

1.1 GOD: BEWARE

1.1.1 My thoughts and ways are different than yours

It is written: "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands. Instead of the thorn-bush will grow the pine tree, and instead of briars the myrtle will grow. This will be for the LORD's renown, for an everlasting sign, which will not be destroyed." (Isaiah 55:8-13 NIV)

[] Do you know what these differences are?

[] Can you list those which are different from ours?

1.1.2 Do not dwell on the past

It is written: This is what the LORD says—your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: "For your sake I will send to Babylon and bring down as fugitives all the Babylonians, in the ships in which they took pride. I am the LORD, your Holy One, Israel's Creator, your King."

This is what the LORD says—he who made a way through the sea, a path through the mighty waters, who drew out the chariots and horses, the army and reinforcements together, and they lay there, never to rise again, extinguished, snuffed out like a wick: "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland." (Isaiah 43:14-19 NIV)

- [] Will you empty your ways of old and receive new ways?
 [] What makes people to “dwell in the past?”

1.1.3 Worship Me not by human rules but by My rule

It is written: The Lord says: “These people come near to me with their mouth and honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. Their worship of me is based on merely human rules they have been taught.” (Isaiah 29:13)

- [] How do you sanctify your heart?

1.1.4 Death is not the end, dead will rise from the dust

It is written: LORD, you establish peace for us; all that we have accomplished you have done for us. O LORD, our God, other lords besides you have ruled over us, but your name alone do we honor.

They are now dead, they live no more; those departed spirits do not rise. You punished them and brought them to ruin; you wiped out all memory of them. You have enlarged the nation, O LORD; you have enlarged the nation. You have gained glory for yourself; you have extended all the borders of the land.

LORD, they came to you in their distress; when you disciplined them, they could barely whisper a prayer. As a woman with child and about to give birth writhes and cries out in her pain, so were we in your presence, O LORD.

We were with child, we writhed in pain, but we gave birth to wind. We have not brought salvation to the earth; we have not given birth to people of the world.

But your dead will live; their bodies will rise. You, who dwell in the dust, wake up and shout for joy. Your dew is like the dew of the morning; the earth will give birth to her dead. (Isaiah 26:12-19 NIV)

- [] Vanity or eternity, what drives you?

[] How do you attain salvation of your soul, and resurrection from the dead?

1.1.5 Remember the golden cow

It is written: You have been rebellious against the LORD ever since I have known you. I lay prostrate before the LORD those forty days and forty nights because the LORD had said he would destroy you.

I prayed to the LORD and said, "O Sovereign LORD, do not destroy your people, your own inheritance that you redeemed by your great power and brought out of Egypt with a mighty hand.

Remember your servants Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Overlook the stubbornness of this people, their wickedness and their sin. Otherwise, the country from which you brought us will say, 'Because the LORD was not able to take them into the land he had promised them, and because he hated them, he brought them out to put them to death in the desert.' But they are your people, your inheritance that you brought out by your great power and your outstretched arm." (Deuteronomy 9:24-29 NIV)

[] Do you know why God hates idol worship?

[] Do you know what an idol is?

[] Did you know the penalty for pride is death on earth and eternal damnation?

[] Do you pray for the glory of God on behalf of people?

1.1.6 Repent, return and live

It is written: Do I take any pleasure in the death of the wicked? Declares the Sovereign Lord, rather, am I not pleased when they turn from their ways and live? (Ezekiel 18:32)

"I will accept you as fragrant incense when I bring you out from the nations and gather you from the countries where you have been scattered, and I will show myself holy among you in the sight of the nations. Then you will know that I am

the Lord, when I bring you into the land of Israel, the land I had sworn with uplifted hand to give to your fathers. You will know that I am the Lord, when I deal with you for my name's sake and not according to your evil ways and your corrupt practices, O house of Israel," declares the Sovereign Lord. (Ezekiel 20:41-42, 44 NIV)

"As surely as I live," declares the Sovereign Lord, "I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, O house of Israel?" (Ezekiel 33:11 NIV)

But if from there you seek the LORD your God, you will find him if you look for him with all your heart and with all your soul. When you are in distress and all these things have happened to you, then in later days you will return to the LORD your God and obey him. For the LORD your God is a merciful God; he will not abandon or destroy you or forget the covenant with your forefathers, which he confirmed to them by oath. (Deuteronomy 4:29-31 NIV)

Greed is idol worship and leads to corruption, destruction, and a wasted life.

[] Do you know God wants people to repent and return?

[] Do you believe God will save you in times of distress if you seek His face, repent, and obey?

[] Do you pray for this promise to be fulfilled?

1.1.7 Remember Abraham and Sarah

It is written: Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness and who seek the LORD: Look to the rock from which you were cut and to the quarry from which you were hewn; look to Abraham, your father, and to Sarah, who gave you birth. When I called him he was but one, and I blessed him and made him many.

The LORD will surely comfort Zion and will look with compassion on all her ruins; he will make her deserts like Eden, her wastelands like the garden of the LORD. Joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the sound of

singing. (Isaiah 51:1-3 NIV)

[] Do you remember what God had done to Abram and the quarry you were delivered from?

1.1.8 All bloodshed will demand an accounting

It is written: And for your lifeblood I will surely demand an accounting. I will demand an accounting from every animal. And from each man, too, I will demand an accounting for the life of his fellow man. (Genesis 9:5 NIV)

[] Do you know that the shedding of blood begets more blood?

1.1.9 Nations like a drop in a bucket

It is written: Surely the nations are like a drop in a bucket; they are regarded as dust on the scales; he weighs the islands as though they were fine dust.

Lebanon is not sufficient for altar fires, nor its animals enough for burnt offerings. Before him all the nations are as nothing; they are regarded by him as worthless and less than nothing.

To whom, then, will you compare God? What image will you compare him to? As for an idol, a craftsman casts it, and a goldsmith overlays it with gold and fashions silver chains for it. A man too poor to present such an offering selects wood that will not rot. He looks for a skilled craftsman to set up an idol that will not topple. (Isaiah 40:15-20 NIV)

A life filled with diligence and discipline without faith will still be judged as a waste.

[] Did you know the things in the world are like a drop in the bucket for God, but proclaiming the good news of salvation is your task?

1.1.10 Earth will wear out but My salvation will last forever

It is written: Listen to me, my people; hear me, my nation: The law will go out from me; my justice will become a light to the nations.

My righteousness draws near speedily, my salvation is on the way, and my arm will bring justice to the nations. The islands will look to me and wait in hope for my arm.

Lift up your eyes to the heavens, look at the earth beneath; the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment and its inhabitants die like flies. But my salvation will last forever, my righteousness will never fail. (Isaiah 51:4-6 NIV)

[] Do you know people will wear out the Earth along with themselves bringing condemnation?

[] Do you know His righteousness and salvation?