

**Scriptures and Doctrine :: Man alive. How did I ever get along with five?****Man alive. How did I ever get along with five?, on: 2016/6/2 10:29**

When I was a kid growing up in the age of black and white TV I always looked forward to 4 p.m. . Because on the week day this is when the cartoons came on. And in the late fifties and early sixties a lot of commercials were feared for kids that watched the cartoons during that time. I remember the commercials for Slinky, the spring that would go down the stairs. Then of course there were the commercials for Bosco and Ovaltine. That would encourage your taste bud to ask Mom for Ovaltine and Bosco chocolate mix.

One of the commercials that really got my attention was the sticky fingers commercial. This was about a finger that one would hold in their right in between their index and forefinger. You could shoot little bullets or darts out of this finger. (This is before the age of politically correct toys). You could write secret messages with his finger. And they were probably other things you could do with it that escaped my mind right now. But the little jungo of the commercial was,

...Man oh man, how did I ever get along with five...

But now some of you are probably wondering brother Blaine what is the relevance of this in a Christian forum? Why does it trip down memory lane from an aging baby boomer?

Has anyone ever wondered when reading the book of Acts how the early church ever got along without a complete Bible? Indeed the early church did not have the completed New Testament? To the best of my memory the church did not get the complete Bible until around the mid 300s. Give or take.

Yet when we read the book of Acts which covers about the first 30 years of the first-century church. We see the gospel going out and marvelous signs and wonders. We see the gospel going out bringing many to saving faith and life in the Lord Jesus Christ. All of this done without a complete Bible. All of this done without a complete New Testament. We see the Holy Spirit working to bring people to saving faith and life in the Lord Jesus Christ.

So how did the first century Church do it? How did they do it without the completed scriptures?

I am posting this question because there has been some discussion on the Mount of Transfiguration thread about the use of the Bible. So since we have the completed Bible. Are we any better off than the Church of Acts? Or is the Church of Acts somehow substandard to the church in America because we have the completed scriptures? One would have to wonder exactly how the Church of Acts accomplish what they did without the methodologies and the Bible's we have today?

Let me take the question one step further. What about the persecuted Church? There is some parts of restricted Nations that did not have access to a Bible or a new testament. But they do have access to maybe portions of scripture. Yet we see the Holy Spirit operating in a dynamic that we don't see here in America. How is this happening?

Forum I would like to know your thoughts. And please I do not wish to see this thread locked down. So let us keep our posts respectful toward one another. I know some of you have passionate thoughts about the Bible. But again let us keep the posts respectful toward one another.

So exactly how in the first 30 years of the first-century church they accomplished what they did without a completed Bible?

Respectfully posted.

**Re: Man oh man. How did I ever get along with five?, on: 2016/6/2 10:35**

Because their spiritual eyes were open and the Messiah and God's plan, recorded throughout the OT was revealed to them.

Luke 24:32 And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?

What scriptures do you think Jesus "opened" to the disciples?

In addition, they had the letters of the Apostles and were a culture that spoke a lot to one another and transmitted the letters via the spoken word.

They were always in the marketplace and meeting in homes repeating and reciting the revelation of Jesus Christ to one another.

**Re: Man oh man. How did I ever get along with five?, on: 2016/6/2 10:48**

Blaine,

Yes, obviously we are blessed to have the full Word of God, the book of Romans to help us understand the Gospel, the Gospels to know the words of Jesus, Revelation to know how Jesus dealt with & spoke to the early churches in the east in that day & also how it all will end one day. We have the epistles for encouragement, instruction, exhortation, doctrine, right teaching, etc. But yes, the fact is, when it says "the Bereans were more noble...they searched the scriptures to see if these things were true.." And we applaud them & hold them up as our example, even they had at that time only the Old Testament scriptures to be checking against. And there are countless examples of people even in our modern day in the east being radically Born Again without one page of scripture. But it's also interesting how much many of them cherish getting even a single page from a Bible! This should remind us we serve a Living God, who is a Spirit, who transforms us into converted Born Again saints not by just by decisional conversion only based on what "we know", but through a SUPERNATURAL rebirth of His Spirit & His doing.

Don't misunderstand - the Word of God is of utmost importance! We DO have access to it now. "To whom much is given, much will be required." And we have been given unlimited access (affordably & conveniently), online Bible apps, etc., etc. So let us cherish His Word as "A lamp unto our feet & a light unto our path" (Psalm 100 I believe), & let us sow this Word into others, & help get it into the hands of those without such free access, particular in the parts of the world where it is banned &/or despised. But let us remember we were Born Again (if we are), we live & move & have our being, & we were washed (if we were) in the blood of the Risen Living Lamb of God, not just by mentally assenting to some doctrinal facts (true they are) about Jesus we read in the Bible. The New Birth is a deposit of God's Spirit within us as we come to Him in faith!

I have heard many stories of those without Bibles praying and praying and God getting His Word in their hands through supernatural means. So let not one side say the Bible is unimportant or irrelevant (or be misinterpreted as saying such) & let not the other side say or act as if having a Bible is more important than having the Living Christ living within by the Spirit!

God Bless,  
Jeff

**Re: Julius and Jeff , on: 2016/6/2 11:27**

Brothers good thoughts brought up in your posts

**Re: , on: 2016/6/2 11:47**

They HEARD and received from various sources (Apostles, Teachers, etc) to one another. They discovered the riches of Jesus Christ in the Old Testament when their spiritual eyes were opened by the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Much of what they learned, they HEARD. They had "ears to hear".

Php\_4:9 Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and HEARD, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

Col\_1:4 Since we HEARD of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love which ye have to all the saints,

Col\_1:5 For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye HEARD before in the word of the truth of the gospel

Col\_1:6 Which is come unto you, as it is in all the world; and bringeth forth fruit, as it doth also in you, since the day ye HEARD of it, and knew the grace of God in truth:

Col\_1:9 For this cause we also, since the day we HEARD it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

Col\_1:23 If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have HEARD, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;

1Th\_2:13 For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye HEARD of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.

2Ti\_1:13 Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast HEARD of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

2Ti\_2:2 And the things that thou hast HEARD of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.

Heb\_2:1 Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have HEARD, lest at any time we should let them slip.

Heb\_2:3 How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that HEARD him;

**Re: - posted by dolfan (), on: 2016/6/2 11:50**

Blaine, brother, I LOVE the analogy to the jingle.

I too hope not to set debates into spin here.

My heart has been asking a similar question these past few days. I haven't even read the transfiguration thread. I did start fresh in Acts, though. I'm going to read and re-read Luke-Acts until I change. What that means exactly I don't know, but I am convinced that there is something in those two books that God will use to do something in my spirit, to change me, grow me, convict me, gift me --- something!!! So, that's where I am for now.

Thank God we have the full Bible in this society! But, do we have the fellowship of the Holy Ghost? Are we living as one with one another as Jesus prayed in John 17? We have the whole library, but do we live fully in the Author? No. No, I don't. I can't speak for you all, but I know me.

Do we live in fellowship with the Spirit of God? Believers with less than the whole Scripture available to them do.

Do we live as one with one another as Jesus prayed in John 17? Believers with less than the whole Scripture available to them do.

I am completely broken up over the seemingly impenetrable wall of self-deceit and worldliness in the American church. In our home, we are doing what we sincerely heard the Lord tell us to do, but we've grown from 12 or so to about 6 in the last 2 years. God gave us a word months ago -- be patient. We feel A LITTLE like we imagine the first disciples MAY have felt -- being told to wait but not fully understanding what for. We don't know what we're waiting on really looks like. So, we are asking ourselves if we have heard God correctly.

My wife and I were sitting on the back porch one evening last week and opening our hearts to each other about it all. We are so ---- at the end of our ropes. I told her that not a day goes by hardly that I don't envision myself running to the courthouse square (in our little town) and just yelling at every church building to the top of my lungs to repent and get serious. I confessed to her --- and I confess to you all, too and I don't justify this in the least --- that I get so mad at the situation that sometimes I feel like Al Pacino felt in that scene from Scent of a Woman ("I'd take a flamethrower to this place..."). Where's the integrity? Where's the character? Where will we hold ourselves to account for selling out? We'd be better off if we had no place to lay our head, no place to open our varied favorite translations of the Bible, no place to meet in p

peace with people who are expert gamesmen with the Word of God, forced into nothingness with others who have nothing but Him. So, yeah. That's how I feel.

I want to pray for God to force us into such straits in this nation that when one of us says to another, "May the God of peace sanctify you wholly," that we receive it in despair and not spin off into whether sanctification is a second blessing, separate work of grace, instant, progressive, Wesleyan or Calvin-ian (to invent a word). That when we speak of Him, the Spirit of God gives such life to us and what we say that our hearts burn within us as if Christ had just arisen freshly from the tomb to walk with us. To be to that place ---- and I hope and hold on to the hope that there IS a place ---- where He is truly all in all to us all and that be everything to us and not just words and platitudes and tautologies.

I've got to stop.

**Re: The scriptures Jesus opened (edited) - posted by docs (), on: 2016/6/2 11:56**

25 And He said to them, "O foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken!

26 - "Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and enter into His glory?"

27 - And beginning with Moses and all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures. (Luke 24:25-27)

It seems that whatever He shared that Moses and all the prophets provided the foundation.

Paul's defense before King Agrippa,

19 "So, King Agrippa, I did not prove disobedient to the heavenly vision,

20 but kept declaring both to those of Damascus first, and also at Jerusalem and then throughout all the region of Judea, and even to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, performing deeds appropriate to repentance.

21 For this reason some Jews seized me in the temple and tried to put me to death.

22 So, having obtained help from God, I stand to this day testifying both to small and great, stating nothing but what Moses and the prophets said was going to take place; NOTHING BUT WHAT MOSES AND THE PROPHETS SAID WAS GOING TO TAKE PLACE;

23 that the Christ was to suffer, and that by reason of His resurrection from the dead He would be the first to proclaim light both to the Jewish people and to the Gentiles." (Acts 26:19-23)

Paul went straight to Moses and the prophets in his defense before King Agrippa.

27 "King Agrippa, do you believe the Prophets? I know that you do."

28 And Agrippa replied to Paul, "In a short time you will persuade me to become a Christian." (Acts 26:27-28)

Later, during Paul's house arrest,

23 When they had set a day for Paul, they came to him at his lodging in large numbers; and he was explaining to them by solemnly testifying about the kingdom of God and trying to persuade them concerning Jesus, from both the Law of Moses and from the Prophets, from morning until evening. (Acts 28:23)

Paul took the same route - the foundation of his witness came from and was built on Moses and the prophets.

**Re: Tim, on: 2016/6/2 12:08**

My brother so hear your heart. I wish I could offer you encouragement. I too am in the same situation. I have been without a church home here and Little Rock for a number of years. And yes like you I am in the middle of the Southern Christian culture as you. There's a Southern Baptist Church on every corner. But our hearts cry. Where are the Jesus followers?

Perhaps the remnant meeting that Greg is encouraging may cause us to network more with one another.

Brother feel free to write or call me. My contact information is below this post. At least perhaps we can encourage one another by email or phone.

Brother Blaine  
pwprayercall@gmail.com  
501.256.6407

**Re: brother Tim, on: 2016/6/2 12:16**

"I am completely broken up over the seemingly impenetrable wall of self-deceit and worldliness in the American church. In our home, we are doing what we sincerely heard the Lord tell us to do, but we've grown from 12 or so to about 6 in the last 2 years. God gave us a word months ago -- be patient. We feel A LITTLE like we imagine the first disciples MAY have felt -- being told to wait but not fully understanding what for. We don't know what we're waiting on really looks like. So, we are asking ourselves if we have heard God correctly."

Brother Tim, this passage jumped out at me from your post. I do not want to sidetrack this thread from the OP so if you feel led please shoot me your email address so we can discuss privately what you are experiencing. I believe this is not only common but what God is allowing to happen. We are in a transitional phase right now (the body of Christ) and that requires much waiting. Contact me and I will share more with you about our own house church experience. Blessings!

**Re: Davidb, on: 2016/6/2 12:18**

But David if I remember correctly those were the Jewish leaders that were coming to Paul. If so. Then it would make sense that he would use Moses and the law to preach Jesus to them. For they would already be familiar with the Torah.

How would Paul deal with the Gentiles? How would he preach Jesus to them? Acts 28:30-31 says,

... And he stayed two full years in his own rented quarters and was welcoming all who came to him, preaching the kingdom of God and teaching concerning the Lord Jesus Christ with all open this, unhindered...

That would have been one marvelous Bible study to be in on if I could call it such. I wonder what Paul would have been teaching and perhaps even demonstrating?

Posted just wondering.

**Re: , on: 2016/6/2 12:25**

Yeah,

Amen. I can concur with many of the thoughts shared as one who has been in a house fellowship for the last 4.5 years too (our first run at one was about 10 years ago now). But there is a waiting period going on in secret places right now in the western church. I believe that with All my heart.

And Julius,

I tried to explain I wasn't minimizing the hearing of the Word in my post. I as one who was born again in a solitary cell, with no preacher, etc. just me, a Bible, the present spirit of God, & a cry to heaven of surrender answered with a powerful tangible manifestation of God's Spirit & light in that cell, peace flowing like a river for the first time in 23 years, & a changed heart. Not minimizing the Word or the hearing. Not AT ALL! Just that the opposite extreme sometimes places the reading of the scriptures on equal plane as the manifest presence of the Spirit of the Living Christ. I know the Logos (written Word) is the life infused testimony of the Rhema (revelatory Word) & the Pneuma (Spirit) by which we are Born again

**Re: , on: 2016/6/2 12:32**

Jesus explained all the typologies in the OT about Himself (throughout OT), the Kingdom of God (many books), Salvation (Genesis), Baptism (Genesis), Resurrection (Job), Baptism of the Holy Spirit (Joel), etc., which were formerly concealed from most men. Just as He opened the eyes of the disciples on the Emmaus road, He is available to open our eyes, too.

**Re: , on: 2016/6/2 12:37**

And remember Saul of Tarsus didn't run into a preacher or a Bible (who knew "the Bible" of that time i.e. the Law & Prophets by heart better than anyone), but the living, risen Christ Himself! That's not minimizing the truths concerning the Word. That's just a fact. Many Muslims are having the same experience by dreams & visions. So, if you're concerned about their need for discipleship after that (which I also am) instead of aetherially theologically mentally debating it until the cows come home, pray, intercede, & sow into ministries that are providing that Bible & that Discipleship teaching ministry, a men?!  $\delta\ddot{Y}\ddot{S}$  Global Catalytic Ministries is one such ministry. Iran Alive is another. There are MANY others. Let's be doers in the kingdom work God is doing in the Muslim world at this great time of harvest on God's time clock! If He's going to them HIMSELF, & thousands upon thousands of Muslims are being swept into the Kingdom as never before, it's pretty important on the heart of God & sovereignly part of His plan at this hour, wouldn't you agree?

**Re: A Short Detour, on: 2016/6/2 16:28**

I actually found a short YouTube video of that kids commercial. It was 6 finger. Not sticky fingers. You can Google six finger commercial. The jingle actually went man alive, how did I ever get along with five. Bear in mind I don't think such a toy would be sold today. But this is what I grew up with.

Okay don't mean to detract from the discussion. But just wanted to take a short detour down memory lane.

Back to the thread.

**Re: - posted by deltadom (), on: 2016/6/2 16:42**

During that time in the early church letters would be passed around the early churches but they had the torah, they had the writings. If you look at the writings at say the early church father they quote the new testament more times than anyone in the first three hundred years of Christianity.

Doctrine and things were passed around through creeds and songs such as Corinthians 15 is an early creed there are other early passages in the new testament. Look at Larry Hurtados work.

Also during that time memorisation of books was more common but with the amount of new testament manuscripts.

To state that the persecuted church does not have the scriptures and the early church do so therefore why do we need the scriptures is almost a fallacious argument as we have the light of the scriptures yet we are living in a vastly illiterate church that in most says it loves Jesus but does not know what he has actually said.

It would be like saying that I love my girlfriend but I never read her texts or know anything about her history or her love letters. Loving someone and knowing about them go hand in hand.

The thing is we have the scriptures

Luke 10

20Then began he to upbraid the cities wherein most of his mighty works were done, because they repented not: 21Woe unto thee, Chorazin! woe unto thee, Bethsaida! for if the mighty works, which were done in you, had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. 22But I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon at the day of judgment, than for you. 23And thou, Capernaum, which art exalted unto heaven, shalt be brought down to hell: for if the mighty works, which have been done in thee, had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. 24But I say unto you, That it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment, than for thee.

We have the light of the gospel and the bible we need to use it to its full potential. There are so many churches who do not do exposition preaching who do not go through the scriptures verse by verse.

it makes me want to cry about the illiterate bible population we have in the church

**Re: , on: 2016/6/2 16:53**

To be CRYSTAL CLEAR, I was never saying nor implying "we don't need the scriptures". I was merely responding to what I perceived that I hear a lot which is basically saying or implying one's testimony/conversion is questionable if it didn't come through the reading of the Bible or hearing preaching, but through a dream or vision from Jesus Himself. That's a fallacious argument. Paul's testimony I believe is proof of this, as is the fruit we see in the Muslim world at this time. Of course they need the Word as soon after and as much as possible, but God is God & who can question His ways if He decides to come to them in a dream or vision Himself & bring them to Himself? That's all I was addressing - FYI. And I'm not saying that by hearing the preaching of the Word or the reading of the written Word isn't the "normative" way most come to Christ throughout time, but just saying to then take that to the next extreme and say someone "CAN'T" be saved dreams & visions by Jesus Himself is just not the case. I know some hyper-cessationists take it to this extreme too. But in a struggle to uphold their traditions (cessationism) they deny in error ways that God Himself sometimes has & sometimes still does move & work to bring people to Himself! ðŸ˜ŠðŸ™•ðŸ•»â~•j,•ðŸ'aðŸ•»

God Bless,  
Jeff

**Re: , on: 2016/6/2 17:13**

Saints let us keep in mind that many in the first century church were illiterate. Let us also keep in mind that there was a very limited access to the word of God. Realizing that the word of God then was the Torah. So unless it was a Messianic Jewish congregation the Torah would not have been available to the average Gentile congregation. A few of the apostolic letters we're floating around. But the written word as we know it was not readily available.

Yet the early church seem to be vibrant in their witness of Christ. The early church seem to have power.

So the question is how did they do what they did without the complete Canon of scripture?

**Re: , on: 2016/6/2 18:49**

It is not the canonized text we really need but the message that the apostles brought (and they learned from Jesus). Canonization was just a necessary tool to ensure that we still can hear/read the same message. I would gladly give up my privilege of reading the bible if I could have Paul teaching in my city every day for a year, and could have someone read his letters to me. Paul knew the Torah, I would ask anything about it from him. I would talk to eyewitnesses still living that were present in the multitudes when Jesus taught them, etc.

**Re: , on: 2016/6/2 18:59**

I would also receive teaching from others that Paul recommends, that's why there are so many recommendations in the epistles. Many converts in the first century were Jews who very carefully preserved their beloved Torah.

edited to add quote:

Galatians 1:8

"But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than that which we have preached to you, let him be accursed."

**Re: , on: 2016/6/2 19:06**

Actually only a fraction have been preserved for us of all the things that the contemporaries of Jesus saw, heard and knew.

John 21:25

"And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen."

Edited obvious typo

Re: , on: 2016/6/2 20:36

Julius said:

"Jesus explained all the typologies in the OT about Himself (throughout OT), the Kingdom of God (many books), Salvation (Genesis), Baptism (Genesis), Resurrection (Job), Baptism of the Holy Spirit (Joel), etc., which were formerly concealed from most men. Just as He opened the eyes of the disciples on the Emmaus road, He is available to open our eyes, too."

There is a slight difference between the Emmaus events and the today's revelations to Christians. Jesus appeared to those disciples physically in his resurrected body. We would give hard time to those apologists who try to prove Jesus was real and came in the flesh using eyewitness reports if we say that someone's subjective revelation carries the same weight. I believe this is the reason God wanted the gospel to spread this specific way (through the apostles). The first information about Jesus had to come from the time and place where Jesus was on the earth in the flesh. (the only exception to that was Paul but his message was authenticated by the apostles who were with Jesus.)  
edited for clarity

Re: Tozsu, on: 2016/6/2 21:04

Dear sister before I continue my post. I need to see where you're coming from. Do you hold to the doctrine of "cessationism". Main proponent of this doctrine would be Dr. John MacArthur. Those who hold to such doctrine say that the Holy Spirit no longer works in the way he did in Acts. They also discredit the moving of the Holy Spirit among the Muslims. Do you hold to this doctrine?

Re: , on: 2016/6/2 21:27

No, I am not cessationist but we are not sent to lay the foundation of the church. I do not have enough information about the Muslims so I don't know about that. John MacArthur is a great Christian man but I am not a follower of him, I am also not Calvinist.

Re: , on: 2016/6/2 23:35

Zsuzsanna,

I read all of your recent posts and do agree with you. Being present with Jesus on the Emmaus Road or listening to the Apostles and having them minister the Word of God not only in word but also in deed would be wonderful. The Apostles were not able to duplicate their calling but through the ministry of the Word they were able to birth many spiritual children who learned from them how to live and how to die for Christ. Some followed the Lord while others did not. Today, Christ uses us as His living epistles and the written Word is a precious gift and I would not trade it for anything.

Quote:

----- from Blane:

Realizing that the word of God then was the Torah.  
-----

It was the letters of the Apostles, too.

Quote:

-----So unless it was a Messianic Jewish congregation the Torah would not have been available to the average Gentile congregation. A few of the apostolic letters we're floating around. But the written word as we know it was not readily available.

Yet the early church seem to be vibrant in their witness of Christ. The early church seem to have power.

So the question is how did they do what they did without the complete Canon of scripture?  
-----



Blaine, some Gentile churches such as the Corinthian church had some real problems. And you can read the letters to the seven churches to read some of the problems other churches had.

The early church was made up of men "of like passions", such as you and I and nothing was automatic. Even in the presence of the Apostles there were many that fell away from the Lord or abandoned their brothers. Somehow we think that being in the presence of the Apostles we would be much better Christians and maybe we would, but where "the rubber meets the road" in our lives, is how we respond to the indwelling Lord Jesus, each day in our lives? I am not of the opinion that we have less than those in the early church who did not see Jesus. We all must live by faith not by sight.

2Tim 4:16 At my first answer no man stood with me, but all men forsook me: I pray God that it may not be laid to their charge.

We should also be careful how we use the word Torah today and understand what it means. If you think the word Torah means the entire Old Testament, it doesn't.

It is composed of the Five Books of Moses and also contains the 613 commandments (mitzvot) and the Ten Commandments.

The writings of the Torah are also part of the Tanach (Hebrew Bible), which contains not only the Five Books of Moses (Torah) but 39 other important Jewish texts. The word "Tanach" is actually an acronym: "Ta" is for Torah, "Na" is for Nevi'im (Prophets) and "Ch" is for Ketuvim (Writings).

**Re: , on: 2016/6/3 2:21**

Julius said:

"Today, Christ uses us as His living epistles"

I don't think we are epistles. Epistles are the letters written by the apostles. These belong to the foundation. We are the building but not the foundation.

To best preserve the original information even in modern offices they use a master copy carefully kept in a file cabinet and that is what's copied when they need new copies. They do not copy from copies because that would distort the information. The books of NT are like this master copy. God preserved the historical record and teaching of Jesus to which all the believers throughout the ages can be directed. This is essential for our life not a wonderful addition.

It is not in the making but finished.

**Re: It is necessarily so - and if one had to - posted by docs (), on: 2016/6/3 3:53**

42 They gave Him a piece of a broiled fish;

43 and He took it and ate it before them.

44 Now He said to them, "These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled."

45 Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures,

46 and He said to them, "Thus it is written, that THE CHRIST WOULD SUFFER and rise again from the dead the third day,

47 and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

48 You are witnesses of these things. (Luke 24:42-48)

Christ opened their minds to understand the scriptures and ended by saying thus it is written that the Christ should suffer

. And rise again.

Later on the road to Emmaus,

25 And He said to them, "O foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken!

26 - "Was it not NECESSARY FOR THE CHRIST TO SUFFER THESE THINGS and enter into His glory?"

27 - And beginning with Moses and all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures. (Luke 24:25-27)

So on the Emmaus Road the two travellers spoke to Christ and were lamenting the fact that Christ had been killed and it had been He they had hoped would redeem Israel. He then explained the scriptures after saying you are slow to believe because don't you know from the scriptures it was NECESSARY FOR THE CHRIST TO SUFFER.

Peter's second sermon after Pentecost,

17 "And now, brethren, I know that you acted in ignorance, just as your rulers did also.

18 But the things which God announced beforehand by the mouth of all the prophets, that HIS CHRIST SHOULD SUFFER, He has thus fulfilled. (Acts 3:

19 Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord;

20 and that He may send Jesus, the Christ appointed for you,

21 whom heaven must receive until the period of restoration of all things about which God spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets from ancient time. (Acts 3:17-21)

Paul's defense before King Agrippa,

19 "So, King Agrippa, I did not prove disobedient to the heavenly vision,

20 but kept declaring both to those of Damascus first, and also at Jerusalem and then throughout all the region of Judea, and even to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, performing deeds appropriate to repentance.

21 For this reason some Jews seized me in the temple and tried to put me to death.

22 So, having obtained help from God, I stand to this day testifying both to small and great, stating nothing but what Moses and the prophets said was going to take place; NOTHING BUT WHAT MOSES AND THE PROPHETS SAID WAS GOING TO TAKE PLACE;

23 that the CHRIST WAS TO SUFFER, and that by reason of His resurrection from the dead He would be the first to proclaim light both to the Jewish people and to the Gentiles." (Acts 26:19-23)

I've been intrigued for a while by that word NECESSARY. So from Moses and the prophets and the Psalms and the entire OT corpus the early church reasoned with the logic that Jesus was indeed the Christ and that it was NECESSARY for God's Christ to suffer when He came. In your opinion, does this word necessary mean it was destined to happen because it was written and prophetically forecast in the word or does it mean it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and atone for the sins of man before all else can be accomplished? Or can it mean both of these things? I find the word necessary very intriguing and wonder what others may think it is meant to convey.

Meanwhile, if one had to, could we make a case from the OT alone that when the Christ came He was destined to suffer and rise again? How would we do this and where would we go to buttress our assertions just using the OT alone? I'm not at all knocking the NT of course but just for the sake of perhaps understanding how the early church first went about their proclamations, how can a case be made from the OT alone for it being necessary for the Christ to suffer when He came and even die yet rise again on the third day. How would one go about this from the OT alone?

A Jewish lady who is a missionary in Israel recently came to our church and she said she was completely saved and born again before reading anything in the New Testament. Jewish acquaintances and others had taken her to Moses and the prophets and explained Christ and His suffering for her from the OT since being Jewish she had been raised overly suspicious of the NT. So it can be done and I am of the opinion that we are not fully utilizing the witness of the prophets from the OT in our witnessing. I guess. That's not a statement meant to cover all. And what's good for a Jewish inquirer is good for a Gentile inquirer. But our witness for Christ, from the NT also, is even more powerful if when the NT is explained we can also proclaim that all of this was prophesied and written down hundreds and even thousands of years before it happened. Then we make references to the OT. So though, if one had to make a case for a suffering, slain, and resurrected Christ from the OT alone how would one go about it and where would they go in the OT prophets and Moses etc. to frame together their witness?

Meanwhile, it was NECESSARY for the Christ to suffer. What does that mean in your opinion?

Blessings.

**Re: , on: 2016/6/3 6:07**

If we do not love the Lord with the whole heart, soul and mind, we hate Him. The scriptures are black and white about this. God made us to love Him in that way and if we are deceived by Satan to think that there is no God or that our God cannot be trusted entirely and we do not believe 100% in His promises, then we hate Him. "He who is not for Me is against Me".

I believe that this anger of men is the reason why Christ had to suffer. When I first was led to Christ, without any scripture or knowledge of the Bible, this was the uppermost thing that was revealed to me - that Jesus had died on the cross and suffered for MY sins.

It was what Peter preached in his first sermon. "This is what you have done to the Son of God".

It is man whom God appeases.

**Re: - posted by brothagary, on: 2016/6/3 6:51**

9Therefore my heart is glad and my glory rejoices; My flesh also will dwell securely. 10For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol; Nor will You allow Your Holy One to undergo decay. Psalms 16 10...

4Surely our griefs He Himself bore, And our sorrows He carried; Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, Smitten of God, and afflicted. 5But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; The chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, And by His scourging we are healed. 6All of us like sheep have gone astray, Each of us has turned to his own way; But the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all To fall on Him.â€ Isa 53 5

**Re: - posted by brothagary, on: 2016/6/3 6:54**

Brenda with respect ,,if. any Christian ever says they loved the lord with all there mind heart soul and strength ,all their Christian walk ,are plain lieing or deceiving them selves ,, only Jesus did that ,,that is perfect love ....

**Re: How would Paul deal with the Gentiles? - posted by docs (), on: 2016/6/3 8:22**

/But David if I remember correctly those were the Jewish leaders that were coming to Paul. If so. Then it would make sense that he would use Moses and the law to preach Jesus to them. For they would already be familiar with the Torah.

How would Paul deal with the Gentiles? How would he preach Jesus to them? Acts 28:30-31 says,

... And he stayed two full years in his own rented quarters and was welcoming all who came to him, preaching the kingdom of God and teaching concerning the Lord Jesus Christ with all open this, unhindered...

That would have been one marvelous Bible study to be in on if I could call it such. I wonder what Paul would have been teaching and perhaps even demonstrating?

Posted just wondering./

Paul based his turning to the Gentiles on an OT prediction of Gentile salvation found in Isaiah 49:6. So besides Christ appearing to him on the road to Damascus and commissioning him to go to the Gentiles, part of Paul's foundation for his ministry to the Gentiles was based on OT prophecy. Compare Isaiah 49:6 with Acts 13:46-47 and Acts 26:22-23.

Having no NT canon I am assuming Paul would have dealt with the Gentiles in the same way he dealt with his Jewish brethren. I believe he took them also to the writings of Moses and the prophets. Gentile salvation is based on the same promises first made to Abraham and later confirmed by Moses and the Hebrew prophets. Gentiles have been allowed to participate in a covenant made with THEM, the natural branches of Israel. The covenants were made with them and NOW the Gentiles were allowed in - Ephesians 3:6. So I assume Paul would have taken them to the same writings he did the Jews as he preached to the Gentiles the kingdom of God and taught concerning the Lord Jesus. The same suffering Christ, revealed in the prophets, is the same Savior to the Jews and Gentiles based on the same set of promises. I know you know that but I'm just making the point that Paul probably in my opinion took the Gentiles back to the same OT promises and prophetic predictions he took the Jews to. One does not enter the kingdom of God except by being born again and that comes as a result of believing in and clinging to the suffering, death and resurrection of the Christ that appeared to Israel. All predicted by the prophets long before it happened.

21 Who has announced this from of old? Who has long since declared it? Is it not I, the Lord? And there is no other God besides Me, a righteous God and a Savior; there is none except Me. (Isaiah 45:21)

9 Remember the former things long past, For I am God, and there is none like Me,

10 Declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things which have not been done, Saying, 'My purpose will be established, and I will accomplish all My good pleasure.' (Isaiah 46:9-10)

If we are now witnessing to someone out of the NT and we can unflinchingly claim that what we are showing them from the NT was prophesied many many long years before it actually happened then that can exponentially increase the impact the word has in my opinion. God said all these things before they even happened and God is then glorified as the God who knows and reveals the end from the beginning before it even happens. I am coming to believe more strongly that we put ourselves at a disadvantage if we keep our witnessing of Christ coming from the NT only. What a great prophetic symmetry of prophecy and fulfillment the Old and New Testament form.

25 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 which has been kept secret for long ages past,

26 but now is manifested, and BY THE SCRIPTURES OF THE PROPHETS, according to the commandment of the eternal God, has been made known to all the nations, leading to obedience of faith;

27 to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, be the glory forever. Amen. (Romans 16:25-27)

See also Acts 8:25-38.

**Re: , on: 2016/6/3 9:28**

Docs said:

"If we are now witnessing to someone out of the NT and we can unflinchingly claim that what we are showing them from the NT was prophesied many many long years before it actually happened then that can exponentially increase the impact the word has in my opinion. God said all these things before they even happened and God is then glorified in the God who knows and reveals the end from the beginning before it even happens. I am coming to believe more strongly that we put ourselves at a disadvantage if we keep our witnessing of Christ coming from the NT only. What a great prophetic symmetry of prophecy and fulfillment the Old and New Testament form."

Amen.

The prophecy and the proof that Christ indeed came in the flesh is powerful. Our personal revelation needs to be authenticated by these scriptures just as Paul's revelation was authenticated by those who had been with Jesus.

**Re: , on: 2016/6/3 9:29**

Hello Gary

So why do you think that the Lord commanded it and even made it the first commandment? Is He loving giving us commandments we cannot keep and would need therefore to be constantly repenting of in sorrow?

No, He gives us a pure heart that can love Him perfectly.

**Re: , on: 2016/6/3 9:51**

John 13:6-10

6Â Then cometh he to Simon Peter: and Peter saith unto him, Lord, dost thou wash my feet?

7Â Jesus answered and said unto him, What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter.

8Â Peter saith unto him, Thou shalt never wash my feet. Jesus answered him, If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me.

9Â Simon Peter saith unto him, Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head.

10Â Jesus saith to him, He that is washed needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit: and ye are clean, but not all.

John 15:3-4

3 Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.

4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.

**Re: - posted by brothagary, on: 2016/6/3 9:59**

Hi Brenda so you have loved the lord perfectly your whole Christian life ,you never sinned against a him in thought word deed

James says we all stumble in many things ...

That's why we still need the cross ,,because we don't love God perfectly ,Jesus did and that's why he doesn't need the cross, but why he he was the spot less lamb who as fit to die on the cross ,,

We deceive our self is we say we have no sin ..

The Jesus loved the father perfectly ,fulfilling the law of Moses perfectly is not something any mortal men or woman can ever do this side of heaven ...

When we See him ,we shall be like him ,for we will see him for what he is, I think Paul said that .....

**Re: - posted by brothagary, on: 2016/6/3 10:05**

Brenda the commandments from the law of Moses which is what Jesus quoted and expanded , Paul said were given to show us and convict us of sin ,,,,Jesus was great at doing it to in his preaching ,,,be perfect as God your father is perfect ,,,,,,,try living up to that standard ,,,,,,, well Jesus did ,he fulfilled the law ,the first and last that will perfectly do it , tho we try ,we fall short ,it humbles us keep Christs on the thron and us at his feet where we belong at this day and age .....

**Re: , on: 2016/6/3 10:08**

Brothers and sisters I would like to thank you for posting on this thread. I have read your posts with interest. And I thank you for your contributions to my question. Albeit posted from a humorous kid's commercial. Yet the question still remains. How did the first century church get the gospel out to the eastern end of the Mediterranean in the first 30 years of its existence. As a matter of fact the Apostle Paul considered the fact that his work was done in the eastern end of the Mediterranean that he was looking at going all the way over to Spain. So how did the first century Church do it without a completed Bible. And by implication without seminaries and Mission organizations. Yet in reading your posts I'm surprised that no one has touched upon the Person who is the dynamic of Acts.

Brothers and sisters at the end of Matthew Jesus gives His disciples, and by implication us, a commission. We call this the Great Commission. In Matthew 28:18-20 we read,

... All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I Am With you always, even to the end of the age...

This must have seen the monumental task for a group of ragtag disciples that wondered how were they going to go out and make disciples of all the nations. Yet Jesus gave this promise at the end of Matthew 28 when he said and lo I Am With You always even to the end of the age.

The disciples must have wondered how would Jesus be with them since he was resurrected. Consider now Acts 1:8,

... but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you and you shall be my Witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth...

It was by being baptized in the Holy Spirit. It was by receiving His power. It was by Jesus Himself being in the hearts of the disciples that they were able to go out and to be the witnesses even to the remotest part of the Earth.

One who encountered Christ was the Apostle Paul. One who knew the power of the Spirit and the grace of God was the Apostle Paul. In 1 Cor. 15:9-10 we read,

... For I am the least of the apostles, and not fit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me did not prove vain; but I labored even more than all of them, yet not I, but the grace of God with me...

In reading this passage one would think that Paul is making a pretty audacious and almost arrogant claim. That he is saying he labored more than all of the apostles put together. And these were men who had walked and talked with Jesus. Yet here is a testimony of our brother in Romans 15:17-29

... Therefore in Christ Jesus I have found reason for boasting in things pertaining to God. For I will not presume to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me, resulting in the obedience of the Gentiles by word and deed, in the power of signs and wonders, in the power of the Spirit; so that from Jerusalem and round about as far as you I lyricum I have fully preached the gospel of Christ...

And then Paul goes on to further state in Romans 15:23,

... but now, with no further place for me in these regions, and since I have had for many years a longing to come to you whenever I go to Spain---

Brothers and sisters Paul had already completed his assignment in the Eastern end of the Mediterranean. Being the Visi

onary that Paul was he was looking to take the gospel all the way to the Western end of the Mediterranean period one would almost wonder how far Paul would have gone had he not been martyred in Rome.

Notice that Paul had preached the gospel through the power of Jesus in Him, that by his Holy Spirit. Paul tells the Corinthians that his words were not with wise and persuasive words. He did not come with the superiority of speech. But his message was with a demonstration of the Spirit's power. This is recorded in the first few verses of 1st Corinthians 2.

Brothers and sisters Paul was preaching Christ crucified. This is what the disciples preached. They preached the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. This is the gospel Paul lays out in 1st Corinthians 15 in the first few verses.

If we wanted to see what the apostles were preaching look in the first few chapters of Acts. Peter in his first sermon definitely lays out the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Under the power of the Holy Spirit he boldly tells the Jews that they had crucified Christ and put him on the cross. Whereas before this fishermen had denied Jesus in the flesh before a servant girl. Now under the power of the Holy Spirit Peter is declaring to all of the Jews and even later to the Jewish leadership, the Sanhedrin, they crucified Christ.

At the risk of being controversial I want to say that Peter and Paul were preaching the cross of Christ. They were not preaching Moses. But under the power of the Holy Spirit they were setting forth the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. This was the message and still is the message of the church that was birthed at Pentecost.

Brothers and sisters I apologize for the lengthy post. But suffice to say the early church had accomplished the work of preaching the gospel at least in the Eastern end of the Mediterranean because they were baptized in the Holy Spirit. This is why they were able to fulfill the Great Commission without the use of the cannon.

Simply my thoughts as gleaned from scripture.

**Re: - posted by brothagary, on: 2016/6/3 10:09**

When we see us as Christians, as perfect as Christ, we mar the view we should have of the utter perfect spotless lamb, and we elevate the view of our self to uncalled height, Paul said be lowly in our view of our self .....

**Re: - posted by brothagary, on: 2016/6/3 10:23**

Blain one of Paul's workers Timothy's who was part Greek who worked with Paul preaching to the Gentiles was told by Paul that the Old Testament is God breathed and sufficient for him, and obviously others, because it was pasturing letter to Tim on how he should conduct his ministry, with rebukes and reproved and correction .....

10 You, however, have observed my teaching, my conduct, my purpose, my faith, my patience, my love, my endurance, 11 my persecutions, and the sufferings that came upon me in Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra. What persecutions I endured

**Scriptures and Doctrine :: Man alive. How did I ever get along with five?**

! Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them. 12Indeed, all who desire to live godly lives in Christ Jesus will be persecuted , 13while evil men and impostors go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.

14But as for you, continue in the things you have learned and firmly believed, since you know from whom you learned them. 15From infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. 16All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for instruction, for conviction, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17so that the man of God may be complete, fully equipped for every good work.

Brother brother look look ,,at the context ,the context expound the letter ....

Paul said to continue in the things he has learned and believed in verses 14 ,then verse 15. ,Paul says it is the scripture the Old Testament ,which is obviously how Paul taught the reality of Christ along with his own experience and gospel , ,,but note Paul as emphasizes on the Old Testament rather than Paul's revelations ,,noting that Timothy was teaching Gentiles this Paul's admonishing to teach from the old scripture ..

**Re: , on: 2016/6/3 10:23**

Docs,  
You make some great points and I have really enjoyed reading what you've written in this thread (& the thread as a whole for the most part too). I know on the "I Met Messiah" & "I found Shalom" short video testimonies that One for Israel Ministries put on YouTube, for a great many of the Jews who came to Christ, it was Isaiah 53 in particular primarily that the Lord used to show them the truth of Jesus as the Messiah having been the suffering servant who died for their sins. Anyway, as I usually do, I wanted to say that I really enjoyed your contributions to the thread here!  
God Bless,  
Jeff

**Re: , on: 2016/6/3 11:40**

Hi Gary  
No I have fallen off the wagon at times and began to trust in my flesh but we will leave it there.  
We make a grave error if we interpret scripture according to our experience rather than by the inner light of the Spirit that makes us long for what is true, and fail to take clear words as they are spoken without distorting them by misinterpretations elsewhere.

**Re: , on: 2016/6/3 12:42**

Quote:  
-----by Tozsu on 2016/6/3 2:21:33  
Julius said:  
"Today, Christ uses us as His living epistles"  
I don't think we are epistles. Epistles are the letters written by the apostles. These belong to the foundation. We are the building but not the foundation.  
To best preserve the original information even in modern offices they use a master copy carefully kept in a file cabinet and that is what's copied when they need new copies. They do not copy from copies because that would distort the information. The books of NT are like this master copy. God preserved the historical record and teaching of Jesus to which all the believers throughout the ages can be directed. This is essential for our life not a wonderful addition.  
It is not in the making but finished.  
-----

Hi Tozsu,  
I was simply referring to the fact that our lives "are living epistles", a metaphor that Paul was referring to.  
2Cor 3:2 Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men:



1Th 2:13 For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.

I think I am losing track of what the core subject is here. I am reading things from you and Brenda that I agree with. What is the current disagreement?

Re: , on: 2016/6/3 12:56

Quote:

-----by brothagary on 2016/6/3 10:05:17

Paul said we were given to show us and convict us of sin ,,Jesus was great at doing it to in his preaching ,,be perfect as God your father is perfect ,,,,,t  
ry living up to that standard ,,,,,,, well Jesus did ,he fulfilled the law ,the first and last that will perfectly do it , tho we try ,we fall short ,it humbles us keep  
Christ on the throne and us at his feet where we belong at this day and age .....

Gary, you try to fulfill the law? Why? You are fallen from grace if you try to fulfill the law because in making the law your focus you are trying to live by it instead of Christ. Not being able to follow the law is not what is supposed to humble us. Even if you could obey the law perfectly, it will never justify you in God's eyes.

Rom 3:20 Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

Rom 3:28 Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith WITHOUT THE DEEDS OF THE LAW.

The righteousness of God is completely APART from the LAW. It is JESUS CHRIST.

Rom 3:21 But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets;

Rom 3:22 Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:

Christ is our righteousness. You are called to walk by faith which worketh by love.

1 Cor 1:30 But of him are ye in CHRIST JESUS, who of God IS MADE UNTO US wisdom, and RIGHTEOUSNESS, and sanctification, and redemption:

The righteousness of the law will only be fulfilled in you as you walk after the Spirit.

Rom 8:4 That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Many think "walking after the Spirit", means they are focused on keeping the law. That is not what Romans 8:4 is saying and many don't understand what "walking after the Spirit", means.

**Re: The Law... - posted by StirltUp (), on: 2016/6/6 2:16**

Haven't read all the posts but caught the gist of it, I think :)

Paul says in Galatians (speaking as a JEW brought up and taught in the Law) that the Law was our tutor (not IS our tutor) but WAS our tutor to direct us to Christ.

Now Christ has come, has died, has risen and is alive in us, His people, through the gift of the Holy Spirit (Christ IN us the hope of glory)

Stand firm in the Freedom with which He has set us free!

Believe on Jesus, preach Jesus, keep Jesus central and no one will be confused.

God bless,

**Re: - posted by brothagary, on: 2016/6/6 4:36**

Brenda the only reason why I ask that is because at those times we fall we are not loving the Lord perfectly ,, and you said we hate God if we don't love Him perfectly ,so it must mean you hate God some times .....

**Re: - posted by brothagary, on: 2016/6/6 4:43**

Julius I can't fulfill the law ,only Jesus can ,,you try it. I bet you can't .

I was quoting Jesus' words when he said be perfect as your father is perfect ,these words were not meant to be fulfilled by us ,but to convict and humble us..

Save all your quotations from Paul's writings, I'm well aware of what that means

The question is what are you going to do with what Jesus said ,when he said be perfect like God ....., Do you think you can be perfect like God all the time like Jesus was ,,why would Jesus say that

**Re: , on: 2016/6/6 4:57**

Gary

For a long time after I came to Christ I struggled with sin, the worst one being anger. I don't mean that I did anything wrong when I felt angry, but it would wash over me whenever anyone did something bad to me and the scriptures said that if I am angry with someone I hate them.

The scriptures speak this way and are black and white over such things. After a few very upsetting circumstances and lack of answer to desperate prayers, yes, I admitted that there was anger and disappointment towards God that I felt ashamed of and did not want to admit.

It stemmed from the childhood abuse I had experienced but it brought me to my knees in deep repentance when God showed me that He had paid a great price for me and had the right to bring anything in my life that He chose even though it made no sense.

Since that day I have never felt any negativity towards God as He showed me the key to overcoming and by doing so he healed many deep hurts so that I could trust Him entirely.

He shed the love of God in my heart and after that I loved Him with all my heart soul and mind and it has caused countless relational problems when family know I am entirely devoted to Him, when they want to come first even if they never put me above their interests. A Satan thing no doubt.

But the scriptures are clear that if we do not love Him passionately like this, and only respect or fear Him then we hate Him.

**Re: - posted by brothagary, on: 2016/6/6 5:03**

Brenda so are you saying you dont sin at all any more ,since that time ,in though word or deed ,,im not sure is that what your saying that your sinless ...

**Re: - posted by brothagary, on: 2016/6/6 5:10**

If so you are say all of the christian on this sight hate god ,except you ?

And also most of the great saints ,like wilkinson,tozer ,whifield edwards spurgen ,all hated god with you being the except ion ??

**Re: , on: 2016/6/6 5:12**

Gary I do not believe in sinless perfection meaning that one can never sin again after being saved or we are not Christians. We are always just one step away from falling. I do believe that we can chose whether to sin or not but require the power of God and the blood of Christ constantly cleansing us from sin, to remain in Him by faith in the finished work on the Cross and crucifixion with Him.

I have walked in the flesh and walked in the Spirit at various times. It is not a matter of believing certain doctrines or fooling myself when I am sinning in thought word or deed.

**Re: , on: 2016/6/6 5:13**

No I am not saying that. There have been countless saints who have done so.

**Re: - posted by StirltUp (), on: 2016/6/6 6:44**

Hi brothers and sisters,

Let us stand fast in the liberty Christ brought us into.

Let us be careful not to make new "laws" for ourselves to live up to, when believing in Jesus,depending on the Holy Spirit is sufficient. (Abiding in the Vine)

Jesus said to a burdened people in Israel (burdened by additional man made rules and commandments): " Come to Me all who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

Let us labour to enter into the rest of faith.

Not I but Christ!

**Re: - posted by brothagary, on: 2016/6/6 7:30**

Oh good brenda ,,it did seem like that ,that way you said it ,because many dear saints do not believe they love god perfectly ,which would be be with all mind heart soul strength ,100 percent of the time ,no slips ,,,

You know what i mean we only need to slip up and sin with a thought, once a month , and in that month ,we failed to love god with all heart and mind ,because the sin was in the mind .

Just imagine jesus fulfilled that old testamant law ,perfecty for 33 years.

Its just something we will never do .

Now i dont want to take away from the idea or belief in intire santification ,seconded blessing thrid blessing or what have you..

Thats great what god can do for some , but what jesus did was perfection a spotless life , and that life is layed in our account the rigeousness of god ,justafacation based on the faith of the son of god ,and the imputed perfection of our god man jesus .

I want my hope to be christ and not in my self ,for at all levels of holiness i will still fall short of the pure glory of christ ...

**Scriptures and Doctrine :: Man alive. How did I ever get along with five?**

Who will ascend the holy hill ,  
He who has clean hands and a pure heart ,  
One who has never ever lifted up his soul to idols ,wood or stone ,or idols of the heart..

Thank god for jesus christ ,our saviour!!

**Re: , on: 2016/6/6 8:30**

Quote:

-----24:3 Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place?  
24:4 He that has clean hands, and a pure heart; who has not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.  
24:5 He shall receive the blessing from the LORD, and righteousness from the God of his salvation.  
24:6 This is the generation of them that seek him, that seek your face, O Jacob. Selah.  
24:7 Lift up your heads, O all of you gates; and be all of you lift up, all of you everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.  
-----

The Psalmist is quite clear: the text is speaking of those who seek the Lord not the Lord Himself. In various places in scripture we are told that we will receive a pure heart and cleansing by the HOLY Spirit and which the whole of the OT speaks of, for His people, the holiness of Jesus imparted to them.

Those who seek are required to turn from all sin that they are aware of to show they are serious, hence the text "has not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully" and not never ever as you have inserted.

The text also says that the person shall receive salvation which is not Christ.

I do not believe it is acceptable for a man to sin every day: we are to walk in holiness, and hopefully for the rest of our lives but as Wesley says, falls happen. I did not fall because of sin, it was due to failing to depend entirely on the Lord over something. We are not in agreement about sanctification.

**Re: , on: 2016/6/6 8:48**

Gary, I don't have time now but will explain what Jesus meant by what He said when He said, "Be ye perfect as your Father in heaven is". That verse came at the end of the Sermon on the Mount where Jesus was contrasting many things of God with the "righteousness" of the religionists (pharisees). They manipulated and controlled people with their version of the law.

I will leave you with this and come back, later.

**YOU MUST HAVE WHAT HE IS (LIFE) TO BE WHAT HE WAS (PERFECT)**

By: Major W. Ian Thomas

For godliness is not the consequence of your capacity to imitate God, but the consequence of His capacity to reproduce Himself in you; not self-righteousness, but Christ-righteousness; the righteousness which is by faith - a faith which by renewed dependence upon God releases His divine action, to restore the marred image of the Invisible God. It is not inactivity, but Christ-activity; God in action accomplishing the divine end through human personality - never reducing man to the status of a cabbage, but exalting man to the stature of king! "For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ" (Romans 5:17).

At first sight this might seem to offer to you the possibility of sinless perfection as the result of spiritual regeneration, but this is far from being the case; for it is only your faith and your obedience which allow Him to be in you now what He was then (perfect) - and you will be what He was then only to the degree in which you allow Him to be in you what He is now (perfect)!

All of the Father was available to all of the Son, because by His faith-love relationship, all of the Son was available to all of the Father, and this constituted His perfect manhood; and the availability of the Son to you will be in the degree of your availability to the Son, because of your faith-love relationship to Him!

From: The Mystery of Godliness.

**Re: - posted by StirltUp (), on: 2016/6/6 8:49**

Hi all,

I think Romans chapters 6, 7 and 8 are very enlightening as far as our sanctification is concerned.

Although Christ is made unto us sanctification and in Him we are set apart unto God for righteousness and positionally in the eyes of God we are "dead" to sin and alive unto God in Christ, there is also a process of sanctification that must take place, as Paul explains. We must "present" our members (physical bodies) as servants of righteousness. We must "mortify" the deeds of the body. We can do so, because the same Spirit that raised up Christ dwells in us and "quickens" our mortal bodies.

While we are still in our unredeemed/ unglorified bodies, we will face temptation and sometimes fail...but we must press on in faith and obedience and we should see the Word become real in our lives that..."the path of the righteous grows brighter day by day"

**Re: , on: 2016/6/6 10:54**

Amen, StirltUp,

God's will for us is to **\*\*experience\*\*** righteousness in our lives, not just say "we are righteous in Christ".

**Re: - posted by brothagary, on: 2016/6/6 15:14**

The only point I was making in the last post Brenda, is we have all lifted up our soul to vanity,,so there will be no ascending the holy hill for any of us ,unless for the imputation of the righteousness of God , not even our new life would be perfect enough, like James says we all stumble in many things..

The text actually says has not ,which means ,has not , rather than has lifted his soul up to vanity at some point long ago ,, that's not consistent to the text, to imply that .....

**Re: - posted by brothagary, on: 2016/6/6 15:24**

Julius, your definition of God and His perfection is too low if you think you can be like God in that sense,,I don't think Ian is talking about sinless perfection , which is what God is and what Christ preached .

That was the high standard of law preaching , to humble the hearers, to stop every mouth bring accountability of the people before God ,that the gospel could do its work and save the sinner,,I have not come to call the righteous but the sinner , and he was the saviour of the world ,because they were all sinners , no one managed to be perfect like Jesus and escape the guilt of the law ..

**Re: - posted by brothagary, on: 2016/6/6 15:34**

Stir it up, amen ,I hope we don't have any that would disagree with that ..

Sanctification, is the evidence of justification...