

INTRODUCTION

Jesus Christ is Truth. God spoke to people in the Old Testament era. God spoke to people in the New Testament era. We are in the New Testament era now, so all Christians should be hearing God's voice.

Welcome the love of God Who created you. It is wonderful to be part of His family. Hopefully, this will be a joyful experience for you, even though we all must endure some suffering, being tried and proven, tribulations, persecutions, and hate from the world. Those who remain faithful unto Jesus **unto the end** will be greatly rewarded. Such people get to become like Him when they see Him!

There are many things that can be shared in a book that may rarely be heard from a pulpit. Such is the intention of the authors' presentations here. Some of us may have experienced life similar to the man who "...fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead" (Luke 10:30).

In this book, hopefully you will discover from scriptures and experiences some ideas to help your life become a little more guarded from attacks of the enemy.

In the past, I thought the devil had increased his ferocity in attacks against mankind during year 2019. Now I have come to believe that he has once again increased his ferocity in attacks approximately at the end of 2024 and the beginning of 2025. "Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and **having done all, to stand**" (Eph. 6:13).

"**Study** to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, **rightly dividing the word of truth**" (2 Tim. 2:15). Since there are some false teachers, we

have to beware whose messages we listen to. Here is a warning to those who just desire to teach but are not properly prepared by God: **“My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation”** (James 3:1). The word for “masters” can also mean “teachers.”

I. SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES

Job's eye opening experiences can shed light into the hearts of all who have come to know Jesus Christ personally. "Wherefore **I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes**" (Job 42:6). That is a very good explanation of where we have come from as Christians.

In order to help everyone see clearly just how we first appeared before God, read the scripture: "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23). Now the difference and division is between the Christians who are righteous and the unsaved who are still completely guilty of sin, iniquities, and transgressions. Christians know about righteousness, but the unsaved cannot understand spiritual things. Therefore, they cannot discern the difference between themselves and Christians. They do not know the only way to righteousness.

My wife and I have a friend whose brother supposedly committed every crime you can think of. He was sent to prison for life. The amazing thing is that he never got saved before prison, but eventually in prison, he accepted Jesus Christ! Now he is on fire spiritually for the Lord Jesus.

Regardless of our differences of notoriety, wealth,

intelligence, popularity, and purposes, we all began as sinners. Sometimes our success in business, sports, popularity, notoriety, education, profession, and wealth may cause us to think more highly of ourselves than we ought. Thinking more highly of ourselves could possibly lead us to disdain the spiritual matters of life. We may have a tendency to forget that man is a body, soul, and spirit. We may fail to investigate the future of man at the end of life on earth.

There are only two places for a person's being to go after death. The Christians' spirits ascend to be with Jesus Christ. The unsaved face a devastating future. Their beings descend into hell where their bodies and souls are destroyed. They are already spoken of as being dead, but they will still be conscious in fiery hell. The spirits of mankind came from God's breath, so they do not cease to exist. All those evil will appear before God on bended knees. God will then cast those ungodly spirits into the lake of fire where they will experience eternal torment. The lake of fire was created by Jesus Christ for the devil and the evil, rebellious angels.

We each have a choice to make. I am sure the babies murdered in the womb will each be sent to the appropriate place for them. God knows where each person should be for eternity.

Scripture states that Jacob and Esau were twin brothers, Esau being the first born. However, God's viewpoint is most enlightening. "As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated" (Rom. 9:13). We know that those God hates are destined for hell and the

lake of fire. God does not make mistakes. He is and always has been perfect.

There will not be any repentance after death to try to sway God's decision for your future destination. That is why Father God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to fulfill all requirements for every person to possibly be totally forgiven of all sins. Jesus, being hung on a tree, became cursed. He became our sin for us. His blood was totally righteous, and the life is in the blood. His blood was shed as a sacrifice for all mankind's sins, but only the people who choose to believe in Him receive the forgiveness His shed blood provides for us. Belief means believing Jesus in one's heart. Confession of a person's mouth must then be that he or she does believe in Jesus as God and in Jesus' sacrificial death as the only possible holy and satisfactory blood shed that pleases Father God's demands for holiness.

Even being the best of golf buddies does not save a soul. Only Christians will dwell with God in the new heaven and on the new earth. Husband and wife could even be divided in beliefs so that one is saved and the other is lost. Children under age of accountability are affected by their parents' faith or lack thereof. If a child, being under the age of accountability, has even one parent who is a Christian when that child dies, then the child will be allowed into heaven. Remember, God never makes mistakes.

Christians are complete in Jesus Christ. "And ye are **complete in him**, which is the head of all principality and power" (Col. 2:10). We are saved by faith, grace, and hope. "For by grace are ye saved through faith;

and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God" (Eph. 2:8). "For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?" (Rom. 8:24).

One more major concern I have noticed is that some ministers ask or command people to repeat something after the minister says it. Beware! Since you do not know what the minister is going to say, it would be much safer to let the minister speak his whole message before deciding to obey his command for you to say it out loud. If you "foolishly" obey the leader and repeat whatever he has said, you may discover that you have just committed yourself in a verbal agreement for something you had no intention of speaking. You may have obligated yourself to God for something that only the minister wanted you to commit to. **That is vocalizing a vow.**

Our words are important. Remember hearing God's command to be slow to speak. "Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath" (James 1:19). We need to think before we speak or even sing sometimes. **Don't be caught up unknowingly making a vow with your words that you have no intention of keeping or fulfilling.**

An example I have also noticed is the wording in some songs. I have heard one song which has the singers proclaiming that they will sing of God's love forever. How many people have you heard continuously singing of God's love forever, nonstop?

In one church, I heard a song in which the words

curse the cross, yet another song in the same church either glorifies or glories in the cross! There is confusion in that. The cross was just the tree Jesus was crucified on and thus cursed on. The cross did nothing of it's own. Even the song about the old rugged cross would have singers to claim that they will cherish that cross. Cherish Jesus Christ, Father God, and the Holy Spirit instead!

Don't be misled by leaders who command us to tell our neighbor sitting next to us something while sitting in church. I have heard that command over the years. Manipulation and control should have no place in the church unless someone is violating church rules or biblical doctrine. Use your eyes, ears, and mouth to glorify God.