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THE WAY OF PEACE WE DO NOT KNOW.

Peace

The word “peace” is an extremely important word. This word describes the emotions of the soul. When we have peace in our souls, our desire is to live. The opposite of peace is depression and turmoil. When the soul no longer wishes to continue its existence or live, the Bible describes this emotion by the word “death”. Let us take a look at the verses that contain the word “peace”.

Lk 19:41 And when Jesus drew near and saw the city (Jerusalem) He wept over it, 19:42 saying, “Would that even today you knew the things that make for *peace!*

But now they are hid from your eyes.

19:43 For the days shall come upon you, when your enemies will cast up a bank about you and surround you, and hem you in on every side,

19:44 and dash you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave one stone upon another in you; because you did not know the time of your visitation.”

- 1) “Would that even today you knew the things that make for *peace!* *But now they are hid from your eyes*”. The word “peace” can be described as a state of tranquility, a state of security, freedom from disquieting or oppressive thoughts.

Make no mistake about it, the Final Test (Tribulation) will happen to every man, Rev (7:14) but yet this event is hidden from every man’s lives. Jesus is actually speaking about the Final Test. This city is named Jerusalem and is the home of God’s Temple. Scripture uses this city as a symbol of a man and his soul. Jesus weeps over this city because He knows with complete certainty that most men will chose death at their Final Tests. (In the whole land, says the LORD, two thirds (66.6%) Rev (13:18) shall be cut off and perish, and one third shall be left alive. Zec (13:8))

- 2) “For the days shall come upon you, when your enemies will cast up a bank about you and surround you, and hem you in on every side”. This verse has nothing to do with the fall of Jerusalem by the Romans in 77 A.D. This verse pertains to those that have or will fail their Final Tests. They will experience unspeakable fear. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. *For fear has to do with punishment*, and he who fears is not perfected in love. 1 Jn (4:18) In other words, those who fail to love others in the way Jesus loved us, Jn (13:34) will experience not *peace*, but fear at their Final

Tests. They will know that their lives deserve punishment.

Brothers, in the Catholic Mass, we greet each other with a handshake of peace. This action needs to be recognized as spiritual. Simply, we are all going to be subjected to the Final Test. My hope is that each of you will find peace at your Tribulation.

Prv 1:33 **But he who obeys Me** (Me refers to God.) **dwells in security, in *peace*, without fear of harm.**

Ps 55:19 God will give me freedom and ***peace*** from those who war against me, though there are many who oppose me. (Refers to the Final Test.)

Returning to Luke.

- 3) “**And dash you to the ground, you and your children within you**”. The purpose of this line is to reveal why God would withdraw His mercy from a soul. We must realize that scripture considers our actions as our children. See chapter #, ***The Final Test: Your Children Destroyed.***
- 4) “**Because you did not know the time of your visitation**”. Behold the truth; we were born into the world not knowing how to love one another. Mankind is quick to think they understand love, but it’s not the same love in which Jesus loved us. For behold, the Word of God became Man and gave us an example on how to love. The point to be made is this; Jesus had taken upon Himself our emotions. So I

ask you, have you missed your visitation? Truly, ***we have been invited to suffer with Christ*** by contemplating the sufferings of others. And if we suffer with Him in perseverance and sincerity, we will cease committing sin. 1 Pet (4:1)

1 Jn 3:16 ***The way we came to know love was that He laid down His life for us;*** so we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.

- 1) “So we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers”. We are required to record the sorrows of others by looking through the eyes of Jesus. And when we do this we are laying down our lives.

Col 1:15 **He (Jesus) is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creatures.**

1:16 **in Him everything in heaven and on earth was created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or governments, principalities or powers; all were created through Him, and for Him.**

1:17 **He is before all else that is. *In Him everything continues in being.***

1:19 ***it pleased God to make absolute fullness reside in Him***

1:20 **and by means of the Him, to reconcile everything in His person, both on earth and in the heavens, *making peace through the Blood of His Cross.***

- 1) “**In Him everything in heaven and on earth was created**”. So I ask you, do you think that God created the world so that we could fulfill our passions and appetites? We are here upon the earth to gladden the

heart of our Maker. When we love others in the way Jesus loved us, we gladden the heart of Jesus. When we care about the emotions of others, in the way Jesus cared about our emotions, we become His life by being lights. Jn (1:4)

- 2) **“All were created through Him, and for Him”**. Let it be known that God has an incredible desire to share His thoughts and emotions with us. Yes, He wants to share with us the sorrows of others. So you see, His justice requires us to be spiritually concerned for one another. Let me simply say, His joy is to see us contemplate the sorrows of others. (In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. Jn (1:4))
- 3) **“It pleased God to make absolute fullness reside in Him”**. Behold and understand; **Jesus is God because the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit live in Him without limit**. Yes, He is full of grace. Jn (1:14) Let me also say that we have been invited to share in Christ’s fullness. And how is this done you ask? We are invited to share in the thoughts and feelings of Jesus. And what are these feelings you ask? Never forget, He has experienced every man’s sorrows and depressions. Thus the “fullness” or in other words, the total sum of all sorrow resides in Him.
- 4) **“By means of the Him, to reconcile everything in His person, both on earth and in the heavens, making peace through the Blood**

of His Cross”. Listen to what I am saying; Jesus took upon Himself the total sum of everyman’s depressions. If we recognize the incredible love in which did it, and its value, we will imitate His love by loving those that sin against us. If our souls are at **peace** because we forgive others, we will have a will to live. On the other hand, if our souls are filled with depression and anger, we will seek death.

- 5) **“Making peace through the Blood of His Cross”**. The Cross, made from wood, represents the arrogance of the damned which are symbolized as the vertical post. The horizontal post represents those that need the purification of purgatory. (See chapter X the seven deadly spirits. In this chapter is an explanation about the Cross made from wood.) We must understand how Jesus made Himself our example on how to respond to the arrogant. Our goal is to be spiritually concerned for those who sin against humanity and us. By doing this, we will be at peace within our souls. Having compassion for others, even those that sin against us, is love. And love causes peace within.

The Blood of Jesus was spilled upon the ground, but do we understand the meaning of the Blood? In the same way that human body approaches death as the body loses blood, the ugliness of sin will cause the soul to experience suicidal depression.

Behold and consider this, *the Blood of Jesus represents how Jesus was tempted with suicidal depression.* If you are having trouble understanding this, you need to contemplate the sorrows of humanity. Sin causes pain and the human race has experienced much suffering. The total sum of everyman's depressions caused Jesus to slip into a deep depression. Having to experience every man's sorrows was a darkness that only He could endure. Thus His soul sank closer to suicidal death, and this is represented as His Blood spilled.

Returning to Paul's statement on how the Blood of Jesus makes peace. We must realize Jesus Blood can only make peace if we value how Jesus subjected Himself to the total sum of all sorrow. And the only way we know if we appreciate what Jesus has done is if we imitate His actions by loving those that sin against. If we carry our crosses by loving the arrogant, our souls will be at peace.

Jn 16:32 The hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, every man to his home, and will leave Me alone; yet I am not alone, for the Father is with Me.

16:33 Jesus said to them; "I have told you this so that you might have *peace* in Me. In the world you will have trouble, but take courage, I have conquered the world."

- 1) "The hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered". In this line, Jesus is foretelling how the Apostles will flee in the face of mortal danger. But in reality this complaint is also made against humanity. For you see, mankind has been scattered among a multitude of passions and appetites. And if we are scattered and enjoying our passions, we can't suffer His most sorrowful Passion.
- 2) "Every man to his home, and will leave Me alone; yet I am not alone". We can liken our passions and appetites as running to our homes, thus abandoning Christ.
- 3) "In the world you will have trouble". If we are in love with our passions and pleasures, yes the world, *peace* is far from us. Why? Because we will strike back in anger when others sin against us. The emotions of anger and revenge within will cause turmoil, not peace.
- 4) "I have conquered the world". Behold, returning a blessing instead of a curse is conquering the world.

Peace, King David.

2 Sm 6:17 The ark of the LORD was brought in and set in its place within the tent David had pitched for it. Then David offered holocausts and *peace offerings* before the LORD.

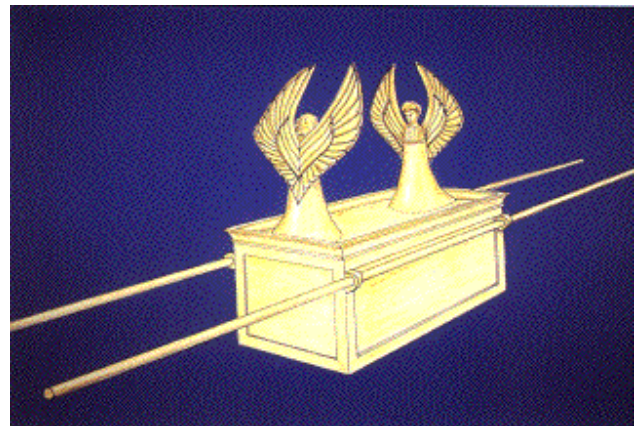
1) King “**David**” is only a shadow of the good things to come, and no real image of them. King David is only a mere shadow of the true intercessor, Jesus. When Jesus was in the flesh, He offered prayers and supplications with loud cries and tears to the Father. Heb (5:7) Indeed, ***Christ’s prayers of intercession are the real peace offerings***, the peace offerings written about in the Old Testament are only a shadow of reality. ***There is no greater act of love than to intercede with tears for the salvations of souls. Did you know love covers a multitude of sins?*** 1 Pet (4:8) Let’s be imitators of Christ, for He is the way, the truth and the life.

2) “**Ark of the LORD**” is described in the Book of Exodus, and it was covered on all sides with gold. Inside the ark was a golden urn holding the manna, Aaron’s rod that budded and the two tablets that contain the Ten Commandments. Heb (9:4)

- a) The manna symbolizes the Holy Eucharist. (See Chapter Part 2B: My Flesh is Real Food; My Blood is Real Drink.)
- b) Aaron’s rod, made of wood, symbolizes the Wood of the Cross. Behold the wisdom of Love. The buds illustrate the beauty and living properties of the Cross. The Cross is our symbol on how

to love the arrogant, yes to carry their sins against us.

- c) The two tablets symbolize Christ and His Mother. They are the two witnesses of the Law. During their lives they fulfilled the Law by placing the Law into action.
- d) Covenant means promise or contract.



Ark of the Covenant.

- 3) “***Peace offerings***”. Perfect ***peace*** exists when we love others in the way Jesus loved us. But how is this done you ask? We fulfill our duty by contemplating how the Final Test will cause great terror in the souls of the elect. Let’s look through the eyes of Jesus and consider how He experienced the sorrows of humanity.

Sir 35:1 ***To keep the law is a great oblation, and he who observes the Commandments sacrifices a peace offering.***

- 1) “**He who observes the Commandments sacrifices a peace offering**”. Notice this is Scripture’s definition of a peace offering: Observe the Commandments. It

says in Scripture, “For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ”. Jn (1:17) Understand this, when we commit sin, we cause sadness, pain and anger in others. Jesus took upon this pain. We must ask ourselves this question, why would we want to add to His pain? Simply, we should obey the commandments because we do not want to cause any additional pain in the heart of Jesus and in our brothers.

Is 59:8 The way of *peace* they (They refers to Israelites.) know not, and there is nothing that is right in their paths; their ways they have made crooked, whoever treads them knows no *peace*.

- 1) “Their ways they have made crooked”. Our passion and appetites can easily cause us to sin. Our passions can cause us to focus on ourselves, thus making others angry at our callousness. But if a man loves others, he takes upon their sorrows. But more importantly he doesn’t cause others to become angry by some act of callousness. Having said this, Scripture says we must make a straight path to the Lord. Lk (3:4) But in order to do this, we need to know where we are going. Our goal is to understand and appreciate the actions of Jesus. The elect in heaven will be praising God by saying; “Salvation belongs to our God who sits upon the throne, and to the Lamb! Rev

(7:10) This is our goal and let’s make a straight path to understand why we are giving praise to God and the Lamb.

Bar 3:13 Had you walked in the way of God, you would have dwelt in enduring *peace*.

3:14 Learn where prudence is, where strength; where understanding; that you may know also where are length of days, and life, where light of the eyes, and *peace*.

- 1) “That you may know also where are length of days”. It’s a concept hard to grasp, but we all need a reason to live forever. And we can find that reason when we value how Christ took upon Himself every man’s sorrows.

1 Pet 4:7 The end of the world is coming soon. Therefore, be earnest and disciplined in your prayers.

4:8 Above all, let your love for one another be intense, *because love covers a multitude of sins*.

- 1) “The end of the world is coming soon”. In reality, the world ends for each of us when we die.
- 2) “*Because love covers a multitude of sins*”. Never forget, fear has to do with punishment. But love casts out all fear. At our Final Tests, we will find that the only reason to live is our love we had for others in the name of Jesus. And we would never have loved others unless we were impressed and appreciated the actions of Jesus. Our love for others and our appreciation for Jesus will not be

over powered by depression caused by our sins.

Ps 34:37 Observe the honest, mark the upright; those at *peace* with God have a future.

34:38 ***But all sinners will be destroyed;*** the future of the wicked will be cut off.

- 1) “Those at *peace* with God have a future”. If a man wants to be at *peace* with God, his god can’t be his belly. Recall the words of Saint Paul, “For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, live as enemies of the Cross of Christ. Their end is destruction, ***their god is the belly,*** and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things”. Phil (3:18)
- 2) ***“But all sinners will be destroyed”.*** When a soul no longer has a reason to live, that soul will fall into suicidal depression in which it can’t escape.

Ps 85:9 I will listen for the word of God; surely the LORD will proclaim *peace* to His people, to the faithful, to those who trust in Him.

Ps 119:165 Lovers of your teaching have much *peace*; for them there is no stumbling block.

- 1) “Stumbling block” describes how a soul fails the Final Test by choosing suicide after physical death. And the teaching that saved the elect from suicide is Jesus’ command to forgive those that sinned against them. All those that

seek revenge in any form will be in fear at their Tribulations.

Prv 16:7 When the LORD is pleased with a man’s ways, He makes even his enemies be at *peace* with him. (Refers to a man’s victory at his Final Test.)

Prv 3:1 My son, forget not My teaching, keep in mind My commands;

3:2 For many days, and years of life, and *peace*, will they bring you.

- 1) ***“Peace”.*** When a soul cares about the emotions of others, by looking through the eyes of Jesus, that soul comes to understand how Jesus truly cares about him. ***Seeing himself so loved, he is at peace.***

Wis 14:22 Then it was not enough for the wicked to err in their knowledge of God; ***but even though they live in a great war of ignorance they call such evils peace.***

- 1) “Then it was not enough for the wicked to err in their knowledge of God”. Behold and observe, ***if a man’s experiences are worldly, his decisions will be worldly.*** If a man had knowledge of the coming storm, yes the Final Test, (Tribulation) he might change his way of living. Take for instance the passengers of the Titanic. If they had prior knowledge of the boat’s demise would they have gotten on that boat?
- 2) ***“But even though they live in a great war of ignorance”.*** Mankind lives in a mist of a war. Satan secretly, by stealth, seduces mankind into thinking their

passions and pleasures of various kinds will give them peace. Satan and his lies have been around since Adam and Eve. And what makes it worse, mankind has made Satan's lies their own and even spreads them. Mankind is completely unaware and ignorant of Satan's attacks. Behold the lie in which Satan and his followers are spreading. The lie is this, that we can find a reason to live by indulging our passions and appetites.

- 3) ***"They call such evils peace"***. It's easy to see how sin gives us a reason to live for a "day". Heb (11:25) We find pleasure in our passions and thus we consider these ***evils as peace***. But a day is fast approaching when we find out how wrong we were. What will we do when our passions and appetites are taken away?

Is 9:5 For a Child is born to us; a Son is given us; upon His shoulder dominion rests. They name Him, ***Prince of Peace***.

9:6 ***His dominion is vast and forever peaceful***, from David's throne, and over His Kingdom, which He confirms and sustains by judgment and justice, both now and forever. The zeal of the LORD of many will do this!

- 1) "They name Him, ***Prince of Peace***". The word "prince" is defined as a man of high rank or of high standing in his class or profession. Jesus is called the Prince of Peace because He is our perfect example on how to love

one another. Our ***peace*** within our souls is completely depended upon how we love those that sin against us. And Jesus is the perfect example on how to love the arrogant.

How Is Peace Obtained?

Scripture describes our lives as "purification by fire". This fire is the afflictions that are caused by men sinning against us. Our goal is to remain at peace. Persevering in peace will cause us to desire life forever. And as I have said before, we need a reason to live forever. But if we strike back in revenge, our souls will be in turmoil. Eventually anger and revenge will cause our deaths because our souls will sink into suicidal depression. When a soul no longer has a reason to live, that soul will seek suicide. Suicidal emotions, not wanting to live, overwhelm every soul in hell.

As we study the actions of Jesus, we will clearly see how loving the arrogant is our only way to live forever.

Silver Refined

Is 48:10 See, I have refined you like silver, tested you in the furnace of affliction.

48:11 ***For My sake, for My own sake, I do this.***

- 1) "I have refined you like silver". In the real world, silver ore must be refined to remove its impurities. My prayer is this, that mankind may come to see how their

passions and appetites (impurities) interfere with loving each other. For example, even our own passions and ambitions allow men to sin against us. What I mean is this, when a man sins against us, that man interferes with a goal or pleasure. And because our ambition or passion has been interfered with, we grow angry. Returning anger when faced with another's sin is a sin. But if we chose to seek a peaceful solution in the name of Jesus, God calls our action a virtue. But the quality of the virtue will vary depending upon the love in our hearts. It should be easy to see our virtues can be tainted with imperfections called impurities. I say it with great sadness; the 144,000 are the only ones to have reached the virtue of loving others in the way Jesus loved us. And they are the only ones that have responded favorably by being refined.

- 2) "Tested you in the furnace of affliction". Our greatest afflictions come from one another; yes having to experience the sins of others. As I said, the only ones to have been refined are the 144,000. Truly it takes the sorrows of Christ, engraved upon our hearts, to love the arrogant. And the 144,000 are the only ones that have contemplated the sorrows of Christ and thus truly loved the elect and the damned, even though both were filled with arrogance.
- 3) "***For My sake, for My own sake, I do this***". There is a great beauty

and peace when a man can experience the arrogance of the damned and the arrogance of the elect and practice the appropriate virtues that oppose their sins. As you know, ***having spiritual compassion for one another will give us a reason to live forever.*** When our hearts have compassion for others, the heart of Jesus is gladdened. In fact, the Gospel of John says that the life of Jesus is the light of men. Jn (4:1)

Dn 12:10 Many shall be refined, purified, and tested, but the wicked shall prove wicked; ***none of them shall have understanding,*** but the wise shall have it.

- 1) "Many shall be refined, purified, and tested, but the wicked shall prove wicked". During the daytime of life, only the 144,000 (wise) have been refined, purified and tested. The rest of the elect will be refined, purified and tested at their Final Tests and completely purified in purgatory.

Brothers, from observation, men grow angry and they will strike back when confronted with the sins of others, but yet they themselves play the hypocrite by committing the very same sins. Men have no desire to carry the arrogance of others. The Cross, which is the arrogance of the damned and elect, is held in contempt. Think about it, how can we carry the Cross, when we are part of the problem? If we are arrogant, how can we carry the arrogance of others?

- 2) **“None of them shall have understanding”**. We are born into the world not knowing how to love, but yet the human race is completely unaware. If we love, we must record the sorrows of others in our hearts by looking through the eyes of Jesus. The way we experience love is by contemplating how the sins of men have caused sadness, pain, and anger.

Prv 10:19 When words are many, transgression is not lacking, but he who restrains his lips is prudent.

10:20 The tongue of the righteous is choice **silver**; the mind of the wicked is of little worth.

10:21 The lips of the righteous feed many, but fools die for lack of sense.

- 1) “But he who restrains his lips is prudent”. Notice how Scripture defines prudence. When we respond by restraining our lips from anger and revenge, we are prudent.
- 2) “The tongue of the righteous is choice **silver**”. Notice how Scripture has given us a definition of silver. The tongue of the righteous in praying for those that sin against them is called choice silver. (Choice silver is purified silver.) For example, recall the words of Jesus on the Cross, “Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.” Lk (23:34) It’s also important to note the words of James the Apostle. “If anyone does not fall short in

speech, (Choice silver.) he is a **perfect man**, (The 144,000) able to bridle his whole body also. Jas (3:2) By combining these two verses, we can say choice silver is a perfect man who can control his actions by practicing the twelve virtues when faced with their opposite.

- 3) “The lips of the righteous feed many”. Our souls require peace for food. And the righteous man will teach others how to return a blessing when faced with evil. Thus showing others how to be at peace.
- 4) “Fools die for lack of sense”. Notice how Scripture defines a fool. A fool fails to use his ears and eyes (senses) to understand that his anger and revenge will cause his death by seeking suicide caused by his depression.

Prv 17:3 The crucible is for **silver**, and the furnace is for gold, and the LORD tries hearts.

- 1) “Crucible” is a vessel of porcelain material used for melting. Silver ore is placed in a crucible and heated. The impurities rise to the top, which is called dross. The dross is skimmed off the top. This is the process for creating purified silver.



In the Book of Sirach, Scripture reveals the spiritual meaning of the crucible. It says, “Accept whatever befalls you, in crushing misfortune be patient. For in fire gold is tested, and worthy men in the **crucible** of humiliation”. Sir (2:4) In other words, we must expect humiliation and accept crushing misfortune with patience. But now we must ask the question why? The Book of Proverbs says, “Take away the dross from the silver, and the smith (A smith is a worker in metals.) has material for a vessel. Prv (17:3) Let me say this, God gave us the power to ponder verses such as these. We must realize our goal is to become temples of the Seven Spirits of God. As temples of God’s Seven Spirits, we become a home for the thoughts and emotions of Jesus. But in order to become worthy, our temples must be made from righteous lips. (The tongue of the righteous is choice silver. Prv (10:2)) It should be easy to see that it takes much study and God’s Spirit to become holy in

restraining our lips when faced with the sins of others. When we become successful, we become vessels or temples of the Holy Spirit because God the silver smith has material (silver) for His vessel.

- 2) “The LORD tries hearts”. God is clearly testing us by seeing what we praise. Do we praise our passions and pleasures, or do we praise the thoughts and emotions of Jesus?
- 3) “Gold” will be discussed later in the next chapter.

Silver Refined: We Will Be Judged By Our Praise.

Prv 27:21 The crucible is for **silver**, and the furnace is for gold, and **a man is judged by his praise**.

- 1) “The crucible is for **silver**”. We are faced daily with the sins of others. These sins are symbolized as the destructive force of fire. If we are prudent in our speech when dealing with the arrogant, our impurities are skimmed away by God. We become worthy vessels to praise His Seven Spirits. As worldly men value earthly silver, we need to value in the same way the peace that is created within our souls because we have returned good for evil by our prudence.
- 2) “**A man is judged by his praise**”. I ask you, how can we praise something we do not value? Returning a blessing when faced by another man’s sin is folly in the eyes of worldly men. Such men

praise the god of their passions and pleasures. It's impossible for these men to give praise to God for the opportunity to experience peace by returning a virtue when faced by sin.

Jas 1:2 Consider it all *joy*, my brothers, when you encounter various trials,
1:3 for you know that the *testing of your love* produces perseverance.

- 1) "Consider it all *joy*, my brothers, when you encounter various trials". It's easy to grow angry when men show us their callousness. If we fall victim to this anger, it only creates turmoil within us, thus we don't enjoy peace. Do we praise this opportunity? We will, only if we see the value of loving the arrogant.
- 2) "For you know that the *testing of your love* produces perseverance". My observation is this; we will never discipline ourselves and maintain that perseverance *unless we have a true and genuine spiritual compassion for one another*. (And we can only gain this attitude by suffering with Christ.) Behold the warning; we will all need the virtue of perseverance at our Final Tests. We will be faced with envy, arrogance and anger.

1 Pt 1:6 So be truly glad! There is *wonderful joy ahead*, even though it is necessary for you to endure many *trials* for a while.

1:7 the genuineness of your *faith*, more precious than gold is perishable, but faith tested by fire may prove to be for praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

- 1) "So be truly glad! There is *wonderful joy ahead*, even though it is necessary for you to endure many *trials* for a while". Let the world know, a man can only endure many trials if he possess the thoughts and emotions of Jesus. And to obtain His emotions we must persevere in contemplating His passion. With His emotions in our hearts, we will experience His compassion for all men, thus we will have the power to endure the sins of others.
- 2) "*Faith*" is our starting point; yes our beginning. Consider this, if a man has *faith* in God and fails to study and contemplate His Word, does his *faith* have any value?
- 3) "Your *faith*, more precious than gold is perishable". As I have already said, our *faith* is our beginning. We must be sincere and persevere in studying and contemplating His word then our *faith* will turn to gold. If we do nothing with our faith, we will simply continue to indulge our passions and appetites of various kinds.
- 4) "But faith tested by fire may prove to be for praise". Saint James makes the analogy that the tongue can be likened to a fire. Jas (3.6) My point to you is this, the spoken word can cut us like a knife. Our

test is this; it's how we respond to the words of the arrogant that may be praised by God.

Rom 5:3 More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, **knowing that suffering produces perseverance,**

^{5:4} and perseverance for **tested** virtue, and **tested** virtue for hope.

^{5:5} And this hope will not leave us disappointed, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

- 1) "We rejoice in our sufferings". We truly suffer when men sin against us. This gives us an opportunity to experience how precious peace is to the soul. Peace is food for the soul and its value is symbolized by silver. (Prudent lips are choice silver.)
- 2) "Knowing that suffering produces perseverance". My heart suffers terribly because the world rejects the spiritual silver. They do not see how loving those that sin against them causes peace.
- 3) "Perseverance for **tested** virtue". Perseverance will prove if we value the silver. We will know if we value the peace that is rewarded to us when we return a blessing when faced with sin.
- 4) "**Tested** virtue for hope". Our goal and hope is that men will also value the silver.
- 5) "This hope will not leave us disappointed". I assure you, Christ will answer our hope if we **persevere**. He will **console us** by delivering our friends and family

from their callous hearts. In God's Plan, He would rather build us up, than deliver mankind over to a state of emptiness. (Hell).

- 6) "Because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us". Our silver must be purified in order to become vessels for the Holy Spirit. Prv (17:3) I tell you the truth; the 144,000 are the only ones during the daytime of life that learn to love others in the way Jesus loved us. The rest of the elect experience this truth when they ask for Jesus' right hand at their Final Tests.

Pruned

Jn 15:1 "I am the True Vine, and My Father is the Vine Grower.

^{15:2} He takes away every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, and everyone that does bear fruit He **prunes** so that it bears more fruit.

- 1) "**Prune**". The word means to cut off or cut back, thus causing more fruitful growth. When we are given the opportunity to practice the virtues, yes when we are given the opportunity to experience the arrogance of others, we can liken ourselves as vines that are pruned.
- 2) "Fruit" refers to the twelve virtues. It's food for our souls, which is peace.

Brothers, I ask you, do you understand why the Father prunes the branches? In the physical world, the grape grower

prunes the branches so that the following year the vine produces more fruit. In the same way, we can consider ourselves vines. In the Lord's Plan, He sends us arrogant men to test us and give us an opportunity to practice the twelve virtues.

Ps 17:3 You have *tested* my heart, searched it in the night. You have tried me by fire, but find no malice in me.

- 1) "You have *tested* my heart, searched it in the night". A true indication of what we love is where we spend our time. If we love the world, we become enemies of God. So I ask you, what will happen to us when the Lord tests our hearts at our Final Tests? Yes, when the Lord searches our hearts in the night. (The night refers to the Final Test.)
- 2) "You have tried me by fire". The fire refers to our brother's unkind words spoken against us. The Apostle James says that the tongue is a fire. Jas (3:6)
- 3) "But find no malice in me". The word "malice" has a definition of: a desire to cause pain, injury, or distress to another. Malice implies a deep-seated often-unexplainable desire to see another suffer. Let me say this, if we have a true spiritual compassion for all men, malice will be far from our hearts.

Ps 26:1 ..Grant me justice, LORD! I have walked without blame. In the LORD I have trusted; I have not faltered.

26:2 *Test me*, LORD, and try me; search my heart and mind.

26:3 Your love is before my eyes; I walk guided by Your faithfulness.

- 1) "I have walked without blame". There is a small group called the 144,000 who can say that they have walked without blame. How can this be you asked? Note how love covers a multitude of sins. In the Book of Ecclesiastes it says; "Consider the works of the Lord; who can make straight what He has made crooked"? Eccl (7:13) The 144,000 began their lives not knowing how to love, but eventually learned how to love others in the way Jesus loved us. Yes, they spent many hours contemplating the sorrows of Christ.
- 2) "*Test me*, LORD, and try me; search my heart and mind". The only way in which we can know if we love others in the way Jesus loved us is to be tested by the sins of others.
- 3) "Your love is before my eyes". The only way that we can know God's love is to engrave the thoughts of Christ upon our minds. If God's Justice finds us worthy, He will engrave Christ's emotions upon our hearts.
- 4) "I walk guided by Your faithfulness". If we are to be victorious at our Final Tests, we must clearly see how God loves us. Without being loved, we will seek death; yes we will seek non-existence.

Sir 2:1 My son, when you come to serve the LORD, prepare yourself for *trials*.

2:2 Be sincere of heart and immovable, undisturbed in time of adversity. (Refers to the Final Test.)

2:3 Cling to Him, forsake Him not; thus will your future be great.

2:4 Accept whatever befalls you, in crushing misfortune be patient; (Refers to the Final Test.)

2:5 For in fire gold is tested, and worthy men in the crucible of humiliation. (Refers to the Final Test.)

- 1) “My son, when you come to serve the LORD, prepare yourself for *trials*”. Virtue can only be practiced when faced with its opposite, do you understand? And virtue is food for our souls because it causes peace. My question is this; do we value the opportunity for our souls to be at peace?

Words Of Wisdom

My son, say to My people, I tend to the smallest details in your life. Yes, your life has many little irritating distractions. Remember, I allow all of these to strengthen you and draw you closer to Me. *Every trial is a golden gem on your path*. Look at them as My blessings and accept them as they come.

Avoid giving anyone offense, strive to present yourselves as ministers of God, acting with patient endurance amid trials, difficulties, and distresses; conducting yourselves with innocence, knowledge, and patience, *in sincere love*. 2 Cor (6:3)

My son, every minute is a day in My school. You are in My school learning lessons on how to be Christ like. *It is a school you never graduate from on this earth*. Remind yourself; it is a battle every day to do as I would do.

Do not complain to others. That is a great opportunity for victory and *complaining brings you back to self*. When others hate you, forget their hate. Do you see how they are blind and *in need of your love?* When others taunt you, do not respond with anger, but love.

Do not complain, or let your weariness be guessed. *Do not defend yourself* and if you allow yourself to be stripped, then men will abuse your goodwill. It is thus that I will be able to live again in you, because you will be imitating Me.

Prv 20:3 It is honorable for a man to shun conflict, while every fool starts a quarrel.

I send you good things. Even crosses are good things. You grow from your trials and crosses. Avoid every little occurrence of anger, unkindness and selfishness. *Keep not a single trace of resentment or bitterness in your soul*. (This can only be done if Jesus has engraved His emotions upon our hearts.)

Prv 19:11 Good sense makes a man slow to anger, and it is his glory to overlook an offense.

My son, the soul that honors Me the most *is the one who has most perfectly transformed all his sufferings into love and joy*. Yes, all his sufferings, even the smallest annoyances and little dis-

appointments. His love glorifies Me already on earth.

My son, I need you to respond with love to your brother's callousness. So I say to you, intercede for them when they cast their ugliness toward you. Respond as I would do, with love. ***How can I minister to your brothers if you become hardened when you deal with them?***

Always put Me between you and your brothers, ***otherwise there will be a clash of human prides***. As a remedy, say this prayer; ***“Jesus, meek and humble of Heart, make my heart like unto You”***.

My son, touch your brothers by your example. Touch your brothers with your goodness. My weapons are My love. Wear My love on your breast. Never respond with hate. ***Hate the acts, but love your brothers***. See them as ones who are sick and in need of your intercessions.

My son, ***you hinder the flowering of My life in your brothers when you cause them some displeasure or aggravation***. Yes, it is I who suffer through it. You see, in order that I may grow in souls, I need them to be at ease, without bitterness, and be in a kind disposition. Do you see how I need your services of ***lavishing kindness upon them?***

1 Jn 4:8 the man without love has known nothing of God, for God is love.

My son, you cannot argue with your brothers. You will do more with acts of love and intercessions. Study constantly.

It is your love that will fight the mightiest battle.

Do not be fooled by the false power your arrogant brothers display. I have all the power. ***There is nothing that happens that I do not allow***. I can stop this world in an instant if I so desire. ***Your job is to intercede and study.***

My son, your job is to love not the nice ones only, but to love all your brothers. Smile the biggest smiles. You cannot be My soldiers of love if you do not first seek your union with Me. You need your ammunition and it is found in Me. ***Apart from Me, you can do nothing.***

When your brother wrongs you, forgive him instantly. Do not let ***“self”*** come to the front line. Intercede for them; they are in total darkness. Can you see how My light cannot shine from you if you are clogged with any anger or hatred? You must remain fixed only in love; love of the Cross, love of one another!

Brothers again realize that anger causes turmoil in our souls and turmoil is the opposite of peace. Value this peace like the world values silver.

My son, to strike back in anger (revenge) is not the way of love. ***This is not My way***. I loved those who whipped Me. I loved those who crowned My head with thorns. I loved those who spat at Me and yelled obscenities at Me. I showed you the way to love. ***I showed you the way to forgive***. I showed you the way.

It is not enough to know My teaching; ***I ask you to live it***. So I say to you, apply

all your intelligence to understanding My ways of working and then imitate them. A great number of souls consecrate themselves to My service, but very few live My life. I say it with sadness, **there are so few who work to know My desires and fulfill them.**

I say to you, any taint of anger, of hatred, of getting even, of being wronged and **making yourself right**, is the way of the self.

My son, pick up your cross and follow Me. Do not try to put your cross down. (The cross represents the arrogance of the elect and the damned.) Accept what I send you as coming from Him who loves you. It is in this acceptance that you grow in your relationship with Me. ***My hand is in everything you experience.***

¹ Pet 2:19 When a man can suffer an injustice and endure hardship through his awareness of God's presence, this is the work of grace (Seven Spirits of God) in him.

^{2:20} If you do wrong and get beaten for it, what credit can you claim? But if you put up with suffering for doing what is right, this is acceptable in God's eyes.

^{2:21} For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, ***leaving you an example that you should follow in His footsteps.***

^{2:22} "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in His mouth."

^{2:23} When He was insulted, He returned no insult; when He suffered, He did not threaten; instead, He handed Himself over to the one who judges justly.

1) "This is the work of grace (Seven Spirits of God) in him". Simply, my

dear brothers, without the thoughts and emotions of Jesus in our hearts, we could never suffer an injustice or endure hardship.

Brothers, if you think about it, we seem to have patience with people that give. The problem comes when we deal with people that use us or give nothing, yes those that violate the Natural Law. Since Scripture says, that many are called and few are chosen, Mt (22:14) we are constantly dealing with people that are on a road to damnation. Do you think these people give? No, they are constantly violating the Natural Law. Then, there are those that call themselves religious, they may avoid deadly sin, but do they really give? So let me say this, recording the sorrows of others in your hearts, this is so important. Show true honest interest in the life of another. True, it's easy to forgive those that give, but a cold tight heart is hard to forgive. What makes God's test most difficult is the constant bombardment of people that take and give nothing. No matter where you turn, you experience nothing but the sins of men. My biggest problem with my brothers is this; you would think that giving to others would make them kinder. But this is not the case. No one gives, everyone takes; it's truly a heavy cross to bear.

Brothers, how did Jesus carry this heavy Cross? What I mean is this, how did He carry the arrogance of the damned and elect? My answer to you is this, the love of His Mother made it possible. Witnessing the love of His Mother for humanity was His strength. Jn (1:4) In the

same way, we each need a spiritual companion. If we are surrounded by the sins of others without a spiritual companion, the darkness will overwhelm us.

My son, it's easy to be kind to those who are kind to you, but to be kind to those who make you suffer is in reality the beauty of love.

My son, I urge you, ***relinquish any attachment to being wronged.*** If others offend you, be silent. I was silent when they scoffed at and persecuted Me. ***You cannot be angry with one person and serve Me properly.***

Reflect on what I am saying, I teach you My lessons ever so gently. If you do not respond, ***I must increase My lessons.*** I use whatever measure I need to teach you the lesson you need to learn. Behold, ***what comes forth is a man that either embraces the Cross or rejects it.*** Indeed, you are being tested in fire.

My son, ***the way to Me is to model your life after Me.*** You cannot hate any man. The way to peace is true Love. ***Not tolerance, love!*** See them as your dearest friends hurting and coming to you in great pain. ***Do not focus on yourself.***

Do not be surprised, contact with cold hearted men is necessary because I desire unity with you, so that I can glorify you as imitators of Me. ***Be grateful to Me for every cross, because with this I give clear demonstration of the greater good that I want for you.***

My son, on a good day enjoy good things, and on an evil day consider: both the one and the other I have made, so that man cannot find fault with Me in anything. Eccl (7:14) No cause thus to say: "What is the purpose of this?" Everything is chosen to satisfy a need. Eccl (39:21) ***I have made everything for My own ends,*** even the wicked for the evil day. Prv (16:4)

^{1 Pt 4:12} Do not be surprised, beloved, that a trial by fire is occurring in your midst. It is a test for you, but it should not catch you off guard.

^{4:13} Rejoice instead, ***in the measure that you share Christ's sufferings.*** When His glory is revealed, you will rejoice exultantly.

Brothers, truly our only concern in this life is the spiritual well being of our brothers. If our eyes are filled with intercessory tears, by looking through the eyes of Jesus, we can use this compassion to fight our brother's ugliness.

My son, to love is to submit, to make oneself so small allowing oneself to be stepped on, and to be spurned even by the most despicable creature. You see; ***to love is to put oneself in the last place, renouncing even one's own merits*** and to bear without reproach, that unjustifiably others appropriate, and doing it for the loved one, ***to merit his love.***

Mt 5:43 "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.'

^{5:44} But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,

^{5:45} so that you may be **sons of your Father** (The 144,000) who is in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

^{5:46} For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?

^{5:47} And if you salute only your brethren, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same?

^{5:48} You, therefore, **must be perfect**, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

- 1) “You, therefore, **must be perfect**, as your heavenly Father is perfect”. Simply, our lips must be righteous in responding to those that sin against us. Perfection takes time however, in the same way silver is refined over and over gain to become pure, we need to practice over and over again the virtue of prudence when we respond to those that sin against us.

Brothers, it is true, we can become perfect. But in order to do this, we must engrave the thoughts of Jesus upon our minds. How is this done you ask? Read chapter one and two, watch the movie called The Passion Of Christ, walk the Stations of the Cross or meditate upon the mysteries of the rosary. If God’s justice finds us worthy, He will write the emotions of Jesus upon our hearts.

^{1 Pet 3:8} Finally, all of you, be of one mind, **sympathetic**, loving toward one another, compassionate, humble.

^{3:9} Do not return evil for evil, or insult for insult; but, on the contrary, a blessing, because to this you were called, that you might inherit a blessing.

- 1) “That you might inherit a blessing”. The greatest blessing is to experience the compassion Jesus has for each of us. If His emotions are engraved upon our hearts, our souls will be at peace.

My son; be very careful not to cause a single unnecessary pain. Give way to your brothers’ wishes; spread contentment. Otherwise you may wound souls and sow in them terrible resentments.

To suffer injuries with composure and to pardon them entirely for Me, **will be more acceptable in My eyes, than if you choose of your own will to do the most severe penance and shed your own blood for Me**. Humble yourself before those who are cold hearted, love them and **intercede for them from your heart**.

^{Lk 6:27} “But I say to you that hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,

^{6:28} bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.

^{6:29} To him who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from him who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt.

^{6:30} **Give to every one who begs from you;** and of him who takes away your goods do not ask them again.

^{6:31} *And as you wish that men would do to you, (Natural Law) do so to them.*

^{6:32} “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them.

^{6:33} And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same.

^{6:34} And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again.

^{6:35} But love your enemies, and do good, and *lend, (To give the assistance or support.) expecting nothing in return;* and your reward will be great, and you will be *sons of the Most High; (Refers to the 144,000.)* for He is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish.

^{6:36} Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

Hos 6:6 *For it is love that I desire, not sacrifice, and knowledge of God rather than holocausts.*

Mt 5:7 Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Conceive no anger towards any man, *for in reality he is an instrument of Mine,* directed by My Providence for your special good. With this knowledge and *that every man is capable of salvation as long as he is alive, should excite you to love him truly with a great fervor.* Do not rest until this benefit of being wronged obtains for you My Seven Spirits.

If you feel indifferent for a person, it is because you have not suffered for the person toward whom you feel indifferent.

The more one has suffered for the soul, the more one loves it.

My son, when faced with envy, spite and hatred, loving charity is revealed *when a hungry soul desires their spiritual well-being.* Your neighbors are the channels through which all your virtues are tested and come to birth.

My son, think that it is difficult to love. Nothing is easier or more joyful. It is the source of all happiness. *You love as soon as you cease to think of yourselves.*

Brothers, my eyes are filled with tears, I see my condition. I look in the mirror of discernment, and see my stony heart, a heart that finds it hard to endure the actions of the arrogant. My emotion of self always rears its ugly head and comes to the forefront.

My son, to be sure, the closer you come to Me, *the more you will be tested;* and the more you will triumph. However, if you think only of your own gain, how little you are like Me.

Be mindful, *I afflict the wise man and the fool alike.* The wise man I test, admonishing them as a Father. The fool I probe and condemn, as a stern King. Wis (11:11) My eyes keep careful watch; *I test all peoples; the good and the bad.* Ps (11:4)

My son, *I do not send cold hearted people into your life for you to be conquered,* but I want you to conquer and receive from Me the glory of victory when you prove your love. If I were to nullify your will, that is make it subject to Mine, you would be the same

instrument that you are now, only a “puppet” in My hand; you would not receive the fruit of your work because it would lack all merit; ***for virtue can only be tested by its opposite.***

Rom 12:21 Do not be overcome by evil, ***but overcome evil with good.***

My son, ***true love is untiring in giving proof of its existence.***

Brothers, acts of arrogance will destroy friendships and harmony among men. The virtues will produce friendships that will last for eternity.

Grain Of Wheat Must Die

Jn 12:24 Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit.

- 1) “Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies”. Consider, when we complain or let our weariness gussed, we have not died to self. When we defend ourselves and not allow ourselves to be stripped, our grain of wheat has not died. Resentment and bitterness will cause our seed to rot in the ground.
- 2) “But if it dies, it produces much fruit”. Recall the words of Jesus while He was hanging on the Cross, “Forgive them Father, they do not know what they do”. Lk (23:34) The good thief heard these words. And his heart was attracted to these words. Thus the words and

actions of Jesus became food for the good thief’s soul.

Brothers, Scripture represents the 144,000 as sowers of grain. And scripture also represents the 144,000 as the grain. If the grain dies, it will grow into plants and thus into a harvest. This harvest will feed the elect at their Final Tests. How is this accomplished you ask? The elect need encouragement at their Final Tests. They need to be comforted with love. God enlightens the elect, revealing to them the virtues of the 144,000. The elect recognize the 144,000 as loving disciples of Jesus and value their holiness. Encouraged by hope, the elect ask for Jesus saving right hand.

My son, preach My message of dying to self. Unless a grain of wheat dies, it does not produce fruit. ***Such dying must be cultivated by discipline and rooted in My Passion.***

Mt 13:31 Another parable He (Jesus) put before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field; ^{13:32} it is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

- 1) “So that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches”. In the same way that the good thief was attracted to words uttered by Jesus on the Cross, we can attract others by our actions. And who are the birds of the air you ask? These

are the men that neither sow nor reap nor gather into the barns. Mt (6:26) Yes, these are the men that don't practice the virtues. However, remember this fact, we can't influence men whose hearts are filled with envy, anger and arrogance. The good thief's heart responded to the words of Jesus, but the Pharisees hearts could never value such actions.

Grain of Wheat: The 144,000 Produce Hundredfold, Some Sixty, Some Thirty.

Mt 13:3 And He (Jesus) told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow.

13:4 And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them.

13:5 Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they had not much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil,

13:6 but when the sun rose they were scorched; and since they had no root they withered away.

13:7 Other seeds fell upon thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them.

13:8 Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

13:9 He who has ears, let him hear."

- 1) "Some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them". The explanation that Jesus gave was this, "When any one hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one

comes and snatches away *what is sown in his heart*; this is what was sown along the path". Mt (13:19) What is sown in his heart is the Natural Law. But our passions and appetites have been sown there as well. Satan has convinced a multitude to eat the fruit of their passions and appetites at the expense of the Natural Law.

- 2) "Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they had not much soil". The explanation that Jesus gave was this, "As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. Mt (13:20) How many people hear the word of God with joy but never apply it to their lives by loving those that sin against them? We need practice loving those that sin against us. The Final Test is coming for all of us. *How can we remain at peace during this Final Test when we are in turmoil every time someone sins against us?*
- 3) "Other seeds fell upon thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them". The explanation that Jesus gave was this, "And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and *their fruit does not mature*. Lk (8:1) During the daytime of life, the only way that a man can

produce **mature** fruit is to contemplate the sorrows of Christ's Passion. Do you see how the cares of the world don't allow men to study and contemplate the thoughts of Jesus and contemplate them? No way will a man submit himself to making himself small allowing himself to be stepped on, and to be spurned even by the most despicable creature. No way will he put himself in the last place, renouncing even his own merits and to bear without reproach, that unjustifiably others appropriate, if he has not experienced the sorrows of Christ.

- 4) "Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty". The explanation that Jesus gave was this, "And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience". Lk (8:15) When a man can suffer an injustice and endure hardship through his awareness of God's presence, this is called fruit. 1 Pet (2:19) When we return a blessing for an evil or insult, this is called fruit. 1 Pet (3:9) When we **relinquish any attachment to being wronged** and remain silent, this is called fruit. And none of this can be accomplished unless we have the emotions and thoughts of Jesus in our hearts.

We must realize the grain that produces a harvest is spiritually

speaking about food for the elect at their Final Tests. **The 144,000 are not all equal in producing grain;** some produce 100, 60 or 30 fold, a hundredfold turns one grain of harvest into 100 grains. Biblical grains were wheat and barley.

The grain that was choked by the thorns represents the elect that need purgatory. Their lives and actions will not have the power to comfort souls at their Final Tests.

A Man Curses King David.

2 Sm 16:5 As David was approaching Bahurim, a man named Shimei, the son of Gera of the same clan as Saul's family, **was coming out of the place, cursing as he came.**

16:6 He threw stones at David and at all the king's officers, even though all the soldiers, including the royal guard, were on David's right and on his left.

16:7 Shimei was saying as he cursed: "Away, away, you murderous and wicked man!"

16:8 The LORD has repaid you for all the bloodshed in the family of Saul, in whose stead you became king, and the LORD has given over the kingdom to your son Absalom. And now you suffer ruin because you are a murderer."

16:9 Abishai, son of Zeruiah, said to the king: "Why should this **dead dog** curse my lord the king? Let me go over, please, and lop off his head."

16:10 But the king replied: "What business is it of mine or of yours, sons of Zeruiah, that he curses? **Suppose the LORD has**

told him to curse David; who then will dare to say, ‘Why are you doing this?’”

^{16:11} Then the king said to Abishai and to all his servants: “If my own son, who came forth from my loins, is seeking my life, how much more might this Benjamite do so! *Let him alone and let him curse, for the LORD has told him to.*

^{16:12} Perhaps the LORD will look upon my affliction and make it up to me with benefits for the curses he is uttering this day.”

- 1) *“Suppose the LORD has told him to curse David”.* Conceive no anger towards any man, *for in reality he is an instrument of God,* directed by His Providence for your special good.
- 2) *“Dead dog.”* The “dog” represents a man that returns to his sins over and over again. Consider the verse below.

^{Prv 26:11} As the *dog* returns to his vomit, so the fool repeats his folly.

My son, it’s easy to be kind to those who are kind to you. But to be kind, to those who make you suffer, is really belonging to My family.

Do not return evil for evil, or insult for insult. For it is love that the Lord desires. Love is untiring in giving proof of its existence. Know in your hearts, we have no enemies in this life. So I say to you, love those who are in the habit of showing you their cold tight hearts.

Brothers, do you know why this man named Shimei was cursing king David?

For you see, Shimei was a descendant of the tribe of Benjamin. The previous king named Saul was also from the tribe of Benjamin. Shimei felt rage against king David because he reasoned that king David was responsible for Saul’s death. Rather amazing since Saul drew his own sword and fell upon it. ^{1 Sm (31:4)} During life, Saul had a hatred for David because he envied him. The Israelites recognized David’s military triumphs being greater than Saul’s. Thus, Saul hated David because he was receiving greater praise. Those loyal to Saul also hated David, for no other reason than that Saul hated him. So it’s not unbelievable how a man loyal to Saul blames David for the death of Saul. A heart filled with anger and envy always twists the facts.

Discipline And Correction Is Different Than Silver Refined.

^{Heb 12:5} ...“My sons, do not disdain the discipline of the Lord or lose heart when reproved by Him;

^{12:6} for whom the Lord loves, He disciplines; He scourges every son He acknowledges.”

^{12:7} *Endure your trials as discipline of God,* who deals with you as sons. For what Son is there whom his father does not discipline?

^{12:10} ... *God does so for our true profit, that we may share His holiness.* (To share in Christ’s thoughts and feelings.)

^{12:11} At the time, all discipline seems a cause not for joy but for pain, but later it

brings forth the fruit of *peace* and justice to those who are trained in its school.

- 1) “My sons, do not disdain the discipline of the Lord or lose heart when reproved by Him”. The purpose of God’s discipline is to show us our passions and appetites are not reasons to live forever.
- 2) “*God does so for our true profit, that we may share His holiness*”. The greatest experience that a man can have is to feel a true concern for his brother’s spiritual well-being. And the only way that this can happen is to experience the emotions of Jesus. Holiness means to return a blessing instead of a curse.
- 3) “*The fruit of peace*”. Let the world know, when the heart forgives the sins of others, there is no greater peace. When we hold grudges, our hearts are in turmoil.

Ps 39:12 You (You refers to God.) rebuke our guilt and chasten us; You dissolve all we prize like a cobweb. All mortals are but a breath.

- 1) “You dissolve all we prize like a cobweb”. In the same way that a cobweb is easily destroyed, so can our passions and appetites be destroyed.

Ps 107:11 Because they (Israel) rebelled against God’s word, scorned the counsel of the Most High,

107:12 *Who humbled their hearts through hardship*; they stumbled with no one to help.

- 1) “*Who humbled their hearts through hardship*”. Hardships can be anything that will cause your passions and appetites not to come true.

Wis 12:1 for Your (Your refers to God.) imperishable Spirit is in all things!

12:2 *Therefore you punish offenders little by little*, warns them, and remind them of the sins they are committing, that they may abandon their wickedness and believe in You, O LORD!

12:10 *But condemning them bit by bit, You gave them space for repentance.*

- 1) “For Your (Your refers to God.) imperishable Spirit is in all things”! We must realize the spirit of God gives men their emotions. It’s our emotions that cause us to feel alive with joy or dead with depression. Both of these emotions come from God as either as a promise or punishment.
- 2) “*Therefore you punish offenders little by little*”. When our hearts are in turmoil, *God is punishing us.*
- 3) “*But condemning them bit by bit, you gave them space for repentance*”. The word condemning means, “to declare to be guilty”. God’s justice will speak to us daily, thus declaring our sins to us.

Prv 3:11 My son, do not despise the LORD’s discipline or be weary of His reproof,

3:12 for the LORD reproves him whom He loves, as a father the son in whom he delights.

Jb 36:15 But the Lord saves the unfortunate through their affliction, *and instructs them through distress.*

Jb 21:19 May God not store up the man's misery for his children; let Him punish the man Himself so that he feels it.

- 1) "Children". Let it be known that Scripture hides the meaning of many different words. One such word is the word "children". In the secular world the meaning is obvious, but in Scripture it points to a man's actions. The actions of men can be divided into two types, virtues or vices. If a man fails to heed the Lord's reprimand during life, in hell, man shall be tormented by the very sins he had committed, yes, the very sins he gave birth too.

Sir 18:6 What is man, of what worth is he? The good, the evil in him, what are these?

18:7 The sum of a man's days is great if it reaches a hundred years:

18:8 Like a drop of sea water, like a grain of sand, so are these few years among the days of eternity.

18:9 *That is why the LORD is patient with men and showers upon them His Mercy.*

18:10 *He sees and understands that their death is grievous, and so He forgives them all the more.*

18:11 Man may be merciful to his fellow man, *but the LORD'S Mercy reaches all flesh,*

18:12 Reproving, admonishing, teaching, as a Shepherd guides His flock;

18:13 *Merciful to those who accept His guidance, who are diligent in His precepts.*

- 1) "The good, the evil in him, what are these"? We each make numerous decisions throughout our lives, sometimes we obey the Written and Natural Laws and other times we do not. It's very rare that God can find anyone prepared to do His will with sincerity, patience and perseverance. In fact, only the 144,000 have produced mature fruit during the daytime of life.
- 2) *"He sees and understands that their death is grievous, and so He forgives them all the more"*. We must understand that each and every soul is very special to Jesus. When a soul is separated from Him, a void is created in Christ's heart that can't be filled by anyone else. In God's Plan, each of us has a unique position to fill. That is why He says, "Let no one gloat over Me, a widow, cut off from many. Bar (4:12) Notice how Jesus uses the word widow. I say it with a heart filled with love; Jesus considers each of us His beloved spouses.
- 3) "Death". Scripture is not speaking about physical death, but rather suicidal depression.
- 4) "Man may be merciful to his fellow man, *but the LORD'S Mercy reaches all flesh"*. It must be emphasized that the Lord is diligent in shepherding each and

every man. **No man is left without spiritual care.**

- 5) “Reproving, admonishing, teaching, as a Shepherd guides His flock”. Let the world know, our emotions come from God. ***It’s through our emotions that the Lord teaches us.*** Take for instance worldly people. They weep when their hearts are sad, because they have lost something they loved. But their laments are as different as they are many. Do you know how many? ***They are as many as their different loves.*** And because the root, their passions and pleasures are corrupt, so is everything that comes from it. So tears are the Lord’s messengers to let them know whether death is in their hearts.
- 6) ***“Merciful to those who accept His guidance, who are diligent in His precepts”.*** Who thinks that God’s Mercy is free? We must see our sins and understand the damage our sins have caused. So consider my question, do you understand sin? Do you understand all sin will lead to suicidal depression?

^{Dt 8:5} So you must realize that the LORD, your God, ***disciplines you even as a man disciplines his son.***

- 1) ***“Discipline”*** is different than silver refined. When a soul is disciplined, God sends turmoil inside the heart. If we respond with virtue when faced with evil, our souls will be at peace.

^{Ps 119:66} Teach me wisdom and knowledge, for in Your commands I trust.

^{119:67} ***Before I was afflicted I went astray,*** but now I hold to Your promise.

- 1) ***“Before I was afflicted I went astray,*** but now I hold to Your promise”. Men are constantly afflicted with turmoil because of their passions and appetites, but only a small few see their mistakes and abandon their sins.

^{Lam 3:32} Though He (God) punishes, He takes pity, in the abundance of His mercies;

^{3:33} ***He has no joy in afflicting or grieving the sons of men.***

- 1) ***“He has no joy in afflicting or grieving the sons of men”.*** Always remember, God finds no joy in punishing men with suicidal depression.

^{Ps 119:71} ***It was good for me to be afflicted, in order to learn Your laws.***

^{119:72} Teaching from Your lips is more precious to me than heaps of silver and gold.

- 1) ***“It was good for me to be afflicted, in order to learn Your laws”.*** If a man’s heart is in turmoil, he has an opportunity to see how his passions and appetites do not lead to happiness.
- 2) “Teaching from Your lips is more precious to me than heaps of silver and gold’. Do we realize that wealth and pleasure will leave every man in turmoil and hurting inside?

Brothers, consider my question, how does God correct a sinner? You see, God creates a void within him and fills this void with turmoil and depression. But woe to the man who goes to his bottles, his drugs, his narcotics, and his alcohol; for these afflictions are the only sure way the Lord speaks to him. His wounds, created by his passions and pleasures, are the symptoms of his disease. Whoever heard of such a thing, he has spurned the rod and every judgment against him. He masks his grieves wounds with things of the world.

Brothers, behold and understand, God does not willingly afflict or grieve anyone. Lam (3:33) But through our disobedience, the Lord shows us the thorns of the world. No peace for the sinner, either through sickness, loss of material things, or total discontent with people or things. Thus we can call them rods of corrections.

Jb 36:2 “Bear with me a little, and I will show you, for I have yet something to say on God’s behalf.

36:3 I will fetch my knowledge from afar, and ascribe righteousness to my Maker.

36:4 I am telling you the honest truth, **for I am a man of well-rounded knowledge.**

36:5 “Behold, God is mighty, and does not despise any; He is mighty in strength of understanding.

36:6 He does not let the wicked live but gives justice to the afflicted.

36:7 He does not withdraw His eyes from the righteous, but He establishes and exalts them with kings forever.

36:8 **And if they are bound in fetters** and caught in the cords of affliction,

36:9 then He declares to them their work and their transgressions, **that they are behaving arrogantly.**

36:10 He opens their ears to instruction, and commands that they return from sin.

36:11 If they listen and serve Him, they complete their days in prosperity, and their years in pleasantness.

36:12 But if they do not listen, they perish by the sword, and die without knowledge.

- 1) “He does not let the wicked live but gives justice to the afflicted”. This line is a reference to events after physical death. On this Day called Second Woe the Lord will take His revenge against our accusers. See chapter ?
- 2) “He does not withdraw His eyes from the righteous, but He establishes and exalts them with kings forever”. This verse is a reference to the 144,000.
- 3) **“And if they are bound in fetters”**. This line refers to the elect that require purgatory. “Jesus said to us in the Gospel of John, “Truly, truly, I say to you, **everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin**”. Jn (8:34) Slaves wear fetters do they not? In the same way that the Israelites were building two cities for Pharaoh, the elect were building two cities for Satan. At their Final Tests, Jesus will free them from their slavery.
- 4) “And caught in the cords of affliction”. Slavery and turmoil go hand and hand. A slave to sin is

always in turmoil. Hear what I am saying, when a man sins against us, that man interferes with our passions and appetites; thus we grow angry. If we are angry, we are afflicted as well. Even though people are guilty of sinning against us, we sin when our response is anger. Again I say, we become angry because we have made our passions and appetites “gods”.

- 5) **“Then He declares to them their work and their transgressions, *that they are behaving arrogantly*”.** It’s very simple; God declares our sins through our emotions. No peace for the man that tries to fulfill his passions and appetites.
- 6) **“He opens their ears to instruction, and commands that they return from sin”.** From experience, I can say, God can make a man so miserable that the only way to peace is to love others in the way Jesus loved us. However, instead of seeking Christ, some commit suicide during the daytime of life and others turn to drugs or alcohol or turn to some other destructive means.
- 7) **“If they listen and serve Him, they complete their days in prosperity, and their years in pleasantness”.** The “prosperity” spoken about in the verse above has nothing to do with worldly wealth. Jesus told us in the book of revelation to buy from Him gold refined in the fire. Rev (3:18) True wealth is the thoughts and feelings of Jesus.
- 8) **“They perish by the sword”.** This line is a reference to those that fail

their Final Tests. “666” is a human number Rev (13:18) and represents two thirds of the human race that will fail their Final Tests. Always remember, our accusers will come immediately after our physical deaths and the power in their accusations can be likened to swords.

- 9) **“And die without knowledge”.** Most Christians will commit suicide at their Final Tests because they never knew and valued the actions of Christ.

Jt 8:25 Besides all this, we should be grateful to the Lord our God, for putting us to the test, as he did our forefathers.

8:26 Recall how he dealt with Abraham, and how he tried Isaac, and all that happened to Jacob in Syrian Mesopotamia while he was tending the flocks of Laban, his mother’s brother.

8:27 Not for vengeance did the Lord put them in the crucible to try their hearts, nor has he done so with us. It is by way of friendly counsel that He chastises those who are close to Him.”

- 1) **“We should be grateful to the Lord our God, for putting us to the test”.** In the book of Proverbs it says we will be judged by our praise. Prv (27:21) Praise is an emotion that will occur if we think about the emotion of peace. Peace can only occur if we respond with prudence when faced by the sins of others.

Wow To Those Men That Fail To Heed God’s Correction.

^{Wis 12:11} for they were a race accursed from the beginning. (Refers to the damned.) Neither out of fear for anyone did You (God) grant amnesty for their sins.

^{12:12} For who can say to You, “What have You done?” Or who can oppose Your decree? Or when peoples perish, who can challenge You, their Maker; or who can come into Your presence as vindicator of unjust men?

^{12:13} For neither is there any God besides You who have the care of all, ***that You need show You have not unjustly condemned;***

^{12:14} Nor can any king or prince confront You on behalf of those You have punished.

^{12:15} ***But as You are just, You govern all things justly; You regard it as unworthy of Your power to punish one who has incurred no blame.***

^{12:16} For Your might is the source of justice; ***Your mastery over all things makes You lenient to all.***

^{12:17} For You show Your might when the perfection of Your power is disbelieved; and You confound any disrespect in those who do know it.

^{12:18} But though You are Master of might, ***You judge with clemency, and with much lenience You govern us;*** for You have only to will, and Your power is there.

^{12:19} And You taught Your people, by these deeds, that those who are just must be kind; and You gave Your sons good ground for hope that You would permit repentance for their sins.

^{12:20} For these were enemies of Your servants, doomed to death; (Referring to the damned.) yet, ***while You punished them (Again referring to the damned.) with such care***

and pleading, granting time and opportunity to abandon wickedness,

^{12:21} With what precision You judged Your sons, to whose fathers You gave the sworn covenants (promises) of goodly promises!

^{12:22} ***Us, therefore, You chastise (Refers to the elect.)*** and our enemies with a thousand blows You punish, (Referring to the damned.) so that, when we judge, we may meditate upon Your goodness, and when we are judged, we may look for mercy.

^{12:23} ***Hence those unjust also, who lived a life of folly, You tormented through their own abominations. (Referring to the damned and their sins)***

^{12:24} For they went far astray in the paths of error, taking for gods the worthless and disgusting among beasts, ***deceived like senseless infants.***

^{12:25} So, as to children with no sense, You gave them a sentence making fools of them. (Referring to the damned.)

^{12:26} But those who have ***not heeded*** the warning of light rebukes will experience the deserved judgment of God. (Referring to the damned.)

^{12:27} For in the things through which they suffered distress, ***since they were tortured by the very things they deemed gods,*** they saw and recognized the true God whom before they had refused to know; with this, their final condemnation came upon them. (Referring to those that have and will fail their Final Tests.)

- 1) “For neither is there any God besides You who have the care of all, ***that You need show You have not unjustly condemned***”. I assure you, my dear brothers, God has no pleasure in the death of anyone who dies. Ez (18:32)

- 2) ***“But as You are just, you govern all things justly”***. Many men think that their “goodness” is greater than God. You see, men complain about the suffering of others and their sufferings as well. They ask, how can God allow war and human right abuses? Sickness and earthly disasters are puzzles to them. Men judge these things through the eyes of human wisdom. In essence, their arrogance has kept them from seeing the wisdom of God.
- 3) ***“You regard it as unworthy of Your power to punish one who has incurred no blame”***. The punishment in which Scripture is speaking about is a soul that experiences the emotions of anger, envy and depression. This will occur to all of us when we do not forgive those that sin against us. Do you see how we are punished with turmoil when we do not forgive?
- 4) ***“Your mastery over all things makes You lenient to all”***. Let me say this, no man has an excuse. God sends us a multitude of troubles in this world so that we may know that our goal is ***not*** this life. The world is imperfect and passing; experiencing the thoughts and emotions of Jesus is our goal, and in this spirit such should accept such things.

My son, ***just imagine if My people found perfect pleasure and painless rest in the world!*** This is why I allow the world to bring forth so many troubles for them. I

deprive them of places and times for fulfilling their own wishes until they are tired of the interior suffering their sinfulness has brought them.

- 5) ***“For You show Your might when the perfection of Your power is disbelieved; and you confound any disrespect in those who do know it”***. This line applies to our Final Tests. Men and their arrogance think they can find reasons to live by fulfilling their passions. On this Day, their reasons to live will come to a quick end. It can also apply to the damned at the Second Woe, the Battle of Armageddon, and the Final Judgment.
- 6) ***“You judge with clemency, and with much lenience You govern us”***. Do not be led astray, God gives each man a multitude of chances to hear and follow the truth.
- 7) ***“For these were enemies of Your servants, doomed to death; yet, while You punished them with such care and pleading, granting time and opportunity to abandon wickedness”***. My dear brothers, I say this with great confidence, the damned have no excuses. If you have any doubts, wait until you are subjected to your Final Tests. On this Day, the Lord will show us our lives. Yes, on this Day, we will see the multitude of times the Lord spoke to each of us.
- 8) ***Us, (Refers to the elect.) therefore, You chastise***. This line applies to the elect during the daytime of life and

at their Final Tests. It also includes purgatory.

- 9) “Our enemies (The damned) with a thousand blows You punish”. This line applies to our accusers at the Second Woe. On this Day, the Lord will take His revenge against our accusers for having spilled each other’s blood.
- 10) **“Hence those unjust also, who lived a life of folly, You tormented through their own abominations”**. The word folly is to think we can find reasons to live when we make our passions and appetites our “gods”. It’s easy to see how the world and all its pleasures can’t produce true happiness. But yet, men continue without rest to find happiness in their passions and pleasures.
- 11) “So, as to children with no sense, You gave them a sentence making fools of them”. Mankind has devoted his life to the study of many things and discovered amazing findings. But yet Scripture’s meaning is so hidden from mankind. Truly, we are men of no sense. We seem to have no trouble with worldly sense, but spiritual sense has evaded us.

Brothers, men without “sense” are incapable of giving birth to virtue because they have not learned how to return a blessing when a man sins against them. Such men are described as “children without sense”. Physically, children refer to those who have not passed into puberty and into reproduction. And this happens to men

spiritually when they have failed to suffer with Jesus. They have no idea how to be like Christ by returning a blessing when faced with evil.

- 12) “But those who have **not heeded** the warning of light rebukes will experience the deserved judgment of God”. Total devastation comes when God takes away everything we love. In life, God’s justice comes when He takes one or two things away that we love. If men think that their pain is great now, what will we do when confronted with total devastation?

Jer 5:3 **You (You refers to God.) struck them, but they did not cringe;** You laid them low, but they refused correction; they set their faces harder than stone, and refused to return to You.

Jer 6:29 The bellows roars, the lead is consumed by the fire; **in vain has the smelter refined,** the wicked are not drawn off.

^{6:30} “Silver rejected” they shall be called, for the LORD has rejected them.

- 1) **“In vain has the smelter refined”**. There are those who will say that the Lord’s way does not work. God sends His afflictions, but men fail to change their ways. In this light, I would say they might have a point. However, men forget about one very important detail; sinners are such hypocrites. To complain about others and do the very same thing is hypocrisy. Why do men expect kindness and compassion from others while they

exhibit none of these traits? Why do these hypocrites treat others in ways that they would not want to be treated? My observation is this, when God afflicts a hypocrite, in vain has the Smelter refined, because the hypocrite will not change his ways.

My son, say to My people; I teach you My lessons ever so gently. If you do not respond, I must increase My lessons. I use whatever measure I need to teach you the lesson you need to learn. Behold, what comes forth is a sinner or a saint. Indeed, you are being tested in fire.

Ps 7:11 A shield before me is God who saves the honest heart.

7:12 God is a just judge, *who punishes in anger every day.*

7:13 If sinners do not repent, God sharpens His sword, strings and readies the bow,

7:14 Prepares His deadly shafts, makes arrows blazing thunderbolts.

- 1) "God is a just judge, *who punishes in anger every day*". During the daytime of life here upon the earth, God will punish our sins by giving us emotions of anger, turmoil and depression.
- 2) "God sharpens His sword, strings and readies the bow". When a man fails to repent, God will withdraw His mercy at his Final Test. Not only do the armies of hell torment him, but also the holy Angels are sent to reveal his crimes. The testimony of the holy Angels will cause great pain and this pain is described as sword, strings and

bow.

- 3) "Prepares His deadly shafts, makes arrows blazing thunderbolts". This line is a reference to the damned and the Second Woe. They will experience even greater pain at the Second Woe compared to their Final Tests.

Jb 5:17 *Happy is the man whom God reproves! The Almighty's punishments in order to correct.*

5:18 *For He wounds, but He binds up; He punishes, but His hands give healing.*

- 1) "*For He wounds, but He binds up*". This line applies to the elect at their Final Tests. The wounds can be likened to our accusers accusations. "*He binds up*" is a reference to purgatory. Purgatory is the elect's "hospital" to heal the emotions of depression and sadness caused by the Final Test.

1 Cor 11:32 *But since it is the Lord who judges us, He afflicts us to keep us from being condemned with the rest of the world.*

Hg 1:2 "This is what the LORD Almighty says: The people are saying, 'The time has not yet come to rebuild the Lord's house – the Temple.'"

1:3 So the LORD sent this message through the prophet Haggai:

1:4 "*Why are you living in luxurious houses while My house lies in ruins?*"

1:5 This is what the LORD Almighty says: Consider how things are going for you!

1:6 You have planted much but harvested little. You have food to eat, but not

enough to fill you up. You have wine to drink, but not enough to satisfy your thirst. You have clothing to wear, but not enough to keep you warm. Your wages disappear as though you were putting them in pockets filled with holes!

^{1:7} "This is what the LORD Almighty says: Consider how things are going for you!

^{1:8} Now go up into the hills, bring down timber, and rebuild My house. Then I will take pleasure in it and be honored, says the LORD.

^{1:9} You hoped for rich harvests, but they were poor. And when you brought your harvest home, I blew it away. Why? Because My house lies in ruins, says the LORD Almighty, *while you are all busy building your own fine houses.*

^{1:10} That is why the heavens have withheld the dew and the earth has withheld its crops.

^{1:11} I have called for a drought on your fields and hills – a drought to wither the grain and grapes and olives and all your other crops, a drought to starve both you and your cattle and to ruin everything you have worked so hard to get."

- 1) *"Why are you living in luxurious houses while My house lies in ruins"?* So tell me, what kind of house can you build for God? Is (66:1) Did you know that your heart is the Lord's house? Do you not realize that God is in you? – Unless, of course, you have posted your sign that says to Him, "You are not welcomed". 2 Cor (13:5) Hear what I am saying, the house is our souls, the three powers of our being. (Memory, understanding

and heart.) Our memories must be filled with how Jesus loved the arrogant. Our understandings must see how loving the arrogant will cause *peace* and everlasting life, and how our hearts must return a blessing instead of curses.

1 Cor 3:16 Do you not know that you are the temple of God, and *that the Spirit of God dwells in you?*

2 Cor 13:5 Examine yourselves to see whether you are living in faith. Test yourselves. *Do you not realize that Jesus Christ is in you?*—unless, of course, you fail the Test.

- 2) "You have planted much but harvested little. You have food to eat, but not enough to fill you up. You have wine to drink, but not enough to satisfy your thirst. You have clothing to wear, but not enough to keep you warm. Your wages disappear as though you were putting them in pockets filled with holes"! Tell me this; if your lives were to end tomorrow, have you accomplished anything? Are there men in the world that are satisfied with their lives? Mankind has worked so hard and for what? Are they at peace?
- 3) "Consider how things are going for you". Be honest with yourselves. What is so beautiful about a life that is monopolized by its passions and pleasures?
- 4) "That is why the heavens have withheld the dew and the earth has withheld its crops". The "heavens"

is a reference to the different levels of spiritual understanding. Take for instance Paul who said he was elevated to the third heaven when he was thrown from his horse. 2 Co (12:2) If a third heaven exists, then a first and second most exist as well.

- a) **First Heaven** occurs when we see God face to face. This occurs to the elect after they pass through purgatory. The 144,000 see God immediately after their Final Test. (First watch.) On this Day knowledge will be like the sea upon the earth Is (11:9) and all will see the truth clearly. The elect will say,

Rev 7:9 After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no man could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands,
7:10 and crying out with a loud voice, **“Salvation belongs to our God who sits upon the throne, and to the Lamb!”**

And the 144,000 will say,

Rev 14:3 They were singing (what seemed to be) a new hymn before the throne, before the four living creatures and the elders. No one could learn this hymn except the hundred and forty-four thousand who had been ransomed from the earth.

- b) **Second Heaven** occurs when a soul uses his powers of thinking to understand and appreciate the Lamb’s Blood. Such souls will have incredible appreciation for Jesus because He took upon Himself the total sum of all sorrows. Knowing that Jesus was tempted with suicidal depression causes a soul to know how much he is loved. The Blood of Christ represents how He was tempted with suicidal depression.

- c) **Third Heaven** occurs when a soul sees how sin will cause suicidal death. Such souls will know about the Final Test and the other events after death. Paul knew about these events but was told not to speak about what he knew. That is why Paul said, ‘he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not uttered.’ 1 Cor (12:4) The writings of Peter, James and John also show that they knew about the Final Test.

The lesson to be learned is this; God will not reveal spiritual things to men who are building houses for their passions and pleasures of various kinds. As dew is important to giving water to crops, the word of God is important to our souls.

The earth will withhold its crops refers to how God will withhold “peace” from our souls. As crops give life to the body, “peace” gives life to our souls. And the only way to have peace is to love those that sin against us.

Brothers, see how deceived we are? The sound of the world and its glitter leave us unsatisfied. Yet, we continually eat these worldly fruits, but this food leaves us empty and unsatisfied.

Sir 33:2 **He who hates the law is without wisdom, and is tossed about like a boat in a storm.**

- 1) **“Is tossed about like a boat in a storm”**. Scripture is using a boat tossed by a storm to describe the emotions of turmoil and depression. This is what happens to us when we fail to forgive.

Prv 1:22 **"How long, you simple ones, will you love emptiness,**

1:23 **How long will you turn away at My reprimand? Lo! I will pour out to you My Spirit; I will acquaint you with My words.**

1:24 **"Because I called and you refused, I extended My hand and no one took notice;**

1:25 **Because you disdained all My counsel, and My reprimand you ignored—**

1:30 **You ignored My counsel, you spurned all My reproof; and in your arrogance you preferred arrogance, and like fools you hated knowledge:**

- 1) **"How long, you simple ones, will you love emptiness”**. It’s easy to go from one worldly passion to another. In fact, our hearts have the capability to seek out more things than there is time in a man’s life.
- 2) **“Lo! I will pour out to you My Spirit; I will acquaint you with My words”**. Scripture is constantly inviting us to share in God’s Seven Spirits. The verses below express how Jesus will give us His Spirit.

Lk 11:11 **What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent;**

11:12 **or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion?**

11:13 **If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!”**

Returning to Proverbs.

- 3) **"Because I called and you refused, I extended My hand and no one took notice”**. Men have this perception that God doesn’t speak to them; but Scripture says otherwise. So how does God speak to us? I say to you, the Natural Law is written on our hearts. I know my brothers have it, for I hear them complaining about others, but yet they do the very same things themselves. Doesn’t that make mankind hypocrites?
- 4) **“Because you disdained all My counsel”**. This line is a reference to

the Natural Law and Written Laws.

- 5) ***“My reprimand you ignored”***. The emotions of turmoil and suffering are used to humble the heart. Peace can only occur if we forgive.
- 6) ***“In your arrogance you preferred arrogance”***. Arrogance can be described as bold self-confidence. Man may feel safe behind his beliefs during the daytime of life, but after death, another story can be told. In essence, an arrogant man believes in his own thoughts and feelings; he is comfortable that he has found the truth.
- 7) ***“And like fools you hated knowledge”***. Jesus said that the word of God is like bread, “It is written: ‘One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God’”. Mt (4:1) So I ask you, do men read Scripture in the way they eat food? From observation, this is not the case, thus fulfilling Scripture, “like fools they hated knowledge”.

Hos 11:1 **When Israel was a child I loved him, out of Egypt I called My son.**

11:2 ***The more I called them, the farther they went from Me, sacrificing to the Baals and burning incense to idols.***

11:3 **Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk, who took them in My arms;**

11:4 **I drew them with human cords, with bands of love; I fostered them like one who raises an infant to his cheeks; Yet, though I stooped to feed my child, they did not know that I was their healer.**

- 1) ***“Israel”*** is God’s chosen people. Dt (7:6) In the same way, all baptized Christians are God’s chosen people.
- 2) ***“Out of Egypt I called my son”***. In the same way that God called Israel from the land of slavery, we as baptized Christians have been called from our slavery to sin.
- 3) ***“The more I called them, the farther they went from Me”***. Engrave this complaint made by God into your minds. Life is so much more than serving our passions and pleasures of various kinds. Our joy should be the thoughts and feelings of Christ.
- 4) ***“Baal”*** means lord.
- 5) ***“Sacrificing to the Baals and burning incense to idols”***. I assure you, when we make one thing more important than our brother’s spiritual well-being, we idolize and make “gods” the things that “lord” over us.
- 6) ***“Ephraim”*** is the son of Joseph and the twin brother of Manasseh. Ephraim is counted as one of the twelve tribes of Israel. Spiritually speaking, Ephraim has two meanings. The first meaning refers to spiritual faithfulness and the second meaning symbolizes the opposite, spiritual ***unfaithfulness***. In this case, Ephraim represents rebellion. Biblical history states that Ephraim rebelled against Judah and separated from him.
- 7) ***“Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk, who took them in My arms”***. This statement indicates how God has a genuine love even

for a rebel. He fosters them like one who raises an infant to his cheek.

- 8) “**Yet, though I stooped to feed my child, they did not know that I was their healer**”. God feeds every rebel with great care. If a man fails his Final Test, he has only himself to blame.

Brothers, God would rather console us than give us turmoil, to reward us with peace than to punish us with depression, to rejoice us than to grieve us. But men ignore divine science, because they desire from the hands of God such delights and rewards, as are earthly and dangerous. Divine Love then corrects this fault by lessons revealed through tribulations and punishments. Human nature is slow and uneducated. If human nature is not cultivated and softened, it gives no fruit in season and will never become fit to receive the thoughts and emotions of Christ. Therefore it must be shaped and reduced by the hammer of adversities, refined in the crucible of tribulation.

God Humbles The Heart Through Hardship: Why Do Men Turn To Human Means For Help?

Jer 17:5 Thus says the LORD: ***Cursed is the man who trusts in human beings, who seeks his strength in flesh, whose heart turns away from the LORD.***

My son, say to My people, I can tell you all things. I know past and future. I read every heart and know its innermost

thoughts. ***You go to others while I sit alone as the source of all answers.*** You go to 50 people, you get 50 answers, and their answers are worse than your own. You, in your pain, go to bottles, people, everywhere for the cure to your illness and nothing you try even comes close to the cure.

Souls instead of turning to Me in times of affliction, ***turn to human means.*** The misfortune is that you too easily seek natural, human consolations. Then consider the complete fool; he even seeks satanic means such as witches and soothsayers.

Brothers, its shameful that you should ever see a Psychiatrist. Such blindness! You are unhappy because the Lord has made you unhappy.

God Humbles The Heart Through Hardship: This Doesn't Apply To The Faithful.

Sir 31:22 Listen to Me (God), my son, and do not disregard Me, and in the end you will appreciate My words. In all your work be industrious, and ***no sickness will overtake you.***

- 1) “In the end you will appreciate My words”. In life, my dear brothers, we are given the opportunity to experience compassion for those that we do not know. And greater than this we have learned how to love those that sin against us.
- 2) “In all your work be industrious”. Scripture is suggesting to us to be ingenious, diligent, and zealous

when it comes to the pursuit of spiritual knowledge. In other words, our goal is to use our powers to think and contemplate the thoughts of Christ and engrave His thoughts into our memories.

- 3) ***“No sickness will overtake you”***. The sickness spoken about here refers to the mental sickness of depression. God is not saying that a holy man will escape physical sickness. But the world must know that physical sufferings are so inferior to spiritual sufferings. The Lord has no need of our earthly sufferings, for you see the Lord requires our thirst for the salvation of souls and to love those that sin against us. If we do not love or no longer love, it’s because we never suffered for the person we feel indifferent. Sufferings that fail to bring us to love are useless.

Brothers, I want to point out how Saint John was spared physical martyrdom. Recall how John was at the foot of the Cross, and the other Apostles were hiding out of fear. The memory of Christ’s Passion was a vivid part of John’s memory and thus He could use this in his prayers. He was able to suffer with Jesus in ways that the other Apostles could not. Always remember, physical martyrdom is inferior to spiritual.

Hardened Heart

We must realize that God gave us the ability to think. We are capable to

contemplate, mediate and ponder. And it should be obvious that men and their dreams have come alive with their inventions and researches. Human thinking created electronics, machines, computers and countless medical and scientific solutions. But when it comes to the spiritual, men have hardened their hearts. For you see, ***a hardened heart refuses to contemplate and ponder the words of God***. It is true that men past and present have read and studied the bible, ***but they have failed to actually think about and ponder it spiritually***. Our three powers, memory, understanding and heart were made to dive deep into the thoughts of God. In fact Jesus commands us by saying, “Ask, and it will be given you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you”. Mt (7:7) Again I say, God requires us to think. And those that use their powers wrongly by thinking and solving their earthly dreams have hardened their hearts to the spiritual. The spiritual mysteries are there for us to find. If your heart is hardened, you will never find ***peace for the soul***, but the soul will be subjected to God’s justice.

Scripture And Hardened Hearts.

Rom 11:2 God has not rejected His people whom He foreknew. (Saint Paul is speaking these verses.) Do you not know what the Scripture says of Elijah, how he pleads with God against Israel?

11:3 “Lord, they have killed Your prophets, they have demolished Your altars, and I alone am left, and they seek my life.”

11:4 But what is God's reply to him? "I have kept for Myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal."

11:5 So too at the present time there is a *remnant*, chosen by grace.

11:6 But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works; otherwise grace would no longer be grace.

11:7 What then? Israel failed to obtain what it sought. The elect obtained it, *but the rest were hardened*,

11:8 as it is written, "*God gave them a spirit of stupor*, eyes that should not see and ears that should not hear, down to this very day."

- 1) "God has not rejected His people whom He foreknew". The dictionary defines "foreknew" as: to have previous knowledge of and to know beforehand. We need to understand that God knew us before we were born and knows every decision that each of us had made or will make. And God knew beforehand who would be written in the Book of Life, even before the universe was created.
- 2) "Do you not know what the Scripture says of Elijah, how he pleads with God against Israel?" The greatest virtue is to love those that sin against us. Elijah didn't have Jesus and His Passion as examples on how to love the arrogant. Thus Elijah complained against Israel. Our goal is to have patience with one another.
- 3) "I have kept for Myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal." The

prophet Elijah, after assessing the spiritual climate, came to the conclusion that all men were unfaithful to God. But God assured Elijah that there was a small group, a remnant that bowed not to Baal.

- 4) "Baal" means lord. Let me say this, when we make one thing more important than our brother's spiritual well-being, we are in essence worshipping "Baal".
- 5) "So too at the present time there is a *remnant*, chosen by grace". My dear brothers, I'm very sad to say that only a remnant, yes only 1/10th of baptized Christians are victorious at their Final Tests. Am (5:3) This includes both houses of Israel; yes both Catholics and Protestants. Is (8:4)
- 6) "Chosen by grace". The angel Gabriel defines the word grace by saying to the Blessed Virgin Mary, "Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!" Lk (1:27) Or in other words, if the Lord is with us, we have grace. But God is the judge of our actions and He determines if His Spirit is with us. Scripture says, "We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if any one is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. Jn (9:31) Not only does God listen to him but also dwells within him. Jesus said, "He who has My Commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and reveal Myself to

him.” Jn (14:21) And the way God reveals Himself to us is His Seven Spirits. God judges our every decision. If God sees fit, like the silver smith that has purified silver to make a vessel, we will be blessed with His Seven Spirits. If our decisions are evil, the seven deadly spirits we are given.

Since we are temples of the Holy Spirit, 1 Cor (3:16) God is with us when He dwells in our souls. When God dwells in our souls, God shares His Seven Spirits with us. Is (11:2)

- 1) Wisdom
 - 2) Understanding
 - 3) Counsel
 - 4) Strength
 - 5) Understanding
 - 6) Holy Fear
 - 7) Delight of Holy Fear
- 7) “But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works; otherwise grace would no longer be grace”. Listen to what I have to say. We first must realize that “works” and virtues are different. There are twelve virtues.
- 1) **Faith** in that Scripture is the will of God.
 - 2) The **Study** of Scripture.
 - 3) The **Contemplation** of Scripture.
 - 4) To **Love** others in the Way Jesus loved us.
 - 5) The **Hope** that all men will value the actions of Jesus.
 - 6) The **Justice** to become our brother’s keeper.

- 7) The **Obedience** to offer intercessory prayers for the arrogant.
- 8) The **Prudence** in our actions and speech when dealing with the arrogant.
- 9) The **Patience** to remain calm when the arrogant sin against us.
- 10) The **Perseverance** in doing the will of God throughout eternity.
- 11) **Chastity** of the body and heart.
- 12) **Moderation** of wealth and pleasure.

The “works” in which Paul is speaking about pertain to rituals. And rituals are any activity that doesn’t involve one of the twelve virtues. Saint Paul mentions how he was righteous under the law and blameless, but yet he was a persecutor of Christ’s church. Phil (3:6) Paul continues to say he gained nothing from the law. That’s because the law didn’t bring him to love and peace. To illustrate the point Jesus said the following; “The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath”. Mk (2:27) Realize how the Pharisees observed the law by keeping the Sabbath holy, and keeping it holy is by not working. Even though they observed the law, their hearts were filled with arrogance and envy. Thus the law didn’t gain them peace, sincerity and truth. But if we use the Sabbath to remind us that the night (The night represents our accusers hatred.) is coming when no one can work, Jn (9:4) then we are using the Sabbath as a reminder that the Final Test is coming. And if the Final Test is coming, I ask you, are we prepared? The riddle is this; the Sabbath represents the day we physically die. Scripture likens our lives as six days to work and on the

seventh we physically die and then we are subjected to the Final Test. (Tribulation.) On this day, we no longer can work. The work required during the six days of life is this, ***we are to value the Passion of Jesus and to love others in the way Jesus loved us.*** Again I say our lives here upon the earth are likened to six days. During this period we need to practice spiritual work. On the seventh day, the day we physically die, we can't work and will be subjected to the night called the Final Test. (Tribulation)

- 8) "The elect obtained it, ***but the rest were hardened***". A hardened heart is a heart that does not value the Lamb of God. A hardened heart doesn't think about Jesus and His Passion. Instead men with hardened hearts use their powers to think about worldly affairs.

Jesus experienced every man's sorrows. And that is what love does, ***love cares about the emotions of others.*** The elect understand this and are attracted to Christ's spiritual concern for them. The damned are only concerned about their personal losses, and have no experience in a true concern for others.

- 9) As it is written, ***"God gave them a spirit of stupor,*** eyes that should not see and ears that should not hear, down to this very day." The word "stupor" means a lack of concern. This "spirit of stupor" refers to those men who have no emotion or concern to seek God and His will. We must realize God

gives us our spirits. And the spirit we receive is based upon our choices we make in life. If we feel spiritually dry, it's because God gave us this spirit. A man that shares in God's Seven Spirits has ears to hear His words and eyes to understand His words. Worldly men use their ears to study worldly problems and their eyes to solve their worldly tasks. But the spiritual man uses his eyes and ears to experience the emotions of Jesus.

Ps 81:12 But My people did not listen to My words; Israel did not obey Me.

81:13 So I gave them up to the ***hardness of heart***; they walked according to their own counsels.

- 1) "But My people did not listen to My words; Israel did not obey Me. So I gave them up to the ***hardness of heart***". The definition of a hardened heart is when a man's heart uses its powers to think about earthly things. Our goal is to read Scripture, and use the power of our thinking to seek out God's Seven Spirits. There are many who read Scripture, but fail to use their thinking when it comes to applying the God's words.
- 2) "They walked according to their own counsels". Men are in the habit of misleading themselves by telling themselves they are following the commands of God. This reason alone is why we have so many Christian theologies. And it must be noted how people feel

safe in their deep down emotions. Yes, they feel safe from any danger of being condemned to the fires of hell.

Being satisfied with ones beliefs will cause men to be spiritually inactive, thus they fail to test their beliefs through thinking. As Scripture says, “***In your arrogance you preferred arrogance***, and like fools you hated knowledge”. Prv (1:30)

Ez 3:4 Son of man, (God is speaking to the prophet Ezekiel.) go now to the house of Israel, and speak My words to them.

3:5 Not to a people with difficult speech and barbarous language am I sending you,

3:6 nor to the many peoples whose words you cannot understand. ***If I were to send you to these, they would listen to you;***

3:7 but the house of Israel will refuse to listen to you, ***since they will not listen to Me***. For the whole house of Israel is ***stubborn of brow*** and ***obstinate in heart***.

- 1) “But the house of Israel will refuse to listen to you, ***since they will not listen to Me***”. It’s easy to understand why men refuse to listen to the truth. Since they are unwilling to accept the Natural Law written on their hearts, they will also refuse the Written Law.

Men fail to listen to God in two ways. God speaks to us through the Natural Law. It is God who wrote “So whatever you wish that men would do to you, do so to them”. Mt (7:12) The second way

God speaks to us is through our emotions. When we fail to forgive those that sin against us, we live in turmoil, which is the first step toward death.

- 2) “***For the whole house of Israel is stubborn of brow and obstinate in heart***”. Man has the ability to mix truth with falsehood and deceive himself so thoroughly that he feels safe and secure. He remains stubborn because he allows turmoil to take up residence in his heart. His heart remains obstinate because he will not forgive those who sin against him.

Eph 4:17 Now this I affirm and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds;

4:18 they are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their ***hardness of heart;***

4:19 they have become ***callous*** and have given themselves up to licentiousness, greedy to practice every kind of uncleanness.

- 1) “Gentiles” are physically different than the Israelites because they are uncircumcised. However, physical circumcision is unimportant to God. It’s our hearts that require circumcision. We must cut away the arrogance found in our hearts. Rom (2:29) Never forget that arrogance is a bold self-confidence.
- 2) “***In the futility of their minds***”. Without the Seven Spirits Of God, fruitless, ineffective, unproductive,

useless, and in vain will be our counsels.

- 3) “They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them”. When a man focuses his thinking powers on his passions and appetites, God will allow him to be busy with the things of his heart. Darkness represents a man’s hatred for his brother. And this easily occurs when our hearts are busy thinking about the world and not studying and thinking about spiritual ways to forgive. And since this darkness causes blindness, we are unable to understand God and His Son’s Passion.
- 4) “Alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their *hardness of heart*”. A hardened heart is the name Scripture gives to describe a man that focuses his powers of thinking on his passions and appetites. Thus he becomes bold in his self-confidence. And the reason he is bold is because his thinking powers are used on his passions and pleasures. This causes him to live in ignorance.
- 5) “They have become *callous*”. A callous heart is truly unaware and unconcerned of the suffering of others. And thus utilizes his hands and feet to achieve its personal goals and pleasures. The powers of thinking are used for its own gain.
- 6) “Greedy to practice every kind of uncleanness”. Truly, this is the whole reason why men’s hearts are

callous and hardened. Men are greedy to commit acts that fulfill their passions. And Scripture calls these passions as unclean. We must understand in order to be called clean our thinking powers must contemplate the Passion of Christ and apply our hands to prayer. Yes, we must pray for each other.

Heb 3:12 Take care, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God.

3:13 But *exhort* one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” *that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.*

3:14 For we share in Christ, if only we hold our first confidence firm to the end,

3:15 while it is said, “Today, when you hear His voice, do not *harden your hearts* as in the rebellion.”

- 1) “*Exhort*” means to urge strongly, make urgent appeals, to give warnings or advice. Unfortunately most men will conclude that you are questing their goodness. And you know what happens when an evil man’s goodness is questioned, such men will grow angry.
- 2) “*That none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin*”. Sin gives us a reason to live for a “day”, but we need a reason to live forever. (Men are deceived because they think sin is a reason to live.) If we focus our thinking on our passions and appetites, we will never experience the thoughts

of Jesus. And without His Seven Spirits, our passions will cause us to seek suicide after physical death.

- 3) “Today, when you hear His voice, do not *harden your hearts* as in the rebellion”. We all have feelings that life can become boring and unfulfilling. This emotion of dissatisfaction is the voice of God calling us. But instead of seeking out God, we turn to a new passion or appetite. When we return over and over again to the world, we are called obstinate and stubborn.

Jer 18:11 And now, tell this to the men of Judah and the citizens of Jerusalem: Thus says the LORD: Take care! I am fashioning evil against you and making a Plan. Return, each of you, from his evil way; reform your ways and your deeds.

18:12 But they will say, “No use! We will follow our own devices; each one of us will behave according to the *stubbornness of his evil heart!*”

- 1) “Take care! I am fashioning evil against you and making a Plan”. This line is a reference to our Final Tests. (Tribulation) After death, the Lord has empowered the armies of hell to come and accuse. Halloween, which was thought to be harmless and fun, will come alive. Costumes depicting satan, skeletons, blood and make believe violence will become reality.
- 2) “We will follow our own devices”. Such is the response by those that have focused their thinking on

their passions and appetites. Their god is their stomach.

Ecc 8:11 Because sentence against an evil deed is not executed speedily, *people feel it is safe to do wrong.*

- 3) “*Stubbornness of his evil heart*”. Amazing how a man will continue to focus his heart upon his passions and appetites, even when God sends calamity. Over and over again God sends us emotions that create turmoil. But stubborn men never leave the world but try to drown their emotional pain into other kinds of sin.

Jer 16:10 When you proclaim all these words to this people and they ask you: “Why has the LORD pronounced all these great evils against us? What is our crime? *What sin have we committed against the LORD, our God?*”—

16:11 you shall answer them: It is because your fathers have forsaken Me, says the LORD, and followed strange gods, which they served and worshiped; but Me they have forsaken, and My law they have not observed.

16:12 *And you have done worse than your fathers.* Here you are, every one of you, walking in the *hardness of his evil heart* instead of listening to Me.

16:13 I will cast you out of this land into a land that neither you nor your fathers have known; there you can serve strange gods day and night, because I will not grant you My Mercy. (Hell)

- 1) “*What sin have we committed against the LORD, our God?*” In the world in which we live, men

do not recognize sinful acts. And if we speak about what is virtuous, they would be indigent and defend their “goodness”. As Isaiah says, “Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter”! Is (5:20)

- 2) “It is because your fathers have forsaken Me”. The word “father” has a dual meaning, the first is obvious, our human fathers. The second is a reference to the Natural Law within. The analogy is this, in the same way that our fathers have been with us from the beginning, so has the Natural Law. In other words, God has made His complaint against humanity for violating the Natural Law.
- 3) “Followed strange gods, which they served and worshiped”. Be forewarned, my dear brothers, we can make any passion or pleasure a “god”.
- 4) “*And you have done worse than your fathers*”. When the Natural Law is broken, it opens the door to greater crimes against God’s written Laws.
- 5) “Here you are, every one of you, walking in the *hardness of his evil heart* instead of listening to Me”. Why does a man persist in following his passions and appetites, even though the Lord punishes him for doing so? The reason is simple, men find it very hard to record the sorrows of others in their hearts and give them relief from their sorrows.

The Prophet Isaiah makes the following plea.

Is 63:15 Look down from heaven and regard us from Your holy and glorious palace! Where is Your zealous care and Your might, Your surge of pity and Your Mercy? O Lord, *hold not back*,

63:16 Surely you are still our Father! Even if Abraham and Jacob would disown us, LORD, you would still be our Father. You are our Redeemer from ages past.

63:17 *Why do you let us wander, O LORD, from Your ways, and harden our hearts so that we fear You not?* Return for the sake of Your servants, the tribes of Your heritage.

- 1) “Look down from heaven and regard us from Your holy and glorious palace! Where is Your zealous care and Your might, Your surge of pity and Your Mercy? O Lord, *hold not back*”. I would like to point out how these verses teach us the proper way to intercede. The prophet Isaiah is aware of God and more importantly who God is. Isaiah evaluates the spiritual condition of the Israelites. He sees how the people have wandered from the ways of God. Their spirits are focused on their passions and appetites.
- 2) “Even if Abraham and Jacob would disown us, LORD, you would still be our Father”. From observation, a man can only endure sin for a short time and will strike back. Isaiah is telling us that the former fathers, Abraham and

Jacob, would be totally disgusted with the sins of the people. But yet God's love would still remain when human love would have its limit. For example, recall how Moses became so upset at the Israelites that Moses disobeyed God by striking the rock twice. Nm (20:11) The spirit in a man has limits on its love, but Jesus has experienced every man's sorrow. Thus Jesus, God's Son, has no limits.

- 3) ***“Why do you let us wander, O LORD, from Your ways”***. Isaiah is very much aware of sin and the damaged caused by sin. Isaiah truly needs a solution to this sickness that has infected his people. But he sees no solution, and asks God to intervene.
- 4) ***“And harden our hearts so that we fear You not”***? How does God harden our hearts? We must realize that God has given us a very strong attraction to our passions and appetites. It's this strong attraction, called original sin that keeps us from recording the sorrows of others in our hearts. We do not fear the Lord because of our bold self-confidence in our passions and pleasures. This bold self-confidence is called arrogance.
- 5) ***“Return for the sake of Your servants, the tribes of Your heritage”***. Isaiah does not ask for mercy based upon his intercessions ***but wisely asks for mercy based upon God's own love.***

so many signs in their presence (Jews) they did not believe in Him,

^{12:39} For this reason they could not believe, because again Isaiah said:

^{12:40} ***“He blinded their eyes and hardened their heart,*** so that they might not see with their eyes and understand with their hearts and be converted, and I would heal them.”

- 1) ***“Although He (Jesus) had performed so many signs in their presence (Jews) they did not believe in Him”***. Jesus performed physical signs by healing the blind and the crippled. But men with hardened hearts are not impressed when others are relieved of their sufferings. They discount acts of mercy as hoaxes and the power of the devil.
- 2) ***“He blinded their eyes and hardened their heart”***. Without the Seven Spirits of God in our souls, we are incapable of caring about the sufferings of others. We need the Lord's Spirit, and His Spirit is not given to men unless they engrave the thoughts and emotion of Jesus on their minds. We must study and contemplate Jesus Passion.

Rom 9:14 What shall we say then? (Saint Paul is asking these questions.) Is there injustice on God's part? By no means!

^{9:15} For He says to Moses, “I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.” Ex (33:19)

^{9:16} So it depends not upon man's will or exertion, but upon God's Mercy.

^{9:17} For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, “I

Jn 12:37 Although He (Jesus) had performed

have raised Pharaoh up for the very purpose of showing My power in him, so that My Name may be proclaimed in all the earth.”

^{9:18} So then He has mercy upon whomever He wills, and **He hardens the heart of whomever He wills.**

- 1) “I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.” Ex (33:19) As long as a man has a desire to live another day, the Lord’s mercy is with him. But when a man wishes death, God has withdrawn His mercy. Clearly understand ***men will not be allowed to use sin indefinitely as reasons to live another day.***
- 2) “So it depends not upon man’s will or exertion, but upon God’s Mercy”. Did you know that heaven is a place where souls clearly understand and appreciate the actions of Jesus? There is no other reason that exists that would allow us to live forever. What I mean is this; we need to have emotions that allow us to have peace and intoxication forever and ever. Jesus’ love for us needs to be clearly understood in order to have these required emotions. But only the 144,000 have come to know and praise the Lamb. The rest of the elect need God’s Mercy. The elect need a place after death to appreciate the actions of the Lamb, and this place is called purgatory. But the damned receive no such mercy, and their sins drive them to a never-ending suicidal depression.

- 3) “I have raised Pharaoh up for the very purpose of showing My power in him”. Recall how God made Pharaoh so stubborn that Pharaoh wouldn’t let the Israelites leave Egypt, even though God punished Pharaoh with a total of ten plagues? Let me say this, mankind is constantly testing God’s power. Bold self-confidence all around; religious and atheist alike. Think you can live without God, or create God in your own image? Think you can manipulate God’s will to fit your passions and pleasures of various kinds? Thus this condition is called ignorance. If men had used their powers to think about the spiritual, they wouldn’t be walking in ignorance. And no matter how often punishment comes, a harden heart will continue to use its three powers seeking solutions to its worldly problems. But a time is coming when God will cause all bold self-confident thoughts to come crashing down. The first time will occur at the Final Test, followed by the Second Woe, Battle of Armageddon and the last called the Final Judgment.

Hardened Hearts: The Apostles Did Not Believe the Report That Jesus Was Alive.

Mk 16:11 When Apostles heard that Jesus was alive and had been seen by Mary Magdalene, ***the Apostles did not believe.***
 16:12 After this Jesus appeared in another

form to two of disciples walking along on their way to the country.

^{16:13} They returned and told the Apostles; but they did not believe them either.

^{16:14} (But) later, as the eleven were at table, Jesus appeared to Apostles and ***rebuked them for their unbelief and hardness of heart*** because they had not believed those who saw Him after He had been raised.

We must realize that the Apostles were described as having hardened hearts. With this being said we must not make the same mistakes. Scripture informs us that the Apostles were favored beforehand with the knowledge of Jesus' death. But the Apostle's passions and appetites interfered with their contemplating and thinking about Jesus and His words. So when the event occurred, they reacted in the manner spoken about. Let's stop making the same mistakes as the Apostles but truly use our three powers of thinking.

Who is like Me? Who of old announced future events? Is (44:7) Yes; before they spring into being, I announce them to you. Is (42:9) ***I foretell the outcome, in advance, things not yet done.*** And, I say that My plan shall stand, I accomplish My every purpose. Is (46:10) Who announced this from the beginning, that we might know; beforehand, that we might say it is true? Is (41:26)

^{Sir 42:19} **The Lord declares what is past and what will be, and reveals the trend of hidden things.**

The Following verses reveal how Jesus spoke about His future Passion. And thus

is the reason why Jesus reprimands the Apostle's unbelief.

^{Mk 8:31} ***Jesus began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer greatly and be rejected*** by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and rise after three days.

^{Mk 9:31} He was teaching His disciples and telling them, "The Son of Man is to be handed over to men and they will kill Him, and three days after His death He will rise."

^{9:32} ***But they did not understand the saying, and they were afraid to question Him.***

Brothers, just because we don't understand something doesn't mean we won't be held accountable. God's justice obligates us to ask, seek and knock. Mt (7:7) So don't be afraid to think.

^{Mk 10:32} Taking the Twelve aside again, He began to tell them what was going to happen to Him.

^{10:33} "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn Him to death and hand Him over to the Gentiles

^{10:34} who will mock Him, spit upon Him, scourge Him, and put Him to death, but after three days He will rise."

Sadly, the Apostles failed to use the three powers of their souls, that is, the power of their memories to hold on to His words, the power of their understanding to comprehend His words, and the power of their hearts to love His words.

Hardened Hearts: Yes, We Are Held Accountable For Parables In Scripture.

Mk 8:14 Apostles had forgotten to bring bread, and they had only one loaf with them in the boat.

8:15 Jesus enjoined them, “Watch out, guard against the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod.” (Follow not their example of their living.)

8:16 They concluded among themselves that it was because they had no bread.

8:17 When He became aware of this He said to them, “Why do you conclude that it is because you have no bread? Do you not yet understand or comprehend? **Are your hearts hardened?**

8:18 Do you have eyes and not see, ears and not hear? And do you not remember,

8:19 when I broke the ***five loaves*** (*Refers to Christ's five wounds.*) for the five thousand, how many wicker baskets full of fragments you picked up?” They answered Him, “***Twelve.***” (12 virtues)

8:20 “When I broke the ***seven loaves*** (*Refers to the Seven Spirits of God.*) for the four thousand, how many full baskets of fragments did you pick up?” They answered (Him), “Seven.”

- 1) “Why do you conclude that it is because you have no bread? Do you not yet understand or comprehend? **Are your hearts hardened?** Even today, men do not understand the meaning of the five loaves and two fishes that feed five thousand with twelve baskets left over. Mt (14:17) But yet this is our test to know if we have hardened hearts. As I said,

hardened hearts do not think about spiritual things but wastes its three powers thinking about the world. Another story in the Gospel of Mark speaks about how Jesus came to the Apostles walking on water. Mk (6:47) The Apostles didn't recognize Him and thus were terrified. Do not fear Jesus said, and He got into the boat and the winds died down. The Apostles were utterly astonished.

Mk 6:51 And He (Jesus) got into the boat with them (Apostles) and the wind ceased. And they were utterly astounded,
6:52 for they did not understand about the loaves, but their **hearts were hardened.**

It's extremely important to understand that the emotion of “astonished” was a consequence of the Apostles not using their three powers to think about the loaves. If the Apostles had understood the miracle of the loaves, they would have understood God's Spirit and their destiny. Fear is an emotion directly related to ignorance. Knowing about the loaves and their meaning would have prepared them for Jesus walking on the water.

An explanation of the loaves can be found in chapter 5, the Twelve Virtues.

Brothers, a humble heart contemplates and mediates on the word of the Lord. We must use our powers to think. It is our duty to ponder the stories and parables in Scripture. O how different

mankind would be if he devoted himself to the thinking of God's word. Mankind would occupy himself with God's prophecies and parables; Sir (39:1) His care would be to seek God, his Maker. Sir (39:6) He would meditate (think) on God doings, the works of His Hands he would ponder. Ps (143:5) But the bold self-confidence (arrogance) of mankind's hearts has deceived all men. Behold and understand, Scripture is a spiritual book and must be appraised in a spiritual way.

Brothers, to this day whenever Scripture is read, a veil lies over our hearts. 2 Cor (3:15) Ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. Lk (11:9) God does not spurn His servants' desires. He gives to those who ask, and even invite us to ask. He always answers those who speak to Him, above all when you speak to Him in actions.

Brothers, if you ask God, whom do you think will respond to you? If you seek God, whom do you think you will find? If you knock on God's door, who will answer? If not the Holy Spirit, who then? So consider my question, why do we have so many different Christian theologies? Could it be that man is bold in his self-confidence?

My son, say to My people, I am ready to respond to those who ask, to be found by those who seek Me. ***I say: Here I am! Here I am!*** Is (65:1) I can't resist those who ask with humility. I always end by

yielding to those who ask with perseverance. To those who ask with love, that is to say, with unlimited confidence, I can't prevent Myself from granting even more, far more than what is asked.

Hardened Hearts: Samaritans, Pharisees, And Sadducees.

We must never forget, a hardened heart is happy with its religious views and fails to use the three powers of its soul to study and think about the Word of God. Our three powers (Memory, understanding and heart.) are diverted instead to our passions and appetites. But yet men will continue to follow religious falsehoods, following their own counsels, thus creating for themselves a sense of peace. This condition also existed during biblical times, including when Jesus walked the earth. It must be noted that Jesus, even though He was God, allowed these errors to continue and did little to refute religious falsehoods. The Samaritans are a good example. Jesus didn't go to the Samaritans and condemn their worship on Mount Gerizim.

Samaritans

In order to get a true understanding of the Samaritans, we must study the Old Testament. We would learn that ten of the Twelve Tribes of Israel separated themselves from the Holy Temple in Jerusalem. There was a rebellion against Judah's king named Rehoboam. Ten tribes separated and crowned their own king. The territory became later to be

known as Samaria, so named because their Capitol was in a town named Samaria. It was a short 209 years later that this northern Israelite nation was conquered by the Assyrians. The war scattered the northern tribes and the Assyrians deported the remaining Israelites back to their country called Assyria. Some of the Samaritan descendants had resettled to northern Israel in the vicinity of Mount Gerizim

by the time Jesus was born, 722 years later. The map below shows the territories of the divided Israelite tribes. Consider this, 925 years after the tribes separated, Israelite people were still divided. Basically, the Jews of Jerusalem regarded the Samaritans as a people foreign to themselves, in spite of an obviously shared heritage of Jacob as their father.



Samaritans: Jesus Meets The Samaritan Women At The Well.

A very important conversation occurred between Jesus and a Samaritan woman. Jn (4:3) Jesus was passing through the territory of Samaria on His way to Galilee. Jesus sat down by a well known to be Jacob's well while His Apostles went off to buy food. A Samaritan

woman had arrived at the well to draw water. Jesus spoke with her by asking for a drink. The woman was surprised that a Jew (Jesus) would ask a Samaritan for a drink because Jews and Samaritans didn't deal with each other. Jn (4:9) Later in the conversation, the Samaritan women said,

Jn 4:20 Our fathers worshiped on this mountain; (Mount Gerizim) and You say that

in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship.”

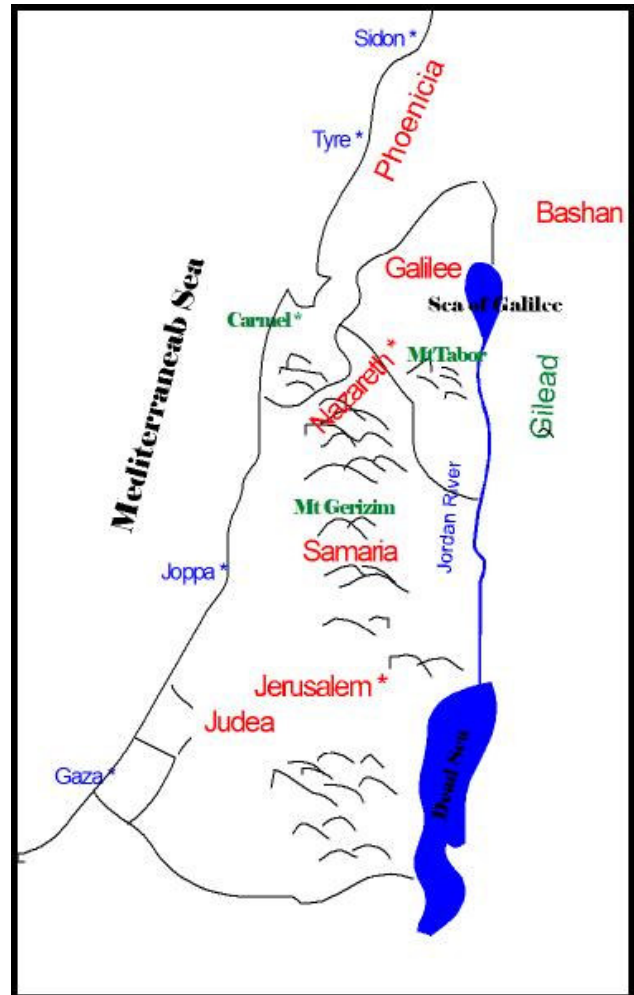
^{4:21} Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father.

^{4:22} You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.

^{4:23} But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship Him.

^{4:24} God is Spirit, (Seven Spirits.) and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

^{4:25} The woman said to Him, “I know that Messiah is coming (He who is called Christ); when He comes, He will show us all things.”



- 1) “Our fathers worshiped on this mountain; (Mount Gerizim)” Mount Gerizim is called the mount of blessing. It was so named because Moses had instructed Joshua to read the Law to the people at this location when Israel entered into the Promised Land. (Recall how Moses wasn’t allowed in the Promised Land because of his sin. Dt (32:51)) Mount Gerizim is actually situated in the middle of the Promised Land so that it was possible too see the whole territory at Mount Gerizim’s summit. Scripture says that half of the Israelite’s were positioned on the

slopes of Mount Gerizim to the south, the other half were on the slopes of Mount Ebal to the north, and the ark of the covenant surrounded by priests was in the valley between. As the curses of the Law were read one by one, the tribes on Mount Ebal responded, "Amen!" As the blessings were likewise read the tribes on Mount Gerizim responded "Amen!" Jos (8:33)

But what does this mean spiritually? We must realize that God is always reminding us to obey His Laws. There are blessings if we obey and curses if we disobey.

- 2) "Our fathers worshiped on this mountain; (Mount Gerizim) and You say that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship." In this verse, Scripture does not explain why the Samaritans did not worship in Jerusalem. But the reason was this; the Samaritans had reasoned that the wickedness of Eli's two sons, 1 Sam (2:12) and all the events that happened after them was cut off from God, including the temple in Jerusalem that was built by Solomon. Eli the high priest and his sons were descendants of Aaron. (Aaron was Moses brother.) The Samaritans had short memories because their people had prior history of worshiping in Jerusalem, at Solomon's Temple, 1 Kgs (12:28) before the division. Scripture says that the new king, of the northern

tribes, for bided the people to worship in Jerusalem. He built instead two temples with golden calves for the people to worship. 1 Kgs (12:28) These temples were destroyed when the Assyrians conquered the Northern Tribes.

The Samaritan women knew about the Jews and their worship in Jerusalem, but she was taught that this was a lie and the truth didn't exist there, but rather the truth can be found on Mount Gerizim. (The Samaritans conveniently forgot they worship two golden calves. They reasoned that last holy place was Mount Gerizim.) But Jesus corrected her.

- 3) "Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father". The term "hour" is used to inform her that adoration was about to change. We must understand how the Father sent the Son into the world to save His people from suicidal depression and give them a reason to live forever. Jesus is foretelling how He will be establishing a new church. And this new church will give praise to the Father for sending us His Son.
- 4) "You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews". Jesus says plainly to the Samaritan woman that she didn't know how to give praise to God. Salvation comes through the Jews, Jesus

said. It must be noted that the Samaritans did however believe in the coming Messiah, Jn (4:25) but because they had hardened hearts not understanding the significance of the Temple in Jerusalem, they were not prepared to recognize Jesus.

I want to say, each man can only recognize His creator by using his thinking. Again I say, a hardened heart does not think about spiritual things, *but wastes his time thinking about his passions and pleasures.* Mt (6:31) When we think, we will call upon the Lord by asking, seeking and knocking. Mt (7:7) With this being said, spiritual untruths like the beliefs of the Samaritans will be revealed as false. And the same can be said today. If men would use their thinking to ask, seek and knock, they would come to know the true church and not follow the “Protestant reformation”. God has warned us by foretelling the future divisions in Christianity by using the history of Israel’s tribes. What I am saying is this, the history pertaining to Samaritans is to enlighten us to the falsehoods made by the Protestants. Martin Luther and Calvin, the fathers of this so-called reform, they use the same argument as the Samaritans. The argument is this; that the sins of Catholics and their clergy nullify the promises made by God. They also fail to believe in the power of the Priesthood, a direct

linkage to the Apostles. They fail to see the beauty of the Catholic Mass and the consecration of bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Jesus.

Another example of how wicked men do not nullify God’s church is King Herod. It must be revealed that the wicked ruler named King Herod built the Temple in Jerusalem. Recall how this king killed the young boys at Bethlehem because he wanted to kill the baby Jesus. Mt (2:16) But yet, Jesus recognized this Temple built by Herod as His house. Lk (19:46) But if we use this thinking that the sins of men nullify the holiness of God’s house, then Jesus would have never entered this house built by this wicked man. (Herod that built the temple in Jerusalem is the father of Herod that ruled Galilee when Jesus was crucified.)

- 5) “But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth”. When Jesus had said this, His Mother Mary and John the Baptist were currently and previously worshiping God in spirit and truth. To worship in spirit, we are required to possess the Seven Spirits of God. I must clearly tell you that God had prepared the Blessed Virgin Lk (1:46) and John the Baptist Lk (1:41) to understand Jesus’ future Passion and suicidal sorrows. Thus they were able to give proper thanks

and contemplation to His incredible Passion.

- 6) “God is Spirit, (Seven Spirits.) and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth”. As light has seven parts and gives beauty to the world, we must use our thinking powers by asking, seeking and knocking so we can be worthy of the Seven Spirits of God. If we ask in sincerity and truth, God will share His Seven Spirits with us. If we share in His Seven Spirits, then we will do the work that the Father has given to us while it is day by practicing the twelve virtues. Jn (9:4)
- 7) “When He comes, He will show us all things”. Recall the words spoken by Jesus on the Cross; “It is finished”. Jn (19:30) He said these words to remind us how He has given us a perfect model on how to love others. And the reason is this, by loving those that sin against; we will have peace inside ourselves. And by contemplating how Jesus was tempted with suicidal depression, we will slowly become spiritually intoxicated. Never forget, we need peace and intoxication in order to have ever lasting life.

Pharisees

The world needs to understand that God will allow evil men to claim spiritual authority. In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus told us that the Pharisees and

Scribes held the same power as Moses. Jesus said the following,

Mt 23:2 “The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses’ seat;
23:3 so practice and observe whatever they tell you, but not what they do; for they preach, but do not practice.

- 1) “The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses’ seat”. Jesus is saying that the scribes and the Pharisees had the same authority as Moses.
- 2) “So practice and observe whatever they tell you”. As Moses taught and led the Israelites through the desert, the scribes and Pharisees had authority to lead the Israelites. Think about it, it’s rather amazing that Jesus would give authority to wicked men to lead His people. In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus continues to speak about these men.

Mt 23:4 They bind heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on men’s shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with their finger.

23:5 **They do all their deeds to be seen by men;** for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long,

23:6 **and they love the place of honor** at feasts and the best seats in the synagogues,

23:7 and greetings in the market places, and being called rabbi (teacher) by men.

23:8 But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all brethren.

^{23:9} And call no man your father on earth, for you have one Father, who is in heaven.

^{23:10} Neither be called masters, for you have one master, the Christ.

^{23:11} He who is greatest among you shall be your servant;

^{23:12} whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

^{23:13} “But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! ***Because you shut the kingdom of heaven against men;*** for you neither enter yourselves, nor allow those who would enter to go in.

^{23:15} Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel sea and land to make a single new convert, and when he becomes a new convert, you make him twice as much a child of hell as yourselves.

^{23:16} “Woe to you, blind guides, who say, ‘If any one swears by the temple, it is nothing; but if any one swears by the gold of the temple, he is bound by his oath.’

^{23:17} You blind fools! For which is greater, the gold or the temple that has made the gold sacred?

^{23:18} And you say, ‘If any one swears by the altar, it is nothing; but if any one swears by the gift that is on the altar, he is bound by his oath.’

^{23:19} You blind men! For which is greater, the gift or the altar that makes the gift sacred?

^{23:20} So he who swears by the altar, swears by it and by everything on it;

^{23:21} and he who swears by the temple, swears by it and by Him who dwells in it;

^{23:22} and he who swears by heaven, swears by the throne of God and by Him who sits upon it.

^{23:23} “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law, ***justice and mercy and faith;*** these you ought to have done, without neglecting the others.

^{23:24} You blind guides, straining out a gnat and swallowing a camel!

^{23:25} “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you cleanse the outside of the cup and of the plate, but inside they are full of extortion (To obtain something intimidation.) and greed.

^{23:26} You blind Pharisee! First cleanse the inside of the cup and of the plate, that the outside also may be clean.

^{23:27} “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which outwardly appear beautiful, but within they are full of dead men’s bones and all uncleanness.

^{23:28} So you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but within you are full of hypocrisy and crime.

^{23:29} “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous,

^{23:30} saying, ‘If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.’

^{23:31} Thus you witness against yourselves, that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets.

^{23:32} Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers.

^{23:33} You serpents, you brood of vipers, how are you to escape being sentenced to hell?

- 1) “They (Pharisees) bind heavy burdens, hard to bear”. When religious men do not know the mind of God, they will create religious rituals. These rituals can be likened to heavy burdens because they fail to lead to love. Recall the words of Jesus, “Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light.” Mt (11:22) The reason why Jesus says His burden is light is this; when our actions lead us to love, we find peace and intoxication. Remember, only those men that share in Jesus’ Spirit can lead you to His Seven Spirits.
- 2) “But they themselves (Pharisees) will not move them with their finger”. When men behave like the Pharisees, they create religious rituals for others to follow, but they themselves will not do.
- 3) “Phylacteries” is the name of a religious ritual. This ritual used two small square leather boxes containing slips inscribed with scriptural passages and traditionally worn on the left arm and on the head by Jewish men during morning weekday prayers. The lesson to be learned is this; God searches our hearts for sincerity

and truth. Are we concerned about what others think or what God thinks?

- 4) **“They love the place of honor”**. In the Gospel of John, Jesus warns us by saying,

Jn 5:44 How can you believe, when you accept praise from one another and do not seek the praise that comes from the only God?

- 5) “But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher”. We must study the emotions and actions of Jesus because He is our perfect teacher on how to love each other. We do however have the obligation to teach others the spiritual truths and lessons that the Holy Spirit has taught us.
- 6) “And call no man your father on earth, for you have one Father, who is in heaven”. Catholic Priests are called Father. It would seem that we are violating the teachings of Jesus. But we must never forget the incredible gifts that only the Catholic priests can perform. The priest’s hands consecrate bread into the Body of Jesus and wine into Jesus’ Blood. In the Sacrament of Penance, their hands bless us after they have forgiven our sins. By calling these men as Father, we are in fact acknowledging their gifts that are bestowed on them through the power of the Priesthood.
- 7) “But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! **Because you shut the kingdom of heaven**

against men". We all need to realize that the kingdom of God can only be understood and appreciated by thinking. Spiritual exercises are only useful if we understand clearly why we are practicing them. We need spiritual activities that make us think about the thoughts and emotions of Jesus. But religious men like the Pharisees and scribes give men spiritual rituals that fail to lead men to peace and intoxication.

- 8) "Woe to you, blind guides". John the Apostle says that a man is spiritual blind because of the darkness. ¹ Jn (1:11) And the darkness is when a man hates his brother. ¹ Jn (1:9) Thus Jesus is saying that the scribes and Pharisees are blinded because of their hatred. And when a man hates any man, he is not fit to lead anyone.
- 9) "If any one swears by the temple, it is nothing; but if any one swears by the gold of the temple, he is bound by his oath." The definition of an oath is a formal calling upon God to witness to the truth of what one says or to witness that one sincerely intends to do. The Pharisees believed that the power of their oath was directly related to the object involved. So that if the object by which a man swore was not sacred enough, he was not made a liar if he did not keep his oath. In other words he could swear by the temple and be not bound, but if he swears by the gold in the temple, he would violate his

oath if he failed fulfill his oath. These were the kind of spiritual "games" in which men would engage. But the real truth is this, "do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or with any other oath, but let your yes be yes and your no be no, that you may not fall under blame. ^{Jas (5:12)}

- 10) "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law, justice and mercy and faith; these you ought to have done, without neglecting the others". The law that was given to Moses by God required men pay one tenth of their income to the temple priests. The Pharisees followed this law to the letter by giving a tenth even to the smallest of things like mint, dill and cumin crops. But Jesus points out that the law has weightier parts like Justice, Mercy and Faith.

- A) Justice. God requires us to be our brother's servant. We are obligated to be good examples of applying God's Commandments to our lives. Encouraging each other to carry our crosses.
- B) Mercy. We must have compassion on those men who are in pain and suffering. We are obligated in charity to help men with bodily needs or in prayer.
- C) Faith. We must believe in the promises made by

Scripture. We are obligated to study and think about God's promises. Jesus gave us a new promise (covenant) at the Last Supper. See chapter 2 B, The Holy Eucharist.

Temptation

A trial is much different than a temptation. A trial gives us an opportunity to show if we love one another in the way Jesus loved us. By doing this we feed our souls peace. But a temptation is when a soul begins to lose its desire to live. When a soul commits suicide, during life or after physical death, that soul has been tempted with sorrow and chose *death*.

Jas 1:12 Blessed is the man who endures *trial*, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life which God has promised to those who love Him.

1:13 Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted with evil and He Himself tempts no one;

1:14 but each person is *tempted* when he is lured and enticed by his own desire.

1:15 Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin; and sin when it is full-grown brings forth *death*.

- 1) "Blessed is the man who endures *trial*, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life which God has promised to those who love Him". The dictionary defines "trial" as the action or

process of putting to the proof. And how do we know if we are succeeding in our trials? The answer, *do we have "peace" is our souls*. We must realize the only way to have peace is to practice the twelve virtues when faced with their opposite.

Brothers, how do we love God? My answer to you is this; it's our intense appreciation for Jesus taking upon every man's sorrows. Our tears have been collected and placed in His vials. Yes, ours sorrows have all been recorded in His book.

- 2) "Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God", for God cannot be tempted with evil and He Himself tempts no one". The term "tempted" refers to being tempted with suicide. Our accusers will do everything in their power to drive us into despair. At no time does God say He hates us at our Final Tests, but most assuredly expect the armies of hell to yell their hatred at us.
- 3) "But each person is *tempted* when he is lured and enticed by his own desire". We must realize all sins will lead to death. As Paul warned us by saying, "For the wages of sin is death". Rom (6:23) When God takes away the things that we love, which are our sins; our souls could easily have nothing to live for. If our souls have not valued the actions of Jesus, they will be left without a reason to live.

- 4) “Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin; and sin when it is full-grown brings forth *death*”. The death spoken about here is suicide after physical death.

Sir 15:12 Say not: “It was He who set Me astray”; for He has no need of wicked man.

15:13 Abominable wickedness the LORD hates, *He does not let it befall those who fear Him.*

- 1) Say not: “It was He who set Me astray”. It is true; God creates every crooked path. But a man chooses the path he takes. Even when a man takes one of the many crooked paths, God is constantly reminding him how he is acting badly.
- 2) “For He has no need of wicked man”. God didn’t create a man to commit suicide.
- 3) “Abominable wickedness the LORD hates”. The greatest sin is when a soul grows angry with God and chooses suicidal death.

Temptation: The Lord’s Prayer

Mt 6:9 Pray then like this: Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name.

6:10 Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven.

6:11 Give us this day our daily bread;

6:12 And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those that trespass against us;

6:13 *And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.*

- 1) “Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name”. Once we understand how the Holy Trinity loves each and every man by caring about our sufferings, it should be easy to show our appreciation.
- 2) “Thy kingdom come”. So I ask you, what is meant by the kingdom of God? The kingdom of God is truly within us when we come to appreciate how Jesus cares about every man’s sorrows. And knowing this, we now have a reason to live forever. As with all things we appreciate, we will imitate. Thus we will record the sorrows of others in our hearts with Jesus as our model.
- 3) “Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven”. There are countless numbers of different Christian theologies. And each theology has its own way of thinking. Seeing all these theologies, our reasoning should tell us that falsehood has defiled the will of God. Such is a man’s arrogance creating God in his own image. Placing words in God’s mouth, thus spreading falsehood and leading others there as well.
- 4) “Give us this day our daily bread”. Recall the words Jesus spoke, “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God”. Mt (4:4) In the same way that worldly bread gives life to the body, peace gives life to our souls. And the only way to have peace is to love those that sin against us.

- 5) “And forgive us our trespasses”. We must see and understand how our sins have caused pain in ourselves and to our neighbor. And most importantly we must see how all our sins will lead us to suicidal death.
- 6) “As we forgive those that trespass against us”. We must remind ourselves throughout the day how loving those that sin against us will produce peace within our souls. Peace is food for our souls.
- 7) **“And lead us not into temptation”**. This petition in the Lord’s Prayer is our plea that we do not fall victim to suicidal depression. As I said, temptation involves being tempted with suicidal depression. A trial involves an opportunity to practice a virtue when faced with its opposite.
- 8) “But deliver us from evil”. The armies of hell are coming and we are asking for Jesus’ right hand to pull us out of this darkness. In other words, we are asking Jesus to make virtue sweet to the taste so we can value His actions.

Temptation: The Warning To His Disciples.

Lk 22:39 Then going out He went, as was **His custom**, to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed Him.

22:40 When He arrived at the place He said to them, **“Pray that you may not enter into temptation.”**

22:41 After withdrawing about a stone’s throw from them and kneeling, He prayed,

- 1) **“Pray that you may not enter into temptation.”** Jesus has warned us about the night of our Final Tests and this night is coming. Jn (9:4) Thus we must work during the day to appreciate how Jesus has taken upon Himself every man’s sorrows. If we fail to appreciate the actions of Jesus, we will cease to have a reason to live forever.

Mk 14:37 When Jesus returned He found them asleep. He said to Peter, “Simon, are you asleep? **Could you not keep watch for one hour?**

14:38 Watch and pray that you may not enter into **temptation**. **The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak.”**

14:39 Withdrawing again, He prayed, saying the same thing.

14:40 Then He returned once more and found them asleep, for they could not keep their eyes open and did not know what to answer Him.

14:41 He returned a third time and said to them, **“Are you still sleeping and taking your rest?** It is enough. The hour has come. Behold, the Son of Man is to be handed over to sinners.

- 1) **“The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak.”** In this line, Jesus is first speaking about a soul that lives in the spirit and then He makes a statement about a soul that lives following its passions. At our Final Tests, a spiritual soul will have Jesus as his reason to live, thus it’s

“willing”. On the other hand, a soul that has lived a worldly life will have no appreciation for the actions of Christ and commit suicide.

- 2) **“Are you still sleeping and taking your rest”?** Oh how true, Priest and layman alike are sleeping taking their rest. Does anyone care about the word “few”? It’s our duty to contemplate the sorrows of humanity. That is what Jesus did in the Garden, yes experience the depression of those that have and will fail their Final Tests.

Love and suffering are inseparable. If you do not love or if you no longer love, it is because you have not suffered for the person toward whom you feel indifferent. **The more one has suffered for the soul, the more one loves it.** Let me explain, when you see deadly sin in a man, and you fail to contemplate his damnation, you have never suffered for that person.

Temptation: In The Book Of Hebrews.

In the Book Of Hebrews, it says that Jesus was **tempted**. But do we know what this actually means?

Heb 2:17 Therefore He (Jesus) had to be made like His brethren in every respect, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make expiation for the sins of the people.

2:18 For because He Himself has suffered and been **tempted**, He is able to help those who are **tempted**.

- 1) **“Therefore He (Jesus) had to be made like His brethren in every respect”.** Scripture doesn’t take the time to explain how Jesus was made in every respect like other men. Does this mean that Jesus could enjoy committing sin? Scripture does say that sin can be enjoyed, but only for a short time. Heb (11:25) We must understand its original sin that has caused our attraction to the seven deadly spirits. (Anger, envy, anger, spiritual laziness, lust, excessive wealth and excessive pleasure.) Jesus is far different than we are. Jesus wasn’t born with our spirits; He was born full of Grace. Jn (1:12) For His thoughts are not our thoughts, neither are our ways His ways. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are His ways higher than our ways and His thoughts than our thoughts. Is (55:8) Jesus wasn’t wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked as we are. Rev (3:17) But Jesus is like us in this respect, He can feel pain. When something bad happens to us or to others who we love, we feel sorrow. Jesus can feel this same exact sorrow.
- 2) **“Expiation for the sins of the people”.** We must understand that our sins make us enemies of God. Jesus gained us mercy when He took upon Himself all the sorrows caused by our sins. At their Final Tests, Jesus will protect the elect from the Angel of death. The elect, at their Final Tests, will be spared

the long list of their sins. The Angel of death was scheduled to deliver this list, but this list will be delayed and read during their stay in purgatory. On the other hand, the damned will not be spared. Their sins require God to have this Angel confront them with their crimes. They will understand God's anger against them and this will cause a complete loss of hope and cause suicide.

- 3) **“Tempted”**. Our goal is to contemplate how the sins of the human race tempted Jesus into suicidal depression. We must realize that Jesus witnessed and experienced the crimes committed against each man and how those crimes caused pain in their victims. In addition to this, we must realize that Jesus experienced the exact same sorrows of every man. And when a man's sorrow becomes big enough, suicidal depression follows. Experiencing the suicidal depressions of others caused Jesus to feel these same exact depressions. But unlike each of us who only experience our own personal sorrows, Christ experienced the total sum of all sorrow.

Heb 4:14 Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.

4:15 For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect

has been **tempted** as we are, yet without sin.

- 1) **“High priest”**. During biblical times, Aaron the brother of Moses was the first high priest. So in other words, the high priest was the head and leader of all the other priests. We must realize that each and every person has a priest inside themselves. Our souls are considered our temples. And thus it's the three powers of our being, memory, understanding and heart that can be defined as our priests. Our three powers are created within us and we are invited to think, contemplate and ponder Jesus and His Passion. The high priest Jesus did this the best and thus He is our leader.
- 2) **“But one who in every respect has been **tempted** as we are, yet without sin”**. Each of us must realize this simple fact, when a man feels suicidal depression, that man will turn his back on God. But Jesus defeated this temptation by drawing closer to God. Recall His last words on the Cross, “Father, into Your hands I commit My Spirit!” And having said this He breathed His last”. Lk (23:46)

Questions

- Q What is your opinion, why is it so hard to respond with love when our brother does us wrong?
- A *My dear brothers, we are born into world with our own particular passions*

and pleasures. When a man infers with our goal to achieve our passions, we become angry. Recall how Jesus spoke to the Pharisee Nicodemus. Jesus said we must be born again with water and spirit. Jn (3:5) We must understand that our first birth refers to our passions and pleasures. We are attracted to the seven deadly spirits. (Arrogance, envy, anger, spiritual laziness, lust, excessive wealth and excessive pleasure.) But a new birth is required. This new birth refers to how we must love those that sin against us. This is impossible to achieve if our first birth is still strong within our hearts. If our passions and appetites remain strong, our anger will always be with us when men sin against us. But if our hearts are reading and acting upon the will of God, carrying our crosses becomes possible.

Q Why do the virtues seem so unappealing?

A *My dear brothers, the virtues seem unappealing because men do not have experience with the sweetness-associated with the virtues. If a man wants to experience the sweetness associated with virtue, he must begin by recording the*

*sorrows of others in his heart. If a man wants to perfect his love for others and their sorrows, **he must study and contemplate the Passion of Jesus.** But know this, a man's first birth, yes a man's passions and appetites will interfere with recording the sorrows of others. Always know this, sin may seem sweet now, thus making virtue bitter, but all sin will turn into suicidal depression.*

Q Why is it so important that God must test us?

A *Men give absolutely no thought to everlasting happiness. But all of us must realize we need good reasons to live forever. And we must be truthful with ourselves to the fact that our passions and appetites fall far short of everlasting happiness. We need to be tested. We need to have experience in loving one another by recording each other sorrows in our hearts. Then we will experience the sweetness associated with the virtues. And this sweetness will never lose its perfection and everlasting happiness.*