

All verses are copied from <https://biblehub.com/> in King James.

October 18, 2020

1 Peter 2

The Lord is Good

1Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings, 2As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: 3If so be ye have tasted that the Lord *is* gracious.

This verse is directed to new believers; as new believers there are certain things, they need to fully be aware of that they need to leave behind (lay aside). This is not an all-inclusive list; it is a list of sinful actions that are generic and are the basis of much broader sinful actions that stymie Christian growth.

Malice which is; meanness and cruelty.

Guile, meaning; treacherous, slyness, cunning.

Hypocrisies; insincerity, pretense.

Envies; Covetousness, Desires.

Evil speaking; Malicious or sinful words.

The point is that as “newborn babies” desire milk; meaning a new Christian should have a heartfelt desire to search out and learn the basics of God’s Word. It is through nourishment from God’s Word that they grow spiritually. That initial food that is needed by all New Christians. It is through the “food” of the Word of God that we soon learn God’s Grace to each of us.

The basics that are implied by milk would be;

1. We are sinners and deserve death
2. Jesus died on the cross for all mankind
3. Jesus died for all sin
4. Jesus rose from the dead and sits at the right hand of God the Father
5. All men/women/children can have salvation/eternal life all you have to do is believe and ask Jesus into your heart.
6. Study the Bible daily
7. Learn the 10 Commandments and use them as a guide for every decision you make
8. Love other people and forgive them when they sin against you.
9. Love God with all your heart, mind and soul.
10. Love you neighbor as yourself.

These things are the milk we all started with and as we were able to eat more solid food we dove deeper into God's Word. He feeds us from His Word which allows us to grow more Christ like each day.

The Living Stone

(Isaiah 28:14-22; 1 Corinthians 3:10-15)

4To whom coming, *as unto* a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, *and* precious, **5**Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

The ability to walk with God to walk with Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit should tell us how much God loves us. We are precious in His sight and He has a plan for each of us. We have already discussed at length in 1 Peter 1 the idea of being "chosen".

It was milk that a new Believer needs to understand; we all have decisions to make every day every minute. Being Born Again sets each new Believer off on a new path, one that is filled with life, eternal life. We are as living stones being fitted into the structure God calls the Church that Jesus is building. In another sense we also become part of the "priesthood", in a spiritual sense requiring us to provide before God "spiritual sacrifices". Those sacrifices

often revolve around honestly scrutinizing the things of the world that are so enticing and replacing them with things of God that have eternal value.

We can name a few of the basics; to swear or not to swear. One is spiritual the other is worldly, so which will you chose as a new believer?

Watching movies or tv filled with evil. Watch or not watch, one has spiritual blessings the other does not, so which will you chose?

Helping someone in need with no expectation of anything in return; to help is of Spiritual value to not help is valueless and worldly. Which will you do?

We all get the point; it revolves around daily decisions of how we will choose to walk out this new life that Jesus Christ has given us through His death and resurrection.

Below is a far better answer to the question of what are spiritual sacrifices;

What are Spiritual Sacrifices; from Got Questions

“Question: "What are spiritual sacrifices?"

Answer: [First Peter 2:5](#) says, “You also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering

spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.” Peter was writing to Christians to encourage them to remain strong in the faith, even through persecution ([1 Peter 1:6](#)). He reminded them that they were highly significant in the sight of God and urged them to live holy lives (verses 15–16).

Under the [New Covenant](#), every believer in Jesus Christ is a holy priest. As priests, they offer spiritual sacrifices “through Jesus Christ” ([1 Peter 2:5](#)). Spiritual sacrifices replace the material sacrifices of the Old Covenant ([Exodus 29:36](#)). No longer are priests a separate class, and no longer do they offer bulls, goats, and lambs on the altar ([Hebrews 10:1–11](#)). Not only do believers constitute the new priesthood, but they are the “[living stones](#)” forming the spiritual temple of God ([1 Peter 2:5](#)). Our worship today involves the offering of spiritual sacrifices.

Spiritual sacrifices include the believer’s prayers, praises, will, bodies, time, and talents. Such sacrifices are made acceptable to God only through Jesus Christ, the [great High Priest](#).

[Prayer](#) is a spiritual sacrifice. Under the law, incense, often associated with prayer, was offered on the [altar of incense](#) in the tabernacle and temple. David prayed, “May my prayer be set before you like incense” ([Psalm 141:2](#)). In his vision of heaven, John saw that the elders around the throne “were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of God’s people” ([Revelation 5:8](#); cf. [8:3](#)). Our prayers offered to God ascend as the smoke of the incense ascended in the sanctuary. The fact that the incense was always burning means that we should always pray ([Luke 18:1](#); [1 Thessalonians 5:17](#)).

Another spiritual sacrifice is [praise](#). God created us to praise Him, and we offer a “sacrifice of praise” ([Hebrews 13:15](#)) when we turn toward God rather than away from Him in the midst of suffering. Praise is easy when all is right with our world. But when the sky

falls in, Satan is ready to suggest, like Job's wife did, that we "curse God and die" ([Job 2:9](#)). When we resist the urge to judge God for our misfortune and offer praises instead, that becomes a spiritual sacrifice.

Another spiritual sacrifice is surrender of the will. Just as Jesus surrendered His will to the Father's ([Luke 22:42](#)), so do we. Surrender of our will is an ongoing battle. The sin nature that resides within each of us battles for supremacy ([Romans 7:18–20](#)). Self wants to rule. It is an act of worship when we willingly crucify self and embrace surrender to the will of God. We choose His way rather than our own.

Another way we offer spiritual sacrifices is to present our physical bodies as "[living sacrifices](#)" ([Romans 12:1–2](#)). Our bodies are the temple of the Lord ([1 Corinthians 6:18–20](#)). Those who are in Christ by virtue of saving faith offer themselves completely to the Lord. The believer's body is yielded to God as an instrument of righteousness ([Romans 6:12–13](#); [8:11–13](#)). Believers maintain good sexual boundaries ([Ephesians 5:3](#)). They refuse to use their bodies for theft ([Ephesians 4:28](#)) or for bringing harm to another person ([Colossians 3:12–13](#)). They offer their bodies daily to God, asking Him to live His life through them ([Galatians 2:20](#); [Romans 6:12–14](#)).

Spiritual sacrifices are any word or deed motivated by a desire to glorify God alone. Jesus promised us rewards for every kind action done in His name ([Mark 9:41](#); [Revelation 22:12](#)). But we don't offer spiritual sacrifices for what we will get out of it. We offer them without strings attached because our hearts long to live in close fellowship with God. Sacrifice is part and parcel of worship. Christians offer sacrifices of the heart."

6Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a **chief corner stone**, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.

According to Strong's Concordance "Sion";

"Transliteration: Sión

Phonetic Spelling: (see-own')

Definition: Zion, a mountain of Jerusalem or the city of Jerusalem

Usage: Zion, the hill; used for Jerusalem or heaven."

Sion or Zion as is the common spelling today depicts either a mountain in Jerusalem, Jerusalem itself, or heaven.

The verse from God tells us that He laid a "**chief corner stone**" at that location. We have three locations all center around God's Holy City or God's Holy home. The "chief corner stone" is Jesus and He represents the beginning, the most valued stone of construction that is what is called the "corner stone". It is the beginning of the foundation upon which all other stones depend. It is required to be flawless, strong, worthy, powerful in presence all of the things that Jesus is to the Church. The Church; big "C" is what is being built and Jesus is that "chief corner stone".

He is precious in God's eyes as His Only Son. He was chosen by God or (elected) by God for this mission to save mankind. Don't be deceived, Jesus has no brother as the Mormons and other

cults might imply, He is the One and Only Son of God. He has been with God the Father for eternity and He is our only hope.

God promises that anyone that believes on Jesus will not be confounded; meaning; will not be put to shame for that belief.

7Unto you therefore which believe *he is precious*: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,

This verse reiterates the importance of Jesus as that Corner Stone. It also points out that some builders disallowed this “corner stone”.

Q. Who would these builders be and what were they building that they did not hold Jesus this precious Corner Stone in esteem?

These builders include the Jewish Priesthood that rejected Christ, it likely also includes the founders of so many religions around the world today that place many things above Christ in their manmade attempts to establish their own religious doctrines, all the while rejecting the simplest of understanding that there is only ONE TRUE CHURCH. It has no name other than the ONE THAT JESUS BUILT.

By no means should you stop fellowshiping together with other Christians but be very careful as to whom you affiliate with in that

context of “church” small “c”. God warns us not to be deceived, study and prove yourselves worthy workmen.

8 *And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.*

Verse 7 ends with a comma and verse 8 completes the thought. This “corner stone” Jesus Christ is the foundation of what is called the “Church” big “C”, it is also called the Bride of Christ. The idea as to this “corner stone” it is a blessing to those that believe but a huge stumbling block, a “rock of offence” to the disobedient and those that reject Christ. God also tells us that Jesus His Son, is offensive to those who stumble on or over the “Word” this amazing Book called the Bible.

For those who stumble over the “Word” of God, His Son Jesus Christ clearly spelled out that disobedience is stumbling. He further states that those who stumbled missed out on their appointment.

9 *But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:*

Again, Peter is writing to new believers both Jew and Gentile.

A chosen generation?

According to Strong's Concordance the word used for "generation" is "genos"

Transliteration: genos

Phonetic Spelling: (ghen'-os)

Definition: family, offspring

Usage: offspring, family, race, nation, kind.

We often think of the English word "generation" as denoting usually a 40-year period of time that is a generic Biblical definition of how long a generation is. However, in this verse it refers to all the people of a; family, race, nation or kind.

Believers are family or kind made up of all one race, the human race. We are all of a single "kind" Believers in Jesus Christ.

Not only do are we chosen to be a certain "kind" Believers, we are also commissioned by God to become a "Royal Priesthood".

Strong's Concordance defines Royal as;

Transliteration: basileios

Phonetic Spelling: (bas-il'-i-os)

Definition: royal

Usage: courtiers, palaces, a body of kings, royal.

A body of "kings"

Priesthood;

Transliteration: hierateuma
Phonetic Spelling: (hee-er-at'-yoo-mah)
Definition: a priesthood
Usage: the act or office of priesthood.

A Priest was selected to serve God through worship and sacrifice. There were a number of Priests but only one High Priest. The High Priest and True King is Jesus Christ. We are granted not only to be son and daughters with the King we are granted a ranking of kings within the Priesthood.

From Thayers Greek Lexicon;

“(after *Exodus 19:5-6*, the Sept.), priests of kingly rank, i. e. exalted to a moral rank and freedom which exempts them from the control of everyone but God and Christ.”

***Exodus 19:6* [5](#)Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine: [6](#)And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.**

This original dedication to become Priests in God’s kingdom was offered to Israel. It has since in the New Covenant been expanded to all Believers.

We have become a Nation of Believers, called out of darkness into the light. The “marvelous light” that verse speaks of is the

Light of Christ. We are to carry that light into the world to force darkness to retreat. The darkness is Satan and his hordes.

10Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.

Prior to Abraham's calling by God and the Covenant that was crafted by God, there was simply the human race. God called Abraham out of the human race to be a special people; to extend Mercy and Grace to the world. This nation or people eventually called Israel were to be set apart, to be special, to show the world what it means to follow God and Him alone. But as a called-out people they failed and fell into the traps of Satan, becoming like the world they rejected the very Savior that God had promised. Israel was to be a conduit to the world to show Mercy but they themselves did not receive what they needed because of the hardness of their hearts. But now through the Blood of Jesus they too can receive the Mercy they were destined to receive, but only through the One they rejected, the Corner Stone; Jesus Christ.

11Dearly beloved, I beseech *you* as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;

Strangers in this context is a reference to the Believers both Jew and Gentile that were in their own land but due to their allegiance

to Jesus there were outcasts as if strangers in their own land. As such they were continually buffeted by Satan to fall just as Israel had failed to the lust of the flesh and the lust of the world.

Constantly at war with the Spirit of Truth.

12Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by *your* good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation.

It did not matter if you were a Jew by heritage or a Gentile, if you were a Believer in Jesus Christ you were subject to non-believers speaking against you. Being called evil doers, the good works of the Believer was to be a signpost pointing toward and Glorifying God. A day of “visitation” wherein these non-believers would come face to face with the Truth about Jesus and on that day, all knees shall bow;

Philippians 2:10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Submission to Authorities

(Romans 13:1-7)

13Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; 14Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for

the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well.

We are stuck by this command that we obey all ordinances of man for the Lord's sake. If we take this verse alone then it appears God has rendered us to be under the authority and will of man. Is that true in all cases?

There are many verses that show us Biblical prophets, Jewish citizens and Believers that have disobeyed man's laws instead deferring to God's Law as the final arbiter on what is right.

There is a good video that covers many of these verses on a site called "Got Questions". I would suggest you all watch the video.

<https://www.gotquestions.org/civil-disobedience.html>

We will be held accountable for our obedience to God or failure thereof and also if we believe we need to resist government then we may well be subject to the punishment from the government as well. The bottom line is "fear God" not man.

15For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men: 16As free, and not using *your* liberty for a cloke of maliciousness, but as the servants of God. 17Honour all *men*. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king.

There are times when as Believers we find it easier to honor earthly kings than at other times and other kings. We need to keep in mind that everything we do in how and who we chose to honor are under a microscope of non-believers. Our actions could quite easily stop someone from coming to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ so we must be very committed to serving God first and our own initiatives last.

18Servants, be subject to *your* masters with all fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also to the froward.

There have been slaves of every color and creed for thousands of years. This verse is written partly to them but also to the free believer. We all have an ability to choose our “masters”. We can choose this world and Satan as our master or we can choose Jesus as our Master. In the case of those who were actually enslaved during the time Peter wrote this, God’s council was to be “subject” to; in other words, sever them diligently. He goes on to say not only to the “good” masters but also to those are “froward” or perverse; IE not good masters. It is a hard concept for us to get our heads around being someone’s slave. But in this world, you will either serve God or you will serve man and Satan.

Matthew 6:24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

Joshua 24:15 And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

19For this *is* thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully. ***20***For what glory *is it*, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer *for it*, ye take it patiently, this *is* acceptable with God.

God's point here is that if you are wrongly punished and for your own spiritual health simply take the punishment then that is "thankworthy" or "praiseworthy" from God's perspective.

Because, if you are punished for wrongdoing when you deserve the punishment don't expect God or anyone to tell you how strong and bold you are. You deserved the punishment you received.

October 25, 2020

Robert and Sarah send their love to all of you and wanted us to tell you all hello.

We also need to go back and look at vs 4 and 5 again as I really slighted you all on the answer I gave. I found in Got Questions are far better answer than I gave.

Christ's Example of Suffering

(Isaiah 53:1-8; Matthew 26:57-68; Mark 14:53-65; John 18:19-24)

21For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:

There is no human alive nor has ever lived that has been treated as badly and wrongly as our Lord Jesus Christ.

There was a statistic in Law Enforcement about drunk drivers that said; by the time you get stopped and arrested for drunk driving you have been in that same condition at least 7 prior times and were not detected. How many times have you committed sins that no one knows about and the time you get caught you have probably committed the sin many times before? The point being, we are all sinners, deserving death, but Jesus was sinless, His entire life yet He suffered for what all of us have done. Can anything be more unfair; but that is how Satan operates.

The example Jesus left us is to endure for God's Glory; meaning we deserved punishment but instead we receive Grace and Mercy; He took the punishment we deserved.

**22Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth:
23Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed *himself* to him that judgeth righteously: 24Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.**

Never in all of history has such an innocent man been treated so unfairly, and endured His plight out of love of man; that man could see His Love manifested on the Cross and know that man has been redeemed by the only redeemer qualified to do so, the Creator God.

Isaiah 53:1Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed?

2For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him.

3He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

4Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

5But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

6All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

7He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

8He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken.

A Grave Assigned

(Matthew 27:57-61; Mark 15:42-47; Luke 23:50-56; John 19:38-42)

9And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth.

10Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

11He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.

12Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Isaiah 53 was written in 2700 years ago and about 700 years before Jesus was born. It is a pivotal passage in the Tanach (Hebrew Bible) yet it is virtually unknown in Israel. This is an excerpt from titled;

Who's the Subject of Isaiah 53? You Decide!

by Efraim Goldstein |April 20 2018

<https://jewsforjesus.org/publications/issues/issues-v13-n06/whos-the-subject-of-isaiah-53-you-decide/>

“Isaiah 53 is a well-known passage of Scripture to the avid student of the Bible. But most people are not avid Bible students and have not read this controversial passage. A recent informal survey illustrates this point.¹ One hundred Jews on the streets of Tel Aviv were asked, Who do you think the 53rd chapter of Isaiah describes?” Most were unfamiliar with the passage and were asked to read it before answering. After doing so, many conceded that they did not know to whom it referred.

Some thought it was Jesus, but when it sunk in that the passage was a citation from the Tanakh, they were put off. Others shrugged off the passage as too difficult to understand. Some repeated what they had heard from Jews more religious than themselves: that it referred to the Jewish people or perhaps even the gentile nations. All seemed to think that whomever it referred to, it wouldn't make much difference in their daily lives.”

25For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.

Israel are still part of the lost sheep of God; it will take unfortunately a devastating series of events to shake them loose from their malevolence toward their God and all of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

This last verse encompasses all who are lost Jew and Gentile. The second word in the verse is “ye” according to Websters Dictionary;

: [you sense 1](#) —used originally only as a plural pronoun of the second person in the subjective case and now used especially in ecclesiastical or literary language and in various English dialects

A plural pronoun in the sense of this verse it would encompass “all”. The verse means “

[25](#)For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.

For all were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and bishop of your souls. The Shepherd and Bishop meaning Jesus Christ; of your souls (again encompassing ALL).

There is no one excluded from the meaning of this verse in all of humanity.

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