

"Come now, and let
us reason together!"
saith the Lord



Seek ye the Lord
while He may be found,
call ye upon Him while
He is near. -Isaiah 55:6

THREE different times in the Bible, Jesus says these words, **“Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.”** *Matthew 24:35, Mark 13:31 and Luke 21:33*

“Himmel und Erde werden vergehen; aber meine Worte werden nicht vergehen.”
Matthäus 24.35, Markus 13.31 and Lukas 21.33

Have you ever thought how wonderful it would be to have something that will never change or pass away? You can pick up your Bible today and read truths that will never pass away but will remain forever and ever! How important it is that we read the Bible, for it tells us who God is and what we need to know about God as well as who we are and how we stand with God. It also tells us how to live today and how to prepare to die, something we will all face someday unless the Lord returns soon. The Bible tells us, **“He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words,**

hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.” John 12:48

“Wer mich verachtet und nimmt meine Worte nicht auf, der hat schon seinen Richter; das Wort, welches ich geredet habe, das wird ihn richten am Jüngsten Tage.”
Johannes 12.48

Clearly, the same Word that you and I can take up and read every day is the same Word by which we will be judged when we stand before God all alone on the Day of Judgment. On that day we will give an account of all that we have said or done in this life. No one else will stand there with you - not your father or mother, not your minister or anyone else. You will be ALONE. So it is crucial that we read the Bible and make sure we are living out the truths we find there.

In Psalms 19 David wrote; *“The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes. The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.”* Psalm 19:7-11

“Das Gesetz des HERRN ist vollkommen und erquicket die Seele; das Zeugnis des HERRN ist gewiß und macht die Unverständigen weise. Die Befehle des HERRN sind richtig und erfreuen das Herz; die Gebote des HERRN sind lauter

und erleuchten die Augen. Die Furcht des HERRN ist rein und bleibt ewiglich; die Rechte des HERRN sind wahrhaftig, allesamt gerecht. Sie sind köstlicher denn Gold und viel feines Gold; sie sind süßer denn Honig und Honigseim. Auch wird dein Knecht durch sie erinnert; und wer sie hält, der hat großen Lohn." *Psalm 19.7-11*

David loved the Word of God and saw the importance of living by it. He testified that God's Word is more to be desired than gold, and it is sweeter than honey to our soul. Furthermore, he says, by them we are warned: and in keeping them there is great reward. Do you read God's Word on a regular basis? Do you examine this treasure every day? Do you read it more than any other book, newspaper or magazine?

In some countries, such as China, Bibles are scarce. Many believers long to have a

Bible of their own. Often a church has only one Bible and all the people from that church have to take turns reading it. As you can imagine, when those believers get a chance to have the Bible, they read as much as they can and copy verses down on paper so they can memorize as much as possible. In contrast, we have five to ten Bibles in our homes and yet we do not take time to read them. WHY? What will you tell God when you stand before Him and He asks you why you didn't read and study His Word? If you choose to not read your Bible and to study the truths in it, you are like the man that went and buried his talent in the ground and you will no doubt have the same condemnation passed upon you as that man had passed upon him. You can read the story in Matthew 25:14-30.

The Bible is full of truths that will never change. We live in a world where things are constantly changing. We have spring, summer, fall and winter. All of nature is constantly changing. We grow older each day and eventually leave this world through death. Only God's Word remains unchanged. Even if all the people in the world decided that the Bible is not true, their opinion will never change even one truth in the Bible. The Bible tells us ***“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?”***

Numbers 23:19

“Gott ist nicht ein Mensch, daß er lüge, noch ein Menschenkind, daß ihn etwas gereue. Sollte er etwas sagen und nicht tun? Sollte er etwas reden und nicht halten?” 2 Mose 23.19

God will not change the truths in the Bible to fit what we believe or think. ***“For I am the LORD, I change not;”*** *Malachi 3:6*

Denn ich bin der HERR und wandle mich nicht;” *Maleachi 3.6*

I say again, God will not change even one truth in the Bible to fit what we think or believe. **It is very important that we change the way that we believe and think, and that we accept and believe God’s unchangeable truths.**

Here are some of the truths we find in the Bible.

I. God is Holy

“For I am the LORD your God: ye shall therefore sanctify yourselves, and ye shall be holy; for I am holy: neither shall ye defile

yourselves with any manner of creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. For I am the LORD that bringeth you up out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: ye shall therefore be holy, for I am holy.”

Leviticus 11:44-45

“Denn ich bin der HERR, euer Gott. Darum sollt ihr euch heiligen, daß ihr heilig seid, denn ich bin heilig, und sollt nicht eure Seelen verunreinigen an irgend einem kriechenden Tier, das auf Erden schleicht. Denn ich bin der HERR, der euch aus Ägyptenland geführt hat, daß ich euer Gott sei. Darum sollt ihr heilig sein, denn ich bin heilig.” *3 Mose 11.44:45*

“I am the LORD, your Holy One, the creator of Israel, your King.” *Isaiah 43:15*

“Ich bin der HERR, euer Heiliger, der ich Israel geschaffen habe, euer König.” *Jfaja 43.15*

Many more passages in the Bible say the same thing. For example, Isaiah got a glimpse into heaven and heard the seraphim crying out. ***“And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.”*** *Isaiah 6:3*

“Und einer rief zum andern und sprach: Heilig, heilig, heilig ist der HERR Zebaoth; alle Lande sind seiner Ehre voll!” *Jfaja 6.3*

In the book of Revelation when John saw into heaven, ***“And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.”*** *Revelation 4:8*

“Und ein jegliches der vier Tiere hatte sechs Flügel, und sie waren außenherum und inwendig voll Augen und hatten keine Ruhe

Tag und Nacht und sprachen: Heilig, heilig, heilig ist Gott der HERR, der Allmächtige, der da war und der da ist und der da kommt!" *Offenbarung 4.8*

"But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy." *I Peter 1:15-16*

"Sondern nach dem, der euch berufen hat und heilig ist, seid auch ihr heilig in allem eurem Wandel. Denn es steht geschrieben: "Ihr sollt heilig sein, denn ich bin heilig."
1 Petrus 1:15-16

What does 'holy' mean? It means, complete, whole, perfect, completely pure in character, free from sin or sinful affections.

When we try to imagine what it means for God to be Holy, we can't grasp it because

we have no idea what it would be like to never have committed a single sin. But that does not change the fact that God is holy and He hates sin. **Yes, God hates sin.** The Bible tells us over and over that God hates sin. For example, we read in the book of Proverbs, *“These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.”* Proverbs 6:16-19

“Diese sechs Stücke haßt der HERR, und am siebenten hat er einen Greuel: hohe Augen, falsche Zunge, Hände, die unschuldig Blut vergießen, Herz, das mit böser Tücke umgeht, Füße, die behend sind, Schaden zu tun, falscher Zeuge, der frech Lügen redet

und wer Hader zwischen Brüdern anrichtet.”
Sprüche 6.16-19

This is only one of many places in the Bible where it tells us that God hates sin. God hates any and every sin, not only the sins mentioned here. God is holy!

II. God is Righteous

“Righteous art thou, O LORD, and upright are thy judgments.” Psalms 119:137

“HERR, du bist gerecht, und dein Wort ist recht.” Psalm 119.137

“The LORD is righteous: he hath cut asunder the cords of the wicked.” Psalms 129:4

“Der HERR, der gerecht ist, hat der Gottlosen Seile abgehauen.” Psalm 129.4

*“The LORD is righteous in all his ways,
and holy in all his works.” Psalms 145:17*

*“Der HERR ist gerecht in allen seinen
Wegen und heilig in allen seinen Werken.”
Psalm 145.17*

*“Therefore hath the LORD watched upon
the evil, and brought it upon us: for the
LORD our God is righteous in all his
works which he doeth: for we obeyed not his
voice.” Daniel 9:14*

*“Darum ist der HERR auch wach gewesen
mit diesem Unglück und hat's über uns
gehen lassen. Denn der HERR, unser Gott,
ist gerecht in allen seinen Werken, die er tut;
denn wir gehorchten seiner Stimme nicht.
Daniel 9.14*

What does it mean that God is righteous?
It means that God is just, right, equal in
judgment, without prejudice or partiality.
When God judges all people on the last

day, He will judge each and every one with perfect justice. He will not let you make an excuse; He will not overlook anyone's sins. All the people in the world are equal in His eyes. When you stand before God, who is the Great Judge, He will know all that you have ever said or done, and also everything you have ever thought, and He will judge you with a righteous judgment.

Consider standing before God on Judgment Day and having all that you have ever said or done or even thought being exposed to Him, yourself and all of the souls that are there. Yes, even your thoughts! These are very important to God. He knows what you think about all day long every day! He knows if you think bitter thoughts about someone else or lustful thoughts when you see a woman.

***“And Jesus knowing their thoughts said,
Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts?”***

Matthew 9:4

**“Da aber Jesus ihre Gedanken sah, sprach
er: Warum denkt ihr so arges in euren
Herzen?” *Matthäus 9.4***

God is always 100% right. Has God ever made a wrong decision? Has God ever made a mistake? Will God ever? No matter if all the people in the world thought that God made a mistake, He will never make any. No matter if you think God is wrong, He will never be. You must see this truth in the Bible and believe it or you are wrong already and will be very disappointed someday. You must also realize that when God judges you He will not make a single mistake. He always judges righteously.

III. Man is Born a Sinner

The Bible says, *“What then? Are we better than they? No, in no wise: for we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are all under sin; As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.”* Romans 3:9-12

“Was sagen wir denn nun? Haben wir einen Vorteil? Gar keinen. Denn wir haben droben bewiesen, daß beide, Juden und Griechen, alle unter der Sünde sind, wie denn geschrieben steht: Da ist nicht, der gerecht sei, auch nicht einer. Da ist nicht, der verständig sei; da ist nicht, der nach Gott frage. Sie sind alle abgewichen und allesamt

untüchtig geworden. Da ist nicht, der Gutes tue, auch nicht einer." *Römer 3.9-12*

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" Romans 3:23

“Denn es ist kein hier Unterschied: sie sind allzumal Sünder und mangeln des Ruhmes, den sie bei Gott haben sollten,” *Römer 3.23*

Jesus tells us that if we commit sin then we are a servant to sin. *“Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.” John 8:34*

“Jesus antwortete ihnen und sprach: Wahrlich, wahrlich ich sage euch: Wer Sünde tut, der ist der Sünde Knecht.” *Johannes 8.34*

We tend to compare our lives with the lives of the people around us and conclude, “I am not so bad after all.” We think, “I

am better than this person or that person.” Or maybe, “I am much better than that person because I go to the right church and wear all the right clothes and do everything a little better than he does.” On and on we go comparing our lives with the lives of people around us and feeling good about ourselves. We do this without realizing it, but the Bible tells us this is not wise. (*2 Corinthians 10:12*)

Let us take some time to compare ourselves to the law of God. Let us lay aside for a moment our opinions of ourselves and see how we measure up to God’s laws. Let us be very honest in our hearts as we ask ourselves these questions. The day is coming when we will have to answer to God for all the things we have ever said, done or thought.

Please consider these questions honestly:

- *Is there anything in your life that you have ever loved more than you loved God?*

Your wife? Your husband? Your father or mother? Your children? Your friends? Your church? Your possessions? Your money? Your lifestyle? Anything??

If there is anything in your life that you love more than you love God, the Bible calls you an **Idolater**, someone who serves idols. You are no better than someone who kneels before or prays to an idol or statue. According to the Bible, you are a sinner that deserves to go to hell. (*Ephesians 5:5, I John 2:15-16, James 4:4*)

- ***Have you always loved your neighbor as you loved yourself?***

Your neighbor not only includes those around you but also includes everyone that you may meet in life, even those who do not believe or think the same as you do. *(Luke 10:29-37)*

If you have not always loved your neighbor as yourself, you have fallen short of His law and have sinned against a holy God. Someday you must give account for your sin.

- ***Have you ever committed adultery?***

Jesus said that to look at a woman (or man I believe) and to lust after her (him) in your heart is committing adultery in your heart. *(Matthew 5:27-28)*

If you have committed adultery (*even in your heart*), you have sinned against God. The Bible tells us that such will not inherit the kingdom of God. (*I Corinthians 6:9*)

- ***Have you ever stolen anything?***

Money? Tools? Candy? Have you ever taken anything that did not belong to you?

If you have ever stolen anything, you are a **Thief** and have committed a sin that God will judge someday.

- ***Have you ever lied?***

Said something that was not true?
Stretched the truth, even just a little bit?

If you have, you are a **Liar** and the Bible tells us that all liars will have their part in

the lake which burns with fire and brimstone. (*Revelation 21:8*)

- ***Have you ever taken God's name in vain?***

Cursed by it? Used it lightly or jokingly or in a scoffing way? If you have, that makes you a **Blasphemer**.

The Bible tells us that God will remember and will not hold you guiltless if you have. (*Exodus 20:7*)

- ***Have you ever coveted or desired to have something that was not yours?***

Money? Fame? Another man or woman? A business? Or anything that was not your own? The Bible says that covetousness is the same as idolatry. (*Colossians 3:5*)

It also tells us that idolaters will have their part in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone. *Revelation 21:8*

- ***Have you ever killed anyone?***

Is there anyone you hate?

The Bible tells us that if you hate your brother you are a murderer. *(I John 3:15)*

It also tells us that murderers will have their part in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone. *(Revelation 21:8)*

- ***Have you ever cursed, sworn or used unnecessary words?***

Have you ever put other people down by saying things about them to hurt them?

Jesus said, ***“But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.”*** *Matthew 12:36*

“Ich sage euch aber, daß die Menschen müssen Rechenschaft geben am Jüngsten Gericht von einem jeglichen unnützen Wort, das sie geredet haben.” *Matthäus 12.36*

- ***Have you been involved in any type of sorcery?***

What is sorcery? It is using divination, consulting with familiar spirits, observing times, or being involved with the occult in any way. Deuteronomy 18:10-12 lists these activities. In verse 12, God says, ***“For all that do these things are an abomination unto the LORD:”*** *Deuteronomy 18:12*

“Denn wer solches tut, der ist dem
HERRN ein Greuel.” *5 Mose 18.12*

Sorcery is turning to another source of knowledge and power other than God.

The Bible tells us that all sorcerers will have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone. (*Revelation 21:8*)

We could consider many more of God's laws in His Word, but let us stop and admit honestly before God that we have fallen short of His standard. Remember, God knows and sees everything that we have ever said or done. He can see into your heart more clearly than you can see through your kitchen window. Remember also that it is God's mercy that shows you your wicked, sinful heart because He wants you to repent of your sin and wickedness

and be converted. Think for a moment of your doctor. What if he knew that you had cancer and also knew how to cure it? Would it be loving for him not to tell you that you have cancer? What if you went to see him and he saw the cancer in your body, but he said to himself, “I know that he has cancer but I don’t want to ruin his day, so I won’t tell him the truth?” Remember, you might not feel the cancer and might not even know it is there. You depend on your doctor to tell you the truth. Because God truly loves us, He tells us the truth about ourselves in His Word. His Word will be that doctor in your life if you let it, and will point out to you where your life is not prepared for God’s judgment.

My dear friend, we have proved from God’s Word that you have sinned and that someday God will demand payment for

the sins you have committed. The Bible says the wages of sin is death, and that the soul that sins shall die. Did you know that the day is coming when you will be judged by the Righteous Judge of the whole earth for all that you have said or done?

“And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.

“And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

“And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were

judged every man according to their works.”

Revelations 20:11-13

“Und ich sah einen großen, weißen Stuhl und den, der darauf saß; vor des Angesicht floh die Erde und der Himmel und ihnen ward keine Stätte gefunden.

“Und ich sah die Toten, beide, groß und klein, stehen vor Gott, und Bücher wurden aufgetan. Und ein anderes Buch ward aufgetan, welches ist das Buch des Lebens. Und die Toten wurden gerichtet nach der Schrift in den Büchern, nach ihren Werken.

“Und das Meer gab die Toten, die darin waren, und der Tod und die Hölle gaben die Toten, die darin waren; und sie wurden gerichtet, ein jeglicher nach seinen Werken.” *Offenbarung 20.11-13*

But, praise the Lord, His Word will not only show us the sins in our life, but it will show us the way of deliverance from the condemnation and power of our sin!

▪ Repent

God tells us in His Word that we must repent from our sins in order to experience freedom from their guilt and power. John the Baptist, Jesus and the disciples all preached repentance.

“And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” Matthew 3:2

“und sprach: Tut Buße, das Himmelreich ist nahe herbeigekommen!” Matthäus 3.2

“From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent; for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” Matthew 4:17

“Von der Zeit an fing Jesus an, zu predigen und zu sagen: Tut Buße, das Himmelreich ist nahe herbeigekommen!” *Matthäus 4.17*

“Repent therefore ye, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;” Acts 3:19

“So tut nun Buße und bekehrt euch, daß eure Sünden vertilgt werden; auf daß da komme die Zeit der Erquickung von dem Angesichte des HERRN,” *Apostelgeschichte 3.19*

“But showed 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.” Acts 26:20

“sondern verkündigte zuerst denen zu Damaskus und Jerusalem und in alle Gegend des jüdischen Landes und auch der

Heiden, daß sie Buße täten und sich bekehrten zu Gott und täten rechtschaffene Werke der Buße." *Apostelgeschichte 26.20*

What does the Bible mean when it tells us to repent? Webster's 1828 dictionary defines repentance this way:

(1) *To feel pain, sorrow or regret for something done or spoken.*

(2) *To express sorrow for something past.*

(3) *To change the mind in consequence of the inconvenience or injury done by past conduct.*

(5) *To sorrow or be pained for sin, as a violation of God's holy law, a dishonor to his character and government, and the foulest ingratitude to a Being of infinite benevolence.*

To repent is to agree with God's law about sin and to take personal responsibility for the sin we have committed, to show

sorrow for this sin and to turn completely away from it. True repentance is turning away from sin, crying out to God for deliverance and surrendering our lives to Him. You will never have victory over sin in your life unless you are willing to repent from every sin.

- **Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ**

My dear friend, your good deeds, church membership or baptism will not save you from paying for your sins by spending eternity in hell. There is only one Savior, Jesus Christ, who said himself, ***“I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”*** *John 14:6*

“Ich bin der Weg und die Wahrheit und das Leben; niemand kommt zum Vater denn durch mich. Johannes 14.6

Today is the day of salvation. You are not promised tomorrow. Please take time and consider these truths from the Word of God, repent from your sins and surrender your life to Jesus Christ. When Christ died on the cross, He was taking your place and mine. We were the sinners that deserved to die to pay for the sins that we had committed.

“All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.” Isaiah 53:6

“Wir gingen alle in der Irre wie Schafe, ein jeglicher sah auf seinen Weg; aber der HERR warf unser aller Sünde auf ihn.
Isaja 53:6

“And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.” Matthew 1:21

“Und sie wird einen Sohn gebären, des Namen sollst du Jesus heißen; denn er wird sein Volk selig machen von ihren Sünden.”

Matthäus 1.21

“*And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.*” *Acts 2:21*

“Und soll geschehen, wer den Namen des **HERRN** anrufen wird, der soll selig werden.” *Apostelgeschichte 2.21*

“*Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.*” *Acts 4:12*

“Und ist in keinem andern-Heil, ist auch kein anderer Name unter dem Himmel den Menschen gegeben, darin wir sollen selig werden.” *Apostelgeschichte 4.12*

“To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name (Jesus Christ) whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.” Acts 10:43

“Von diesem zeugen alle Propheten, daß durch seinen Namen alle, die an ihn glauben, Bergebung der Sünden empfangen sollen.” *Apostelgeschichte 10.43*

“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.” Romans 10:13

“Denn wer den Namen des HERRN wird anrufen, soll selig werden.” *Römer 10.13*

“These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.” I John 5:13

“Solches habe ich euch geschrieben, die ihr glaubet an den Namen des Sohnes Gottes,

auf daß ihr wisset, daß ihr das ewige Leben habt, und daß ihr glaubet an den Namen des Sohnes Gottes.” 1 Johannes 5.13

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” John 3:16

“Also hat Gott die Welt geliebt, daß er seinen eingeborenen Sohn gab, auf daß alle, die an ihn glauben, nicht verloren werden, sondern das ewige Leben haben.” Johannes 3.16

Prayerfully,

Alan Troyer

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