

EVERYTHING
INVOLVED IN
OBTAINING
ETERNAL LIFE

Gabriel Ansley Erb

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Book adapted from 12 part video series "THE SALVATION EQUATION" – now available on YouTube.

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We are determined to take this salvation message into all the world at any cost. If you'd like to purchase these books in bulk to hand out, please use the order information on the last pages of this book.

God help us while we still have day to work (John 9:4)!

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# **PART ONE**

# THE SALVATION EQUATION

### 1-1

# Introduction

Are you confused about salvation? Do you <u>NOT</u> know what you need to do to make heaven? Jesus said, "If you want to obtain eternal life, keep the commandments" (Matthew 19:17). Then, to clarify which commandments, he began listing each of the 10 commandments. So is this true? But preachers today tell us if we just believe Jesus died on the cross for our sins, we'll go to heaven. How does that make sense with Christ's words above?

And why did Paul write "It's not of works lest you should boast" (Ephesians 2:9) to the Jewish religious leaders of his day? Does this mean we don't have to live by the commandments? And why did Paul say "eternal life is a free gift of God" (Romans 6:23)? But then Paul says, "For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the <u>DOERS</u> of the LAW shall be justified" (Romans 2:13). It's so confusing! Honestly, what is the REAL truth about salvation? What MUST <u>WE</u> REALLY DO to obtain eternal life?

Well, friend, you've come to the right place! This small book has the answer! The book is divided into

two parts: Part One "The Salvation Equation" & Part Two "10 Love Commandments". And I promise, if you read both parts of this book, you will know the FULL UNDILUTED BIBLE TRUTH of salvation (how eternal life can be obtained).

Part One contains a simple equation called "The Salvation Equation" (SE) that quickly and easily reveals the truth of salvation. The equation clearly explains what GOD had to DO (thru Jesus!) so we might have eternal life, and it clearly reveals what WE must DO so we might have eternal life. ALL false salvation doctrines (scripture twisting) floating around in today's churches will be exposed by this simple equation. Without a doubt, the SE will clear up ALL Scripture verses concerning "salvation". You will never be confused again!

So we'll discuss many things in light of the SE, like repentance, faith, grace, not of works, the free gift, believe in Jesus, etc, and it will all make sense. We'll even talk about non-biblical buzz words and catch phrases that have been popularized in today's church world, and you'll see how they are being used by Satan to take the light off the Biblical truth of salvation.

Subsequently, we'll look at modern day questions like, "Are you saved?" "Have you accepted Jesus Christ as your personal savior?" "Have you received the free gift of eternal life?" "Can you lose your salvation?" Where did these questions come from? What do they mean?

Then we'll discuss doctrines like "Salvation is by faith in Christ Alone" and "Once Saved Always Saved".

In Part Two of this book we're going to go deeper than you've ever gone into God's 10 Commandments. We're going to teach you (from the Bible) how these 10 commands are God's COMPLETE instructions for ALL LOVING thoughts, words, and deeds. Therefore, the 10 Commandments can rightly be referred to as the "10 Love Commandments" (10LC).

You will learn each commandment has a **don't** and a **do** side, covering <u>ALL</u> sin when disobeyed, and <u>ALL</u> love when obeyed. We will show you how every single teaching of Jesus (every story, parable, and direct teaching on the law) was based on "keeping the 10LC". Consequently, you'll learn how Jesus' teachings on forgiveness, giving, and contentment fit into the 10LC. I promise, Part Two of this book will be every bit as enlightening as Part One!

So this is going to be fun! I mean we're REALLY going to get into this thing! We'll even quote some of today's most popular TV preachers so you can hear the confusion (lies) behind their salvation doctrine and how dangerous it is. And why are we doing this? It's not to needlessly bash anyone! It's because there's <u>NOTHING</u> more important than having our souls obtain eternal life! We need to be ABSOLUTELY SURE we're not believing (holding on to) some lie on this matter, which has us living a lifestyle that in the end lands our priceless soul in hell. That would be the biggest mistake we could ever make!

So this is serious! This is no small matter! This is no insignificant book! Nothing could be direr! So sit down, relax, and come with us on this book's journey. Let's get to the bare bottom brass tacks truth of salvation.

Let's learn the COMPLETE Bible truth of EVERYTHING involved in a soul obtaining eternal life. And this can best be understood through the *Salvation Equation* (SE). So this is where we'll begin!

### 1-2

# The Salvation Equation

So here's the deal ... All my life I (Gabriel Ansley Erb) remained in confusion over Salvation. Verses in the Bible seemed contradictory. For example, Simeon looking at the baby Jesus and saying, "Mine eyes have seen thy <u>salvation</u>" (Luke 2:30), but then the Apostle Paul saying, "Work out your own <u>salvation</u>" (Philippians 2:12). So what's up? Is Jesus our salvation? Or is salvation something WE need to do? It didn't make any sense! And the preachers on TV and in the churches I attended didn't help. It was obvious they were just as confused.

But then everything began to change one day back in 2007. God asked me to give over \$2,000 to a ministry, and after obeying Him, I distinctly heard Him ask, "Now what do you want in return?" It startled me! I never thought to ask for something in return. But I could feel His heavy presence awaiting my answer. So I thought about it briefly, and I quickly knew what I wanted. I said, "God, I want to know your Word. I want to know the FULL TRUTH of your Bible. There are

stories I don't understand and verses that seem contradictory, so please teach me the ABSOLUTE TRUTH of your Word."

Well long story short, six months later, on the Saturday Sabbath morning of Dec 8, 2007, I awoke to the presence of the Lord! And as I lie in my bed, He explained things to me about the Bible that I had never heard before in my life. I was told the Israelite story of bondage in Egypt, deliverance thru Moses at the Red Sea, and wilderness journey to a Promise Land was all designed and controlled by God to happen to be a message to all mankind concerning EVERYTHING involved for a soul to obtain eternal life! Friend, that story contains ALL the answers of salvation! But here's the sad truth; preachers today don't have a clue about God's salvation message behind that story. And THAT is why they are confused about salvation!

So I'll explain God's message behind the Israelite's story in chapter 12 of this book, but for right now let me just tell you ... it's from that story that the Salvation Equation was given to me. And these things are all written down in depth in the book God commanded me to write back in 2008 "Undeniable Biblical Proof Jesus Christ Will Return to Planet Earth Exactly 2,000 Years After the Year of His Death". So by all means read that book! But for now, let's just get straight to the Salvation Equation.

It's this simple:  $\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{C}$ . But let me define the terms mathematically for further understanding of the equation. " $\mathbf{A}$ " is some number greater than zero, and " $\mathbf{B}$ " is also some number greater than zero. This means " $\mathbf{A}$ " ALONE could <u>never</u> equal " $\mathbf{C}$ ", nor could " $\mathbf{B}$ " ALONE

ever equal "C". Why? Because "A" and "B" are never zero; they both have value! So understand in the Salvation Equation .... "C" will only ever be the sum result of A + B. In other words, it will <u>ALWAYS</u> take "A" <u>AND</u> "B" to equal "C".

Ok, so now we just need to know what the letters in the equation represent. So here they are ...

$$A (OUR Duty) + B (GOD'S Duty) = C (Eternal Life)$$

Do you understand? For us to obtain eternal life, there's something WE must do, and there's something God must do! And ONLY those two things added together will yield a soul eternal life!

So let's look at Term "B" first (God's Duty). What did God have to do so that we might have eternal life? This, my friend, is the story of Jesus. The Bible says, "We have all sinned" (Romans 3:23) and "the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23). That means because of our sin, no eternal life for any of us! So what did God do? He sent a Messiah, Christ Jesus, to earth to live a sinless life, but then to taste a death penalty for sin that he never owed. And in this way, Christ's death now sits there available as the payment, or ransom, for the death penalty we should pay for the sins we've committed. Amazing, huh?

So for our soul to ever obtain eternal life, since we've all sinned, we're going to have to have God accept Christ's death as the payment for our sins. Then our sins will be forgiven (the death penalty removed), and God will grant us eternal life in heaven. THIS is the reason Christ said, "No one comes to the Father, except through me" (John 14:6).

Ok, so what's Term "A" in the Equation? What's OUR duty in obtaining eternal life? In other words, what must <u>WE</u> DO so that God will officially apply Christ's death as payment for our sins one day? This is the most important question ever asked by a human being! And the answer is ... we must <u>willfully</u> TURN FROM SIN! The Bible has a word for this – REPENT! And since ALL sin is defined by disobedience to God's 10 Love Commandments (as you will learn in Part Two of this book), than to REPENT means to <u>willfully</u> turn from disobeying the 10LC to obeying them. It's that simple!

So let's revisit the two salvation verses I brought up at the start of this chapter. And now, in light of the Salvation Equation (SE), let's see how simple they are to understand. Simeon, looking at the baby Jesus, said to God, "Mine eyes have seen thy salvation." So which term in the SE is that talking about – "A" or "B"? Obviously, it's Term "B", God's part! God sent Jesus to pay a death penalty for sin he didn't owe, so we can receive eternal life through Him. Jesus is a necessary ingredient in us obtaining salvation. So looking at Jesus, Simeon was correct to say to the Father God, "Mine eyes have seen Thy (God's) salvation!"

Now how about the Apostle Paul saying, "Work out YOUR OWN <u>salvation</u> with fear and trembling"? Where does that fit into the SE? It's Term "A"! That's OUR PART in salvation (obtaining eternal life). We need to always fear God, turning away from sin, which means to "Keep God's 10LC". That's always been mankind's duty in the SE (obtaining eternal life). It's never changed from Adam & Eve's day to ours!

See how easy salvation is now to understand? Nothing is confusing at all. Nothing is contradictory! Let's look at a few more salvation verses, and you tell me where they fit into the SE. How about this one "Salvation is far from the wicked: for they seek not thy commandments" (Psalms 119:155). Term "A", right? Doing the 10LC is our part in salvation.

How about this one ... "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion: shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee, he is just, and having salvation, lowly, and riding upon a donkey" (Zechariah 9:9). Term "B", right! It was Jesus that rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. And he had our salvation with him, for He was only days from dying on the cross for us!

Let's look at one more "And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto Jesus: Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I will restore him fourfold. And Jesus said unto him, This day is <u>salvation</u> come to this house" (Luke 19:8-9). How about that? Term "A"! Our part! Zacchaeus was repenting of his sins, and proving he was going to walk the way of God's 10LC's. And for THIS decision Jesus said "salvation" has come to this house today! Zacchaeus was doing HIS PART in the *Salvation Equation*! Pretty cool, huh?

So keep an eye out for the "salvation" verses in God's Word, and if you always remember the SE, you will quickly and easily understand them. Nothing will seem contradictory about them at all.

Well, alright, we've got A LOT more to discuss to clear everything up. We're just getting started. For example, where does "grace" fit into the SE? And faith? And what about "not of works"? And the free gift? Well, keep reading, my friend! I promise the answers are coming!

### 1-3

# Repentance FOR Forgiveness of Sins

Just before leaving earth Jesus gave his disciples instructions on exactly what he wanted them to go into all the world and preach: He said "Repentance FOR forgiveness of sins should be preached in my name among all nations" (Luke 24:47).

How about that? Remember the two terms in the Salvation Equation (SE)? Well, there they are! Repentance is OUR part, or term "A" in the SE, and Forgiveness of Sins is available through Christ's death, which is GOD'S part, or Term "B" in the SE. So in essence, Jesus was telling his disciples ... I want you to preach the two terms in the SE, which added together yield a soul eternal life

So let's talk a little more about this word "repent". It was translated from the Greek word *metanoeō*, which means: to repent, to change any or all of the elements composing one's life: attitudes, thoughts, and

behaviors concerning the demands of God for right living. Friend, the "demands of God for right living" are the 10LC. So to "repent" means to willfully change from disobeying the 10LC to obeying them! It's that simple. If you're disobeying them, then stop, turn, and start living your life in accordance with them. THAT is repentance! And Jesus wants us to preach that if men would repent, THEN they will receive forgiveness for their sins through his death, and ultimately eternal life! THAT is what repentance FOR forgiveness of sins means. It's the SE!

The Apostle Peter understood it, for just a few weeks after Christ's ascension, he was preaching, "Repent, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord" (Acts 3:19). By the way, notice when your sins will be blotted out, or officially forgiven? It's when Christ returns! But for now, our job is to live a repentant lifestyle, daily walking the way of God's 10LC. If we do that, then we will receive forgiveness for our sins one day, just as the SE reveals.

The Bible is full of verses about repentance, so keep an eye out for them, and just realize they are all expressing term "A" in the SE, or (OUR DUTY) in obtaining eternal life. John the Baptist preached it: "And he came into all the country about Jordan, preaching the baptism of <u>repentance</u> **FOR** the forgiveness of sins" (Luke 13:3).

The Old Testament prophet Ezekiel taught it: "Repent, and turn yourselves from ALL your transgressions (sins): so iniquity shall not be your ruin

... make you a new heart and a new spirit" (Ezekiel 18:30-31).

Of course Jesus taught it over and over again. He said things like, "But unless you <u>repent</u>, you will all likewise perish!" (Luke 13:3). And, "They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to <u>repentance</u>" (Mark 2:17).

This last verse brings up a good point ... listen, there is a difference between a righteous man and an unrighteous man on this earth. Don't be fooled! God can CLEARLY look down on this earth and tell the difference between someone who fears Him, who strives to live their life in accordance to His 10LC, as opposed to someone who doesn't. The Bible confirms many righteous people who lived on Earth (Enoch, Noah, Job, Abraham, Zachariah and Elizabeth, Mary, etc), and He bargained with Abraham for how many righteous lived in Sodom. So listen, its people who hate this Bible doctrine of repentance that like to scoff, "We're all just sinners, Gabe, we're all alike. No one's more righteous than anyone else." Well, that's just ridiculous! These people hate the idea that we have to live right to go to heaven. Their pride blinds them to this truth. So don't buy their lies. There ABSOLUTELY is a difference between people's righteousness. This is why Jesus said, "I didn't come to tell good people to repent, but the bad ones!"

On this matter, let me tell you a personal story, a miraculous message, I received from God back in 2007, proving He REALLY DOES want us to stop willful sinning to make heaven! I was working as a carpenter

one day, hanging crown molding and baseboard in a room at a retirement center, when all of a sudden God asked me a question! He said, "Gabriel, do you know why people don't stop sinning?" I was trying to think of an answer, when He abruptly said, "It's because they do not fear me!"

He said, "Take for example the sin of pre-marital sex. If I had you ignite a massive bonfire, and then you told the people when they are caught fornicating, they will be held for 15 minutes with their feet 5 inches from the flames, how much pre-marital sex do you think there'd be? And tell them, I'll point them out! In other words, there will be no hiding from their sin! So as everyone watches the first person caught, getting punished, their face screaming and writhing in pain .... Aaaahhhh! ... as their feet slowly burn deeper and deeper, how much fornication do you think would continue among the people?"

"Oh, my," I said, "Probably none, God, they'd be scared to death to fornicate!" "But God," I said, "This is too harsh. If I told people this, they'd just say back to me, 'God is Love.' You're a fear-mongerer, Gabe."

Man, guys, He fumed back at me, "I am Love! I'm trying to save my children's souls! But they will not stop sinning willfully! And it's only because they do not fear me! They have no concept or reality of the horrifying fires of hell! And yet this is exactly where they're going if they don't stop willfully sinning against me!"

Wow, guys, this message wouldn't leave my head all that day at work. I couldn't get over what God had told me. I knew He was right: If people feared the punishment of hell to that extreme, they'd do right. But they don't! And God told me, "THIS is the fear of me that is missing in people's hearts today, Gabriel. THIS is the kind of 'fear and trembling' that could and would work out my children's salvation. It would lead them to eternal life. But they do not possess it!"

So I got home from work that day, and almost immediately the phone rang. It was my next door neighbor's daughter, Labrina. She didn't live there anymore – she lived about 2 miles away – and was just calling to chat. She's a Christian girl, so I told her about what God had told me that day, because that was all that was on my mind. Well, she didn't have much to say after that. So we hung up, and I went to take a nap. Then, within the hour, my phone was ringing again! And it was Labrina, again! Turns out, she had driven over to her parent's house, next door to me, and she was excitedly saying, "Open up your front door, and look outside!"

Are you ready for this? Labrina as my witness, there was a car right across the street from my house, completely engulfed in flames! I'm not talking just the hood area, I mean the ENTIRE CAR! The flames were leaping 30 feet into the air! I stood there watching in shock and horror!

Listen to me, people, God is serious! He really wants you to stop your willful sinning so you make heaven! We MUST REPENT, turn from our sins! We must willfully choose to live our life in obedience to God's 10LC. If we'll do that, then we WILL receive "forgiveness" for the sins we did commit, through Christ's death on the cross.

Jesus informed us: "There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that <u>repents</u>" (Luke 15:10). Glory to God!

And Peter left us know: "The Lord is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (II Peter 3:9).

He's calling you, friends! If you're living in willful sin, God is actively working to bring you to repentance! He loves you. He doesn't want you to go to hell. So even if He has to put you flat on your back someday to get you to a point where you realize what life is about, don't despise His chastening. He's trying to save your soul! This is why Paul wrote, "Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret" (II Corinthians 7:10). Hallelujah!

Well now you know the meaning of the Bible phrase "repentance FOR forgiveness of sins". Those words just express term "A" and "B" in the SE, which together yields a soul eternal life. Our repentance + God's forgiveness of sins (available thru Christ's sinless death) equal eternal life.

### 1-4

# What Must I Do To Obtain Eternal Life

Twice in the Gospels Jesus was asked by someone "What must <u>I</u> DO to obtain eternal life?" Matthew, Mark and Luke all cover the encounters. One time a rich man asked Jesus, "Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?" (Matthew 19:16). Jesus responded, "If you want to obtain eternal life, keep the Commandments!" "Which ones?" the man asked. Jesus then began to list off the 10 Love Commandments (10LC), making it very clear THEY are the important ones, the ones we are to live by to obtain eternal life. (Matthew 19:16-19).

So looking back at our Salvation Equation (SE), do you see how Jesus' words perfectly confirm its truth? Term "A" is OUR DUTY in the SE, to repent of sin, which means to change from disobeying the 10LC to obeying them. See, Jesus could have just as easily told the man, "You need to repent of sin." But this is better understood by saying, "Keep the 10LC". Ok, so now we

know Jesus' own words <u>perfectly</u> confirm the truth revealed in the SE.

Alright, so another time a lawyer asked Jesus, "Master, what must I DO to inherit eternal life?" (Luke 10:25). Jesus asked him back, "Well, what's written in the law, how do you read it?" The man said, "Love the Lord thy God with all your heart ... and love your neighbor as yourself." And Jesus replied, "You have answered correctly, DO THIS and you will live!" (Luke 10:25-28). Well, friend, to "love God with all your heart" and "love your neighbor as yourself" is fully accomplished by "keeping the 10LC". That's how you do it! In other words, there's no contradiction here, Jesus was answering the question with the same answer as he did before.

I'll prove this to you with the Apostle Paul's words: "The Commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not murder, Do not steal, Do not covet, and any other commandments, are summed up in this one decree: Love your neighbor as yourself! (Romans 13:9-10). See, you don't have to hate the 10 Commandments, my friend. They're just love! They are the 10 LOVE Commandments! So in answer to the question "What must I DO to obtain eternal life?" ... the correct answer is "keep the 10LC" or "Love God with all your heart & love your neighbor as yourself". And Jesus clearly verified this truth in Matthew 19:16-19 and Luke 10:25-28. And again, this is ALL in perfect agreement with the SE, for the SE reveals THIS is PRECISELY OUR DUTY (not God's) in obtaining eternal life for our soul. If we'll DO THIS, we WILL receive forgiveness for our sins, and ultimately eternal life.

Now listen, there is a strange demonic teaching floating around that Jesus didn't really mean what he answered to these two men. He was just trying to tell them that if they kept the 10LC perfectly THEN they could obtain eternal life. So his answer was deceptive, he was kind of tricking them. How stupid! And yet, how subtle by the enemy. Friend, when Jesus said, "DO THIS and you WILL live" He meant it! He was not joking! It was no trick! It was God's honest truth of what WE MUST DO to obtain eternal life. Jesus taught, "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Matthew 5:38). So don't listen to these demons trying to twist and belittle Christ's powerful words. Their lies are only believed by weak-minded people whose pride HATES the message that we have to live by the 10LC to go to heaven!

And yet, if they only realized that <u>ALL</u> of Christ's teachings (when he was instructing us how to live to obtain eternal life), every parable, every story, and every direct teaching on the law were centered on "keeping the 10LC", maybe then they'd see Satan's lies. Friend, Jesus wasn't answering these two men's question with anything other than what he was teaching every day of his life! Don't hate, but forgive; don't steal, but give; don't covet, but be content; and on and on. It's all just love folks! And as I said before, you don't have to hate love. You don't have to hate the 10LC. They are glorious, they are wonderful, they are the "narrow path" few will take that leads to eternal life, just as the SE reveals!

Ok, so I want to make one last thing clear to you in this chapter. And this is HUGE for you to understand. So listen closely; there is another question people could have asked Jesus about eternal life, but there's no record in the Gospels that anyone ever did. The question is this, "Good Teacher, what must GOD DO so that I might have eternal life?" Oh friend, this is a COMPLETELY DIFFERENT question, with a COMPLETELY DIFFERENT answer! The answer to this is Term "B" in the SE! It's the story of how God had to send a sinless Messiah into the world (by the Holy Spirit impregnating a virgin), whom would live a sinless life, then die on a cross, paying a death sentence for sin he never owed. And now the Messiah's sacrificial death sits there available to all of us, to pay our death sentence for the sins we committed. This means our death sentence is removed, which means our sins have been forgiven through him, yielding us eternal life. THAT is the answer to the question, "What must **GOD** DO so that I might have eternal life?"

So listen, do me a favor ... Ask your pastor this question, "Preacher, please tell me what **I** MUST DO to obtain eternal life?" Then see what they say. If they begin telling you the story of what Jesus did (death on the cross, resurrection, etc) you will know they are completely confused about salvation. Why? Because they are answering the question of what <u>GOD</u> had to do, and NOT what <u>YOU</u> have to do! And this is serious error! They don't understand salvation. And why? Because they don't know the SE.

Listen to me, friend, OUR duty in obtaining eternal life has NOTHING to do with GOD'S duty! God did his part! It's finished! Jesus died for everyone in the world, and you can't change that fact! It doesn't matter if you believe he did, believe he didn't, or never even heard anything about Jesus (which is the case for millions of

people who have lived and died on this earth). Friend, none of that matters with respect to what <u>WE</u> MUST DO to obtain eternal life. Christ's death (forgiveness) is available to ALL mankind, no matter what people think about it. There's only ONE THING <u>WE</u> need to do to obtain eternal life – Term "A" in the SE, repent of sin by keeping the 10LC.

Now hear me out; if your pastor can't correctly answer the question of "What must **I** DO to obtain eternal life?" you are in grave danger sitting under their tutelage. Why? Because they will say things at times (lies) that will make you think your salvation is secure, that you are definitely going to heaven. Your fear of God will then vanish, and your resolve to live righteously to make heaven will too. Then you are in BIG trouble! If you find yourself in this situation, my advice to you is ... RUN from that preacher! RUN!!! If they refuse to hear the truth of the SE, they will never be able to look you in the eye and tell you with absolute confidence and sincerity the words of Jesus Christ, "If you want to obtain eternal life, keep the 10LC" (Matthew 19:17). They will not understand why Christ's words in their own Bible are truth. They will remain confused. So RUN!!! RUN for your life!!!

Friend, nothing is more important than going to heaven. If we miss it, we'll have missed everything! So it's extremely important that you are not being deceived right now on this earth about what **WE** have to do to make it there. Trust me, you don't want to miss out on being with God forever in His love and protection. So never forget this truth ... there are TWO totally different questions you can ask a preacher (or

anyone) about salvation, and they have two totally different answers:

- 1) What must **I** DO to obtain eternal life?
- 2) What must **GOD** DO that I might have eternal life.

The first one's answer is Term "**A**" in the SE, and the second one's answer is Term "**B**". Never forget this truth.

### 1-5

# By Grace Are You Saved Through Faith

The Apostle Paul wrote, "For by grace are you saved through faith" (Ephesians 2:8). These words from Paul also confuse most preachers today, and yet "grace" and "faith" can easily be understood by the Salvation Equation (SE). The word "grace" was translated from the Greek word "charis" meaning: grace, the state of kindness and favor towards someone, often with a focus on a benefit given; by extension, a gift, benefit, or credit. And the word "faith" is from the Greek Word "pistis" meaning: faith, belief, or trust, with an implication that ACTIONS based on that trust will follow; "the faith" often refers to the Christian system of belief and lifestyle.

Ok, so looking at our SE, let me show you where "grace" fits in. It's really simple. Term "**B**" is God's grace! God's grace was bestowed upon us in the fact that He sent Jesus to die for us. The Messiah was a gift, a benefit, a credit. Jesus is the fulfillment of God's grace (kindness and favor) shown toward all of us!

Why? Because we can obtain eternal life through him! His righteous death is a worthy sacrifice to pay our death sentence! So what mercy, what love, what <u>GRACE</u> God showered down on us through Jesus. So simply put ... Term "**B**" in the SE is the part where God's grace came into play.

I'll give you two verses from Paul proving this truth: "In him (Jesus) we have redemption (or <u>salvation</u>) through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's <u>grace</u>" (Ephesians 1:7) See? God was gracious towards us by sending Jesus to die for us, making forgiveness for sins available to us. Here's another: "The <u>grace</u> of God, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, has abounded unto many" (Romans 5:15). See? Jesus Christ is the culmination of God's grace, or kindness and favor, extended towards us all.

Alright, so what about "faith"? Paul wrote: "For by grace are you saved <u>THROUGH</u> <u>FAITH</u>" (Ephesians 2:8). So how does "faith" fit into the SE? Friend, its Term "**A**"! Remember, we learned the Greek Word for "faith" implies ACTIONS or WORKS will be done as a result of that faith. In other words, it's an action-based faith! It's the lifestyle of a REAL Christian. And what's that? It's love! It's a person who lives by the 10LC. "Keeping the 10LC" is the ONLY proof of our faith in God, or Jesus. So "faith" is just Term "**A**" all over again, just expressed in a different way. And our faith (keeping the 10LC) will win us eternal life, for it's OUR DUTY in the SE.

So let me give you a few verses confirming our faith only exists by our keeping of the 10LC. Paul wrote this:

"All that matters is <u>faith</u>, expressing itself through love" (Galatians 5:6). It doesn't get any clearer than that, right? Paul knew it's our "works of love" that prove our faith in God! And the "works of love" are completely defined by the 10LC. The Bible says, "Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love" (I John 4:8). See, it's all about love. Only through our "works of love" do we prove we know and believe in God (love).

The Apostle James confirmed all of this, as well, when he wrote: "faith without works is dead" (James 2:26). In other words, without "works" faith doesn't even exist! Wow! And what works did James have in mind, proving our faith? He gave this example: "Suppose you see a brother or sister who has no food or clothing, and you say, 'Good-bye! Have a good day! Stay warm and eat well' - but then you don't give them any food or clothing. What good does that do?" (James 2:15-16). Do you recognize what commandment that is? It's the 8th LC - "Thou shall not steal, but thou shall give" [See Chapter 2-8]. In other words, if you see someone in need, GIVE to them! THAT is love! So the "works" or "actions" James had in mind that prove one's faith in God, were the "works of love" - Keep the 10LC.

So listen up, whenever you run across these phrases in the Bible ... "faith in Jesus", "faith in Christ", "faith in God", "faith in his name", or "believe in Jesus", "believe in God", "believe in him", "whosoever believeth in him", etc ... all of these phrases mean thee exact same thing: They describe a person who lives by the 10LC, for those actions of love are the PROOF of one's faith in God, or Jesus.

Remember me telling you how <u>ALL</u> of Christ's teachings were based on "keeping the 10LC", when he was instructing us how to live to obtain eternal life? Keep that in mind, and think about the SE, as you listen to this verse: "And being made perfect, Jesus became the author of eternal <u>salvation</u> unto all them that <u>obey</u> him." (Hebrews 5:9). How about that? Do you see it? That's Term "**A**" AND "**B**" in the SE all wrapped up in one verse! If we OBEY the teachings of Jesus (keep the 10LC) we will obtain salvation (eternal life) through his perfect (sinless) death. Isn't it amazing how the SE makes sense of all these Scripture verses?

So to be clear, if you "believe in Jesus" it means you "believe in what he taught", proved ONLY by your obedience to those teachings. Living by the 10LC is the proof of your faith in Christ. This is why John wrote: "Here is the patience of the saints: Here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the <u>faith</u> of Jesus." (Revelation 14:12). Pretty cool, huh? Just forever remember; "keeping the 10LC" is the evidence of our faith.

So to sum this all up, concerning Paul's statement "For by Grace are you saved through Faith", just realize these words are expressing both terms in the SE. In fact, saying it in the following way will help you recognize this truth, "For by (GOD'S) Grace are you saved through (YOUR) Faith". Got it? Your "faith" is Term "A" in the SE, and God's "grace" is Term "B". It's that simple.

And one final warning, please be aware there's a whole lot of <a href="https://hyper.grace.org/">hyper grace doctrine out there in today's</a>

churches, trying to make you believe you don't have to live righteously (keep 10LC) to go to heaven. But it's ALL from the enemy, folks! Don't buy it! It's crap! It will kill you! "Grace" is only half the truth of salvation (God's part) as the SE clearly reveals. We still have OUR part to do. We must prove our "faith" by our loving deeds (keep 10LC). Together, these two things, will obtain our soul eternal life!

### 1-6

# Not of Works Lest You Should Boast

The Apostle Paul wrote, "Not of works, lest any man should boast" (Ephesians 2:9). This phrase is spoken ubiquitously in today's church world. Preachers use it continuously in an effort to get you to believe you don't have to live by God's 10 Love Commandments (10LC) to make heaven. This is DEAD wrong! Paul would be livid at this lie! But today's preachers don't care. They're happy to twist Paul's words around to everyone's destruction. We live in a sick church age, folks! Doctrines from demons are all around us. So what's it REALLY about? What REALLY made Paul write "not of works" in some of his letters?

Well, I'm not going to waste any time, so here it is: Paul wrote "not of works" because of two main issues of his day – "circumcision" and "food". That's right, the Old Testament Jewish laws of circumcision and abstaining from eating certain foods, and whether or not those laws needed to be followed for salvation, was the issue at hand that led Paul to write, "It's not of works, lest you should boast."

Listen, the Jewish religious leaders of Paul's day were adamant about the gentile males needing to be circumcised in order to be saved. This fact is first seen in the book of Acts: "Then some men came down from Judea to Antioch and were teaching the brethren, 'Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved" (Acts 15:1). There you go, folks! Can you imagine? That's what was taking place back in Paul's day! And yet, Paul knew salvation was NOT of those works of the law, for circumcision of the flesh (penis) was NOT a 10LC issue.

Immediately, Paul picks this subject up in Romans, addressing the Jewish religious leaders in Rome: "Indeed, you are called a Jew, and rest on the law, and make your BOAST in God ... You, then, who teach others, do you not teach yourself? You who preach against stealing, do you steal? You who say that people should not commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, but then make money your god instead! You who BOAST in the law, do you dishonor God by breaking the law?

"Circumcision has value if you observe the law (10LC), but if you break the law, you have become as though you had not been circumcised. So then, if those who are NOT circumcised keep the law's requirements (keep 10LC) will they not be regarded as though they were circumcised? The one who is NOT circumcised physically and yet obeys the law (10LC) will condemn you, who, even though you have the written code and circumcision, are a lawbreaker!

"For a person is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is circumcision merely outward and physical. No, a

person is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is circumcision of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the written code. Such a person's praise is not from other people, but from God." (Romans 2:17-29).

Do you see what's taking place here? The Jews were BOASTING in the fact that their flesh (penis) was circumcised. They were PROUD of that! But Paul knew they weren't keeping God's 10LC. He even named certain of them, specifically. In other words, Paul was making it crystal clear that the 10LC laws were of paramount importance and that circumcision of the flesh (penis) was unimportant. Can you see now why Paul would write to these Jews, "It's not of works, lest any man should BOAST"?

Paul's dealing with this topic again in his letter to the Corinthians: "A man who already has gone through the Jewish ceremony of circumcision, before he became a Christian, shouldn't worry about it; and if he hasn't been circumcised, he shouldn't do it now. It doesn't make any difference at all whether a Christian has gone through this ceremony or not. But it makes a lot of difference whether he is pleasing God by keeping God's commandments. THAT is the important thing!" (I Corinthians 7:18-19). Wow! It doesn't get any clearer than that, does it? And God's commandments are the 10LC!

See, friend, Paul LOVED God's 10LC! He KNEW they were the laws of love that needed to be kept to prove one's faith in God! He continuously preached "obedience to them" was the path that leads to eternal life, all throughout his letters. It would take me days to point out all the verses he wrote in support of the

10LC. In other words, he preached the EXACT SAME MESSAGE as Jesus Christ, if you want to be saved, live by the 10LC! But all the other laws, the Jewish laws and customs of circumcision, hand washing, not eating certain "unclean" foods, feast observances, and more, Paul knew those laws were NOT needed for salvation. And thus he wrote, "It's not of works of the law, lest you should boast!"

By the way, let me take a moment and explain something to you about the word "law" in the New Testament. It's from the Greek Word meaning: law, regulation, principle; this has a broad range of meanings and referents, ranging from the OT Scriptures as a body, the first five books of Moses, or any single command of the Scriptures. Friend, this is the Greek word used by Paul all throughout his letters! So here's the point ... you HAVE to read what Paul is talking about around the word "law" to know what law he's referring to. They are letters Paul wrote! Letters are meant to be read in their entirety! You have to read them in context. You can't just pull out a sentence or phrase here and there, and then spin it to make it say what YOU want. That's dishonest. That's deception. That's what the Devil does! And that's what happening today, all over churchianity.

So I challenge you, whenever you see Paul talking about salvation is "not of works of the <u>law</u>" look at what he's talking about around it. It's almost exclusively the law of circumcision. That's the issue Paul is upset about. For instance, in Galatians, Paul writes: "Know that a person is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ" (Galatians 2:16). Well, we learned in chapter 5 of this

book that "the faith of Jesus Christ" is to "keep the 10LC". So what law was Paul talking about that we are NOT going to be justified by? Well, read the first 15 verses of that chapter and you'll see. He said: "But neither Titus, who was with me, being Greek, was compelled to be circumcised. This matter because some false believers had infiltrated our ranks to spy on the freedom we have in Christ Jesus and to make us slaves, forcing us to follow their Jewish regulations" (Galatians 2:3-4). Do you see it? The issue is circumcision! Thirteen times the word comes up in Galatians! Paul was saying (just like he did to the Romans) you Jews are NOT going to be justified by your keeping of the law of circumcision, but rather by your keeping of the 10LC!

So seriously, check it out. Whenever you find "not of works" in Paul's letters, look around it and see what he's referring to. Romans and Galatians are the two main letters where Paul uses the phrase, and if you'll look, you'll see what had Paul miffed was the Jewish law of circumcision, and the Jew's belief that this was needed for salvation! Ephesians contains the exact phrase we hear trumpeted continually today ... "Not of works lest any man should boast" (Ephesians 2:9) ... and just two sentences later Paul writes, "Now don't forget that you gentiles used to be outsiders. You were called "uncircumcised heathens" by the Jews, who were PROUD of their circumcision, even though it affected only their bodies (penis) and not their hearts" (Ephesians 2:11). There you go! It's ALWAYS about circumcision!

Let me put all of this to you in another way; can you imagine a man walking up to Paul and saying,

"Hey, Paul, I'm struggling with the sin of adultery. I've been married 10 years now, but I have a mistress on the side, and I just can't let her go." And Paul leans over, pats the guy on the back and says, "Oh, brother, its ok, salvation is not of works of the law!" Can you imagine? Or how about a willful thief, or murderer, or someone full of unforgiveness and hatred, or a greedy person, and Paul just comforts them and says, "Ah, its ok, friend, salvation is not of works. Don't worry about it. Just live like you want to!" Do you see how stupid this is? Paul would NEVER say that to those people! And yet, that is what preachers today are doing when they use the phrase "not of works" in their salvation pitch, and you know they're referring to the 10LC. They're saying you don't have to repent and live by the 10LC to make heaven! It's not of works! You can go some other way! Just say this prayer with me. You think I'm kidding? Listen to these guys:

"Not by works, so that no one can boast. As I said before, you can't get to heaven being good, giving to the poor, doing acts of kindness" ~ John Hagee

"Salvation's not by works. And if you're trusting your own works to save you, if you think you're going to heaven because you've been baptized, or if you think, well I think you have to live a good life, I think you have to keep the commandments to be saved, I think you have to go to church, I think you gotta, you know, turn from your sins. If you're trusting in your works, Jesus is going to say to you one day, "Depart from me I never knew you" ~ Steven Anderson

"It says, for by grace are you saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God, not of works lest any man should boast. So we're not saved by anything we do. It's all by what Jesus Christ did."  $\sim$  Robert Breaker

"Salvation is a gift of God, not of works. And I see repentance, if you're not careful, that can start to become a work that you do" ~ Kent Hovind

Wow, how sick! Such confusion in these men's lips! See, they think Paul's phrase "not of works" is about the 10LC. They're using the phrase to demonize "repentance" and "keeping the 10LC"! But they're dead wrong! Paul was never referring to the 10LC when he used the phrase "not of works". He was referring to the Jewish law of circumcision!

But get this ... the "law of circumcision" is no longer an issue today in Christianity. No one's debating anymore whether this law is necessary for eternal life. In other words, Paul's phrase "not of works" is no longer relevant! It should never even be spoken today! It's a throw away phrase, with no relevance or meaning in today's church world. And yet sadly, demonically, completely taken out of context, we hear it continually today!

And guess what words we NEVER hear out of preachers? The simple words of Jesus Christ, "IF you want to obtain eternal life, keep the 10LC". In other words, if you want to obtain eternal life, DO Term "A" in the SE! Why do Christ's words NEVER come out of their mouths? It's because they're confused! They've been tricked by the devil! I mean Jesus is answering the VERY QUESTION of what WE must DO to obtain eternal life (right there in their own Bible) and they can't repeat his answer during their salvation pitch! It's

STUNNING! Friend, they don't believe Jesus' own words! The phrase "Keep the 10LC" WILL NOT come out of their mouths! They'd rather quote phrases from Paul's letters, completely in error, and leave you as confused and misguided as they are. It's sick! Satan has twisted Paul's words to their own destruction (II Peter 3:16). And I promise you, these preachers will PAY for their deception! For their lies are sending people to hell!

Do you know how many times Paul preached we should be "DOING GOOD WORKS" to make heaven, meaning keep the 10LC? Many times! Why don't preachers grab these phrases out of Paul's letters and parrot them continually? Paul wrote: "For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the <u>DOERS</u> of the <u>LAW</u> shall be justified!" (Romans 2:13). Never hear that one do you? Why don't preachers trumpet those words from Paul? "The DOERS of the LAW shall be saved!" And you know what "law" Paul was referring to in that verse? The 10LC!!! Read Romans chapter two in its entirety.

Paul said: "God will repay each person according to what they have done. To those who by patient continuance in doing good, he will give eternal life. But for those who are self-seeking and reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger" (Romans 2:6-8). Friend, "patient continuance in doing good" means to keep the 10LC! So why don't preachers continually say those words from Paul when giving their salvation pitch? "If you want to obtain eternal life, then patiently continue in doing good!" Sounds exactly like Jesus, doesn't it? "If you want to obtain eternal life, keep the 10LC" (Matthew 19:17).

How about these words from Paul: "I preached first to those in Damascus, then in Jerusalem throughout all Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that ALL must repent of their sins and turn to God - proving they have repented by doing good works" (Acts 26:20). I could go on and on with verses proving Paul knew "keeping the 10LC" was OUR DUTY in obtaining eternal life, and if we didn't, we wouldn't make it! Paul said: "Do you not know that the wicked will NOT inherit the Kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor thieves, nor the areedy, nor drunkards, nor verbal abusers, nor swindlers, will inherit the Kingdom of God" (I Corinthians 6:9).

So let me wrap this up; friend, if you hear a preacher today using Paul's phrase "its not of works" in their salvation pitch, knowing they're referring to the 10LC, implying you do not need to follow them to make heaven, you're listening to a devil! **RUN** from that preacher! Turn them off your TV. Get them off your computer! Their words are the words of Satan! Rather, listen to the simple pure words of Jesus Christ, "If you want to obtain eternal life, keep the 10LC (love God with all your heart and love your neighbor as yourself). DO THIS, and you will live eternally!"

### 1-7

### The Free Gift of Eternal Life

The Apostle Paul wrote, "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23). This is another phrase that has preachers confused today – "the free gift of eternal life". The argument goes like this; if eternal life is a gift, then we don't have to do anything, right? I mean, if we have to do something to obtain eternal life, then how's it a gift? See the confusion? So let me clear this issue up for you, very easily, by going right back to our *Salvation Equation* (SE).

It's this simple ... the "free gift" is term "**B**" in the SE! The Messiah (Jesus Christ's death) was the gift! This is why John 3:16 starts with, "For God so loved the world that he <u>GAVE</u> his only begotten son ..." See the "giving" part? God gave us a gift! Listen, we didn't do ANYTHING to cause God to send the Messiah to die for us. We were all sinners. We didn't deserve it! God did it ONLY because He loved us, and He promised He would. That's it! This is why Paul wrote, "But when the kindness and love (grace) of God our Savior appeared,

he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy" (Titus 3:5). See, it wasn't anything we did that made God send Jesus to die for us. It was simply God's gift (or grace shown) to all mankind. And this gift was God fulfilling His duty, or part "**B**", in the SE.

And please understand ... the REAL GIFT was Christ's <u>SINLESS DEATH!</u> It's his sinless death that now sits there available to ALL of us to pay OUR death sentence for the sins we committed. In other words, we can obtain forgiveness for sins through Christ's death, and ultimately eternal life. This is why Paul wrote: "For the wages of sin is death; but the GIFT of God is eternal life <u>through</u> Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23).

Paul also wrote: "There is a great difference between Adam's sin and God's <u>free gift</u>. For the sin of this one man, Adam, brought death to many. But even greater is God's wonderful <u>grace</u> and His <u>gift</u> to many through this other man, Jesus Christ" (Romans 5:15). Do you see it? It's so clear ... Jesus Christ's death is the gift, and the gift is the evidence of God's grace. This goes right back to chapter 5, where we learned Paul's phrase, "We are saved by (God's) grace, through (Our) faith" (Ephesians 2:8). Remember, the Greek word for "grace" meant by extension – a gift! Paul is saying ALL OF THAT in this one verse ... God's grace, or kindness, gave us the free gift of the Messiah, Christ Jesus, the one through whose death we can obtain eternal life.

Alright, so what about Term "A" in the SE? If it's a gift, why do we still have to do something to obtain eternal life? How does that work? Well, it's like this

parable ... A certain man has decided to give you a <u>free gift</u> of one million dollars. You did absolutely NOTHING to earn it! He's just giving it to you. But here's the deal; the money has been put in a safety deposit box in a bank in Portland, Oregon, so if you want it, you'll have to go and get it.

So let's say for example you live in Florida. It might take you two weeks to drive out there and back to get the money. It's going to take your time, money, and energy to go and get the gift. You'll have to spend for gas and lodging along the way, and you'll work hard driving your car thousands of miles. So let me ask you a question ... does this mean the one million dollars is NOT a gift now, because you had to go and get it? You had to do some work to obtain it? Of course it's still a gift! You did NOTHING to earn the one million dollars! You did NOTHING to make the man give you the money! He just gave it to you freely!

Well likewise, you did NOTHING to make God send Jesus to die for you. His sinless death was a FREE gift from God. But if you want it, you're going to have to go and get the gift! You're going to have to DO something! And you know what you got to do? The works of love! The 10LC! Those works of love are the evidence of your faith. Those works of love are the proof of your repentance. Remember, it's your repentance FOR God's forgiveness of sins! So if you'll DO THAT, live by the 10LC, you will receive the free gift of eternal life through Christ's death!

And here's the deal ... your ENTIRE LIFE is the journey of going to get that gift! It won't stop until the day you take your last breath. And if on that day you

are found on the narrow way, faithfully fighting the GOOD fight of faith (living by the 10LC), then you will most assuredly receive the free gift of eternal life through Christ's death. This is why Jesus said, "Narrow is the WAY that leads to eternal life" (Matthew 7:14). See, it's a WAY, it's a JOURNEY that leads to eternal life, and that journey is the way of repentance, keeping God's 10LC.

So Paul's phrase "the free gift" makes sense now, right? It's so simple. The SE clears it right up. Isn't it amazing how the SE makes sense of ALL Bible verses concerning salvation, grace, faith, repentance, love, etc? Seriously, if each verse in the Bible about "how to obtain eternal life" were a puzzle piece, we'd know where they all fit. We don't have to shy away from any Bible verse. We can snap them all together perfectly. And you know what the final complete picture would be? The beautiful SE!!! Praise the Lord!

So listen, keep an eye out for preachers today using this "free gift of eternal life" phrase in an effort to make you believe you don't have do ANYTHING to go to heaven. And specifically, they REALLY want you to believe "living by the 10LC" is not necessary! They are demons! They are lying to you! They don't know how all scripture verses on salvation fit together, because they don't know the SE. So they love to make up nonphrases, including the "free gift" term, biblical confusing people on what we need to do to make heaven. Things like just "receive the free gift of pardon" or "accept the free gift of salvation." These phrases are not in the Bible. Therefore they leave people confused and bewildered about what they REALLY need to do to go to heaven.

And sadly, as I said in chapter 6, these preachers will <u>NEVER</u> speak the simple words of Jesus Christ in their salvation pitch: "If you want to obtain eternal life, KEEP the 10LC" (Matthew 19:17). In other words, make the journey of faith (love) that leads to you getting the free gift of eternal life when you die. It's tragic these preachers can't speak Christ's words. So watch out for them! Don't let them deceive you (using this "free gift" phrase incorrectly) about what you need to be doing to obtain eternal life! You GO and GET that gift of eternal life, just as the SE reveals through Term "A".

### 1-8

## If You Believe Jesus Died & Rose Again

Probably the BIGGEST salvation lie in today's churches is the following doctrine: If you simply believe Jesus died on the cross for you and rose again, you're saved, you're going to heaven. That's it! That's all you have to do. That's the "faith" or "belief" you have to have to go to heaven. It's known as "faith in Christ ALONE", and it's a terrible demonic lie dooming millions of people to hell. No one in the Bible believed this, not Jesus, not Paul, not any of the Disciples, and yet this lie persists today. I was even taught this doctrine growing up in different protestant churches.

But on the Sabbath morning of December 8, 2007, everything changed! For that was the morning I awoke to a voice telling me the truth of God's salvation message behind the story of the Israelite's bondage in Egypt, deliverance through Moses, and wilderness journey to a Promised Land. And for the first time in my life I knew I had been lied to my whole life in church about salvation! I was horrified!

I knew that "believing Jesus died for our sins and rose again" was NOT what we needed to do to go to heaven. In fact, it wasn't even needed at all! That's how wrong that doctrine is! I immediately knew the Salvation Equation (SE), that OUR ENTIRE DUTY in obtaining eternal life was to DO Term "A", which was to live by God's 10LC, exactly as Jesus had answered in the Gospels. (Remember, I'm going to tell you the meaning of the Israelite's story in chapter 1-12 of this book.) But for now, let's talk a little more about this erroneous salvation doctrine: If you believe Jesus died for you, you're going to heaven.

Looking at our SE, this is like saying ... ALL you have to DO to go to heaven is find out about Term "B" (what God had to do so we might have eternal life) and then you just have to mentally believe he did His part. This is ridiculous! This immediately begs the question ... well then what happens to the millions of people on earth who never got to hear anything about the story of Jesus? How do they get to heaven? "Oh, don't worry about that," they'll tell you, "God will figure that out. Just believe our doctrine!" How stupid!

See, somehow the idea got started that the word "believe" in the New Testament meant to believe in what Jesus DID for us, meaning died and rose again. For example, I was taught my whole life that the word "believe" in John 3:16 meant if I believe Jesus died for me, I will obtain everlasting life. You know the verse: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). I was always told this meant "believe he died for me". But this isn't true!

The Greek word translated "believe" in John 3:16 is the same one used all over the New Testament for "believe," and just 20 verses later we see John used it again: "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth NOT the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abides on him" (John 3:36). So this time we got the opposite "believe not" used in the same verse, and guess what the Greek word for "believeth not" means? It's a single word "apeitheo," and it means: to disobey! Therefore, the word "believe" really means to OBEY. So every time you see the phrases "believe in the son" "believe in Jesus" "believeth in him" "believe in his name," it always means the same thing ... it means to OBEY Jesus, which means to OBEY his teachings. And you will learn clearly in Part 2 of this book that ALL of Christ's instructional (how to live) teachings were based on "keeping the 10LC". In other words, to "believe in (obey) him" means to "keep the 10LC".

So for example, in the book of Acts a jailor asked Paul & Silas: "What must I do to be saved?" (Acts 16:30). And they replied: "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved!" (Acts 16:31). Friend, this is the same Greek Word used here for "believe" that was used in John 3:16 and John 3:36. It means to OBEY Jesus! Paul & Silas were saying "If you obey Jesus' teachings" you will be saved. In other words, "keep the 10LC" and you will be saved. See, there's no contradiction here with Christ's own words: "If you want to obtain eternal life, keep the 10LC". And of course, this all agrees with the verse: "Jesus became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that OBEY him" (Hebrews 5:9). So let it forever be known, to

"BELIEVE in Jesus" means to "OBEY him", which means to "KEEP the 10LC".

So let's investigate some Scriptures where it might have got started that to "believe in Jesus" means something other than to "obey him". One time Jesus told the Pharisees: "If you do not believe that I am he, you will die in your sins" (John 8:24). Christ's words here were referencing God's words about the coming Prophet (Messiah) through Moses: "The Lord your God will raise up a prophet from among you, from your fellow Israelites, like unto me, you must listen to him in everything he tells you. And it shall come to pass, that every soul, which will not heed (obey) his words, shall be destroyed" (Deuteronomy 18:15-19, Acts 3:22-23). Do you see? It was ALL about OBEYING the Messiah's words (teachings). That was the important thing about THE Prophet to come. And Jesus was that prophet! Jesus was the Messiah! But the Pharisees HATED his teachings. Why? Because he preached obedience to the 10LC, and they didn't keep them! They were full of pride and covetousness. They carried God's name in vain. They were thieves who dishonored their parents, and on and on. And so Jesus was saying to them, "If you do not believe that I am he, the one in whom you need to heed (obey), you will die in your sins!" So this passage is the same thing again - if you don't keep the 10LC, you will perish!

Then there's Paul's famous words in Romans: "If thou shall confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and shall believe in your heart that God has raised him from the dead, you shall be saved" (Romans 10:9). At first glance, this sounds like if we just say with our mouth, "I believe Jesus is Lord, and that he's risen

from the dead" we're going to heaven. But Jesus said, "Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' when you don't DO (OBEY) what I say?" (Luke 6:46). Friend, it's like this; if you rent a house from a landlord, and his rules are no pets and no smoking in his house, you must abide by those rules because he's your "Lord" (landlord). If you don't, he will kick you out of his house. This is how it is with Jesus, you must follow his rules or else he's not your Lord! And those rules are the 10LC. So just confessing "Jesus is Lord!" with your mouth is meaningless if you're not living by the 10LC. So these words from Paul are also saying the same thing, the ONLY people who can TRULY "confess Jesus is Lord", are those who have made him their Lord by following his rules, the 10LC. So this verse from the Apostle Paul is in perfect agreement with everything we've learned so far from Paul and Jesus. It's in perfect agreement with Christ's words: "Not everyone who calls me, 'Lord, Lord" will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only those who DO (OBEY) the will of my Father will enter" (Matthew 7:21). And friend, the will of the Father is for us to love, to keep the 10LC.

So please be aware of this satanic deception, that somehow just mentally believing "Jesus died for your sins and rose again" is going to get you into heaven. It's not! It's a lie! And reciting some sinner's prayer to that effect will be just as meaningless on Judgment Day! Stuff like, "Father, I believe you sent your son Jesus to die for my sins. And I believe he rose again. And so I confess with my mouth he is Lord. And right now, I declare, I am saved!" Have you ever heard these modern day prayers? I have, my whole life! And yet, you know what? They're just a deception that

takes the light off of the Biblical truth of what we <u>REALLY</u> must DO to obtain eternal life. We must REPENT! We must TURN from our sins! The <u>ONLY</u> thing that's going to count on Judgment Day is whether you lived your life by the 10LC or not, did you REALLY "believe" in Jesus?

So I'm just here to warn you; don't be deceived concerning OUR DUTY in obtaining eternal life for our soul. The Bible is clear, it has always been and always will be Term "A" in the SE. Turn from doing evil to doing good! Keep the 10LC! Do as Paul said: "Work out salvation with fear and trembling" your own (Philippians 2:12). And don't let anyone confuse you over Paul's words in his letters. Paul knew the truth! And he declared it openly: "Live right, and you'll go to heaven, don't, and you won't!" Remember, it was Paul who wrote: "For it is not those who hear the law who are righteous in God's sight, but it is those who OBEY the LAW (10LC) who will be declared righteous" (Romans 2:13). There you go!

### 1-9

## Have You Accepted Jesus As Your Savior

Have you ever heard this question before: "Have You Accepted Jesus Christ as Your Personal Savior? If you've been in church, I know you have. This line is all I heard growing up. This is the foundational salvation doctrine of protestant churches today. If you ask a preacher, "What must **I** DO to obtain eternal life" you'll likely hear this phrase ... "You need to accept Jesus as your savior". But what is that? What does that mean? Is this in the Bible? Let's look closer at this "accept Jesus" phrase.

Would you believe this phrase is NOWHERE in the Scriptures! There's no such thing as "accept Jesus" in God's Word. Do you want to know the truth about the word "accept" in the Bible? It's ALWAYS the other way around! It's GOD who has to ACCEPT YOU! But He will ONLY do that <u>after</u> you begin doing Term "A" in the Salvation Equation (SE). In other words, once you repent, or turn from sin (keep the 10LC) then GOD will

accept YOU! Why don't we hear THIS <u>Bible</u> truth in church today?

Let's look at some examples in God's Word. Peter said this: "I now realize God shows no favoritism, but He <u>ACCEPTS</u> from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right" (Acts:34-35). See who does the accepting? It's GOD! But only <u>after</u> you decide to clean up your life and live by his 10LC.

The Apostle Paul wrote this: "Therefore we labor that we may be <u>accepted</u> of Him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that everyone may be recompensed for the things done in his body, according to what he has done, whether it be good or bad" (II Corinthians 5:9-10). Do you see it again? Paul said he is <u>laboring</u> (working) to be accepted by God! And how was he doing that? By continuing to do good, to do what is right, which is to keep the 10LC.

Even from the very beginning God delivered this message of "acceptance" to mankind. After seeing Cain become angry with his brother Abel, God told Cain: "If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door: for it desires to have you, but you must rule over it" (Genesis 4:7). Wow! See, when Adam & Eve ate from the tree of the knowledge of Good & Evil, they learned the 10LC. All mankind has known them. And God was telling Cain, "If you keep them, meaning do what is right, I'll accept you! But if you don't, sin is going to destroy you!" In other words, friend, God has been perfectly fair to ALL mankind, from the beginning of Creation till now. No one has not known OUR duty in

obtaining eternal life! It has always been, and always will be, Term "**A**" in the SE, rule over sin in your life by choosing to live by God's 10LC.

Well you're going to find there's about a dozen times the Bible talks about "God accepting us" after we choose to begin living righteously. And you're going to find out there's not a single time the Bible talks about "us accepting God", or "us accepting Jesus". It's just not there! And who do we know is the master at twisting God's Word? The devil! Satan! And I'm convinced it's Satan who has created this "accept Jesus" phrase in an effort to hide the simple Bible truth of what we must do to go to heaven.

So you say, "Ah, come on Gabe, you're just splitting hairs, right?" But am I really? Listen, once Satan has coined a non-biblical phrase, it leaves room for massive deception to take place. Why? Because who defines it? How does anyone know what it really means when it's not in Scripture? And then Satan's game is to get his ministers to popularize the new phrase by using it over and over again, so it becomes so well-known in the church world that it's universally accepted as the truth. At that point, no one can question it without being called a heretic. But what does it mean to "accept Jesus" as your personal savior? What is that? How do you do that? You know what I learned growing up in church ... this is referring to the one-time experience you had walking up in front of a church somewhere and saying the sinner's prayer. You know, where you recite, "I believe Jesus died for my sins and rose again, and right now I'm saved!" That's it! Now you've "accepted Jesus".

What a joke! Can't you see the deception in this? This is not going to hold an ounce of water on Judgment Day! This encounter of "accepting Jesus" is supposed to make you now feel like you are on good terms with God! But in reality, it's just masking the REAL TRUTH of God's Word on how you get on good terms with God, which is ONLY if you make the decision to live by His 10LC. See, it's like a magician who shows you one hand, when the truth of what's REALLY taking place is in the other hand behind their back. This is what this "accept Jesus" doctrine is like! Satan is dangling this phrase out there to you, all the while the REAL truth of what you need to do to make heaven is being hid behind his back, out of your sight and knowledge. And churchianity today is performing Satan's trick! They don't want to put the focus on "keeping the 10LC" as what WE need to do to go to heaven. No way! They won't speak that! Even though Jesus said exactly that in their Bibles! They don't believe Jesus! They don't want to hear it! So they'll say anything instead, even if it's not in the Bible, like just "accept Jesus" and you'll go to heaven.

Friend, here's the truth; this phrase, "Have you accepted Jesus as your personal savior" should die! It should NEVER be spoken AGAIN in church! If someone asks a preacher "What must <u>I</u> DO to obtain eternal life?", the first and foremost words they should reply are the words of Jesus Christ, "If you want to obtain eternal life, keep the 10LC" (Matthew 19:17). See how clear that would be? There's no confusion in those words! No nebulousness. No ambiguity. Nothing non-biblical and made up! It's just the clear and simple truth of God's Word that any person can understand,

"Oh, so I need to live right if I want to go to heaven, thanks pastor!"

And then they should be teaching people God's 10LC in depth, which is what we're going to do in Part 2 of this book. Show them how ALL sin is based on disobedience to the 10LC, and how ALL love is based on obedience to them. How all of Jesus' teachings were based on them, every parable, every story, and every direct teaching on the law, when he was instructing us on how to live to obtain eternal life. We're doing this on the website www.10LoveCommandments.com. We're obeying Jesus' final commission: "Go and disciples of all nations ... and teach them to obey everything I have commanded" (Matthew 28:19-20). Friend, EVERYTHING Jesus commanded was based on "keeping the 10LC". Jesus wants us to teach people to love, to obey the 10LC! Why? Because if people do that, they'll be doing OUR PART in the SE (Term "A") which will yield them eternal life!

So friend, if you don't understand God's 10LC, please read Part 2 in this book. You'll learn everything about them there, even how Jesus' teachings on forgiveness, giving, and contentment fit into them. You'll learn the root reason WHY people choose to disobey them, and ultimately end up in hell. Fully understanding these truths is the most important knowledge you could have. Nothing could be more important then knowing <u>OUR</u> DUTY in obtaining eternal life for our soul. So please, read part 2 of this book, and then (if you need to) make the necessary changes in your life to align your thoughts, words, and deeds up to God's 10LC. If you do, I promise you ... God will ACCEPT you!

Jesus said, "Anyone who listens to my teaching and obeys it is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock. Though the rain comes in torrents and the floodwaters rise and the winds beat against that house, it will not collapse because it is founded on rock. But anyone who hears my teaching and doesn't obey it is foolish, like a person who builds a house on sand. When the rains and floods come and the winds beat against that house, it will collapse with a might crash" (Matthew 7:24-27). Friend, this is another parable Jesus told concerning OUR DUTY in obtaining eternal life. The rains, floodwaters and wind represent the wrath of God. The house "built on rock" was not affected, meaning that person obtained eternal life. But the house "built on sand" fell with a mighty crash, meaning that person perished. And what made the difference? Did you hear what it was in the parable? Those who obey Jesus' teachings (keep the 10LC) will live eternally, but those who don't, won't! It's that simple! So this parable is just confirming, yet again, we've been revealing in this everything concerning Term "A" in the SE! If you want to obtain eternal life, keep the 10LC.

So be on guard for this question "Have you accepted Jesus as your Savior" for I fear the only thing these people have "accepted" is a false sense of eternal security. No one's telling them the <u>PLAIN</u> TRUTH of what they must do to make heaven! So watch out! Satan is a subtle sneaky liar!

### 1-10

### Can You Lose Your Salvation Once Saved Always Saved

This issue is hotly debated today: Can we lose our salvation, or are we once saved always saved (OSAS)? And yet, if people understood the *Salvation Equation* (SE), it's simple to get to the truth behind this issue. Let's take a look at the equation and consider the question, "Can you lose your salvation?"

When it's understood <u>OUR</u> ENTIRE DUTY in obtaining eternal life is to DO Term "A" in the equation, which is to <u>continually</u> fight to live by God's 10LC, it becomes obvious this is something we can do for awhile and then quit. In other words, we can be saved for awhile (on our way to heaven), but then later we can turn back to living a life of willful sin, where we'll no longer be saved (on our way to hell). So the correct answer to the question "Can <u>you</u> lose your salvation?" is a resounding ... YES!!! If we stop doing <u>OUR</u> PART in the SE, we will have lost our salvation. And the Bible clearly confirms this truth!

Peter said: "When people escape from the wickedness of the world by knowing our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and then get tangled up and enslaved by sin again, they are worse off than before. It would be better if they had never known the way of righteousness (10LC) than to know it and then reject the commandment they were given to live a holy life" (II Peter 2:19-21). Wow! How about that? Not only can you lose your salvation, but your punishment on Judgment Day will even be worse! Now that's the Biblical truth for someone who lives a holy life for awhile (keeps 10LC), and then turns away from them later! In the very next verse Peter says: "It has happened to them according to the true proverb: 'A dog returns to his own vomit,' and 'a pig, having washed, to her wallowing in the mud." (II Peter 2:22). Nothing sadder could happen to a person, for they are now in BIG trouble!

Jesus' parable of the sower (farmer spreading seed) also confirms we can lose our salvation. The parable different heart responses reveals four to God's message of "If you want to obtain eternal life, keep the 10LC". There's a way side heart, a thorny heart, a stony heart, and a good soil heart. It's the thorny and stony hearted people who lose their salvation, because they eventually stop living by God's 10LC. Jesus explained: "The seed on stony soil represents those who hear the message and immediately receive it with joy. But since they have no root, they last only a short time. For when trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away" (Mark 4:16-17). See these people were excited about eternal life. They walked the way of God's 10LC for awhile (which means they were saved), and if they would have died then, they would have made heaven. But unfortunately, hardships came and people began laughing at them for living a self-sacrificing life of love, as defined by the 10LC, and so they stopped. And that's when stony hearted people lose their salvation!

And concerning thorny hearts, Jesus said: "The seed that fell among thorns represent those who hear God's Word, but all too quickly the message is crowded out by the worries of this life, the lure of wealth, and the lust for other things, so no fruit is produced" (Mark 4:18-19). Friend, the fruit Jesus is talking about is the good fruit of love, the 10LC. Thorny hearted people won't continue walking the way of God's 10LC, because that requires them to be dead to this world, to hate money, to lose their life, etc. But instead, they are enticed to prideful, to idolize be money and materialistic things, to lust for dirt, and these desires choke out the humble fruit of love in their life. Read Part 2 of this book, and you'll learn how these desires are the root cause of ALL disobedience to God's 10LC. And without a doubt, they will strangle out a heart's ability to love. Thorny hearted people are destined to lose their salvation.

By the way, in this parable of the sower, do you see how Jesus is making it crystal clear, once again, that Term "A" in the SE is OUR DUTY in obtaining eternal life? Friend, this "parable of the sower" is about eternal life! Only those who produce the good fruit of love in their life (keep the 10LC) will obtain eternal life. And so in the parable Jesus is explaining the reasons WHY people will NOT live by the 10LC. He's exposing people's hearts. And only hearts having good ground

will obtain eternal life, for they will cherish Jesus' teachings of love (10LC) and produce the good fruit of love! What an enlightening parable.

Even in the Old Testament God plainly reveals we can lose our salvation. Speaking through the prophet Ezekiel, God said: "If a righteous person turns to sinning and acts like any other sinner, should he be allowed to live? No, of course not! All his previous goodness will be forgotten, and he shall die for his sins" (Ezekiel 18:24). Wow! How about that? Of course we can lose our salvation! Friend, you can live righteously for decades, but if for whatever reason you eventually turn from the 10LC and begin living in willful sin, you will go to hell! Your past righteousness will be forgotten, and you will die in your sins! Man, that's humbling!

Friend, we have got to get on the path of God's 10LC, and NEVER turn from them, if we want to make heaven! Anything less is like playing Russian-roulette with your eternal destiny! And trust me; you don't want to play that game! God says: "Do you think I like to see the wicked die? Of course not! I only want him to turn from his wicked ways and live ... If a wicked person turns away from his wickedness and obeys the law (10LC), and does what is right, he shall save his soul" (Ezekiel 18: 23, 27). Amen.

Now if we talk about Term "**B**" in the SE, that part of salvation cannot be undone or lost! Jesus' sinless "death" sits there available to all mankind to pay our death sentence, no matter if we know about it or not. We cannot change the gift God provided, but we can NOT do OUR PART to get it!

So have you ever heard the question, "Are you saved?" Do you know the correct answer? You should say, "Well, if you're talking about God's Part in my salvation, yes, God has done His part. Jesus' sacrificial death sit there available to pay my death sentence for the sins I committed. But as for my part, I'm working on that every day of my life, by striving to live by God's 10LC. I'm working out my own salvation, daily, with fear and trembling. I'm laboring to be accepted of God. I'm resisting the devil, fighting the good fight of faith. I'm doing Term "A" in the SE (repentance) so that I might receive the "forgiveness for sins" Christ made available to me by dying on the cross. Please pray I continue in this manner, and yes, I hope to make heaven one day!"

Lastly, what about this doctrine of OSAS? Is it true? I think you know by now, right? Of course it's not true! It's a massive lie from the Enemy! There's NOTHING you can possibly do at just <u>ONE</u> TIME in your life that then guarantees your entrance into heaven. That doctrine is Satanic. The ONLY thing we can do to make heaven is <u>CONTINUALLY</u> strive to live by God's 10LC. It's a lifetime journey! And if we ever stop living righteously, and die in that willful wicked condition, we'll perish. So don't believe this demonic doctrine of OSAS. It was invented by Satan for gullible people who do not understand the truth of God's Word concerning what <u>WE</u> must DO to obtain eternal life.

God says: "Repent, and turn from your sins while there is yet time. Put them behind you and make you a new heart and a new spirit. For I have no pleasure in seeing you die, says the Lord God. So turn yourselves and live!" (Ezekiel 18:30-32). Now that's the truth!

Believe the words of God, people, and reject all demonic doctrines in today's churches.

#### 1 - 11

# Other Bible Phrases Equal to "Keep 10LC"

Remember me talking about how the Bible's various verses (terms and phrases) concerning salvation are like puzzle pieces which fit neatly into the *Salvation Equation* (SE)? Well this chapter is really going to enlighten you! We've compiled a list of over 30 phrases in the Bible that are directly equal in meaning to "keep the 10LC". This means these phrases are correct answers to the question of "What must <u>I</u> DO to obtain eternal life?" and Term "A" in the SE. Let's look at our SE again, and I'll explain.

As we know, Term "A" in the equation is <u>OUR</u> DUTY in obtaining eternal life. And in chapter 3 of this book we learned that is to <u>repent</u> of sin, which is to turn from doing evil to doing good. And this is best said as "Keep the 10 Love Commandments (10LC)". Therefore, since these new phrases are equal in meaning to "keep the 10LC", then obviously they are correct answers to the question of what <u>WE</u> must DO to obtain eternal life. The only downfall is if you use these phrases in answer

to that question, usually the person you're talking to will not understand the phrase means to "keep the 10LC". So it might confuse them.

So please understand the VERY BEST answer, at ALL times, to the question "What Must I Do to Obtain Eternal Life?" is Jesus' answer, "If you want to obtain eternal life, keep the 10LC". See, this is clear cut and simple to understand. Although, I will say, most people today don't FULLY understand the 10LC, either. They don't realize the 10LC are the complete instructions for love! For example, they don't know "forgiveness," "giving" and "contentment" fit into the 10LC. They don't understand each commandment has a don't and a do side, covering ALL love when obeyed, and ALL sin when disobeyed. This is the reason for Part 2 of this book, so you can FULLY understand God's 10LC, OUR DUTY in obtaining eternal life.

Alright, so with that said, let's take a look at these other Bible phrases that are equal in meaning to "keep the 10LC". This is really going to bless you and help you understand the Bible, for as you encounter these phrases in the future while reading the Bible, you'll now know their REAL meaning, and everything will begin making sense to you!

First, let's look at the phrase "bring forth fruits of repentance". John the Baptist said, "Bring forth fruits worthy of repentance: for every tree which bringeth NOT forth good fruit is cut down, and cast into the fire" (Luke 3:8-9). So they then asked John, "Well, what exactly should we do?" And if you'll read, you'll see he gave them examples of "keeping the 10LC" – don't steal, do give; don't murder (hate), do forgive; don't

lie, do tell the truth; don't covet, do be content. Friend, these are deeds of love! They are the 10LC! And therefore, these deeds are the "fruits of repentance". So check this out; if I asked you, "What must I DO to obtain eternal life?" you could rightly answer, "Gabriel, you need to bring forth fruits of repentance!" Do you understand? See, that's a correct answer. The only problem is, as I said before, you'd probably have to clarify what that phrase means to most people just like John the Baptist had to do in his day.

Alright, here's another one ... "believe in Jesus". John the Baptist said, "He that believes on the Son has everlasting life: and he that believes NOT the Son shall NOT see life" (John 3:36). We covered this one extensively in chapter 8 of this book, revealing that to "believe NOT" means to "disobey". Therefore, to "believe in the Son" means to "obey him", which means to "keep the 10LC" because all his teachings were based on them. So again, someone could ask you, "Friend, please tell me what I must DO to obtain eternal life?" and you could rightly answer, "You need to believe in Jesus!" That's a correct answer to OUR DUTY in obtaining eternal life. The only problem is, like we talked about before, most people will not know what "believe in Jesus" means. So you'd have to teach them the truth behind that phrase, otherwise they'll likely be confused or deceived.

Ok, here's another one ... "know God". The apostle John wrote: "By THIS we can be sure that we have come to know Him: if we keep His commandments. If anyone says, 'I know Him," but does not keep His commandments, he is a liar, and the truth is not in him" (I John 2:3-4). That's simple enough, right? If we

live by God's 10LC, we prove we "know Him". Why? Because God IS love! So the phrase "know God" equals "Keep 10LC". And so again, a correct answer to "What must I DO to obtain eternal life?" is, "You must know God." See how enlightening this is?

Well, I'm not going to discuss each phrase in this chapter, but I am going to list them all for you, along with one Scripture verse for each. Take the time to look them up, and when you run across them in the Bible in the future, or hear a preacher using them in a sermon, you will know its meaning. Alright, so here's the rest of the Bible phrases equal in meaning to "keep the 10LC" ...

Bring Forth Fruits of Repentance (Luke 3:8-9)

Believe in Jesus (John 3:36)

Know God (I John 2:3-4)

Work Righteousness (Acts 10:35)

Doer of the Word (James 1:21-27)

Run the Race (Hebrews 12:1)

Build House on Rock (Matthew 7:24-27)

Fear God (Psalms 103:17-18)

Fight the Good Fight of Faith (I Tim 6:11-12)

Obey the Gospel of Jesus Christ (II Thes 1:7-12)

Put on the Whole Armor of God (Eph 6:10-18)

Work Out Your Own Salvation (Phil 2:12)

Do Truth (John 3:19-21)

Bear Good Fruit (Luke 6:43-46)

Abide in Christ (John 15:1-11)

Do Good (John 1:11)

Endure Till the End (Mark 13:13)

Be Perfect (Matthew 5:48)

Doer of the Law (Romans 2:12-13)

Be Wise (Proverbs 14:16)

Be Blessed (Revelation 22:14)

Walk in the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:16-26)

Know the Truth (John 8:31-32)

Do the Will of God (I John 2:15-17)

Let Your Light Shine (Matthew 5:14-16)

Resist the Devil (James 4:7-10)

Love Jesus (John 14:15-18)

Defile Not the Temple (Mark 7:20-23)

Depart from Evil (Psalms 34:11-22)

Be Sober and Vigilant (I Peter 5:8)

The Patience of the Saints (Rev 14:12)

Hope for Salvation (Psalm 119:166)

Be Born of God (I John 5:18)

The Law and the Prophets (Matthew 7:12)

The Whole Duty of Man (Ecc 12:13-14)

So there they are! Powerful Bible phrases! By the way, I encourage you to acquire one of our beautiful 10LC posters to hang on your wall (order information in back of book), for that poster has all these phrases, along with their accompanying scripture verses, listed all the way around the border of the poster. The poster is like a masterful dissertation on salvation. It will help you study God's Word and understand it like never before. So get it, frame it on your wall, and let it be a daily reminder of God's 10LC.

Lastly, I want to leave you with one final list of antonyms that you will come across throughout the Bible referring to those who "keep 10LC" and those who "do not keep 10LC", respectively. Here they are ...

Good & Evil
Saints & Sinners
Righteous & Unrighteous
Just & Unjust
Light & Dark
Day & Night
Elect & Condemned
Blessed & Cursed
Wise & Fool

#### 1-12

# Conclusion The Exodus Parable

Congratulations, you've reached the last chapter of Part One of this book – The Salvation Equation (SE). This is where you're going to learn God's amazing message behind the Israelite's story of bondage in Egypt, deliverance through Moses, and wilderness journey to a Promise Land. This is the message I received from God when I awoke on the Sabbath morning of December 8, 2007. It's where the SE was born! So let's get right into it.

The first thing you need to understand about this story is it is a parable! Now don't get me wrong; it's a REAL LIFE story (it really happened on this Earth), but it has a parabolic message. Remember how Jesus loved to talk in parables? Well Jesus said, "I have not spoken on my own, but the Father who sent me has commanded me what to say and how to say it." (John 12:49). In other words, Jesus' parables came from God! It is <u>HE</u> who is the creator of parables. And in the Old Testament, many of the real-life stories that took

place were carefully controlled by God to be parables, delivering prophetic messages to mankind.

This is the case with the story of the Israelites! In fact, it's the mother of all parables in God's Word. It's the main story in the Bible! All 66 books in the Bible support its message. So what was the message? The story (parable) reveals <u>EVERYTHING</u> involved in mankind's spiritual journey back to God. In other words, it will reveal EVERYTHING it takes (everything needed!) for a soul to obtain eternal life. And that message is going to form the SE.

Now in a parable things symbolize (or represent) other things. So here are the things in the Israelite story (parable) and what they represent:

Kingdom of Egypt = Kingdom of Darkness Pharaoh = Satan Moses = Messiah (Jesus Christ) Israelites = All Mankind Promise Land = Heaven

So here's what happened, in the Garden of Eden Satan enticed Adam & Eve (mankind) into sinning, and they immediately went into bondage to sin and its resulting death. All mankind was then born into sin and death. Consequently, Satan now held the "power of death" over mankind. And we had no hope of ever becoming free of this "death" penalty under our own power, for we would all sin. This left us no chance at obtaining eternal life in heaven. We were trapped. We were in bondage. We were Satan's slaves!

So God carefully created this same situation with the Israelites, by making them slaves in Egypt under Pharaoh's control. Oh, the Israelites longed to return to the Promise Land, but they had no hope of ever escaping Egypt to get there. Pharaoh and his army would kill them if they tried. In other words, Pharaoh held the "power of death" over the Israelites, just like Satan held the power of death over all mankind. And Pharaoh would not let them go!

So do you get it? God has this real life story, this parable, perfectly set up now to reveal EVERYTHING it will take for us (mankind) to make it to heaven and obtain eternal life. All we have to do is look and learn everything it took for the Israelites to make it to the Promise Land (heaven) in their story. It's that simple! It's the perfect parable. And it's amazing!

So what happens first? God Himself delivers the Israelites out of Egypt! He raises up a man named Moses, to work through, in order to free the Israelites. And long story short, at the Red Sea, God commands Moses to "stretch out his arms" while He miraculously divides the sea, saves the Israelites, and then destroys Pharaoh and his army in the Red Sea. Do you get it? This is about Jesus! Moses represents the coming Messiah (Jesus) in this parable. And roughly 1300 years later, God raised up the man Jesus, to work through, having him "stretch out his arms" on a cross, while He miraculously divided the Temple Veil, saved mankind, and then destroyed Satan's power of death over us!

Friend, if you haven't figured it out yet, THIS is Term "**B**" in the SE! This was GOD'S DUTY in helping us

obtain eternal life! It was ALL God's doing! We had NO PART in it! The moment Jesus' sinless sacrificial "death" came into existence, as he died on the cross, we (all mankind) were set free from the bondage of sin and death Satan held us under. Why? Because THIS was the righteous "death" that could now pay our death sentence for the sins we committed, which gives us a chance at obtaining eternal life in heaven. This was the free gift – Jesus' death! This was God's grace! And now you know God's incredible salvation message behind Moses and the Red Sea scene in His story (parable) of the Israelites. It's Term "B" in the SE.

But here's the problem, that's not the end of the story! So let me ask you a question ... did God's miraculous deliverance of the Israelites from Pharaoh AUTOMATICALLY place them in the Promise Land? No! All it did for them was put them in a POSITION to now BE ABLE to reach the Promise Land. Before God's deliverance (salvation) they had no chance of that! So guess what they had to do now in the story to reach and enter the Promise Land? They had to make a journey through the wilderness! And guess what the journey entailed? Obedience to the 10LC!!! This is why 50 days after the Exodus scene, God gathered the Israelites at the base of Mt Sinai and thunderously spoke and wrote the 10LC for them! And then He said: "All the commandments which I command you this day shall you observe to do, that you may live, and go in and possess the Promise Land" (Deuteronomy 8:1). Wow! And if they didn't keep them: "Not a single person of this evil generation will see the Promise Land" (Deuteronomy 1:35)

Friend, do you get it? This is Term "A" in the SE! In this part of the story (parable) God is revealing OUR DUTY in obtaining eternal life! It's a lifelong journey of us choosing to forsake sin and live by God's 10LC. If we'll do that, THEN Christ's "death" will be applied as the ransom payment for our sins, yielding us eternal life in heaven. It's that simple. And if we willingly don't live by the 10LC, then we will perish in the lake of fire and never get to see heaven. Now you know why, when the man asked Jesus, "Teacher, what must I DO to obtain eternal life?" Jesus answered, "If you want to obtain eternal life, keep the 10LC" (Matthew 19:17). Friend, Jesus was looking back and confirming God's salvation message in the "wilderness journey" portion of the Israelite's story. See, it all makes perfect sense now, doesn't it? It's so simple!

The Israelite's story (parable) has all the answers to eternal life! And it's the SE! <u>GOD</u> had something to do, and <u>WE</u> have something to do to obtain eternal life! And they are completely separate and independent of each other! So let me ask you question; in the wilderness, did the Israelites have to "believe in the story of what God did for them through Moses at the Red Sea" to enter the Promise Land? Absolutely not! The <u>ONLY</u> thing they had to DO was choose to live by God's 10LC. Well, likewise, you don't need to believe in the story of Jesus on the cross, either, to make heaven. It's wonderful if you do, but it's not necessary! The <u>ONLY</u> thing you need to DO is live by Jesus' teachings, the 10LC!

Listen, after the Red Sea scene happened, God's deliverance (salvation) work through Moses was finished! It was a done deal. Pharaoh's power was

destroyed, the Israelites were free from their enemy, and the way to the Promise Land was now wide open to them. Well, likewise, after the Messianic crucifixion scene happened, God's deliverance (salvation) work through Jesus was finished! It's a done deal. Satan's power is destroyed, we're free from our enemy, and the way to heaven is now wide open to us!

Millions of people have lived on this earth having never heard anything about the story of Jesus, and that's perfectly fine. Why? Because again, we don't need to know about (or believe in) that story to make heaven! Oh, it HAD to happen! A sinless Messiah HAD to die for us! But we don't need to know about it! WE only need to follow the 10LC to make heaven. And ALL mankind has known them! For they are summed up in the Golden Rule: "Do unto others whatever you would want them to do unto you, for this is the essence of ALL that is taught in the law and the prophets" (Matthew 7:12). Friend, everyone knows when they are treating someone else in way that they themselves would not want to be treated. That's sin! That's the opposite of love! And that's the wide path most people take that leads to hell!

Well, friend, THIS was the incredible message I received from God Saturday Dec 8, 2007, as I lay in my bed in the morning hours. I was flabbergasted! And yet, I'm only scratching the surface in this book of all God told me about the Israelite's story! Then, a few months later in February 2008 He revealed to me His mind-blowing message behind the story of Noah, the Ark, and the global flood, which was another real life parable, but this one was about Christ's Second Coming! All these truths, and much more, were then

written down in a book God commanded me to write in 2008 entitled: "Undeniable Biblical Proof Jesus Christ Will Return to Planet Earth Exactly 2,000 Years After the Year of His Death". If you REALLY want to know what the Bible is about, get that book and read it! It will change your life!

So that's it, friends! That's the Salvation Equation (SE)! Hopefully, you'll go back and read Part One of this book again sometime, for if you do, I believe it will all sink in! No one will ever be able to confuse you again about salvation! You'll be able to instantly spot confusion and deception in preacher's words. If you now know your own pastor is confused, won't you please get them this book? Demand better of them! We've got to get this SE information into the church Time folks. is running out! **Preachers** today, understand God's desperately need to salvation message behind the Israelite's story! So if you're a churchgoer, let your pastor know! If we can get this information out, you can count on it helping many people make heaven!

### **PART TWO**

# 10 LOVE COMMANDMENTS

### 2-1

## First Love Commandment - Have No Other Gods -

"Thou shalt have no other gods before Me."
(Exodus 20:3)

The 1st love commandment "Have no other gods before God" is the king-daddy commandment of God's 10 Love Commandments (10LC). When a person decides to NOT keep this commandment in his/her life it is like pushing over the first domino in a long line of sin dominos, meaning disobedience to God's other 9 love commandments (or more willful sin) will quickly follow suit. In fact, if a person is willfully disobeying ANY of God's other 9 love commandments, they are simultaneously and automatically disobeying this one! This was the first commandment Lucifer (the original sinner) decided to ignore (disobey) on root to his sins of "lying to" and "murdering" mankind's souls. Let's examine this commandment closer.

The best way to begin understanding this commandment is to scrutinize what happened to

Lucifer in the Garden of Eden. Listen to Isaiah write about him: "For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God ... I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most high" (Isaiah 14: 13-14). Does this sound like a being who wants the Creator God to be the God of his life, having NO OTHER gods before God? Absolutely not! Rather, Lucifer wanted to BE God! It was nothing but pure rebellion against the very being who had given him life in the first place! This is exactly what disobedience to the 1st love commandment is ALL about ... YOU want to be the god of your life!

There is a word for this "I" syndrome lodged in the center of a person's heart – it's called P-R-I-D-E. Whenever a person wants to rule their own life (giving no heed or desire to what the Creator God wants for their life) they are being their own God. And this prideful, self-centered heart is a recipe for disaster, for all kinds of sin (love-less thoughts, words, & deeds) will soon radiate out of this person's soul, leading to their eventual destruction in the end (just like Lucifer's) in the lake of fire.

Now, on the other hand, when a person chooses to keep God's 1st love commandment (by making the creator God #1 in their life) they humble themselves and here is what happens ... LOVE becomes first place in their heart! See, the Creator God IS Love: "God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him" (I John 4:16). In other words, you show me a person who keeps the 1st love commandment (putting God first) and I'll show you a person who knows how to love. Why? Because to make God first in

your life means you only seek to do His will, and God's will for all us is to love (keep 10LC). How cool is that? Yes, those who obey God's 1st love commandment have crucified their pride and made LOVE (God) first place in their heart!

As we study the other 9 love commandments, I'm going to make it a point to show you how pride (selfishness) in a person's heart is what causes them to disobey it. Make no mistake about it; pride is the ingredient that keeps one from being able to love. Pride & Love are polar opposites! There is no love in pride, and there's no pride in love. Listen to Paul write about real love: "Love suffereth long, and is kind; love envieth not; love vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; rejoiceth not in iniquity (sin), but rejoiceth in the truth" (I Corinthians 13: 4-6). Really, how many different ways can Paul say love is NOT prideful?

I want this truth to sink DEEP into your spirit so that you are keenly aware of what makes a person <u>not</u> be able to love (i.e. makes one <u>not</u> be able to keep God's 10LC) ... it's pride! Most people understand that "pride" is an ugly thing, but when you see that THAT is THE root cause of ALL sin (love-less thoughts, words and deeds) in your life, it may help you be able to step back from yourself for a moment, see clearly, and then conquer that little monster!

Jesus knew all of this (of course!), and it is the reason he would make stunning statements concerning what <u>WE</u> needed to DO to obtain eternal life, like, "He that loves his life shall lose it; and he that hates his life

in this world shall keep it unto life eternal" (John 12:25). And, "For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it" (Mark 8:35). The phrases "love your life" and "save your life" have to do with a person being "self-centered", and this pride causes them to be unable to love (to disobey God's 10LC), and thus their wicked soul will perish in the end. But the phrases "hate your life" and "lose your life" have to do with a person being "self-sacrificing", and this pride-less mindset causes them TO be able to love (to obey God's 10LC), and their righteous soul will reap eternal life in the end.

Truly, this is no trivial revelation; it is HUGE! For it plainly reveals the secret to what each of us are fighting in our own lives in order to obtain eternal life ... our foolish PRIDE. Prideful people live wickedly. Humble people live righteously. Keep an eye out for verses in God's Word that continually confirm this truth, for they are many. Listen to the prophet Malachi: "For, behold, the day cometh that shall burn as an oven; and ALL the proud, yes, ALL that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up" (Malachi 4:1). And the prophet Isaiah: "I (God) will punish the world for their evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogancy of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible" (Isaiah 13:11). Yes, Judgment Day will be terrible for the proud (wicked)!

"Prayer" and "fasting" also fall under "keeping the 1st love commandment" for "talking to God" and "denying oneself food" are both ways we can show the Creator God HIS will is our highest desire. Listen to the humble prayer Jesus taught us to pray to God, and notice how the words are in obedience to the 1st love commandment, wanting God's will do be done and not ours: "Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be THY name. THY kingdom come. THY will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For THINE is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen" (Matthew 6: 9-13). How beautiful! How submissive! How WISE!

Yes, the Creator God is love. His will for us is to love. His law for us is to love. You cannot say He is your God (or your Lord), or that you keep His 1st love commandment "having no other gods before Him", when you continually willfully seek to do your OWN will, disobeying Him (disobey the 10LC). This is why Jesus said, "Why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" (Luke 6:46). So don't fool yourself, to keep God's 1st love commandment you must humble yourself and avidly seek and desire HIS will to be done in your life: "Trust in the Lord with all thine and heart: lean not unto thine understanding. In ALL thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eves: fear the Lord and depart from evil" (Proverbs 3:5-7).

### 2-2

# Second Love Commandment - Do Not Worship Idols -

"Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth:

Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them:

for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God,
visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children
unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;
And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me,
and keep my commandments"

(Exodus 20: 4-6)

The 2nd love commandment "Do not worship idols" is intrinsically linked to God's 1st love commandment which instructed "Have no other gods before me." Remember, the 1st love commandment is all about "pride" (or being your own god) when disobeyed. Well this commandment when disobeyed, explains how a person fuels that pride. Thus, the 1st love commandment and the 2nd love commandment go hand-in-hand: If either of them is disobeyed, they are

BOTH being disobeyed; or if either of them is kept, they are BOTH being kept. Let's investigate.

best way to begin understanding this commandment is again (just like the first love commandment) to scrutinize what happened to Lucifer in the Garden of Eden. Listen to Ezekiel write about him: "Every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, diamond, beryl, onyx, jasper, sapphire, emerald, carbuncle, and gold ... from the day that thou created ... and by the MULTITUDE of thy was MERCHANDISE they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned ... Thine heart was LIFTED UP (prideful) because of thy beauty, and thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness" (Ezekiel 28: 13-17). Wow, do you see it? Lucifer was prideful over physical things!

Satan's mind (or better judgment) was corrupted by the fact that he placed value in materialism. The beauty of his "stuff" fed his ego, which made him want even MORE stuff! He wanted to be God! He wanted control over everything! How foolish. So in his prideful (puffed up) idolatrous state, more sin (or love-less) dominos began to fall, and he sinned further by lying to Eve (disobeying 9th LC) and murdering the souls of mankind (disobeying 6th LC) to become the god of this world. Now listen closely, an "inordinate love for the physical world" is what disobedience to God's 2nd love commandment (idolatry) is ALL about!

Amazingly, a careful look at Satan's discussion with Eve (and her thought process) in the Garden of Eden (right before she sinned) even further confirms everything I am telling you about how disobedience to God's first two love commandments (pride & idolatry) are the first steps towards ALL kinds of sin (love-less deeds). Listen to how Lucifer enticed Eve, "God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof ... YE SHALL BE AS GODS" (Genesis 3:5). Do you see it? Lucifer stroked her ego (pride) first! Then, listen to Eve's thought process after Satan's words: "And when the woman SAW that the tree was good for food, and that it was PLEASANT to the EYES, and a tree to be DESIRED ... she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat" (Genesis 3:6). Do you see her lust for seeable physical things? Yes, pride & idolatry (disobedience to God's first two love commandments) were the factors that led Eve to sin, just like Lucifer!

Now once Adam & Eve sinned by eating the forbidden fruit from the "tree of the KNOWLEDGE of Good & Evil", they instantly knew (or became aware of) God's 10LC in their heart: "And the Lord God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to KNOW good and evil" (Genesis 3:22). In other words, mankind now faced the daily choice of either obeying God's 10LC (doing good) or disobeying them (doing evil) during their lifetime on Earth. And sadly, it didn't take long for mankind to start walking the path of evil by becoming prideful (self-centered) and worshiping the materialistic universe.

Listen to the Apostle Paul explain what happened in mankind's hearts right from the beginning: "Because that when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened ... And they changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like unto corruptible man, and to

birds, and four-footed beasts, and creeping things ... Who changed the truth of God (love) into a lie, and worshipped and served created THINGS more than the Creator" (Romans 1:21-25). Do you see it? Instead of glorifying the invisible Creator God (who is love) by following the path of good, mankind quickly became prideful, idolizing the materialistic universe, which led them down the path of evil, doing all kinds of sin (loveless deeds) towards one another.

Listen carefully, there are only two "things" that make up everything in the universe - Spirit or Dirt. God is spirit and atoms are dirt. Therefore, these are the ONLY two things you have a choice to worship (or love) in your life. Jesus said it like this, "No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other, Ye CANNOT serve God (spirit) and mammon (dirt)" (Luke 16:13). See? Jesus said it is IMPOSSIBLE to serve (worship or love) both spirit & dirt simultaneously! THIS is what God's 2nd love commandment is all about! You will either love God (the invisible "spirit" inside of every person on Earth), while hating dirt (the seeable, materialistic world); OR you will hate God (the invisible "spirit" inside of every person on Earth), while loving dirt (the seeable, materialistic world). Sobering!

So how does "money" fit into all of this? Money is the medium (or exchange) mankind invented to be able to acquire dirt (atoms) legally. But take note, money can ONLY buy materialistic things; it cannot buy spirit! Therefore "greed for money" is really just "greed for dirt". Do you understand? And I've already told you that pride fueled by a "greed for dirt" — or the money

that buys it! — is how the first two love commandments are disobeyed, which then quickly begins knocking over the remaining sin dominos in a person's life, leading to ALL kinds of sin (disobedience to God's other 8 love commandments). This is why Paul wrote: "For the LOVE of MONEY (or the love of dirt) is the root of ALL evil" (I Timothy 6:10).

So here's how it works; a prideful self-seeking person longs to obtain materialistic things (or money) because they know other people can SEE the dirt possessions they acquire (land, houses, vehicles, clothing, furniture, electronics, etc.) and this strokes their ego. It makes them feel powerful. It makes them feel successful. It makes them feel like they are better and smarter than their fellow man. This then in turn makes them even MORE prideful!!! And thus continues a vicious cycle of sin (love-less thoughts, words, and deeds) done in their life against their fellow man's spirit — coveting, lying, stealing, murdering, cheating, hating, blaspheming, envying, etc. THIS is the broad path of pride and idolatry (most people follow) that leads their selfish love-less souls to hell.

But here's the sad, cold, hard truth ... dirt (or money) is actually WORTHLESS! Why? Because it cannot be obtained (or held onto) for eternity! In other words, dirt possessions are only a temporary thing, for we all must die sometime. So <u>WHY</u> would a person want to spend their lifetime on Earth chasing after worthless dirt (money & possessions), doing all kinds of sin (love-less deeds) towards their fellow man, only to lose their soul for ALL eternity in the end? PRIDE, folks – PRIDE!!! That's it! It's just to stroke their ego for a season! Don't you see how foolish this is?

And make no mistake about it; you CANNOT buy your way into heaven! You cannot say to God on Judgment Day, "Well, Lord, see that empire of dirt I amassed while I lived on Earth? Can I trade that in for eternal life?" That's not how it works, folks! This is why Jesus said: "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world (meaning the materialistic world), and lose his own soul (spirit)? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Mark 8:36-37).

Listen, the ONLY thing God will honor while reviewing your life on Judgment Day is the LOVE you showed Him and your fellow man during your lifetime on Earth. And HOW do we DO that? By keeping the 10LC!!! And that begins with humbling ourselves (killing our pride) and uprooting the "love of money (dirt)" out of our heart. Only then will we be free to love others unselfishly. This is why Jesus taught, "If any man will come after me, let him <u>DENY</u> HIMSELF, and take up his cross DAILY, and follow me" (Luke 9:23). See "denying ourselves" means to "humble ourselves" by no longer living for ourselves and the materialistic world. This is the first step toward God, which will lead a soul down the narrow path of love (few will take) towards eternal life.

Learning these things about God's 2nd love commandment should help you understand why God admonished in His Word: "Labor NOT to be rich (materialistically wealthy): cease from thine own wisdom" (Proverbs 23:4).

And Paul wrote, "You can be sure of this: The Kingdom of Christ and of God will never belong to anyone who is impure or greedy, for a GREEDY person

is really an IDOL WORSHIPPER — he loves and worships the good things of this life more than God. Don't be fooled by those who try to excuse these sins, for the terrible wrath of God is upon all those who DO them. <u>Don't</u> <u>even</u> <u>associate</u> <u>with</u> <u>such</u> <u>people</u>" (Ephesians 5: 5-7).

"Do you want to be TRULY rich? You already are if you are happy and GOOD (keep the 10LC). After all, we didn't bring any money with us when we came into the world, and we can't carry away a single penny when we die. So we should be well satisfied without money if we have enough food and clothing. But people who long to be rich soon begin to DO all kinds of wrong things (disobey the 10LC) to get money, things that hurt them and make them evil-minded and finally send them to HELL itself. For the LOVE of MONEY (DIRT) is the first step towards ALL kinds of sin" (I Timothy 6: 6-10).

### 2-3

### Third Love Commandment - Do Not Take Lord's Name in Vain -

"Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain;
for the Lord will not hold him guiltless
that taketh His name in vain."
(Exodus 20:3)

On the surface, the 3rd love commandment "Do not take the Lord's name in vain" seems to only be about using the Lord's name as a curse word. You know, using any form of His name in a sentence, like God, Lord, Jesus, or Jesus Christ — usually when upset! — when not intending to talk about Him. Oh, but the 3rd love commandment is about SO much more than just that! Let's take a closer look.

The commandment says, "do not TAKE the Lord's name in VAIN". The important words here are "take" and "vain". The Hebrew word for "take" means: to bear, carry, or lift up. And the Hebrew word for "vain" means: worthlessness, vanity, or falseness. In other words, "Taking the Lord's name in vain" means to

carry, or lift up His name (meaning to profess to know and worship God) in falseness or worthlessness! How is this done? By <u>not</u> keeping the 10LC! This is exactly what Jesus was talking about when he scolded the Scribes and Pharisees, "Ye hypocrites, for well did Isaiah prophesy of you, saying, This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. For in VAIN they do worship me" (Matthew 15:7-9).

Let me be crystal clear on this; someone disobeying the 3rd love Commandment is someone who claims to be religious, yet lives their life in willfully disobedience to God's 10LC. They claim to be God's child, but by their lawless (love-less) thoughts, words, and deeds, they prove they are not! They carry God's name in falseness! They lift up God's name in worthlessness! The writer of Proverbs confirmed this by saying, "Lord, don't let me steal, and thereby take your name in vain" (Proverbs 30: 9). See, if you claim to be a child of God, but you willfully steal (disobey 8th LC), you are someone who "takes (bears) God's name in vain (falseness)." Isn't that shocking?

Listen, about 98% of the world's population today claim they "believe in God". But what they don't understand is "God is Spirit" (John 4:24) and "God is love" (I John 4:8). Subsequently, the Creator God is the "Spirit of love". So when people go around professing they "believe in God" but then willfully disobey His 10LC in their daily life, they blaspheme His name (disobey the 3rd LC). They say they know Him, but by their sinful (love-less) deeds they prove they don't! This is why the Apostle John wrote: "And hereby we do know that we know him, IF we keep his (10

love) commandments. He that says, I know him, and keeps not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him" (I John 2:3-4).

So to keep the sin dominos analogy going ... those who disobey God's 1st love commandment by becoming prideful and making themselves God of their own life push over the first sin domino, which then hits the second sin domino, where they fuel that pride by disobeying God's 2nd love commandment by idolizing the materialistic world, which then pushes over the third sin domino, where they begin blaspheming God — taking His name in vain! — by doing even more loveless thoughts, words, and deeds.

The Apostle Paul knew all of this, and it was the reason he wrote what he did to the Jews in Romans chapter two. Read the whole chapter in context sometime and notice how Paul condemns Jews who acknowledge God with their lips, but then by their sinful lifestyle they reject Him: "For the name of God (love) is blasphemed among the gentiles through you" (Romans 2:24). Listen to his words in the Living Bible: "Yes, you (Jews) teach others — then why don't you teach vourselves? You tell others not to steal — but do you steal? You say it is wrong to commit adultery but do you do it? You say, "Don't pray to idols," and then make money your god instead. You are so proud of knowing God's laws, but you dishonor him by breaking them. No wonder the Scriptures say that the world speaks evil of God because of you" (Romans 2:21-24). Wow, could it be any clearer?

Now on the other hand, true worshipping, praising, glorifying and blessing of God's <u>name</u> takes place as

someone goes about keeping God's 10LC on a daily basis. THIS is how a person praises the Lord! This is how a person TRULY honors (or lifts up) God's name (Love's name) in truth! In other words, THIS is how a person obeys God's 3rd love commandment by NOT taking God's name in vain. In John's gospel, Jesus likened obeying the 10LC to "bearing (good) fruit" and said, "Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much (good) fruit; so shall ye be my disciples ... If ye keep my (10 Love) commandments" (John 15:8-10). See it? Thinking, speaking, and doing deeds of "love" glorifies God's name. Never forget this powerful truth!

God's highest name is LOVE. If you confess or profess His name in any form, yet live in willful sin (disobedience to God's 10LC) you disobey God's 3rd love commandment by "taking His name in vain". You literally blaspheme God's Holy Spirit through your loveless deeds. And for this, just like the 3rd love commandment warns, God will NOT hold you guiltless on Judgment Day! You WILL suffer eternal punishment! THIS is what prompted Jesus to utter, "But unto him that blasphemeth against the Holy Ghost it shall NOT be forgiven" (Luke 12:10).

So control your tongue and your deeds, and don't curse God, but always lift up his name in righteousness and holiness: "The Lord knoweth them that are his ... Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity (sin)" (II Timothy 2:19).

### 2-4

# Fourth Love Commandment - Keep Sabbath Day Holy-

"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work:

but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God:

in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter,

thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle,

nor thy stranger that is within thy gates:

for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea,

and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day:

wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it."

(Exodus 20:8-11)

The 4th love commandment "Keep the Sabbath day holy" is an AMAZING commandment because contained in its decree is actually God's master TIME plan for planet Earth. So not only is this commandment yet another wonderful way for us to demonstrate our love towards God, but when we keep it we are actually paying homage to — whether we know it or not! — God's incredible master time plan for planet Earth. Let's take a look.

In creating the world God utilized 6 days. Then He followed up those 6 days of work with a day of rest known as the blessed & holy 7th day, or simply "the Sabbath". None of this numbering was by accident! God could have created the world in 0 days, 1 day, 2 days, or however many days He wanted to, but He PURPOSELY chose to use 7 days in the Creation in order to be able to "DECLARE the end from the beginning" (Isaiah 46:10). Specifically, His use of 7 days prophesied planet Earth would go through 7 equal-in-length periods of time. Later in His Word, God revealed the length of each of those time periods was to be a thousand solar years (1,000 trips of Earth around the sun). Therefore, EACH of the 7 days in the Creation story foretold of a future 1,000 year period on Earth: "But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that ONE DAY is with the Lord as a THOUSAND YEARS, and a THOUSAND YEARS as ONE DAY" (II Peter 3:8). Thus, God's Master Time Plan for planet Earth (counted from Creation) was/is to be a total of 7,000 solar years in duration.

But this wasn't all God foretold about His plan for planet Earth through the Creation narrative, for the manner in which he "worked" to create the world in 6 days followed by a 7th day of rest prophesied mankind would also "work" under sin's curse for 6 days (or 6,000 years) followed by a 7th day (or 1,000 year) Sabbath period of rest. Later in His Word, God confirmed this truth by revealing when Jesus Christ returns to planet Earth in the clouds (during Earth's 6,000 year) Satan the deceiver will be locked up in the bottomless pit, and Jesus will set up a 1,000 year Sabbath reign on Earth, where peace, love, and rest

will prevail among the saints: "And they (the resurrected saints) lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years" (Revelation 20:4). THIS is truly what the Sabbath Day in God's 7 day Creation story represents! It is a picture of Christ's soon-coming glorious MILLENNIAL Earthly kingdom!

So think about this; all throughout mankind's history, every 7 day week that passed was actually a mini picture of God's complete, overall, master TIME plan for planet Earth. Isn't that AMAZING? And friend, it's still going on today with each week that passes!!! And here's what's REALLY mind-blowing ... almost no one living on earth today knows this!!! Listen, there's no evidence the weekly cycle has ever gotten out of sync since the beginning of time. This means every week that passes you have an opportunity to rest on God's 7th day Sabbath (sundown Friday till sundown Saturday) in honor and recognition of Jesus Christ's soon-coming Earthly Sabbath kingdom! NOW you know the momentous significance behind keeping God's 4th love commandment "Keep the Sabbath day Holy". Truly, what a pleasure and privilege it is to observe the Sabbath day each week, for it is a foretaste of the coming "Day (or millennium)" of the Lord!

But here's the sad truth; people who become prideful, or self-centered, by making themselves god of their own life (disobey the 1st love commandment); who then fuel that pride by idolizing the materialistic world, greedily laboring and working daily to amass more and more money & dirt possessions (disobey the 2nd love commandment); do NOT want to take a day off each week to honor God. Do you understand? That is nothing but a downer to them! They are busy with

their own life, working and making money to fuel their ego; and they have no time for God. And so the sindominoes just keep falling in their life, as they willingly work right on through God's Holy Sabbath day each week, proving God's will is NOT their will.

So obeying the 4th love commandment by "keeping the Sabbath day holy" is really a test from God. He uses it to discover who TRULY loves Him or who hates Him. He uses it to find out who will humble themselves and make Him first in their life, honoring HIS will and plans, or who just loves themselves and only wants to honor their own will and plans. Friend, the Sabbath should not be a day of drudgery! If it is, then something is wrong in your heart. It should be a joyous occasion! It should be a day full of happiness, love, and peace.

The Sabbath is a day to rest and not work. You should look forward to the special day each week, for it pictures the glorious time on Earth when the saints will no longer struggle and labor under sin's curse. Jesus said, "The Sabbath was made for man" (Mark 2:27). See, it wasn't made for just the Jews. It was made for ALL people, as are ALL of God's 10LC. So don't defile the Sabbath day, but honor it. Don't profane it, but delight yourself in the Lord! Take it easy on that day. Rest up. Read God's Word. Get to know your heavenly Father. Take a nature walk. Smell the roses. Breathe. Enjoy it. THAT is what the 4th love commandment is all about!

### 2-5

## Fifth Love Commandment - Honor Your Father & Mother -

"Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee." (Exodus 20:12)

The 5th love commandment "Honor your father & mother" is a wonderful commandment for it deals specifically with two very special people in everyone's life their parents! This is the transition commandment between the first 4 commandments which explain how to "love God" and the last 5 love commandments which explain how to "love thy neighbor". I say "transition commandment" because when we are a baby our parents are like our God, and when we get older they are more like our neighbor. So what a clever way for God to kick off the last six commandments that deal with "loving thy neighbor" by having it be about the two main people (or neighbors) we have for life.

This commandment often undergoes three phases in a person's life. There's the initial phase (when you are a child under your parent's house and authority) where they take care of you; then there's the middle phase (when you are grown and have left home) where you respect each other's wishes; and then there's the last phase (when the roles often reverse) and you are called upon to take care of them. Each of these phases has its own intricacies in how one goes through life keeping the 5th love commandment "Honor thy father and mother". Let's take a closer look at this wonderful commandment and its three phases.

In the first phase, you are a child under your parent's protection, care, and instruction. "Honoring your parents" during this period can best be summed up by two words - obey them! Listen, everyone on planet Earth knows the difference between good & evil, which means your parents do too! It doesn't matter what country you were born into or what religion your parent's espouse, they know what love is and what love is not, for it's all summed up in the Golden Rule: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you" (Matthew 7:12). Subsequently, most parents will reprimand you if you sin - lie, cheat, steal, hate, etc. But understand, they are just trying to teach you God's ways of love! So listen to them and obey them. Don't hate them and curse them. Be thankful! They love you! They are trying to encourage you to walk the path that leads to eternal life!

This is why the proverb says: "He that spares the rod hates his son: but he that loves him disciplines him diligently ... For foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from

him ... Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die. Thou shall strike him with the rod, and shall deliver his soul from hell" (Proverbs 13:24; 22:15; 23:13-14). Wow! Isn't it amazing how the truth behind the question "What must  $\underline{\mathbf{I}}$  DO to obtain eternal life?" is revealed even in this wise proverb – we must do good! You correct a child so they do right, and if they do right, THIS will save their soul from hell.

But here's the problem; remember how I told you in commandment #1 that PRIDE (or selfishness) in a person's heart is the initial factor that leads them into all sin (doing ALL kinds of evil, or love-less deeds)? Well, here's where that pride can first be seen in someone! Look, it is nothing but pride that causes a child to NOT want to obey their parents. Do you understand? And that pride manifests itself as rebellion! They want their OWN way! They want to do their OWN thing! So when a parent uses the "rod" on a child as punishment for wrongdoing (stealing, lying, etc), what they are REALLY DOING is trying to drive foolish "pride" out of the child. Isn't that amazing? But God's Word warns if they spare the rod, allowing their child to have his/her own way, they foster a child who will grow up FULL of pride (selfishness), who will continue to do ALL kinds of evil (disobev the 10LC) which if never repented of (or turned from) will lead that child's soul to hell!

Now, in the middle phase, after a child becomes an adult and moves away from home (married or not) "honoring thy father & mother" involves more of a respect than just simple obedience. See, at this point, a person is responsible for their own actions! They are

accountable to God! But hopefully they will have developed a treasured relationship with their parents in childhood that now leads them to want to seek out their parent's good counsel at times during their lifetime. But either way, there should always be mutual respect. Parents and children should honor and respect each other's wishes and choices, always praying for each other, always desiring the best in each other's lives. It's again, folks, is just love!

Then, finally, during the last phase, to "honor thy father and mother" might require a complete role reversal. As parents get older they might get sick and weak. They might need you to give of your time to take care of them. They might need your financial help. Whatever it takes! But again, it is ALL just love shown towards the two special souls (neighbors) God chose to bring you into this world. The one's who took care of you when you were young and helpless. What an honor this can be in a person's life to honor their parents in this way!

#### 2-6

## Sixth Love Commandment - Do Not Murder -

"Thou shalt not kill." (Exodus 20:13)

The 6th love commandment consists of just four little words, yet those four words are on so POWERFUL in meaning "Thou shall not kill". Listen, there's a WHOLE LOT MORE behind obeying this commandment than simply not physically murdering someone. And Jesus had much to say about it! So let's see what the Bible says.

In his sermon on the mount, Jesus said, "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shall not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment: But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment" (Matthew 5:21-22). The first thing we learn here is the 6th love commandment also has to do with "anger". The English phrase "without a cause" was translated from a single Greek word eikē

meaning: in vain, for nothing, to no purpose. Listen, Jesus often got angry at the Pharisees, but it was for their hypocrisy (meaning their sin). He HATED their sin (disobedience to the 10LC) yet he still loved them! And therein is the key with anger: be angry with sin (evil), but not with the person. Any other reason for anger is in vain, or to no purpose.

Now if you get angry – and it will inevitably happen - the Apostle Paul wrote some wise words of advise: "Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: Neither give place to the devil" (Ephesians 4:26-27). In other words, get over your anger QUICKLY! This is so crucial; you must let go of your anger towards someone as fast as possible, or you will give a mighty place to the devil in your life, for your anger will soon turn into a prolonged hatred, bitterness, and resentment towards them. And this is a DANGEROUS heart condition to have for it's "murderous spirit", which is disobedience to the 6th Love Commandment. And THAT is fatal to the eternal destiny of your soul! Listen to the Apostle John's sobering words of truth: "Whosoever hates his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him" (I John 3:15). Wow.

Now I told you in the 1st love commandment that as we go over the 10LC's I am going to continually point out how PRIDE (or selfishness) in a person's heart is actually what causes them to disobey them. So let me do that right now with some examples concerning this commandment. Some people hate others because they have more money & possessions than they do. But that's just evidence of their selfish idolatrous heart saying, "I wish I had that!" See, this

kind of anger or hatred is COMPLETELY in vain! Then, some people hate others because they said or done something wrong to them, and here's their hearts' thought process, "How dare they speak to me like that!" Or, "They're not going to get away with treating me like that! I'll get them back!" But do you hear what is at the center of these thoughts? It's PRIDE! Even racist hatred is just a prideful heart saying, "I'm better than you!" Listen, there are thousands of reasons you can hate someone, ranging from they gave you a dirty look to they raped your daughter, but understand it will always be your foolish pride that causes you to disobey the 6th love commandment by murdering (or hating) your neighbor. Simply put, our "pride" will not let us love! How sad.

So what's the remedy for letting go of anger and hatred? In other words, what's the DO SIDE of the 6th love commandment? It's FORGIVENESS! Yes, "forgiving" is a HUGE part of obeying the 6th love commandment! And Jesus had some dire words to say about "forgiveness" with respect to the eternal destiny of our souls: "For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive NOT men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses" (Matthew 6:14-15). Wow, sobering, huh? You must forgive others if you want to obtain eternal life!

But why is "forgiving" someone so hard to DO? Because it requires us to forsake our pride! And THAT is the HARDEST thing to DO in life! Do you understand? But look, haven't you done something wrong to someone at one time or another? Of course you have! Then renounce your foolish pride and forgive others

when they do wrong to you. Don't let hate (murder) build up in your heart. If you do, it's just evidence your pride is still in FULL bloom, and you do NOT have the love of God inside of you. And that is a very sad condition to be in, for it means you are walking the "broad way" of pride (evil) that leads to the eternal destruction of your soul in the end. To obtain eternal life we must repent of sin, turn around, and begin walking the "narrow way" of love (good) by obeying God's 10LC's.

Jesus taught many things that fall under obeying the 6th love commandment. Listen to the following passage, and as you do, notice how it describes a person who knows how to forgive – even when they've been treated badly! – by forsaking their pride and not becoming angry or hateful towards their neighbor: "Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth: But I say unto you, Do not resist the evildoer: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also ... Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you" (Matthew 6:38-39, 44). Wow! Friend, if you live like that, your pride is dead, and love is in FULL bloom!

#### 2-7

# Seventh Love Commandment - Do Not Commit Adultery -

"Thou shalt not commit adultery."
(Exodus 20:14)

The 7th love commandment "Do not commit adultery" could be nicknamed the "sex commandment" for the Bible reveals every form of sex (even in the mind!) is the sin of adultery, except that between a man and a woman who have entered into a marriage covenant. Therefore, pornography, masturbation, fornication, prostitution, homosexuality, lesbianism, rape, bestiality are all sins (which means they are non-loving deeds). As we investigate this commandment it will become evident again that it is just a person's pride (self-indulgence) that fuels all sexual sin. Let's take a look.

In the Old Testament God's Word clearly condemns the following sex sins: homosexuality and lesbianism: "Thou shall not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination" (Leviticus 18:22); bestiality (sex with animals): "Neither shall thou lie with any beast to defile thyself therewith: neither shall any woman stand before a beast to lie down thereto: it is confusion" (Leviticus 18:23); prostitution (harlotry or whoredom): "And, behold, there met him a woman with the attire of an harlot ... Her house is the way to hell" (Proverbs 7:1-27); and adultery: "But whosoever commits adultery with a woman lacks understanding: he that does it destroys his own soul" (Proverbs 6:32).

But then Jesus came along and said, "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shall not commit adultery: But I say unto you, That whosoever looks on a woman, to lust after her, hath committed adultery with her already in his heart" (Matthew 5:27-28). Wow! Jesus was confirming here that ALL sexual sin is disobedience to the 7th love commandment, for ALL sexual sin begins in a person's heart (spirit), as does ALL disobedience to the 10LC: "For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: These are the things which defile a man" (Matthew 15:19-20). But what REALLY is the ROOT CAUSE for all these evil thoughts? It is pride, my friend! Selfish ambition! Self indulgence! It's ALL to pleasure oneself! And the sexual sins are no different.

But let's break this down further; think about what you're REALLY doing when you "look upon another human being with sexual lust" ... what are you REALLY looking at? Atoms! Dirt! You are looking at a person's physical body which is made up of the atoms (dirt) of the ground! Do you see? Therefore, "sexual lust" is just the same old thing; it is an inordinate lust for the physical world. It's idolatry! So it all goes back to

disobedience of the first two love commandments, yet again! It's your own pride (selfish desire) fueled by greed (lust) for dirt (or the money that can buy that dirt). This is why the Apostle Paul wrote, "For the love of money (or the love of dirt) is the root of ALL evil (non-loving thoughts, words, & deeds)" (I Timothy 6:10). Stunning, isn't it?

Once you understand all of this, you quickly realize how lame disobedience to the 7th Love Commandment is ... it's just dirt worship! It's just your eyes lusting for what it SEES. But it's all empty. It's all just selfseeking pleasure. It's all pride. And there's no love in ANY of it. Jesus knew it ALL needed to be turned from (or repented of) for a person to obtain eternal life, and this is why he said the following shocking words, "And if thy right eye offend thee (cause thee to sin) pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell. And if thy right hand offend thee (cause thee to sin) cut it off, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell" (Matthew 5:29-30). Wow, do you think Jesus was serious about a person ceasing willful sin (forsaking their foolish pride by "denying themselves", "taking up their cross", "hating their life", "losing their life", etc) in order to obtain eternal life? You better know it!

The word "fornication" in the New Testament was translated from the Greek word "porneia" meaning: sexual immorality, fornication, marital unfaithfulness, prostitution, adultery, a generic term for sexual sin of ANY kind. Using this Greek word, the Apostle Paul

explained why keeping the 7th Love Commandment "Do not commit adultery" is so important in our lives: "FLEE FORNICATION. Every sin that a man does is without the body; but he that commits fornication sins against his own body. What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's" (I Corinthians 6:18-20).

So the DO SIDE of the 7th love commandment (if you want to have sex) is to get married and stay faithful and true to your partner: "Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral" (Hebrews 13:4). Paul explains further how wives and husbands should treat each other in the last part of Galatians chapter 5, read it sometime: "Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord ... Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it" (Galatians 5:21-33).

#### 2-8

### **Eighth Love Commandment**- **Do Not Steal** -

"Thou shalt not steal." (Exodus 20:15)

The 8th love commandment simply states "Thou shall not steal", but these few words carry incredible weight. There is MUCH MORE behind obeying this commandment than simply not stealing some physical object from someone. And again, as with the other commandments, God sent the Messiah Jesus Christ with the words to fully expound on this commandment. So let's investigate.

First of all, a person's pride and greed for materialism (disobedience to the first two love commandments) is clearly on display in someone who disobeys the 8th love commandment. Someone who steals things obviously does so for their own selfish gain. And there's not an ounce of love shown towards your neighbor in this evil act. So understand first, "thievery" or "stealing" is just another manifestation of

a person's pride (or selfishness) in action. And if I've said it once, I've said it a thousands times ... Pride fueled by greed is the mindset of someone on the loveless wide path that leads to hell!

But here's what most people don't understand about the 8th Love Commandment; there's a whole other DO SIDE to it! And if this DO SIDE is not done, then it is exactly the same as stealing from someone! Do you know what it is? It's to GIVE! We are not to steal, but to give! This connection was confirmed in the following verse: "Will a man rob (or steal from) God? Yet you are robbing me! But you say, "How have we robbed You, God?" In tithes and offering! You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing Me, the whole nation of you!" (Malachi 3:8-9). Wow, do you see it? By not GIVING (in this case tithes and offerings) a person is actually STEALING! Isn't that stunning? In other words, if you have and don't give, you are a thief. You disobey the 8th love commandment.

Now you know why Jesus continually taught us to give; these teachings were all based on "obey the 8th love commandment": "Give to him that asks of thee, and from him that would borrow of thee, turn not thou away" (Matthew 5:42). "Sell that ye have, and give alms" (Luke 12:33); "Sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shall have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me" (Mark 10:21). See "giving" is a self-less loving act. And it's a huge part of "denying oneself", "hating one's life" and "losing one's life" in order to obtain eternal life. In other words, a "giving heart" (that wants nothing in return) is evidence of someone who has killed their

pride (selfish desires) and taken up their cross in order to love their neighbor. How beautiful!

Jesus told many stories and parables with the sobering message that "non-giving" people are really thieves. For instance, the Good Samaritan parable in Luke 10:30-37 is about the 8th love commandment. In it, a man is stripped and beat by thieves, and left for dead, and a Priest and a Levite walk right by him, not wanting to help. But then a Samaritan came along and bandaged up the man, put him on his own animal, took him to an inn, and paid for his room! See it? The Samaritan GAVE! He gave of his time, his things, and his money to help (or love) his neighbor. He kept the 8th love commandment. But the Priest and the Levite did not! They were thieves! They stole from the poor helpless man! You ask, "How?" Because it was within their power to give, but they did not want to! They were too selfish (prideful)! It didn't matter that they were religious; they were on their way to hell for not living by God's 10LC.

The parable of the "Rich Man & Lazarus" in Luke 16:19-31 contains the same message. The rich man would not help the poor beggar Lazarus at his gate! He would NOT GIVE of his time, food, clothing, or money to love his neighbor. And for that, he was a thief! And he ended up in hell in the story. Read it!

Jesus even told a Judgment Day parable which mentions ONLY acts of "giving" or "not giving" as the evidence of a "righteous person" or an "unrighteous person", respectively. Those who "gave" received eternal life, but those who didn't give perished in the lake of fire, "For I was hungry, and ye GAVE me meat:

I was thirsty, and ye GAVE me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me" (Matthew 25:35-36). Notice how these people all gave of their time, money, and possessions in loving compassion and concern for others. That's it, my friend – THAT'S LOVE! That's the 8th love commandment being obeyed!

"Laziness" is also part of disobeying the 8th love commandment, for laziness always leads to the sin of stealing. A lazy worker steals from his boss when he goofs around (or sleeps) on the job, for he is getting paid a certain wage every minute to work. Do you understand? A lazy person steals the time (or life) he's been given on this planet to work for the Lord. But understand all this evil laziness is once again just evidence of a person's pride in bloom! A lazy person is saying, "I don't want to work. I don't want to help. I'm just here for myself and a free ride in life!" But Jesus taught, "Whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him two" (Matthew 5:41). See, that's love! That's unselfish giving! That's self-less-ness in action! Lazy people don't want to DO that, for they are selfish evil thieves!

The Apostle Paul summed up obedience to the 8th love commandment nicely (including stealing, laziness, & giving) when he wrote: "Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labor, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needs" (Ephesians 4:28).

#### 2-9

### Ninth Love Commandment - Do Not Lie -

"Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour." (Exodus 20:16)

The 9th love commandment is about the sin of "lying" — written in God's Word as "Thou shall not bear false witness." Like most of God's 10LC, it was given in the negative form "Thou shall NOT ...", but remember, each commandment has its positive side too, which needs to be observed in order for the commandment to be fully obeyed. And the 9th love commandment's DO SIDE is "Thou SHALL speak the truth". With that being said, let's dig deeper into the meaning behind this love commandment.

First of all, let's go back to the beginning of time in the Garden of Eden and think about Lucifer again, the original sinner. After he violated God's first two love commandments by becoming prideful (selfish) and idolatrous (puffed up over his "abundance of materialism"), what was the next sin (or love-less deed) he manifested in order to feed his pride and idolatry? It was LYING! Remember, he lied to Eve, which led to the death (murder) of mankind's souls! Thus, the first disobeyer of God's 9th love commandment (or the original liar!) was Satan. Jesus confirmed this one day while verbally scolding the Pharisees: "Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts (prideful desires) of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it" (John 8:44). Yes, Lucifer lied for his own prideful greedy gain, and he became the god of this world. But his position will only last for 6,000 years, and then the torment begins!

Now listen, LIES are ALWAYS told for the selfish greedy gain (or advantage) of the one telling the lie. Never forget that! Lies are just another evil fruit produced by pride. It doesn't matter if it's a salesman lying to make a lucrative sale, an employee lying about something he's done wrong so he doesn't lose his job, a spouse lying so he doesn't get caught cheating and lose his mate, a person lying about what he knows to feel superior to others, or whatever the lie may be. Do you see? Lies are ALWAYS birthed out of a prideful, selfish heart! Thus, NO LIE exhibits ANY love! Lies are evil. Lies are sin. Lies are told by those who desire to do the devil's love-less, selfish, greedy will.

But be aware "lying" can take other forms too, besides just the spoken word. For example, cheating, tricking, deceiving, mocking, judging, and gossiping are all various forms of "lying" that can be done in many different ways. Therefore, disobeying the 9th

love commandment can involve ACTIONS as well as WORDS.

So what is the DO SIDE of this commandment? Instead of lying we should "Speak and Do TRUTH". "Truth" (whether spoken or done) is always a loving deed. The truth may even hurt you temporarily, but never eternally! A truth-doer unselfishly reasons, "No matter what the cost to me now, I'm going to speak and do truth!" Thus the salesman no longer lies to make a sale even though he may lose the sale, the employee comes clean about what he's done even though he may lose his job, the spouse lays it all on the line about their infidelity even though he may lose his partner forever, a person no longer lies to feel others but humbly to admits shortcomings, or whatever the case may be. Do you see how "speaking & doing truth" is always a SELF-LESS deed? How beautiful. How humble. How loving to others.

Spend some time meditating on the above scenarios and consider the "love" shown towards one's neighbor by the truth-teller. For example, the car buyer may now no longer end up in a desperate situation late some night by a piece of junk car that the salesman KNEW had mechanical problems. See, the salesman showed compassion and concern (love) for his "neighbor" by NOT lying to them to make the sale. How about the employer? Now they know the truth of what their employee did wrong, and can rectify the situation, helping the company and its future employees not make the same mistake. Yes, "speaking & doing truth" is ALWAYS a "loving deed".

Hopefully you now see how <u>obeying</u> God's 9th love commandment "Thou shall not lie, but thou shall speak and do truth" is just like God's other 9 LC's in the fact that it describes someone who willingly "denies themselves", "hates their life", or "loses their life" in order to love God and others. Remember, these are the VERY THINGS Jesus said a person MUST DO in order to obtain eternal life. So let us all diligently heed Paul's loving advice, proving we have crucified our pride: "Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbor: for we are members one of another" (Ephesians 4:25).

Lastly, Christ's great commission for us to "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations ... Teaching them to obey all things whatsoever I have commanded" (Matthew 28:19-20) also falls under obeying the 9th love commandment, for God's Holy Word and His 10LC ARE the TRUTH! This is why the Psalmist wrote: "Thy law is the truth ... all thy commandments are truth" (Psalms 119:142, 151). Consequently, the "truth" is really just "love"! Therefore, long to be a witness of God's Truth (the 10LC) by living and teaching them every precious chance you get: "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, and for instruction righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (II Timothy 3:16-17).

#### 2-10

## Tenth Love Commandment - Do Not Covet -

"Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's."

(Exodus 20:17)

The 10th love commandment "Do not covet" is God's final commandment (or word) on love. It's like His summary or conclusion on the matter. In fact, if one considers the complete chronological ordering of the 10LC, one finds they are really a masterful dissertation on the subject of love, from introduction to conclusion. Let's look into this as we explore the tenth and final commandment.

In His 10LC discourse, God opens cleverly with commandment #1 "Thou shall have no other gods before me" which, if obeyed, maintains the Creator God (who is love!) will be Lord of one's life, but if disobeyed, maintains the person themselves will be the

god or Lord of their own life. In other words, in Commandment #1 God immediately pits "love" against "pride"! Why? Because God knew ALL loving deeds (or obedience to the 10LC) flow out of a humble heart that willingly puts Him (love) first, but ALL sin (or disobedience to the 10LC) flows out of a prideful heart that willingly does not put Him (love) first. So like a well thought out opening statement from a solid dissertation, God's 1st love commandment sets the explanatory stage for either "love" or "no love" to manifest in and out of each person's heart. Humility produces repentance (obedience to the 10LC) which leads to eternal life, but pride produces rebellion (disobedience to the 10LC) which leads to eternal death.

Next, God astutely transitions into commandment #2 "Thou shall not worship idols" which, if obeyed, maintains a person will not worship (or lust for) the materialistic universe, but if disobeyed, they will. And what makes the difference? It goes right back to the 1st love commandment! Obedience to the 1st LC pilots obedience to the 2nd LC; and vice versa, disobedience to the 1st LC pilots disobedience to the 2nd LC. Consequently, a humble person who puts God first (or Love first) in their heart will NOT be greedy for dirt possessions (or the money that buys them!), but rather they will love the invisible spirit in other people and animals. On the other hand, a prideful person who puts themselves first in their heart WILL be greedy for dirt possessions (and the money that buys them!), because loving and obtaining seeable things is how they get their "pride fix". Stay with me now.

Ok, so God has wisely began His dissertation on "love" by declaring through the first two love commandments: humility births love for spirit, which leads to ALL righteousness (obedience to the 10LC), but pride births love for dirt, which leads to ALL unrighteousness (disobedience to the 10LC). God then goes on to delve into the main body of His speech with the specifics of seven more love commandments, covering the range of fruits that can be produced from obedience or disobedience to each of them, meaning good & evil, respectively. And then, like a skilled writer who knows how to sum up and conclude a masterful exposition, He carefully and deliberately closes with one last commandment – the 10th love commandment "Thou shall not covet".

Look at this final commandment closely. What is it saying, really? "Thou shall not covet thy neighbor's house, wife, animals, nor anything that is thy neighbor's". In other words, do not LUST for what you see – houses, land, clothing, jewelry, cars, boats, etc. But what is this? Friend, this is just the first two commandments all over again, only spoken in a different way! Do you see it? Remember, prideful greedy people lust for what they see – namely, the material (dirt) universe. In other words, THEY ARE COVETERS! Truly, anyone disobeying the 1st & 2nd love commandments automatically and simultaneously disobeys the 10th love commandment, and vice versa. Stunning, huh?

The Apostle Paul knew all this well and wrote: "For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor <u>covetous man</u>, WHO IS AN IDOLATER, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God"

(Ephesians 5:5). See it? A covetous person is an idolater, for they worship what they see!

So understand, an explanation of the 10th love commandment is really the same as an explanation of the 1st & 2nd love commandments. In other words, if you want to understand covetousness, then understand commandments #1 & #2! You will learn the same wicked thoughts roll around in the head of a coveter as they do a prideful, greedy idolater. And these selfish, greedy, covetous thoughts will lead a person to work ALL kinds of evil (10LC disobedience) towards their fellow man. Yes, it is a truth – "covetousness" is the root of ALL evil! It will take you down! If you choose that path, it will lead your prideful love-less soul straight to the fires of hell!

Now obviously Jesus knew these truths well, and this is why he continually warned his listeners, "Take heed, and BEWARE of COVETOUSNESS: for a man's life (meaning his eternal destiny) consists not in the abundance of the things (dirt) which he possesses" (Luke 12:15). And again, "Lay NOT up for yourself treasures (materialistic possessions) here upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But rather lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart (or your love & worship) be also" (Matthew 6:19-21). Make no mistake about it, Jesus knew where ALL sin (10LC disobedience) originates ... out of the selfish heart of a coveter! Therefore, he knew EXACTLY what to preach in order to lead people to repentance and eternal life, as Peter confirmed, "Lord, to whom

shall we go? For thou hast the WORDS of eternal life" (John 6:68).

So how about the DO SIDE of the 10th love commandment? Do you know how we SHOULD live, instead of being full of covetousness? The Bible teaches we should be <u>CONTENT</u> with what we have! Listen to Jesus: "Take no thought for your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes?" (Matthew 6:25).

Paul knew it too: "Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for God hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee" (Hebrews 13:5). And this, "But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. So having food and clothing let us be therewith content" (I Timothy 6:6-8). And, "Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth ... Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and covetousness, WHICH IS idolatry: For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience" (Colossians 3:2-6).

Well, there they are folks – the 10 Love Commandments! Honestly, how beautiful are they, even in their order from introduction to conclusion? They are a masterpiece! God is an oral and literary genius! He spoke His 10LC dissertation on Mount Sinai and then wrote it on two Stone Tables, with not a word more! And He did it all in the most beautiful, all-inclusive, gifted order possible.

The 10LC are His ways. They are His law. And they are His love. They are Term "A" in the Salvation Equation, which is <u>OUR</u> DUTY to DO to obtain eternal life! So abide by them and live, or reject them and perish. The choice is yours!

Let us not be weary in well doing, for in due season we shall reap (eternal life) if we faint not (Galatians 6:9)

### LOVE GOD

DON'T		DO
Have Any Other Gods	1	Make God (Love) First
be prideful		be humble
love your life		hate your life
save your life		lose your life
Worship Idols (Dirt)	2	Worship God (Spirit)
be greedy	100	deny yourself
love money		take up your cross
love possessions		love God not pleasure
Take God's Name in Vain	3	Glorify God's Name
curse		bless
use filthy talk	62.22	sing to the Lord
blaspheme Holy Ghost		control your tongue
Forget Sabbath Day	4	Keep Sabbath Holy
work		rest
defile		do good
profane		delight in the Lord
Dishonor Vour Parents	<b>E</b>	Honor Vour Parents

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obey

respect

be thankful

disobey

curse

mock

### LOVE NEIGHBOR

#### DON'T

#### Murder

be angry without cause hate your brother seek revenge

#### Commit Adultery

lust sexually fornicate be homosexual

#### Steal

thieve rob the poor cheat

#### **Bear False Witness**

lie slander or gossip deceive

#### **Covet Possessions**

hoard worry love the world

#### DO

- 6 Forgive slow to wrath turn the other cheek pray for enemies
- 7 Honor Marriage Bed crucify the flesh respect marriage guard temple
- 8 Give

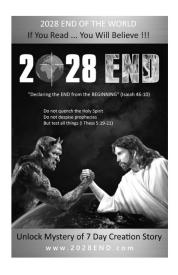
  lend to those asking
  help the needy
  labor to give
- 9 Speak the Truth

be honest edify testify

#### 10 Be Content

take no thought for life store heavenly treasure set affections above

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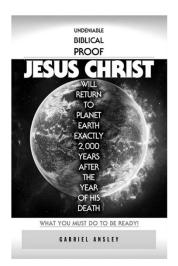
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