The eldership. 1 Tim 4:14

Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double honour. 1 Tim 5:17

Appoint elders in every city. Titus 1:5

For a bishop [*episkopos*] must be blameless, as a steward of God. Titus 1:7

The elders of the church. Jm 5:14

Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers [*episkopeo*], not by compulsion but willingly. 1 Pt 5:2

Note

There is no verse in the NT suggesting a senior minister; none at all. No one is called a senior pastor. Neither are there two kinds of elder: a ruling elder who counsels but does not teach, and a teaching elder who rules. All elders must be skilled (1 Tim 3:2; 'apt' = 'skilful') in teaching.

There are no officers above elders in the local church. Apostles are missionaries sent out from the church with no authority as apostles in their home church. Prophets (as there were in the early church before the Bible was more readily available) and evangelists are under the jurisdiction of the elders.

Deacons are not a spiritual office and do not rule. They are servants of the church to assist with practical matters.

Eschatology

The doctrine of the last things.

A good rule of interpretation in eschatology is to gather all the clear information in the NT and form a general picture and timescale. This must then be used to interpret difficult and unclear OT passages of prophecy. Many do this the wrong way round and thus form fallacious doctrines. The clear and obvious must come first.

Death

Death is not annihilation but the separation of the spirit from the body.

Then the dust will return to the earth as it was, and the spirit will return to God who gave it.
Eccles 12:7

Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit. Matt 27:50

When Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, 'Father, "into Your hands I commit My spirit"'. Having said this, He breathed His last. Lk 23:46

They stoned Stephen as he was calling on *God* and saying, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit'.
Acts 7:59

Thus the human spirit is immortal and not dissolved into other matter like the physical body (no material is ever annihilated and completely destroyed).

Expressions

Scripture uses many different terms for death:

- Being cut off [the execution of judgment] (Zech 13:8; Exod 9:15).
- Departure from this world (2 Tim 4:6).
- Going the way of all the earth (Jos 23:14).
- Being gathered to one's fathers (Jud 2:10).
- Gathered to one's own people (Deut 32:50).
- Destruction of this earthly house, this tent (2 Cor 5:1).
- Returning to the dust (Eccles 12:7).
- Falling asleep (Jn 11:11; 1 Cor 11:30, 15:6). [This is where the word 'cemetery' comes from.¹⁰]
- Expire, to breathe one's last breath (Acts 5:10).
- Being absent from the body (2 Cor 5:8).
- Sleeping in Jesus (1 Thess 4:14).

Judgment after death

After death sinners go to Hades awaiting Final Judgment. There is no Purgatory; after death comes judgment. Hades is not Hell but the place of departed spirits. Hell is the place of condemnation after the Final Judgment (see later).

God will bring you into judgment. Eccles 11:9

¹⁰ Late Middle English, via late Latin, from the Greek *koimētērion* 'dormitory', from *koiman* 'put to sleep'.

For God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, whether good or evil. Eccles 12:14

For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself, and has given Him authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of Man. Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth -- those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation. Jn 5:26-29

He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. Acts 17:31

In accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, who 'will render to each one according to his deeds': eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honour, and immortality; but to those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness -- indignation and wrath, tribulation and anguish, on every soul of man who does evil. Rm 2:5-9 [Only those with faith can do good and please God (Heb 11:6).]

Each of us shall give account of himself to God. Rm 14:12

Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of the hearts. 1 Cor 4:5

The Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing. 2 Tim 4:1

It is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment. Heb 9:17

If we sin wilfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot. Heb 10:26-29

Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him. Jude 1:14-15

Hades

Hades is the grave or the place of departed spirits.

Capernaum, who are exalted to heaven, will be brought down to Hades. Matt 11:23

The rich man also died and was buried. and being in torments in Hades. Lk 16:22-23

You will not leave my soul in Hades. Acts 2:27

Concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption. Acts 2:31

I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death. Rev 1:18

Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. Rev 20:13

Before the cross, saints were in a special place of bliss in Hades called 'Abraham's Bosom', separated by a great gulf from sinners awaiting judgment in torment (Lk 16:22-23). Saints after the cross go to be with the Lord Jesus in heaven awaiting the return of Christ. They are received personally by Christ and not by an angel.

I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also. Jn 14:3

Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me. Jn 17:24

We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord. 2 Cor 5:8

For I am hard pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, *which is far better*. Phil 1:23

Heaven

The word 'heaven' has various meanings in Scripture.

- The lower atmosphere where birds fly (Matt 8:24:30).
- Space, where the stars are (Acts 7:42).
- The dwelling place of God. The place where Jesus and dead saints currently abide. Sometimes called 'the third heaven' (2 Cor 12:2; Heb 9:24; 1 Pt 3:22).

Heaven as the abode of God is a real place but hidden from men; a place of blessedness and communion with Christ (Jn 17:24; 2 Cor 5:6-8; Rev 5:6). It is a place where dead saints commune with God and the angels. However, it is not the final place for saints; after the Day of Judgment heaven and earth will meet in a resurrected, restored Earth (see later). Here saints will enjoy eternal life (Matt 7:14; Jn 3:15-16), glory (Rm 2:7, 10, 5:2; 2 Cor 4:17), peace (Rm 2:10), consummated salvation (Heb 5:9), and paradise (Lk 23:43, 2 Cor 12:4; Rev 2:7).

The end of saints is also termed: 'the heavenly / New Jerusalem' (Gal 4:26; Rev 3:12), the kingdom of heaven (Matt 25:34; 2 Tim 4:18; 2 Pet 1:11), and the eternal inheritance (1 Pt 1:4; Heb 9:15).

End times terminology

Like the phrase 'the coming of the day of the Lord', phrases such as 'end times', 'last day', 'last days', 'last hour' are variously interpreted.

In the OT the 'day of the Lord' meant: a) any special manifestation of God's power (Isa 13:6; Jer 46:10); b) the future coming of the Messiah (Mal 3:2, 4:5). In the NT it usually refers to the Second Coming of Christ (1 Cor 5:5; 2 Cor 1:14; 1 Thess 5:2; 2 Pt 3:10). Yet in Acts 2:20 it means the Gospel age.

'Last days' usually refers to the period initiated by the coming of Christ and the cross (Acts 2:17; Heb 1:2; Jm 5:3). This posits that the time of the OT was the preparation of the world and once Christ came it was the last period of time. Yet Paul and Peter also use it to refer to the period just before the end (2 Tim 3:1; 2 Pt 3:3).

'End of the ages' is usually the Gospel age (Heb 9:26).

'Last hour' is used by John to also refer to the Gospel age (1 Jn 2:18).

'Last day' is used by John to refer to the end of time, the Second Coming, the general resurrection and particularly the Final Judgment (Jn 6:39, 40, 44, 54, 11:24, 12:48).

'The end' refers to the end of the world, or possibly individual death (1 Cor 1:8, 15:24; Heb 3:6, 14; Rev 2:26).

'End time(s)' is not a Biblical phrase but it accurately delineates the final period of time before the end to avoid any confusion.

End times in general

The end time is a period of great contrasts and growing intensity. There has always been preaching, there has always been persecution, there have been many antichristian kingdoms, and antichrists have been around since the early church (1 Jn 2:18) – but at the end all these things grow in intensity.

The Gospel will be preached to the whole world and there will be a great testimony to Jesus, but in an underground church meeting in secret. Persecution of Christians will be worldwide and ruling powers will seek to utterly destroy the visible church. There will be one single antichristian kingdom ruling the whole world, which will be the epitome of man's sin and rebellion. The whole world of man will be a corporate antichrist, where mankind seeks to be God and is thoroughly subject to Satan.

End time events: The preaching of the Gospel to the whole world

This gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come. Matt 24:14

Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth -- to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people -- saying with a loud voice, 'Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water'. Rev 14:6-7

End time events: The great deception and apostasy

Let no one deceive you by any means; for *that Day will not come* unless the falling away comes first. 2 Thess 2:3

The coming of the *lawless one* is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness. 2 Thess 2:9-12

End time events: The rise of an antichristian kingdom

Let no one deceive you by any means; for *that Day will not come* unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. 2 Thess 2:3-4

Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name. ... The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority. ... 'Who *is* like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?' And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months. ... And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation. Rev 13:1-7

The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast. These are of one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast. Rev 17:12-13

End time events: The final persecution of the church

Note: there is no special 7-year 'great tribulation'. Persecution heats up and is severe, but some nations have seen severe persecution of Christians for centuries. Christ's coming is after the final persecution, not before. There is no 'Pre-Tribulation' or 'Mid-Tribulation' appearance of Christ.

They will deliver you up to councils and scourge you in their synagogues. You will be brought before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles. Matt 10:17-18

Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake. Matt 24:9

You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. Lk 21:16-17

The world hates you. Jn 15:19

If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you. Jn 15:20

They will put you out of the synagogues; yes, the time is coming that whoever kills you will think that he offers God service. Jn 16:2

Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw *some* of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life. Rev 2:10

The dragon [Satan] was enraged with the woman, [the church] and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ. Rev 12:17

It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. Rev 13:7

I saw the woman, [Babylon]¹¹ drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. Rev 17:6

There is no millennium golden age

References to a thousand-year reign refer to the Gospel Age. The 1,000 is symbolic for a complete, perfect period of time (10 x 10 x 10).

Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is *the* Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while. And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then *I saw* the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received *his* mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This *is* the first resurrection. Blessed and holy *is* he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years. Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison and will go out to deceive the nations. Rev 20:1-8

¹¹ Rev 17:18, 'And the woman whom you saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth'.

Note:

- ‘Thousand’ is actually a plural word, meaning ‘thousands’. There is no 1,000-year golden age referred to at all.
- It is ‘souls’ of saints that live and reign with Christ; i.e. dead saints in heaven. This ruins the idea of a golden age when live saints will reign on Earth.
- The ‘first resurrection’ is regeneration/conversion, which occurs in the 1,000 years (‘they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. ... This is the first resurrection’). Those regenerated do not succumb to the second death (Hell).
- The ‘second death’ is Hell, an eternal death. The first death is physical death.
- The 1,000 years refers to the Gospel Age, the period between the cross and the return of Christ. This is the period that John writes to encourage in this book in a series of cyclical visions referring to the victory of Christ in this period under different figures.
- NB there is no clear Scripture anywhere stating that there will be a 1,000-year golden age and no apostolic teaching at all. How could the apostles omit such an important doctrine if it were true? Millennialism used to be called ‘chiliasm’ (after the Greek word for thousand) and was only accepted by a very small minority of believers until the 19th century. It was so obscure that Calvin refused to bother to confront it.
- We have to distinguish three main forms of millennialism: 1) Premillennialism – teaching that Christ returns before a millennium and sets up a golden age. There are two forms of this: Historic Premillennialism and Dispensational Premillennialism (or Dispensationalism). There are many variants of Dispensationalism including Pre-Tribulationism, Mid-Tribulationism and Post-Tribulationism. 2) Postmillennialism – Christ returns after a church golden age of success. There are various forms of this including Theonomy (or Reconstructionism, chiefly Reformed, where the church rules the world through the Law of Moses) and Dominionism (mostly Charismatic, where the church rules the world through apostles and prophets). 3) Amillennialism – there is no millennium. This has been the main church position for 2,000 years.

The return of Christ in glory

Note

- There is only one return of Christ. Different Greek words used refer to different aspects of the return (‘appearing’, ‘coming’, ‘return’, etc.).
- This return is not secret but loud and visible to every eye.
- There is no secret rapture; not one mention of it. This idea did not appear in church history until around 1830 when it arose in a heretical church from the mouth of a deluded, sick, mystical, teenage girl.

Greek words for the return of Christ

- Coming: *Erchomai*, *Parousia* (Matt 16:27, 24:27, 37-40, 25:31-46; Jn 2:28; 1 Cor 15:23; 1 Thess 1:10, 3:13, 4:15-17; 2 Thess 1:8-10; 2:1, 8; 2 Pt 3:4, 13).
- Appearing: *Optanomai*, *Phaneroo* (Col 3:4; Heb 9:28; 1 Pt 5:4; 1 Jn 2:28, 3:2).
- Manifestation: *Epiphaneia* (1 Tim 6:14; 2 Tim 4:1, 8; Titus 2:13).
- Revelation: *Apokalupto* (Lk 17:24, 29-35; 1 Cor 1:7; 2 Thess 1:7-10; 1 Pt 1:13, 4:13).

These are used interchangeably referring to the same events. It is impossible to make one Greek word refer to a prior coming and another word for a later coming. [I.e. there is no evidence for a rapture of saints in a first coming of Christ in secret.]

I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also. Jn 14:3

This *same* Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven. Acts 1:11 [I.e. coming in the clouds.]

When He comes, in that Day, to be glorified in His saints and to be admired among all those who believe. 2 Thess 1:10

Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation. Heb 9:28 His first appearance was the incarnation. His second will be the return of Christ. There is no mention of a third.

Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen. Rev 1:7

Christ's return is full of glory

For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 1 Thess 4:16

When the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Thess 1:7-8

Summary

- The Lord appears with a global shout.
- The Lord appears with voice of an archangel.
- The Lord appears with the trumpet of God.
- Then the dead in Christ will rise.
- The Lord appears with his angels.
- The Lord appears in flaming fire.
- The Lord takes vengeance on sinners

This is a noisy affair, not a secret appearance. In fact it is the end of the world.

Note that Christ is now a King over all things; the Head of the Universe. He will not return as an ordinary, fleshly man but with all the glory of God. It is impossible that Christ could break into this material, sinful world in his glory and not destroy all the works of sin. There is no secret rapture. To believe in a secret rapture means that you have a very bad idea of the Person and glory of Christ.

The destruction of all sinners

He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, and with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked. Isa 11:4

Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD! For what good *is* the day of the LORD to you? It *will be* darkness, and not light. It *will be* as though a man fled from a lion, And a bear met him! Or *as though* he went into the house, Leaned his hand **on** the wall, And a serpent bit him! *Is not* the day of the LORD darkness, and not light? *Is it not* very dark, with no brightness in it? Amos 5:18-20

Who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? Mal 3:2

His winnowing fan *is* in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire. Matt 3:12

'Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those vinedressers?' They said to Him, 'He will destroy those wicked men miserably'. Matt 21:40-41

Every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Lk 3:9

Then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. 2 Thess 2:8

The heavens and the earth *which* are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition [destruction] of ungodly men. 2 Pt 3:7

He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen. Rev 1:7

The wrath of the Lamb! For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand? Rev 6:16-17

Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And He has on *His* robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. Rev 19:15-16

Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone. And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse. And all the birds were filled with their flesh. Rev 19:20-21

The resurrection of the saints

The Lord comes with dead saints

For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. 1 Thess 4:14

For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 1 Thess 4:16

Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds. Jude 1:14-15

The elect on the Earth are raised up to meet the dead saints and all are resurrected in a new spiritual body

We ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body. Rm 8:23

We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed -- in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality. 1 Cor 15:51-53

So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality. 1 Cor 15:54

Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself. Phil 3:21

For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive *and* remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. 1 Thess 4:15

Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. 1 Thess 4:17

Concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him. 2 Thess 2:1

Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. 1 Jn 3:2

The destruction of the world

The heavens will vanish away like smoke, the earth will grow old like a garment, and those who dwell in it will die in like manner. Isa 51:6

The mountains quake before Him, the hills melt, and the earth heaves at His presence, Yes, the world and all who dwell in it. Who can stand before His indignation? And who can endure the fierceness of His anger? His fury is poured out like fire, and the rocks are thrown down by Him. Nahum 1:5-6

Heaven and earth will pass away. Mk 13:31

You, LORD, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. They will perish, but You remain; and they will all grow old like a garment; like a cloak You will fold them up, and they will be changed. Heb 1:10-12 / Ps 102:25-26

The heavens and the earth *which* are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. 2 Pt 3:7

The day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. 2 Pt 3:10

From whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. Rev 20:11

I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Rev 21:1

The General Resurrection of all men, past and present, to judgment

Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame *and* everlasting contempt. Dan 12:2

All who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth -- those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation. Jn 5:28-29

There will be a resurrection of *the* dead, both of *the* just and *the* unjust. Acts 24:15

Behold, the Lord comes ... to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds. Jude 1:14-15

Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. Rev 1:7

I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is *the Book of Life*. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. Rev 20:12-13

The Final Judgment; the Day of Judgment

He is coming, for He is coming to judge the earth. He shall judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with His truth. Ps 96:13

God will bring you into judgment. Eccles 11:9

For God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, whether good or evil. Eccles 12:14

I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the Day of Judgment. Matt 12:36

When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides *his* sheep from the goats. Matt 25:31-32

He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. Acts 17:31

The day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ. Rm 2:16

The Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of the hearts. 1 Cor 4:5

It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. Heb 10:31

Behold, the Lord comes ... to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him. Jude 1:14-15

And the dead were judged according to their works. Rev 20:12

The condemnation to Hell

Hell is symbolised by

- A lake of fire (Rev 19:20, 20:10, 14-15, 21:8).
- A pit (Ps 55:23, 143:7; Prov 1:12).
- An abyss or bottomless pit (Rev 9:2).
- A place of torment (Isa 66:24; Mk 9:44, 46, 48).
- A furnace (Matt 13:42).
- Outer darkness (Matt 22:13, 25:14).

Hell is called

- *Gehenna* (a Greek word translated as 'hell'; Matt 5:22, 29, 30).
- A place of condemnation (Matt 23:33).
- The second death (Rev 20:6, 14, 21:8).
- A resurrection of condemnation (Jn 5:28).

Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. Matt 10:28

How can you escape the condemnation of hell? Matt 23:33

This is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. Jn 3:19

The hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth -- those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation. Jn 5:28

He who was ordained by God *to be* Judge of the living and the dead. Acts 10:42

Judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation. Rm 5:18

Certain men ... who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ. Jude 1:4

Fear Him who, after He has killed, has power to cast into hell. Lk 12:5

The cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death. Rev 21:8

Hell is eternal

These will go away into everlasting [*aionios*, without end] punishment. Matt 25:46

He who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is subject to eternal [*aionios*] condemnation. Mk 3:29

These shall be punished with everlasting [*aionios*] destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power. 2 Thess 1:9

Suffering the vengeance of eternal [*aionios*] fire. Jude 1:7

For whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever [*aion*, forever, eternity]. Jude 1:13

They will be tormented day and night forever and ever [*aion*]. Rev 20:10

Hell includes punishment and torment

These will go away into everlasting punishment. Matt 25:46

He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. Rev 14:10

They will be tormented day and night forever and ever. Rev 20:10

Their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched. Mk 9:44, 46, 48; Isa 66:24

This includes: the loss of all good; judicial abandonment; separation from God; alienation; communion with evil people and divine punishments to fit sins committed, dreadful in degree and everlasting in duration. It is a terrifying vision that should spur evangelism.

Includes angels and men

The everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels. Matt 25:41

God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast *them* down to hell [*tartarus*, not hell] and delivered *them* into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment [in hell]. 2 Pt 2:4

The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet *are*. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever. Rev 20:10

Hades is not hell but the grave, the place of departed spirits

This is delineated in the OT by the word *Sheol* often wrongly translated as 'Hell', but more often as 'the grave', and in the NT by *Hades*. 'Hell' in Greek is the word *Gehenna* referring to the Valley of Hinnom rubbish dump, near Mt Zion, which was continually smoking. In previous history it was where apostate Jews burned their children to Molech in an area of the valley called *Tophet* ('fire-stove').

Under the Old Covenant, the righteous dead went to Hades in a place called Abraham's Bosom in bliss. After the cross they were taken out by Christ and placed in heaven awaiting the end. The righteous dead today go to heaven to be with Christ. The unrighteous dead await in torment in Hades for the end.

The wicked shall be turned into hell [*Sheol*]. Ps 9:17

Let death seize them; let them go down alive into hell [*Sheol*]. Ps 55:15

I made the nations shake at the sound of its fall, when I cast it down to hell [*Sheol*] together with those who descend into the Pit. Ezek 31:16

They also went down to hell [*Sheol*] with it, with those *slain* by the sword. Ezek 31:17

The beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. Lk 16:22

The rich man also died and was buried. and being in torments in Hades. Lk 16:22-23

You will not leave my [David] soul in Hades. Acts 2:14

Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades. Acts 2:31

I have the keys of Hades and of Death. Rev 1:18

The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. Rev 20:13-14

There is no communication between the dead and the living

There is a great gulf fixed, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us. Lk 16:26

Note that this means that all supposed communion with dead people is really talking to demons, masquerading as humans.

The tribunal of Christ for the elect

God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, whether good or evil. Eccles 12:14

We shall all stand before the judgment seat [*bema*] of Christ. Rm 14:10

Judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of the hearts. Then each one's praise will come from God. 1 Cor 4:5

We must all appear before the judgment seat [*bema*] of Christ, that each one may receive the things *done* in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. 2 Cor 5:10

Compare

I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is *the Book of Life*. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. Rev 20:11-12

The great white throne of condemnatory judgment is *megas leukos thronos*. This is not the same as the tribunal seat of Christ for the church.

The issuing of rewards

Say to the righteous that *it shall be well with them*, for they shall eat the fruit of their doings. Isa 3:10

His lord said to him, 'Well *done*, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things'. Matt 25:21

If anyone's work which he has built on *it* endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire. 1 Cor 3:14

Each one will receive his own reward according to his own labour. 1 Cor 3:8 Note: the reward is not salvation but something separate because it is given in response to our work (also Isa 3:10; Rev 22:12). Salvation has nothing to do with our work.

If anyone's work which he has built on *it* endures, he will receive a reward. 1 Cor 3:14

For if I do this [preach the Gospel] willingly, I have a reward. 1 Cor 9:17 Note the 'if'.

Let no one cheat you of your reward. Col 2:18 Note: you can be cheated out of your reward and lose it.

Look to yourselves, that we do not lose those things we worked for, but *that* we may receive a full reward. 2 Jn 1:8 Note that we can receive a full reward or lose part of it.

That You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints, and those who fear Your name, small and great. Rev 11:18

I am coming quickly, and My reward *is* with Me, to give to every one according to his work. Rev 22:12

The suffering of loss

For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on this foundation *with* gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. If anyone's work which he has built on *it* endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire. 1 Cor 3:11-15

We must all appear before the judgment seat [*bema*] of Christ, that each one may receive the things *done* in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. 2 Cor 5:10

All genuine Christians will be eternally saved; the doctrine of perseverance proves this (see 'Doctrines of Grace'). However, Christians can suffer loss of privileges for being faithless in their service. The parables of the Talents and Pounds express this idea. There is a judgment of service for Christ. Those who are fruitful will receive positions of responsibility ('prince over ten cities'); those who are faithless will still enjoy bliss but will have lower positions of responsibility.

'Bad' in 2 Cor 5:10 is *kakon* in the Byzantine text and *phaulon* in the Alexandrian eclectic text. Both mean 'evil' or 'worthless'. There is a real sense of loss here.

The restoration of the Earth

For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected *it* in hope; because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groans and labours with birth pangs together until now. Rm 8:20-22

Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. 2 Pt 3:13

I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Rev 21:1

The Earth will become perfect as it was in the Garden of Eden, with no trace of sinful man anywhere to be seen. All will be harmonious and loving, with no death in the animal kingdom.

Heaven on Earth; God dwells with man

This was the original purpose of election – man’s fellowship with God in purity.

I will walk among you and be your God, and you shall be My people. Lev 26:12

My tabernacle also shall be with them; indeed I will be their God, and they shall be My people. Ezek 37:27

Jesus answered and said to him, ‘If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him’. Jn 14:23

For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: ‘I will dwell in them and walk among *them*. I will be their God, and they shall be My people’. 2 Cor 6:16

He who sits on the throne will dwell among them [those with white robes]. Rev 7:15

And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, ‘Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them *and be* their God’. Rev 21:3

Final glory of the saints

Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him. 1 Cor 2:8

Transformed

Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed -- in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality. So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: ‘Death is swallowed up in victory’. 1 Cor 15:51-54

But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord. 2 Cor 3:18

The Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself. Phil 3:20-21

Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. 1 Jn 3:2

Share in the glory of Christ

Our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory. 2 Cor 4:17

Christ in you, the hope of glory. Col 1:27

When Christ *who is* our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory. Col 3:4

He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Thess 2:14

That the genuineness of your faith, *being* much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honour, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ. 1 Pt 1:7

I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that will be revealed. 1 Pt 5:1

When the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away. 1 Pt 5:4

The God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus. 1 Pt 5:10

Fully sanctified

I, the LORD, sanctify Israel, when My sanctuary is in their midst forevermore. Ezek 37:28

For their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified. Jn 17:19

Brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified. Acts 20:32

So that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Thess 3:13

For this is the will of God, your sanctification. 1 Thess 4:3

Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you *is* faithful, who also will do *it*. 1 Thess 5:23-24

Part of the consummation of salvation is complete sanctification at the end (not before). If this were not true then there would have to be a Purgatory since all inhabitants of the new world are holy.

No suffering or death

The people shall dwell in Zion at Jerusalem; you shall weep no more. Isa 30:19

The Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces. Isa 35:8

And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing, with everlasting joy on their heads. They shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away. Isa 35:10

The voice of weeping shall no longer be heard in her, or the voice of crying. Isa 65:19

The last enemy *that* will be destroyed *is* death. 1 Cor 15:26

When this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: 'Death is swallowed up in victory'. 1 Cor 15:54

That through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. Heb 2:14-15

God will wipe away every tear from their eyes. Rev 7:17

God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away. Rev 21:4

The emphasis of NT books

The Gospels

Four separate but united views of Christ to be a testimony to Jesus Christ, the Son of God and only Saviour. The purpose of the four is to give a full-orbed story of Jesus from every standpoint, each writer describing an aspect of Christ not shared by the others.

Since the early church period the Gospels have been identified with the four cherubic symbols of Ezekiel (see 'Angelology, cherubim' earlier), Augustine identifies Matthew with a lion;¹² Mark to a man; Luke to an ox¹³ (some writers switch Mark and Luke) and John to an eagle.¹⁴

The first three Gospels centre on Jesus' ministry in Galilee and don't concentrate on his visits to Jerusalem until his final visit. John centres on Jesus' ministry in Judaea. Jesus' discourses and parables in the first three focus upon us while those in John centre upon the Lord's own purpose. The similarities between the first three Gospels have led to them being called 'The Synoptic¹⁵ Gospels'.¹⁶

Matthew

Written to Jews. The testimony of Christ as Messiah, King and fulfilment of OT prophecies. Matthew is related to the past. Matthew is the preacher.

Mark

Written to Roman Gentiles. The testimony of Christ as the Servant of God as a man. Intense activity in serving God. The humanity of Christ is prominent. Mark's source was chiefly Peter. Mark is related to the present. Mark is the chronicler.

Luke

Written to Greek Gentiles. The testimony of Christ as the Servant of God, the Son of Man and Saviour of mankind given in sacrifice. Luke's sources were many witnesses plus the influence of Paul. Luke is related to the future. Luke is the historian.

John

Written to Christians and seeking people. The testimony of Christ as the Word of God, the eternal Son of God. Emphasises Christ's divinity. 'These are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name', Jn 20:31. John is related to eternity. John is the philosopher.

Acts

Written to Gentiles. The testimony of Christ as exhibited in the church which is his body. The continuing activity of Christ witnessed through the church.

Romans

Written to Gentile Christians. The testimony of Christ in the explanation of the Gospel and righteousness. The theological explanation of salvation. The cross as the wisdom of God. Christians are justified in Christ.

¹² Symbolising kingship.

¹³ Symbolising sacrifice.

¹⁴ Symbolising heavenly.

¹⁵ From the Greek meaning 'seeing together'.

¹⁶ The 'Synoptic Problem' refers to the discussion of how this similarity came about. There is no clear resolution of this and it matters nothing.

1 Corinthians

Written to Gentile Christians. The testimony of Jesus as the crucified and resurrected Saviour. The cross as the power of God. It also deals with disorders in the church. Christians are sanctified in Christ.

2 Corinthians

Written to Gentile Christians. The testimony of Jesus through the Gospel and apostleship. The ministers and ministry of the Gospel. The authority of Christ's apostle.

Galatians

Written to Celtic Christians. The testimony of Christ as the bringer of liberty. The defence of Christ and his Gospel to believers that had been corrupted by false teaching elevating Judaism. Confrontation of Judaizing heretics. Christians are liberated in Christ.

Ephesians

Written to Gentile Christians as a circular letter (not just to Ephesus). The testimony of Christ as the mystery of God in the church which is his body. The decree, or the eternal purpose and plan of God. Christians are exalted in Christ. The exalted Christ and the church in God's plan. The unity of Christ with believers.

Philippians

Written to Gentile Christians. The testimony of Jesus the suffering servant of God. Christians rejoice in Christ.

Colossians

Written to Gentile Christians. The testimony of Jesus as the sovereignty and fulness of God. The pre-eminence of Jesus. Christians are complete in Christ. The fulness of Christ, who is God, in the church. Confrontation of Judaism and Gnosticism.

1 Thessalonians

Written to Gentile Christians. The testimony of Jesus to be exhibited in his triumphant return. Comfort regarding the return of Christ. Focus: eschatology. Christ is the hope of Christians.

2 Thessalonians

Written to Gentile Christians. The testimony of Jesus returning in glory and judgment. Focus: eschatology. Christians are glorified in Christ

The Pastoral Letters

1 Timothy, 2 Timothy and Titus are called the 'Pastoral Letters'.

1 Timothy

Written to a Christian leader. The testimony of Jesus in church doctrine, worship and ministry. Explanation of church offices. Warnings about false teachers and confrontation of Gnosticism.

2 Timothy

Written to a Christian leader. The testimony of Jesus in faithful church ministry. The qualities, discipline and fulfilment of ministry. Christians are victorious in Christ.

Titus

Written to a Christian co-worker overseeing the church in Crete. The testimony of Jesus in the good order of the church. The rule, walk and state of the church. The good works of the Christian are the fruit of Christ.

Philemon

Written to a Gentile (Colossian) Christian. The testimony of Jesus in brotherly fellowship.

Hebrews

Written to Jewish Christians. The testimony of Jesus as greater than angels, Moses, Jewish priests, the Tabernacle and the Jewish Levitical religious system. Christ is greater than all. An exhortation to press on in faith in the Gospel and not return to Hebrew dead forms. A warning against apostasy.

The Catholic Letters

Universal ('catholic') letters. The general letters of James, Jude, Peter and John. While Paul centres on doctrine, James concentrates on ethical practice, Peter on suffering and experience, Jude is an exhortation and John on obedience to Christ. While Paul majors on faith, James focuses on works, Jude on defending the faith, Peter on hope and John on love.

James

Written to Jewish Christians. The testimony of Jesus in the fruit of faith, obedience and good works.

1 Peter

Written to suffering Christians dispersed abroad, both Jews and Gentiles. The testimony of Jesus in the spirit of hope in adversity. Encouragement in trial. The experience of the believer in suffering.

2 Peter

Written to Christians. The testimony of Jesus in the full knowledge of God. Christian progress in grace comes by knowledge leading to right action and virtue. Confrontation of errors. Explanation of the end of the world.

1 John

Written to Christians, probably originally in Ephesus (it is a circular letter). The testimony of Jesus in the assurance of salvation for believers. Christ is light, love and life. Loving fellowship with God in Christ and with each other. Confrontation of Gnosticism.

2 John

Written to Christians. The address to the 'elect lady' may be symbolic of a local church, a region of churches but possibly an individual. The testimony of Jesus as the truth. Importance of the doctrine of the incarnation.

3 John

Written to a Christian called Gaius. The testimony of Jesus in hospitality. Confrontation of an apostate minister (Diotrephes).

Jude

Written to Christians. The testimony of Jesus in confronting heresy and aberrant behaviour. A critique of licentiousness.

Apocalyptic

Revelation is in a category of its own, apocalyptic: prophecy regarding the end of the world.

Revelation

Written to Christians. The testimony of Jesus in the panorama of church history. The explanation of the spiritual war between God and Satan played out in the world and the

church concentrating on the victory of Christ. An encouragement to churches in all ages that God is sovereign in this battle. The book is written as a series of seven parallel visions covering the period of salvation history.

Discerning good and false teaching

The need to discern the truth

Give to Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and evil. 1 Kg 3:9

'Do not let your prophets and your diviners who are in your midst deceive you ... For they prophesy falsely to you in My name; I have not sent them', says the LORD. Jer 29:8-9

Jesus answered and said to them: 'Take heed that no one deceives you'. Matt 24:4

When they [Paul and Silas] arrived, they went into the synagogue of the [Berean] Jews. These were more fair-minded [noble, without prejudice] than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily *to find out* whether these things were so. Acts 17:10-11

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. Rm 12:2

He who is spiritual judges all things. 1 Cor 2:15

Judge for yourselves what I say. 1 Cor 10:15

Judge among yourselves. 1 Cor 11:13

That we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting. Eph 4:14

Let no one deceive you with empty words. Eph 5:6

Finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. Eph 5:10

Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord *is*. Eph 5:17

Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit. Col 2:8

Let no one cheat you of your reward, taking delight in *false* humility and worship of angels, intruding into those things which he has not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind. Col 2:18

Test all things; hold fast what is good. 1 Thess 5:21

Let no one deceive you by any means. 2 Thess 2:3

Approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ. Phil 1:10

Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. 2 Tim 2:15 ['Dividing' = cutting a straight path, hold a straight course, i.e. teach accurately.]

Solid food belongs to those who are of full age, *that is*, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil. Heb 5:14

Beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked; but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus. 2 Pt 3:17-18

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world. 1 Jn 4:1

Good teaching follows apostolic doctrine

They continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine. Acts 2:42

Keep the traditions just as I delivered *them* to you. 1 Cor 11:2

If anyone thinks himself to be a prophet or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things which I write to you are the commandments of the Lord. 1 Cor 14:37

Having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets. Eph 2:20 [I.e. the OT and the NT.]

You must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned *them*. 2 Tim 3:14

Beloved, I now write to you this second epistle (in *both of which* I stir up your pure minds by way of reminder), that you may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us, the apostles of the Lord and Saviour. 2 Pt 3:1-2

Remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ. Jude 1:17

Many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour. They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but *they went out* that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us. 1 Jn 2:18-19

We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error. 1 Jn 4:6

Good teaching arises from Scripture

How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word. With my whole heart I have sought You; Oh, let me not wander from Your commandments! Ps 119:9-10

Your word *is* a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. Ps 119:105

The entirety of Your word *is* truth. Ps 119:160

Give me understanding according to Your word. Ps 119:169

Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God. Lk 4:4

My brothers are these who hear the word of God and do it. Lk 8:21

Blessed *are* those who hear the word of God and keep it! Lk 11:28

Not walking in craftiness nor handling the word of God deceitfully, but by manifestation of the truth. 2 Cor 4:2

The word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe. 1 Thess 2:13

You are strong, and the word of God abides in you. 1 Jn 2:14

Good teaching centres on Christ: the focus of Scripture

Beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself. Lk 24:27

All things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and *the* Prophets and *the* Psalms concerning Me. Lk 24:44

You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. Jn 5:39

Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, 'If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free'. Jn 8:31-32

However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own *authority*, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare *it* to you. Jn 16:13-14

To Him all the prophets witness. Acts 10:43

To Him all the prophets witness. Acts 13:27

Till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God. Eph 4:13

That in all things He may have the pre-eminence. Col 1:18

Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith. Heb 12:2

That you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvellous light. 1 Pt 2:9

The word of God, and to the testimony of Jesus Christ. Rev 1:2

The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy. Rev 19:10

True doctrine follows a desire to do God's will

Who *is* the man that fears the LORD? Him shall He teach in the way He chooses. Ps 25:12

Jesus answered them and said, 'My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me. If anyone wants to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God or *whether* I speak on My own *authority*. He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of the One who sent Him is true, and no unrighteousness is in Him'. Jn 7:16-18

There are many false teachers

Many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many. Matt 24:5

Many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. Matt 24:11

False christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. Matt 24:24

After my [Paul] departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. Acts 20:29-30

For such *are* false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. 2 Cor 11:13

And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. Therefore *it is* no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works. 2 Cor 11:14-15

The Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron. 1 Tim 4:1-2

But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away! 2 Tim 3:1-5

For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, *because* they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn *theirears* away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. 2 Tim 4:3-4

But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. 2 Tim 3:13

For there are many insubordinate, both idle talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision [Jews], whose mouths must be stopped. Titus 1:10-11

There will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, *and* bring on themselves swift destruction. And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed. By covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words; for a long time their judgment has not been idle, and their destruction does not slumber. 2 Pt 2:1-3

Even now many antichrists have come. 1 Jn 2:18

False teachers follow their own lusts, deceit and ideas to cause offences

Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offences, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them. For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple. Rm 16:17-18

That we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting. Eph 4:14

Scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts. 2 Pt 3:3

False teachers twist God's word

I see the treacherous, and am disgusted, because they do not keep Your word. Ps 119:158

Making the word of God of no effect through your tradition which you have handed down. Mk 7:13

We have renounced the hidden things of shame, not walking in craftiness nor handling the word of God deceitfully. 2 Cor 4:2

Deceit is the great enemy

There are very many Greek words (at least 15) used to describe the process of deception and erroneous teaching is one of the chief subjects of the NT. The main root words are:

- *Plan*: *plane* (noun, wandering from the truth, Eph 4:14); *planos* (adjective, leading astray, seducing, 1 Tim 4:1); *planao* (verb, to go astray, Matt 18:12).
- *Apate*: *apate* (noun, deceit, Heb 3:13); *apatao* (verb, deceive, beguile, Eph 5:6); *exapateo* (verb, to thoroughly beguile, 1 Tim 2:14); *phrenapateo* (verb, to deceive in one's mind, self-conceit, Gal 6:3); *phrenapates* (noun, a mind deceiver, Titus 1:10).
- *Dolos*: *Dolos* (noun, snare, deceit, guile, Mk 7:22); *Dolios* (adjective, deceitful); *Doloo* (verb, to lure with a bait, deceive, Rm 3:13); *Doloo* (verb, to ensnare, corrupt, 2 Cor 4:2).
- There are several other minor words.

The main sense in the New Testament is the enticing to error and sin by wrong thinking (2 Cor 11:3; 1 Tim 2:14; Rm 7:11); accepting what is false as if it were true. Deception begins in wrong thinking, wrong doctrine. This is why sound instruction is so important.

Deliver me from the deceitful. Ps 43:1

The wicked *man* does deceptive work. Prov 11:18

The counsels of the wicked *are* deceitful. Prov 12:5

Cursed *be* the deceiver. Mal 1:14

Many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. Matt 24:11

Many will come in My name, saying, 'I am *He*', and will deceive many. Mk 13:1

The coming of the *lawless one* is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception. 2 Thess 2:9-10

Many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed. By covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words. 2 Pt 2:2-3

These things I have written to you concerning those who *try to* deceive you. 1 Jn 2:26

Many deceivers have gone out into the world. 2 Jn 1:7

Satan thrives on deception

Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. 2 Cor 11:14

The snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to *do* his will. 2 Tim 2:26

The great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world. Rev 12:9

So that he [Satan] should deceive the nations no more. Rev 20:3

[Satan] will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth. Rev 20:8

The devil, who deceived them. Rev 20:10

Christians can be deceived

Take heed to yourselves, lest your heart be deceived. Deut 11:16

For false christs and false prophets will rise and show signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. Mk 13:22

Do not be deceived: 'Evil company corrupts good habits'. 1 Cor 15:33

If anyone thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. Gal 6:3

Do not be deceived. Gal 6:7

We should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting. Eph 4:14

This I say lest anyone should deceive you with persuasive words. Col 2:4

Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit. Col 2:8

Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons. 1 Tim 4:1

Let no one deceive you by any means. 2 Thess 2:3

That they may come to their senses *and escape* the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to *do* his will. 2 Tim 2:26

Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren. Jm 1:16

Be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. Jm 1:22

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 1 Jn 1:8

Little children, let no one deceive you. 1 Jn 3:7

False teaching denies that Jesus is God in the flesh

For example: Arianism, Christadelphianism, Jehovah's Witnesses, Docetism etc.

Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son. Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either; he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also. 1 Jn 2:22-23

By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the *spirit* of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world. 1 Jn 3:2-3

Many deceivers have gone out into the world who do not confess Jesus Christ *as* coming in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist. Look to yourselves, that we do not lose those things we worked for, but *that* we may receive a full reward. Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son. If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into your house nor greet him; for he who greets him shares in his evil deeds. 2 Jn 1:7-11

False teaching curtails liberty

And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. Jn 8:32 [Therefore, false teaching brings bondage.]

This occurred because of false brethren secretly brought in (who came in by stealth to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage). Gal 2:4

How *is it that* you turn again to the weak and beggarly elements [of false teaching], to which you desire again to be in bondage? Gal 4:9

Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage. Gal 5:1

That they may come to their senses *and escape* the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to *do* his will. 2 Tim 2:26

While they [false teachers] promise them liberty, they themselves are slaves of corruption; for by whom a person is overcome, by him also he is brought into bondage. 1 Pt 2:19

False teaching is destructive

Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. Matt 7:15

After my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. Acts 20:29-30

That we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting. Eph 4:14

For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, *because* they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn *their* ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. 2 Tim 4:3-4

For there are many insubordinate, both idle talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision, whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole households, teaching things which they ought not, for the sake of dishonest gain. Titus 1:10

There were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies. 2 Pt 2:1

Conclusion

Despite trying to be as comprehensive as possible in a short space, there are hundreds of texts that could have been supplied, but space does not allow. This paper is merely a sample that could be extended.

These are good proof texts for your faith; even the small selection here proves that. I urge readers to seek to become familiar with the main verses that prove doctrine; it will stand you in good stead.

Soli Deo Gloria

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