

EVANGELISM & MISSIONS

(Supreme Task of the Church)

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EVANGELISM & MISSIONS

1. CONDITION OF MAN

A. “The Lord looks down from heaven on the sons of men...*All have turned aside...they have together become corrupt; there is no one who does good, not even one.*” (Psalm 14:2-3)

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- B. (David again said) “...*no one* living is righteous before you.” (Psalm 143:2)
- C. “Who can say, ‘I have kept my heart pure, *I am clean and without sin*?’” (Prov. 20:9)
- D. “Can the Ethiopian change his skin or the leopard its spots? Neither can you do good who are *accustomed to doing evil*.” (Jeremiah 13:23)

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- E. “Jews and Gentiles alike are *all under sin...for all have sinned*, and fall short of the glory of God...” (Romans 3:9, 23).

- F. “As for you, you were dead in your *transgressions and sins.*” (Eph. 2:1)

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G. “All of us have become like one who is *unclean*, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our *sins* sweep us away.” (Isa. 64:6)

H. “If we claim to be *without sin*, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us...If we claim we have not *sinned*, we make Him out to be a liar...” (I John 1:8, 10)

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2. CAPTIVITY OF SATAN

A. “...you followed the ways of this world and of *the kingdom of the air*, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.” (Eph. 2:2)

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- B. “...and that they will come to their senses and *escape from the trap of the devil*, who has taken them captive to do his will.” (II Tim. 2:26)
- C. “I am sending you to them (Gentiles) to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and *from the power of Satan to God*, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in Me.” (Acts 26:17-18)

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3. CONTROL OF WORLD

A. “Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the *prince of this world* will be driven out.... I will not speak with you much longer, for the *prince of this world* is coming. He has no hold on Me.” (John 12:31; 14:30)

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B. “For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the *powers of this dark world*, and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.” (Eph. 6:12)

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C. “As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you *followed the ways of this world* and the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature the objects of wrath.” (Eph. 2:1-3)

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- D. So the Bible clearly teaches that *Satan* is the “Prince...ruler...god of this world!”
- E. “*Do not love the world* or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For everything in the world – the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does – comes not from the Father but from the world.” (1 John 2:15-16)

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F. “Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. *Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world*, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is – His good, pleasing and perfect will.” (Romans 12:1-2)

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4. CORRUPTION OF CULTURE

A. *“For the customs of the peoples are worthless; they cut a tree out of the forest, and a craftsman shapes it with his chisel.”* (Jer. 10:3)

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- B. “See to it that no one takes you captive through *hollow and deceptive philosophy*, which depends on *human tradition* and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ.” (Col. 2:8)
- C. “As I urged you...command certain men not to teach *false doctrines* any longer nor to devote themselves to *myths and endless genealogies*. These promote controversies rather than God’s work – which is by faith.” (I Tim. 1:3-4)

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D. “...though I myself have reasons for such confidence. If anyone else thinks he has reasons to put *confidence in the flesh*, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee...” (Phil. 3:4-5)

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Note:

Every culture has its own “**false doctrines**”... “**myths**” and “**endless genealogies**” upon which much of their *religion, tribalism, caste systems, folklore*, etc., are based. These are the “**human traditions**” (Col. 2:8) by which people “... **nullify the word of God**” (Matthew 15:6)!

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Principle:

Anytime there is a conflict between Christ and culture; then *culture must bow to Christ* -- never should Christ bow to culture! As Christians, we are not called to spread our *American Culture...European Culture...African Culture...Asian Culture* -- but the *Culture of the Kingdom of God!*

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5. CERTAINTY OF DEATH

A. “You must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it *you will surely die.*” (Gen. 2:17)

B. “By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and *to dust you will return.*” (Gen. 3:19)

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- C. “Just as man is destined to *die once*, and after that to face judgment.” (Hebrews 9:27)
- D. “Since the children have flesh and blood, He too shared in their humanity so that *by His death He might destroy him who holds the power of death* - that is, the devil - and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.” (Hebrews 2:14-15)

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6. CONDEMNATION OF HELL

A. “Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, *be afraid of the One (God) who can destroy both soul and body in hell.*” (Matthew 10:28)

B. Then He will say to those on his left ‘Depart from me, you who are cursed, *into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.*’ (Matthew 25:41)

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C. “The rich man died and was buried. *In hell* where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side.” (Luke 16:22-23)

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D. “...If God did not spare angels when they sinned, but *sent them to hell*, putting them into gloomy dungeons to be held for judgment; if He did not spare the ancient world when He brought the flood on the ungodly people...if He condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah by burning them to ashes, and made them an example of what is going to happen to the ungodly...if this is so, then the Lord knows how...to hold the unrighteous for the day of judgment. This is especially true of those who follow the corrupt desires of the sinful nature and despise authority.” (II Pet. 2:4-10)

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E. See also: Matthew 5:29-30; 23:15; 23:33

Note:

Jesus spoke about the reality of hell more than anyone else in the New Testament.

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7. COMPASSION OF GOD

Principle:

“All theology which is the study of the nature of God - must begin with a *correct concept of God.*” Therefore, *no religion can rise any higher than its concept of God.*

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- A. “The Lord is *compassionate* and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.” (Psalm 103:8)

- B. “The Lord is full of *compassion and mercy.*” (James 5:11)

- C. “...God our Savior...*wants all men to be saved* and to come to a knowledge of the truth.” (I Tim. 2:4)

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- D. “The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, *not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.*” (II Pet. 3:9)
- E. “Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, tolerance and patience, not realizing that *God’s kindness leads you toward repentance?*” (Romans 2:4)

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God responded to Jonah 4:11: “...Should I not *be concerned about that great city?*”

F. “He prayed to the Lord...I knew that You are a *gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity.*”
(Jonah 4:2)

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God responded to Jonah 4:11: “...Should I not *be concerned* about that great City?”

G. Paul calls God: “The Father of **Compassion**” (II Cor. 1:3)

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H. *Christ was the Incarnation of the Father's Compassion for mankind:*

(1) **“When He saw the crowds, He had *compassion* on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.” (Matthew 9:36)**

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- (2) (Feeding of 5,000) “When Jesus...saw a large crowd, He had *compassion* on them and healed their sick.” (Matthew 14:14)
- (3) (Feeding of 4,000) “Jesus called His disciples to Him and said, ‘I have *compassion* for these people; they have already been with me three days and have nothing to eat’...” (Matthew 15:32)

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(4) (Two blind men in Jericho who kept crying out to Jesus) “Jesus had *compassion* on them and touched their eyes. Immediately they received their sight and followed Him.” (Matthew 20:34)

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(5) “A man with leprosy came to Him and begged Him on his knees, ‘If you are willing, you can make me clean.’ *Filled with compassion*, Jesus reached out His hand and touched the man. ‘I am willing,’ He said. ‘Be clean!’ Immediately the leprosy left him and he was cured.” (Mark 1:40-42)

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- I. Jesus told 3 Parables that show the Compassion of God:
 - (1) The *Good Samaritan* who had *compassion* on the man who fell among thieves (Luke 10:25ff);
 - (2) The *loving father* in the story of the Prodigal son, who saw his son while he was a long way off “...and was filled with *compassion* for him and threw his arms around him and kissed him.” (Luke 15:20)

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(3) The *gracious king* who had *compassion* on his servant and forgave him an unpayable debt. (Matthew 18:21ff).

But *what is compassion?*

J. *Compassion* comes from the Greek word; *splanchnizomai*, meaning “*to be deeply moved in the inward parts.*”

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- (1) So it means to be “*deeply moved inwardly*”-- not superficially.
- (2) It is an “*inward response to an outer situation that moves one to involvement.*”
- (3) Compassion then is this: “*A loving reaction that compels loving action!*”

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8. COMMAND OF CHRIST

A. “Therefore *go* and *make disciples* of all nations, *baptizing* them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and *teaching* them to obey everything I have commanded you...” (Matthew 28:19-20)

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(1) Only Command - *Make disciples*”

(2) 3 Participles – “*Going...Baptizing...Teaching*”

(3) That’s how we “**make disciples**”--by
going...baptizing...teaching!

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- B.** “He said to them, ‘*Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation.* Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.’” (Mark 16:15-16)
- C.** “...and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be *preached in His name to all nations,* beginning at Jerusalem.” (Luke 24:47)

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D. “Again Jesus said, ‘Peace be with you! *As the Father has sent Me, I am sending you.*’” (John 20:21)

9. CLOTHING OF HOLY SPIRIT

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- A. “You are witnesses of these things. I am going to send you what My Father has promised but stay in the city until you have been *clothed with power from on high.*” (Luke 24:48-49)
- B. “I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me will come One who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not fit to carry. *He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.*” (Matthew 3:11)

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C. “*But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.*” (Acts 1:8)

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10. CONTENTION OF SCRIPTURE

Note:

The Bible makes it absolutely clear that it is a *unique Revelation* about a *unique Incarnation*. Jesus Christ is not just another in a long line of religious prophets or teachers -- He is the one *God-Man* of history! He has no peer...no equal...no contemporary!

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Jesus said:

- (1) ***“I am the Bread of Life...”*** (John 6:35)
- (2) ***“I am the light of the world...”*** (John 8:12)
- (3) ***“I am the resurrection and the life”*** (John 11:25)
- (4) ***“I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”*** (John 14:6)

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- (5) “...Before Abraham was born, *I am.*” (John 8:58) (See Exodus 3:14)
- (6) “I and the Father are one.” (John 10:30)
- (7) “He who has seen Me has seen the Father.” (John 14:9)

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John said:

- (1) “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and *the Word was God...*” (John 1:1)
- (2) “And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the *glory of the One and Only*, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.” (John 1:14)

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Paul said:

- (1) “...Christ, who is the *image* of God.” (II Cor. 4:4; Col. 1:15)
- (2) “For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form...” (Col. 2:9)
- (3) “...Christ Jesus, Who, being in very nature God,...” (Phil. 2:5-6)

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- (4) “For through Him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.” (Eph. 2:18)

- (5) “For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.” (I Tim. 2:5)

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Peter said:

- (1) On the day of Pentecost) “**God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both *Lord* and *Christ*”** (Acts 2:36).
- (2) “**Salvation is found in no one else, for there is *no other Name* under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.**” (Acts 4:12)

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11. CONTRADICTION OF RELIGION

A. In our *pluralistic world* where we worship at the *altar of tolerance*, there is the popular belief that says: “*All religions are the same...all roads lead to the top of the mountain.*”

B. *Universalism* wrongly teaches that all of mankind will ultimately be saved, either by God, or by their own human efforts or religious works.

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C. (Moses recounts Israel's unfaithfulness)

“They *sacrificed to demons*, which are not God - gods they had not known, gods that recently appeared, gods your fathers did not fear.” (Deut. 32:17)

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D. (Paul compares the “idol feasts” with the “Lord’s Table”) “...*the sacrifices of pagans are offered to demons, not to God, and I do not want you to be participants with demons. You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the *cup of demons* too; you cannot have a part in both the Lord’s Table and the table of demons.*” (I Cor. 10:20-21)

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E. (Reason for not being “unequally yoked” with unbelievers) **“Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. *For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? What harmony is there between Christ and Belial?*”** (II Cor. 6:14-15)

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F. (After the plagues of judgment by the seven angels, which kill 1/3 of mankind) **“The rest of mankind that were not killed by these plagues still did not repent of the work of their hands; they did not stop *worshipping demons, and idols* of gold, silver, bronze, stone and wood--idols that cannot see or hear or walk. Nor did they repent of their murders, their magic arts, their sexual immorality or their thefts.”** (Rev. 9:20-21)

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- G.** *So Satan, not God, is the animating force behind all other religions. Through these religions, man is not worshipping God - but rather worshiping demons!*
- H.** *As the only revealed religion, Christianity alone is under the control of God through His Holy Spirit!*
- I.** *All other religions definitely have another god behind them other than the true and living God of the Bible.*

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J. Our responsibility therefore is very clear:

“When I say to the wicked, ‘O wicked man, you will surely die,’ and you do not speak out to dissuade him from his ways, that wicked man will die for his sin, and *I will hold you accountable for his blood.*” (Ezek. 33:8)

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12. CONFUSION OF CULTS

A. “Jesus told them another parable: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. But while everyone was sleeping, *his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat*, and went away. When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared. The owner’s servants came to him and said, ‘Sir, didn’t you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from? *An enemy did this,*’ he replied.

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The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?' 'No,' he answered, 'because while you are pulling the weeds, you may root up the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First *collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.*'" (Matthew 13:24-30)

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B. Paul wrote to the Corinthian Church to expose the false apostles:

“For such men are *false apostles*, deceitful workmen, masquerading as apostles of Christ. And no wonder for even *Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.*” (II Cor. 11:13-14)

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13. CLAIM OF GOSPEL

A. “After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the *good news* of God. ‘The time has come,’ he said. ‘The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the *good news*!’”
(Mark 1:14-15)

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B. “The Spirit of the Lord is on Me, because He has anointed Me to *preach good news* to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” (Luke 4:18-19)

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C. “That is why I am so eager to *preach the Gospel* also to you who are at Rome.”
Romans 1:15)

D. “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, *he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!*” (II Cor. 5:17)

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14. COMPLETENESS OF PERSONHOOD

A. “For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, and *you have been given fullness in Christ*, who is the head over every power and authority.” (Col. 2:9-10: “...*in Him you have been made complete*” NASV)

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B. “And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord’s glory, are being *transformed into His likeness* with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.” (II Cor. 3:18)

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15. COMMUNITY OF CHURCH

A. “They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to the *fellowship*, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done, by the apostles. All the believers were *together and had everything in common*.

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Selling their possessions and goods, *they gave to anyone as he had need*. Every day they continued to meet *together* in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate *together* with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.” (Acts 2:42-47)

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B. “All the believers were *one in heart and mind*. No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but *they shared everything they had*. With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and much grace was upon them all. There were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles’ feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need.

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Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means Son of Encouragement), sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet." (Acts 4:32-37)

C. *"You supplied my own needs and the needs of my companions. In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus Himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive'."* (Acts 20:34-35)

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16. COMMUNION OF PRAYER

A. “This, then, is how you should pray:
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be
Your name, Your kingdom come, Your
will be done on earth as it is in
heaven. Give us today our daily
bread. Forgive us our debts, as we
also have forgiven our debtors. And lead
us not into temptation, but
deliver us from the evil
one.” (Matthew 6:9-13)

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B. **“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened. Which of you, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, *how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask Him!*” (Matthew 7:7-11)**

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C. “For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by Him we cry, *‘Abba, Father.’* The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children.” (Romans 8:15-16)

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17. COVENANT OF MARRIAGE

A. “For this reason a man will *leave his father and mother* and be *united* to his wife, and they will become *one flesh*.” (Genesis 2:24)

B. (The adulterous woman) “...who has left the partner of her youth and ignored the *covenant* she made before God.” (Prov. 2:17)

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- C. You ask, 'Why?' It is because the Lord is acting as the witness between you and the wife of your youth, because you have broken faith with her, though she is your partner, the wife of your *marriage covenant*." (Mal. 2:14)
- D. "*Submit to one another* out of reverence for Christ. *Wives submit* to your husbands as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, His body, of which He is the Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

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Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to Himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church - for we are members of His body.

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‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.’ This is a *profound mystery* - but I am talking about Christ and the church. However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.” (Eph. 5:21-33)

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18. CONSUMMATION OF KINGDOM

A. (Daniel to Nebuchadnezzar) “...*the God of heaven will set up a Kingdom that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people. It will crush all those kingdoms and bring them to an end, but it will itself endure forever.*” (Daniel 2:44)

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- B. “Your Kingdom is an *everlasting Kingdom*, and your dominion endures through all generations.” (Psalm 145:13) (See Ex. 15:18; I Tim. 1:17; II Pet. 1:11).
- C. “How great are His signs, how mighty His b wonders! *His Kingdom is an eternal kingdom*; His dominion endures from generation to generation.” (Daniel 4:3)
- D. “...*Your kingdom come*, Your will be done...” (Matthew 6:10)

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- E. “But seek first *His kingdom* and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.” (Matthew 6:33)
- F. “Then the end will come, when He (Jesus) hands over the *Kingdom to God the Father* after He has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet.” (I Cor. 15:24-25)

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- G. “The Kingdom of the world has become the *Kingdom of our Lord* and of His Christ, and He will reign for ever and ever.” (Rev. 11:15)

- H. “Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you *the Kingdom.*” (Luke 12:32)

- I. “...we are receiving a *Kingdom that cannot be shaken...*” (Hebrews 12:28)

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19. CONFLAGRATION OF COSMOS

A. “By the same word the present heavens and earth are *reserved for fire*, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men...But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; *the elements will be destroyed by fire*, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare.” (II Peter. 3:7-10)

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B. “All this is evidence that God’s judgment is right, and as a result you will be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are suffering. God is just: He will pay back trouble to those who trouble you and give relief to you who are troubled, and to us as well. This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven *in blazing fire* with his powerful angels. He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the Gospel of our Lord Jesus.

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They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the majesty of His power on the day He comes to be glorified in His holy people and to be marveled at among all those who have believed. This includes you, because you believed our testimony to you.” (II Thess. 1:5-10)

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20. CITIZENSHIP OF HEAVEN

A. “But *our citizenship is in heaven.* And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ.” (Phil. 3:20)

B. “Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade - *kept in heaven for you,*”

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- C. “Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building for God, an *eternal house in heaven*, not built by human hands.” (II Cor. 5:1)
- D. “You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, to the church of the firstborn, whose names are *written in heaven*. You have come to God, the judge of all men, to the spirits of righteous men made perfect.” (Hebrews 12:23)

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“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Amen!