

HEAVEN IS AT HAND.

Mk 1:15-AND SAYING, THE TIME IS FULFILLED, AND THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS AT HAND: *REPENT* YE, AND BELIEVE THE GOSPEL.

Mk 6:12-AND THEY WENT OUT, AND PREACHED THAT MEN SHOULD *REPENT*.

Lk 13:3-I TELL YOU, NAY: BUT, EXCEPT YE *REPENT*, YE SHALL ALL LIKEWISE PERISH.

Lk 13:5-I TELL YOU, NAY: BUT, EXCEPT YE *REPENT*, YE SHALL ALL LIKEWISE PERISH.

Acts 26:20-BUT SHEWED FIRST UNTO THEM OF DAMASCUS, AND AT JERUSALEM, AND THROUGHOUT ALL THE COASTS OF JUDAEA, AND THEN TO THE GENTILES, THAT THEY SHOULD *REPENT* AND TURN TO GOD, AND DO WORKS MEET FOR REPENTANCE.

PEOPLE **REPENT** (AS MEANING TURNING BACK TO THE WRONG WAY)

Ex 13:17-AND IT CAME TO PASS, WHEN PHARAOH HAD LET THE PEOPLE GO, THAT GOD LED THEM NOT THROUGH THE WAY OF THE LAND OF THE PHILISTINES, ALTHOUGH THAT WAS NEAR; FOR GOD SAID, LEST PERADVENTURE THE PEOPLE *REPENT* WHEN THEY SEE WAR, AND THEY RETURN TO EGYPT:

Jere 26:13-THEREFORE NOW AMEND YOUR WAYS AND YOUR DOINGS, AND OBEY THE VOICE OF THE LORD YOUR GOD; AND THE LORD WILL *REPENT* HIM OF THE EVIL THAT HE HATH PRONOUNCED AGAINST YOU.

IF A PERSON WILL NOT BE PERSUADED TO **REPENT** FROM GOD'S WORD IN THE BIBLE, THEN NEITHER WILL THEY BE PERSUADED EVEN IF ONE ROSE FROM THE DEAD AND WENT TO THEM

Lk 16:30, 31-AND HE (the rich man in hell) SAID, NAY, FATHER ABRAHAM: BUT IF ONE WENT UNTO THEM (his 5 brethren) FROM THE DEAD, THEY WILL *REPENT*. AND HE (Abraham) SAID UNTO HIM, IF THEY HEAR NOT MOSES AND THE PROPHETS (or if they will not hear God's Word in the Bible), NEITHER WILL THEY BE PERSUADED, THOUGH ONE ROSE FROM THE DEAD.

GOD AND **REPENT**

Num 23:19-GOD IS NOT A MAN, THAT HE SHOULD LIE; NEITHER THE SON OF MAN, THAT HE SHOULD *REPENT*: HATH HE SAID, AND SHALL HE NOT DO IT? OR HATH HE SPOKEN, AND SHALL HE NOT MAKE IT GOOD?

1 Sam 15:29-AND ALSO THE STRENGTH OF ISRAEL WILL NOT LIE NOR *REPENT*: FOR HE IS NOT A MAN, THAT HE SHOULD *REPENT*.

Ps 110:4-THE LORD HATH SWORN, AND WILL NOT *REPENT*, THOU ART A PRIEST FOR EVER AFTER THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK.

Heb 7:21-(FOR THOSE PRIESTS WERE MADE WITHOUT AN OATH; BUT THIS WITH AN OATH BY HIM THAT SAID UNTO HIM, THE LORD SWARE AND WILL NOT *REPENT*, THOU ART A PRIEST FOR EVER AFTER THE ORDER OF MELCHISEDEC:)

Jere 4:28-FOR THIS SHALL THE EARTH MOURN, AND THE HEAVENS ABOVE BE BLACK: BECAUSE I HAVE SPOKEN IT, I HAVE PURPOSED IT, AND WILL NOT *REPENT*, NEITHER WILL I TURN BACK FROM IT.

Ezek 24:14-I THE LORD HAVE SPOKEN IT: IT SHALL COME TO PASS, AND I WILL DO IT; I WILL NOT GO BACK, NEITHER WILL I SPARE, NEITHER WILL I *REPENT*; ACCORDING TO THY WAYS, AND ACCORDING TO THY DOINGS, SHALL THEY JUDGE THEE, SAITH THE LORD GOD.

GOD WILL **REPENT** OF THE EVIL AGAINST NATIONS IF THEY WILL **REPENT**
GOD WILL **REPENT** OF THE GOOD HE DOES FOR NATIONS IF THEY TURN AWAY

Jere 18:8-IF THAT NATION, AGAINST WHOM I HAVE PRONOUNCED, TURN FROM THEIR EVIL, I WILL *REPENT* OF THE EVIL THAT I THOUGHT TO DO UNTO THEM.

Jere 18:10-IF IT DO EVIL IN MY SIGHT, THAT IT OBEY NOT MY VOICE, THEN I WILL *REPENT* OF THE GOOD, WHEREWITH I SAID I WOULD BENEFIT THEM.

Jere 26:3-IF SO BE THEY WILL HEARKEN, AND TURN EVERY MAN FROM HIS EVIL WAY, THAT I MAY *REPENT* ME OF THE EVIL, WHICH I PURPOSE TO DO UNTO THEM BECAUSE OF THE EVIL OF THEIR DOINGS.

Jere 42:10-IF YE WILL STILL ABIDE IN THIS LAND, THEN WILL I BUILD YOU, AND NOT PULL YOU DOWN, AND I WILL PLANT YOU, AND NOT PLUCK YOU UP: FOR I *REPENT* ME OF THE EVIL THAT I HAVE DONE UNTO YOU.

Ezek 14:6-THEREFORE SAY UNTO THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL, THUS SAITH THE LORD GOD; *REPENT*, AND TURN YOURSELVES FROM YOUR IDOLS; AND TURN AWAY YOUR FACES FROM ALL YOUR ABOMINATIONS.

Ps 135:14-FOR THE LORD WILL JUDGE HIS PEOPLE, AND HE WILL *REPENT* HIMSELF CONCERNING HIS SERVANTS.

THE CHURCH AND PEOPLE REGARDING *REPENT*

Rev 2:5-REMEMBER THEREFORE FROM WHENCE THOU ART FALLEN, AND *REPENT*, AND DO THE FIRST WORKS; OR ELSE I WILL COME UNTO THEE QUICKLY, AND WILL REMOVE THY CANDLESTICK OUT OF HIS PLACE, EXCEPT THOU *REPENT*.

Rev 2:16-*REPENT*; OR ELSE I WILL COME UNTO THEE QUICKLY, AND WILL FIGHT AGAINST THEM WITH THE SWORD OF MY MOUTH.

Rev 2:21-AND I GAVE HER SPACE TO *REPENT* OF HER FORNICATION; AND SHE REPENTED NOT.

Rev 2:22-BEHOLD, I WILL CAST HER INTO A BED, AND THEM THAT COMMIT ADULTERY WITH HER INTO GREAT TRIBULATION, EXCEPT THEY *REPENT* OF THEIR DEEDS.

Rev 3:3-REMEMBER THEREFORE HOW THOU HAST RECEIVED AND HEARD, AND HOLD FAST, AND *REPENT*. IF THEREFORE THOU SHALT NOT WATCH, I WILL COME ON THEE AS A THIEF, AND THOU SHALT NOT KNOW WHAT HOUR I WILL COME UPON THEE.

Rev 3:19-AS MANY AS I LOVE, I REBUKE AND CHASTEN: BE ZEALOUS THEREFORE, AND *REPENT*.

FORGIVE A BROTHER THAT *REPENTS*

Lk 17:3-TAKE HEED TO YOURSELVES: IF THY BROTHER TRESPASS AGAINST THEE, REBUKE HIM; AND IF HE *REPENT*, FORGIVE HIM.

Lk 17:4-AND IF HE TRESPASS AGAINST THEE SEVEN TIMES IN A DAY, AND SEVEN TIMES IN A DAY TURN AGAIN TO THEE, SAYING, I *REPENT*; THOU SHALT FORGIVE HIM.

OTHER MISC. VERSES USING THE WORD *REPENT*

Ex 32:12; Deut 32:36; Ps 90:13; Joel 2:14; Jonah 3:9

2 Cor 7:8-FOR THOUGH I MADE YOU SORRY WITH A LETTER, I DO NOT *REPENT*, THOUGH I DID *REPENT*: FOR I PERCEIVE THAT THE SAME EPISTLE HATH MADE YOU SORRY, THOUGH IT WERE BUT FOR A SEASON.

KINGDOM OF GOD

The kingdom of God is never mentioned in the Old Testament. It is mentioned in the New Testament about 69 times.

The kingdom of God-ref Mk 1:14 (pt 3) and the kingdom of Heaven (ref Mk 1:15 (pt 2) and Mt 4:17 (pt 3) are sometimes used interchangeably. The kingdom of God can be a specific place. It can be the dwelling place of God. It can represent salvation. One meaning is God's active present rulership-ref JNT. It can include things concerning Jesus, the law of Moses, and the prophets. It can represent the future kingdom yet to come. The kingdom of God is righteousness and peace. It is joy in the Holy Ghost. It is in power. It can be within you.

The kingdom of heaven is never mentioned in the Old Testament. It is mentioned in the New Testament about 32 times, however it is only mentioned in Matthew's Gospel.

The word Heaven is often used in such a sense that it substitutes for the word "God". Other times it may be referring to the air, the sky, firmament or expanse of space surrounding the earth, or paradise, the rulership of God, or even a condition. It can be referring to this present time, such as the time is at hand, the future. or the time when Jesus Christ will reign

The word "heaven" can mean: the abode of God, the angels, and the born again Christians after death.

KINGDOM OF GOD

ABBREVIATED VERSES CONCERNING THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Kingdom of God—is to be preached, showed, spoken about, expounded, testified

IT IS PREACHED SINCE JOHN
JESUS MUST PREACH IT
JESUS SENT TO PREACH IT
JESUS PREACHED IT
JESUS PREACHED THE GOSPEL OF IT
JESUS SHOWED IT
JESUS SPOKE OF IT
JESUS SENT OTHERS TO PREACH IT
JESUS SENT THEM TO PREACH IT
JESUS COMMANDED A PERSON TO GO AND PREACH IT BEFORE THEY BURIED THE DEAD
JESUS SPOKE OF IT AFTER HIS PASSION
PAUL SPOKE OF THINGS CONCERNING IT
PAUL PREACHED IT
PAUL EXPOUNDED IT
PAUL TESTIFIED OF IT
PHILIP PREACHED THINGS CONCERNING IT

Kingdom of God—some have wrong ideas about it

THEY THOUGHT IT SHOULD IMMEDIATELY APPEAR

Kingdom of God—a person should seek

IT IS THAT WHICH A PERSON SHOULD SEEK
IT IS THAT WHICH A PERSON SHOULD FIRST

Kingdom of God—when it comes

IT CAN BE SEEN IT WHEN IT COMES
IT SHALL COME WITH POWER

Kingdom of God—how it comes; and where is it?

IT DOES NOT COME WITH OBSERVATION
THEY SHALL NOT SAY OF IT, LO HERE OR LO THERE
IT IS WITHIN YOU

Kingdom of God—is come to you, is come upon you, it is come near to you, it is at hand

IT SHALL COME
IT IS COME TO YOU
IF I WITH THE FINGER OF GOD CAST OUT DEVILS, NO DOUBT THE *KINGDOM OF GOD* IS COME
UPON YOU
SAY TO THOSE YOU HEALED, THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS COME NEAR TO YOU
SAY TO THEM THAT REFUSE YOU, THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS COME NEAR TO YOU
IT IS AT HAND

Kingdom of God—when to know it is at hand

THE LATTER DAYS-WHEN A PERSON SEES THESE THINGS HAPPEN, KNOW THAT IT IS NIGH AT HAND

Kingdom of God—glad tidings

THERE ARE GLAD TIDINGS OF IT

Kingdom of God—a mystery

THERE IS A MYSTERY OF IT
THERE ARE MYSTERIES OF IT

Kingdom of God—wait for it, see it, shall know it, enter it

SOME WAIT FOR IT
SOME CAN SEE (or understand) IT
SOME SHALL SEE IT BEFORE THEY DIE
SOME CAN KNOW IT
IT CAN BE KNOWN IF THE UNDERSTANDING IS GIVEN TO YOU TO KNOW
IT CAN BE ENTERED
A PERSON CANNOT ENTER IT IF IT IS NOT RECEIVED AS LITTLE CHILDREN
IT CAN ONLY BE ENTERED GOD'S WAY

Kingdom of God—only some shall know it, wait for it, see it, enter it, go into it, sit in it, it is theirs

SOME CAN KNOW IT
SOME CAN SEE (or understand) IT
SOME SHALL SEE IT BEFORE THEY DIE
IT CAN BE KNOWN IF THE UNDERSTANDING IS GIVEN TO YOU TO KNOW
IT IS A PLACE TO GO INTO
THEY SHALL COME FROM ALL DIRECTIONS AND SHALL SIT DOWN IN IT
NO MAN THAT HAS BEGAN TO FOLLOW JESUS AND LOOKS BACK IS FIT FOR IT
THE POOR ARE BLESSED BECAUSE IT IS THEIRS

Kingdom of God—it is difficult or impossible for these to enter it; only some can enter it; conditions to enter it

IT IS DIFFICULT FOR A RICH MAN TO ENTER
IT IS HARD FOR A RICH MAN TO ENTER INTO IT
IT IS DIFFICULT FOR THOSE THAT HAVE RICHES TO ENTER
IT IS HARD FOR THOSE THAT TRUST IN RICHES TO ENTER
IT IS EASIER FOR A CAMEL TO GO THROUGH A NEEDLE'S EYE THAN FOR A RICH MAN TO ENTER IT
WORKERS OF INIQUITY SHALL SEE THE PROPHETS IN IT
WORKERS OF INIQUITY SHALL BE THRUST OUT OF IT
IT CAN BE KNOWN IF THE UNDERSTANDING IS GIVEN TO YOU TO KNOW
SOME CAN KNOW IT, SEE (or understand) IT
A PERSON CANNOT ENTER IT **IF IT IS NOT RECEIVED AS LITTLE CHILDREN**
ANY THAT WILL NOT RECEIVE IT AS A LITTLE CHILD SHALL NOT ENTER
IT CAN ONLY BE ENTERED GOD'S WAY
MUST BE BORN OF WATER AND OF THE SPIRIT OR CANNOT ENTER INTO IT
MUST BE BORN AGAIN OR CANNOT SEE IT
WE MUST THROUGH MUCH TRIBULATION (or hardships, persecutions, sufferings, etc.) ENTER INTO IT
IT SHALL BE TAKEN FROM YOU AND GIVEN TO ANOTHER
THESE SHALL NOT ENTER IT: UNRIGHTEOUS, FORNICATORS, IDOLATERS, ADULTERERS, EFFEMINATE,
ABUSERS OF THEMSELVES WITH MANKIND, THIEVES, COVETOUS, DRUNKARDS, REVILERS,
EXTORTIONERS
THESE SHALL NOT ENTER IT: FLESH AND BLOOD, OR CORRUPTION
THESE SHALL NOT INHERIT IT: ENVYINGS, MURDERS, DRUNKENNESS, REVELLINGS, AND SUCH LIKE
THESE ARE FELLOWWORKERS UNTO IT
NO MAN THAT HAS BEGAN TO FOLLOW JESUS AND LOOKS BACK IS FIT FOR IT

Kingdom of God—you suffer for it

YE SUFFER FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Kingdom of God—what can show if a person is not far from it

A PERSON’S WORDS CAN SHOW IF HE IS NOT FAR FROM IT

Kingdom of God—it is; it is as if

WITH WHAT COMPARISON SHALL WE COMPARE IT

IT IS AS IF A MAN SHOULD CAST SEED INTO THE GROUND

IT IS LIKE A GRAIN OF MUSTARD SEED

IT IS LIKE LEAVEN

IT CAN INCLUDE THINGS CONCERNING JESUS, THE LAW OF MOSES AND THE PROPHETS-ref Acts 28:23

IT IS NOT MEAT AND DRINK

IT IS RIGHTEOUSNESS

IT IS PEACE

IT IS JOY IN THE HOLY GHOST

IT IS NOT IN WORD

IT IS IN POWER

IT IS SUCH AS LITTLE CHILDREN COMING TO JESUS

Kingdom of God—what shall happen there and information about it

JESUS SHALL DRINK OF THE FRUIT OF THE VINE IN IT

IN IT, HE THAT IS LEAST IS GREATER THAN JOHN THE BAPTIST

A PERSON SAID, BLESSED IS HE THAT SHALL EAT BREAD IN THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*.

PEOPLE SHALL SIT DOWN IN IT

PASSOVER SHALL BE FULFILLED IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD

JESUS WILL NO LONGER DRINK OF THE FRUIT OF THE VINE UNTIL IT SHALL COME

Kingdom of God—presseth into it

EVERY MAN PRESSETH INTO IT

Kingdom of God—that you may be accounted worthy of it

WE THANK GOD BECAUSE YOUR FAITH GROWS EXCEEDINGLY,...THAT YE MAY BE ACCOUNTED WORTHY OF IT

AND THE CHARITY (or love) TOWARD EACH OTHER ABOUNDS...THAT YE MAY BE ACCOUNTED WORTHY OF IT

PATIENCE AND FAITH IN YOUR PERSECUTIONS...THAT YE MAY BE ACCOUNTED WORTHY OF IT

AND TRIBULATIONS YE ENDURE...THAT YE MAY BE ACCOUNTED WORTHY OF IT

THAT YE MAY BE COUNTED WORTHY OF THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*, FOR WHICH YE ALSO SUFFER

(A person that is self assured, or self centered, or thinks they know lots of things, or is prideful, really does not see or understand the kingdom of God. The person that always seems to have an answer for everything, or talks a lot, does not really see or understand the kingdom of God as they ought. A person that talks a lot about themselves or other people or wants to be the center of attention does not have the Word of God hid in their heart as they ought)

The meek, the quiet, the humble, the broken, the childlike, the easily correctable, are much more likely to know the mystery of the kingdom of God and to ultimately enter it.

One should examine themselves to see if they be in the faith as it is written in God’s Word.

KINGDOM OF GOD

FULL VERSES CONCERNING THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Mt 6:33-BUT SEEK YE FIRST THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*, AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS; AND ALL THESE THINGS SHALL BE ADDED UNTO YOU.

Mt 12:28-BUT IF I CAST OUT DEVILS BY THE SPIRIT OF GOD, THEN THE *KINGDOM OF GOD* IS COME UNTO YOU.

Mt 19:24-AND AGAIN I SAY UNTO YOU, IT IS EASIER FOR A CAMEL TO GO THROUGH THE EYE OF A NEEDLE, THAN FOR A RICH MAN TO ENTER INTO THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*.

Mt 21:31-WHETHER OF THEM TWAIN DID THE WILL OF HIS FATHER? THEY SAY UNTO HIM, THE FIRST. JESUS SAITH UNTO THEM, VERILY I SAY UNTO YOU, THAT THE PUBLICANS AND THE HARLOTS GO INTO THE *KINGDOM OF GOD* BEFORE YOU.

Mt 21:43-THEREFORE SAY I UNTO YOU, THE *KINGDOM OF GOD* SHALL BE TAKEN FROM YOU, AND GIVEN TO A NATION BRINGING FORTH THE FRUITS THEREOF.

Mk 1:14-NOW AFTER THAT JOHN WAS PUT IN PRISON, JESUS CAME INTO GALILEE, PREACHING THE GOSPEL OF THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*.

Mk 1:15-AND SAYING, THE TIME IS FULFILLED, AND THE *KINGDOM OF GOD* IS AT HAND: *REPENT YE*, AND BELIEVE THE GOSPEL.

Mk 4:11-AND HE SAID UNTO THEM, UNTO YOU IT IS GIVEN TO KNOW THE MYSTERY OF THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*: BUT UNTO THEM THAT ARE WITHOUT, ALL THESE THINGS ARE DONE IN PARABLES.

Mk 4:26-AND HE SAID, SO IS THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*, AS IF A MAN SHOULD CAST SEED INTO THE GROUND.

Mk 4:30-AND HE SAID, WHEREUNTO SHALL WE LIKEN THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*? OR WITH WHAT COMPARISON SHALL WE COMPARE IT?

Mk 9:1-AND HE SAID UNTO THEM, VERILY I SAY UNTO YOU, THAT THERE BE SOME OF THEM THAT STAND HERE, WHICH SHALL NOT TASTE OF DEATH, TILL THEY HAVE SEEN THE *KINGDOM OF GOD* COME WITH POWER.

Mk 9:47-AND IF THINE EYE OFFEND THEE, PLUCK IT OUT: IT IS BETTER FOR THEE TO ENTER INTO THE *KINGDOM OF GOD* WITH ONE EYE, THAN HAVING TWO EYES TO BE CAST INTO HELL FIRE.

Mk 10:14-BUT WHEN JESUS SAW IT, HE WAS MUCH DISPLEASED, AND SAID UNTO THEM, SUFFER THE LITTLE CHILDREN TO COME UNTO ME, AND FORBID THEM NOT: FOR OF SUCH IS THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*.

Mk 10:15-VERILY I SAY UNTO YOU, WHOSOEVER SHALL NOT RECEIVE THE *KINGDOM OF GOD* AS A LITTLE CHILD, HE SHALL NOT ENTER THEREIN.

Mk 10:23-AND JESUS LOOKED ROUND ABOUT, AND SAITH UNTO HIS DISCIPLES, HOW HARDLY SHALL THEY THAT HAVE RICHES ENTER INTO THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*!

Mk 10:24-AND THE DISCIPLES WERE ASTONISHED AT HIS WORDS. BUT JESUS ANSWERETH AGAIN, AND SAITH UNTO THEM, CHILDREN, HOW HARD IS IT FOR THEM THAT TRUST IN RICHES TO ENTER INTO THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*!

Mk 10:25-IT IS EASIER FOR A CAMEL TO GO THROUGH THE EYE OF A NEEDLE, THAN FOR A RICH MAN TO ENTER INTO THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*.

Mk 12:34-AND WHEN JESUS SAW THAT HE ANSWERED DISCREETLY, HE SAID UNTO HIM, THOU ART NOT FAR FROM THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*. AND NO MAN AFTER THAT DURST ASK HIM ANY QUESTION.

Mk 14:25-VERILY I SAY UNTO YOU, I WILL DRINK NO MORE OF THE FRUIT OF THE VINE, UNTIL THAT DAY THAT I DRINK IT NEW IN THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*.

Mk 15:43-JOSEPH OF ARIMATHAEA, AN HONOURABLE COUNSELLOR, WHICH ALSO WAITED FOR THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*, CAME, AND WENT IN BOLDLY UNTO PILATE, AND CRAVED THE BODY OF JESUS.

Lk 4:43-AND HE SAID UNTO THEM, I MUST PREACH THE *KINGDOM OF GOD* TO OTHER CITIES ALSO: FOR THEREFORE AM I SENT.

Lk 6:20-AND HE LIFTED UP HIS EYES ON HIS DISCIPLES, AND SAID, BLESSED BE YE POOR: FOR YOURS IS THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*.

Lk 7:28-FOR I SAY UNTO YOU, AMONG THOSE THAT ARE BORN OF WOMEN THERE IS NOT A GREATER PROPHET THAN JOHN THE BAPTIST: BUT HE THAT IS LEAST IN THE *KINGDOM OF GOD* IS GREATER THAN HE.

Lk 8:1-AND IT CAME TO PASS AFTERWARD, THAT HE WENT THROUGHOUT EVERY CITY AND VILLAGE, PREACHING AND SHEWING THE GLAD TIDINGS OF THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*: AND THE TWELVE WERE WITH HIM.

Lk 8:10-AND HE SAID, UNTO YOU IT IS GIVEN TO KNOW THE MYSTERIES OF THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*: BUT TO OTHERS IN PARABLES; THAT SEEING THEY MIGHT NOT SEE, AND HEARING THEY MIGHT NOT UNDERSTAND. (A person that is self assured, or self centered, or thinks they know lots of things, or is prideful, really does not see or understand the kingdom of God. The person that always seems to have an answer for everything, or talks a lot, does not really see or understand the kingdom of God as they ought. A person that talks a lot about themselves or other people or wants to be the center of attention does not have the Word of God hid in their heart as they ought)

The meek, the quiet, the humble, the broken, the childlike, the easily correctable, are much more likely to know the mystery of the kingdom of God and to ultimately enter it. This was repeated previously because of its importance. One should examine themselves to see if they be in the faith as it is written in God's Word.

Lk 9:2-AND HE SENT THEM TO PREACH THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*, AND TO HEAL THE SICK.

Lk 9:11-AND THE PEOPLE,...FOLLOWED HIM: AND HE RECEIVED THEM, AND SPAKE UNTO THEM OF THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*, AND HEALED THEM THAT HAD NEED OF HEALING.

Lk 9:27-BUT I TELL YOU OF A TRUTH, THERE BE SOME STANDING HERE, WHICH SHALL NOT TASTE OF DEATH, TILL THEY SEE THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*.

Lk 9:60-JESUS SAID UNTO HIM, LET THE DEAD BURY THEIR DEAD: BUT GO THOU AND PREACH THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*.

Lk 9:62-AND JESUS SAID UNTO HIM, NO MAN, HAVING PUT HIS HAND TO THE PLOUGH, AND LOOKING BACK, IS FIT FOR THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*.

Lk 10:9-AND HEAL THE SICK THAT ARE THEREIN, AND SAY UNTO THEM, THE *KINGDOM OF GOD* IS COME NIGH UNTO YOU.

Lk 10:11-EVEN THE VERY DUST OF YOUR CITY, WHICH CLEAVETH ON US, WE DO WIPE OFF AGAINST YOU: NOTWITHSTANDING BE YE SURE OF THIS, THAT THE *KINGDOM OF GOD* IS COME NIGH UNTO YOU.

Lk 11:20-BUT IF I WITH THE FINGER OF GOD CAST OUT DEVILS, NO DOUBT THE *KINGDOM OF GOD* IS COME UPON YOU.

Lk 12:31-BUT RATHER SEEK YE THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*; AND ALL THESE THINGS SHALL BE ADDED UNTO YOU.

Lk 13:18,19-THEN SAID HE, UNTO WHAT IS THE *KINGDOM OF GOD* LIKE? AND WHEREUNTO SHALL I RESEMBLE IT? IT IS LIKE A GRAIN OF MUSTARD SEED.

Lk 13:20,21-AND AGAIN HE SAID, WHEREUNTO SHALL I LIKEN THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*? IT IS LIKE LEAVEN.

Lk 13:28-THERE SHALL BE WEEPING AND GNASHING OF TEETH, WHEN YE SHALL SEE ABRAHAM, AND ISAAC, AND JACOB, AND ALL THE PROPHETS, IN THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*, AND YOU YOURSELVES THRUST OUT.

Lk 13:29-AND THEY SHALL COME FROM THE EAST, AND FROM THE WEST, AND FROM THE NORTH, AND FROM THE SOUTH, AND SHALL SIT DOWN IN THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*.

Lk 14:15-AND WHEN ONE OF THEM THAT SAT AT MEAT WITH HIM HEARD THESE THINGS, HE SAID UNTO HIM, BLESSED IS HE THAT SHALL EAT BREAD IN THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*.

Lk 16:16-THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS WERE UNTIL JOHN: SINCE THAT TIME THE *KINGDOM OF GOD* IS PREACHED, AND EVERY MAN PRESSETH INTO IT.

Lk 17:20-AND WHEN HE WAS DEMANDED OF THE PHARISEES, WHEN THE *KINGDOM OF GOD* SHOULD COME, HE ANSWERED THEM AND SAID, THE *KINGDOM OF GOD* COMETH NOT WITH OBSERVATION.

Lk 17:21-NEITHER SHALL THEY SAY, LO HERE! OR, LO THERE! FOR, BEHOLD, THE *KINGDOM OF GOD* IS WITHIN YOU.

Lk 18:16-BUT JESUS CALLED THEM UNTO HIM, AND SAID, SUFFER LITTLE CHILDREN TO COME UNTO ME, AND FORBID THEM NOT: FOR OF SUCH IS THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*.

Lk 18:17-VERILY I SAY UNTO YOU, WHOSOEVER SHALL NOT RECEIVE THE *KINGDOM OF GOD* AS A LITTLE CHILD SHALL IN NO WISE ENTER THEREIN.

Lk 18:24-AND WHEN JESUS SAW THAT HE WAS VERY SORROWFUL, HE SAID, HOW HARDLY SHALL THEY THAT HAVE RICHES ENTER INTO THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*!

Lk 18:25-FOR IT IS EASIER FOR A CAMEL TO GO THROUGH A NEEDLE'S EYE, THAN FOR A RICH MAN TO ENTER INTO THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*.

Lk 19:11-AND AS THEY HEARD THESE THINGS, HE ADDED AND SPAKE A PARABLE, BECAUSE HE WAS NIGH TO JERUSALEM, AND BECAUSE THEY THOUGHT THAT THE *KINGDOM OF GOD* SHOULD IMMEDIATELY APPEAR.

Lk 21:31-SO LIKEWISE YE, WHEN YE SEE THESE THINGS COME TO PASS, KNOW YE THAT THE *KINGDOM OF GOD* IS NIGH AT HAND.

Lk 22:16-FOR I SAY UNTO YOU, I WILL NOT ANY MORE EAT THEREOF, UNTIL IT BE FULFILLED IN THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*.

Lk 22:18-FOR I SAY UNTO YOU, I WILL NOT DRINK OF THE FRUIT OF THE VINE, UNTIL THE *KINGDOM OF GOD* SHALL COME.

Lk 23:51-(THE SAME HAD NOT CONSENTED TO THE COUNSEL AND DEED OF THEM;) HE WAS OF ARIMATHAEA, A CITY OF THE JEWS: WHO ALSO HIMSELF WAITED FOR THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*.

Jn 3:3-JESUS ANSWERED AND SAID UNTO HIM, VERILY, VERILY, I SAY UNTO THEE, EXCEPT A MAN BE BORN AGAIN, HE CANNOT SEE THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*.

Jn 3:5-JESUS ANSWERED, VERILY, VERILY, I SAY UNTO THEE, EXCEPT A MAN BE BORN OF WATER AND OF THE SPIRIT, HE CANNOT ENTER INTO THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*.

Acts 1:3-TO WHOM ALSO HE SHEWED HIMSELF ALIVE AFTER HIS PASSION BY MANY INFALLIBLE PROOFS, BEING SEEN OF THEM FORTY DAYS, AND SPEAKING OF THE THINGS PERTAINING TO THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*:

Acts 8:12-BUT WHEN THEY BELIEVED PHILIP PREACHING THE THINGS CONCERNING THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*, AND THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST, THEY WERE BAPTIZED, BOTH MEN AND WOMEN.

Acts 14:22-CONFIRMING THE SOULS OF THE DISCIPLES, AND EXHORTING THEM TO CONTINUE IN THE FAITH, AND THAT WE MUST THROUGH MUCH TRIBULATION ENTER INTO THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*.

Acts 19:8-AND HE WENT INTO THE SYNAGOGUE, AND SPAKE BOLDLY FOR THE SPACE OF THREE MONTHS, DISPUTING AND PERSUADING THE THINGS CONCERNING THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*.

Acts 20:25-AND NOW, BEHOLD, I KNOW THAT YE ALL, AMONG WHOM I HAVE GONE PREACHING THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*, SHALL SEE MY FACE NO MORE.

Acts 28:23-AND WHEN THEY HAD APPOINTED HIM A DAY, THERE CAME MANY TO HIM INTO HIS LODGING; TO WHOM HE EXPOUNDED AND TESTIFIED THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*, PERSUADING THEM CONCERNING JESUS, BOTH OUT OF THE LAW OF MOSES, AND OUT OF THE PROPHETS, FROM MORNING TILL EVENING.

Acts 28:31-PREACHING THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*, AND TEACHING THOSE THINGS WHICH CONCERN THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, WITH ALL CONFIDENCE, NO MAN FORBIDDING HIM.

Ro 14:17-FOR THE *KINGDOM OF GOD* IS NOT MEAT AND DRINK; BUT RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND PEACE, AND JOY IN THE HOLY GHOST.

1 Cor 4:20-FOR THE *KINGDOM OF GOD* IS NOT IN WORD, BUT IN POWER.

1 Cor 6:9-KNOW YE NOT THAT THE UNRIGHTEOUS SHALL NOT INHERIT THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*? BE NOT DECEIVED: NEITHER FORNICATORS, NOR IDOLATERS, NOR ADULTERERS, NOR EFFEMINATE, NOR ABUSERS OF THEMSELVES WITH MANKIND.

1 Cor 6:10-NOR THIEVES, NOR COVETOUS, NOR DRUNKARDS, NOR REVILERS, NOR EXTORTIONERS, SHALL INHERIT THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*.

1 Cor 15:50-NOW THIS I SAY, BRETHREN, THAT FLESH AND BLOOD CANNOT INHERIT THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*; NEITHER DOTHS CORRUPTION INHERIT INCORRUPTION.

Gal 5:21-ENVYINGS, MURDERS, DRUNKENNESS, REVELLINGS, AND SUCH LIKE: OF THE WHICH I TELL YOU BEFORE, AS I HAVE ALSO TOLD YOU IN TIME PAST, THAT THEY WHICH DO SUCH THINGS SHALL NOT INHERIT THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*.

Col 4:11-AND JESUS, WHICH IS CALLED JUSTUS, WHO ARE OF THE CIRCUMCISION. THESE ONLY ARE MY

FELLOWWORKERS UNTO THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*, WHICH HAVE BEEN A COMFORT UNTO ME.

2 Thes 1:3-5-WE ARE BOUND TO THANK GOD ALWAYS FOR YOU, BRETHREN, AS IT IS MEET, BECAUSE THAT YOUR FAITH GROWETH EXCEEDINGLY, AND THE CHARITY OF EVERY ONE OF YOU ALL TOWARD EACH OTHER ABOUNDETH; SO THAT WE OURSELVES GLORY IN YOU IN THE CHURCHES OF GOD FOR YOUR PATIENCE AND FAITH IN ALL YOUR PERSECUTIONS AND TRIBULATIONS THAT YE ENDURE: WHICH IS A MANIFEST TOKEN OF THE RIGHTEOUS JUDGMENT OF GOD, THAT YE MAY BE COUNTED WORTHY OF THE *KINGDOM OF GOD*, FOR WHICH YE ALSO SUFFER.

KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

The kingdom of heaven is never mentioned in the Old Testament. It is mentioned in the New Testament about 32 times, however it is only mentioned in Matthew's Gospel.

The kingdom of God-ref Mk 1:14 (pt 3) and the kingdom of Heaven (ref Mk 1:15 (pt 2) and Mt 4:17 (pt 3) are sometimes used interchangeably.

The word heaven is often used in such a sense that it substitutes for the word "God". Other times it may be referring to the air, the sky, firmament or expanse of space surrounding the earth, or paradise, the ruler ship of God, or even a condition. It can be referring to this present time, such as the time is at hand, the future, or the time when Jesus Christ will reign

The word "heaven" can mean: the abode of God, the angels, and the born again Christians after death.

The word "heaven" as used in the Old Testament can mean the following according to the Strong's Exhaustive Concordance.

#8064-(shamayim) - dual of an unused sing. (shameh) - from an unused root mean to be lofty; the sky (as aloft; the dual perh. Alluding to the visible arch in which the clouds move, as well as to the higher ether where the celestial bodies resolve):—air, X astrologer, heaven (-s).

#8065-(shamayin) (chald.), corresp. To 8064:—heaven

#1534-(galgal); by redupl. From 1556; a wheel; by anal. A whirlwind; also dust (as whirled); by anal. A whirlwind; also dust (as whirled);—heaven, rolling thing, wheel.

#7834-(shachaq), from 7838; a powder (as beaten small); by anal. A thin vapor; by extens. The firmament:—cloud, small dust, heaven, sky.

The word "heaven" #3772 as used in the New Testament (*in Matthew's Gospel* and others) can mean the following according to the Strong's Exhaustive Concordance.

#3772-(ouranos) ; perh. From the same as 3735 (through the idea of elevation); the sky; by extens. Heaven (as the abode of God); by impl. Happiness, power, eternity; spec. the Gospel (Christianity):—air, heaven, sky.

The word "heaven" #3771, 2032, 3321 as used in the New Testament (*not including Matthew's Gospel*) can mean the following according to the Strong's Exhaustive Concordance.

#3771-(ouranthen), from 3772 and the enclitic of source; from the sky:—from heaven.

#2032-(epouranios), from 1909 and 3772; above the sky:—celestial, (in) heaven (-ly), high.

#3321-(mesouranema), from a presumed comp. Of 3319 and 3772; mid-sky:—midst of heaven.

KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

ABBREVIATED VERSES CONCERNING THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

Kingdom of heaven—is to be preached. It was spoken of by

Mt 10:7-GO, PREACH, SAYING, THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* IS AT HAND.

Mt 3:1,2-John the Baptist said, REPENT YE: FOR THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* IS AT HAND.

Mt 4:17-FROM THAT TIME JESUS BEGAN... TO SAY, REPENT: FOR THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* IS AT HAND.

Kingdom of heaven—these are blessed

Mt 5:3-BLESSED ARE THE POOR IN SPIRIT: FOR THEIRS IS THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN*.

Mt 5:10-BLESSED ARE THEY WHICH ARE PERSECUTED FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS' SAKE: FOR THEIRS IS THE

KINGDOM OF HEAVEN. See ref 2 Thes 1:3-5 regarding the kingdom of God and persecutions.

Kingdom of heaven—called least and great

Mt 5:19-WHOSOEVER THEREFORE SHALL BREAK ONE OF THESE LEAST COMMANDMENTS, AND SHALL TEACH MEN SO, HE SHALL BE CALLED THE LEAST IN THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN*: BUT WHOSOEVER SHALL DO AND TEACH THEM, THE SAME SHALL BE CALLED GREAT IN THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN*.

Kingdom of heaven—conditions to enter it

Mt 5:20-EXCEPT YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS SHALL EXCEED THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF THE SCRIBES AND PHARISEES, YE SHALL IN NO CASE ENTER INTO THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN*.

Mt 7:21-NOT EVERY ONE THAT SAITH UNTO ME, LORD, LORD, SHALL ENTER INTO THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN*; BUT HE THAT DOETH THE WILL OF MY FATHER WHICH IS IN HEAVEN.

Mt 8:11,12-AND I SAY UNTO YOU, THAT MANY SHALL COME FROM THE EAST AND WEST, AND SHALL SIT DOWN WITH ABRAHAM, AND ISAAC, AND JACOB, IN THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN*. BUT THE CHILDREN OF THE KINGDOM SHALL BE CAST OUT INTO OUTER DARKNESS:

Mt 18:3-EXCEPT YE BE CONVERTED,... YE SHALL NOT ENTER INTO THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN*.

Mt 18:3-EXCEPT YE BE...AS LITTLE CHILDREN, YE SHALL NOT ENTER INTO THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN*.

Mt 19:23-A RICH MAN SHALL HARDLY ENTER INTO THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN*.

Mt 23:13-...SCRIBES AND PHARISEES, HYPOCRITES!...YE SHUT UP THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* AGAINST MEN: FOR YE NEITHER GO IN YOURSELVES, NEITHER SUFFER YE THEM THAT ARE ENTERING TO GO IN.

Mt 23:13-...SCRIBES AND PHARISEES, HYPOCRITES!...THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN*...YE NEITHER GO IN YOURSELVES

Mt 23:13-...SCRIBES AND PHARISEES, HYPOCRITES!...THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN*...YE...NEITHER SUFFER YE THEM THAT ARE ENTERING TO GO IN.

Kingdom of heaven—the least is greater: the Greatest

Mt 11:11-HE THAT IS LEAST IN THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* IS GREATER THAN HE (John the Baptist).

Mt 18:4-WHOSOEVER...SHALL HUMBLE HIMSELF AS THIS LITTLE CHILD,...IS GREATEST IN THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN*.

Kingdom of heaven—from the days of John the Baptist

Mt 11:12-AND FROM THE DAYS OF JOHN THE BAPTIST UNTIL NOW THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* SUFFERETH VIOLENCE, AND THE VIOLENT TAKE IT BY FORCE.

Kingdom of heaven—only some can know or understand

Mt 13:11-HE ANSWERED AND SAID UNTO THEM, BECAUSE IT IS GIVEN UNTO YOU TO KNOW THE MYSTERIES OF THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN*, BUT TO THEM IT IS NOT GIVEN. This verse is very much like Mk 4:11 and Lk 8:10 which uses the words kingdom of God.

(A person that is self assured, or self centered, or thinks they know lots of things, or is prideful, really does not see or understand the kingdom of God. The person that always seems to have an answer for everything, or talks a lot, does not really see or understand the kingdom of God as they ought. A person that talks a lot about themselves or other people or wants to be the center of attention does not have the Word of God hid in their heart as they ought)

The meek, the quiet, the humble, the broken, the childlike, the easily correctable, are much more likely to know the mystery of the kingdom of God and to ultimately enter it. This was repeated previously because of its importance. One should examine themselves to see if they be in the faith as it is written in God's Word.

Kingdom of God—it is: it is as if

Mt 13:24-THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* IS LIKENED UNTO A MAN WHICH SOWED GOOD SEED IN HIS FIELD.

Mt 13:31-THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* IS LIKE TO A GRAIN OF MUSTARD SEED, WHICH A MAN TOOK, AND SOWED IN HIS FIELD. Similar verses but using the words kingdom of God are found in Mt 13:31; Lk 13:18,19.

Mt 13:33-THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* IS LIKE UNTO LEAVEN, WHICH A WOMAN TOOK, AND HID IN THREE MEASURES OF MEAL, TILL THE WHOLE WAS LEAVENED. Verses using the words leaven and kingdom of God are found in Mt 13:33 and Lk 13:20,21.

Mt 13:44-THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* IS LIKE UNTO TREASURE HID IN A FIELD.

Mt 13:45-THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* IS LIKE UNTO A MERCHANT MAN, SEEKING GOODLY PEARLS.

Mt 13:47-THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* IS LIKE UNTO A NET, THAT WAS CAST INTO THE SEA.

Mt 18:23-THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* LIKENED UNTO A CERTAIN KING, WHICH WOULD TAKE ACCOUNT OF HIS SERVANTS.

Mt 20:1-THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* IS LIKE UNTO A MAN THAT IS AN HOUSEHOLDER, WHICH WENT OUT EARLY IN THE MORNING TO HIRE LABOURERS INTO HIS VINEYARD.

Mt 22:2-THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* IS LIKE UNTO A CERTAIN KING, WHICH MADE A MARRIAGE FOR HIS SON.

Mt 25:14-THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* IS AS A MAN TRAVELLING INTO A FAR COUNTRY, WHO CALLED HIS OWN SERVANTS, AND DELIVERED UNTO THEM HIS GOODS.

Mt 19:14-SUFFER **LITTLE CHILDREN**, AND FORBID THEM NOT, TO COME UNTO ME: FOR OF SUCH IS THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN*. Similar verses but using the words kingdom of God are found in Mk 10:14 and Lk 18:16. **IT IS SUCH AS LITTLE CHILDREN COMING TO JESUS.**

Mt 25:1-THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* (SHALL) BE LIKENED UNTO TEN VIRGINS, WHICH TOOK THEIR LAMPS, AND WENT FORTH TO MEET THE BRIDEGROOM.

Kingdom of heaven—every scribe

Mt 13:52-EVERY SCRIBE WHICH IS INSTRUCTED UNTO THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* IS LIKE UNTO A MAN THAT IS AN HOUSEHOLDER.

KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

FULL VERSES CONCERNING THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

Mt 3:1,2-IN THOSE DAYS CAME JOHN THE BAPTIST,...SAYING, REPENT YE: FOR THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* IS AT HAND.

Mt 4:17-FROM THAT TIME JESUS BEGAN...TO SAY, REPENT: FOR THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* IS AT HAND.

Mt 5:3-BLESSED ARE THE POOR IN SPIRIT: FOR THEIRS IS THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN*.

Mt 5:10-BLESSED ARE THEY WHICH ARE PERSECUTED FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS' SAKE: FOR THEIRS IS THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN*.

Mt 5:19-WHOSOEVER THEREFORE SHALL BREAK ONE OF THESE LEAST COMMANDMENTS, AND SHALL TEACH MEN SO, HE SHALL BE CALLED THE LEAST IN THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN*: BUT WHOSOEVER SHALL DO AND TEACH THEM, THE SAME SHALL BE CALLED GREAT IN THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN*.

Mt 5:20-FOR I SAY UNTO YOU, THAT EXCEPT YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS SHALL EXCEED THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF THE SCRIBES AND PHARISEES, YE SHALL IN NO CASE ENTER INTO THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN*.

Mt 7:21-NOT EVERY ONE THAT SAITH UNTO ME, LORD, LORD, SHALL ENTER INTO THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN*; BUT HE THAT DOETH THE WILL OF MY FATHER WHICH IS IN HEAVEN.

Mt 8:11-AND I SAY UNTO YOU, THAT MANY SHALL COME FROM THE EAST AND WEST, AND SHALL SIT DOWN WITH ABRAHAM, AND ISAAC, AND JACOB, IN THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN*.

Mt 10:7-AND AS YE GO, PREACH, SAYING, THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* IS AT HAND.

Mt 11:11-VERILY I SAY UNTO YOU, AMONG THEM THAT ARE BORN OF WOMEN THERE HATH NOT RISEN A GREATER THAN JOHN THE BAPTIST: NOTWITHSTANDING HE THAT IS LEAST IN THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* IS GREATER THAN HE.

Mt 11:12-AND FROM THE DAYS OF JOHN THE BAPTIST UNTIL NOW THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* SUFFERETH VIOLENCE, AND THE VIOLENT TAKE IT BY FORCE.

Mt 13:11-HE ANSWERED AND SAID UNTO THEM, BECAUSE IT IS GIVEN UNTO YOU TO KNOW THE MYSTERIES OF THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN*, BUT TO THEM IT IS NOT GIVEN.

Mt 13:24-ANOTHER PARABLE PUT HE FORTH UNTO THEM, SAYING, THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* IS LIKENED UNTO A MAN WHICH SOWED GOOD SEED IN HIS FIELD:

Mt 13:31-ANOTHER PARABLE PUT HE FORTH UNTO THEM, SAYING, THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* IS LIKE TO A GRAIN OF MUSTARD SEED, WHICH A MAN TOOK, AND SOWED IN HIS FIELD:

Mt 13:33-ANOTHER PARABLE SPAKE HE UNTO THEM; THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* IS LIKE UNTO LEAVEN, WHICH A WOMAN TOOK, AND HID IN THREE MEASURES OF MEAL, TILL THE WHOLE WAS LEAVENED.

Mt 13:44-AGAIN, THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* IS LIKE UNTO TREASURE HID IN A FIELD; THE WHICH WHEN A MAN HATH FOUND, HE HIDETH, AND FOR JOY THEREOF GOETH AND SELLETH ALL THAT HE HATH, AND BUYETH THAT FIELD.

Mt 13:45-AGAIN, THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* IS LIKE UNTO A MERCHANT MAN, SEEKING GOODLY PEARLS.

Mt 13:47-AGAIN, THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* IS LIKE UNTO A NET, THAT WAS CAST INTO THE SEA, AND GATHERED OF EVERY KIND:

Mt 13:52-THEN SAID HE UNTO THEM, THEREFORE EVERY SCRIBE WHICH IS INSTRUCTED UNTO THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* IS LIKE UNTO A MAN THAT IS AN HOUSEHOLDER, WHICH BRINGETH FORTH OUT OF HIS TREASURE THINGS NEW AND OLD.

Mt 18:3-AND SAID, VERILY I SAY UNTO YOU, EXCEPT YE BE CONVERTED, AND BECOME AS LITTLE CHILDREN, YE SHALL NOT ENTER INTO THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN*.

Mt 18:4-WHOSOEVER THEREFORE SHALL HUMBLE HIMSELF AS THIS LITTLE CHILD, THE SAME IS GREATEST IN THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN*.

Mt 18:23-THEREFORE IS THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* LIKENED UNTO A CERTAIN KING, WHICH WOULD TAKE ACCOUNT OF HIS SERVANTS.

Mt 19:14-BUT JESUS SAID, SUFFER LITTLE CHILDREN, AND FORBID THEM NOT, TO COME UNTO ME: FOR OF SUCH IS THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN*.

Mt 19:23-THEN SAID JESUS UNTO HIS DISCIPLES, VERILY I SAY UNTO YOU, THAT A RICH MAN SHALL HARDLY ENTER INTO THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN*.

Mt 20:1-FOR THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* IS LIKE UNTO A MAN THAT IS AN HOUSEHOLDER, WHICH WENT OUT EARLY IN THE MORNING TO HIRE LABOURERS INTO HIS VINEYARD.

Mt 22:2-THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* IS LIKE UNTO A CERTAIN KING, WHICH MADE A MARRIAGE FOR HIS SON,

Mt 23:13-BUT WOE UNTO YOU, SCRIBES AND PHARISEES, HYPOCRITES! FOR YE SHUT UP THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* AGAINST MEN: FOR YE NEITHER GO IN YOURSELVES, NEITHER SUFFER YE THEM THAT ARE ENTERING TO GO IN.

Mt 25:1-THEN SHALL THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* BE LIKENED UNTO TEN VIRGINS, WHICH TOOK THEIR LAMPS, AND WENT FORTH TO MEET THE BRIDEGROOM.

Mt 25:14-FOR THE *KINGDOM OF HEAVEN* IS AS A MAN TRAVELLING INTO A FAR COUNTRY, WHO CALLED HIS OWN SERVANTS, AND DELIVERED UNTO THEM HIS GOODS.

The verses continue—

NOBLEMAN’S SON HEALED
(JESUS INTO CANA OF GALILEE)
30 YEARS PLUS 8 MONTHS

Jn 4:44. FOR JESUS HIMSELF TESTIFIED, THAT A PROPHET (HAS) NO HONOR (or is not respected) IN HIS OWN COUNTRY.

Jn 4:44. FOR JESUS HIMSELF TESTIFIED, THAT A PROPHET (HAS) NO HONOR (or is not respected)

IN HIS OWN COUNTRY. Being that Jesus was the Son of David, this appears to be referring to Judaea. Jesus had grown up in Nazareth which is in Galilee. Jesus would use similar words about 8 months into his ministry in Lk 4:24 when he would teach in Nazareth and they tried to kill him.

He also spoke these words in Mt 13:57 and Mk 6:4, when he returned to Nazareth about 26 months into His ministry and he could do no mighty works there except heal a few sick folk because of their unbelief.

This statement contrasts the attitude of two groups of people regarding hearing God’s Word as Jesus presented Himself as the Christ. The Samaritans received God’s Word gladly and wanted him to stay longer. Those of his own home town tried to kill him.

Jn 4:45. THEN WHEN HE WAS COME INTO GALILEE, THE GALILAEANS RECEIVED HIM, HAVING SEEN ALL THE THINGS THAT HE DID AT JERUSALEM AT THE FEAST (or festival, or Passover): FOR THEY ALSO (HAD GONE) (TO) THE FEAST (there).

Jn 4:45. THEN WHEN HE WAS COME INTO GALILEE, THE GALILAEANS RECEIVED HIM. HAVING SEEN ALL THE THINGS THAT HE DID AT JERUSALEM.

AT THE FEAST (or festival, or Passover). The Galilaeans mentioned here were not those of his home town. The verse continues—

FOR THEY ALSO (HAD GONE) (TO) THE FEAST (there). Jesus had gone to the Passover in Jerusalem approximately 2 months earlier (app. our month of April)-ref Jn 2:13 pg. 225. Jesus did miracles at Jerusalem, but what miracles they were is not mentioned-ref Jn 2:23. Being that there were Jews at the feast from all over the country, not only did those from Galilee see the miracles, but many others also. Jesus performed numerous miracles during the course of His ministry, which were undeniable. He raised the dead, healed all manner of sickness, and controlled the weather. The list could go on and on. In doing so, Israel was without excuse. Perhaps it could be summed up this way.

Commentary scriptures continue on pg. 508

MIRACLES OF JESUS AND HATRED
MINISTERS WHICH ARE WICKED

FALSE MINISTERS MASQUARADING AS MINISTERS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

Jn 7:31-AND MANY OF THE PEOPLE BELIEVED ON HIM, AND SAID, WHEN CHRIST COMETH, WILL HE DO MORE **MIRACLES** THAN THESE WHICH THIS MAN HATH DONE?

Jn 15:24,25-JESUS SAID: IF I HAD NOT DONE AMONG THEM THE WORKS WHICH NONE OTHER MAN DID, THEY HAD NOT HAD SIN: BUT NOW HAVE THEY BOTH SEEN AND **HATED** BOTH ME AND MY FATHER. BUT THIS COMETH TO PASS, THAT THE WORD MIGHT BE FULFILLED THAT IS WRITTEN IN THEIR LAW, THEY **HATED ME WITHOUT A CAUSE.**

Jn 12:19. After Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, the Pharisees said among themselves, **PERCEIVE YE HOW YE PREVAIL NOTHING? BEHOLD, THE WORLD IS GONE AFTER HIM.** Even they which hated Him could not deny the incredible miracles he had done.

Now, to illustrate the hatred of some against Jesus, Herod slaughtered multitudes of infants hoping to kill the infant-Christ. To illustrate the incredible wickedness of the Pharisees: after Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, we read: in Jn 12:10-11-BUT THE CHIEF PRIESTS CONSULTED THAT THEY MIGHT PUT **LAZARUS ALSO TO DEATH;** BECAUSE THAT BY REASON OF HIM MANY OF THE JEWS WENT AWAY, AND BELIEVED ON JESUS. The Pharisees were suppose to be religious leaders, leading people to holiness and to God, but in reality they were cold blooded murders and were full of hate. They masqueraded as ministers of righteousness, but were really ministers of Satan, of death, and hell.

Jesus said of the religious leaders of His day: Lk 11:44-WOE UNTO YOU, SCRIBES AND PHARISEES, HYPOCRITES! FOR **YE ARE AS GRAVES WHICH APPEAR NOT,** AND THE **MEN** THAT WALK OVER THEM **ARE NOT AWARE OF THEM.**

Jesus said again in Mt 23:27-28, 33,34-WOE UNTO YOU, SCRIBES AND PHARISEES, HYPOCRITES! FOR YE ARE LIKE UNTO WHITED SEPULCHRES, WHICH INDEED **APPEAR BEAUTIFUL OUTWARD,** BUT ARE WITHIN **FULL OF DEAD MEN'S BONES,** AND OF ALL UNCLEANNESS. EVEN SO YE ALSO **OUTWARDLY APPEAR RIGHTEOUS** UNTO MEN, BUT WITHIN YE ARE FULL OF HYPOCRISY AND INIQUITY. **YE SERPENTS,** YE GENERATION OF VIPERS, **HOW CAN YE ESCAPE** THE DAMNATION OF **HELL?** WHEREFORE, BEHOLD, I SEND UNTO YOU PROPHETS, AND WISE MEN, AND SCRIBES: AND SOME OF THEM **YE SHALL KILL** AND CRUCIFY; AND SOME OF THEM SHALL YE SCOURGE IN YOUR SYNAGOGUES, AND PERSECUTE THEM FROM CITY TO CITY.

Paul said in 2 Cor 11:12-15-FOR SUCH ARE FALSE APOSTLES, **DECEITFUL WORKERS**, TRANSFORMING THEMSELVES INTO THE APOSTLES OF CHRIST. AND NO MARVEL; FOR SATAN HIMSELF IS TRANSFORMED INTO AN ANGEL OF LIGHT. THEREFORE IT IS NO GREAT THING IF **HIS (Satan's) MINISTERS ALSO BE TRANSFORMED AS THE MINISTERS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS.**

But then, is it so different today? Are people even today just as blind as the Jews were then? Consider a certain denomination. They have many, many priests which have molested children. Then they have tried to cover it up and sometimes kept these priests in positions of authority. How can any person be so blind as to continue in this denomination? How could people have been so blind in the days of Jesus as to continue in the denomination that sought to kill God's only begotten Son? Yet they did. And even after they killed Jesus, these wicked killers-the religious leaders continued for a time.

Satan's power to deceive men's minds is **far, far, far greater** than nearly everyone is willing to admit. Scripture tells us that Satan deceives the whole world-ref Rev 12:9.

The Bible tells people the truth. Why won't people believe it?

Jesus told people the truth. Why won't people believe it?

The bottom line is that people do not want Jesus Christ, God's Word to reign over them. They do not want to deny themselves, submit to God, and study God's Word. They don't want God's Word telling them that they should do this, and they can't do that. Lk 19:27-tells us: MINE ENEMIES, WHICH WOULD NOT THAT I SHOULD REIGN OVER THEM

Jesus said to the people: Jn 8:43,45,46-WHY DO YE NOT UNDERSTAND MY SPEECH? ...I TELL YOU THE TRUTH...AND IF I SAY THE TRUTH, WHY DO YE NOT BELIEVE ME? 47-HE THAT IS OF GOD HEARETH GOD'S WORDS:

Jn 8:45-Jesus said: YE BELIEVE ME NOT. Jn 8:43-EVEN BECAUSE YE CANNOT HEAR MY WORD. 44-YE ARE OF YOUR FATHER THE DEVIL. 47-YE THEREFORE HEAR THEM NOT, BECAUSE YE ARE NOT OF GOD.

Jn 8:59-THEN TOOK THEY UP STONES TO CAST AT HIM. The people hated being told the truth which Jesus did. So they tried to kill him. People do not want to be told they are sinners, they are wicked, they are going to perish to hell when they die. They do not want to be told that they must change, repent, be converted, be born again, and follow Jesus.

Abraham confirms that no miracle will persuade those that are of the devil unless God reveal himself to them. For it is written in Lk 16:29-31-ABRAHAM SAITH UNTO HIM, THEY HAVE MOSES AND THE PROPHETS; LET THEM HEAR THEM. In other words, they have God's Word. AND HE SAID, NAY, FATHER ABRAHAM: BUT IF ONE WENT UNTO THEM FROM THE DEAD, THEY WILL REPENT. AND HE SAID UNTO HIM, IF THEY HEAR NOT MOSES AND THE PROPHETS, NEITHER WILL THEY BE PERSUADED, THOUGH ONE ROSE FROM THE DEAD.

Some people's hatred of God's Word is so intense, that they will do anything, **absolutely anything** to stop God's Word spreading. They killed Jesus. They killed Stephen. It is reported that 11 of the 12 apostles died a violent death. So many of God's missionaries have been killed on the mission field, probably no one could number them. Moslems hate the Jews and they hate born again Christians. Many have died at their hands.

And it is going to get worse and worse. As we near the rapture and tribulation, persecution against born again Christians will increase as birth pangs of a woman. It will be harder and harder for God's children to follow Jesus. There will be false accusations against some. Some will be put in jails on trumped up charges. Some will be beaten. Some will be killed. The news-media will exploit and mock some of them. As time passes, hatred against the true Gospel will increase. However, the Catholic church, despite its immorality, will prosper on into the tribulation. The Catholic church and it's followers will not be raptured. But during the tribulation, it will come to an end as the Antichrist reigns.

Much of the world will continue to hate the Jew and it will get worse. Mt 24:9-10-THEN SHALL THEY DELIVER YOU (the Jews) UP TO BE AFFLICTED, AND SHALL KILL YOU: AND YE SHALL BE HATED OF ALL NATIONS FOR MY NAME'S SAKE. This is especially true during the tribulation and for born again Jews.

As time passes neighbor shall hate neighbor, tribe shall hate tribe. Mt 24:10-AND THEN SHALL MANY BE OFFENDED, AND SHALL BETRAY ONE ANOTHER, AND SHALL HATE ONE ANOTHER. This is especially true regarding the born again Christian.

The Bible tells us: Ro 8:17-IF SO BE THAT WE SUFFER WITH HIM,...WE MAY BE ALSO GLORIFIED TOGETHER. There is a difficult road ahead. Most Christians will fall-ref 2 Thes 2:3. Most professing Christians will not be raptured. They are not watching and ready. But for those that stand fast to the end, there shall be life eternal with Jesus

and eternal rewards that are beyond comprehension. And then God's saints who have made a covenant with Him by sacrifice-Ps 50:5 shall reign and rule with Jesus after Armageddon for 1000 years.

We may say there are 5 kinds of people in the world.

Those that believe in Jesus when they hear God's Word.

Those that believe in Jesus but must see signs and miracles or some kind of evidence or proof.

Those that believe in Jesus when they hear God's Word or proof, but then turn away, and yet say they are saved.

Those that refuse to believe on Jesus even though they see proof, but are not militant. Many believe they are saved.

Those that refuse to believe on Jesus and will stop at nothing to stop the spread of the Gospel. Much hate.

Only if God opens a person's mind to understand, can they even begin to understand in their heart these things.

People are so ignorant of the Scriptures that they do not even know that that God's Word teaches that if they follow a blind leader (an unsaved, unborn again minister, priest, rabbi) that they both shall perish as it is written in Mt 15:14-LET THEM ALONE: THEY BE BLIND LEADERS OF THE BLIND. AND IF THE BLIND LEAD THE BLIND, BOTH SHALL FALL INTO THE DITCH. Lk 6:39-AND HE SPAKE A PARABLE UNTO THEM, CAN THE BLIND LEAD THE BLIND? SHALL THEY NOT BOTH FALL INTO THE DITCH? From the moment you read this, you can never again say that you did not know. For those of you that reject Jesus now, you may have your time in the sun now as the rich man in Lk 12, but what a price to pay-eternal damnation.

UNDERSTANDING GOD'S WORD

ONLY A SELECT FEW CAN UNDERSTAND THE MYSTERIES OF GOD'S WORD

GOD OPENS THEIR UNDERSTANDING

Questions a person needs to ask himself:

Proof a person cannot understand the mysteries of God's Word, except God opens their understanding

The mystery revealed. Born again, the process

Parable of the sower

Why did Jesus speak to the people in parables?

Final proof

A person cannot understand God's Word and be saved unless God gives them understanding unto repentance

How can a person understand the parable of the sower or God's other parables?

Hearts listed in God's Word

Salvation is only possible through the person of Jesus Christ (Who is come in the flesh). Understanding the mysteries of God's Word is only possible if God, in His mercy, opens a person's understanding. But woe to them that rebel against God when He calls and stretches out His hand to you; but your response was the following: Pv 1:23-32-YE REFUSED. You regarded it not. You put aside God's Word. You would not tolerate God's correction or Word. You despised God's correction. You hated the knowledge of God's Word. You would not fear God.

For such people, God will laugh when your problems come. God will mock when you are fearful, in distress, and in anguish. God will not answer you. You shall not find God. You will eat of the fruit of your own deceived thoughts. You will be filled with your own ungodly devices, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them.

When a person is asked what they believe, regarding the Bible being God's Word: some will not answer; some will mock or laugh; some will reply there is no God and others will reply they believe only some of the Bible. Some will say it is not for today, and others will reply they believe the Bible is God's Word. Of this last group, most of them—their belief is only marginal. They seldom read and study God's Word. Of the few that do study God's Word, only some become born again and obey it; and of this group, only a few continue in God's Word steadfast until the end, trusting in Jesus Christ with all their heart—understanding, believing and confessing that He is come in the flesh, and loving the brethren in deed and in truth. Of which group are you?

The Bible says this about the Bible: 2 Tim 3:16-ALL SCRIPTURE IS GIVEN BY INSPIRATION OF GOD, AND IS

PROFITABLE FOR DOCTRINE, FOR REPROOF, FOR CORRECTION, FOR INSTRUCTION IN RIGHTEOUSNESS.

2 Pe 1:21-FOR THE PROPHECY CAME NOT IN OLD TIME BY THE WILL OF MAN: BUT HOLY MEN OF GOD SPAKE AS THEY WERE MOVED BY THE HOLY GHOST. So why don't most people believe the Bible is the inerrant Word of God? Why doesn't God's Word profit them? Why don't most people understand the mysteries of God's Word?

Heb 4:1,2-LET US THEREFORE **FEAR**, LEST, A PROMISE BEING LEFT US OF ENTERING INTO HIS REST, ANY OF YOU SHOULD SEEM TO COME SHORT OF IT. FOR UNTO US WAS THE GOSPEL PREACHED, AS WELL AS UNTO THEM: BUT THE WORD PREACHED DID NOT PROFIT THEM, NOT BEING MIXED WITH *FAITH* (or trust) IN THEM THAT HEARD IT.

The Bible tells us that faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God-ref Ro 10:17. Without Biblical faith a person will perish. Faith (or trusting in your heart in God and His Word) can only come from the actual words of God Himself. So then, how is it that some people can read the Bible over and over, study, make written copies of God's Word, preach God's Word, yet there is no biblical change in their life—and they perish? The religious Pharisees, the scribes that made copies of God's Word, the religious Herodians, Sadducees, and lawyers should have known and studied the Scriptures in great depth, but the true biblical understanding of God's Word, which produces true biblical trust in God under all circumstances, was hid from them. It is the same today. Many today have their own understanding of God's Word; however, it is not the understanding given by the Holy Spirit, which changes a person from within.

There are many Bible university professors, heads of so-called Christian denominations, preachers, elders, deacons, missionaries, church members, choir members, church workers, street workers, and many that professed the name of Jesus that died and went to hell.

It is important that people understand. At the center of it all is God, in His mercy, opening a person's understanding of the Scriptures. Then there is the matter of a person's heart and how it responds to the Word.

Questions a person needs to ask himself:

When a person hears God's Word how do they respond? Do they respond negatively? Do they respond in hatred, in anger, in skepticism, with excuses, with indifference, or do they turn a deaf ear to God's Word? Do they contend with God's Word, refuse to believe it is God's Word, and refuse to believe in Jesus Christ and what He did on the cross? Do they argue against God's Word, try to analyze it, argue about translations, or willingly choose to believe the lie of evolution (or science falsely so-called)? Do they laugh at the idea of a devil that can deceive them, and do they mock heaven and hell? Do they curse God's name, and accuse God's people? Do they persecute God's people and try to turn others from the faith? Do they refuse to repent and fear God? Are they full of pride and burdened down or preoccupied with the cares of this life, the pleasures and comforts of this world, the lusts of this life and the flesh, or making money and getting ahead? Are they covetousness of what other people have, and have little understanding of what sin is in the eyes of a holy God? Are they willing to give up their ungodly sexual lifestyle, their drugs, their smoking, their drunkenness, their horoscopes, their anger, their hatreds, and their unforgiveness toward certain people? Are people willing to sacrifice all their desires, their hopes, their dreams, their plans, the better things of this life, their ungodly soap operas, even everything to follow Jesus and be a partaker in His sufferings? Are people willing to go through untold persecutions and ridicule, some from loved ones right now in order to inherit eternal life? Are they willing to love the saints, love the Jew, and even love their own enemies? Are they willing to obey the Scripture and separate from fellowshiping with the unbelievers and their dead or lukewarm church? The answer is usually no.

Are they religious, but not born again? Are they spiritual, but without Christ? Do they have a form of godliness, yet are not conformed to God? Do they give all they have to help worldly causes, but they will not give themselves over to Christ? Do they claim they are in Christ, but they refuse to let Christ remold them to be conformed to His image? Do they say they love God, but get mad when God's servants tell them they are wrong and in sin in some area of their life?

No matter how ungodly a person is, there is a church that will teach what their evil ears desire to hear. There are many churches that will promise the unrepentant sinner that they will go to heaven. Nearly all priests, preachers and rabbi will speak at a funeral and claim that the dead person is now in a better place and is with God; when in reality, the deceased person is in hell screaming, "I am tormented in this flame"-ref Lk 16:24. The people standing by all agree with what is being said by the misled clergy. There are many blind leaders of the blind, who, in the end, shall perish; but they do not realize this, because the darkness they are in has blinded their biblical understanding. The Bible says that Satan deceiveth the whole

world, but most will not believe this either-ref Rev 12:9.

Again, some questions a person needs to ask himself: When a person hears God's Word, how do they respond? How do you respond? Do they respond positively—in the fear of God, and with a soft and open heart? Do they respond with a humble attitude, saying, “Oh, Lord, correct me, for I am a sinful man,” or “God have mercy on me a sinner?”. Are they one of the very few that consider Jesus (God manifested in the flesh) hanging on the cross, dying a horrible death to pay the penalty for their sins, and respond with godly sorrow for their sins?

Some do put their hand to the plow to follow Jesus, but they keep looking back at this world's pleasures and comforts. They keep looking back because of their own personal desires. Such are not fit the kingdom of God-ref Lk 9:62. If Jesus is not the Lord of their life, then Jesus is not their Lord. If Jesus is not the center of a person's universe, then He is not their Lord. Most people want to reign and rule over their own life, but perhaps keep Jesus just close enough, so they can deceive themselves in thinking they shall inherit eternal life. When a person makes an excuse against God's Word and justifies what they are doing, they are, in essence, drawing further away from God. Self-justification and the fear of man does not draw a person closer to God. Humbleness, meekness, brokenness, fearing God, and repentance does.

We all have had hurts and bad memories of some type, but some people are consumed by them. There is little place for the Jesus of love in their hearts unless they repent.

When following Christ, your strengths can become your weaknesses, for they lead you to trust in yourself and not in God. But in your weaknesses you are then strong for you then trust in the living God.

Proof a person cannot understand the mysteries of God's Word, except God opens their understanding

The proof that a person has no hope of understanding the Scriptures or of being saved, except God opens their understanding, is shown clearly in the following Scriptures. It is written:

Pv 1:23- God says: I WILL MAKE KNOWN MY WORDS UNTO YOU.

Jere 24:7-AND I WILL GIVE THEM AN HEART TO KNOW ME.

Acts 16:14-...A CERTAIN WOMAN NAMED LYDIA,...WHICH WORSHIPPED GOD, HEARD US: WHOSE HEART THE LORD OPENED. It is God that opens a person heart to understand the Scriptures and to know what to do.

2 Cor 3:13-16-THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL...THEIR MINDS WERE BLINDED: FOR UNTIL THIS DAY REMAINETH THE SAME VAIL UNTAKEN AWAY IN THE READING OF THE OLD TESTAMENT; WHICH VAIL IS DONE AWAY IN CHRIST. BUT EVEN UNTO THIS DAY, WHEN MOSES IS READ, THE VAIL IS UPON THEIR HEART. NEVERTHELESS WHEN IT SHALL TURN TO THE LORD, THE VAIL SHALL BE TAKEN AWAY. God has blinded their minds and hearts, so they cannot understand the Scriptures, except.

Mt 11:25,26-...JESUS...SAID, I THANK THEE, O FATHER,...BECAUSE THOU HAST HID THESE THINGS FROM THE WISE AND PRUDENT, AND HAST REVEALED THEM UNTO BABES. EVEN SO, FATHER: FOR SO IT SEEMED GOOD IN THY SIGHT (ref Lk 10:21). No one can know God the Father or God the Son; for God the Father has closed the understanding of those that are proud and wise in their own eyes, but has given understanding to the meek, humble and childlike people. This seemed good in the Father's sight.

Mt 11:27:...NO MAN KNOWETH THE SON,...NEITHER...THE FATHER, SAVE...TO WHOMSOEVER THE SON WILL REVEAL HIM. None can understand, except those to whom Jesus will reveal Him. No one can have correct understanding of the Bible, except Jesus opens their understanding. (From other Scriptures: Therefore humble yourself, become childlike, fear God, and He should open your understanding. People may think they understand God's Word, but their understanding is darkened. It is flawed. It is in error. Note Mt 7:21-23; Mt 6:23.

Lk 9:44,45-THEY UNDERSTOOD NOT THIS SAYING, AND IT WAS HID FROM THEM, THAT THEY PERCEIVED IT NOT: AND THEY FEARED TO ASK HIM OF THAT SAYING. Again, the Scriptures make it very clear, apart from God, one cannot understand or perceive the Scriptures, as it is hid from them.

Lk 18:34-AND THEY UNDERSTOOD NONE OF THESE THINGS: AND THIS SAYING WAS HID FROM THEM. Jesus spoke clearly about His upcoming death and resurrection, yet His disciples didn't understand, as God had not opened their understanding at that time.

Lk 19:42-Jesus said: IF THOU HADST KNOWN, EVEN THOU, AT LEAST IN THIS THY DAY, THE THINGS WHICH BELONG UNTO THY PEACE! BUT NOW THEY ARE HID FROM THINE EYES. Over and over, the Bible makes it as clear as could be that a person absolutely cannot have true biblical understanding, except that God gives it to them. But even when God tries to give some people true biblical understanding, the person's own heart is so calloused or hard that Satan is able to take the understanding of God's Word out of their heart, as fast as it goes in. It is like trying to fill a balloon with air that has a hole in it. So no matter how much the Word of God is explained to a person, even by the most proficient speakers, the person simply cannot understand. The understanding they have is simply wrong; yet they think it is correct, and no amount of correct teaching or correction does any good. Even though this very subject is being explained clearly right now, some people will never be able to understand it, as it applies to them, because their heart is not right before God, or God has not chosen to open their understanding. With this in mind, all that can really be said is this: He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.

I believe that most every born again minister has had people to whom he tried to explain the mysteries of God's Word or correct them with Scripture. When he did, those that hardened their heart went away thinking they could see, even though they were still blind. Those that humbled themselves and repented went away understanding, as God gave them understanding.

2 Cor 4:3,4-BUT IF OUR GOSPEL BE HID, IT IS HID TO THEM THAT ARE LOST: IN WHOM THE GOD OF THIS WORLD (which is Satan) HATH BLINDED THE MINDS OF THEM WHICH BELIEVE NOT, LEST THE LIGHT OF THE GLORIOUS GOSPEL OF CHRIST, WHO IS THE IMAGE OF GOD, SHOULD SHINE UNTO THEM. In both the parable of the sower and in the Revelation, it is noted how Satan is able to blind, distort, and deceive people and take the Word out of their heart, regarding the true, God-given, biblical understanding of Scripture. Thus, they are lost. They have no hope. When they hear good biblical teaching, the wrong thoughts they have in their brain from the devil are believed, and the truth God tries to give them is rejected. The person is 100% positive that their thinking is right; when in reality, it is wrong. There is no power in the universe that can break through this wrong thinking a person has, except God. This explains why the whole world is deceived and will perish to hell. Only a very few will inherit eternal life. For it is written, Satan deceiveth the whole world-ref Rev 12:9. This is why four people can hear the same words of the Gospel. One will immediately believe all they hear and begin to follow Jesus. A second person will believe all they hear, but later go into unbelief. Another will say to himself, "I will come back and hear it again." He goes away not understanding. A fourth person will hear God's Word and mock it and make excuses. How can this be? It is because each person's heart is different. The meek shall inherit the earth-ref Ps 37:11, but the wicked shall not understand-ref Dan 12:10.

We may say, the degree of hardness in a person's heart is equal to the degree Satan is able to blind, deceive, and distort a person's understanding of God's Word. The more self-centered a person is, the less God is the center of their life. The more a person looks back, the less they look forward to Jesus. The more a person considers their own hurts, the less they consider the hurts of others. The more a person loves himself, the less they love Jesus. The person that has little to repent of, also has little need of Jesus. The more right a person is in their own eyes, the more wrong he is in the sight of God. The closer a person is to the light (Jesus), the more they can see the dirt (or sin) in their life. The more a person retains bitterness in their heart, the more apt they are to accuse the saints and even God Himself. The more a person depends on himself, the less they depend on Jesus. Many are the words of those that are full of themselves—their emotions rule much more than Jesus does. The anger of a person's heart can blot out the love they have. When a person is angry, godly peace cannot surround them. The angry emotions can override the still small voice of God. Which of these apply to you?

The Mystery Revealed. Born again, the process.

Col 1:26-...THE MYSTERY (which is Jesus being revealed, opening some understanding of the Old Testament, which had been hidden, and of the New Testament)...HATH BEEN HID FROM AGES AND FROM GENERATIONS, BUT NOW IS MADE MANIFEST (or made known) TO HIS SAINTS. Note, it did not say this knowledge was open to all people

or to the saints of some particular church, but to the saints of Christ. Again, we see that understanding God's Word is only possible to the people God selects and in the time frame that God determines.

You might say, "Many people understand that Jesus Christ was born about 2000 years ago, did many miracles, died on the cross, and was raised from the dead, and now sits on the right hand of God. How is it then that this mystery is only understood by a select few?" It is because many people's belief and understanding is only based on head knowledge. It is not a strong belief and understanding in their heart, which causes their thinking and life to change.

1-When the time comes that God calls a person, what often happens is a person suddenly has a tremendous curiosity or craving or hunger or thirst for God's Word. Something within or without happens that stirs a person to seek God. It is not a craving to do good works, to feed the poor, to give lots of money, to get more involved in your church; although these things can happen. As a result of this desire for more of God's Word-ref 1 Pe 2:2 and more of God, a person called of God begins to:

2-fear God

3-admit their sins, and repent, and

4-receive Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son, Who came to this world in human form, as their only hope of salvation.

5-Their thinking, life style, and heart goes through a transformation and conversion which causes a person to begin to obey God's Word.

6-They want a good, Bible teaching church that teaches God's Word in its fullness, including Bible prophecy, being born again, God's love, the fear of God, the judgments, heaven, and the lake of fire. They do not want a spiritually dead church with lots of worldly stories, rituals, and no conviction regarding sin. They do not want a church that teaches false doctrines such as purgatory.

7-Afterward, they obey God's Word and get baptized by full immersion in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost-ref Mt 28:19.

8-Jesus Christ becomes the center of their life, as they deny their own desires and plans and begin to follow Him. They begin to obey from the heart God's Word. They stop contending with God's Word, which includes making excuses, and begin to love others that are truly born again in both deed and in truth. As time passes, they begin to love their enemies. Their heart wants to witness to others, especially their loved ones about Jesus Christ. As their light begins to shine for Jesus, persecutions begin to come. All sorts of hindrances start arising to try and stop them. Some may be arrested because of their work for Jesus. Some may have people lie about them to try and get them in trouble. These things happened to Jesus, to Paul, to the Apostles, and they happen to God's elect that follow Jesus as well. However, in the end, there is eternal life for God's saints, but eternal damnation for all others. Satan does all he can to try and turn a person away from following Jesus.

This is what happens to a person when the mystery of God's Word is opened to them in their heart and in their mind.

Ro 11:7-9-THAT WHICH HE SEEKETH FOR;...THE ELECTION HATH OBTAINED IT, AND THE REST WERE BLINDED...AS IT IS WRITTEN, GOD HATH GIVEN THEM THE SPIRIT OF SLUMBER, EYES THAT THEY SHOULD NOT SEE, AND EARS THAT THEY SHOULD NOT HEAR;) UNTO THIS DAY. AND DAVID SAITH,...LET THEIR EYES BE DARKENED, THAT THEY MAY NOT SEE. God gave certain people understanding, but others He blinded and gave a spirit of slumber so they could not hear, or see, or understand the mystery of the Gospel. Such people see darkness, but they think it is light as that is all they have ever known.

1 Jn 2:10-11-HE THAT LOVETH HIS BROTHER ABIDETH IN THE LIGHT (or in Jesus), AND THERE IS NONE OCCASION OF STUMBLING IN HIM. Such a person gives Satan no opportunity to deceive him. BUT HE THAT HATETH HIS BROTHER IS IN DARKNESS, AND WALKETH IN DARKNESS, AND KNOWETH NOT WHITHER HE GOETH, BECAUSE THAT DARKNESS HATH BLINDED HIS EYES. Those that walk in darkness, the darkness is their light. A person that thinks they understand the Bible, when in fact they do not, such a person has no hope because the darkness they are in is so thick-ref Mt 6:23.

Can know that they are not saved?: The blindness and dishonesty of a person's heart blinds their eyes so that they do not know, unless Jesus opens their understanding.

Jn 8:42-JESUS SAID...IF GOD WERE YOUR FATHER, (1) YE WOULD LOVE ME. If you were saved, you would love Jesus, (2) you would love His Word, (3) you would do His Word, and (4) you would love your brothers and sisters in

Christ.

Jn 8:43-WHY DO YE NOT UNDERSTAND MY SPEECH (or My Words)? EVEN BECAUSE YE CANNOT... Why can't you understand you are not saved. It is because you cannot, unless God opens your heart, your eyes, and your ears. Otherwise you may be fully persuaded you are saved, yet you will still perish. Hell has billions of people that were once positive they were saved. They were positive beyond ANY DOUBT at all, that they would not go to hell, yet they are now there. So what hope is there for you? Can you become broken, humbled, meek, and childlike to correction to receive these words? If a Spirit led, love filled person comes from God to tell you these things, will you understand?. Can you become so broken, humbled, meek, and childlike that you can overcome the wrong thinking that you have? That wrong thinking is from Satan and it convinces you that you are truly saved and going to heaven, even though you are not? You may think you know God's Word regarding how Satan deceives the whole world. Yet why can't you understand that he has been deceiving you, and is deceiving you even right now? Why can't you understand that Satan (which is the father of lies) is distorting God's Word in your thoughts? It is even because you cannot just as it is written: IF I SAY THE TRUTH, WHY DO YE NOT BELIEVE ME? BECAUSE I TELL YOU THE TRUTH, YE BELIEVE ME NOT-ref Jn 8:46,45.

The more centered you are on yourself, the less centered you are on Jesus.

Thus it is written and thus it is. Even if Jesus Himself, or an angel from God, or some person God sent to you, or someone rose from the dead came and affirmed these things to you, yet you still would not believe this about yourself BECAUSE if you believe not God's Word as it applies to yourself, neither will you be persuaded though one rose from the dead to tell you these things. Jere 17:9-THE HEART IS DECEITFUL ABOVE ALL THINGS, AND DESPERATELY WICKED: WHO CAN KNOW IT?

The parable of the sower

Ref Mt 13:4-23; Mk 4:3-20; Lk 8:5-15. There are many different kinds of hearts that are mentioned in God's Word. However, in these three groups of verses, ref. Mt 13:4-23; Mk 4:3-20; Lk 8:5-15, the hearts of people throughout the world are divided into four types. You would be included in one of these categories. These verses illustrate how each type of heart responds to God's Word as they hear it. It also illustrates how Satan works in the spiritual realm and some of the devices he uses in this world to lead people astray. Over and over, the Bible makes it extremely clear that most people are not saved, that only a few are; therefore, it is clear that the majority of people in the world have the first kind of heart, which is the wayside heart.

God's Word on this subject begins with these words:

Lk 8:5-A SOWER WENT OUT TO SOW HIS SEED. Lk 8:11-THE SEED IS THE WORD OF GOD. Mk 4:3-HEARKEN. Mt 13:18-HEAR YE THE PARABLE. A farmer sows his seed and it falls in different places. In the same way, God's Word is sown through what a person reads or hears; and when the Word reaches their heart, the heart of the person reacts in different ways.

Mk 4:15-20-**BRIEFLY, the first group** has a wayside heart. This group rejects God's Word.

The second group has a stony heart. This group receives God's Word with gladness, but sooner or later they fall away when afflictions or persecutions come against them. The pressure becomes intense. It seems to be unbearable, and they are overcome. These do not endure until the end, even though God's Word guarantees: 1 Cor 10:13-THERE HATH NO TEMPTATION TAKEN YOU BUT SUCH AS IS COMMON TO MAN: BUT GOD IS FAITHFUL, WHO WILL NOT SUFFER YOU TO BE TEMPTED ABOVE THAT YE ARE ABLE; BUT WILL WITH THE TEMPTATION ALSO MAKE A WAY TO ESCAPE, THAT YE MAY BE ABLE TO BEAR IT.

The third group has a thorny heart. This group also receives God's Word, but sooner or later the cares of this life, the lusts of this life or lusts of other things, the love of pleasures or comforts, or the deceitfulness of riches become so intense, that these also fall away. These pressures become so unbearable that they are overcome. These do not endure until the end.

The fourth group is the good or good and honest heart. These are attacked with all the things that the other groups are hit with, but these are not overcome with all these pressures and wrong thinking. These do endure until the end. These will hear these words at the Judgment: "WELL DONE GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT. THOU HAST BEEN FAITHFUL IN A FEW THINGS, I WILL MAKE THEE A RULER OVER MANY THINGS. ENTER THOU INTO THE JOY OF THY LORD"-ref Mt 25:23. Which group are you in???????

Heart type number one in detail is this: (The wayside heart). THESE ARE THEY (the people) BY THE WAY SIDE, WHERE THE WORD IS SOWN; BUT WHEN THEY HAVE HEARD (God's Word), (THE FOWLS...OF THE AIR...[or demonic realm] CAME), SATAN COMETH IMMEDIATELY, AND TAKETH AWAY THE WORD THAT WAS SOWN IN THEIR HEARTS. God's Word is TRODDEN DOWN, AND THE FOWLS OF THE AIR DEVoured IT, LEST THEY SHOULD BELIEVE AND BE SAVED.

People that have a hard heart, a wayside type of heart can hear God's Word, but Satan is able to take the understanding of God's Word out of their heart as fast as it goes in. God's Word is trampled on, trodden down, distorted, and eliminated from a person's thinking. This can happen if a person is fearful or full of pride, or very selfish and self-centered, or has been hurt, rejected, or perhaps wrongfully blames God for what Satan has done. In other words, Satan gives these people thoughts in their heart that are contrary to God's Word, and the wayside heart quickly chooses to believe the wrong thinking they have. They have no understanding that this is even happening to them. They are totally ignorant of this spiritual warfare that is going on in their heart and thoughts. These people might dimly see this happening in other people, but they can't recognize it is happening to them. They have no chance of being saved unless repentance takes place. The understanding of God's Word that they have is wrong—it is darkness, deception. It is the type of understanding that takes a person to hell, not to heaven; but they have no understanding of any of these things. No matter how much one of God's servants would try to explain this to them, it is to no avail. The person may be an atheist, a member of a cult, a make-believe Christian, a beggar, a well-respected business man or prominent world leader. It could be a preacher or denominational president. God can change a person's heart, but if a person's heart does not believe God's Word as it is written, and if their heart is so hard that God's Word cannot take root, they cannot be saved. But understand this: of the billions of people that are already in hell, being tormented in the flame, it is safe to say that not one of them ever believed they would be there, and many of them probably didn't even believe the place called hell even existed. Is this your future?

The Scriptures show that we cannot understand the Scriptures unless God opens our understanding. In the first part of this parable, we have people that hear God's Word, but because of the hardness of their heart, Satan is able to take the understanding of God's Word out of their heart as fast as it goes in.

For such people, it may be said, Ro 2:5-BUT BECAUSE OF YOUR STUBBORNNESS AND YOUR UNREPENTANT HEART, YOU ARE STORING UP WRATH AGAINST YOURSELF FOR THE DAY OF GOD'S WRATH, WHEN HIS RIGHTEOUS JUDGMENT WILL BE REVEALED.

Heart type number two is this: (The stony heart). AND THESE ARE THEY LIKEWISE WHICH ARE SOWN ON STONY GROUND. (These have either a stony heart with a small amount of dirt, or a heart that is like a rock), WHO, WHEN THEY HAVE HEARD THE WORD, IMMEDIATELY RECEIVE IT WITH GLADNESS. WITH JOY they receive IT. The Word springs UP immediately in some, but later in others. These do begin to understand the basics of God's Word when they hear it, by God's mercy and God opening their understanding. AND (these people) do not have MUCH EARTH...OR DEPTH OF EARTH. Because of this they HAVE NO ROOT IN THEMSELVES, and BECAUSE (they lack) MOISTURE, WHEN THE SUN WAS UP (or pressures, problems, and wrong thinking come upon them, they fall). WHEN AFFLICTION,...TRIBULATIONS,...PERSECUTIONS, and all kinds of TEMPTATION(s) come because they are following God's Word, they become SCORCHED. Some fall, or begin to shrink back immediately, while others believe and ENDURE (or survive)...FOR A TIME, but then wither away very slowly as Satan wears them down over many years, and finally THEY ARE OFFENDED and they FALL AWAY. God's Word warns these people Heb 10:38, 39-NOW THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH (or trust): BUT IF ANY MAN DRAW BACK, MY SOUL SHALL HAVE NO PLEASURE IN HIM...WHO DRAW BACK UNTO PERDITION.

These people heard God's Word. They responded to it in a positive way, with gladness. They began to obey God. They received God's Word. They received Jesus. They believed. They said a sinner's prayer. They got baptized biblically. Some began serving God. But afterward, perhaps immediately, or after a few days, or even many years, they fall away. They leave God. They go into unbelief. Their faith fails. They are overcome. Satan is able to deceive them. The devil wears them down. The person with a stony heart does not have enough good soil in their heart or biblical faith to endure until the end. When pressure comes upon them from all types of afflictions, tribulations, persecutions, temptations, accusations, hardships, difficulties, hurts, rejection, sickness, imprisonment—the list could go on and on, the stony heart becomes offended. The stony heart turns aside from God. The stony heart may trust in God by what they say and for a time even in what they do, but sooner or later they shrink back. They eventually become hard to correction. When difficulties

arise or continue to arise, these sooner or later begin to follow unbiblical, worldly, wrong thinking which is put in their heart by the devil. They sooner or later choose to follow error rather than patience and God's Word. Their faith-filled trust in God disappears. They cannot endure or survive the continual bombardment from the demonic realm steadfast until God calls them home. These often become murmurers, accusers, and complainers. The love they begin to have for the saints erodes away. They become hard and upset when they are told they are wrong. They begin to justify themselves and make excuses. God had opened their heart to understand, but there was not enough good soil in their heart so they could endure. They become scorched, fall away, shrink back, turn back, and become offended. But their true spiritual condition is hid from them and no person on earth can show them the error of their ways. As they fall away and spiritual blindness sets in, they are not aware of what is happening. They forget what manner of person they were when they walked with God in humbleness, joy, and gladness. They usually are still positive they are a Christian. Some may look very religious. They may still do the works of God. Many become absolutely positive they are saved. They may talk like a Christian, but their heart is far from God. People in this and in the third category may have faith that is like a wave. Some are driven with the wind of worldly circumstances. They are tossed about. They are doubleminded. They are unstable-ref Ja 1:6-8.

Their thinking and attitude becomes unbiblical. Some of these might even argue with God at the judgment-ref Mt 7:22,23.

In the end, these will hear terrifying words at the Judgment, such as, "DEPART FROM ME YE THAT WORK INIQUITY." And these shall go into everlasting punishment.

In this second part of the parable, we have God giving the people understanding of His Word; however because they have a stony heart, sooner or later, Satan is able to turn their understanding to deception using afflictions, tribulations, persecutions and various types of temptations. Then their trust in the God of the Bible fails, and they fall away.

Heart type number three is this: (The thorny heart). Mt 13 and Lk 8: AND SOME (of God's Word) FELL AMONG THORNS; AND THE THORNS SPRANG UP WITH IT. As a person hears God's Word, Satan puts certain thoughts in our heart and mind. The devil knows and understands men's desires-ref Mt 16:23. These thoughts spring up as God's Word springs up. The person with a thorny heart will allow these wrong thoughts to choke God's Word, but the person with a good heart will not do so. THE (person) ALSO THAT RECEIVED SEED (which is God's Word) AMONG THE THORNS (this person has a thorny heart) IS HE (the person) THAT HEARETH THE WORD (that is God's Word); AND THE CARE (s) OF THIS WORLD,...AND PLEASURES OF THIS LIFE...AND THE DECEITFULNESS OF RICHES, AND THE LUSTS OF OTHER THINGS ENTERING IN and (spring UP),...(and grow) UP, (AND) CHOKE THE WORD (in a person's heart), AND HE (the person) (yields NO FRUIT or) BECOMETH UNFRUITFUL or they BRING NO FRUIT TO PERFECTION. Satan's attacks, using these methods, can happen immediately as a person hears God's Word; or it may come much later on as a person goes forth to serve God. As it is written in Lk 8:14-THAT (which is God's Word) WHICH FELL AMONG THORNS ARE THEY, WHICH, WHEN THEY HAVE HEARD, GO FORTH, AND ARE CHOKED.

In other words, because the person has a thorny type of a heart, God's Word becomes choked. It becomes distorted in a person's heart. The thorny heart's understanding of God's Word, sooner or later, will hear Satan telling them that God's Word does not really mean what it says, or it doesn't apply to them. This happened to Eve in the Garden of Eden. As Eve chose to believe the lies in her heart from the devil over God's Word, so the person with a thorny heart, or stony heart, or wayside heart does the same. It happened to the children of Israel as they wandered in the wilderness, and it may be happening to you.

Lusts include the following: lusts of Satan-Jn 8:44; lusts of your own heart-ref Ro 1:24; fleshly lusts-ref Ro 13:14; lusts and desires of your flesh and mind-ref Eph 2:3; deceitful lusts-ref Eph 4:22; youthful lusts-ref 2 Tim 2:22; and the lusts of men-1 Pe 4:2. Lusts which lead people to hell-ref 1 Tim 6:9; lusts war in your members-ref Ja 4:1; and lusts war against your soul-ref 1 Pe 2:11. Some sinful people fashion themselves after lusts-ref 1 Pe 1:14. Satan and his followers can entice and lure you, using the lusts of your flesh-ref 2 Pe 2:18. First a lustful thought is implanted in your mind, and your heart agrees with it. Next when sin has conceived and is finished, it brings forth death-ref Ja 1:15. But those that have a good heart crucify the flesh with fleshly lusts-ref Gal 5:24. They cast down the wrong thinking. The more your heart dwells on a sinful lustful thought, the more apt you are to sin.

This lukewarm generation we are now living in offers Satan huge weapons to use against people with a thorny heart. The multitude of the cares of this world, the abundance of pleasures in this life, the desire for money, things, and to "get ahead," the vastness of things to lust after, the opportunities to please the flesh with sex, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, ungodly life styles, and numerous other ways—all these things have given Satan the ability to tempt people in ways perhaps as never

before. Few churches today take a stand for repentance, preaching against sin and ungodliness. Few are warning people that the wages of sin is death and that most people will perish for eternity. Few are warning people regarding the latter days we are now in. Yet there is hope for those that will heed God's command and receive correction. A heart can be purified from being a stony or thorny heart. It is written: Ja 4:8-DRAW NIGH TO GOD, AND HE WILL DRAW NIGH TO YOU. CLEANSE YOUR HANDS, YE SINNERS; AND PURIFY YOUR HEARTS, YE DOUBLE MINDED. How can this be accomplished? It is written: 1 Pe 1:22-SEEING YE HAVE PURIFIED YOUR SOULS IN OBEYING THE TRUTH THROUGH THE SPIRIT UNTO UNFEIGNED (or sincere) LOVE OF THE BRETHREN, SEE THAT YE LOVE ONE ANOTHER WITH A PURE HEART FERVENTLY: Note the keys: 1-Obey God's Word, and 2-love the brethren sincerely and deeply.

Heart type number four is this: (The good or good and honest heart).

This is the heart of a person that doesn't shrink back.

The parable of the sower appears in Matthew, Mark, and Luke.

Ref Mt 13; Mk 4; Lk 8. AND OTHER (seed) FELL ON GOOD GROUND. (The seed is the Word of God). HE THAT RECEIVED SEED INTO THE GOOD GROUND IS HE THAT HEARETH THE WORD,...AND RECEIVE IT,...AND UNDERSTANDETH IT; THEY, WHICH IN AN GOOD HEART, (or) HONEST AND GOOD HEART,...KEEP IT,...AND DID YIELD (or bring forth, or beareth) FRUIT...AND BRING FORTH FRUIT WITH PATIENCE...THAT SPRANG UP AND INCREASED; SOME THIRTY (or thirtyfold), AND SOME SIXTY, AND SOME AN HUNDRED; (or) SOME AN HUNDREDFOLD, SOME SIXTYFOLD, SOME THIRTYFOLD (or) SOME AN HUNDREDFOLD, SOME SIXTY, SOME THIRTY (or) BARE FRUIT AN HUNDREDFOLD.

In all three Gospels, the term *good* is used. Only in Luke's Gospel is the word *heart* used, and only in Luke's Gospel are both the words *good ground* and *good and honest heart* used. Only in Luke's Gospel are the terms *thirty* and *sixty* omitted. Those with a *good and honest heart* bear maximum fruit—an hundredfold.

These are people that started off very worldly and carnal. They made many mistakes. But they grew in faith, love and understanding while going through many sufferings. These are the people that truly love God and the brethren with all their heart in both deed and truth—no matter what. These are the type of people that want correction and when they receive it, they obey it. These are people that want to be conformed to the image of Christ-ref Ro 8:21. As they grew, these stopped being accusers of the brethren. These stopped making excuses. They stopped complaining and murmuring. They are not easily angered. These are people that are thankful to God even in difficult times. These are people that have gone through all the things that the people with the stony and thorny heart have gone through, but they did not shrink back. They did not turn away from God. They did not become hard toward God and accuse God. There were not overcome by the many schemes of the devil. These were people that were afraid at many times, but their faith overcame the fear. They stopped looking back and looked at Jesus. They stopped comparing themselves with other people, but compared themselves with Jesus. They repented and kept repenting. They did not make up lies. They did not become self-reliant, but rather became more and more reliant on God in all matters. They sought God's will in all aspects of their life. More and more, they denied themselves as they grew.

These shall ultimately hear God's Words saying: Mt 25:23-WELL DONE, GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT; THOU HAST BEEN FAITHFUL OVER A FEW THINGS, I WILL MAKE THEE RULER OVER MANY THINGS: ENTER THOU INTO THE JOY OF THY LORD. These are the people whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life-ref Rev 21:27.

But the born again saints, called and chosen of God, that are alive during the days before the Tribulation will become more and more grieved. This is because the church which sees the countdown to the coming Tribulation is lukewarm-ref Rev 3:14-22. But even worse, it says it is rich and increased with goods while, in reality, it is wretched, miserable, poor, blind and naked. They are not clothed with Jesus. The Philadelphia church (ref Rev 3:7-13) is representative of God's church that existed a hundred years ago, that followed Jesus, but has now deteriorated into a church that has Jesus on the outside knocking at the door. Today's church is so blind that they do not even know this. They do not even recognize God speaking to them through His Word, as He says: I COUNSEL THEE TO BUY OF ME GOLD TRIED IN THE FIRE, THAT THOU MAYEST BE RICH; AND WHITE RAIMENT, THAT THOU MAYEST BE CLOTHED, AND THAT THE SHAME OF THY NAKEDNESS DO NOT APPEAR; AND ANOINT THINE EYES WITH EYESALVE, THAT THOU MAYEST SEE. ...BE ZEALOUS THEREFORE, AND REPENT. HE THAT HATH AN EAR, LET HIM HEAR WHAT THE SPIRIT

SAITH UNTO THE CHURCHES-ref Rev 3:17-22.

In addition, the born again saints, called and chosen of God, that are alive during the days before the Tribulation will become more and more grieved because of the ever increasing hardness of people's hearts, the immorality and sin, the lack of a fear of God, the filthy conversations of people, the violence, the hate against God and His Word. People are so blind that they take God's name in vain, lie when it is convenient, accuse others, involve themselves in porn and adultery, get drunk, are addicted to smoking, are not thankful to God, fight against God's commandments, and yet think they are going to heaven. This is blindness. The hostility against God's chosen that take a stand for God's righteousness can be expected to increase. However, those with a good heart that hold fast can expect to hear AS IT WERE OF A TRUMPET TALKING;...WHICH SAID, COME UP HITHER-ref Rev 4:1. And then, 1 Cor 15:52-IN A MOMENT, IN THE TWINKLING OF AN EYE, AT THE LAST TRUMP: FOR THE TRUMPET SHALL SOUND, AND THE DEAD SHALL BE RAISED INCORRUPTIBLE, AND WE SHALL BE CHANGED. For these saints look for: THAT BLESSED HOPE, AND THE GLORIOUS APPEARING OF THE GREAT GOD AND OUR SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST-ref Titus 2:13.

Why did Jesus speak to the people in parables?

Regarding the message from the parable of the sower, God gives us these words-ref Mt 13:4-23; Mk 4:3-20; Lk 8:5-15.

AND HE SAID UNTO THEM (the people), HE THAT HATH EARS TO HEAR, LET HIM HEAR. AND WHEN HE WAS ALONE, (THE DISCIPLES),...THAT WERE ABOUT HIM WITH THE TWELVE...ASKED HIM...WHAT MIGHT THIS PARABLE BE?—(and they asked) WHY SPEAKEST THOU UNTO THEM IN PARABLES? AND HE (Jesus) SAID...(BECAUSE) UNTO YOU IT IS GIVEN TO KNOW THE (MYSTERIES) OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD: BUT TO OTHERS...UNTO THEM THAT ARE WITHOUT, (IT IS NOT GIVEN), (thus) ALL THESE THINGS ARE DONE IN PARABLES: In other words, a person cannot correctly understand the mysteries of God's Word unless God, in His mercy, opens their understanding.

(BECAUSE THEY) SEEING THEY MAY SEE, AND NOT PERCEIVE; AND HEARING THEY MAY HEAR, (but in reality) (THEY HEAR NOT) AND (NEITHER DO THEY) UNDERSTAND. In other words, if God does not open a person's understanding, they may think they understand but, in reality, the understanding they have is error, because they do not understand God's Word the way God intended it to be understood. They understand the way their own distorted thoughts dictate which can be influenced by their emotions, thoughts from their past, their hurts, wrong teaching they have heard, etc.-ref Pv 3:5; Hos 13:2.

For if they did understand correctly...THEY SHOULD BE CONVERTED, AND THEIR SINS SHOULD BE FORGIVEN THEM (AND I SHOULD HEAL THEM).

FOR WHOSOEVER HATH (God's Word), TO HIM SHALL BE GIVEN, AND HE SHALL HAVE MORE ABUNDANCE: BUT WHOSOEVER HATH NOT, FROM HIM SHALL BE TAKEN AWAY EVEN THAT HE HATH. If a person has some understanding of God's Word, and he obeys it, he shall be given more understanding; however, if a person has some understanding of God's Word, but does not obey it, then the understanding that he has shall be taken away. The disobedient will forget, or the understanding their heart had will be erased. They will forget what manner of person they were-ref Ja 1:14. And even this they will not understand, yet they should think they do. Such people usually develop a hardness to correction. How can a lying heart admit it is a lying heart? It is a liar. How can a deceived heart admit it is deceived? It deceives itself-ref Jere 37:9; 1 Cor 3:18; 1 Jn 1:8. How can an evil heart admit it is evil?

AND IN THEM IS FULFILLED THE PROPHECY OF ESAIAS, WHICH SAITH, BY HEARING YE SHALL (indeed) HEAR, AND SHALL NOT UNDERSTAND; AND SEEING YE SHALL (indeed) SEE, AND SHALL NOT PERCEIVE:

FOR THIS PEOPLE'S HEART IS WAXED GROSS, AND THEIR EARS ARE DULL OF HEARING, AND THEIR EYES THEY HAVE CLOSED; LEST AT ANY TIME THEY SHOULD SEE WITH THEIR EYES, AND HEAR WITH THEIR EARS, AND SHOULD UNDERSTAND WITH THEIR HEART, AND SHOULD BE CONVERTED, AND I SHOULD HEAL THEM-Mt 13:14-15..

MAKE THE HEART OF THIS PEOPLE FAT, AND MAKE THEIR EARS HEAVY, AND SHUT THEIR EYES; LEST THEY SEE WITH THEIR EYES, AND HEAR WITH THEIR EARS, AND UNDERSTAND WITH THEIR HEART, AND CONVERT, AND BE HEALED. THEREFORE THEY COULD NOT BELIEVE-Isa 6:10.

Jn 12:39,40-HE HATH BLINDED THEIR EYES, AND HARDENED THEIR HEART; THAT THEY SHOULD NOT

SEE WITH THEIR EYES, NOR UNDERSTAND. It can be a very dangerous thing spiritually for a person that has had their understanding opened by God, to still walk in disobedience to what they knew was right. An avalanche starts slowly, but can be very deadly.

BUT BLESSED ARE YOUR EYES, FOR THEY SEE: AND YOUR EARS, FOR THEY HEAR.

FOR VERILY I SAY UNTO YOU, THAT MANY PROPHETS AND RIGHTEOUS MEN HAVE DESIRED TO SEE THOSE THINGS WHICH YE SEE, AND HAVE NOT SEEN THEM; AND TO HEAR THOSE THINGS WHICH YE HEAR, AND HAVE NOT HEARD THEM-ref Isa 6:9-10.

The fact is this. God is the One that must open a person's understanding regarding the mystery of His Word. If He does not, then there is absolutely no hope for a person. Most people walk in a false hope, in the imagination of their own heart-ref Jere 13:10; Lk 1:51. Just as the people in Noah's day didn't understand there was a flood coming that would take them all away, so perhaps even you are spiritually blind as they were. In the same way, the rich man didn't understand he would go to hell, until he died and was there, so perhaps neither do you understand-ref Lk 16:19-31.

Those whom God has not opened their understanding, so that they might understand the mystery of His Word—shall never truly understand this in their heart. Even if the most articulate group of Spirit-led, Bible teachers in the world would explain to a person over and over these things, still the person cannot understand. What they will understand will simply be wrong; it is not possible for them to understand correctly.

Fact. Hell is a real place. Satan is real, who was created to do exactly what he is doing. A countless number of people throughout history have heard God's Word telling them about hell and telling them that they were going there, if they did not receive Jesus Christ as their only hope of salvation and follow Him. When this vast majority of the world's population has heard this, they did not understand. They had all sorts of thoughts in their minds that convinced them this was not true "for them," yet it was true. This mystery of God's Word fell on deaf ears. The vast majority of the world's population that has ever lived is now in hell awaiting the final judgment. Are you going to be one of them? It is written: AND IT CAME TO PASS, THAT...THE RICH MAN...DIED, AND WAS BURIED; AND IN HELL HE LIFT UP HIS EYES, BEING IN TORMENTS, AND SEETH ABRAHAM AFAR OFF,...AND HE CRIED AND SAID,...I AM TORMENTED IN THIS FLAME. ...THEN HE SAID, I PRAY THEE THEREFORE, FATHER, THAT THOU WOULDST SEND HIM TO MY FATHER'S HOUSE: FOR I HAVE FIVE BRETHREN; THAT HE MAY TESTIFY UNTO THEM, LEST THEY ALSO COME INTO THIS PLACE OF TORMENT. ABRAHAM SAITH...IF THEY HEAR NOT MOSES AND THE PROPHETS (the Bible, God's Word), NEITHER WILL THEY BE PERSUADED, THOUGH ONE ROSE FROM THE DEAD-ref Lk 16:20-31.

Final Proof

A person cannot understand God's Word and be saved, unless God gives them understanding unto repentance

God's Word has just shown us that even though one rose from the dead, a person will not be persuaded to repent and receive Jesus Christ as their only hope of salvation.

Ref Mt 28:1-15-Jesus was dead and buried. Then THE ANGEL OF THE LORD DESCENDED FROM HEAVEN, AND CAME AND ROLLED BACK THE STONE FROM THE DOOR, AND SAT UPON IT. ...AND FOR FEAR OF HIM THE KEEPERS DID SHAKE, AND BECAME AS DEAD MEN. AND THE ANGEL ANSWERED AND SAID UNTO THE WOMEN, FEAR NOT YE: FOR I KNOW THAT YE SEEK JESUS, WHICH WAS CRUCIFIED. HE IS NOT HERE: FOR HE IS RISEN. **NOW WHEN THEY WERE GOING, BEHOLD, SOME OF THE WATCH CAME INTO THE CITY, AND SHEWED UNTO THE CHIEF PRIESTS ALL THE THINGS THAT WERE DONE.** AND WHEN THEY WERE ASSEMBLED WITH THE ELDERS, AND HAD TAKEN COUNSEL, THEY GAVE LARGE MONEY UNTO THE SOLDIERS, SAYING, SAY YE, HIS DISCIPLES CAME BY NIGHT, AND STOLE HIM AWAY WHILE WE SLEPT. AND IF THIS COME TO THE GOVERNOR'S EARS, WE WILL PERSUADE HIM, AND SECURE YOU. SO THEY TOOK THE MONEY, AND DID AS THEY WERE TAUGHT: AND THIS SAYING IS COMMONLY REPORTED AMONG THE JEWS UNTIL THIS DAY-Mt 28:11-15. The soldiers saw and testified that Jesus was risen from the dead. There was no doubt in their minds what they had gone through and seen. Yet did they repent? The answer is no. Did the chief priests repent? No. Did the elders repent? No. Did the soldiers take a bribe to lie? Yes.

Ref John 11:39-48. Lazarus was dead and buried for 4 days. JESUS SAID, TAKE YE AWAY THE STONE. MARTHA,

THE SISTER OF HIM THAT WAS DEAD, SAITH UNTO HIM, LORD, BY THIS TIME HE STINKETH: FOR HE HATH BEEN DEAD FOUR DAYS. HE (Jesus) CRIED WITH A LOUD VOICE, LAZARUS, COME FORTH. AND HE THAT WAS DEAD CAME FORTH, BOUND HAND AND FOOT WITH GRAVECLOTHES. THEN MANY OF THE JEWS WHICH CAME TO MARY, AND HAD SEEN THE THINGS WHICH JESUS DID, BELIEVED ON HIM. BUT SOME OF THEM WENT THEIR WAYS TO THE PHARISEES, AND TOLD THEM WHAT THINGS JESUS HAD DONE. THEN GATHERED THE CHIEF PRIESTS AND THE PHARISEES A COUNCIL, AND SAID, WHAT DO WE? FOR THIS MAN DOETH MANY MIRACLES. IF WE LET HIM THUS ALONE, ALL MEN WILL BELIEVE ON HIM: AND THE ROMANS SHALL COME AND TAKE AWAY BOTH OUR PLACE AND NATION. Did all repent? No. Some of the Jews still would not believe. The Pharisees and chief priests now knew positively that Jesus raised the dead, yet did they repent? No.

Ref Acts 3:1-26 and 4:1-18-Later on Peter and John healed a lame man in the name of Jesus Christ. They then SPAKE UNTO THE PEOPLE, THE PRIESTS, AND THE CAPTAIN OF THE TEMPLE, AND THE SADDUCEES, CAME UPON THEM. BEING GRIEVED THAT THEY TAUGHT THE PEOPLE, AND PREACHED THROUGH JESUS THE RESURRECTION FROM THE DEAD. (The next day) THEIR RULERS, AND ELDERS, AND SCRIBES, AND ANNAS THE HIGH PRIEST, AND CAIAPHAS, AND JOHN, AND ALEXANDER, AND AS MANY AS WERE OF THE KINDRED OF THE HIGH PRIEST, WERE GATHERED TOGETHER AT JERUSALEM. ...THEY ASKED, BY WHAT POWER, OR BY WHAT NAME, HAVE YE DONE THIS? THEN PETER,...SAID...YE RULERS OF THE PEOPLE, AND ELDERS OF ISRAEL,...BE IT KNOWN UNTO YOU ALL, AND TO ALL THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL, THAT BY THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST OF NAZARETH, WHOM YE CRUCIFIED, WHOM GOD RAISED FROM THE DEAD, EVEN BY HIM DOTH THIS MAN STAND HERE BEFORE YOU WHOLE. ...AND BEHOLDING THE MAN WHICH WAS HEALED STANDING WITH THEM, THEY COULD SAY NOTHING AGAINST IT. ...They said, WHAT SHALL WE DO TO THESE MEN? FOR THAT INDEED A NOTABLE MIRACLE HATH BEEN DONE BY THEM...AND WE CANNOT DENY IT. They never denied that they had crucified Jesus. They never denied that Jesus had been raised from the dead, because they knew it was true, for the soldiers had told them. Now they could not deny the miracle that had been done. They absolutely knew these things were true. Yet did they repent? No. Rather, THEY CALLED THEM, AND COMMANDED THEM NOT TO SPEAK AT ALL NOR TEACH IN THE NAME OF JESUS. They actually tried to hinder God's work.

It has been clearly shown by God's Word—a person cannot believe and repent, except God opens their heart to truly understand. Have you repented? For you also have now been told these things. Beware—should you believe on Jesus and not obey God's Word, blindness may come upon you, and you may return to your unbelief and never be aware of it.

How can a person understand the parable of the sower or God's other parables?

Mk 4:13-AND HE SAID UNTO THEM, KNOW YE NOT THIS PARABLE? AND HOW THEN WILL YE KNOW ALL PARABLES? The answer of how to know and understand all parables is through the mercy of God as the Spirit gives the correct understanding. For the Scriptures show that the Spirit of God does speak to God's children:

Acts 10:19-WHILE PETER THOUGHT ON THE VISION, THE SPIRIT SAID UNTO HIM, BEHOLD, THREE MEN SEEK THEE.

Jn 16:13-THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH,...HE WILL GUIDE YOU INTO ALL TRUTH.

1 Cor 2:9-10-Regarding the deep things of God, GOD HATH REVEALED THEM UNTO US BY HIS SPIRIT.

1 Cor 2:11-THE THINGS OF GOD KNOWETH NO MAN, BUT THE SPIRIT OF GOD.

1 Cor 2:14,15-THE NATURAL (or worldly, or unsaved, or unrepented) MAN RECEIVETH NOT THE THINGS OF THE SPIRIT OF GOD: FOR THEY ARE FOOLISHNESS UNTO HIM: NEITHER *CAN HE KNOW THEM*, BECAUSE THEY ARE (to him nonsense. ...He is unable to grasp them). (The person who has the Spirit can evaluate everything-JNT).

Eph 3:4-5-THE MYSTERY OF CHRIST...IT IS NOW REVEALED...BY THE SPIRIT.

I Jn 5:6-IT IS THE SPIRIT THAT BEARETH WITNESS, BECAUSE THE SPIRIT IS TRUTH.

Nevertheless, even people that do have God's Spirit, their understanding can be distorted if (1) they have not denied themselves as it is written; if (2) their thoughts are still centered in their troubled past; if (3) they have not repented of their preconceived thoughts; if (4) they have not repented of their worldly thinking and trust; if (5) they have not repented of their envies, strifes, divisions, arguing, and denominational trust; and if (6) they are very emotional or are easily angered, talk a lot or are easily fearful. Carnal, born again Christians have a poor or partial understanding, until they get rid of the beam that is

in their own eye-ref Mt 7:3-5. The more a person’s trust is centered on worldly things, the more it is not centered on Christ. For it is written:

Ro 8:7-...THE CARNAL MIND IS ENMITY AGAINST GOD: FOR IT IS NOT SUBJECT TO THE LAW OF GOD, NEITHER INDEED CAN BE.

1 Cor 3:1-4-AND I, BRETHREN, COULD NOT SPEAK UNTO YOU AS UNTO SPIRITUAL, BUT AS UNTO CARNAL, EVEN AS UNTO BABES IN CHRIST. I HAVE FED YOU WITH MILK, AND NOT WITH MEAT: FOR HITHERTO YE WERE NOT ABLE TO BEAR IT, NEITHER YET NOW ARE YE ABLE. FOR YE ARE YET CARNAL: FOR WHEREAS THERE IS AMONG YOU ENVYING, AND STRIFE, AND DIVISIONS, ARE YE NOT CARNAL, AND WALK AS MEN? FOR WHILE ONE SAITH, I AM OF PAUL; AND ANOTHER, I AM OF APOLLOS; ARE YE NOT CARNAL?

God’s Word also tells us in Heb 11:3-THROUGH FAITH (or trust) WE UNDERSTAND. Through believing God’s Word we trust in God, we believe God, we understand. No faith, no understanding. Little faith or little trust equals little understanding. Great trust or faith equals great understanding. An interesting way to put this is thus: Without understanding there is no faith (or trust) and without faith (or trust) there is no understanding.

People that trust in evolution do not trust in God’s Word for the second part of Heb 11:3 states Heb 11:3-THROUGH FAITH (or trust) WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE WORLDS WERE FRAMED BY THE WORD OF GOD, SO THAT THINGS WHICH ARE SEEN WERE NOT MADE OF THINGS WHICH DO APPEAR.

So what can a person do? Fear God. It is written: Acts 13:16-...PAUL...SAID,...YE THAT FEAR GOD, GIVE AUDIENCE. GOD IS GREATLY TO BE FEARED IN THE ASSEMBLY OF THE SAINTS-ref Ps 89:7. Keep humbling oneself. Examine yourself truthfully and often by God’s Word to see what areas of your life need to be conformed to Jesus and then repent. And if God’s born again minister which is over you, corrects you, receive the correction with a humble, meek, and childlike attitude and repent. Be quick to receive Godly correction from God’s anointed. Do not, repeat, do not harden yourself even though your deceived thoughts and emotions tell you the correction is wrong. Stubbornness, rebellion, and anger against God’s correction is a road that leads to hell. To put it most clearly: Hardness to Godly correction is an arrow pointing toward eternity without God. Repentance is a daily thing and is a road that can lead to eternity with God. Study God’s Word faithfully and obey God’s Word without hardness, or strife, or wrong thinking in your heart. Trust in Him at all times. Serve Him with a pure heart. Deny yourself, pick up your cross and follow Jesus. Crucify your will, and let God’s will become your will. Put on the mind of Christ. Love the brethren with all your heart as Christ does. When thoughts come in your mind that are contrary to God’s Word—cast them down. Think on the things that God’s Word tells you to do. Beware, if your thoughts accuse a brother or sister in Christ of anything. Be thankful in every situation and in all things. Could you sing in prison after you were unjustly beaten and chained as Paul? Could you sing a hymn just before you knew you was about to be arrested and crucified? Love your enemies which may be many, if you follow Christ and holiness. Have a giving spirit. Be a servant. Let your life be this:

Phili 1:21-FOR TO ME TO LIVE IS CHRIST, AND TO DIE IS GAIN.

Those walking with God are not to forget God’s Word. They are to keep God’s commandments with their heart. LET NOT MERCY AND TRUTH FORSAKE THEE:...WRITE THEM UPON...THINE HEART: **SO SHALT THOU FIND...GOOD UNDERSTANDING** IN THE SIGHT OF GOD...TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL THINE HEART; AND LEAN NOT UNTO THINE OWN UNDERSTANDING. IN ALL THY WAYS ACKNOWLEDGE HIM, AND HE SHALL DIRECT THY PATHS. BE NOT WISE IN THINE OWN EYES: FEAR THE LORD, AND DEPART FROM EVIL. IT SHALL BE HEALTH TO THY NAVEL, AND MARROW TO THY BONES. HONOUR THE LORD WITH THY SUBSTANCE, AND WITH THE FIRSTFRUITS OF ALL THINE INCREASE: DESPISE NOT THE CHASTENING OF THE LORD; NEITHER BE WEARY OF HIS CORRECTION: FOR WHOM THE LORD LOVETH HE CORRECTETH; EVEN AS A FATHER THE SON IN WHOM HE DELIGHTETH-ref Pv 3:1, 3-9, 11,12.

This is how a person can understand God’s parables.

Following is a partial list of the different hearts listed in God’s Word

The hard or hardened heart may appear in the Scriptures more than any other.

Anguish heart-2 Cor 2:4..... broken heart-Ps 34:18..... condemned heart (or condemning heart)-1 Jn 3:20..... covetous heart-ref 2 Pe 2:14..... deceitful heart-Jere 17:9

desperately wicked heart-Jere 17:9..... double minded heart-Ja 4:8..... evil heart of unbelief-Heb 3:12
 evil heart-Jere 3:17; 7:24; 11:8; 16:12; 18:12..... fat heart-Isa 6:10
 fearful heart-Isa 35:4..... foolish heart-ref Ro 1:21..... froward heart-Pv 6:14
 good heart-Lk 8:15..... gross heart-Mt 13:15; Acts 28:27
 hard heart (or hardened heart)-ref Mk 3:5,6, 6:52; 8:17; 16:14; Jn 12:40
 heart exercised with covetous practices-2 Pe 2:14
 heart far from God-Isa 29:13..... heart-imagines evil-Zech 8:17
 heart is far from Me-Mt 15:8; Mk 7:6..... heart is not right-Acts 8:21 1 Jn 2:19
 heart that is like a wave-ref Ja 1:6..... honest heart-Lk 8:15
 imaginative heart-Lk 1:31..... impenitent heart (unrepentant heart)-ref Ro 2:5
 lustful heart-Ro 1:24,24..... lying heart-ref Acts 5:3; an
 proud heart-Lk 1:51
 pure heart-1 Tim 1:5,6; 2 Tim 2:22; 1 Pe 1:22
 purified heart-Ja 4:8
 single heart (or singleness heart)-Acts 2:46; Col 3:22
 slow heart-Lk 24:25
 sorrowful heart-Pv 14:13
 steadfast heart-1 Cor 7:37
 stony heart-ref Mt 13:5
 tender heart-Eph 4:32
 thorny heart-ref Mt 13:7
 troubled heart-ref Jn 14:1; 14:27
 true heart-Heb 10:22
 uncircumcised heart-ref Acts 7:51
 understanding heart-Pv 8:15
 unpurified heart-Ja 4:8
 veiled heart-2 Cor 3:15,16
 wayside heart-ref Mt 13:19
 wicked heart-Jere 17:9

The end of the list of different hearts.

The verses continue—

Jn 4:46. SO JESUS CAME AGAIN INTO CANA OF GALILEE, WHERE HE MADE THE WATER WINE. AND THERE WAS A CERTAIN NOBLEMAN (or officer in the royal service-JNT), WHOSE SON WAS SICK AT CAPERNAUM.

Jn 4:46. SO JESUS CAME AGAIN INTO CANA OF GALILEE. Cana is the place—
WHERE HE MADE THE WATER WINE. That was about 6 months earlier-ref Jn 2:1 pg. 216. Jesus had made the water into wine at a wedding which indicates there may have been relatives living there.
AND THERE WAS A CERTAIN NOBLEMAN (or officer in the royal service-JNT), WHOSE SON WAS SICK. This person may have been connected to King Herod Antipas, Tetrarch of Galilee-ref Lk 3:1, 19; 9:7; Acts 13:1. It is possible he was a Jew as he seemed to be included in those that require a sign and wonder-ref verse 48. The Nobleman was a typical representation of Israel.
 The son that was sick was—
AT CAPERNAUM. Capernaum is located in a straight line about 20 miles east/north/east from Cana. Capernaum is on the north west part of the Sea of Galilee. The verses continue—

Jn 4:47. WHEN HE HEARD THAT JESUS WAS COME OUT OF (JUDEA) INTO (the) GALILEE, HE WENT (TO) HIM, AND

Jn 4:47. WHEN HE (the nobleman) HEARD THAT JESUS WAS COME OUT OF (JUDEA) //

(BEGGED) HIM THAT HE WOULD COME DOWN, AND HEAL HIS SON: FOR HE WAS AT THE POINT OF DEATH.

INTO (the) GALILEE, HE WENT (TO) HIM, AND (BEGGED) HIM

THAT HE WOULD COME DOWN. The word *down* does not denote a direction but rather elevation. Capernaum is at a lower elevation than Cana. It appears the nobleman was desperate and repeatedly begged Jesus that He would come down—

AND HEAL HIS SON. The Nobleman was desperate because—

FOR HE WAS AT THE POINT OF DEATH. He did not approach Jesus with words like, O son of David, have mercy on me. He did not acknowledge that Jesus was the Messiah. His approach seemed to be centered much more on Jesus as a person that was a worker of miracles—

Jn 4:48. THEN SAID JESUS (TO) HIM, EXCEPT (YOU PEOPLE) SEE SIGNS AND WONDERS (or miracles), (YOU) (simply) WILL (NEVER) BELIEVE (or trust).

Jn 4:48. THEN SAID JESUS (TO) HIM, EXCEPT (YOU PEOPLE) SEE SIGNS AND WONDERS (or miracles), (YOU) (simply)

WILL (NEVER) BELIEVE (or trust). Paul would later say, THE JEWS REQUIRE A SIGN-ref Col 1:22.

The Nobleman (who was a Jew) was concerned that his son might die. Jesus was concerned about the nobleman's soul and faith. Thus He reproved the Nobleman about believing.

Jn 4:49. THE NOBLEMAN (or royal officer) (SAID) (TO) HIM, SIR, COME DOWN (BEFORE) MY CHILD DIE.

Jn 4:49. THE NOBLEMAN (or royal officer) (SAID) (TO) HIM, SIR, COME DOWN

(BEFORE) MY CHILD DIE. The Jews seemed to have a constant need for Jesus to do miracles in order for some to believe that this is the Christ, the Son of God, Who should come into the World. The Samaritans had believed on Jesus having seen no great sign or miracle.

The Nobleman had no response to what Jesus had just said, other than to plead with Him to come. He was afraid his son would die, and then it would be too late. He seemed impatient, which illustrates he didn't consider that Jesus can raise the dead. Twice he besought Jesus to come down, not considering that Jesus could simply speak the Word and his son would be healed.

Undoubtedly, he had tried every doctor possible. There was left to him no hope, except Jesus.

Note: Jesus did many miracles. He raised the dead. He himself rose from the dead and the religious leaders knew this-ref Mt 28:11. Yet they would not humble themselves and repent that they might believe for it is written: Jn 12:37-40-BUT THOUGH HE HAD DONE SO MANY MIRACLES BEFORE THEM, YET THEY BELIEVED NOT ON HIM: THAT THE SAYING OF ESAIAS THE PROPHET MIGHT BE FULFILLED, WHICH HE SPAKE, LORD, WHO HATH BELIEVED OUR REPORT? AND TO WHOM HATH THE ARM OF THE LORD BEEN REVEALED? THEREFORE THEY COULD NOT BELIEVE, BECAUSE THAT ESAIAS SAID AGAIN, HE HATH BLINDED THEIR EYES, AND HARDENED THEIR HEART; THAT THEY SHOULD NOT SEE WITH THEIR EYES, NOR UNDERSTAND WITH THEIR HEART, AND BE CONVERTED, AND I SHOULD HEAL THEM.

So it is today. We have the written Word of God, the Word of Truth, revealing to us all these things. Yet most will not believe, as their prideful, evil, self centered heart deceives them. Satan deceives the whole world—

Jn 4:50. JESUS (SAID) (TO) HIM, GO (YOUR) WAY; (YOUR) SON (WILL LIVE). AND THE MAN BELIEVED THE WORD THAT JESUS HAD SPOKEN (TO) HIM, AND HE (DEPARTED).

Jn 4:50. JESUS (SAID) (TO) HIM, (the nobleman) GO (YOUR) WAY;

(YOUR) SON (WILL LIVE). In the KJV, Jesus spoke only 6 words. Jesus healed the nobleman's son even though he seemed more motivated by signs or miracles, rather than considering that this is the long awaited Christ. Jesus does not have to be present for someone to be healed. His Word is with power. His Word heals. Even touching the hem of his garment heals-ref Mt 9:20.

JESUS KNEW ALL THINGS THAT HIS FATHER REVEALED TO HIM

Jn 5:19-20-JESUS...SAID...I SAY UNTO YOU, THE SON CAN DO NOTHING OF HIMSELF, BUT WHAT HE SEETH THE FATHER DO: FOR WHAT *THINGS* SOEVER HE DOETH. ...THE FATHER...*SHEWETH HIM ALL THINGS* THAT HIMSELF DOETH.

Jn 15:15-Jesus said-FOR *ALL THINGS* THAT I HAVE HEARD OF MY FATHER I HAVE MADE KNOWN UNTO YOU.

Jn 21:17-SIMON, SON OF JONAS, (said concerning Jesus)...THOU *KNOWEST ALL THINGS*.

Jesus showed that no matter what he would say, He knew how others would react in advance as it is written:

Lk 22:67-68-ART THOU THE CHRIST? TELL US. AND HE SAID UNTO THEM, IF I TELL YOU, YE WILL NOT BELIEVE: AND IF I ALSO ASK YOU, YE WILL NOT ANSWER ME, NOR LET ME GO.

The verse continues—

AND THE MAN (the nobleman) **BELIEVED THE WORD THAT JESUS HAD SPOKEN (TO) HIM,**

AND HE (DEPARTED). It may be said that faith is fully believing God's Word exactly as it is written.

The Nobleman took Jesus at His Word. Faith is receiving God's Word, leaving our problems with Jesus, then proceeding on knowing that what has been spoken is true.

As we should see in verses 51 to 53, as a result of Jesus healing his son, he and his whole house believed.

We all seem to have thoughts from the devil that try to make us

1-not believe God's word,

2-or try to make us doubt God's Word,

3-or try to make us think that God's Word does not mean exactly what it says,

4-or that try to make us believe that God is not exactly whom He really is.

Then as we have these lying thoughts, our heart chooses to either believe God's Word exactly as it is written or it chooses to disbelieve it or twist it in some way.

In another miracle at another time it is written: Mt 8:8-THE CENTURION...SAID, LORD, I AM NOT WORTHY THAT THOU SHOULDEST COME UNDER MY ROOF: BUT SPEAK THE WORD ONLY, AND MY SERVANT SHALL BE HEALED. That is faith.

(The chronological Scriptures resume in about 57 pages. Immediately below is an in-depth Bible study relating to the subjects of "Faith and Trust".)

Following is a Bible study using nearly every Scripture in the Bible on *faith*, and many using the word *trust*. It is approximately 56 pages long. Faith is broken down into approximately 86 categories.

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FAITH AND TRUST

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THE MAIN TEXT:
FAITH AND TRUST

(Nearly every Scripture in the Bible on faith and trust are used)

1—Faith-Introduction:

(Also note further on-the following subject: One faith, but much more)

Heb 11:6-...FAITH...HE THAT COMETH TO GOD **MUST BELIEVE** THAT (1) HE IS, AND THAT (2) HE IS A REWARDER OF THEM THAT DILIGENTLY SEEK HIM. Faith believes—God is. Faith believes—God will reward them. Faith believes the Bible as it is written.

So, we may ask, “What is faith?” Faith is a law. It is written in Ro 3:27-LAW OF FAITH.

Faith is a basic doctrine of God's Word. It is written in Heb 6:1, 2-...THE PRINCIPLES OF THE DOCTRINE OF CHRIST,...THE FOUNDATION...REPENTANCE FROM DEAD WORKS, AND OF *FAITH* (or trust) TOWARD GOD. Note the words: "doctrine of Christ...repentance and *faith* toward God".

Heb 11:1-NOW *FAITH* (or trust) *IS* THE "SUBSTANCE" OF THINGS HOPED FOR, THE "EVIDENCE" OF THINGS NOT SEEN. Faith is substance. Faith is evidence. But faith is much more.

- Faith is come
- Faith is a basic doctrine
- Faith is a foundation
- Faith is a shield
- Biblical faith and love is called a breastplate
- Faith is a law
- Faith is a weightier matter of the law
- Faith is a door
- Faith is righteousness
- Faith is counted for righteousness and
- Whatsoever is not of faith is sin

There is only one faith-ref Eph 4:5. That faith (or trust) must be centered in the God of the Bible, in Jesus Christ, in His blood, in God's Word, and in the operation of God.

Faith (or trust) is being fully persuaded that what God says in His Word is true, and it is true as applied to them, as it is written-Heb 11:13-THESE ALL...WERE PERSUADED OF THEM (the promises of God's Word), AND EMBRACED THEM, AND CONFESSED THAT THEY WERE STRANGERS AND PILGRIMS ON THE EARTH.

Faith is having a full assurance. It is written Heb 10:22-LET US DRAW NEAR WITH A TRUE HEART IN FULL ASSURANCE OF FAITH, HAVING OUR HEARTS SPRINKLED FROM AN EVIL CONSCIENCE.

We might simply say that faith is believing God's Word in our heart exactly as it is written. True Biblical faith produces a change in a person's thinking, knowledge, attitude, and life style. It produces repentance. It changes our understanding of what sin is. It produces conformity to God's Word. It causes a person to be conformed to the image of Jesus-ref Ro 8:29, to be born again and put off the old man and put on the new man-ref Col 3:10.

Faith is a shield that enables a person to overcome or quench the wrong thinking that the devil puts in our thoughts and hearts which often stir up our emotions. Eph 6:16-ABOVE ALL, TAKING THE SHIELD OF FAITH, WHEREWITH YE SHALL BE ABLE TO QUENCH ALL THE FIERY DARTS OF THE WICKED.

Faith is a breastplate **if it is mixed with love**. It is written in 1 Thes 5:8-THE BREASTPLATE OF FAITH AND *LOVE*.

Faith causes and enables a person to follow God, obey His Word, and to stand fast no matter what happens to him, and no matter what he has to go through right up to the time he dies to go and be with Jesus.

Consider the following. If God be for you, who can stand against you?-ref Ro 8:31. If God is not for you, where shall you turn for help? The bottom line is this. When all is going wrong, in whom will you trust? Will you trust in the world, the world's system, or in people, or will you trust in God? The answer to that question should determine your eternity. What profit is there if you gain the whole world now, but lose your own soul for eternity?-ref Mt 16:26. Most people seek the favor of the world when trouble arises. So few seek the favor of God in deed and in truth in times of trouble? So few really believe God's Word in difficult times.

Take two situations. Number 1. You inherit a billion dollars. You have multitudes of good friends. The world loves you-ref Jn 15:19. You have wonderful health. The world is at your fingertips. Whatever worldly desires you have, it is yours-ref Lk 16:19. Eventually you die with the world crying over you as they love you so much-Rev 18:11.

Number 2. You are serving God, but then are arrested. Your friends betrayed you-ref Lk 22:48. You are beaten over and over-ref Acts 16:23. You are let down by a rope into a mud filled dungeon that smells bad and has no light-ref Jere 38:6. You are fed bread and water. Your body is covered with soars from the beatings. Your health is very bad. You have both cancer and a heart condition. No one comes to see you. No one seems to care. Yet if someone does come, your testimony for Jesus Christ remains steadfast. Eventually you die a horrible death by being burned. You are alone. There are no friends present. No one remembers you. Nevertheless, your faith or trust in Jesus Christ has remained unmoveable.-Ref Ja 2:5. That sir, is the kind of faith people have that will inherit eternal life.

Number one wakes up and is in hell, being tormented day and night.

Number two wakes up and is now with Christ. Which of the two fits you the most? Will your trust in God stand the many tests that shall befall you? Or will your heart and thoughts turn from God to trust in others in the times of temptation-ref Lk 8:13. In times of trouble do you seek the favor of man or of God? Would you truly be willing to forsake all, for the sake of Jesus as He did you?

Will you fight the good fight of faith? Will you finish the course that God has given you? Will you trust and obey God's Word, no matter what the consequences? Would you be willing to follow Jesus as he was beaten, his beard was tore off his face, and then he was crucified on the cross? Would you be willing to be as Paul who went through beatings, jail, and then was killed?. Will you die in faith? Do you have the kind of faith that will stand these tests?

Satan has set a trap for the soul of every follower of Jesus. Will you recognize the deceiver's traps when they comes? In our daily lives we are faced with many decisions. In all things, ought you not to ask yourself: What would Jesus do?

Will you follow Jesus even if all your loved ones, and even the whole world turns against you? That sir, is your choice. What you do when the deceitful temptations and pressures come, when your thoughts are filled with fear, and when you don't want to offend people—indeed its not what you say, but what you do and in whom you trust that will determine your eternal destiny. When a person's life is at stake, as it will be during the tribulation, would you follow Jesus and be beheaded, or would you take the mark and worship the image live for a short time?

If you fail the test now, you would fail the test then. If you pass the test now, you would pass the test then. Is your faith genuine under all circumstances?

2—Faith-One faith. The list

There is only one faith. Eph 4:5-THERE IS...ONE LORD, **ONE FAITH**, ONE BAPTISM, ONE GOD AND FATHER OF ALL.

There is one faith. Mk 11:20-23-HAVE **FAITH (or trust)** IN GOD.

1 Pe 1:21-**FAITH (or trust)** AND HOPE...IN GOD.

Ro 4:20:24-**FAITH (or trust)** ...ON HIM (**the Father**).

There is one faith. Acts 24:24-**FAITH (or trust)** IN CHRIST. ref Col 2:5.

Acts 26:18-**FAITH (or trust)** THAT IS IN ME (Jesus).

Ro 3:22-**FAITH (or trust)** OF JESUS CHRIST. ref Gal 3:22.

Ja 2:10-**FAITH (or trust)** OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.

Gal 3:26-**FAITH (or trust)** IN JESUS CHRIST-ref 1 Tim 3:13.

Rev 14:12-**FAITH** (or trust) OF JESUS.

Gal 2:20-**FAITH** OF THE SON OF GOD.

Rev 2:13-MY **FAITH** (or trust) or Jesus faith.

Ro 3:25-**FAITH (or trust)** IN HIS BLOOD.

Ro 4:16-**FAITH (or trust)** OF ABRAHAM.

Col 2:12-**FAITH** (or trust) OF THE OPERATION OF GOD.

Titus 1:1...**FAITH** (or trust) OF GOD'S ELECT.

Titus 1:4-THE COMMON **FAITH**.

Ro 10:8-**FAITH** (or trust) in the Word.

3—Faith-One faith. Scriptures

The Bible tells us that Jesus is the Word.

Rev 19:13-HIS NAME IS CALLED THE **WORD** OF GOD.

1 Jn 5:7-FOR THERE ARE THREE...THE FATHER, THE **WORD** (which is Jesus) AND THE HOLY GHOST: AND THESE THREE ARE ONE.

1 Jn 1:1-THAT WHICH WAS FROM THE BEGINNING,...WHICH WE HAVE SEEN WITH OUR EYES,...THE **WORD** OF LIFE.

Jn 1:14-THE **WORD** (which is Jesus) WAS MADE FLESH, AND DWELT AMONG US.

Jn 1:1-IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE **WORD** (which is Jesus), AND THE **WORD** WAS WITH GOD, AND THE **WORD** WAS GOD. Jesus-the Word-is God

Now the Bible tells us that:

Ro 10:8-THE WORD IS NIGH THEE,...THE WORD OF FAITH. So we can add to the list to have faith in the Word. There is much teaching in this lukewarm generation that teaches to have faith in all manner of things. God’s Word teaches us to place our faith in God, in Jesus Christ, Who is come in the flesh, not in this or that or in the things of this world, or in things He might do.

4—Faith-One faith. One doctrine. One Gospel-be not deceived

Eph 4:4-6:
THERE IS
ONE BODY, AND
ONE SPIRIT, EVEN AS YE ARE CALLED IN
ONE HOPE OF YOUR CALLING;
ONE LORD,
ONE FAITH,
ONE BAPTISM,
ONE GOD AND FATHER OF ALL, WHO IS ABOVE ALL...

Eph 4:13-TILL WE ALL COME IN THE UNITY OF THE FAITH

Gal 3:20-GOD IS ONE.

1 Tim 2:5-THERE IS ONE GOD

Mk 12:32-THERE IS ONE GOD; AND THERE IS NONE OTHER BUT HE.

1 Tim 2:5-THERE IS ONE...MEDIATOR BETWEEN GOD AND MEN.

1 Tim 2:5-THERE IS ONE...CHRIST JESUS.

Ja 4:12-THERE IS ONE LAWGIVER.

Eph 2:18-WE...HAVE ACCESS BY ONE SPIRIT UNTO THE FATHER.

1 Jn 5:7-THE FATHER, THE WORD, AND THE HOLY GHOST: AND THESE THREE ARE ONE.

Ja 2:19-THOU BELIEVEST THAT THERE IS ONE GOD; THOU DOEST WELL: THE DEVILS ALSO BELIEVE, AND TREMBLE.

Jn 5:45-THERE IS ONE THAT ACCUSETH YOU, EVEN MOSES, IN WHOM YE TRUST.

Jn 8:50-THERE IS ONE THAT SEEKETH AND JUDGETH.

Eph 4:4-6-THERE IS ONE BODY, ONE SPIRIT,...ONE HOPE...ONE LORD, ONE FAITH, ONE BAPTISM, ONE GOD AND FATHER OF ALL. Then following this statement, we see these words:

Eph 4:14-EVERY WIND OF DOCTRINE,...OF MEN,...THEY...WAIT TO DECEIVE. First we have a statement of doctrine and fact. Then afterwards, we note the words “Every wind of doctrine”. Man, under the guidance of Satan puts thoughts in a person’s mind. Then when man’s heart believes these lying and half truth thoughts, they become his own. Man uses every possible wind of doctrine as they wait to deceive other gullible people. Man has conceived every religious doctrine imaginable to lead people astray from the one truth.

There is only one hope. There is only one Lord Jesus. There is only one faith. There is only one God. There is only one true Gospel. There is only one way to inherit eternal life. However, man has come up with reincarnation, evolution, false science, Hinduism, Islam, thousands of cults, and so many variations of Christianity, that who can know of them all? Man comes up with his own ways and own ideas regarding which seems right, but the end thereof are the ways of death-ref Pv 14:12 and 16:25. Indeed, there is a generation that are pure in their own eyes, and yet is not washed from their filthiness-ref Pv 30:12. Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!-ref Isa 5:21.

It is estimated there are about 25,000 cults or false hopes or false faiths worldwide. There are new ones springing up, perhaps everyday somewhere. Whatever false ways to be saved that exists, or ideas that man imagines in his heart to discredit God’s Way, it has undoubtedly, already been imagined and believed by others that are already in hell, waiting for the final judgment.

Note the word of God regarding: *wind*. Note the words “every wind”. All these false doctrines are called wind. As the wind blows from all directions, as the wind blows softly, as the wind can blow with great force, as the wind can erode and destroy, as the wind can be very deceptive, so it is with false doctrine. Beware of every wind of false doctrine. For men wait

for just the right opportunity to deceive YOU with these false ways, half truths, and lies and hell has enlarged itself-ref Isa 5:13. Have you forgotten God's Word which says SATAN,...DECEIVETH THE WHOLE WORLD-Rev 12:9? Man wants to believe Satan's lies. His itching ears willingly chooses deceit so he can do the things he wants, live the way he desires, and have the things that is in his heart. Man heart is self centered. It is prideful. It does not want to believe God, and surrender to the God of the Bible. It does not want to humble itself and follow Jesus. So man's heart twists God's Word, alters it, stretches it, narrows it, adds to it, and puts its own ideas with it. Then man's heart can say, "I know my way is right. It is God's way. I am doing what is right. Their deceived heart can completely justify all the wrong they are doing. So they die and are positive they are going to heaven, but then they get a horrifying, eternal surprise. As a result, Isa 5:13-14-MY PEOPLE ARE GONE INTO CAPTIVITY, BECAUSE THEY HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE:...THEREFORE HELL HATH ENLARGED HERSELF, AND OPENED HER MOUTH WITHOUT MEASURE: (Man's) GLORY, THEIR POMP,...(and) HE THAT REJOICETH, SHALL DESCEND INTO IT. Isa 5:20-WOE UNTO THEM THAT CALL EVIL GOOD, AND GOOD EVIL; THAT PUT DARKNESS FOR LIGHT, AND LIGHT FOR DARKNESS; THAT PUT BITTER FOR SWEET, AND SWEET FOR BITTER! Isa 5:24-THEREFORE AS...THE FLAME CONSUMETH THE CHAFF, SO...THEIR BLOSSOM SHALL GO UP AS DUST: BECAUSE THEY HAVE CAST AWAY THE LAW OF THE LORD OF HOSTS, AND DESPISED THE WORD OF THE HOLY ONE OF ISRAEL. Man's wicked and deceitful heart chooses to distort and reject some or all of God's Word especially when it is contrary to his personal desires, deceitful imaginations, and beliefs. There are far, far more people that follow Satan's voice than the voice of God-ref Gal 4:27. There are many, many, many people that think they are saved, but only a FEW THAT really are-ref Mt 7:13,14,21-23

Preachers that are worth their salt can easily spot those that need correction, but are resistant to it. They are resistant to correction because of wrong thinking. Satan has taken their thoughts captive but they are totally ignorant of what has happened to them. There are many that despise correction from God's Word, but only a few have a childlike heart to receive it. It is those few that God not only calls, but also chooses. The words of the Bible that man rejects are the very words that shall judge him at the judgment. Are you one of them?

A warning: There is one Jesus, One Spirit, One Gospel. Beware of another Jesus, another spirit, another Gospel
2 Cor 11:3-4-BUT I FEAR, LEST BY ANY MEANS, AS THE SERPENT BEGUILLED EVE THROUGH HIS SUBTILTY, SO YOUR MINDS SHOULD BE CORRUPTED. ...FOR IF HE THAT COMETH PREACHETH ANOTHER JESUS,...OR IF YE RECEIVE ANOTHER SPIRIT, WHICH YE HAVE NOT RECEIVED, OR ANOTHER GOSPEL,...YOU (might) PUT UP WITH IT EASILY ENOUGH (NIV)

GAL 1:6-8, 11-I MARVEL THAT YE ARE SO SOON REMOVED...TO ANOTHER GOSPEL:...WHICH IS NOT ANOTHER; ...THERE BE SOME THAT...WOULD PERVERT THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST. BUT THOUGH WE,...PREACH ANY OTHER GOSPEL...LET HIM BE ACCURSED. I CERTIFY YOU, BRETHREN, THAT THE GOSPEL WHICH WAS PREACHED OF ME IS NOT AFTER MAN.

5—Faith-God knows your faith. He knows if you deny or exalt Him.
your works, service, love, patience, and your obedience

Rev 2:13-I KNOW THY WORKS,...AND THOU HOLDEST FAST MY NAME, AND HAST NOT DENIED MY *FAITH* (or trust).

Rev 2:19-I KNOW THY WORKS, AND CHARITY (or love), AND SERVICE, AND *FAITH* (or trust), AND THY PATIENCE.

Rev 13:10-HERE IS THE PATIENCE AND THE *FAITH* (or trust) OF THE SAINTS.

Rev 14:12-HERE IS THE PATIENCE OF THE SAINTS:...THEY THAT KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS OF GOD, AND THE *FAITH* (or trust) OF JESUS.

6—Faith-Where does it come from

Ro 10:17-SO THEN *FAITH* (or trust) COMETH BY HEARING, AND HEARING BY THE WORD OF GOD. Faith comes only from God's Word. That needs to be said again. Faith comes only from God's Word. This being true, why then do so many clergy preach about themselves, their families, their adventures, and their desires? Why do so many preach from other books? How is it that many congregations know far more about their preacher than they do about Jesus and God's Word? How is it that when testing comes, most people's understanding of God's Word and faith is found to not be genuine?

Gal 3:2-THE HEARING OF *FAITH*? (or trusting what you heard-JNT). Faith comes as a result of believing the Word of God which you hear.

Gal 3:5- THE HEARING OF *FAITH*. Faith comes from hearing God's word and then believing it. If the person's heart chooses not to believe it, then there is no faith. If the heart chooses to distort the Word, then the person's faith will be distorted. If the person's heart chooses to listen and believe the thoughts in their mind from the devil along with God's Word, then their faith will be equally misaligned. The Word of God is heard. The voice of Satan is also heard. The heart then processes both and chooses what it wants to believe. A good, honest, and pure heart should not distort God's Word. A wayside, stony, thorny, bad, dishonest, and impure heart will distort God's Word accordingly. Some will hear God's Word and immediately follow Jesus. Others may say, "We want to hear more first." Yet others may say, "Why listen to this nonsense."

1 Tim 4:6-THE WORDS OF *FAITH* (or trust). God's Word can produce faith in a person. Two other factors that enter in to this is the heart, and God opening a person's understanding. If the soil of a person's heart is calloused, or is like a rock, how can he grow? When the seed, which is God's Word, falls on a rock it cannot take root and grow. In some other cases, when a person hears the words of faith, the timing is not right. God has to open the person's understanding. Until this happens, the Word of God is a closed book to a person. He may read it, study it, and even think he understands it, but in reality it is still a closed book.

Heb 12:2-JESUS (is) THE AUTHOR...OF OUR *FAITH* (or trust).

Heb 12:2-JESUS (is) THE...FINISHER OF OUR *FAITH* (or trust).

7—Faith-Explanation of why faith came

Gal 3:22-24-BUT THE SCRIPTURE HATH CONCLUDED ALL UNDER SIN, THAT THE PROMISE BY *FAITH* (or trust) OF JESUS CHRIST MIGHT BE GIVEN TO THEM THAT BELIEVE. BUT BEFORE *FAITH* (or trust) CAME, WE WERE KEPT UNDER THE LAW, SHUT UP UNTO THE *FAITH* WHICH SHOULD AFTERWARDS BE REVEALED. WHEREFORE THE LAW WAS OUR SCHOOLMASTER TO BRING US UNTO CHRIST, THAT WE MIGHT BE JUSTIFIED BY *FAITH* (or trust).

Gal 3:25-28-BUT **AFTER** THAT *FAITH* (or trust) *IS* COME, WE ARE NO LONGER UNDER A SCHOOLMASTER. FOR YE ARE ALL THE CHILDREN OF GOD BY *FAITH* (or trust) IN CHRIST JESUS. FOR AS MANY OF YOU AS HAVE BEEN BAPTIZED INTO CHRIST HAVE PUT ON CHRIST. THERE IS NEITHER JEW NOR GREEK, THERE IS NEITHER BOND NOR FREE, THERE IS NEITHER MALE NOR FEMALE: FOR YE ARE ALL ONE IN CHRIST JESUS.

Gal 3:29-AND IF YE BE CHRIST'S, THEN ARE YE ABRAHAM'S SEED, AND HEIRS ACCORDING TO THE PROMISE.

8—Faith-A weightier matter of the law

Mt 23:23-THE WEIGHTIER MATTERS OF THE **LAW**, JUDGMENT, MERCY, AND *FAITH* (or trust). THESE OUGHT YE TO HAVE DONE.

9—Faith-Some will hear it. Some will believe, some believe not. Some will have faith, some not

Acts 24:24-FELIX...SENT FOR PAUL, AND HEARD HIM CONCERNING THE *FAITH* (or trust) **IN CHRIST**.

Jn 10:26-28-BUT YE BELIEVE NOT, BECAUSE YE ARE NOT OF MY SHEEP...MY SHEEP HEAR MY VOICE (which is God's Word), AND I KNOW THEM, AND THEY FOLLOW ME: AND I GIVE UNTO THEM ETERNAL LIFE; AND THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH, NEITHER SHALL ANY MAN PLUCK THEM OUT OF MY HAND.

Jn 12:37-BUT THOUGH HE HAD DONE SO MANY MIRACLES BEFORE THEM, YET THEY BELIEVED NOT ON HIM:

Acts 17:4-5-AND SOME OF THEM BELIEVED,...BUT THE JEWS...BELIEVED NOT.

Acts 19:8-10-HE WENT INTO THE SYNAGOGUE, AND SPAKE BOLDLY FOR...THREE MONTHS, DISPUTING AND PERSUADING THE THINGS CONCERNING THE KINGDOM OF GOD. BUT...DIVERS WERE HARDENED, AND BELIEVED NOT, BUT SPAKE EVIL OF THAT WAY.

Acts 28:24-27-AND SOME BELIEVED THE THINGS WHICH WERE SPOKEN, AND SOME BELIEVED NOT.

...AFTER THAT PAUL (spoke), WELL SPAKE THE HOLY GHOST BY ESAIAS THE PROPHET UNTO OUR FATHERS, SAYING, GO UNTO THIS PEOPLE, AND SAY, HEARING YE SHALL HEAR, AND SHALL NOT UNDERSTAND; AND SEEING YE SHALL SEE, AND NOT PERCEIVE: FOR THE HEART OF THIS PEOPLE IS WAXED GROSS, AND THEIR EARS ARE DULL OF HEARING, AND THEIR EYES HAVE THEY CLOSED; LEST THEY SHOULD SEE WITH THEIR EYES, AND HEAR WITH THEIR EARS, AND UNDERSTAND WITH THEIR HEART, AND SHOULD BE CONVERTED, AND I SHOULD HEAL THEM.

2 Thes 2:11-12-For those that receive and believe not God's Word but have pleasure in unrighteousness, God warns them: FOR THIS CAUSE GOD SHALL SEND THEM STRONG DELUSION, THAT THEY SHOULD BELIEVE A LIE: THAT THEY ALL MIGHT BE DAMNED WHO BELIEVED NOT THE TRUTH, BUT HAD PLEASURE IN UNRIGHTEOUSNESS.

Jude 1:5-I WILL THEREFORE PUT YOU IN REMEMBRANCE,...HOW THAT THE LORD, HAVING SAVED THE PEOPLE OUT OF THE LAND OF EGYPT, AFTERWARD DESTROYED THEM THAT BELIEVED NOT.

When God's Word comes forth, some will believe with childlike faith. Others will consider the matter. There is a struggle going on inside them. Others will not believe. Others that do not believe will become hostile and fight against God's Word. Which category are you?

10—Faith-Not of faith is sin

Ro 14:23-FOR WHATSOEVER IS NOT OF *FAITH* (or trust) *IS SIN*.

11—Faith-Door of faith

Acts 14:27-GOD...HAD OPENED THE DOOR OF *FAITH* (or trust) UNTO THE GENTILES.

12—Faith-Sought salvation another way

Ro 9:31-ISRAEL, WHICH FOLLOWED AFTER THE **LAW** OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, THEY SOUGHT IT **NOT BY *FAITH***(or trust),...THEY STUMBLING AT THAT STUMBLINGSTONE

13—Faith-If Christ be not risen

1 Cor 15:14-IF CHRIST BE NOT RISEN, THEN IS OUR PREACHING VAIN, AND YOUR *FAITH* (or trust) *IS ALSO VAIN*.

1 Cor 15:16-IF CHRIST BE NOT RAISED, YOUR *FAITH* (or trust) *IS VAIN*; YE ARE YET IN YOUR SINS.

TYPES OF FAITH AND RESULTS

(14-44)

There are many different types of faith. Which one fits you?

14—Dead faith

Ja 2:17-(IN THE SAME WAY) *FAITH* (or trust) (BY ITSELF), IF IT (IS NOT ACCOMPANIED BY ACTION), IS **DEAD**, BEING ALONE. Note God uses the words *DEAD FAITH*.

Ja 2:20-WILT THOU KNOW, O VAIN MAN, THAT FAITH WITHOUT WORKS IS DEAD?

The Scripture seems to indicate that the person with dead faith don't know they have dead faith. Note the verse asks a question. Will you know, or will you understand that without the evidence of works, that faith is dead faith? The answer seems clear that people with dead faith will not understand this truth. Such people can become irritated should you imply that they have no faith or dead faith. These people often cannot be corrected. They are hard and stiff necked to correction.

The person with dead faith is referred to as a vain person. Some translations use the word "foolish" rather than vain.

Ja 2:26-FOR AS THE BODY WITHOUT THE SPIRIT IS DEAD, SO FAITH WITHOUT WORKS IS DEAD ALSO. Three times the words *DEAD FAITH* are used.

15—Faith-Reprobate faith

2 Tim 3:8-...THESE...RESIST THE TRUTH: MEN OF CORRUPT MINDS, REPROBATE CONCERNING THE FAITH.

16—Faith-No faith-unfaithful

Deut 32:20-A FROWARD (or perverse) GENERATION, CHILDREN IN WHOM IS NO *FAITH* (or trust).

2 Tim 3:8-...THESE...RESIST THE TRUTH: MEN OF CORRUPT MINDS, (unfaithful) REPROBATE CONCERNING THE *FAITH*.

Hab 2:4-HIS SOUL WHICH IS LIFTED UP IS NOT UPRIGHT IN HIM. (No faith or trust)

Mk 4:40-AND HE SAID UNTO THEM, WHY ARE YE SO FEARFUL? HOW IS IT THAT YE HAVE NO *FAITH* (or trust)? Even though Jesus was with them, they were fearful that they would perish and thought Jesus did not care. They had wrong thinking-no faith.

17—Faith-Can grow or decrease. Self examination

When a person comes to Jesus, their faith is very small. They are worldly, carnal. Their senses are not yet exercised to properly discern good and evil, what is right and what is wrong. Their emotions guide them to a large degree as God's Word is not yet imbedded in their heart. They are baby Christians. As time passes, if their heart has good and honest soil they will grow in the knowledge and wisdom of God. They will deny themselves and conform to the image of Christ. They will grow in faith. Their attitude will more and more reflect Christ. They will learn to fear God and obey Him with a right attitude, even under stress. They will learn to love God, love His Word, and love the brethren under the most difficult of circumstances and even when everything seems to be going horribly wrong. They will bear fruit, some thirty fold, some sixty, and some an hundred.

Others, also will grow but in the time of testing their faith will fail. They will shrink back. They will fall. They may be choked with the cares of this life, the lusts and desires of the flesh and for other things, the pleasures of this life, or the deceitfulness of riches. Fear and uncertainty may grip them. Their thinking is not in line with God's Word. Their emotions are not under the control of God. They have not denied themselves as it is written. They themselves are the center of their own universe, not Jesus. How true it is that the eyes of man are never satisfied-ref Pv 27:20. Such have a stony heart. God's Word warns such people in these verses: Heb 10:38-39-BUT IF ANY MAN DRAW BACK, MY SOUL SHALL HAVE NO PLEASURE IN HIM...WHO DRAW BACK UNTO PERDITION.

Others may have a thorny heart. They grow in Jesus and in the Word, and in their love for the brethren, but then when they are faced with persecutions, ridicule, embarrassment, fear, hatred from people they witness to, or their friends, employers, or employees, loved ones, even their spouses and children or the news media or police, or government, because of their faith in Christ, they shrink back and fall away. When threats, sickness, and accidents happen to their loved ones, or themselves, some don't understand. They loose their faith in God.. When some suffer the confiscation of their property, and beatings, and are put in jail or are faced with life in prison or death because those that hate Jesus have falsely accused them of the most ungodly things, they shrink back and fall. Worldly fear may overcome their Godly trust. When some special gift or favor comes from someone, perhaps in the time of great need, the gift can blind the Christian as they feel obligated to the person that gave the gift. They begin to turn from God. Often some of these things happen to the born again Christian in very subtle ways, and slowly over a period of time. Satan knows exactly how to use the things that be of men to cause a person's faith to erode. Satan is able to blind the shrinking Christian from even knowing they are going down a wrong path. Satan is able to mislead the fallen Christian from even knowing they have fallen. Satan is able to deceive the whole world into believing they are following the right path, when in fact they are following the wrong way and entering the wrong gate which leads to the second death. Then when God sends someone to them to correct them, Satan is able to harden the person that needs correction, so they refuse to receive the love of the truth. The bottom line is that few people will enter heaven, but many, many, many, think they will.

Others will show little growth. After ten or twenty years, they still are very carnal, even as they were when they first got saved. They operate by emotions much of the time, rather than in faith and trust in God and His Word. In stressful times, they make decisions based on circumstances rather than God's Word. They get angry, and doubt God. They say things they ought never to say as a Christian. They can get very emotional. They are as a wave. Sometimes they look spiritual, but other times they do not. Their attitude never matures and blossoms and reflects Christ as it ought in times of great stress. The voice they sometimes hear and follow is the stranger's voice. They are difficult to correct. They sometimes accuse the brethren. They are not usually aware of their true spiritual condition. In some cases, should a spiritually mature elder try to show them their true condition and help them through God's Word, they can react very negatively. They can become cold. They can become very accusing and angry. Their attitude is not godly, loving, god fearing, meek, humble, and childlike.

When corrected they do not reflect the fruits of the Spirit of God and love. They see others through the distorted sunglasses they themselves wear. Satan sometimes will cause them to think that others see things the way they see them. In doing this, they bolster their wrong thinking and willingly deceive themselves ever further.

The Bible commands people to 2 Cor 13:5-EXAMINE YOURSELVES, WHETHER YE BE IN THE FAITH. However, the person with a stony or thorny heart, has a very difficult time doing this.

1 Cor 10:15-OUR HOPE IS THAT,...YOUR FAITH CONTINUES TO GROW (NIV). Note that faith can grow.

2 Thes 1:3-WE...THANK GOD,...BECAUSE THAT YOUR FAITH (or trust) GROWETH EXCEEDINGLY, AND THE CHARITY (or love)...TOWARD EACH OTHER ABOUNDETH. Note that faith can grow as well as your love for the brethren. No matter what comes, love God and obey Him. Isa 26:3-4-THOU WILT KEEP HIM IN PERFECT PEACE, WHOSE MIND IS STAYED ON THEE: BECAUSE HE TRUSTETH IN THEE. TRUST YE IN THE LORD FOR EVER: FOR IN THE LORD JEHOVAH IS EVERLASTING STRENGTH.

18—Faith-No faith-sin

Ro 14:23-FOR WHATSOEVER IS NOT OF FAITH (or trust) IS SIN.

19—Faith-Results of having no faith

Warning

Deut 32:20-I WILL HIDE MY FACE FROM THEM,...FOR THEY ARE A VERY FROWARD GENERATION, CHILDREN IN WHOM IS NO FAITH (or trust).

Hab 2:4-No faith (or trust) is reflected when a person has pride.

Mk 4:40-No faith (or trust) is reflected by being fearful and having wrong thinking.

Heb 11:6-BUT WITHOUT FAITH (or trust) IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO PLEASE HIM.

Heb 11:15, 16-AND TRULY, IF THEY HAD BEEN MINDFUL OF THAT COUNTRY FROM WHENCE THEY CAME OUT, (or if their thoughts keep looking back at the old wine or their old sinful lifestyle) THEY MIGHT HAVE HAD OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE RETURNED (to their old sinful lifestyle).

20—Faith-Where is your faith?

Lk 8:22-25-WHERE IS YOUR FAITH (or trust)?

21—Faith-Wavering faith

Ja 1:6-...FAITH (or trust),...WAVERING.

Ja 1:6-Wavering faith...HE THAT WAVERETH (or has wavering faith) IS LIKE A WAVE OF THE SEA

Ja 1:6-Wavering faith is like a person that is DRIVEN WITH THE WIND

Ja 1:6-Wavering faith is like a person that is DRIVEN...AND TOSSED.

The results of having a wavering faith is this: FOR LET NOT THAT MAN THINK THAT HE SHALL RECEIVE ANY THING OF THE LORD.

Heb 10:23-WAVERING faith. Don't have wavering faith.

This faith is also referred to as double mindedness in Ja 1:8. A wavering faith person is one that believes now, but doesn't believe later. They go back and forth. They trust in God one moment, but the next moment have doubts. At one moment they believe what God says in His Word, but the next moment they justify themselves and make excuses for doing wrong. They have problems examining themselves in the light of God's Word as they are too unstable. Such people can seem godly, but other times they appear to be very worldly. At times such a person can have a fluctuating attitude. They can be very nice one moment, and not so nice the next moment. They can encourage a person one moment, but accuse them the next moment. Such a person is unstable in all their ways-ref Ja 1:8.

Consider a wave. Before it starts, it may be very calm. Then slowly it builds higher and higher. Finally it can come crashing in on the beach with a loud noise. Then the water stops for a brief time and is calm. Then the water goes back out and the cycle begins all over a gain. Such is a person whose faith is like a wave. Such people can be calm one moment, but angry the next. As a wave goes through cycles, so is a person with wavering faith.

22—Faith-Double mindedness

[CLICK HERE FOR MAIN MENU THEN CLICK PT 14](#)