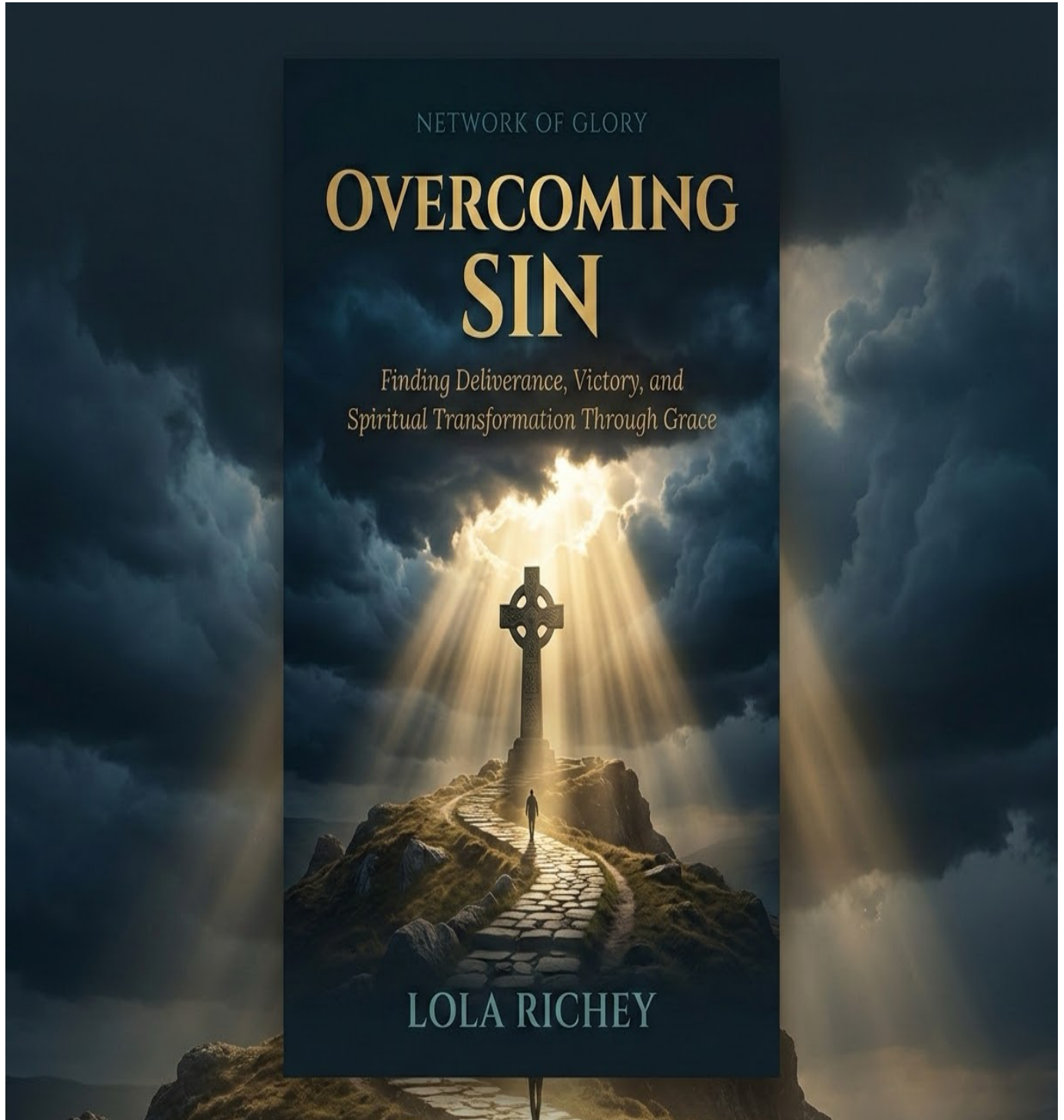


OVERCOMING SIN

FINDING DELIVERANCE, VICTORY, AND SPIRITUAL
TRANSFORMATION THROUGH CHRIST JESUS AND GRACE



OVERCOMING SIN
Finding Deliverance, Victory, and
Spiritual Transformation Through Christ Jesus and Grace

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I. Introduction

The message of the living God of Heaven's love and grace runs throughout the Holy Bible because God is filled with abundant love, faithfulness, and forgiveness.¹ The living God of Heaven revealed His abundant love and grace for the world and humanity by sending His Son, Christ Jesus, as a sin offering to save and redeem the world from sin, sickness, and shame through faithful obedience to Him as Lord and Savior.² Believers in Christ Jesus are set free and delivered from Satan's slavery to sin and made righteous (justified) through forgiveness from the living God of Heaven by faithfully obeying His Son, Christ Jesus, as Lord and Savior, as predicted in Old Testament prophecy.³

Also, the Holy Bible teaches of human sin and the consequences of God's wrath because of living an evil and dark lifestyle. The living God of Heaven is filled with justice, holiness, and righteousness, and He will not tolerate sinful and selfish living that hurts and harms others and oneself.⁴ Even more, the living God of Heaven punishes those who will not obey the Good News message and teaching of Christ Jesus.⁵ The Holy Bible teaches that the living God of Heaven is called by many names, including Adonai, Yahweh, and Elohim, but importantly, He is the glorious Holy Father of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and our Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah).⁶

II. What Is Sin

The Holy Bible teaches what sin and sinful are in the eyes of the living God of Heaven. The true definition of sin is lawlessness, wrongdoing, idolatry (worshipping other gods), falsehood, and rebellion against the living God of Heaven and His holy commands, which leads to slavery to darkness, depression, disease, and eventually death.⁷ Satan and his evil workers of sin operate in the dominion of darkness, crimes, confusion, disorder, and lawlessness because Satan is a criminal, thief, liar, deceiver, and murderer.⁸ The Holy Bible teaches that Satan opposes everything good because he is

¹ 1 John 4:7; see also Exodus 34:5-7; Number 14:18; Deuteronomy 7:9-10; Nehemiah 9:17; Psalm 78:38; Psalm 86:15; Psalm 103:8; Psalm 145:8; Joel 2:13; Jonah 4:2; Nahum 1:3, 7; 1 Corinthians 1:9.

² Matthew 1:21, 23; John 3:16-17, 36; John 4:42; see also Romans 4:25; Romans 5:8; Ephesians 2:7; 2 Timothy 1:9-10; Titus 2:11-14; Titus 3:5; 1 Peter 2:24; 1 John 2:1-2; 1 John 4:7-14.

³ See e.g., Matthew 20:28; Luke 24:47; Acts 2:38; Acts 13:38-39; Romans 1:16-17; Romans 3:24-26; Romans 5:1-2; Romans 6:17-18; Romans 8:1-4, 32; Galatians 1:3-4; cf. Jeremiah 31:34; Isaiah 53:11.

⁴ See e.g., Romans 1:18-32; cf. Exodus 32:34.

⁵ See e.g., 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9.

⁶ See e.g., Exodus 3:14-16; Exodus 6:1-3; Matthew 3:17; Matthew 17:5; Mark 1:1, 9-11; Luke 3:21-22; 1 Corinthians 8:4, 6; Ephesians 1:2-3, 17; 2 Peter 1:17.

⁷ See e.g., 1 John 3:4, 10; 1 John 5:17; 1 John 5:21; cf. Matthew 7:23; John 8:44; Romans 6:23; Colossians 3:5; 2 Thessalonians 2:3, 7; James 1:15.

⁸ See e.g., Matthew 7:23; John 8:44; John 10:10; John 14:30; 2 Corinthians 6:14; Ephesians 2:1-3; Ephesians 6:12; 2 Thessalonians 2:3-12; Revelation 12:9-10; Revelation 20:7-8.

evil of all evil, with no truth, and rebels against the living God of Heaven.⁹ Everyone who follows Satan's dark and evil way of life has no peace or rest because the Holy Bible promises that there is no rest, peace, or stability for the wicked evildoer.¹⁰ Following Satan's sinful, selfish, and criminal living alienates and separates us from the living God of Heaven and His abundant goodness and blessings.¹¹ Moreover, living a life of disobedience, sinfulness, and rebellion against the living God of Heaven and His demands for holiness and purity leads to suffering, sickness, and despair.¹² Examples of sin, disobedience, and sinfulness are found throughout the Holy Scriptures, including the Israelites' rebellion and unfaithfulness toward the living God of Heaven, which led to their forty (40) years of wilderness wandering and eventually their deaths.¹³ Sin crouches at the door of everyone's hearts, but the living God of Heaven (Adonai) calls EVERYONE to *turn away from, shun, and reject* Satan's sinful living, crimes, and wrongdoing.¹⁴

The living God of Heaven (Adonai) originally defined what is sinful (also known as vices) in the Old Testament at Mount Sinai by giving the eternal covenant, which included the Ten Commandments and then the Holiness Code given in the book of Leviticus.¹⁵ These *moral teachings* of the living God of Heaven, given at Mount Sinai, are good and foundational to both Old Testament and New Testament teaching on godly and holy living with wisdom because they encourage everyone to shun Satan's evil living and obey the living God of Heaven.¹⁶

The Holy Bible's teachings on sin and sinful living that lead to separation from the living God and death originated in the Old Testament at Mount Sinai, continued to be taught by Joshua and then the holy prophets and servants of God in the Old Testament, and continue today.¹⁷ From the Old Testament into the New Testament, the Holy Bible teaches that the living God of Heaven condemns and punishes such dark and selfish deeds of idolatry, rebellion against one's parents, stealing property and land, hurting the blind, perverting justice, mistreating aliens (foreigners), hurting orphans and widows, adultery and other sexual sins, murder, bribery, corruption, dishonesty (lies), and

⁹ See e.g., Revelation 12:9.

¹⁰ See e.g., Proverbs 12:3; Isaiah 48:22; Isaiah 57:20-21.

¹¹ See e.g., Romans 1:21; Ephesians 4:18; Colossians 1:21.

¹² See e.g., Deuteronomy 28:15, 22; Psalm 38:3; John 5:14.

¹³ 1 Corinthians 10:1-13; see also Exodus 17:1-7; Numbers 11:1-35; Numbers 13:1-14:45; Numbers 25:1-9.

¹⁴ Genesis 4:7; see also Romans 6:13-16; 1 Thessalonians 5:22.

¹⁵ Exodus 20:1-23:33; Leviticus 17:1-20:27; see also Exodus 20:20; Deuteronomy 5:23-29; Romans 7:7.

¹⁶ Romans 7:12, 14; Romans 13:8-10; 1 Timothy 1:5-11; see also Deuteronomy 4:5-8; Deuteronomy 6:1-6, 23-24; Deuteronomy 10:12-13; Job 1:1, 8; Job 2:3; Job 28:28; Psalm 111:10; Proverbs 1:7; Proverbs 9:10; Ecclesiastes 12:13.

¹⁷ See e.g., Joshua 1:1-8; Psalm 15:1-5; Psalm 24:3-5; 2 Kings 17:7-23; Jeremiah 7:1-8:3; Ezekiel 18:1-32; Ezekiel 20:5-26.

attacking others.¹⁸ A listing of sins (vices) noted in the New Testament that harm, hurt, and defile our minds, souls, and bodies that separates us from living God and His gracious blessings are found at Matthew 15:18-20; Mark 7:21-22; Romans 1:28-32; Romans 13:13; 1 Corinthians 5:10-11; 1 Corinthians 6:9-10; 2 Corinthians 12:20-21; Galatians 5:19-21; Ephesians 4:31; Ephesians 5:3-5; Colossians 3:5, 8; 1 Timothy 1:8-10; 2 Timothy 3:2-5; 1 Peter 4:3-4; Revelation 21:7-8; Revelation 22:15.¹⁹

III. Examples of Sinfulness

The greatest sin listed in the Holy Bible is idolatry. The Old Testament and the New Testament ban and prohibit any form of idolatry, which means worshipping or seeking guidance and help from any source, gods, wealth (money), or dark power other than the living God of Heaven.²⁰ The living God of Heaven condemns worshipping and seeking guidance from spiritists, divination, demons, mediums, witchcraft, omens, and sorcery because such evil works worship and seek guidance from dark forces and powers.²¹ The Holy Bible commands everyone to love with wholehearted trust, worship, and dependence on the living God of Heaven FIRST.²² The living God of Heaven, whose name is Yahweh and LORD God Almighty, is jealous, and He tolerates no rivals or other gods, but He commands our total and wholehearted love, faithfulness, and allegiance to Him as our only LORD and King of the Universe.²³ The Holy Bible forbids the practice of magic, such as consulting diviners, soothsayers, ghosts, and sorcerers, and it reveals our lack of trust in the living God of Heaven to guide, instruct, protect, and provide for His people.²⁴

Moreover, the living God of Heaven banned and prohibited tattooing, painting, and cutting one's flesh for the dead.²⁵ The God of Heaven wants His covenant people's hearts, minds, and bodies to be pure and holy to Him and to the surrounding world. So,

¹⁸ Leviticus 18:17, 23; Leviticus 19:33-36; Leviticus 20:14-15; see also see also Exodus 20:1-17, 23; Exodus 21:12; Exodus 22:21-22; Exodus 34:14, 17; Deuteronomy 19:14; Deuteronomy 27:15-26; Matthew 5:21-48; Luke 12:58-59.

¹⁹ See e.g., Isaiah 59:1-3; Ezekiel 18:4, 20; Romans 6:16, 23.

²⁰ Leviticus 19:4; see also Exodus 20:3-4, 23; Exodus 34:14, 17; Deuteronomy 5:6-11; Deuteronomy 6:4-6, 13; Deuteronomy 27:15; Matthew 4:10; Matthew 6:24; Luke 4:8; Luke 16:13; Romans 1:25; 1 Corinthians 10:14; Galatians 5:19-21; Ephesians 5:5; Colossians 3:5; 1 Thessalonians 1:9-10; 1 John 5:20-21.

²¹ Leviticus 19:26, 31; Leviticus 20:6, 27; see also Exodus 20:3; Exodus 22:18; Exodus 32:10-14; Numbers 25:1-5; Deuteronomy 9:13-21; Deuteronomy 18:10-14.

²² Exodus 34:14, 17; Deuteronomy 5:7; Deuteronomy 6:4-6; Matthew 6:33; Matthew 22:37; Luke 12:31; Acts 14:15-17; Revelation 19:10; Revelation 22:9.

²³ See e.g., Leviticus 19:4; Exodus 20:3-5; Deuteronomy 4:24; Deuteronomy 6:4-6; Matthew 22:37; Hebrews 12:28-29.

²⁴ See e.g., Leviticus 19:31; , Deuteronomy 18:10-14; 1 Samuel 28:3-20.

²⁵ See e.g., Leviticus 19:28; Leviticus 21:5; Deuteronomy 14:1; Jeremiah 16:6; Jeremiah 41:5.

the book of Leviticus condemned defacing the body with tattoos and other markings for the dead. Our bodies are for God's glory and honor and not self-glorification.²⁶

Likewise, the living God of Heaven bans and prohibits eating and consuming any fat or blood because all fat and blood belong to the living God of Heaven.²⁷ The command to never eat fat nor blood is a permanent law of the living God of Heaven that everyone obeyed from generation to generation.²⁸ Fat is considered the best part of the meat to the Israelites; therefore, the fat belonged to the living God of Heaven.²⁹ The book of Leviticus banned and prohibited eating any of the fat, whether of cattle, sheep, or goats.³⁰ However, the living God of Heaven allowed fat for other purposes, such as greasing carts and axles, waterproofing, animal hides, and other household uses.³¹

Significantly, the living God of Heaven has given blood only for atonement (sacrifices), with His Son Christ Jesus as the last One to give His perfect blood for the atonement and cleansing of our souls and lives from Satan's sinfulness.³² Thus, the living God of Heaven instructed His people never to consume or eat blood, whether of humans, birds, or animals.³³ The life of every creature is in the blood because blood is life; therefore, the living God of Heaven prohibits all people from eating and consuming blood.³⁴ Adonai values all human life, and life is sacred in God's eyes because humans are made in God's image and likeness.³⁵ The Holy Bible teaches that anyone who takes the life of another human being is subject to death.³⁶

Furthermore, the living God of Heaven prohibits and condemns all kinds of sexual sins, incest, fornication, adultery, and other sexual perversions, which include any sexual relationships outside the bonds of holy matrimony between one man and one woman.³⁷ The God of Heaven banned sexual relations (incest) with close relatives, including one's father, mother, uncle, aunt, stepmother, stepfather, son, daughter, brother, sister, half-

²⁶ See e.g., Matthew 5:14-16; 1 Corinthians 10:31

²⁷ See Leviticus 7:22-27.

²⁸ See Leviticus 3:17; Leviticus 17:10; Acts 15:18-20, 28-29.

²⁹ Leviticus 7:3-4, 23, 25; see also Genesis 4:4.

³⁰ Leviticus 7:22-25; see also Deuteronomy 14:4.

³¹ See Leviticus 7:24.

³² Leviticus 17:11; see also Matthew 26:28; Hebrews 9:12, 22, 26-28; 1 Peter 2:24.

³³ Leviticus 7:26-27; Leviticus 17:10-12; Leviticus 19:26; see also Deuteronomy 12:16, 23-25; Deuteronomy 15:23; 1 Samuel 14:32-34; cf. Genesis 9:4.

³⁴ Leviticus 7:26-27; Leviticus 17:11-14; see also Acts 15:18-20, 28-29.

³⁵ See e.g., Genesis 1:26-28; Genesis 5:1-2; Genesis 9:5-6.

³⁶ Leviticus 24:17, 21; see also Genesis 9:6; Exodus 20:13; Exodus 21:12; Deuteronomy 27:24.

³⁷ See e.g., Exodus 20:14; Numbers 5:12-13; Deuteronomy 5:18; Proverbs 6:29, 32; Matthew 5:27-30; Matthew 19:18; Mark 10:19; Luke 18:20; Romans 13:9; 1 Corinthians 5:9-11; 1 Corinthians 6:18; Galatians 5:19-21; Ephesians 5:3-5; Colossians 3:5; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-4; Hebrews 13:4; Revelation 21:7-8; Revelation 22:14-15.

brother, half-sister, son-in-law, or daughter-in-law.³⁸ Sexual relations with one's family members bring the God of Heaven's punishment, curses, and wrath into one's life.³⁹

The New Testament also emphasized holiness and sexual purity, just as the book of Leviticus does.⁴⁰ Sexual relations are to be restricted to marriage alone between one man and one woman.⁴¹ Moreover, the living God of Heaven condemned sexual relations with a woman and her daughter as well as sexual relations with a woman and her sister.⁴² The living God of Heaven banned a man from having sexual relations with a woman during her menstrual period.⁴³ Also, the Holy Bible condemns child sacrifice and intentional abuse of one's children.⁴⁴ Likewise, the Holy Bible prohibits homosexual (same sex) relationships and also sexual relationships with an animal.⁴⁵

IV. Beginnings of Sin and Sinfulness

In the beginning, the living God of Heaven created the heavens and the earth, filled with goodness.⁴⁶ The living God of Heaven created male and female as His holy image-bearers to reflect His goodness and holiness with dominion over the world, and He called humankind to love, worship, and obey their glorious Creator as LORD and King.⁴⁷ Adam and Eve shared fellowship and love without shame with one another and peaceful fellowship with the living God of Heaven in Paradise (the Garden of Eden).⁴⁸ In holy fellowship with the living God of Heaven, Adam and Eve were commanded to fill the earth and reflect His holy image and character of love, fairness, mercy, goodness, and peace.⁴⁹ The living God of Heaven has always wanted to live and reside with His *holy people*, and His desire to do so with faithfulness, obedience, and fellowship runs throughout the Holy Bible from Genesis to Revelation.⁵⁰

However, Satan's sin and lies entered the Garden of Eden, and then the first humans, Adam and Eve, decided to obey and follow Satan's deceiving lies by rebelling against

³⁸ See e.g., Genesis 35:21-22; Leviticus 18:1-29; Leviticus 20:10-21; Deuteronomy 22:30; Deuteronomy 27:22.

³⁹ See e.g., Leviticus 20:11, 14, 17, 19-21; Deuteronomy 27:20, 22-23.

⁴⁰ See e.g., 1 Corinthians 6:9-20; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8; cf. Leviticus 18:1-30; Leviticus 20:10-24.

⁴¹ See e.g., 1 Corinthians 7:1-9, 36-38; cf. Genesis 1:27-28; Hebrews 13:4.

⁴² See Leviticus 18:17-18.

⁴³ Leviticus 18:19; see also Leviticus 15:24; Leviticus 20:18; Ezekiel 18:6.

⁴⁴ Leviticus 18:21; Leviticus 20:2-5; see also Jeremiah 32:35.

⁴⁵ Leviticus 18:22-23; Leviticus 20:15; see also Exodus 22:19; Deuteronomy 27:21; Romans 1:26-27.

⁴⁶ Genesis 1:4, 10, 12, 18, 21, 25, 31; see also Psalm 104:25-28; Jeremiah 31:35.

⁴⁷ Genesis 1:26-28; Genesis 2:7; Genesis 5:1-2; see also Isaiah 43:7; Matthew 19:4; 1 Corinthians 15:45.

⁴⁸ See e.g., Genesis 2:24-25; Genesis 3:8.

⁴⁹ Genesis 1:26-28; see also Exodus 19:5-6; Leviticus 11:44-45.

⁵⁰ See e.g., Genesis 3:8; Exodus 29:42-46; Exodus 40:34-38; Deuteronomy 31:6-7; Joshua 1:8-9; 1 Kings 8:10-12; Psalm 23:6; Psalm 27:1; Psalm 46:7; Matthew 1:21, 23; Matthew 28:18-20; John 1:14; John 14:15-17, 21, 23; 1 Corinthians 6:19; 2 Corinthians 7:1; Hebrews 12:14; Revelation 11:15; Revelation 21:3-4.

the living God of Heaven's holy command.⁵¹ Satan and his evil workers have been sinning since the beginning.⁵² Adam and Eve's *obedience* to Satan's deception and deceit led to catastrophic results of fear, shame, and blame for humanity and the earth.⁵³ Thus, sin entered into the world through the first man, Adam, leading to the condemnation and death (physical and spiritual) of all humankind.⁵⁴ All humans - Jews and Gentiles (non-Jews) - are born sinful as an inheritance from Adam and Eve, leading to pain, sorrow, and eternal death.⁵⁵ Moreover, the ground of the earth is cursed with thorns and thistles because of Adam and Eve's sin and rebellion against the living God of Heaven.⁵⁶

Therefore, all humans start and are born sinners with a sinful nature inherited from Adam and Eve.⁵⁷ Sinfulness and disharmony are stories that run throughout the Holy Bible's storyline and human history, starting with Genesis 4, as Cain murdered his brother Abel and then Lamech started polygamy (multiple wives).⁵⁸ Satan and his evil workers roam the earth like roaring lions, seeking to devour and destroy God's goodness, creation, and His faithful people with their dark deeds of lies, deception, lawlessness, murder, greed, thieving, and adultery to enslave humanity in a living tomb of wickedness and darkness.⁵⁹ The Holy Bible teaches that Satan operates as the dark ruler of this world as our adversary, and he and his evil workers want to harm and accuse God's people to test their faith with temptation to sin and unfaithfulness against the living God of Heaven.⁶⁰

There are always consequences, curses, and divine wrath following Satan's wickedness, sinful living, and dark deeds against the living God of Heaven and His holy commands.⁶¹ For example, Adam and Eve were banished from Paradise (the Garden of Eden), fire and sulfur rained down from heaven on Sodom, flooding of the earth with Noah, and Israel and her sister Judah were exiled from the Promised Land because they all disobeyed the living God of Heaven and followed Satan's evildoing, violence, and lawless deeds.⁶² The Holy Bible teaches that the soul that sins and refuses to

⁵¹ Genesis 2:16-17; Genesis 3:1-7, 13; see also Ezekiel 28:12-15; John 8:44; 2 Corinthians 11:3; Revelation 12:9.

⁵² See e.g., John 8:44; 1 John 3:8.

⁵³ See e.g., Genesis 3:7-13.

⁵⁴ See e.g., Romans 3:9, 23; Romans 5:12, 15-18; Romans 6:23.

⁵⁵ See e.g., Romans 3:9, 23; Romans 5:12-21; 1 Corinthians 15:21-22; Ephesians 2:1-3.

⁵⁶ Genesis 3:16-19; see also Romans 8:18-23.

⁵⁷ See e.g., Genesis 8:21; Psalm 51:5; Psalm 58:3; Romans 3:23; Ephesians 2:1-3; 1 John 1:8, 10.

⁵⁸ Genesis 4:1-26; see also 1 John 3:12-15.

⁵⁹ See e.g., Job 1:6-7; Job 2:1-3; John 8:44; John 10:10; John 14:30; Ephesians 2:1-3; 1 Peter 5:8-9; Revelation 12:9; Revelation 20:2-3, 8.

⁶⁰ See e.g., Psalm 109:6; Zechariah 3:1-2; Ephesians 2:1-3; Revelation 12:9-10.

⁶¹ See e.g., Exodus 20:3-6; Exodus 34:5-7; Leviticus 20:1-27; Leviticus 26:14-39; Deuteronomy 27:9-26; Deuteronomy 28:15-29:28; Romans 1:18-32.

⁶² See e.g., Genesis 3:1-7, 23-24; Genesis 6:5-7; Genesis 7:5, 21; Genesis 19:13, 23-25; 2 Kings 17:7-23; 2 Kings 25:1-21; 2 Chronicles 36:15-21; Jeremiah 39:1-10; Jeremiah 52:4-27; Ezekiel 33:21-33.

repent will experience God's wrath and death - the saint and the sinner because the living God of Heaven judges everyone by their deeds, words, and actions.⁶³ The living God of Heaven takes no pleasure in the death of any sinner, but that all people turn with repentance from their wicked ways and live good and holy lives by producing a harvest of goodness, kindness, and love towards one another on earth.⁶⁴ The Holy Bible promises that everyone who turns from Satan's dark living and evil deeds and humbly turns to the living God of Heaven, committed to do good and sin no more, will experience divine life, forgiveness, and blessings.⁶⁵

V. Good News of a Savior

The living God of Heaven made a good promise of a Savior in the Garden of Eden, who would crush evil and bring salvation through redemption and deliverance from Satan's lies and lawlessness.⁶⁶ The good promise of the living God of Heaven came true with Christ Jesus our Savior, who is the Second Adam and a Life-giver.⁶⁷ The Gospel (Good News) message is that the living God of Heaven so loved the world that He sent His Son, Christ Jesus, as a holy Baby born in a manger to Joseph and Mary to save the world from their sinful nature, shame, and condemnation through faithful obedience to His Son, Christ Jesus as Lord and Savior.⁶⁸ Christ Jesus gave and laid down His holy and sinless life as a cure for sin to deliver and save us from Satan's darkness and sinful living and also destroy the evil works of Satan.⁶⁹ The living God of Heaven is filled with love and compassion, and He does not want anyone to live in Satan's spiritual darkness and death.⁷⁰

Christ Jesus is the living Word of God and the Word of Life that came in human flesh (incarnate) to destroy Satan and his evil workers by the sword of the Spirit, which is the *truth and power* of God's Word.⁷¹ Satan and his evil workers, who have unclean and dark spirits, know that Christ Jesus our Lord (Messiah Yeshua our Adonai) is the Holy

⁶³ See e.g., Ecclesiastes 12:13-14; Ezekiel 14:6; Ezekiel 18:4, 20, 30-32; Ezekiel 33:12-20; Joel 2:12-15; Zechariah 1:3-6; Matthew 3:2; Matthew 16:27; Romans 6:16, 23; Revelation 20:11-15.

⁶⁴ See e.g., 2 Chronicles 7:13-15; Ezekiel 18:23, 30-32; Ezekiel 33:11; Matthew 3:2, 8; Matthew 4:17; Mark 1:14-15; Romans 2:4; 1 Peter 1:15-16; 2 Peter 3:9, 11, 14.

⁶⁵ 1 John 1:7-9; see also Leviticus 26:40-45; Deuteronomy 4:29-31, 39-40; 2 Chronicles 7:13-15; Proverbs 28:13; Ezekiel 18:5-18; Ezekiel 33:12-20; Joel 2:12-13; Amos 5:4, 6, 14-15, 24; Zephaniah 2:2-3; John 5:14; John 8:11, 31-32; Romans 6:11-12, 16, 22-23; Titus 1:7-8; Titus 2:6-7, 14; Titus 3:1, 8, 14.

⁶⁶ Genesis 3:15; see also Matthew 1:21, 23; Luke 1:31; Luke 2:10-11; John 1:29, 36; John 4:42; 1 John 4:14.

⁶⁷ See e.g., John 3:15-18, 36; John 4:42; Acts 3:15; 1 Corinthians 15:45; Galatians 4:4; Hebrews 2:14; 1 John 4:14; Revelation 12:17; cf. Genesis 3:15.

⁶⁸ John 3:16-18, 36; see also Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:31-35; Luke 2:1-11; John 11:25-26; Romans 5:8; Romans 8:32; Ephesians 2:4; 1 John 4:9-12.

⁶⁹ 1 John 3:8, 16; see also John 15:13.

⁷⁰ See e.g., Psalm 86:5, 15; Joel 2:12-13; Jonah 4:2, 11.

⁷¹ See e.g., John 1:1, 4-5, 14; Ephesians 6:17; Hebrews 4:12; 1 John 1:1-2; Revelation 19:13.

One of God who came from the living God of Heaven to defeat Satan's sin and evil in our lives so we can have deliverance, salvation, and victory over sin through Christ Jesus with faithful obedience in Him as Lord and Savior.⁷² Christ Jesus is the Passover Lamb of God and the Great I AM incarnate, and everyone must bow and acknowledge He is Lord of lords and King of kings, with all power, authority, and dominion given from His Holy Father, who is the living God of Heaven.⁷³

Here is the Good News: Christ Jesus our Lord *fully obeyed* His Holy Father - the living God of Heaven- by living a holy and perfect life according to the Law of God, and never followed or succumbed to Satan's temptations and lies, which resulted in righteousness, peace, and new life for everyone who follows and obeys Christ Jesus as Lord by faith.⁷⁴ Through faithful obedience in Christ Jesus, believers in Christ Jesus die to sin and shame and are raised to new life, with our old selfish and sinful life in the grave, and Christ Jesus' life becomes our life and spirit.⁷⁵

As the Word of God incarnate, Christ Jesus takes away our sins and gives EVERYONE who obeys Him and holds fast to His holy teaching by faith a new and fresh beginning with a restart button that brings a *spiritual rebirth, peace, and righteousness* from heaven so they can become Kingdom citizens delivered and saved from Satan's sinfulness and darkness.⁷⁶ Christ Jesus became sin and curses to redeem and atone for our sins and also take the wrath of His Holy Father's punishment through His precious blood and voluntary death on Calvary's Cross, even though He was perfect and without sin, so that we can become righteous, healed (saved), and holy as kings and priests of God.⁷⁷ Our righteousness and Christ Jesus's blood and suffering are known as the GREAT EXCHANGE.⁷⁸

The Good News message in the four New Testament Gospels is that Christ Jesus suffered and died for our sins, was buried, and rose again from the grave on the third

⁷² See e.g., Matthew 4:3, 23-24; Matthew 8:28-33; Mark 1:23-27, 39; Mark 3:11; Mark 5:1-19; Mark 7:25-30; Luke 4:41; Romans 7:25; Romans 8:1-4; 1 Corinthians 15:57; 2 Corinthians 2:14; 1 John 5:4-5.

⁷³ See e.g., Matthew 2:2; John 1:29; John 3:35-36; John 6:35; John 8:24, 58; John 18:5-6; Ephesians 1:20-23; Philippians 2:9-11; Revelation 17:14; Revelation 19:16; cf. Exodus 3:14-15; Daniel 7:13-14.

⁷⁴ Matthew 4:1-11; Luke 4:1-13; see also Romans 5:1-2, 19-21; Philippians 2:8; Hebrews 5:8-9.

⁷⁵ See e.g., Romans 6:1-11; Romans 8:17; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 2:20; Galatians 5:24; Galatians 6:14; Colossians 2:11-12; 2 Timothy 2:11.

⁷⁶ 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; see also John 1:12-13; John 3:3-8; John 6:63, 68; John 14:10, 15-17, 21, 26; John 15:9-10, 26-27; Acts 2:38-40; Acts 26:15-18; Romans 1:16-17; Romans 5:1-2; Ephesians 1:7; Ephesians 2:8-10; Colossians 1:12-14; Titus 3:3-8; 1 Peter 1:23; 1 John 3:5-6.

⁷⁷ See e.g., Matthew 20:28; Mark 10:45; Mark 14:36; Luke 19:10; Romans 3:21-26; Romans 4:25; Romans 5:8; Romans 6:10; Romans 8:32; 1 Corinthians 1:2, 30; Galatians 1:3-4; Galatians 3:13; Titus 2:11-14; Hebrews 2:17; Hebrews 7:25-27; Hebrews 9:12, 26-28; 1 Peter 2:5, 9-10, 21-24; 1 Peter 3:18; 1 John 2:1-2; 1 John 4:7-12; Revelation 1:5-6; Revelation 5:6, 9-10; cf. Exodus 19:5-6; Isaiah 53:5, 7, 9.

⁷⁸ See e.g., 2 Corinthians 5:17-21.

day, as the Old Testament Scriptures predicted.⁷⁹ Through Christ Jesus's suffering, death, and resurrection, faithful believers in Him with repentance are no longer condemned and cursed, but they are reconciled and united with peace, victory, and holiness to His Holy Father and forgiven of all sin - past, present, and future.⁸⁰ Here is more Good News: As we *repent* by drawing close to the living God of Heaven and His Holy Word found in Christ Jesus, then Satan and his evil workers of corruption, deceit, and falsehood will flee and depart your life and heart.⁸¹ Sadly, the wrath of God continues to rest upon all sinful humanity who fails to repent and reject Christ Jesus as Lord and Savior.⁸²

VI. Confession of Sins

The Holy Bible promises that everyone - saint and sinner - who repents, which means turning away from sinful living, and humbly confesses their sins and wickedness to the living God of Heaven will be forgiven by Him.⁸³ Only through confession and repentance of our sins to the living God of Heaven will one find His mercy, restoration, and healing.⁸⁴ The *loving* God of Heaven is forever faithful, gracious, and merciful to forgive **ALL** our sins and cleanse us from Satan's evil and unrighteousness, with a return to joy and peace when we confess our sins and repent by turning and seeking Him and His Son Christ Jesus with faithfulness and humility.⁸⁵ The living God of Heaven sent His Son Christ Jesus to earth to call **EVERYONE** to repentance from sinful living to receive salvation.⁸⁶ Christ Jesus our Lord declares that the angels of heaven rejoice every time a sinner repents and turns to the living God of Heaven.⁸⁷

The Holy Bible teaches that our Heavenly Father loves us and is ready to forgive sins and wash away our shortcomings and shame, bringing salvation and joy from heaven when we humble ourselves and repent.⁸⁸ However, humble repentance and confession lead to sorrow for sinful living, a lifestyle change, and good fruit, which leads to true

⁷⁹ 1 Corinthians 15:1-5, 20, 23; see also Matthew 28:1-8; Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-10; John 20:1-8; cf. Psalm 16:9-11; Psalm 22:15; Psalm 110:1; Luke 24:25-27, 44-47; Acts 3;18; Acts 17:2-3; Acts 26:22-23.

⁸⁰ See e.g., John 5:24; John 16:33; Romans 5:1-2, 10-11; Romans 8:1, 32; 2 Corinthians 5:18-20; Colossians 1:21-23; Hebrews 10:10-11.

⁸¹ See e.g., Joel 2:12-13; Amos 5:4, 6, 14-15, 24; Zephaniah 2:2-3; 2 Corinthians 7:1; James 4:7-8; 1 Peter 5:8-9; 1 John 3:3.

⁸² See e.g., John 3:18, 36; Romans 1:18.

⁸³ 1 John 1:9; see also 2 Chronicles 7:13-15; Ezra 9:5-15; Proverbs 28:13; Ezekiel 18:4-32.

⁸⁴ See e.g., Leviticus 5:5; 2 Chronicles 7:13-14; Psalm 28:13; Acts 2:36-40.

⁸⁵ See e.g., Exodus 34:5-7; Deuteronomy 7:9; 2 Samuel 12:13; Psalm 51:1-4, 8, 12; Psalm 65:3; Isaiah 43:25; Romans 3:24-26; 1 Corinthians 1:9; 1 John 1:8-9.

⁸⁶ See e.g., Matthew 4:17; Mark 1:14-15; Mark 2:17; Luke 5:32; Luke 13:3-5; Luke 24:47; John 3:16-17.

⁸⁷ See e.g., Luke 15:7, 10.

⁸⁸ See e.g., Psalm 86:5; Isaiah 1:18; Joel 2:12-13; Micah 7:18-19; Acts 2:37-40.

salvation and healing.⁸⁹ Through confession and repentance, the living God of Heaven forgives and frees us from the power of Satan's sin and death so we can lead a life of holiness, healing, and victory with love for His glory and honor.⁹⁰

Christ Jesus our Lord taught His disciples to pray to His Holy Father and ask for forgiveness of sins from heaven in our daily prayers.⁹¹ Blessed is everyone whose sins and transgressions are forgiven by the living God of Heaven because they repent and turn from their sins, deceit, and dark deeds.⁹² The Holy Bible promises that when we confess our sins and rebellion to the living God of Heaven and stop trying to hide our guilt and shame, we will find joy, peace, healing, and forgiveness from heaven.⁹³ King David acknowledged that sin offends the living God of Heaven and also hurts oneself and others.⁹⁴ The living God of Heaven and His Son, Christ Jesus, give His strength and peace of mind and heart from heaven by the Holy Spirit of God as we repent and keep our focus and hearts upon the living God with love and faithful obedience.⁹⁵

Walking in a sinful lifestyle that follows and obeys Satan's deeds of darkness leads to becoming slaves to Satan and also reaping a harvest of depression, despair, and death.⁹⁶ Sinful and dark living leads to dire and hurtful consequences.⁹⁷ Christ Jesus, our Lord, warns everyone that they will die and perish in their sins unless they repent and turn to His Holy Father with love and faithful obedience.⁹⁸ The living God of Heaven, as a Good Father, wants EVERYONE to repent, and He disciplines, corrects, and punishes everyone who knowingly sins because He loves them and does not want His children to live a life of sins and selfishness in disobedience to Him and His holy ways of love, forgiveness, and holiness.⁹⁹

Great is the faithfulness of the living God of Heaven from age to age, who is filled with tender mercy, love, and grace to offer His forgiveness and favor (grace) through

⁸⁹ See e.g., Matthew 3:2, 8; Luke 3:3, 8-14; Acts 28:19-20; Romans 6:11-12, 16, 22-23, 2 Corinthians 7:9-11; 2 Timothy 2:19-23.

⁹⁰ See e.g., Acts 2:36-40; Acts 3:19-20; Acts 17:30; Romans 6:16, 22-23; cf. Jeremiah 15:19; Psalm 103:3-4.

⁹¹ Matthew 6:12; Luke 11:4; see also Psalm 51:1-10.

⁹² See e.g., Psalm 32:1-3; Psalm 103:1-5; 2 Corinthians 5:19.

⁹³ See e.g., Psalm 32:1-5.

⁹⁴ See e.g., 2 Samuel 12:13; Psalm 51:4.

⁹⁵ See e.g., Psalm 29:11; Proverbs 16:7; Isaiah 26:3-4; Isaiah 40:28-31; Isaiah 59:17; John 14:1, 15-18, 27; John 16:22, 24, 33; Romans 5:1-2; Romans 15:13; Galatians 5:22-23; Philippians 4:7.

⁹⁶ See e.g., Romans 6:16, 23, Galatians 6:7.

⁹⁷ See e.g., Joshua 7:25; 2 Samuel 12:13-14.

⁹⁸ Luke 13:3-5; see also Matthew 4:17; Mark 1:14-17.

⁹⁹ See e.g., Deuteronomy 8:5-6; Proverbs 3:11-12; Ezekiel 18:24; Ezekiel 33:10-20; Hebrews 12:4-11; 2 Peter 2:20-22; 2 Peter 3:9, 11, 14.

wholehearted repentance and *humble* confession of sins and wrongdoing.¹⁰⁰ Blessed is everyone who sins and transgressions are forgiven and covered by the living God of Heaven.¹⁰¹ The living God of Heaven pardons, heals, and forgives our sins, crimes, and transgressions because He does not stay angry forever, but He delights to show His everlasting mercy and compassion for everyone - saint and sinner - who humbly confesses their sins and turns with repentance to Him.¹⁰² Let everyone REPENT and turn with love, fear, and obedience to the living God of Heaven with our whole hearts, souls, bodies, and minds.¹⁰³ God REALLY loves us, and He wants to share His love and grace with you!

VII. God's Children and Sin

The Holy Bible teaches that faithful believers in Christ Jesus - Jews and Gentiles (non-Jews) become equal children of God and adopted into the Kingdom of God.¹⁰⁴ As children of God, they have equal rights and access to the living God of Heaven and His abundant grace, peace, strengthening, spiritual blessings, and mercy.¹⁰⁵ Even more, God's children are surrounded by spiritual forces in the heavenly realm that protect, fight for, and guide them with God's goodness and mercy.¹⁰⁶

Importantly, the Holy Bible teaches that faithful believers in Christ Jesus, as children of God, to continually walk and live holy, blameless, and loving lives with faithfulness and fellowship with the living God of Heaven and His Son, Christ Jesus, as Lord and Savior.¹⁰⁷ Everyone who accepts and believes in Christ Jesus does what is good and righteous and has been reborn as children of the living God of Heaven, who is always righteous and good.¹⁰⁸ The living God of Heaven lavishes His abundant love and grace on His faithful and obedient children who love and honor Him and His Son, Christ Jesus, as Lord.¹⁰⁹ Genuine children of God want to live pure and holy lives, to do what

¹⁰⁰ Lamentations 3:22-23; see also Leviticus 26:40-45; Deuteronomy 4:29-31; 2 Chronicles 15:2; Psalm 32:5; Psalm 103:12-13, 17-18; 1 John 1:8-9.

¹⁰¹ See e.g., Psalm 32:1-2.

¹⁰² See e.g., Psalm 103:1-4, 8-13, 17; Micah 7:18-19; Acts 2:36-40; Acts 3:19-20.

¹⁰³ See e.g., Deuteronomy 6:4-6; Deuteronomy 10:12-13; Matthew 22:37.

¹⁰⁴ See e.g., John 1:12-13; Galatians 3:26-29; Galatians 4:4-7; Ephesians 2:14-18; Ephesians 3:12.

¹⁰⁵ See e.g., Romans 5:1-2; Ephesians 1:3, 6, Ephesians 2:18; Ephesians 3:12-21; Ephesians 4:19; Hebrews 4:16; Hebrews 10:19, 35.

¹⁰⁶ See e.g., Exodus 14:13-14; Exodus 20:6; Leviticus 26:11-12; Deuteronomy 5:10; 2 Kings 6:15-17; Psalm 23:6; Romans 8:31; Hebrews 1:14.

¹⁰⁷ See e.g., John 13:34-35; John 15:12, 17; Romans 12:1-2, 9-14, 21; 1 Thessalonians 2:19; 1 John 2:28; 1 John 3:2; 1 John 4:7, 16-17.

¹⁰⁸ See e.g., John 1:12-13; 2 Timothy 2:19-22; 1 Peter 1:23; 1 John 2:29; 1 John 3:7; cf. Nahum 1:7.

¹⁰⁹ See e.g., 1 John 3:1-2; 1 John 4:10.

is good and no longer live in Satan's dark deeds, as the living God of Heaven and His Son, Christ Jesus, as One are always holy and pure.¹¹⁰

Everyone who does not do what is good and loving but continues in Satan's sinful living and hateful ways is lawless and sinful in alliance with Satan because Satan is lawless, selfish, and unloving.¹¹¹ In other words, followers of Satan continue in Satan's evil and sinful living.¹¹² Christ Jesus appeared and died on Calvary's Cross to take away our sins, and no one, as children of God living in Christ Jesus as Lord, keeps on sinning because God's holy seed lives in their hearts.¹¹³ However, the Holy Bible teaches that everyone who does what is good and right, obeys God's commands like Christ Jesus, and flees Satan's dark deeds is a true child of the living God, and the living God lives in their heart.¹¹⁴ Children of the living God must follow and live like His Son, Christ Jesus, in their daily lives with humility, love, and forgiveness towards others.¹¹⁵

VIII. Weapons of Victory

The living God of Heaven gives and supplies, by His generous grace, faithful believers in His Son, Christ Jesus, spiritual tools and weapons as the armor of God to overcome and defeat Satan's darkness, strongholds, and sinful living in our lives.¹¹⁶ God's people are not fighting and struggling against human beings but against the rulers, authorities, and cosmic powers governing darkness and against unclean evil spiritual forces in the heavenly realm.¹¹⁷ Sadly, darkness and sin exist in the world and will continue to exist until Christ Jesus returns to finally destroy Satan and his workers of sin and evil and bring a new heaven and new earth where sin will no longer exist in *Eden Restored - Paradise*.¹¹⁸ Though the living God of Heaven dealt Satan a fatal blow through Christ Jesus's death and resurrection, Satan and his evil workers of darkness continue to roam and struggle against everything holy, good, and righteous.¹¹⁹ Everyone following and obeying Satan loves the darkness and hates the light of God because their deeds are evil, rebellious, and dark.¹²⁰

¹¹⁰ See e.g., 2 Corinthians 7:1; 2 Peter 3:11, 13-14; 1 John 3:3; 1 John 4:17.

¹¹¹ See e.g., 1 John 2:29; 1 John 3:4, 8, 10, 15; 1 John 4:8; 1 John 5:17; 3 John 1:11.

¹¹² See e.g., 1 John 3:9-10.

¹¹³ 1 John 2:1-5; 1 John 3:5-6, 8-9; see also John 1:29; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Galatians 1:3-4; 1 Peter 2:24.

¹¹⁴ See e.g., John 14:15-17, 21, 23; 1 John 2:3-6, 29; 1 John 3:7, 9, 24; 3 John 1:11.

¹¹⁵ See e.g., Matthew 11:28-30; Luke 6:27-37; 1 Peter 2:20-24; 1 John 2:6.

¹¹⁶ See e.g., Romans 13:12; 2 Corinthians 6:7; 2 Corinthians 10:4; Ephesians 6:10-18.

¹¹⁷ See e.g., Ephesians 6:12.

¹¹⁸ See e.g., Revelation 11:15; Revelation 20:7-15; Revelation 21:1-8; Revelation 22:1-5; cf. Genesis 1:1-2:25.

¹¹⁹ See e.g., Romans 16:20; 1 Peter 5:8-9.

¹²⁰ See e.g., John 3:19-20; Ephesians 5:11, 13.

Until Christ Jesus's return, the Apostle Paul encouraged faithful believers in Christ Jesus to be strong and steadfast by relying upon the Holy Spirit's power living within our lives and to put on the whole armor of God to stand firm in *union and fellowship* with Christ Jesus along with love, goodness, and truth to defeat the evil tricks and schemes of Satan.¹²¹ Christ Jesus our Lord has the full power of God from His Holy Father - the living God of Heaven - to destroy and defeat ALL demonic power, dominion, or forces because He is far above all principalities, powers, and dark dominion.¹²² The Apostle Paul promised believers in Christ that the same power of God lives within them through their continual faithful obedience to Christ Jesus as Lord.¹²³ The Gospel writer John promised that the light of God ALWAYS defeats darkness and evil because Satan's darkness can NEVER defeat or conquer the light of the living God of Heaven and His Son, Christ Jesus our Savior, who is the Light and Life of the World.¹²⁴ As we walk in the light and goodness of God, we have fellowship with Christ Jesus, and the precious blood of Christ Jesus, by the power of the Holy Spirit, cleanses and frees us from all our sins and evil deeds.¹²⁵

The first and greatest weapon to defeat sin and evil starts with faithful believers in Christ Jesus fleeing, RUNNING, and turning away from Satan's darkness, wrongdoing, and criminal living that hurt and harm others.¹²⁶ Faithful believers in Christ Jesus must commit to live holy, blameless, and pure lives by walking in the light and goodness of God with a wholehearted commitment to ALWAYS follow and obey Christ Jesus as Lord and not participate in, watch, or listen to anything that invites Satan's evil and darkness into our eyes, minds, and hearts.¹²⁷ Sinfulness begins in the mind and begins with temptation.¹²⁸ The Apostle Paul taught that Christ Jesus's death and gracious forgiveness must lead believers to reject and turn away from Satan's evil and dark living and instead live a new life in faithful obedience to the Resurrected Christ Jesus as Lord.¹²⁹ Christ Jesus laid down His sinless life and poured out His precious blood to forgive and wash away our sinfulness through repentance with faithful obedience to

¹²¹ Ephesians 6:10-11, 13; see also Romans 12:1-2, 20-21; Romans 13:11-14; 1 Corinthians 14:1; 1 Corinthians 16:13-14; Ephesians 1:19; Philippians 1:27; 1 Thessalonians 3:8.

¹²² See e.g., Matthew 11:27; Matthew 28:18; John 3:35-36; John 17:2; Ephesians 1:20-23; cf. Daniel 7:13-14.

¹²³ See e.g., Ephesians 1:19-20; 1 John 4:4.

¹²⁴ See e.g., John 1:4-5; John 3:19; John 8:12; John 9:5; John 12:46; Ephesians 5:11, 13; 1 Timothy 6:16; 1 John 1:5; 1 John 5:11; cf. Isaiah 49:6.

¹²⁵ See e.g., 1 Corinthians 6:11; Hebrews 9:14; 1 John 1:7; Revelation 1:5; Revelation 7:14.

¹²⁶ See e.g., Ephesians 5:11, 13; 1 Thessalonians 5:22; 1 Timothy 5:22; 2 Timothy 2:19-23; Hebrews 12:1-2.

¹²⁷ See e.g., Psalm 101:3; Psalm 119:37; Matthew 6:22-23; John 12:35-36; John 15:1-6; 1 Corinthians 9:24-27; 1 Corinthians 13:4-7; 2 Corinthians 7:1; Galatians 5:22-23; Ephesians 5:1-2, 8-10; Philippians 1:9-11; 1 Thessalonians 5:5; Philippians 4:8; Hebrews 12:1-3, 14.

¹²⁸ See e.g., Matthew 5:27-28; James 1:15.

¹²⁹ See e.g., Romans 6:1-14, 10-16, 22-23; Romans 12:1-2.

Him.¹³⁰ Even more, the biblical definition of divine wisdom means living blameless and holy lives with faithfulness, fearing and honoring the living God of Heaven with our whole hearts, and turning away from Satan's evil and dark ways.¹³¹

Moreover, the Holy Bible encourages believers in Christ Jesus not to associate and become yoked together with those who follow and walk in Satan's dark deeds, lawlessness, and sin, but to stay away from those who may lead you into sin and crime.¹³² Satan and his evil workers of sin are our enemy and adversary, and they prowl around looking to destroy and harm God's people.¹³³ The living God of Heaven commands everyone to humble themselves before Him by coming close to Him with faithful obedience to Him and His holy teaching, and to resist and flee away from the dark works of Satan, and Satan and his evil workers will flee from your lives and homes.¹³⁴

Next, the Apostle Paul encouraged God's people to grow powerful *in union* with Christ Jesus and *in union* with Christ Jesus' mighty strength and grace by putting on the FULL armor, weaponry, and war equipment that the living God of Heaven gives His people so they can stand against and defeat the lying and deceptive schemes of Satan and his evil workers.¹³⁵ God's spiritual weapons of light represent truth, goodness (righteousness), the Gospel message of peace, faith, salvation, and the Holy Word of God (the Bible), which are also good fruits and tools of the Holy Spirit of God that the living God of Heaven *provides and freely gives* His people through faith in His Son, Christ Jesus our Lord.¹³⁶ The Apostle Paul encouraged believers in Christ Jesus to live and walk in the light of God, protected by the armor of faith and love, and wearing as our helmet the confidence of our salvation.¹³⁷ Notably, the prophet Isaiah in the Old Testament predicted that the coming Christ (Messiah), as the Righteous Servant of God, would be wrapped with the armor of God - truth, righteousness, goodness, justice, and faithfulness.¹³⁸ In the New Testament, Christ Jesus our Lord used the full armor of God - *truth*, righteousness, *trust in God*, salvation, and the *Word of God* - to defeat Satan during His time of wilderness testing.¹³⁹

¹³⁰ See e.g., Matthew 20:28; Matthew 26:28; Mark 10:45; Luke 19:10; 1 Timothy 2:5-6; Titus 2:11-14; Hebrews 9:28; 1 Peter 1:18-19; 1 Peter 3:18.

¹³¹ See e.g., Job 1:1, 8; Job 28:28; Psalm 111:10; Proverbs 1:7; Proverbs 9:10; Ecclesiastes 12:13.

¹³² 2 Corinthians 6:14-18; see also Proverbs 1:10-19; 1 Corinthians 5:9; Ephesians 5:11-12.

¹³³ See e.g., 1 Peter 5:8-9.

¹³⁴ See e.g., Amos 5:4, 6, 14-15, 26; Zephaniah 2:2-3; Matthew 4:1-11; Luke 4:1-13.

¹³⁵ Ephesians 6:10-11, 13; see also 1 Corinthians 16:13-14; 2 Timothy 2:1.

¹³⁶ Ephesians 6:13-18; see also Galatians 5:22-23; Philippians 1:9-11.

¹³⁷ See e.g., Romans 13:12; Ephesians 6:14, 17; 1 Thessalonians 5:5, 8.

¹³⁸ See e.g., Isaiah 9:6-7; Isaiah 11:3-5.

¹³⁹ See e.g., Matthew 4:1-11; Mark 1:12-13; Luke 4:1-13; cf. Deuteronomy 8:3; Deuteronomy 6:13, 16.

Like Christ Jesus, faithful believers in Him must wrap themselves with the *belt of truth* wrapped around their waist and always walk in and speak truth and honesty in their daily lives.¹⁴⁰ Good character wins the battle against evil! Everyone who walks in truth and honesty follows the good light of the living God of Heaven found in His Son, Christ Jesus.¹⁴¹ Next, believers *in* Christ Jesus must place on the breastplate of righteousness by always doing what is right and good in the world, which leads to God's blessings.¹⁴² Again, goodness always defeats Satan's evil and lies! Moreover, believers in Christ Jesus must keep their feet ready to seek peace and forgiveness toward others, not revenge, just as Christ Jesus has forgiven us and brought us into a peaceful relationship with His Holy Father.¹⁴³

Even more, believers in Christ Jesus must always carry the shield of faith and trust by remaining continually faithful and obedient to Christ Jesus and His Holy Father so they can overcome and destroy the flaming fires of Satan and his evil workers.¹⁴⁴ In the Holy Bible, faith is always tied to active trust in the living God of Heaven and His Word, and it is the only way to truly please the living God.¹⁴⁵ Faith, with belief in the living God found in His Son, Christ Jesus, activates salvation and righteousness from heaven.¹⁴⁶ True faithfulness in God also means turning away from and casting off every sin and sinful behavior that weighs us down and hinders God's blessings from heaven, and instead running with perseverance in Christ Jesus as our Lord and Savior, not losing heart.¹⁴⁷

Next, God's people must take the helmet of deliverance and salvation, along with the sword the Holy Spirit gives: the Word of God.¹⁴⁸ The Word of God is our offensive weapon from the living God of Heaven to defeat Satan's lies and spiritual attacks. During His public ministry, Christ Jesus taught that Satan comes to steal God's Word - the **seed of heaven** - from our hearts and minds because Satan knows that faithful obedience to God's Word inside our hearts and minds brings a harvest of good fruits, salvation (healing), abundant life, and divine blessings.¹⁴⁹ Satan and his evil workers of sin use demonic and dark forces with testing, temptations, false riches, and worries so we will not trust by faith in the living God of Heaven, to steal God's Word from our

¹⁴⁰ Ephesians 6:14; see also Exodus 20:16; Zechariah 8:16; Ephesians 4:25.

¹⁴¹ See e.g., John 3:21.

¹⁴² Ephesians 6:14; see also Psalm 15:1-5; Psalm 24:3-5; Psalm 34:14; Psalm 37:3; Psalm 106:3; Proverbs 4:26; Galatians 6:9-10; 1 Thessalonians 5:8; Titus 2:14; Titus 3:1, 8, 14; cf. Isaiah 59:17.

¹⁴³ Ephesians 6:15; see also Matthew 5:9; Matthew 6:12, 14-15; Matthew 18:21-35; Mark 11:25-26; Romans 12:18-21; Romans 14:17-19; Ephesians 4:32; Colossians 3:13.

¹⁴⁴ Ephesians 6:16; see also 1 John 5:4-5.

¹⁴⁵ See e.g., 2 Corinthians 5:7; Hebrews 11:1, 6.

¹⁴⁶ See e.g., Acts 4:10-12; Acts 16:30-31; Romans 1:16-17; Romans 4:16; Ephesians 2:8-10; cf. Genesis 15:6; Habakkuk 2:2-4.

¹⁴⁷ See e.g., 1 Corinthians 9:24-27; Hebrews 10:36; Hebrews 12:1-4, 14.

¹⁴⁸ Ephesians 6:17; see also Hebrews 4:12; cf. Isaiah 59:17.

¹⁴⁹ See e.g., Matthew 13:2-23; Mark 4:1-20; Luke 8:4-15.

hearts.¹⁵⁰ Notably, Christ Jesus defeated Satan's temptations and testings in the wilderness through the Word of God.¹⁵¹ God's Word is light and truth written by the Holy Spirit of God to keep our lives and hearts pure, and is also a powerful weapon to defeat Satan with his tricky lies, deceit, and falsehood.¹⁵²

Last and importantly, Christ Jesus taught His disciples to continually *pray at all times* in the Spirit to His Holy Father with all kinds of prayers and requests for themselves and God's people.¹⁵³ The living God of Heaven, through His Holy Spirit, promises to renew our hearts and minds to fill us with His joy as we seek Him by faith and turning from Satan's darkness through confession and repentance.¹⁵⁴ For example, King David *prayed* to the living God of Heaven for a clean and pure heart.¹⁵⁵ Likewise, Christ Jesus our Lord instructed His disciples to pray, and the Holy Father of Heaven will keep us safe from all evil, temptations, hard testings, and the Evil One - Satan.¹⁵⁶ The living God of Heaven is faithful to protect and guard His children from Satan's attacks and harm.¹⁵⁷

IX. Teachings of Victory

At Mount Sinai, the Covenant King of the Universe gave His holy instructions and eternal commandments to His firstborn son, Israel, so Israel would become a holy nation and a holy priesthood and teach the world God's holy and wise teachings to follow and obey.¹⁵⁸ Christ Jesus our Lord, as the perfect Israel and Son of the living God, continued His Holy Father's message and teaching in the New Testament with His Sermon on the Mount and Sermon on the Plain (Plateau), inviting everyone into God's Kingdom and teaching them how to become and behave as Kingdom citizens as holy priests and holy people with godliness.¹⁵⁹ Then, the holy apostles of Christ Jesus continued His message to become victorious by becoming obedient slaves of goodness and instruments of righteousness, which leads to life, and no longer Satan's slaves of evil, crime, and wrongdoing, which leads to God's wrath and death.¹⁶⁰

¹⁵⁰ See e.g., Matthew 13:18-23; Mark 4:14-20; Luke 8:11-15.

¹⁵¹ Matthew 4:1-11; Mark 1:12-13; Luke 4:1-13; cf. Deuteronomy 6:13, 16; Deuteronomy 8:3.

¹⁵² See e.g., Psalm 119:105, 160; John 15:3; John 17:17; Ephesians 5:26; 2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:21.

¹⁵³ Ephesians 6:18-19; see also Luke 18:1; Romans 8:26-27; Romans 12:12; Colossians 4:2; 1 Thessalonians 5:17; 2 Thessalonians 3:1-3.

¹⁵⁴ See e.g., Psalm 86:11.

¹⁵⁵ Psalm 51:10-12; see also Ezekiel 18:30-32.

¹⁵⁶ See e.g., Matthew 6:13; Matthew 7:7-11; Matthew 26:41; Luke 11:4-8.

¹⁵⁷ See e.g., 2 Kings 6:16-17.

¹⁵⁸ See e.g., Exodus 4:22-23; Exodus 19:5-6; Deuteronomy 4:5-9; see also Genesis 18:17-19; Matthew 28:18-20; 1 Peter 2:5, 9-10; cf. Jeremiah 31:9; Hosea 11:1.

¹⁵⁹ See e.g., Matthew 2:14-15; Matthew 3:17; Matthew 4:17; Matthew 5:1-7:29; Matthew 16:16; Mark 1:14-15; Mark 9:7; Luke 1:31-35; Luke 6:20-49; John 5:19; John 7:16; John 8:28; John 12:49-50; John 14:10, 24, 31; John 17:6-8, 14; 1 Peter 2:5, 9-10; Revelation 1:5-6; Revelation 5:9-10; cf. Exodus 19:5-6.

¹⁶⁰ See e.g., Romans 6:1-2, 16, 22-23; Titus 2:14; Titus 3:1, 8, 14; 1 Peter 3:8-12; Hebrews 12:14; Hebrews 13:1-6, 16.

In the New Testament, Christ Jesus taught that evil words that come out of a person's mouth come from within the heart, and these evil words defile a person and make them *unholy* before Him and His Holy Father.¹⁶¹ Christ Jesus taught that out of one's heart come bad and evil thoughts of murder, adultery, fornication, sexual immorality, theft, hatred (mean looks), lewdness, quarreling and strife, false testimony with lies, deceit, pride and arrogance, blasphemy, covetousness (greed, envy), prejudice, slander, gossip, hypocrisy, revenge, *unforgiveness*, and other foolishness, and these evil words and dark fruits pollute and make a person unholy and also bring God's wrath from heaven.¹⁶² According to Christ Jesus our Lord, these evil words and wicked deeds of Satan violate the eternal commandments and teachings of Him and His Holy Father and also separate one from God's Kingdom, which leads to divine wrath and punishment from heaven.¹⁶³ Notably, Christ Jesus taught that one's fruit - words, actions, and deeds - reflect the inner heart and true character of a person - whether good or evil.¹⁶⁴

Christ Jesus our Lord and His faithful disciples commanded and encouraged everyone to repent and rid oneself of all Satan's dark deeds of sexual immorality, fraud, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, discord, fits of rage, selfishness, envy, jealousy, drunkenness, hatred, prejudice, lies, deceit, hypocrisy, revenge, and slander of every kind, and instead seek the living God with love, *forgiveness*, truth, compassion, and goodness towards others so they can live godly lives with blessings and also one day see the living God of Heaven.¹⁶⁵ Amazingly, the Apostle Paul's teachings on living holy and righteous lives that reject evil are similar to the prophet Ezekiel's teachings from the Old Testament.¹⁶⁶

From the Old Testament into the New Testament, the living God of Heaven taught the people to care for and love one another, especially the poor, helpless, and needy, such as widows, orphans, the disabled, workers (employees), and foreigners (aliens).¹⁶⁷ The living God of Heaven condemns those who exploit, victimize, and mistreat the "least of

¹⁶¹ Matthew 12:34-37; Matthew 15:11, 17-18; Mark 7:20; see also Psalm 39:1; James 3:6.

¹⁶² Matthew 15:19-20; Mark 7:20-23; see also Proverbs 6:14-15; Romans 1:28-32.

¹⁶³ Exodus 20:1-17; Deuteronomy 5:6-21; see also Leviticus 19:1-18; Psalm 15:1-5; Psalm 24:3-5; Zechariah 7:8-10; Zechariah 8:16-17, 19; Matthew 5:1-12, 21-48; Matthew 19:16-21; Mark 10:17-21; Luke 18:18-22; Romans 1:18-32; Romans 13:8-10; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; Galatians 5:19-21; Ephesians 4:25-32; Ephesians 5:1-12; Colossians 3:5-7; Revelation 21:7-8; Revelation 22:14-15.

¹⁶⁴ Matthew 7:15-20; Matthew 12:33-37; Luke 6:43-45; see also Galatians 5:19-23.

¹⁶⁵ Matthew 3:2, 8; Matthew 4:17; Matthew 5:1-7:29; Matthew 9:13; Matthew 12:7; Matthew 23:23; Mark 1:14-15; Luke 6:20-49; John 13:34-35; John 15:12, 17; see also Romans 12:1-2, 9-21; Galatians 5:19-21; Ephesians 5:1-12; Colossians 3:5-17; 1 Thessalonians 5:15-22; Titus 1:7-8; Titus 2:6-7, 14; Titus 3:1, 8, 14; 2 Timothy 2:19-22; 1 Peter 2:1-3, 9-16, 23; 1 Peter 3:8-12; Hebrews 12:14; 1 John 3:3-4, 8-12.

¹⁶⁶ Romans 6:11-14, 16, 22-23; see also Ezekiel 18:4-32; Ezekiel 33:10-20.

¹⁶⁷ Matthew 5:7, 43-48; Matthew 22:34-40; Luke 10:25-37; John 13:34-35; John 15:12, 17; see also Exodus 22:21-27; Exodus 23:6-9; Leviticus 19:9-10, 13-14, 18, 33-34; Leviticus 23:22; Deuteronomy 27:18-19; Isaiah 1:16-17, 23; Isaiah 58:6-7; Amos 2:6; Amos 4:1; Amos 8:4-7; Micah 6:6-8.

these” in our society.¹⁶⁸ Also, the living God of Heaven commanded the people to rise and honor an older man or woman with respect and never mistreat them.¹⁶⁹

In fact, Christ Jesus our Lord taught that one’s entrance and welcoming into the eternal Kingdom of God will be based upon our deeds and actions towards the “least of these” in our society.¹⁷⁰ Christ Jesus cares for the hurting and the lost because He is our Good Shepherd, as predicted by the Old Testament prophecy.¹⁷¹ Moreover, the Holy Bible teaches on the importance of honoring one’s parents and the continued ban against hurting and harming others by lying, cheating, stealing, falsehood, gossiping, hating, and mistreating others, including abusing children, workers (employees), one’s spouse, the deaf, and the poor.¹⁷² Christ Jesus our Lord wants EVERYONE to love one another with kindness, mercy, and forgiveness.¹⁷³

X. Defeating Satan’s Sinful Living

The New Testament teaches that Christ Jesus came to set everyone free with forgiveness and redemption from Satan’s darkness and disease, and to give us *victory, salvation, and healing* from sinful and dark living through *repentance by turning from Satan’s dark deeds and instead turning with faithful obedience* to Christ Jesus as the Lord and Savior of your life.¹⁷⁴ Christ Jesus is God with us (Immanuel), with the fullness of God’s power, authority, and dominion to save, and He promises never to leave nor forsake us but to bring salvation, spiritual blessings, and entrance into God’s Kingdom family.¹⁷⁵ The Holy Bible makes several references declaring that Christ Jesus is God, and *in* Christ Jesus are hidden all the divine treasures of wisdom, understanding, and knowledge.¹⁷⁶

¹⁶⁸ James 5:1-6; see also Exodus 22:21-27; Leviticus 19:33; Leviticus 25:35-37; Deuteronomy 23:19-20; Deuteronomy 24:6, 10-13, 17-18, 19-22; Proverbs 14:31; Malachi 3:3-5; Zechariah 7:8-10.

¹⁶⁹ See e.g., Leviticus 19:29.

¹⁷⁰ Matthew 25:31-46; see also Romans 12:13; Hebrews 13:1-5, 16; James 1:27.

¹⁷¹ Matthew 18:12-14; Matthew 20:28; Mark 10:45; Luke 10:25-37; Luke 15:1-10; Luke 19:10; John 10:10-16; cf. Psalm 23:1; Isaiah 40:10-11; Ezekiel 34:12, 16.

¹⁷² Leviticus 19:3, 11-22; see also Exodus 20:12-17; Deuteronomy 5:16-21; Deuteronomy 24:15; Deuteronomy 27:18; Matthew 5:21-48; Matthew 19:18-21; Mark 10:18-21; Luke 18:19-22; Galatians 5:19-21; James 5:1-6; 1 John 2:9; 1 John 3:15.

¹⁷³ See e.g., Matthew 7:12; Matthew 12:7; Matthew 22:37-40; John 13:34-35; John 15:12, 17.

¹⁷⁴ See e.g., Matthew 3:2; Matthew 4:17, 23-25; Mark 1:14-15, 23-27, 38-39; Luke 4:18-19, 40-44; Luke 13:3-5; John 8:31-32; John 15:9-10; Acts 2:36-40; Acts 3:19; Acts 10:36; Romans 10:9-12; 1 Corinthians 15:57; Colossians 1:12-14; 2 Timothy 2:19-22; 2 Peter 3:9; 1 John 5:4; cf. Psalm 7:12; Isaiah 55:6-7; Ezekiel 18:23, 30-32; Ezekiel 33:11-16.

¹⁷⁵ See e.g., Matthew 1:21, 23; Matthew 11:27; Matthew 28:18-20; John 1:12-13; John 3:35-36; John 17:2-3; Ephesians 1:20-23; cf. Isaiah 7:14; Daniel 7:13-14.

¹⁷⁶ See e.g., see e.g., John 1:1-3; John 20:28; Romans 9:5; 1 Corinthians 1:24, 30; 2 Corinthians 4:4-5; Colossians 1:15; Colossians 2:3, 9-10; Hebrews 1:2-3, 8; 2 Peter 1:1.

The New Testament teaches about the abundance of God's goodness and gracious gifts given in His Son, Christ Jesus. The biblical phrase "in Christ Jesus" means we have spiritual union and fellowship with the living God - God the Father, God the Son (Christ Jesus), and God the Holy Spirit (Helper) by faithfully living and walking with obedience in Christ Jesus and His holy teachings that come from His Holy Father, the living God of Heaven.¹⁷⁷ Faithful obedience to Christ Jesus and His teachings declares believers in Him clean, blameless, and righteous as holy saints of God and also makes believers Christ Jesus's fellow brothers and sisters and joint heirs inside God's Kingdom family with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.¹⁷⁸

Believers in Christ Jesus are no longer sinners but justified, which means righteous or "made right," and they also have peace, friendship, union, and reconciliation with the living and holy God of Heaven through faithful obedience and allegiance to Christ Jesus as Lord.¹⁷⁹ Christ Jesus promises to remove the dirt and shame from our lives, clothe us in the victorious white robes of redemption, and write our names forever in the eternal Book of Life as we walk with faithful obedience to Him as Lord.¹⁸⁰ Being "in Christ Jesus" is necessary to live a godly life with good spiritual fruit because, in Christ Jesus, we can do all things, for He strengthens and empowers our inner being and heart through the Holy Spirit of God.¹⁸¹ Without Christ Jesus and belief in Him as Lord and King, you will die in your sins, sickness, and shame because Christ Jesus is the way or bridge to the living God of Heaven and His mercy, forgiveness, and grace.¹⁸²

Christ Jesus taught during His public ministry on earth that He is the True Vine (true Israel) that spiritually connects and unites everyone to His Holy Father, but that holy connection and blessings of grace from His Holy Father only come through faith and obedience to Him and His teaching, which leads to producing good fruits of love and righteousness.¹⁸³ Faithful obedience to Christ Jesus means we must always obey His teaching to love and forgive others with mercy and love, to walk with humble truth, to trust and depend on the Holy Father with love for all our daily needs, and to be willing to

¹⁷⁷ See e.g., John 14:10, 15-18, 21, 23-24, 26, 31; 1 Corinthians 2:13; 1 John 2:3-5; 1 John 5:2-3; 2 John 1:6; Revelation 3:20-22; Revelation 21:3; cf. Leviticus 26:3, 11-12.

¹⁷⁸ See e.g., Luke 8:21; Luke 11:28; John 1:12-13; John 13:10; John 14:21; John 15:3; John 17:17; Romans 5:1-2; Romans 8:16-17; 1 Corinthians 1:2, 30; Galatians 3:26-29; Ephesians 1:13; Ephesians 5:26; James 1:22-23; James 2:14-20.

¹⁷⁹ See e.g., John 15:1, 4-6, 9-17; Romans 1:16-17; Romans 4:25; Romans 5:1-2, 10-11; 1 Corinthians 1:30; 2 Corinthians 5:18-19; Ephesians 2:16; Ephesians 5:26-27; Colossians 1:21-22.

¹⁸⁰ Revelation 3:4-6, 18; Revelation 6:11; Revelation 7:9, 13-14; Revelation 19:14; Revelation 20:12, 15; Revelation 21:27; see also Exodus 32:32-33; Psalm 69:28; Daniel 12:1; Philippians 4:3.

¹⁸¹ John 15:4-6, 16; see also Philippians 4:13.

¹⁸² See e.g., John 1:14, 16-18, 51; John 14:6; John 8:23-24.

¹⁸³ See e.g., John 1:14, 16-17; John 14:6; John 15:1, 4-17; Galatians 5:22-23; Philippians 1:9-11; Hebrews 9:8; Hebrews 10:19-20; cf. Isaiah 5:1-7.

share with those in need.¹⁸⁴ In other words, we MUST trust and obey Christ Jesus and His teachings with faithfulness to Him and His Holy Father to live “in Christ Jesus.” Notably, faithfulness and obedience to Christ Jesus and His teachings lead to obeying the entire Holy Bible.¹⁸⁵

In the New Testament book of Ephesians, the Apostle Paul wrote to the church about the abundant goodness, forgiving grace, and peace *given* to God’s holy people (saints) who are “in Christ Jesus” because they *faithfully* follow Christ Jesus with *obedience and strong devotion*.¹⁸⁶ The gracious Father of Christ Jesus our Lord showered believers *in* Jesus with spiritual wisdom, understanding, and kindness because we believe and obey His Son by faith.¹⁸⁷ The Apostle Paul wanted ALL people (Jews and Gentiles) to understand and know God’s bountiful treasures of love, forgiveness, and salvation from heaven, given through repentance, spiritual union, and faithful obedience to Christ Jesus as Lord.¹⁸⁸

Moreover, the Apostle Paul announced to believers in Christ Jesus that there is NO CONDEMNATION for those who have spiritual union and faithfulness to Christ Jesus, because those who walk and live in obedience to Christ Jesus have been made the final sin offering, securing their deliverance and forgiveness of sins and shame.¹⁸⁹ Believers *in* Jesus are baptized and buried with Christ Jesus’ death by faith and then resurrected and redeemed with Christ Jesus with a new spiritual life and no longer bound as Satan’s slaves to sin, evil, and death because they have *died* to Satan’s selfish and harmful living and made a *decision* to become slaves of righteousness and instruments of goodness.¹⁹⁰

Significantly, the Apostle Paul encouraged God’s people to walk in the newness of life with love, forgiveness, and kindness toward one another, including our spouse, children, and co-workers, because of their faithful union *in* Christ Jesus.¹⁹¹ In Christ Jesus, believers are declared holy and blameless before the living God of Heaven, and the Apostle Paul encouraged believers to live out that new spiritual life and holiness by

¹⁸⁴ See e.g., Matthew 5:1-7:29; Matthew 22:34-40; Matthew 23:23; Mark 11:25-26; Mark 12:29-34; Luke 6:20-49; Luke 10:25-37; Luke 11:1-4, 42; Luke 12:31; John 13:34-35; John 15:12, 17; 1 Corinthians 10:31; Ephesians 4:25-32; cf. Leviticus 19:1-37; Deuteronomy 6:4-6, 13-17; Zechariah 7:8-10.

¹⁸⁵ See e.g., Matthew 22:34-40.

¹⁸⁶ Ephesians 1:1-3, 6, 15, 18; Ephesians 2:4-5, 8-9, 14; see also John 10:10; John 14:1, 10-11, 15-17, 21, 23, 27; John 15:9-10; John 16:33; Romans 5:1-2; Philippians 4:7

¹⁸⁷ Ephesians 1:8, 13-14; see also 1 Corinthians 1:24, 30; Colossians 2:3.

¹⁸⁸ Ephesians 2:4-10; Ephesians 3:8, 18; see also Luke 24:47; John 3:16-18, 36; Acts 2:36-40; Acts 3:19-20; Romans 5:8, 10-11; Romans 8:1.

¹⁸⁹ See e.g., Romans 7:25; Romans 8:1-4, 32; 1 Corinthians 15:57.

¹⁹⁰ See e.g., Romans 6:1-10, 16, 23; Galatians 2:20.

¹⁹¹ See e.g., Ephesians 4:17-6:9; Colossians 3:1-4:6; see also Matthew 5:43-48; Luke 6:27-38; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; 1 Peter 3:1-4:11; 1 John 3:11-4:21.

living humble, loving lives toward one another for God's glory.¹⁹² Believers in Christ Jesus are redeemed and adopted into God's Kingdom family as His children, made holy and blameless, with their dark spirit and sins forever washed away by Christ Jesus' blood because they trust by faith in Christ Jesus' atoning sacrifice and death for their sins and shame on Calvary's Cross.¹⁹³ The living God of Heaven helps His children grow and mature so they can obey Him as their Holy Father through faithfulness to His Son, Christ Jesus, by the power of the Holy Spirit.¹⁹⁴

New Testament teaches that the grace of God that brings salvation and deliverance appeared in Christ Jesus our Lord, and Christ Jesus taught everyone to repent by turning away from sin, ungodliness, and worldly lusts and instead live sober, righteous, and godly lives in the world that loves God and cares for one another.¹⁹⁵ Christ Jesus is our great God and Savior, and He gave Himself to humankind to redeem and deliver us from Satan's lawless deeds and purify with cleansing for Himself a people by His Holy Spirit, who are zealous for producing a harvest of good works and good deeds and no longer living as slaves to Satan's sinful and self-centered living, which leads to suffering, sickness, and death.¹⁹⁶

XI. Empowerment of the Holy Spirit

The living God of Heaven has moved throughout the earth by *His Holy Spirit* to empower and strengthen His faithful servants and prophets throughout the ages.¹⁹⁷ For example, the Holy Spirit of God empowered Moses and Joshua to lead the Israelites to cross the Jordan River into God's Promised Land.¹⁹⁸ Moreover, King David and our Lord Jesus Christ were anointed and empowered by the Holy Spirit of God with God's presence for good works and deeds.¹⁹⁹

From the Old Testament to the New Testament and today, the living God of Heaven has given all people His holy instructions and teachings to *obey* Him and humbly walk in *obedience*, with love and *faithfulness* to Him and His commands, so His blessings and

¹⁹² Ephesians 1:3-4; Ephesians 2:8-10; see also Matthew 5:14-16; Romans 5:1-2; 1 Corinthians 1:2, 30; 1 Corinthians 10:31; Galatians 5:14, 22-24; cf. Leviticus 19:18.

¹⁹³ Ephesians 1:5, 7, 11, 14; Ephesians 5:25-27; see also Matthew 20:28; Mark 10:45; John 1:12-13; Romans 3:24-26; Romans 4:25; Romans 8:15-17, 29-32; Galatians 4:4-5; Colossians 1:22; Titus 3:5-7; Hebrews 9:11-12, 26-28; 1 Peter 1:18-19; 1 Peter 2:24; 1 John 2:1-2; 1 John 4:9-12; Jude 1:24-25; Revelation 1:5-6; Revelation 5:6, 9-10.

¹⁹⁴ See e.g., Deuteronomy 26:16-18; Matthew 6:9.

¹⁹⁵ See e.g., Matthew 4:17; Matthew 7:12; Matthew 22:34-40; Mark 1:14-15; Romans 13:8-14; 1 Thessalonians 5:22; 1 Timothy 6:11; 2 Timothy 1:9-10; 2 Timothy 2:19-22; Titus 2:11-12; 1 Peter 3:7; cf. Joel 2:12-13; Amos 5:4, 6, 14-15, 24; Zephaniah 2:2-3.

¹⁹⁶ See e.g., Romans 6:1-2, 16, 23; Romans 9:5; Romans 12:1-2, 9-21; Romans Titus 2:13-14; Titus 3:8, 14; Hebrews 1:3; 2 Peter 1:1.

¹⁹⁷ See e.g., Numbers 11:16-30; Psalm 23:1-6; Psalm 46:1; Psalm 143:10-12.

¹⁹⁸ See e.g., Numbers 12:6-8; Numbers 27:18; Deuteronomy 34:9-12.

¹⁹⁹ See e.g., 1 Samuel 16:13; Isaiah 61:1-2; Luke 4:1, 14, 18-19; Acts 10:38.

spiritual presence can come into His people's lives.²⁰⁰ Unfortunately, many people of God in the Old Testament failed repeatedly to love and obey the living God of Heaven wholeheartedly, so He promised to place His holy commands of truth (the Law of God) in their hearts through His Holy Spirit so they would obey Him.²⁰¹ In other words, the living God of Heaven promised in the Old Testament to write His holy commands on the people's inward hearts so they would obey Him, and that promise was fulfilled with the coming of His Son, Christ Jesus our Lord.²⁰²

During His public ministry on earth, Christ Jesus our Lord promised to graciously give from His Holy Father the gifting and outpouring of the Holy Spirit of God, with new spiritual life and salvation, to EVERYONE through repentance and faithful obedience to Him and His teaching, which comes from His Holy Father.²⁰³ John the Baptist declared, when announcing Christ Jesus's arrival, that Christ Jesus would baptize everyone with the fiery Holy Spirit of God to give everyone from His Holy Father an internal cleansing and purification through repentance, with faithfulness and union with Him as Lord and Savior.²⁰⁴ The teaching and words of Christ Jesus our Lord are Living Water that brings spiritual transformation and life from His Holy Father, cleansing, renewing, and empowering our hearts so we can live holy and godly lives as He and His Holy Father command.²⁰⁵ Christ Jesus is the Source and Author of new life and salvation to everyone who looks to Him with faith and obedience because He empowers and seals believers in Him with every spiritual blessing and grace to walk and live according to the law of the Spirit, which brings a new heart and life without condemnation.²⁰⁶ Living sinful and selfish lives bring death, but the living God of Heaven made us ALIVE with His Son, Christ Jesus, forgave all our sins, and canceled our indebtedness leading to condemnation by nailing those sins to Christ Jesus' Cross with Him at Calvary.²⁰⁷

Everyone who believes and trusts in Christ Jesus is born of God and receives a new spiritual life from heaven, wanting to love and obey the living God of Heaven and do

²⁰⁰ See e.g., Exodus 15:25-26; Exodus 19:5-6; Exodus 20:1-17; Leviticus 26:3, 12-13; Deuteronomy 5:10, 32-33; Deuteronomy 6:1-6, 13-18, 24-25; Deuteronomy 28:1-14; 1 Samuel 15:22-23; Psalm 51:16; Jeremiah 7:22-23; Daniel 9:4; Hosea 6:6; Micah 6:6-8; Matthew 22:37; John 14:15-18, 21, 23-24, 31; John 15:9-17.

²⁰¹ See e.g., Jeremiah 31:33; Ezekiel 11:18-20; Ezekiel 18:31; Ezekiel 36:26-27; Ezekiel 37:23; Zechariah 8:8; cf. Deuteronomy 6:6; Deuteronomy 11:18; Deuteronomy 30:10-15.

²⁰² See e.g., 2 Corinthians 3:3; Hebrews 8:10; Hebrews 10:16.

²⁰³ See e.g., Luke 24:47-49; John 3:3-8, 16-17, 35-36; John 14:26, 31; John 15:26-27; Acts 1:4-5, 8; Acts 2:1-4, 33, 38-40; Acts 5:32; Ephesians 2:8-10; Titus 3:3-8.

²⁰⁴ Matthew 3:2, 11-12; Matthew 4:17; Mark 1:4, 7-8, 14-15; Luke 3:3, 16-18; John 4:10-14; John 15:1-6; John 20:22; see also Acts 1:4-5, 8; Acts 2:1-4, 17, 33, 36-40; cf. Joel 2:28-32.

²⁰⁵ See e.g., John 4:10-14; John 6:63, 68; John 7:37-39; John 16:7-13; Romans 12:1-2; 1 Corinthians 1:2, 30; Ephesians 5:26; Hebrews 2:11; Hebrews 10:10, 14; 1 Peter 2:24; cf. Isaiah 44:3; Isaiah 55:1-2.

²⁰⁶ See e.g., John 14:26; John 15:26-27; Acts 3:15; Romans 8:1-4; Ephesians 1:3, 6, 13-14; Hebrews 2:10-11; Hebrews 5:9.

²⁰⁷ Colossians 2:13-15; see also Ephesians 2:1-3; 1 Peter 2:24; cf. Isaiah 53:12.

good and not evil.²⁰⁸ The Holy Spirit of God, as the Spirit of Truth, gives everyone - Jews and Gentiles (non-Jews) through faithful obedience to Christ Jesus an equal inheritance as God's children, with a clean spirit and seal of salvation from the living God of Heaven that declares believers as adopted children of God and co-heirs with Christ Jesus our Lord along with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.²⁰⁹ By His grace, the living God of Heaven *gives* believers in Christ Jesus an inheritance to share equally in His Kingdom of light with His Son, Christ Jesus, and He also rescues *faithful* believers in Christ Jesus from Satan's dominion of darkness so we can have redemption and forgiveness of sins for eternity.²¹⁰ In other words, the blessings and healings of God are FREE through Christ Jesus with no side effects!

Therefore, the Holy Bible encourages everyone to remain united with Christ Jesus in fellowship and remain deeply rooted in Him and His holy commands with faithful obedience and thanksgiving.²¹¹ As we remain united and deeply rooted in Christ Jesus, the living God of Heaven strengthens believers in Christ Jesus with the Holy Spirit's power and strengthening so that Christ Jesus and His love may dwell in our hearts, minds, and our inner beings.²¹² Moreover, Christ Jesus our Lord brings an *internal circumcision* of our hearts by the Holy Spirit of God to remove and bury our old selfish and sinful lives so we can be raised with a new spiritual life and forgiveness of sins to live united with Him.²¹³ Unfortunately, rebelling against the living God of Heaven, following and obeying Satan's deeds of darkness grieves the Holy Spirit of God and causes the Holy Spirit's goodness and peace to depart from your life.²¹⁴

Importantly, faithful believers in Christ Jesus, through union with Him, become overcomers and more than conquerors with victory over Satan's *dark, sinful, and selfish living*, with inner strengthening and empowerment for goodness and holy living for God's glory and honor.²¹⁵ Christ Jesus our Lord and His Holy Father, who loves and comforts us, give faithful believers by the gracious Holy Spirit the hearts and strengthening for every good word and good deed so they can live holy, wise, and blameless lives that shun evil for God's glory and honor.²¹⁶ Examples of good deeds and virtues all believers are empowered and energized by through the Holy Spirit's

²⁰⁸ See e.g., John 1:12-13; John 3:3-8, 16-17, 36; John 17:2-3; 1 John 2:3-5, 23; 1 John 5:1-2, 11-12.

²⁰⁹ See e.g., John 14:15-18, 26; John 15:26-27; John 16:13; Acts 5:32; Romans 8:14-17, 23; 2 Corinthians 1:21-22; 2 Corinthians 5:5; Galatians 3:26-29; Galatians 4:4-7; Ephesians 1:5, 13-14; Ephesians 3:12; Hebrews 2:10-11; 1 Peter 1:3-5.

²¹⁰ Colossians 1:12-14; see also Romans 3:24-26; Ephesians 1:7.

²¹¹ See Colossians 2:6-7.

²¹² Ephesians 3:16-19; see also Romans 8:35-39; Philippians 4:13.

²¹³ Colossians 2:11-13; see also Romans 2:28-29; Romans 6:3-4.

²¹⁴ See e.g., 1 Samuel 16:13-14; Ephesians 4:30.

²¹⁵ See e.g., John 16:33; Romans 8:37; 1 Corinthians 15:57; 1 John 2:15-17; 1 John 5:4-5.

²¹⁶ See e.g., Matthew 5:14-16; 1 Corinthians 1:2, 24, 30; 1 Corinthians 10:31; Philippians 4:13, 19; 1 Thessalonians 3:11-13; 1 Thessalonians 5:22; 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17; cf. Job 28:28; Psalm 110:10; Proverbs 1:7; Proverbs 9:10.

inner strengthening are found at John 13:34-35; Romans 12:9-21; Romans 13:8-10; 2 Corinthians 6:6-10; Galatians 5:14-15, 22-23; Ephesians 4:1-2, 32; Ephesians 5:1-2, 8-9; Philippians 4:4, 8-9; Colossians 3:12-15; 1 Peter 1:22; 1 John 4:7, 11-12, 21. Here is even more Good News: Nothing can separate us from God's love and grace through faith and union in Christ Jesus as our Lord and Savior.²¹⁷

XII. Conclusion

Satan's sin and selfishness still exist in the world and have existed since the beginning of human creation, starting with Genesis. The living God of Heaven will defeat Satan and all his evil workers, and believers in Christ Jesus will live in victory for all eternity.²¹⁸

Here is the Good News: Everyone can overcome and defeat Satan and his evil workers that cause slavery and bondage to darkness, depression, disease, and death through repentance by turning from Satan's darkness and turning instead with faithfulness and obedience to the living God of Heaven and His Son, Christ Jesus, as Lord and Savior.²¹⁹ The living God of Heaven so loved the world that He gave His Son, Christ Jesus, as a sin offering to atone for our sins and self-centered living, and He gave us a new life of freedom and deliverance with empowerment from the Holy Spirit of God so we can live victorious lives that overcome and defeat sinful and dark living. The amazing grace and love of the living God of Heaven are revealed through His Son, Christ Jesus, who became the cure to heal and save us from sinfulness and wrongdoing. Overcoming Satan's sinful, criminal, and selfish living takes the fullness of God - God the Father, God the Son (Christ Jesus), and God the Spirit - living inside your hearts and minds to bring a new and holy life from heaven.²²⁰

Let everyone give thanksgiving unto the living God of Heaven, who always causes believers in Jesus to triumph in Christ Jesus as Lord.²²¹ The living God of Heaven loves us, and He wants a personal relationship and fellowship with us now and for all eternity through His Son, Christ Jesus.²²² Nothing can separate us from the abundant love of God through faithful obedience to Him and His Son, Christ Jesus our Lord (Messiah Yeshua our Adonai).²²³ Christ Jesus is Lord!

"Now thanks be unto God, which always cause us to triumph in Christ Jesus."
2 Corinthians 2:14 (KJV).

²¹⁷ See e.g., Romans 8:35-39.

²¹⁸ See e.g., Luke 10:18-19; Revelation 20:7-10

²¹⁹ See e.g., Mark 6:12-13; Acts 2:36-40; Acts 3:19-20; Acts 17:30.

²²⁰ See e.g., John 3:3-8, 16-17, 35-36; Acts 2:33; 1 Corinthians 12:13; Titus 3:3-8.

²²¹ See e.g., Romans 6:17-18; Romans 7:25; 2 Corinthians 2:14.

²²² See e.g., Romans 10:9-13.

²²³ See e.g., John 3:16; Romans 8:34-38; 1 John 3:1-2.