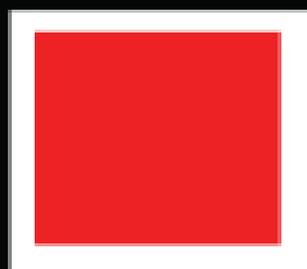
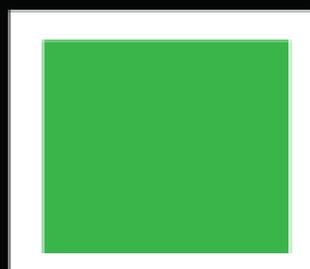
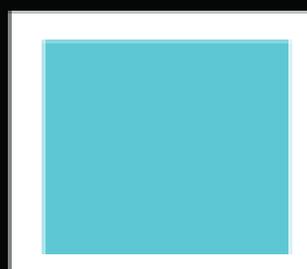
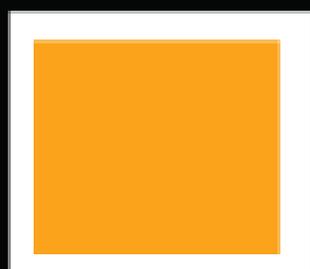


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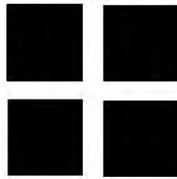
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HOLY

The Bible Companion



Second Text Edition

Anthony Jon Beavers

HOLY: The Bible Companion, Second Text Edition

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“Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.”

Isaiah 1:18

The First Books Of Wisdom

The Knowledge Of Good And Evil

The Knowledge Of Good And Evil

001 As children we learn the story of creation, where the miraculous is translated into the natural. We are given our own imaginations to consider, and debate, the origins of life. However, if we focus on the debate of creation, we miss the revelation of the story.

002 The important subject of the story is Adam and Eve's discovery of the knowledge of good and evil.

003 Why is this event so important?

004 First, it identifies the one characteristic that separates humankind from other wild creatures in the Earth.

005 Take a moment to consider the implications. What would the world be like if man, like other creatures, had no knowledge of good and evil?

006 Second, it outlines the consequences of acquiring such knowledge.

007 Of great consequence, the Bible indicates that we would struggle with the knowledge of good and evil every day of our lives.

008 Genesis 3:17 says, *"And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree [of knowledge of good and evil], of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake, in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;"*.

009 Third, and most important, it is the whole premise of the Bible: The Knowledge of Good and Evil.

010 Now, it can be helpful to think of the Bible as an ancient book of Wisdom, where it can be used to shape our own lives. The Bible is full of simple and complex truths that when applied, leads us to live more successful lives. Both as individuals and as a society.

011 As Christians we must give the highest regard to these truths, as they are the whole reason for Jesus' existence.

012 Jesus said, *"... To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bare witness unto the truth..."* John 18:37.

013 To paraphrase, Jesus says, "The reason I was born... The reason I exist, is to bare witness to the truth."

014 Pilate responds by asking, "What is truth?" ... a very good question.

015 Now... it stands to reason that if we are to be truly Christ like, we must bare witness to the truth. But, if we are to bare witness to the truth, first we must know what the truth is.

016 So what is truth?

017 A good place to begin to answer this question is with the definition. Truth is: 1) characteristically true; fact, reality, or actuality. 2) faithfulness to fact, reality, or actuality. 3) a statement or proposition that is determined to be true or factual. 4) an accurate measure; as with an angle, rule, or position, typically achieved using a mechanical or a digital device. 5) faithfulness to an original or standard; fidelity. 6) a transcending or the pinnacle of consciousness in relation to one's being. 7) right, in respect to God's Law.

018 In abstract terms we may conclude that Jesus intended to bare witness to the truth in each of its definitions. But it is obvious that Jesus intended to bare witness to the truth according to the seventh definition.

019 Jesus was born and lived to bare witness to what is right, in respect to God's Law.

020 To bare witness to what is right in respect to God's Law requires an intimate knowledge of good and evil, and that is what it's all about... the knowledge of good and evil. The Bible is all about the knowledge of good and evil, and is the premier source on the subject.

021 The Bible addresses the first, and most important thing we can learn in our lives; the differences between right and wrong. It's more important than reading. It's more important than writing. It's more important than arithmetic.

022 The core lesson of the Bible is that there are rewards for doing what is right, and there are rewards for doing what is wrong. In simple terms, what we should learn is that our actions bare consequence.

023 If the Bible doesn't teach you, then time will; everything you do matters. A right decision leads to a right result. A wrong decision leads to a wrong result.

024 Galatians 6:7 says, *"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."*

025 ...Whatever you plant, you harvest.

026 Get this and you are well on your way to living a successful life.

027 The decision you make today, will affect your tomorrow. But even more, the decisions you make affect the environment you are in.

028 The easiest way to illustrate the significance of this point is to look at it in its extreme. Imagine:

029 If everyone in the world did what was right, in respect to God's Law, we would live in a veritable heaven on Earth.

030 Conversely, if everyone did what was wrong, in respect to God's Law, we would live in a virtual hell.

031 The truth is that we, as a society, reside somewhere in the middle. But, by viewing the extremes it is easier to comprehend our individual role in the creation of the society in which we live.

032 The Bible teaches in the words of God; *"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."*
2 Chronicles 7:14.

033 When we consider our extreme example, we see that this promise is true.

034 When I choose to do wrong, it not only corrupts me, but society as a whole.

035 Likewise, when we choose to do what is right, we strengthen ourselves as individuals and society as a whole.

036 This is the battle!

037 This is the good fight!

038 This is what it means to build the kingdom!

039 To build a **perfect** society... that is the cause of the church. To change minds in a way that leads individuals to live lives of perfection. That is God's plan.

040 You may be thinking, "That's all well and good... but nobody's perfect."

041 Be careful.

042 "Nobody is perfect", is easily followed with the thinking, "so don't even try." But if we fail to even try, we fall even further from perfection. The truth is we must try harder. We must also believe that perfection is attainable. At least I think so. But never mind what I think... what does Jesus have to say about it?

043 In the book of Mathew, chapter 5, verse 48, Jesus says, "*Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.*"

044 Wow! Not only does it appear that Jesus believes that perfection is attainable, he calls us to it!

045 Be perfect, like God is perfect! A powerful directive... and it's pretty clear. Jesus has an expectation that we should live lives of perfection.

046 Jesus expects us to do what is right, in respect to God's Law.

047 Now, it is taught that Jesus came to replace the law with grace, taken from the scripture, "*Moreover the law entered, that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound: That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign **through** righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.*" Romans 5:20-21. (see also Galatians 5:18 and Romans 6:14-15, 7:6, 8:2, 10:4)

048 To be clearer it is taught that we no longer live under the law, but under grace.

049 The problem with this teaching is that it may lead some to believe that the law is no longer relevant.

050 But, I remind you that Jesus taught at the sermon on the mount saying, "*Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill [the law and prophecy]. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass,*

not one jot or tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and the Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.” Matthew 5:17-20.

051 To encapsulate what Jesus is saying: a) I did not come to destroy the law. b) Until heaven and Earth pass away the law will not change. c) Those who break the law, and teach this practice, will be condemned in heaven. d) Those who obey the law, and teach obedience, will be rewarded in heaven. e) Unless your righteousness exceeds that of the lawmakers (or the law) you will not enter heaven.

052 Do you see it? The law persists until heaven and Earth pass away, and we are commanded to obey it. In fact, we are not only commanded to obey the law, but to exceed the law.

053 This teaching of Jesus is as relevant today as it was the day he taught it at the sermon on the mount.

054 You see, the law is a minimum standard. We no longer live under the law, because we are called to live above the law. We are called to a higher standard of living. I'll explain:

055 It is legal to have sex outside of marriage. Is it righteous?

056 It is legal to abort a baby. Is this righteous?

057 It is legal to divorce. Is it righteous?

058 It is legal to gamble... but is it righteous? Is it?

059 It is legal to get drunk, smoke a cigarette, and sit around and gossip.

060 It's legal to not tithe.

061 It is legal to hate your neighbor.

062 It's legal to indulge in pornography.

063 It's legal to worship money.

064 It's legal to use profanity.

065 But we, are called to a higher standard.

066 *"For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death."* Romans 8:2.

067 Righteous living... It's not as some favor to God, or to others. No. It's for your own good.

068 Think on the problems you could avoid simply by doing what is right. By making good decisions. By doing as the Bible suggests. Listen! It's for your own good!

069 The life and death struggle of HIV/AIDS.

070 The worry of an ill conceived pregnancy.

071 Suffering under the burden of debt and poverty.

072 Severing the trust of those we love.

073 Romans 6:23 teaches, *"The wages of sin is death..."*, and some are still in the garden eating on the tree of knowledge of good and evil being beguiled, like Eve, by the serpent, *"...Ye shall not surely die:"* Genesis 3:4.

074 Listen! We are saved through grace, but sin still has a consequence. Ye shall surely pay a price!

075 Everything you do matters. A right decision leads to a right result. A wrong decision leads to a wrong result.

076 Don't take a lifetime to learn this.

077 Don't grow old saying, "If I **had done** this", or "If I **had not done** that". Instead ask yourself now, "If I **do** this", and "If I **do not do** that".

078 Think of the consequence.

079 There is always a consequence.

080 What I'm telling you is the very essence of wisdom.

081 The Bible teaches, "*For wisdom is better than rubies; and all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it.*" Proverbs 8:11.

082 Wisdom is defined as: 1) the power to interpret correctly what is true or right; and allowing such interpretation to correctly guide the related action. 2) sound judgment; good reasoning. 3) a sum of knowledge. 4) a well reasoned course of action. 5) a wise teaching or saying.

083 The power to interpret correctly what is true or right; and allowing such interpretation to correctly guide the related action.

084 You see, wisdom is recognizing the difference between right and wrong, and then doing what you recognize as right.

085 That's it. It's simple.

086 Wisdom is doing what you know to be right.

087 So do what you know is right. Do as the Bible suggests. Take the well reasoned course of action. Practice wisdom. For your own good. For the good of society.

088 Change—and help change the world.

089 Now, it is my hope and prayer that I have awakened your conscience to, and heightened your awareness of, the knowledge of good and evil.

090 It's what it's all about.

091 And so, I leave you with one word to encourage you toward that which is good.

092 One word to sting your conscience in practice.

093 One word commanding obedience.

094 One word of warning to protect you from peril.

095 One word to encompass **all** the Bible has to teach you...

BEHAVE.

WISDOMS

Book One

Wisdom Is More Precious.

“For wisdom is better than rubies; and all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it.”

Proverbs 8:11

wis-dom (noun) – 1) the power to interpret correctly what is true or right; and allowing such interpretation to correctly guide the related action. 2) sound judgment; good reasoning. 3) a sum of knowledge. 4) a well reasoned course of action. 5) a wise teaching or saying.

The Early Bird Gets The Worm.

“Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.”

1 Corinthians 9:24

There is an advantage to being early. Indeed, there is a prize for being first.

But the lesson is really on preparation. You must prepare for success in life, and the sooner you prepare, the better.

In your preparation, take these words of wisdom to heart. Wisdom will guide you to success.

Practice Makes Perfect.

“Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.”

Matthew 5:48

“Nobody's perfect”, is too easily followed with the thinking, “so don't even try”. But when we fail to even try, we fall even further from perfection.

The truth is we must try harder. We must practice to be perfect, all of the time.

Practice wisdom.

Perfection is attainable.

Everything Sweet Isn't Good For You.

“The full soul loatheth an honeycomb; but to the hungry soul every bitter thing is sweet.”

Proverbs 27:7

Everything that seems good at first, may not seem as good with further thought.

Ask the right questions.

Think it through.

Act accordingly.

**If You Play With Fire,
You're Going To Get Burned.**

"Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned?"

Proverbs 6:27

Keep this warning. Do not flirt with addiction. Smoke, drink, and drugs can harm the mind, body, and spirit. Don't simply take my word for it... look around you and see the lives these things have destroyed. You will also see that these things are easier to start than they are to quit.

Refrain from the temptation to be sexually promiscuous. Careless sex costs you in a way that can not be counted, measured, or weighed. Like a thief, casual sex will rob you of your innocence.

You Can't Burn A Candle From Both Ends.

“No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.”

Matthew 6:24

Decide.

An Apple A Day Keeps The Doctor Away.

“Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?”

1 Corinthians 3:16

One body. One life, is all that you have. Take care of yourself.

You were born pure and innocent.

Perfect.

Be that way.

Live well.

Eat healthy and exercise to prolong a life of quality.

One life. One body. Cherish it.

Choose Your Battles.

“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.”

Ephesians 6:12

What does it mean to fight the good fight?

Better yet, what will you fight for?

The great challenge is to change people's minds.

Unless you are perfect, the first mind you should change is your own.

A Stitch In Time, Saves Nine.

“The sluggard will not plow by reason of the cold; therefore shall he beg in harvest, and have nothing.”

Proverbs 20:4

Don't be lazy and procrastinate.

Address issues early, before they grow into bigger problems.

Wait... and it may be too late.

Two Wrongs Don't Make A Right.

“Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.”

Romans 12:19

Learn to forgive, and be forgiving.

Don't Put All Your Eggs In One Basket.

*"I can do **all** things through Christ which strengtheneth me."*

Philippians 4:13

Dream big, but keep an open mind.

Don't shut out opportunity by fixating on a single hope.

Ideas Come A Dime A Dozen.

"I wisdom dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge of witty inventions."

Proverbs 8:12

Ideas have very little value, unless you act on them.

Study others ideas to discern the social, as well as the economic, value.

Also consider the ways in which they might be harmful.

Think on how you can improve on another idea, and act!

Don't Count Your Chickens Before They Hatch.

“Boast not thyself of to morrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth.”

Proverbs 27:1

Don't rely on expectations. Circumstances can quickly change.

Plan for the worst, and hope for the best.

The Pen Is Mightier Than The Sword.

“Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.”

Proverbs 18:21

You can control people by force. But, when you are not looking they will go their own way.

Change their mind, with words of sound reason, and when you are not looking they will control themselves.

You Can't Put The Cart Before The Horse.

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:"

Ecclesiastes 3:1

There is an order to everything.

Learn to prioritize.

Beauty Is In The Eye Of The Beholder.

“Favor is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised.”

Proverbs 31:30

Beauty is more than skin deep.

What good is a handsome man who beats on his wife?

What good is a pretty woman who cheats on her husband?

The only beauty that matters, comes from within.

Fruit Don't Fall Far From The Tree.

“Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.”

Proverbs 22:6

Children are not unlike their parents. To a great degree, children follow the example set by their parents. You should know that children learn more from your conduct, rather than your words.

It is your parental obligation to prepare your child for success in life.

Lead by example.

Spare The Rod, Spoil The Child.

“He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes.”

Proverbs 13:24

The knowledge of good and evil is the beginning of all knowledge, and there is no wisdom without knowledge.

If I neglect to teach you the difference between right and wrong, it's as bad as if I neglect to feed you – or worse! Your stomach will tell you when you are hungry, with strong pain: but the conscience is quiet.

You must learn to listen to, and obey, your conscience.

Because I love you, I will teach you.

You Can't Judge A Book By Its Cover.

“Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right.”

Proverbs 20:11

You don't know someone, simply because you make their acquaintance. Getting to know someone can take years of acquaintance.

To know a person, you must look at what they do, and how they do it. To really know a person, you must know what they do in secret. You must know their heart.

You can't know a person by looking at their clothes or other outward appearance.

Birds Of A Feather Flock Together.

“He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.”

Proverbs 13:20

Consider carefully the company you keep.

Also... when you are in the company of others, think for yourself.
Don't let the group or anyone else think for you.

A Man's Word Is His Bond.

“The simple believeth every word: but the prudent man looketh well to his going.”

Proverbs 14:15

Think long and hard before you make a promise.

If you make a promise, keep it. An unkept promise makes you a liar.

Be wary of a liar. A liar will cheat. A cheater will steal. A thief will even kill!

Always tell the truth.

Cheaters Never Win.

“A faithful man shall abound with blessings: but he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent.”

Proverbs 28:20

How empty is the glory of a victory you could not achieve on fair terms?

If you cheat, you are not the winner; you are a liar, a cheater, and a thief.

Winners never cheat.

Pride Comes Before The Fall.

“Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.”

Proverbs 16:18

Humble yourself.

Image Is Everything.

“Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid.”

Matthew 5:14

To be neat and clean is a good thing, but the image you project on others is more.

Do you tell the truth, or are you a liar? Are you always early, or are you always late? Are you helpful to others, or do you only think of yourself?

These sorts of things define our character; and character is more important than the clothes we wear.

**The Grass Is Always Greener
On The Other Side.**

“A sound heart is the life of the flesh: but envy the rottenness of the bones.”

Proverbs 14:30

Others situations tend to look better, because you can't see the problems that come along with them. But if you could see the problems, would you envy them then?

Even if you look at only the good, what good does it do to look upon another's situation jealously? Instead, focus on what you can do to change your situation for the better.

The Devil Is In The Details.

*“See then that ye walk circumspectly [watchful and restrained],
not as fools, but as wise,”*

Ephesians 5:15

The truth is in the details.

The 'devil' hides in abstractions and secrecy.

You will do well to look at things from varied perspectives.

Keep your eye on the big picture **and** pay attention to detail.

The Best Attractions Are Usually Distractions.

“He that loveth pleasure shall be a poor man: He that loveth wine and oil shall not be rich.”

Proverbs 21:17

Movies, sports, and other entertainment are simple pleasures that are distractions from reality.

You should enjoy the healthy pleasures of life, but you should not let your quest for pleasure out measure your quest for success.

A wise person works harder than they play.

Life is serious business. Focus on reality.

Nobody Stubs Their Toe Standing Still.

“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;”

Romans 3:23

Everyone makes mistakes.

What is important is that you learn from the mistakes you make.

Make new mistakes.

Don't make the same mistake over and over again.

**Don't Let Your Mouth Write A Check
That Your Butt Can't Cash.**

"He that keepeth his mouth keepeth his life: But he that openeth wide his lips shall have destruction."

Proverbs 13:3

Think before you speak.

Learn when to speak, and when not to speak. More often than not it is best to keep quiet.

A loose tongue can cause a situation to spin out of control and lead to regret.

You Get What You Pay For.

“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.”

Galatians 6:7

Everything you do matters.

Don't take a lifetime to learn that every decision you make has a consequence. A right decision leads to a right result. A wrong decision leads to a wrong result.

A Bird In The Hand Is Worth Two In A Bush.

“Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues without right.”

Proverbs 16:8

Take stock of what you have. Give little accounting to what you might have.

Further... if you own it, take care of it.

Take any thing, and care for it... and you **will** possess a treasure.

Take **many things**, and care for them... and you will possess **many treasures**.

Haste Makes Waste.

“The thoughts of the diligent tend only to plenteousness; but of every one that is hasty only to want.”

Proverbs 21:5

Money is hard to come by.

Don't be so quick to give your money away.

Don't waste your money on things that will bring you only temporary satisfaction.

A Fool And His Money Soon Part.

“There is treasure to be desired and oil in the dwelling of the wise; but a foolish man spendeth it up.”

Proverbs 21:20

If you want to be rich, you must build wealth.

To build wealth you must save.

Money Makes The World Go Around.

“A feast is made for laughter, and wine maketh merry: but money answereth all things.”

Ecclesiastes 10:19

Money is power, and it can be wielded haphazardly or with purpose.

Consider this... If you become wealthy, you become a modern day lord or lady, as nobles of the past. You possess the power.

You can amass the power and use it selfishly, or you can use the power to advance society as a whole.

Learn to live modestly, and think on how you can be helpful to others.

Knowledge Is Power.

“A wise man is strong; yea, a man of knowledge increaseth strength.”

Proverbs 24:5

Learn all that you can. The more that you know, the more you are able to affect the environment you are in.

Learn to communicate, and remember that communication is a two-way process. You must not only learn to speak, but to listen. Learning to listen is even more important than learning to speak. Learn to listen with a critical ear. Seek understanding. Question everything.

Here's a head start: There are few things that will affect your daily life more than the economy, health, and law. Understand them and you are on your way to prosperity. Combined with wisdom, you will achieve success.

Ignorance Is Bliss.

“For in much wisdom is much grief: and he that increaseth knowledge increaseth sorrow.”

Ecclesiastes 1:18

In The Garden Of Eden

In The Garden Of Eden

001 At the rivers Pison, Gihon, Hiddekel, and Euphrates lay a garden, many years ago.

002 This garden of legend was filled with all manner of fruit, fish, and fowl. There were many good things to eat. The garden flourished, providing a bounty of nourishment for humankind, through delicate circles of life.

003 In one circle of life... there is the microbe who cleans up after us, and whose death feeds the insect; who pollinates flowers and fruit, and whose death feeds the fish; whose death feeds the fowl; whose death feeds man; whose death feeds the microbe.

004 In the garden, nothing is wasted. The garden is such that one thing feeds on another, and in this manner the miracle of life persists.

005 There are many circles of life in the garden, wherein the success of one promotes the success of another; and the failure of one prompts the failure of the other. In the garden, life is balanced.

006 In the garden, humankind hunts and forages for food. If this sounds familiar it may be because historians refer to this time as the period of the hunter-gatherer, and to put it simply... life was simple.

007 But then something happened that would have profound consequences.

008 In the garden mankind discovered the knowledge of good and evil, and became like gods.

009 You see, the serpent did not lie when he beguiled Eve in the garden saying, *“For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.”* Genesis 3:5.

010 For God confirms what the serpent told Eve in Genesis 3:22, which reads: *“And the lord God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil...”*.

011 Gods? The knowledge of good and evil? What does God mean? How could this be?

012 God, as well as the serpent, recognized that from the knowledge of good and evil would spring forth all knowledge, and with it the godly characteristic to create. And create we did.

013 At first man left the garden, and began to cultivate the land and domesticate animals. Then he controlled fire and invented the wheel; and the wheel transformed into gears and pulleys; while the ox and the mule paved the way to steam, and then gas engines and electric motors.

014 Wood turned to steel, and steel to composites. Stones changed to scrolls, and scrolls changed to books, and books changed to movies; and movies were distributed first in theaters, then in homes on the airwaves, then on VCR tapes, then on DVDs and satellite.

015 The abacus, the calculator, the computer; which once filled a room and now fits in the palm of your hand and makes telephone calls anywhere in the world.

016 The Wright brothers first flight was 120 feet, and lasted 12 seconds. We were soon flying over land and sea. We have even travelled to the moon... and I have only scratched the surface.

017 It's time to acknowledge that we have the power to create, or more appropriately recreate, the environment in which we live.

018 However, I want to make some relevant observations:
a) "Man made" is only temporary at best, and is prone to malfunctions or error. b) There are consequences, pro and con, to every advance we make. c) We have finite, or limited, resources.

019 Concerning the temporary nature of man made things and their tendency to malfunction or error, I can't help but call your attention to the disaster in the Gulf of Mexico. An estimated 17 to 39 million gallons of oil spewed into the waters, threatening land and sea creatures including 25% - 30% of America's seafood source. It also threatens Louisiana's marshlands and Florida's coral reefs. The ecological impact is unknown. Eleven men died. Many were out of work.

020 This is but one example in a legacy of malfunctions and errors. Sometimes malfunctions or human error can cause a catastrophe to unfold, and result in the loss of life. Other times they may present a mere inconvenience.

021 The Minneapolis bridge collapse comes to mind.

022 Do you remember that? Thirteen people died, and 145 were injured. Search the internet for "bridge collapse", there are many others. Bridges fail.

023 The Soviet Soyuz 1 crashing, to become the first spaceflight fatality; Apollo 1 and Apollo 13; the space shuttles Columbia and Challenger. Spacecraft fail.

024 Airplanes fail; automobiles fail; nuclear power-plants fail; power-lines fail; computers fail; economies fail. If it is man made, it will fail.

025 Even great empires fail... remember Rome?

026 Whether catastrophe or inconvenience, it is clear that every advance we make has consequences; some intended, some unintended, some not well thought out... some simply ignored.

Often, there is no second chance to get it right. Therefore, the way forward always warrants careful consideration of **all** consequences.

027 Consider the creation of the internet and networked computing:

028 In its favor, the internet provides access to knowledge for many people. It has opened avenues of both mass and personal communication on a global scale, through web pages, email, and other technologies. It has streamlined commerce, and has revolutionized banking with online payment systems. All, are amazing advances.

029 Still, these advances do not come without negative consequences as well.

030 While providing knowledge to many people, the internet introduces an increased potential for misinformation, or even worse... disinformation, to spread. It has also encouraged credit card theft, identity theft, and other fraudulent schemes.

031 Perhaps most discouraging at this point in history, which is becoming known as "The Great Recession", is its affect in dismantling jobs.

032 The fact that email has had a depleting affect on revenue to the postal systems in America, and abroad, is obvious. Less obvious is that online payment technologies costs jobs too.

033 As if on cue, today (May 24,2010) I received a letter from Sallie Mae Servicing, regarding my student loan. On the outside of the envelope Sallie Mae exclaimed, "Three Million Sallie Mae Customers Already Went Paperless. You Can Too!"

034 Now, a question that should be asked is, "How many workers does it take to process three million checks each month?"

035 These are real jobs, and this is just one institution.

036 Clearly online payment systems and email have cost and are threatening many jobs.

037 If you want to make a difference saving and creating jobs, take the time to write out a check, buy a stamp, and mail your payment to the places with which you do business.

038 A shrewd individual will see other solutions to these problems. A shrewder individual will find solutions to these types of problems and see how to monetize them. But the creation of wealth has its own problems.

039 Everyone understands the advantages of creating personal wealth... yet, few understand the responsibility that comes with it.

040 Haven't you heard that, "He who controls the gold, controls the kingdom."?

041 You... the rich; the CEO, the media mogul, the merchant, the banker; make no mistake about it... you are the modern day lords and ladies. You possess the power.

042 You can use the power haphazardly, or you can use the power with purpose. You can use the power selfishly, or you can use the power to advance society as a whole.

043 Of course the decision is entirely up to you... but before you decide, or reject what I tell you outright, let me give you some things to think about.

044 Money, like a body of water, must circulate lest it become stagnant and a thing of lesser value.

045 Imagine, if through your labor you were to gain all the money in the world, absolute wealth... what would happen then?

046 Would you then have so much money that you should forget the value of a dollar? Then what of everyone else who has no money? What value would a dollar have to them?

047 Would the value increase, to the poor man, so that he would do anything to gain a share?

048 What desperate measure should she, the poor woman, take to insure the survival of herself and her children? So desperate that the dollar has no value... for she has no hope of gaining any share.

049 Are these of no concern to you? Of course they are. These are factors which help to shape the society in which we live. Can't you see that even the building of your personal wealth bares consequence?

050 In the same manner, though not to the same degree, as in our example of absolute wealth, your acquisition of massive wealth has the opposite effect of funneling money, the blood of the economy, out of the system.

051 One billion dollars.

052 This begs to question; how much is enough? It's not enough till you 'win'?

053 Let me put your mind at ease. You have already won!

054 You have broken the bonds of slavery, and have become a master! You possess the power that not only affords you the freedom to manage your personal and business affairs as you see fit... but also hold sway over the goings on of the world.

055 Is your only interest to gain more power, with no regard to what you will do with it? Is your focus on using your power to gain more power, with no consideration outside of gaining more power?

056 I will not... or rather, I can not tell you how to spend your money. I can not tell you what regard you should give to your potential sway. You must discover these on your own, and for yourself. But, I encourage you to consider these things:

057 Everything above need is greed.

058 Does your action or inaction pose a benefit or a hazard to your community, state, or country. Remember, everything you do matters. A right decision leads to a right result. A wrong decision leads to a wrong result.

059 Jobs.

060 You, like no one else, have the wherewithal to create sustainable jobs. It is not the governments responsibility to create jobs. It is your job to create jobs... you have the financial resources and the business acumen required to do so.

061 Think... more jobs equals more customers. Creating jobs is in everyone's best interest.

062 Also, be careful not to give wage depression too much credence. If everyone is making only enough to feed, house, and educate their families, your customer base shrinks.

063 Understand... I'm not telling you not to buy a yacht. On the contrary, I'm saying buy two. One for the east coast, and one for the west. There are ship builders and seamen who will thank you for the jobs.

064 My point is that hoarding money is good for no one... not even you. So if you have trouble giving money away... spend and spend freely.

065 To you poor man. To you poor woman. To you poor child. Look around you. Can't you see that the way out of poverty is your education?

066 Don't waste your time with mindless television, video games, and garbage on the internet. Busy yourself with learning. Become a lover of knowledge. Knowledge will deliver you the keys to the kingdom.

067 On second thought, no... knowledge will not necessarily deliver you the keys to the kingdom, but you will not hold the keys to the kingdom without first having knowledge. Still, knowledge along side wisdom **will** guide you to success.

068 Poor man. Poor woman. Poor child. Look around you.

069 Can't you see that how you spend your money matters? Not just personally, but on a grand scale.

070 Look at the big picture.

071 With our collective priority being that of finding the lowest price, is it really any wonder that wages are depressed, quality has suffered, and jobs have moved over seas. You see, the market follows our priorities.

072 With a public only willing to pay the lowest price, business answered in kind; lowering the cost of production by depressing wages, using cheaper materials, and manufacturing overseas where labor is lower.

073 They would tell you that manufacturing jobs are gone and they are not coming back. Don't believe them! The manufacturing jobs can come back... but our priorities have to change.

074 I'll tell you again, the market follows demand.

075 So I ask you, what would happen if we changed our priority from that of only seeking the lowest price, to a priority of seeking domestically produced products? If everyone sought out

domestically produced products, wouldn't that result in an increase in domestic production jobs?

076 And what if we made our priority one of quality, or one that distinguished companies showing social concern, or one of Eco-friendliness? Wouldn't the market follow our demand?

077 It would. It must! You see the market is not so free as they would have you believe. Chaotic, yes... but not free. The market answers to the power of the dollar, and you possess the power as well.

078 Yes... how you spend your money bares consequence in the economy, but the most consequential product of mankind's success is waste and pollution.

079 For if the economy utterly fails, life will go on and a new economy will arise to take its place. However, if the ecology fails, life may cease.

080 How important is it then that we care for the garden in which we find ourselves?

081 With life at stake, is it enough to take it for granted that the planet Earth will always heal from the abuses we put upon it?

082 Wouldn't it turn out better if **you** took an active stance regarding the world's condition?

083 Seriously... is the resiliency of the ecosystem something you are willing to leave to chance?

084 Let me paint you a big picture, keeping in mind that each and every resource available to us is finite, or limited in quantity.

085 Some resources, such as food and lumber are renewable. Some resources such as petroleum and gas, are not. The fact that at any given time our resources are limited is a clear indication that managing them is essential. The fact that many

of them are nonrenewable makes management of utmost importance.

086 Here is the big picture.

087 Air... is an abundant resource. The atmosphere is so vast, we scarcely give our next breath any thought.

088 From the beginning, animal life has taken oxygen from the air and expelled carbon-dioxide into the atmosphere. Likewise, plant life takes carbon-dioxide and expels oxygen. In harmony, animal and plant life thrives within the garden.

089 Now, a polluter will tell you that plants scrub or filter out air borne toxins, purifying the air for humankind. This is only half of the truth!

090 The whole truth discloses the fact that we, as we breathe, scrub the air purifying it for plant kind.

091 The truth is that both animals and plants are subject to the effects of pollutants in the air and water.

092 No one seeking to live would start a car in a closed garage and stay there for an extended period. To do so, in such a limited space, would result in certain death.

093 Why is it then that we are so accepting of factories, power-plants, and automobiles discharging pollutants into the environment, when the atmosphere and waters (as vast as they are), are limited as well.

094 The lifestyle you lead only hurts the planet a little bit, I agree. But, there in lies the problem. When everyone hurts the planet just a little... the cumulative affect is a lot.

095 It's not one factory spewing poisons into the air and water... it's **thousands**.

096 It's not one car emitting poisonous exhaust into the atmosphere... it's **one billion**.

097 And on the topic of global climate change: Automobile engines burn at around 200 to 250 degrees Fahrenheit. What affect do you think that a billion cars running at such temperatures might have concerning the temperature of the atmosphere? Then what about all the watercraft, aircraft, ovens, air conditioners and other electronics, all generating heat? Let's look at the BTU output of one billion automobiles, but first some background on what a BTU is. A BTU (British Thermal Unit) describes the heat required to raise one pound of water by one degree Fahrenheit. One Horse Power is equal to approximately 2,544 BTUs per hour. To calculate the BTU output of an automobile, we would multiply the horse power of the engine by 2,544. So that if the engine of the automobile is rated at 250 HP, the maximum BTU output would be approximately 636,000 BTUs per hour. That means that every day you make an hourly commute to work, you can generate 636 thousand BTU's of heating power. Combined, one billion cars can produce a potential 636 Trillion BTUs per hour of continuous operation world wide. Staggering. To put this into perspective, consider that a typical air conditioner might produce 10,000 BTUs per hour. The fact that the planet is warming is elementary.

098 It's not one piece of litter... it's **tons** of debris finding its way to our oceans; at some places collecting up to ninety feet deep!

099 The E.P.A. (Environmental Protection Agency) reports that the United States produced 250 million tons of garbage in the year 2010. Knowing that our resources are limited, doesn't it just make sense to recycle rather than throwing them away?

100 Burying them is not the answer. Especially when you think of all the trouble of digging them up in the first place. Even more so when you consider having to dig them up again from landfills for future use. Besides, burying waste does not make it go away.

101 A Native American proverb teaches:

102 “Treat the Earth well: It was not given to you by your parents, it was loaned to you by your children. We do not inherit the Earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children.”

103 This wisdom recognizes that for good or ill, we are stewards of the Earth, and that we should approach that stewardship with an eye toward the future.

104 Do you recognize the truth in these teachings? So what are you going to do about it?

105 Some solutions are simple, and you've heard them before: Turn off lighting and electronics you are not using; Adjust the temperature of your air conditioner up in warm weather, and down in cold weather; Inflate your car's tires properly.

106 These are small things that can make a big difference... collectively. Beside helping to preserve our planet, each step you take will save you money as well.

107 Are you already doing these things? Why not go further? When you can afford it, equip your home with solar panels.

108 Turn off the televisions in each bedroom, and watch television as a family. You will do well to monitor what your children are watching anyway.

109 Limit television viewing to one or two hours per day.

110 Adjust your thermostat a few degrees more. It will not kill you.

111 Drive less. Plan and budget your shopping to once a week, once every two weeks, or once a month. Walk to the corner store. Don't drive because you are bored.

112 Buy an electric car as soon as possible... or ride a bike.

113 Be creative. There are other ways you can contribute to the care of the Earth.

114 Use glass, paper, and stainless-steel instead of plastic.

115 Use green products. Stop using dangerous chemical cleansers and pesticides, whose content you cannot pronounce and you do not understand.

116 Don't litter.

117 Buy local organic produce.

118 Use reusable shopping bags.

119 The important thing is that you think about the impact you are making on the planet. Don't take our resources for granted... especially our most precious resources, air and water.

120 If we do not care for the Earth, the Earth in turn will not care for us.

121 Another Native American proverb teaches that, "The great spirit is our father, but the Earth is our mother. She nourishes us. That which we put into the ground she returns to us."

122 These Indian wise men know that if we love our children, and our children's children... we must love the Earth. Even as we love our mothers.

123 Proverbs 13:22 teaches, "*A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children: and the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just*".

124 Is there any greater inheritance to leave your children, or your children's children, than the Earth itself?

125 We must stop the self exterminating practice of pollution. All of us... and now!

126 We must recycle everything, to cut down on waste and to conserve our valuable resources. Now! The issue is serious!

127 Science and industry have a fantasy (and maybe you do too) that we can treat our home, Earth, any kind of way; and when we have finally rendered the world uninhabitable, we will travel a billion miles across space to a yet undiscovered planet and continue life there.

128 Now, I don't want to imply that such travel is impossible. Not only do I say we can... I'll go further and say we must.

129 But can you imagine the resources it would require to build such an ark? Can you even fathom the knowledge we must gain?

130 Even after we have mastered travel across space at the speed of light, it will still take four and a half years to reach the nearest star. In order to make this trek, we must first find a way to generate food in the isolation of interplanetary space. We must also discover ways to process waste, where in the isolation of space every resource is at a premium; and unprocessed waste could become a hazard. Likewise, we must find a way to power the craft and to operate its ancillary systems, cleanly and efficiently.

131 It's easy to comprehend the importance of these concerns when we consider travel in deep space aboard the ark. Is it a stretch that we should exhibit the same concerns for the mother ship, Earth, when in the same manner as the ark our resources are limited and we are isolated in space?

132 We have yet to discover an inhabitable planet, and are far from the technology to build the ark. At this point mother Earth is all that we have.

133 Here's a question. Are we closer to the technology to build the ark, or are we closer to finding the limits of what nature can withstand?

134 Here is another question. What do you visualize the world to be like one thousand years from now?

135 Here is the last question. What will you, and your children, have contributed to that vision?

136 Long, long ago... at the rivers Pison, Gihon, Hiddekel, and Euphrates lay a garden. How vast it must have been. Whatever became of it?

137 Did God construct a barrier at its border? Were no creatures allowed to enter or exit its realm?

138 Did God reign down fire on the garden in the form of a bolt of lightening to destroy it?

139 Did God withhold the life giving water and cause the garden to wither away?

140 I posit that the garden did what gardens do... it grew! But if the garden grew, how is it that we lost access to it?

141 You see, when man left the garden to till the land, he no longer depended on the garden. No longer depending on the garden, his mind became closed to it... and his children could not see the garden for what it was.

142 He forgot the precious tree of life, and could not remember the magnificence of the garden.

143 But the remedy is simple.

144 We must open our minds and remember... open our minds, and behold... the garden Eden.

The Circle Of Life

The Circle Of Life

001 The spark of life begins in the womb, and nine months later there you are. Innocent of all charges and scarcely aware that you are in the world.

002 Your brain, nature's super computer, immediately begins to collect information through your five primary senses: sight, hearing, taste, touch, and smell. Like a computer being programmed, you begin to take impressions that will help to determine who you are to become. You begin to learn of the differences between right and wrong; you learn to walk; and eventually you learn to talk... and the whole world opens up to you.

003 I'll tell you now that the word is everything. It is language that provides the freedom of expression and exchange of ideas.

004 Imagine you know the language of the mathematician, the chemist, or the physicist. What could you learn or contribute knowing the language of the physician, the computer scientist, the lawyer, or the street?

005 What wonderful possibilities language holds for a child... and it all begins with reading and grammar. The world is yours if you only learn the language.

006 But I'm getting ahead of myself.

007 Without knowing when, where, how, or why, you awake and become conscious that you exist in the world. You discover self.

008 Now, the Bible teaches, *"For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows."*
1 Timothy 6:10.

009 But we learn to do wrong long before we understand the concept of money. So what is this seed of sin that grows within each of us?

010 It is not money that is the root of all evil... it's what the money means to us; it is the **love** of money.

011 The love of money comes from the thought of what we might do for ourselves when we have it. We love money because of our self interest. You see, it is selfishness that is the root of all evil.

012 You may not always be able to trace the motivation to do evil back to money, but you can always trace it back to self interest.

013 "I lied, **because I** wanted to avoid the consequences of the truth!"

014 "I cheated, **because I** desired to win!"

015 "I stole, **because I** needed it more than the rightful owner did!"

016 **Because I!**

017 Yes, you discover self and that is where the trouble begins... unfortunately, it's not where the trouble ends.

018 It is taught that we are born in sin, and shaped in iniquity. Psalm 51:5 says, "*Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me*".

019 Some mistakenly interpret the passage to mean that we are born sinners, but this is not so. Look at the evidence. What charge can you bring against a new born infant? The evidence shows that we are born pure and innocent. Perfect and in the

image of God. So what happens? What does it mean to be born in sin, and shaped in iniquity?

020 When we are born, sin is everywhere around us. The sin of the world surrounds us. We are quite literally, born in sin... and your exposure to sin holds influence in your life. And no, it is not long before you are corrupted.

021 You in your impressionable years, take both positive and negative impressions and begin to formulate your ideas of the world.

022 In school you begin to learn reading, writing, and arithmetic. In the whole of life, you begin to learn who you are; you begin to develop character; your moral compass is set, or left to turn unsure.

023 One child is encouraged to become educated and learn the language of the computer scientist. Another child is left to play video games, and never approaches an exercise regarding how it all works. One plays video games. One makes video games. How different will their futures be?

024 One child is loved by each member of her family. The other child is abused by one member of his family? What do they dream about?

025 One child is born in wealth, and learns to place a high value on material things. Another child is born to poverty, and learns to place a higher value on relationships. How rich will their lives be?

026 If you have wise and loving parents, careful parents... they will try to cultivate positive impressions, and guard you against negative impressions. They will teach you to recognize the consequences of every decision you make. They will insure that you mature mentally and spiritually, as you mature physically.

027 You grow up and begin to take fewer and fewer

impressions, and instead begin to make impressions of your own.

028 You grow to physical maturity when your body is able to procreate, and you begin to care for yourself. You get a job to meet your daily needs and plan for your financial security.

029 You grow to mental maturity when you realize that every decision you make has a consequence, and you begin to accept responsibility for the choices you make. A right decision leads to a right result. A wrong decision leads to a wrong result.

030 You grow to spiritual maturity when you follow God's Law, recognizing the differences between right and wrong, and then choosing to do what is right... always. Even when no one is looking.

031 If one of these paths to growth is deficient, you risk experiencing grave disappointments in life. On the other hand, once you have achieved physical, mental, and spiritual maturity, you are ready for the world... and it is then that you are ready to consider marriage and children.

032 Now, I can not adequately describe to you the pleasures that both love and sex can bring. I'll only tell you that they can be very, very good. Still, I want to make the distinction that love and sex are two different things.

033 Love is a selfless act, and it should be shared with many. The Bible teaches that we should love even our enemies. Jesus teaches, in Luke 6:27, "*But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you,*". You should love everyone... keeping in mind that true love is a choice.

034 In contrast, sex is a selfish act and should be shared between a husband and wife. The Bible teaches that fornication and adultery are sin. 1 Corinthians 6:18 says, "*Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body*".

035 1 Corinthians 6:9-10 says, *“Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God”.*

036 Now, you should understand that sin is not some arbitrary restriction placed upon you without reason. If you think about it, you will recognize that all sin has the characteristic of being harmful to yourself and/or society... and that is why it should be avoided.

037 You see, as with all sin there are practical reasons why fornication (sex outside of marriage) should be avoided.

038 When you practice sexual promiscuity, you open yourself up to diseases that are harmful, and might even take your life. Conversely, if you and your partner are at first virgin, and then practice monogamy, there is no risk of contracting sexually transmitted diseases. You and your partner are safe!

039 In addition, when you accept fornication as okay, there is a higher probability that you will have multiple partners. As well as increasing your risk to disease, your past experiences might complicate your marriage.

040 What if your spouse gets a lower grade than someone in your past, regarding sex? Will you honor the fidelity of marriage, while secretly longing for another? Are you more likely to act on your desire to commit adultery, having already shared your body with multiple partners? It's just sex... right? Will your spouse be offended? Will you risk divorce?

041 Also, fornication can lead you into a trap. You may marry and have the best sex ever! But...

042 Great sex does not equal a great relationship.

043 It seems obvious, but there are many who have fallen into this trap. And it happens because we put the cart before the horse.

044 You should not have sex with someone simply because you had a good date, or two. Focus on the relationship first. Discover the person.

045 Find out what goals your friend has for their life, and what they are doing to achieve them. Do they match your goals? Does your friend save money, or are they always broke and in debt? What do they do for fun? What do they do for serious? What is their family like? How do they treat their mother and father? What are their friends like? Do they want children? Will they make a good parent? Do they know, love, and keep God's commandments?

046 These things take time to discover, and you shouldn't rely on what people say, but rather what they do. Making these discoveries before you commit to a binding relationship will give you a clear indication of where you're headed.

047 Finally, fornication can result in the specific purpose of sex... a child.

048 Now think before you bring a child into this world. If you are thinking that it's easy... I urge you to think again. Raising a child can be difficult and always requires hard work. Your child becomes your priority. If this is not so, then you are neglecting your child.

049 Think... how difficult would it be to provide for a child, if you have not even begun to provide for yourself?

050 Think... how much more difficult would it be to raise a child by yourself, without someone dedicated to raising your child there to help you? No, it's not your parents job to help you raise your child. Your parents job was raising you. You are the parents

of your child. The child is your responsibility... the two of you. The mother **and** the father.

051 If one of you is absent, it is the child who will suffer. So be careful of who you decide to create a child with. Having a child with someone because you have fun together or they make you laugh, can bring you a lifetime of misery. Are you willing to take the risk?

052 Remember, with fornication there is no commitment. They may say that they are committed to you, in order to have sex with you. But, they have not sworn this before family, friends, and God. You are not married, and there is nothing to keep you or them from walking away. Not even the child.

053 Sometimes marriage is not even enough to keep them from walking away. Still, marriage is the beginning of a sound relationship.

054 Marriage is **the promise**.

055 **"I promise to take this journey through life with you, because I know in my heart that you are my best friend.**

056 **My experience with you has proven that when I can depend on no one else, I can depend on you.**

057 **I've paid attention to how you treat your family and friends... even strangers, and I know that you are trustworthy. You respect others and their property.**

058 **I trust that you will always help and never hurt me, by the way you have treated me in the past... and the way you treat others.**

059 **You have trusted me with your secrets, and I will keep them. I know you and I believe in you.**

060 **You listen to me and respect my opinion, and gently**

correct me when I am wrong. I listen to you, because I know that you have our best interest at heart.

061 **Everything that I have is yours.**

062 **It doesn't matter if we are poor or living in wealth, whether you are sick or in good health, we are in this together, from this day forward... I promise."**

063 Serious words. Marriage is serious business. If you are not prepared to exchange these words with each other, knowing they are true... you probably should not be getting married. At least not yet.

064 Give it time.

065 You will grow together, or you will grow apart. Either way, give it time and you will know. Time will reveal the true nature of an individual and a relationship. But you must be paying attention.

066 Does he have a quick temper with others? If he is a hot head, you should not be surprised when he has a temper towards you when you are married.

067 Does she hold a grudge against others? Then don't be surprised when she holds a grudge against you.

068 Do they steal? Then they are a thief, and they will steal from you when the opportunity presents itself.

069 Are they a gossip? Then your secrets aren't safe, and your business will be in the street.

070 Are they a liar? **Don't walk away... RUN!** A liar can not be trusted! A liar will even lie to themselves! If you catch them in one lie, they have already lied to you ten times before! A lie is the key ingredient to all sin, and a liar could be hiding anything! If they lie to others, they will have no trouble lying to you!

071 Are they courteous to others? You can expect that they will be courteous towards you.

072 Is she forgiving? She will forgive you of your faults. It will be as if they never existed.

073 Is he trustworthy? Then he keeps his word... and your secrets.

074 The key to a successful marriage is to find these things out, before you marry.

075 When we first meet someone, we have a tendency to cover our faults. We show them our 'good' side. We pretend that we are better than we actually are. What you should realize is that it is easy to pretend for weeks or months. It is harder to pretend for years.

076 Give it time. You will find out if they are mentally and spiritually mature. Give it time... and the true nature of the person and your relationship will be revealed.

077 So now you and your friend are mature and ready to marry. You walk down the aisle and exchange vows, and are pronounced husband and wife.

078 Here's some advice. Don't spend all of your money or go into debt to have a lavish wedding. Instead, use the money (and if absolutely necessary the credit) to establish yourselves.

079 Here is some more advice. Take some time to enjoy and establish yourselves before you have children. Go through some things together. Build a strong foundation that will be the base of your marriage... then consider children.

080 Take the time to build a home. Cultivate a loving and secure environment for your spouse and the children you plan to have.

081 Take the time to talk... and listen. Learn to disagree without arguing. There will be peace in your home. If you practice arguing, there is a danger one of you, or both of you, will tire of talking. If you stop talking, you are already in the fast track to divorce.

082 Take the time to save. Poor finances will bring stress into your relationship. Avoid debt and be frugal. Save.

083 Unexpected expenses will come throughout life. Expect them. Save.

084 At some point in the future you will want to retire... stop working. You can't stop working if you have no money. Save.

085 And don't underestimate the costs of raising a child. Children require a significant investment. Save now!

086 Take the time to get it together. You are married and you are now one part of a two-part machine. Do your part. Learn your role, and stick to it. Your spouse is counting on you.

087 Take the time to enjoy yourselves. Have fun. Build memories. Pleasant ones. Make love. And finally... make a baby.

088 Now it is your turn, and you only get one chance to raise a child. So you see, it is important that you get it right – from the start. From the start, you should recognize that it is your parental obligation to prepare your children to care for themselves.

089 Make this your constant meditation.

090 If you fail to teach them to care for themselves, how can you expect them to care for you when you are old? Make no mistake about it... you are raising your caregiver.

091 So you must **teach them**.

092 Teach them that they are in a loving, safe, and secure environment. Remember... your baby is learning from the womb.

093 Teach them the difference between right and wrong... and that they must always do what is right. A moral compass left unset will turn unsure.

094 Teach them to follow instruction. Learning to simply follow instructions will carry your child a long way in life.

095 Teach them to watch where they are going. Yes, teach them to lookout for obstacles in their path, and for approaching cars when they cross a street. But also teach them to see the future. Help them to recognize that what they do now, has a direct relationship to what will happen in the future. Help them to see the consequences of the decisions they make.

096 Teach them good hygiene. Good hygiene equals good health.

097 Teach them to love the Earth.

098 Teach them to share... so that when life requires it, they are prepared to give.

099 Teach them the value of work and a dollar.

100 Teach them to save.

101 Teach them to care for what they own. They will not want, and their house will be full of treasures.

102 Teach them to respect other people's property.

103 Teach them to respect other people... integrity and good manners are requirements for a successful life.

104 **Teach them that they too will grow old.**

105 **Teach them the birds and the bees... and then they are ready for kindergarten. ;)**

106 Seriously, if you don't teach them, someone else will. Or they will teach themselves.

107 Television, video games, and the internet can also shape your child's thinking.

108 You wouldn't send your children out into the world to fend for themselves, unless you yourself were there to guard them from the hazards and pitfalls: Don't bring the world into your home, then leave your child unattended with the dangers of television and the internet and expect them to stay safe.

109 Just because it's animated doesn't mean that it's appropriate. Just because someone is targeting children doesn't mean that they have your child's best interest at heart. So, be careful of your child's exposure to media.

110 And be careful not to spoil your child. Instead, teach them they must give to get. That is the way of the world. Don't let your child grow up thinking that anything is free. Someone has paid the cost. Don't let them take **your** gain for granted. Instill in them a strong work ethic; both as a worker or provider of work.

111 If you spoil your child you run the risk of bringing them up to be selfish and self-centered, and their life and yours will be full of grief. You may give them anything their heart desires, but the world won't. Don't confuse them by spoiling them.

112 And embrace your child's chatter. Resist the temptation to silence them. Open this line of communication and encourage it, so that it remains open.

113 Talk to your child in a manner in which they can learn, and don't get tired of repeating yourself. They may not hear or

understand you now... but you can be confident that as they grow to maturity and life presents a particular circumstance, they will hear your voice.

114 Still, you should not just be talking. You must remember to listen. How else will you know what your child is thinking? How then can you encourage them when their thinking is right, or correct them when their thinking is wrong?

115 Yet still, for all the talking you could do, nothing will influence your child's behavior more than your own behavior. They're taking it all in! More than what you say, they'll do what you do!

116 So, if you are a careful parent, your children will mature and be well on their way to a successful life.

117 Congratulations! You have raised your children... but your role as caregiver is not yet complete. Now it is time to repay your parents for raising you. Where they have loved and cared for you, there is a time that comes where you must love and care for them.

118 And if they, your parents, have neglected you as a child... no one will blame you if you neglect them in their old age. You do reap what you have sown. But, while you give them what they deserve, you are also writing the testament to your own character.

119 I'm not telling you what is right or wrong, I only want you to be aware that the decision you make does define you. And the decision you make, just like any other, does bare consequence. For example, who will blame your children if they follow your example and neglect you when you are old?

120 Yes... finally you too will enter the realm of old age.

121 You have saved, so you can rest and enjoy the fruits of your labor. Your children are established and they will reward your

effort. You pass wisdom and reflect freely... until your legacy is etched in stone, and you continue your journey on the other side.

“And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel,”

Ephesians 6:19

The Second Books Of Wisdom

The Book Of Sin

The Book Of Sin

001 This is important. First and foremost, you should understand that sin is harmful. If it isn't harmful, it isn't sin.

002 Sin is not something you, or I, get to decide whether it is or isn't. If it causes harm, it is of a sinful nature. You should avoid sin because it is harmful to you and others.

003 Knowing that sin produces harm, it is easier to recognize sin whenever and wherever it appears.

004 To be clear, not every instance of hurt is caused by sin; but every instance of sin is followed by hurt. By its very nature, sin is damaging. It is the simple case of cause and effect.

005 A right decision leads to a right result. A wrong decision leads to a wrong result.

006 We can always test for the presence of sin, by simply asking, "What is the harm?"

007 If I act, or do not act... what happens? What is the harm?

008 Now, the principal precept of medical ethics is, "First, do no harm".

009 If this moral principal is good for the physician, might it also be good for the CEO, the media mogul, the merchant, and the banker?

010 Shouldn't this be the moral imperative of the chemist, the physicist, the computer scientist, and the politician as well?

011 Isn't it clear that this moral directive is good for everyone... individually and as a whole?

012 Then how much more important should this be to you, the Church?

013 Proverbs 4:7 teaches, *“Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and in all thy getting get understanding.”*

014 You should understand that 'Do No Harm.' is the principal of all wisdom, as well as a commandment from God.

015 According to Jeremiah 31:33 which reads, *“But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.”*: God promises that following the sacrifice of Jesus, he would do away with the written law of Moses, and instead write his law in the hearts of his people.

016 'Do No Harm.' is a Canon of God's Law written on the hearts of God's people... the Church.

017 Now, in order to correctly identify sin, we must be able to identify the potential harm of our actions (or inactions) to ourselves and to others, both in the present and the future. We are required to take a broad view if we are to know and understand the total effects of our actions. God's view, the Biblical view, extends through generations and is applicable to all peoples.

018 The Biblical view is written for the masses, in that it says what's good for one is good for the whole. It says that behavior that is good, is good even if everyone is doing it.

019 It also accounts for the fact that if everyone does a thing of a sinful nature, great harm can result even though our individual responsibility may appear trivial. Oftentimes the compounded effect of trivial actions causes significant damage.

020 Consider the litterer who drops his empty water bottle at

the street corner instead of in the recycle bin. No big deal... until it is compounded by the millions of others who do the same thing and pollution begins to threaten the existence of species.

021 The fact that the polluter doesn't recognize his contribution to the destruction it causes, does nothing to lessen the negative effects. The resulting damage is there for all who care to see.

022 Similarly, our individual fascination with pornography might seem to have little consequence in the grand scheme of things. I mean really, what difference does it make if I privately indulge in porn?

023 Well, if I'm honest and I take the broad view, I have to acknowledge that my indulgence along with millions of others has made pornography accessible and acceptable to the whole of society, including youths. If I am completely honest I will have to admit that I bare at least a little responsibility for the ready access to porn that exists to serve me, that may encourage adultery, fornication, or worse within myself, other adults, or even children.

024 I'll leave it up to you to determine why lust might be harmful... there are examples all around you of its potential ill effects.

025 If you buy illegal drugs... you are the reason there is an illegal drug trade. You are funding the wars and exploits of the drug cartels and gangs.

026 Likewise, a person who buys stolen property from a thief is complicit in the crime. A thief will not steal when there is no profit in it for himself. By the way, the same person you buy stolen property from, will be the same person who steals it back from you and sales it to the next person. The important takeaway is that you should recognize the full effects of your actions. Remember, the damage is done whether you hold yourself accountable or not.

027 Psalms 19:7 teaches, *“The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple”*. By faith we can accept the perfection of God’s Law, yet where doubt exists... confusion and controversy abound.

028 Take for example homosexuality. The Bible indicates homosexuality is sin. That is to say that in God’s view, it is at least in some way harmful. This begs to question... what is the harm?

029 To consider the potential harm of homosexuality, we again take the broad view keeping in mind that the law, God’s Law, is established for the masses of generations past, present, and future.

030 With that in mind, what would it mean if the Law didn’t warn us that homosexuality is sin... that it can be harmful? For that matter, what if God changed positions and encouraged homosexuality?

031 Now, it is well understood that in nature’s natural order, the union of two men will not produce a child. Neither will the union of two women. They have options to gain children through methods and means constructed by mankind; but, procreation according to God’s natural law is not possible.

032 So, what would happen if the behavior was not deemed harmful and in turn everyone on earth practiced homosexuality? What would happen to humanity if procreation were to cease? Humanity would go extinct within a generation. This would be a devastating proposition to say the least. The scenario is possible, no matter how unlikely it may seem.

033 Can we agree then that homosexuality could be problematic for the human existence if left unchecked? Can you see why God, the god of life, might steer mankind away from the possibility of such potentially deadly results? Can you understand why homosexuality is regarded as sin?

034 This explanation on homosexuality is not meant to single out homosexuals. We all have our own sin to contend with. It is intended to illustrate the breadth of God's divine wisdom, and how we should expand our view before we discount what He deems is sin.

035 Homophobic individuals might be tempted to take these teachings and use them as a basis to hurt, disparage, or discriminate against homosexuals. To act in negative ways toward any individual, or group, is harmful and is contrary to the purpose of the Church. Such action is clearly sin as well, where the harm is immediate and counterproductive.

036 As a member of the Church, you are required to approach even an enemy in love – and homosexuals are not by virtue your enemies. It may come as a surprise to you, but: God Loves Gays! He loves them, the same way that he loves you. Yes, he is displeased with their sin. But, He is also displeased with your sin.

037 So it will do no good to rationalize, "Well at least I'm not gay". Even more destructive than simple homosexuality, is lust... which we are all susceptible to. That is, adultery and fornication are much more likely to produce immediate harmful effects, before the union of homosexuals will.

038 The Union of two homosexuals will not automatically lead to murder. Adultery on the other hand can, and often does, end in double murders. Minimally, it can destroy a family. It's hard but it's true. Don't risk it!

039 From the previous illustrations you might have recognized that the harm your actions might cause are not always immediate, nor obvious. Even when we think we've covered all the bases, our limited perspective may not let us see certain potential harms.

040 The Bible instructs us to, "*Trust in the Lord with all thine*

heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths". Proverbs 3:5-6.

041 Defer to God's Law, before your own reasoning. God's Law is a product of His divine wisdom. The Law is derived from His supreme knowledge.

042 When you consider an act and conclude, "There is no harm", but the Bible establishes that the act is sin... look again, and seek understanding.

043 You can be sure that there is some potential to cause harm. The fact that the act is harmful is the only reason it is catalogued as sin in the first place.

044 The written law is "*...the law of sin and death*" (see Romans 8:2 and 1 Corinthians 15:56), but it is still sacred. If a society ceases to believe in Law and Justice, they are at risk of falling into chaos.

045 It is your responsibility to know and obey the written law. Ignorance is no excuse.

046 The Bible warns us in Hosea 4:6, "*My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children*".

047 The Bible also says, "*Study to shew thyself approved, unto God, a workman that needeth not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*" 2 Timothy 2:15.

048 It is also your responsibility to participate in the crafting of written law, by your vote. Every two years—not just every four years! And, you should vote in society's best interest. What's good for society is good for you.

049 Listen to what the politicians say, but vote according to what they do. Many politically ambitious people say one thing and do another. You must be paying attention to discover who they are. Vote for these charlatans at your own peril.

050 "But how do I vote when both parties are the same?" Are they really? There are ways to distinguish between the two:

051 One party is more inclusive: One party is more exclusive.

052 One party is more selfless: One party is more selfish.

053 One party is more compassionate: One party is more greedy.

054 One party is a problem solver: One party is a problem creator.

055 One party protects the Earth: One party destroys the Earth.

056 *"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places."* Ephesians 6:12.

057 There is a war going on between Good and Evil. Which side are you on?

058 Are you more selfless... or more selfish? Are you compassionate, or greedy? Do you solve problems, or create them? Do you love the Earth, or do you destroy?

059 Be honest. You may think you are fooling others, but mostly you are just fooling yourself. You think you're getting away with something, but karma is real. There is a price you will pay. Besides, everyone else sees you.

060 The administrators of the law (i.e. police, lawyers, judges, and politicians) are the guardians of the written law, and make

a solemn oath to uphold it. High priests of Law, who must be righteous. For how can the unrighteous hold the righteous in judgment?

061 When injustice occurs, society's confidence in the law suffers. The more injustice, the more unstable law and order become.

062 When police participate in unjustified brutality and heavy handed policing, or attorneys misrepresent their clients and steal from them – law and order is in jeopardy.

063 When a judge errors in judgment, letting the guilty rich go free while condemning the innocent poor – chaos is just around the corner.

064 When lawmakers craft law to advantage the already advantaged, and oppress the disadvantaged – there will be anarchy.

065 And stop trying to legislate morality. Forcing others to follow your moral compass can be called tyranny. Morality is achieved through the changing of hearts and minds. That's God's job. Not the government's.

066 And who's next? Will we then imprison adulterers? We would all be in prison if we got what we deserved. The Bible teaches, *"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."* Romans 6:23. According to the Bible we should all be on death row.

067 Is it your job to take away the freedom of choice that God has given each of us, which is true, even if it were not enshrined in our Constitution? Aren't we all a free people?

068 No. You can't legislate morality. Morality is taught. Teach your children.

069 Concerning justice, Malcolm X once exclaimed, "No justice!

No peace!" At the time his words were perceived by some as a threat. I don't pretend to know Malcolm's mind, but contrary to a threat I believe it is a mere revelation of a truth.

070 How would you respond to injustice against you? Wouldn't you seek justice? Perhaps "by any means necessary". Would you rest before you found it?

071 No. Where injustice lives, there will always be unrest. The oppressed will not be contented. The road from injustice leads to chaos.

072 The Bible teaches in Psalms 82:3, "*Defend the poor and fatherless: do justice to the afflicted and needy*". The Psalm describes a righteous work, "*And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever*", Isaiah 32:17.

073 I say this, "Know justice, know peace". The path to peace is justice.

074 Neutrality is not a position for the Church. It just won't do. Inaction is action – and actions always have consequences.

075 You are a player, whether you're standing on the sidelines, or on the field.

076 God tells us in the book of Revelations 3:15 and 16, "*I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth*".

077 The Bible also tells us that faith alone is insufficient, as we are reminded in James 2:26, "*For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also*". Not almost dead. Not kind of dead.

078 Dead.

079 Faith is the beginning... not the end.

080 The Bible says that believing is near worthless, if it does not lead you to do good.

081 'Do Good', is the other Canon written on the hearts of God's people, the Church.

082 According to the Bible, doing good is more than simply being kind to your family and friends.

083 In the book of Matthew, chapter 5, verses 46 and 47, Jesus teaches, *"For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? Do not even the publicans the same? And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? Do not even the publicans so?"*

084 There is a lot of work to be done to correct the injustice of the world. To repair the damage caused by evil works and bad things, requires that you do good works.

085 There's no way around it. *"To do justice and judgment is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice"*, Proverbs 21:3.

086 To do justice expresses the character of the Christian to love, which is a major theme of the Bible (read 1 Corinthians, chapter 13), and is what Jesus taught throughout his ministry.

087 When a lawyer asks him what is the greatest commandment of the law, Jesus says, *"Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thine soul, and with all thine mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thy self."* Matthew 22:37-39.

088 "Do No Harm" is an expression of the first and great commandment, where Jesus says we should love God with everything we've got.

089 Jesus also says, *“If ye love me, keep my commandments.”* John 14:15. If you love God, you will keep His commandments. If you keep his commandments, you will do no harm.

090 “Do Good” is an expression of the second commandment. We are instructed to care for others, as much as we care for ourselves.

091 That's a lot of care! And, it requires that you do good—continually.

092 The Bible is filled with examples on how to love and care for others.

093 Feed the hungry, and clothe the poor. Visit the sick and imprisoned. Have compassion and pray for your enemies. I'll add, vote selflessly instead of selfishly. Donate to honorable charities such as St. Jude, Shriners, the K.I.N.D. Fund, and the Salvation Army. Volunteer. Matthew 25:35-36 says, *“For I was an hungered, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.”*

094 The takeaway is that in the Biblical sense, love is an action word. A verb. Do something for someone who can do nothing for you. Not once... regularly.

095 The Bible says, *“My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed, and in truth.”* 1 John 3 :18. James 1:22 says, *“But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves”.*

096 Not hearers, but doers. Don't talk about it—be about it!

097 Regarding your sins, Jesus did not come to condemn you for them. He came to save you from them. John 3:17 tells us, *“For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved”.*

098 You are already condemned by your own sin, as we are told in Jeremiah 31:30, *“But every one shall die for his own iniquity: every man that eateth the sour grape, his teeth shall be set on edge”*.

099 God desires that you see your sin as the destructive behavior it already is, and in turn He desires that you follow His instructions instead, for a prosperous and successful life. God’s simple desire is that you learn to consistently make the right decisions, and gain the benefits of doing so.

100 There is great power in being able to always make the right decisions.

101 Think on how good life would be if you could go back and correct your mistakes, making the right decisions instead.

102 Unfortunately, we can't take our mistakes back. But there is still good news!

103 We **can** start making all of the right decisions today! And the more we practice the better we will get at it. Be patient, and before long you will start seeing the benefits!

104 To get there, study the Bible to know what God has to say about sin. Before you make decisions think, “First, Do No Harm”, then “Do Good”.

105 And remember... it is practice that makes perfect.

WISDOMS

Book Two

Ignorance Is No Excuse.

“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.”

Hosea 4:6

There are some things you should know.

Not knowing can cost you. Being unaware is dangerous. Ignorance weakens your position.

Learn. Stay current. Be strong.

Only The Strong Survive.

“Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.”

2 Timothy 2:1

If the predator is quick, the prey must be quicker. If the predator is nimble, the prey must be nimbler. If the predator is wise, the prey must be wiser.

At the beginning of each day, predator or prey, they both know they must run as their life depends on it.

Don't Bite The Hand That Feeds You.

“And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.”

Jeremiah 3:15

When you need someone to lean on, there is someone in that place.

They will encourage you. They will enlighten you. They may even literally feed you.

Appreciate what they give to you freely.

Be careful not to offend, and risk cutting off that resource.

**However Long The Night...
The Dawn Will Break.**

*“For his anger endureth but a moment; in his favour is life:
weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.”*

Psalms 30:5

Life can be hard.

You will experience hurt, sorrow, and disappointment in life...
but, time does heal.

It gets better.

The Lazy Man Does The Most Work.

“Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.”

Hebrews 13:21

Do a poor job and you will have to do it over and over, until you get it right.

Do it right the first time, and you won't have to do it again.

Just Say No!

“For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.”

Galatians 6:8

Feed the flesh... starve the Spirit.

Starve the flesh... feed the Spirit.

If you can learn to say 'no' to self... you can say 'no' to the devil.

**Never Put Off Till Tomorrow,
What You Can Do Today.**

“Say not unto thy neighbour, Go, and come again, and to morrow I will give; when thou hast it by thee.”

Proverbs 3:28

Take advantage of opportunity when it presents itself.

Opportunity may knock only once; there is no time like the present; and, tomorrow never comes.

Mind *Your* Business.

*“And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye,
but perceivest not the beam that is in thine own eye?”*

Luke 6:41

Keep **your** house in order.

045

Where There's A Will... There's A Way.

“Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.”

Mark 9:23

You can do it!

Forgive And Forget.

“For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you:”

Matthew 6:14

Why are you holding a grudge?

The person you are mad at, is going on about their business.

Let it go...

Don't Burn Your Bridges.

“Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing.”

1 Peter 3:9

Don't do evil, for evil done toward you. Don't show bitterness, for bitterness shown toward you.

Instead, be a blessing, so that a blessing might come back to you.

Don't burn your bridges... You might have to come back that way.

**Say What You Mean...
And Mean What You Say.**

“But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.”

Matthew 5:37

Language is an art form that relies on the interpretation of both the speaker and the listener.

What you say, is not necessarily what the listener hears.

Miscommunication can be dangerous and cause harm.

Learn to be a critical listener.

Know when, and how, to be clear and concise.

Home Is Where The Heart Is.

“A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.”

Luke 6:45

Do you dwell in the land of confusion? Stop sewing bad seeds.

Bring your heart to the right place. Sew good seed, and find peace.

Count Your Blessings.

“Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.”

Philippians 4:8

Learn to see the good in things.

051

Do Good.

“For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.”

James 2:26

Please help.

Do No Harm.

“...And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.”

John 8:11

If you won't help... please don't hurt.

Dance With The One That Brung Ya’.

“Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.”

Matthew 19:6

You are one part of a two-part machine.

Do your part.

Your spouse is counting on you.

**Do Unto Others As You Would
Have Them Do Unto You.**

“Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.”

Matthew 7:12

Beware...

Karma is real. What you give... you get.

Treat people the way you want to be treated.

Beware Of The Wolf In Sheep's Clothing.

"Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves."

Matthew 7:15

Know God's word so that you can recognize a liar, a cheater, and a thief.

It's The Thought That Counts.

“A man's gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men.”

Proverbs 18:16

It's not the cost. It's the fact that you cared enough to consider what I wanted.

It's not the price you paid. It's that you paid enough attention to see my need.

Life Is For The Living.

"But Jesus said unto him, Follow me; and let the dead bury their dead."

Matthew 8:22

Giving your heart to worldly treasures is a dead end proposition. Things, will never love you back.

Follow Jesus's teachings to love one another, to experience the abundance of life.

You Don't Have To Rationalize Right.

"The thoughts of the righteous are right: but the counsels of the wicked are deceit."

Proverbs 12:5

What is right is apparent by its effect. Likewise, wrong is self evident.

A right decision leads to a right result. A wrong decision leads to a wrong result.

Who Will Guard The Guards?

“Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the Lord our God.”

Psalms 20:7

It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man. –
Psalms 118:8.

Give Credit Where Credit Is Due.

“Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it.”

Proverbs 3:27

Honor those who are worthy.

Let A Word To The Wise Be Sufficient.

“A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels.”

Proverbs 1:5

Whatever the experience, someone has been through it before. Ask... They will tell you what they have learned.

It is better that you learn from others' experiences, rather than learning life's lessons the hard way.

It is better to learn from others, rather than having to learn everything on your own.

The Best Sense Is Bought Sense.

“Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.”

Proverbs 3:5

Life has a lot to teach you. You **will** learn through your own experiences.

If you are wise, you will learn through others' experiences.

Better still—trust God.

In either case... Pay attention. Life has a lot to teach you.

**When You Know Better...
You Do Better.**

“When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.”

1 Corinthians 13:11

Don't forget to mature mentally and spiritually, as you mature physically.

You– will reap the benefits.

A Hard Head Makes A Soft Behind.

“The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame.”

Proverbs 29:15

Where there is no shame, there is little hope of changing bad behavior. Shame is a powerful motivation, most people will try to avoid.

Discipline should teach a person to take account of their bad behavior.

Make it clear that it is bad behavior that has warranted their discipline.

Crime Doesn't Pay.

“For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

Romans 6:23

The Bible says that if we all got what we deserved, we'd all be on death row.

Thank God, He is a forgiving God.

Don't Worry. Be Happy.

“For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.”

2 Timothy 1:7

Worry is a wasted effort.

Do what you can to manage the situation, and leave the rest in the hands of the Lord.

Be comforted that He is in control.

Live By The Sword: Die By The Sword.

“Then said Jesus unto him, Put up again thy sword into his place: for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword.”

Matthew 26:52

Violence tends to bring violence.

Peace, *is* the path to peace.

068

Pull Up Your Own Socks.

“But every one shall die for his own iniquity: every man that eateth the sour grape, his teeth shall be set on edge.”

Jeremiah 31:30

You, are responsible for you.

Know Justice. Know Peace.

“And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever.”

Isaiah 32:17

Where injustice lives, there is no peace. The persecuted and oppressed will not be contented.

Show justice to the poor and needy—peace will reign.

070

No Workie. No Eatie.

“For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.”

2 Thessalonians 3:10

Enough said?

The Race Is Not Given To The Swift...

“But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.”

Matthew 24:13

Winners are not winners because they never fail. They are winners because they never quit.

Keep moving forward. Be tenacious.

You'll get there.

The World Is Your Oyster...

"The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly."

John 10:10

Opportunities exist everywhere.

Learn to recognize them... and take them.

You can do, or be, anything!

Jesus The Christ

Jesus The Christ

001 Jesus Christ is not simply his name. It is a reference to his name and his station. I refer to him as Jesus *the* Christ to remind us that he is the prophesied deliverer. He is Jesus *the* Healer. Jesus *the* Political Agitator. Jesus *the* Teacher. Jesus *the* Philosopher. Jesus *the* Messenger. Jesus *the* Messiah.

002 His name is Jesus. He is *the* Christ. Son of the living God.

003 *"He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God."* Matthew 16:15-16.

004 While 'Jesus Christ' lends itself to vain exclamations, 'Jesus the Christ' inclines itself to the deference he deserves.

005 Jesus' birth and life was prophesied beforehand for the people of his time, much like the end time prophecies foretell the pending future for us now. God uses prophecy to show us that He is God, as well as reveal to us His plan for mankind.

006 The prophecy of Jesus' birth is revealed in Matthew 1:22-23, which reads, *"Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us."* The prophecy of his birth place is revealed in these verses, *"And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet, And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel."* Matthew 2:5-6.

007 When Herod sought to murder the Christ child, God sent him, with Joseph and Mary, to Egypt, *"And [they were] there*

until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son.” Matthew 2:15.

008 Herod killed all the children who were of Jesus' age. *“Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying, In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not.” Matthew 2:17-18.*

009 After that, *“...he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He shall be called a Nazarene.” Matthew 2:23.*

010 When Jesus enters Jerusalem, he rides a donkey. *“All this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, Tell ye the daughter of Sion, Behold, thy King cometh unto thee, meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass.” Matthew 21:4-5.*

011 Throughout his ministry, Jesus healed the sick and afflicted, *“That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses.” Matthew 8:17.*

012 Jesus taught using parables to explain the nature of the kingdom, *“That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world.” Matthew 13:35.*

013 Many were confused by Jesus' teaching and could not comprehend his meaning. Often, even the disciples did not understand until Jesus explained to them. *“And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive.” Matthew 13:14.*

014 Jesus accuses the people in his own words, *“Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying, This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me.”* Matthew 15:7-8. This is a condition that describes many of us today.

015 It was also prophesied that Jesus would be betrayed for thirty pieces of silver. *“Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying, And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of him that was valued, whom they of the children of Israel did value;”* Matthew 27:9.

016 Finally, Jesus is crucified. *“And they crucified him, and parted his garments, casting lots: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots.”* Matthew 27:35.

017 All this took place to fulfill the prophetic scripture, *“For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.”* Romans 5:19. It seems obvious now, but at the time of its' writing, it was not obvious at all. The Church was only just being established and Christians were routinely persecuted.

018 Jesus' legacy is that he came to establish the Church. Jesus says, *“And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”* Matthew 16:18.

019 The Church Jesus is referring to is not the building with the steeple in your neighborhood. The Church is not somewhere you go to on Sunday. No, you are not the member of a church. You are a member of *the* Church, established by Jesus the Christ. You are a member of the body of the Christ (Read 1 Corinthians chapter 12, for context.)—or not.

020 As a member of the Church, you have a function. As a member of the Church there are some things you should be doing. You should not be *“Ever learning, and never able to come*

to the knowledge of the truth.” 2 Timothy 3:7.

021 Throughout his ministry, Jesus taught and serves as the example to the end that we, the Church, are to care for one another, live righteously, be forgiving, and proclaim the coming of the kingdom. These four areas are direct evidence of your love toward God.

022 When someone says they love you, but their actions don't show it... their love is, or at least should be, suspect.

023 In his own words Jesus says, *“And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.”* Mark 12:30-31.

024 Our great commandment is to love. Not in the misused carnal sense, but in deed and truth.

025 As Jesus teaches his disciples, he explains the righteous will inherit the kingdom of Heaven because, *“... I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.”* Matthew 25:35-36.

026 Psalms 82:3 teaches us to, *“Defend the poor and fatherless: do justice to the afflicted and needy.”* The Bible is filled with examples on how we are called to care for the less fortunate.

027 Care for the needy. Do something for someone who can't do anything for you. Not once... Do it regularly. Care.

028 Caring for the less fortunate is a righteous work, but we are also called to live righteous lives.

029 We are warned that our wicked behaviors will keep us out of Heaven. 1 Corinthians 6:9-10 says, *“Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.”*

030 The Bible, and Jesus, continuously admonishes us to live righteous lives. God desires, even requires, us to be righteous. Not self righteous—righteous.

031 **righ·teous** (adjective) – 1) in accord with divine law or laws of morality: without guilt or sin 2) morally justified or correct.

032 Jesus says, *“Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that **doeth** the will of my Father which is in heaven.”* Matthew 7:21.

033 Concerning forgiveness, this is the reason Jesus sacrificed his life. Jesus was sacrificed so that our sins could be forgiven by our Father in Heaven. Because of his perfection, he is able to intercede on our behalf.

034 The same way we are forgiven; we are required to forgive.

035 In Matthew chapter 18, verses 21 and 22, Peter questions Jesus about forgiveness. The passage reads, *“Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times? Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven.”*

036 Jesus continues with this parable, *“Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants. And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents. But forasmuch as he had not to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all*

that he had, and payment to be made. The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt. But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellowservants, which owed him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took him by the throat, saying, Pay me that thou owest. And his fellowservant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt. So when his fellowservants saw what was done, they were very sorry, and came and told unto their lord all that was done. Then his lord, after that he had called him, said unto him, O thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desiredst me: Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellowservant, even as I had pity on thee? And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him. So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses.” Matthew 18:23-35.

037 Early in his ministry, “...Jesus began to preach, and to say, *Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.*” Matthew 4:17.

038 Teaching the disciples Jesus prayed, “... *Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.*” Matthew 6:9-13.

039 The first thing Jesus does after giving reverence to God, is to petition God for a miracle. “*Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven*”.

040 Historians believe that coincidentally, Jesus was crucified and people chose to follow his teachings world wide. But this

was the fulfillment of prophecy and the beginning of the fulfillment of Jesus' petition to God for a miracle.

041 You don't think everyone living righteous lives would be miraculous? Of course it would! And this is what Jesus prayed for—a miracle! His most important miracle!

042 Before leaving the disciples Jesus gave the great commission, *“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.”* Matthew 28:19-20.

043 John 3:16 tells us, *“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”*

044 *“For God so loved the world...”*. Jesus didn't come to save a few. He came to bare witness to the Truth and save the world. This is God's plan. God's will is that the world be saved from their sin—through the Truth.

045 Before I am accused of sacrilege, let me remind you, *“Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”* John 14:6. Jesus has shown us the way, through Truth, to life.

046 You should spread the good news! The kingdom *is* coming!

047 I should point out that we are not saved by our good works, but are instead saved by God's grace and mercy. Titus 3:5 says, *“Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;”*.

048 Still, we are commanded to do good works, and good works are a direct evidence of our salvation. Our good works are a product of our salvation, and not the other way around.

049 You can hear the message and keep doing the same things you've been doing all along, but you're missing out.

050 When you understand the message, truly believing what it says, you can't help but change. When you receive it and have a heart of submission, instead of a heart of rebellion, you can't help but be renewed. When you see the plain Truth, isn't it your desire to be righteous?

051 Miracles, to us, always manifest in the natural, or else how do we even know that a miracle has taken place? Salvation is miraculous, as is any other miracle. We know it has happened because of the evidence. We know that it has occurred by the fruit we produce.

052 Matthew 12:33 teaches, *"Either make the tree good, and his fruit good; or else make the tree corrupt, and his fruit corrupt: for the tree is known by his fruit."*

053 Now, God desires that we come to the full knowledge and understanding of our godhood. We are not merely brothers in Christ, but brothers of the Christ. We are all literally, not figuratively, the children of the most high God. Galatians 3:26 says, *"For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus"*.

054 John 10:34-36 says, *"Jesus answered them, Is it not written in your law, I said, Ye are gods? If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken; Say ye of him, whom the Father hath sanctified, and sent into the world, Thou blasphemest; because I said, I am the Son of God?"*.

055 1 John 3:2 says, *"Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is"*.

056 *"I have said, Ye are gods; and all of you are children of the*

most High." Psalms 82:6.

057 When Mary, his mother, and members of his family came calling on him, Jesus rejected them saying, "*For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.*" Matthew 12:50.

058 Even from the beginning, which Jesus alludes to in John 10:34-36, God proclaims our godhood testifying, "...*Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil...*" Genesis 3:22.

059 We **are** the sons and daughters of God. But, what does that mean?

060 It means that we are empowered. It means that our will is of consequence. We have power to solve any of the problems we face. Power to heal. Power to end hunger. Power to end wars. Even powers to move mountains on a word. Just ask the leader of the coal company, who moves mountains regularly in the excavation of coal. All according to our will.

061 If you truly believe what God has done for you, and told you, you should be living a righteous life—free of sin. That's what it means to be saved.

062 One of the biggest lies of the devil is, "Nobody's perfect". The lie is accepted by almost everyone. "Nobody expects you to be perfect," they say. "Every body has sinned," they'll quote the Bible. "Nobody's perfect but Jesus," they'll go on.

063 "Nobody's perfect," is often an excuse to continue in sin.

064 Brothers and sisters, when you are saved your sin is a part of your past, and has no bearing on your future. You should strive to be perfect every day.

065 I want to quote Jesus, from the book of Matthew, chapter 5, verse 48: "*Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which*

is in heaven is perfect”.

066 God expects perfection; So, how do you get there?

067 There are two requirements necessary for you to achieve perfection.

068 First, you must believe it is possible. All things are possible to those who believe.

069 Jesus lived, so that we can see that perfection is possible. You were born in sin—not a born sinner. Like Adam, you were created in the perfect image of God, from birth. God simply wants you to be that way.

070 Second, and most importantly, you must have the desire to be perfect. Do you want to be perfected?

071 At first it may seem hard. You may have a spirit of rebellion. You struggle with what you want and what God wants for you. It takes practice.

072 But, as you learn to trust God and follow His instruction, eventually your days will become more perfect. And before too long you will have more perfect days!

073 Be honest with yourself. Do you want to be perfected? Do you want to be like Jesus? Or, will you be crying “Lord, Lord” when Jesus tells you to depart from him?

074 You may be crafty enough to fool yourself, but you can’t fool God. He knows your heart. He sees your inner most desire.

075 Do you want to be saved from your sin? Jesus says, “*Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.*” Matthew 11:28. Are you ready for a life change?

076 Ask God to minister to your heart. Accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior. Do it now while you have time.

077 If you are not a member of the Church, you can be. Your salvation is what God has in mind. He promises that if you follow his teachings it will change your life—for the better! Jesus says, *“The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.”* John 10:10.

078 To become a member of the Church, you must accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior. The Bible tells us, *“That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.”* Romans 10:9.

079 It is your faith that will bring you salvation. You must believe.

080 To become a member of the Church, you must believe in your heart that what the Bible says is true. You must believe that Jesus died and rose again to save you from your sins. You must believe that Jesus lived to bare witness to the Truth. You must believe that God desires the best for you.

081 If you can believe in your heart that Jesus died and rose again to save you from your sin, believing that he came to bare witness to the Truth and desires the best for you, should be easy.

082 Believing in the Lord Jesus doesn't mean simply believing that Jesus exists. Believing in Jesus means believing what he says. Do you believe him? Do you believe him when he says, *“...To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.”* John 18:37.

083 I encourage you to accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior. Yield to the Truth. Read your Bible, and particularly the Gospels. The Bible and Jesus have much to teach you. Much more than I could teach you in these brief texts.

084 The Bible teaches, *“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”* 2 Timothy 2:15.

085 *“And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”* John 8:32.

The Revelation

The Revelation

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God has revealed the future in prophecy, so that we will know He is God and know His plan for mankind. Following is an interpretation of certain prophecies revealed in the book of Revelations— from the Holy Bible. These texts are not intended to be a complete explanation of the mysteries of the Bible, but rather a brief exposure to encourage you to read and study the Holy Scriptures.

.....

001 Let me speak soberly with you.

002 God has given us dominion over the earth, as Genesis 1:26 tells us, *“And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth”*.

003 We inherit the same dominion over the earth that God bestowed on Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden. For good or ill, we are the earth’s caretakers. We are responsible.

004 It is not God who brings evil unto the earth. It is the wicked works of man. We do it to each other. We do it to ourselves. But the evil of this world will not always be. Not for the Church, the kingdom dwellers.

005 God has promised to establish His kingdom on earth, and now is the time to prepare for the coming of the king!

006 People have proclaimed the end of days since Jesus walked the streets of Jerusalem. But now it feels palpable. To those paying attention, it seems we are teetering dangerously close to the edge of chaos.

007 You watch the news and see monstrous storms and other events of Biblical proportions. Epic fires and floods. Violent hurricanes. Record warm winter temperatures with record winter storms, in the same season. Earthquakes followed by tsunamis. Large scale destruction—on a regular basis. It's as if nature herself has issued a rebuke toward mankind.

008 The people's faith in justice is eroded. Cynicism is the norm. In America, an October 2, 2015 Gallop Poll result showed that 50% of citizens had an unfavorable view of the Supreme Court. Around the world, people have taken to the streets in protest. Governments are divided and failing. Economy's are insufficient to feed the greed of a few, and feed the larger majority. Gordon Gekko is wrong. Greed is not good. Greed is skewing social stability. People all over the world, are overworked and underpaid.

009 There is willful mismanagement, and destruction, of vital resources—including our most vital resources, air and water. Habitat destruction is threatening the extinction of species.

010 We rely excessively on computers, automated systems, and technology. We are no longer required to know... computers know for us. Fewer and fewer do... while automated systems do for us. Technology, too often, distracts the publics attention away from important matters.

011 Wars, and the threat of wars, violate peace. There is tension within Asia. Africa is under strain. And there is a terror in the desert. Persecutions are on the rise.

012 We are at risk, relying on giant producers for food. These centralized producers are vulnerable to disease, climatic events, and attacks by warmongers. Even now, October 2015,

our Doomsday Seed Repository has been opened in an attempt to reconstitute crops devastated by war in the Middle East.

013 Hollywood couldn't write a more believable foundation for a cataclysm, than what is now our current reality.

014 We should not be surprised by the situation we find ourselves in. The Bible warns us of the destructive nature of sin. *"For the wages of sin is death..."* Romans 6:23.

015 If you have learned anything from these texts, I hope you have learned that sin has a consequence. There is always a consequence.

016 The situation seems dire... but there is good news! The kingdom **is** coming! Pass it on!

017 Revelations 21:3 says, *"And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God."*

018 God has given us indicators to look for prior to His arrival.

019 Throughout history people often used Jesus' teaching of wars and rumors of wars to establish the end time. However, they did so only paying attention to half of the scripture. The whole scripture reads, *"And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet."* Matthew 24:6.

020 Jesus tells us that the opposite is true. Jesus says that wars will occur, but that doesn't mean the end.

021 Wars take place in large part because of Nations that are built upon injustice, and Nations unwilling to forgive.

022 Killing people isn't a solution. Killing people is a problem.

023 War is not something to be sought after. War is something to be avoided. You can not avoid war, by making war. You avoid war by making peace.

024 Peace is preferable. Peace is paramount. Peace resides in Justice.

025 Still, the opening of the first and second seals of 'the book' in 'Revelation' point toward conflict that is different than other wars. It is different in that it marks the beginning of the fulfillment of end time prophecy.

026 Revelation 6:1-4 reads, *"And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see. And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer. And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, Come and see. And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword."*

027 Wars of conquest have been thought in large part to be a thing of the past. It has been centuries since we have had religious wars. We have not seen a global conflict since the end of the Second World War, in 1945.

028 Now, ISIS (Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham) seeks to bring about the apocalypse. Think about that. This is one of their stated goals. They want to make slaves of your children, and kill the rest. This is not mere banter. These are their aspirations they chase with fervor.

029 I urge you to read the article, "What ISIS Really Wants", by Graeme Wood, in the March 2015 issue of *The Atlantic* magazine.

030 Their intentions make all the difference.

031 Never in history has such a force been established with a goal of ushering in the apocalypse. They hold land and economic interests. They persecute and enslave Christians and sinners alike. They even kill other Muslims.

032 There is a storm brewing in the Middle-East. A storm that is different from any other.

033 Revelation, chapter 13, speaks of a beast that is mortally wounded and healed. The beast has great power, and the world is in awe of it. Revelation 13:4 says, *“And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?”*

034 The beast is given power to make war with the Church, as is described in Revelation 13:7, which reads, *“And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.”*

035 Revelation 13:11-13 tells of a second beast coming into power, who looks like the lamb, but speaks as the dragon. This false prophet performs miracles, and causes unsaved people to worship the first beast.

036 *“And [the second beast] deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.”* Revelation 13:14-15.

037 When I was a child, I puzzled over how the image of the beast could speak and cause people to be killed. Now, I could construct an image of the beast in my garage.

038 The silicon chip and the internet introducing cloud-based voice services such as Siri, Nina, Cortana, and Alexa. Our collective dependence on what the internet 'says'. Our push towards AI (Artificial Intelligence). Our advance in robotic technologies. It's a simple matter to imagine the image of the beast.

039 Revelation 13:16-17 says, *"And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name."*

040 Even now, rice sized RFID (Radio Frequency I.D.) devices are being used in humans under the guise of business security. Social Security Numbers, Smartphone tracking and payment methods, as well as Credit Cards, lull the population into accepting such technology. They will promise you that the unique I.D. will prevent identity theft and other fraudulent schemes. They will insist that it will separate the 'good guys' from the 'bad guys'. The mandate is in site.

041 Bible prophecy indicates that all these things will come to pass. To the believer, it is a certainty they will.

042 Even now, the Satanic Temple (a gathering of satan worshippers before a one-ton statue of 'Baphomet' in Detroit and other cities) is challenging the notion of Good versus Evil. They claim that the greatest gift from satan is the gift of knowledge. The knowledge of good and evil is the beginning of all knowledge, in that I would agree, as I stated in Wisdom 018 and in the text 'In The Garden Of Eden', article 012. (HOLY: The Bible Companion - Text Edition / published April 2012).

043 But if it was a gift, the gift was from God. It was God who planted the tree of knowledge of good and evil in the garden of Eden. And it is as much a curse, as any gift. That's why God sought to protect us from it. It is just as God said when He promised we would eat the bitter fruit of the knowledge of good and evil for the rest of our lives...

044 Look at where our knowledge has brought us. With knowledge we have accomplished both wonderful and terrible things. Knowledge, lacking Wisdom, keeps us in jeopardy. God has established His **Law** based on **Wisdom**, to teach us to thrive and protect us from dangers. God's **Law Is Wisdom**. Wisdom is the most important thing, God promises in Proverbs 4:7. The Law and Wisdom say, **Do No Harm**. This is God's first Commandment. First Knowledge, then Wisdom...

045 **Knowledge without Wisdom is rebellion.**

046 The Bible foretells that many will reject God, and His Wisdom, even after the plagues of wrath. Revelation 16:9 says, *"And men were scorched with great heat [pay no attention to global warming], and blasphemed the name of God, which hath power over these plagues: and they repented not to give him glory."*

047 The news reports, when it happens, will blame the economy, or famine, or police injustice, or some other actions. But it is the rejection of the Truth of God's Law (a lack of Wisdom) that will be the reason we descend into chaos.

048 It will be because we fail to apply wisdom in reason. A right decision leads to a right result. A wrong decision leads to a wrong result. There is no way around it. This is Law.

049 God promises that he can bring down nations. Job 12:23 reads, *"He increaseth the nations, and destroyeth them: he enlargeth the nations, and straiteneth them again."* It is merely the Law. When no one follows the Law, and everyone does exactly what they want to do... It makes for a deadly situation.

050 When a nation does not follow God's Law, the nation destroys itself. When the world rejects God's Law, the world is in jeopardy.

051 Do you remember 'The Great Recession', where our political leaders were panicked exclaiming, "Remember Rome! Remember Rome!!"? Do you remember the Aztec? Do you remember the Greek? Do you remember the Ottomans? There are even other empires that have been forgotten completely by History.

052 History is littered with once great civilizations that no longer exist. It can happen again. In fact, it will happen again, and to us if we do not take care to guard against it.

053 Remember the lawless dark ages of Europe? Do you know that those who forget history are destined to repeat it? Can you see it starting again, as evidenced by the increase and regularity of mass murders? Can you feel it, when you consider all of the perverters of the law and justice? Can you smell it in the dust of the increasing bombings of anarchists?

054 The Bible tells us, *"This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; **Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof:** from such turn away. For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts, Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth."* 2 Timothy 3:1-7.

055 We share a collective destiny. We are approaching the tipping point. All of the ingredients are there: Injustice, a lopsided economy driven by greed, an over reliance on

technology, the proliferation of weapons and the propagation of war, uneducated and uninformed citizens along with those who are selfish beyond reason, the mismanagement and destruction of vital resources.

056 Any one of these issues is dangerous in and of itself. Combined they make for a highly volatile situation.

057 But it doesn't have to be this way. There is always a choice... as there is always a consequence.

058 Here is the revelation: **We are headed toward self destruction. Chaos.** Just as your sin will bring discord and destruction into your personal life; our collective sin will bring discord and destruction to the whole of society.

059 This is the message to the generations: **Remember it is/was avoidable.**

060 This is the Truth: **Either we can agree to follow God's Law and benefit from sustainable prosperity in Truth and in Justice. Love. Or, we can follow our own moral compass (which boils down to everyone doing exactly what they want to do), and continue on a road to destruction.**

061 Either we agree to do no harm. Or, we can agree to continue with the destructive nature of sin, in the name of individual freedom, and bare the consequences.

062 It's all up to you. Yes, there are many others in the good fight. But the only person you can control concerning the matter is you. You are responsible for you. Which side are you on?

063 It's not the side you say you're on. It's the side your actions put you on. Jesus leaves us no wiggle room saying, *"He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad."* Matthew 12:30.

064 It won't do to rationalize, "at least I'm not this" or "at least I'm not that". All sin is harmful. All sin is destructive in nature. All sin contributes to our collective destiny.

065 Pretending the problems that confront us don't exist will do nothing to bring about solutions. Ignoring them will not make them go away. Worry will do nothing.

066 What God, the world, and our problems require is positive action.

067 Do you want to avoid a looming catastrophe?

068 Do justice to the poor and needy. Do what you should do, not simply what you 'can' do. Do what is righteous. Follow Manoj Bhargava's lead. Do what is right.

069 Law is sacred. Follow it. We are in jeopardy because we fail to be good stewards of, and follow, the Law.

070 Temper your selfishness.

071 If you want a strong and vibrant economy... cultivate it. Pay better than fair wages. Contribute meaningfully to the community.

072 Money trickles down, but it flows up. Create productive members of society— and customers. Every person you help lift out of poverty becomes a potential customer.

073 Don't leave people to struggle to find their way out of poverty. Help them rise above poverty. Don't leave them to do what they must do to survive... help them to thrive!

074 The accumulation of great wealth may make you rich in the eyes of men, but it makes you a poor steward in the eyes of God. To whom much is given, much is required.

075 Pay your tithe—one tenth of your earnings to the Church, so that it can be about the business of doing good works. If you are concerned about your church affiliation doing the right thing with your tithe, change your affiliation.

076 Either **change** your affiliation, or change your **affiliation**.

077 The Bible teaches, *“Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.”* Malachi 3:8.

078 Don't withhold what God has instructed you to give to the Church. Think on the good the Church could do, with your help.

079 The wealthy would do well to live on ten percent of their earnings, and apply the surplus to doing good works, as Mark and Priscilla Zuckerberg, who have become satisfied and are committed to doing goodworks.

080 Be cautious regarding machine power. Every person displaced by a machine, is a closed opportunity for an individual to remain a productive member of society. Be careful not to let automation out pace the human resource.

081 Automate systems where it is dangerous or impractical for a person to work. Don't automate systems and destroy jobs in order to simply hoard more money. Don't fall for the trick that says you must automate in order to remain competitive. Every job lost is the loss of a customer. Every job lost is the loss of a productive member of society.

082 Here's a match to the powder keg. Gun Control. We already see what happens when everyone who wants a gun gets a gun. How many would die by gun violence if no one owned a gun? By design they are killing machines. Everyone's finger on a trigger is dangerous. If the bad guy doesn't have a gun, the good guy doesn't need one. In Matthew 26:52, Jesus teaches that those who live by the sword, shall die by the sword. There is a median. Strive for peace and understanding. Individually, and as a whole.

083 To the uneducated, uninformed, and unconcerned public: There are some things you should know. Not knowing can cost you. Being unaware is dangerous. Ignorance weakens your position.

084 Learn. Stay current. Be strong.

085 Finally, care for our home. The world is a gift from our creator. Respect that.

086 Stop polluting.

087 Recycle.

088 Plant fruit and nut trees. The blossoms are beautiful, they are good for pollinators, and there will come a time you are glad you did.

089 Raise chickens, rabbits, and goats in the cities.

090 Grow a vegetable garden in your yard.

091 The time to relearn these skills is before you need them.

092 Bible prophecy says that we are headed toward hard times. But we can be encouraged that the kingdom *is* coming!

093 The world **will** turn to God!

094 The question is, how deep into the darkness will we have to venture, before we seek the light?

095 The world is headed toward self destruction. The antidote is for humanity to live like Jesus.

096 Jesus has shown us the way, through Truth, to life.

097 In a very literal sense, our hope **is** in Jesus.

098 Jesus **is** the answer.

099 What will it take for us to acknowledge the Truth of God's word? What will it take for you to decide to be perfected?

100 What will it take for you to choose to be like Jesus?

101 Time's up!

102 Now kindred, is the time for you to deny yourself.

103 Now is the time to be reborn to become—Holy.

And now kindred, be on one accord. Extolling God in your good works; loving one another in deed, in truth, and in justice. Being of one mind striving for perfection, even unto the Father which is in heaven; through Jesus the Christ, our Lord and Savior, for ever and ever—Amen.

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7/10

A Testament of Anthony Jon Beavers

I have struggled with if, and how, to tell you God spoke to me, but I know that it is necessary in order for you to appreciate the gravity with which I have assembled these texts – the gravity in which I hope you receive them. My dilemma is how to get your attention, without telling you what happened. How can I convey their importance, without giving a full account? A portion of me says, “It’s none of your business”. A greater portion says, “How can I claim to bring you *the* Truth, and not be completely honest?”

I can't really explain the how or why of it, any better than you could. I can only tell you what happened.

I hesitate because my testimony may diminish the weight of the message for many, as much as it elevates the meaning for others. But how else can I tell you I have a message from God for you, without saying I have a message from God? For you. There is also a danger that the message could be overshadowed by talk of the messenger. From you I ask one thing – give the texts at least as much scrutiny as you give me.

I don't know why God chose me. I don't even really understand fully, why He wanted it done. The future has already been written. I suspect God appreciates the power of an idea more than I can. An idea, placed on the record, is not so easily dismantled. The Truth will endure forever...

I wish I could tell you there was a burning bush, or even better something tangible like tablets written by the hand of God hewn from the side of a mountain... but that is not my story. My story is much more humbling.

My mother thinks I had a nervous breakdown. The doctors diagnosed me as psychotic, or schizophrenic. I don't know which. I never bothered to ask. I didn't see it either way. What I experienced was real.

You see God spoke to me. Not to my heart... to my ears. And these texts (and the stay at a hospital) are the only proof that I have of the encounter. I tell you this because it's only fair that you know where I'm coming from, as it is true. I can only embrace the truth, and hiding it could be interpreted by some as deceitful.

From my mother's perspective I had a nervous breakdown, "...and with good reason," she said. You see, prior to the experience, the woman I loved since the sixth grade deserted me and married a stranger; my patent attorneys stole my invention for which I stood to make millions; my home was robbed... the thief took everything, including my washer, dryer, and clothes from my closets; and my father died. All of this happened in a relatively short period of time. It *was* a lot to take in. Medicine says that psychosis can be triggered by great stress.

As for me, my mind has never been clearer. As far as my doctors are concerned, I am a classic case. I don't fault them, or my mother. If you came to me right now and told me God spoke to your ears, I would be skeptical. It's uncommon and irrational. I would be even more skeptical if I had not experienced it for myself. So believe me, I understand your doubt.

However, if you agree that God is the God of Truth, you might recognize that the message he has given me for the Church, and particularly for you, is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. At least as best as I can transcribe it.

I am Anthony Jon Beavers, at best a reluctant messenger. On one side I don't mind if people call me crazy, as some are sure to. Some will simply see an illness, and nothing more. I see it as a healing... I have changed (for the better) and will never be the same. I imagine that some thought the prophets were lunatics. The same way people have rejected Jesus and his teachings, there are many who will reject this message God has delivered through me. But, on the other side, I do have some fear of the unknown.

You see, I understand fully that I am putting forth what may be to some "new" doctrine (in quotes because it's not really new, it's always been right there in the Bible and in front of your eyes). The scriptures have always told us the Truth. The Truth that God showed me, and told me to write down.

Do not call me a holy man. A holy man is what I aspire to be. I am no preacher, nor prophet. I am far from a saint. I am a regular guy with similar dreams and aspirations, issues and insecurities, and struggles with the knowledge of good and evil, as you might have. Writing these texts ministered to me, as much as I hope they minister to you through reading them.

If there is any difference between you and me, it is that I have been shown the Truth, and I realize now that living a perfected life won't happen by accident— it requires daily effort, and I am determined to do better. I want to be perfected.

The whole experience was over some period of time, where I saw many wonderful and frightening things. I saw marvels in the clouds... some the weatherman probably has a name for. At

times voices insisted that I do terrible things, to the point I could only recite, "God is Love", over and over.

Once the voices promised me riches, which would replace all that my attorneys had stolen from me, if I would worship them. While hospitalized, a fellow patient addressed me, "Messiah... you can have as many wives as you want". In the process of losing the woman I had, I told him, "I can't handle the one I've got". The attacks were pretty regular, though I can't remember much of their substance now. They tried ceaselessly to confuse God's intent.

I assure you that saving the world was not on my mind, before God came to me. To be candid, I was even angry that God would approach me with such a task, because I blamed Him for allowing so much to be taken from me. I had no great love for people, after having my trust betrayed so completely by others. Besides, how was I to accomplish what I saw then as an impossible task, when I couldn't even convince my mother (a godly woman) that He told me to do it? Seven years ago I couldn't see how to persuade an unconcerned public (short of standing on a corner with a cardboard sign) that the world we know is in jeopardy. Now, I need only point to the news.

God showed me the Truth and told me to write it down, so that the truth of it would stand for two thousand years. He told me to write what He taught me on Wisdom, based on scripture and common knowledge. He also wanted me to present the 'everlasting gospel' in a narrative that could reach even an attention deficient generation, which I only came to appreciate fully following the completion of the texts. The Message that Jesus taught and which he died to bring you. The texts are in plain language and each section should take about fifteen minutes to read.

My memory is stunted, but following is an account of my anointing – of which I have the clearest memory:

God honored me, and blessed me, and made me holy in His presence. He anointed me, and it was as if warm oil were poured over my head. When it happened, I told my mother and saw worry in her eyes.

Following my anointing, I went outside to sit in a freestanding, bench style, porch swing... and a gaggle of crows came to the surrounding trees. During this time God told me he wanted me to change the world condition. I recognized His voice by this time because He spoke only the Truth, and He always spoke softly. Hundreds of crows screamed their discontent, the way crows do—under the drone of the other voices who cried, “Jesus! Jesus! Jesus!” over, and over, and over again. They were insistent to say the least. They tried to confuse Gods instructions to me, and convince me that I was the Christ. They desired to take my mind. It was tormenting. So strong was the conviction that God put on me, that I was responsible for changing the world condition, I could almost believe them. Finally, I said out loud, “I am Anthony Jon Beavers!”, and clapped my hands, and the crows dispersed. I can't recall hearing the other voices ever again.

Afterwards, my brother Roderick came outside and told me, “I just want to tell you I love you”.

In a short while, back in my bedroom, God began to show me things past, present, and future. Then He began to show me the future that would be if I failed to change the world. It was horrible. I cried like a baby. I cried for what was to come. He showed me what chaos looked like. Death and destruction was everywhere.

Hearing my crying, my mother, my sister Pam, and my brother Roderick, took me from my room to my mother's bed and had me lay down. They prayed over me. Still balling, God not only showed me what was to come, but why. In short, if it happens

(we have a choice), it will be because we brought it on ourselves. When it comes it will come suddenly—as a tidal wave. The wise will take the current world condition as a warning. The gradual we are living now. This lasted for about an hour.

During that time, God didn't leave me to figure out how to avoid the pending catastrophe, He showed me the way out. He has always been trying to show us the way, but we are mostly like the parable of the sower and the seeds. Hearers but not doers. The single sentence answer is, "Everyone must do what's right", and particularly the Church... those professing the blood of Jesus the Christ.

God promises, "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." 2 Chronicles 7:14.

We must exercise Wisdom, inside of reason. We must be righteous. We must be holy. The alternative is death and destruction. The long answer is the careful compilation of these texts.

After He gave me the great commission (we are all called to the great commission, see Matthew 15:16), He gave me the gifts of wisdom, understanding, and discernment. He showed me the Truth. I could recognize the Truth when I heard it. I was hyper sensitive to inferences and lies. I could recognize a lie as it formed on someone's lips. I could discern the character of a person. I could see systems and their great effects. Though I didn't know everything (God did not reveal heavenly things to me), I knew how the world worked. God gave me understanding. While He didn't tell me of heaven and hell, He did show me that if we get the Earthly part right, the Heavenly part will work itself out for us. It's important to get the Earthly

part right. That's what the message is all about. The Earthly part. Getting it right.

Still, my memory is abbreviated. I'll point out that this is a symptom of psychosis. The voices are obviously a symptom, but they had their own consciousness. I always recognized the differences between my thinking and their thinking. They are real... or how else could they tell me things I didn't know? If you want to understand the experience better read 'VALIS' by Philip K. Dick.

You might have heard of the Messiah Complex or the Jesus Complex. Often times psychosis or schizophrenia causes a person to believe they are the president, superman, or Jesus (someone in a position of power) and they may have a compulsion to help or hurt people, depending upon how the other voices sew confusion. I mean, is it a coincidence that so many have the same 'delusion'?

Medicine says that it can be brought on by a chemical imbalance. Plants have a complex communication system that uses chemicals. Is it a stretch to think that the Creator might communicate with us through chemical balance? Might God have designed a way to communicate with His creation, directly?

Me and my mother used to argue (in love). She would tell me, "God is not supposed to talk to you like that". I'd tell her, "He did". She'd say, "Don't tell me, I was there". I thought to myself, "I lived it". Now, I have no trouble saying I 'suffer' from psychosis or schizophrenia, *and* God spoke to me. God and science don't have to be at odds. In fact, they're not and can't be. Science is the study of what God created after all. In fact, the more knowledgeable we become in science, I believe the more understanding we will have of God. But that's another story, for another time.

My heart tells me that many suffering from psychosis and schizophrenia will be healed, following my completion of the publication of the texts. This is so that you will know That God is God.

Ultimately it's up to you to decide what you believe. I can't explain the how or why of it any better than you can. I have only told you what happened.

I urge you to test the Truth of these texts. Read the scriptures from your own Bible for context and accuracy. Consider the sincerity of my testimony. Recognize that I have little to gain from the disclosure of my experience. Personally, I feel I have more to lose. I have already lost relationships. Consider these things... then decide. Is this a message from God, or are they the ramblings of a mad man? Are these the imaginings of a confused mind, or have I told you the Truth? Am I mistaken? Have I lied?

I need you to answer, is it true? Is the message worthy? Because, if you recognize the truth and timeliness of God's word in these pages—I ask you to do one more thing. Share this book with someone, or tell them where to find it. It is always available for free download at kineticgospel.com. You may also consider providing copies to your local public libraries, school libraries, and state prison libraries, your office's waiting room, elected officials as a group, your church congregation, or on hotel nightstands. I'm a casino dealer... I need your help to spread this message for our time.

Listen to me... I didn't always want to be perfect. My flesh still wants to do exactly what it wants to do—even as my spiritual desire is to do the will of God. What I want, and what God wants for me, don't always agree. The same struggle you may be going through right now. God has had mercy on me and He has given me time to come to my senses. You, on the other hand, may not have that luxury. Death comes mostly unexpected. You are not promised tomorrow. Make the decision to make Jesus your Lord, and Savior, now—while you have time.

Now... I accept that God wants me to be an example. That my "...light so shine before men, that they may see my good works, and glorify my Father which is in heaven." Matthew 5:16. If I had my druthers, I would fade into history unnoticed. I have doubts and feelings of inadequacy. However, God showed me that the best way to teach is by example. Now, I want to be perfect. I strive to live perfectly every day. I assure you it is a daily struggle. The devil doesn't quit. Pray for me, that God would make me worthy. Rest assured I am doing the same for you.

Your Brother,

Anthony Jon Beavers

P.S. This is what God has shown me. And now, if you have read the texts, I have shown you.

What will you do?