All for Jesus Always December Ezekiel, Daniel, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi 1 John, 2 John, 3 John, Jude and Revelation!

The Spirit says: "Come!"



The Bride says: "Come!"

Revelation 22:17,20

December

"Come, Lord Jesus!"

During this month we'll read through and learn from the books of Ezekiel, Daniel, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi, 1 John, 2 John, 3 John, Jude and Revelation!

1 December: Come, Lord Jesus!

Pray "Lord, please come quickly!"

Read Ezekiel 45,46 and 2 Peter 3

Think + **Write** Jesus is coming again! I read in 2 Peter 3 that "the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will vanish (pass away) with a thunderous crash, ...and the earth and the works that are upon it will be burned up ...the [material] elements [of the universe] will flare and melt with fire..." (2 Peter 3:10,12b;Ampl). Just as the world was destroyed by the **FLOOD** in the days of Noah, so the Lord will destroy the heavens and the earth and everything on it by **FIRE** when Jesus comes again! Therefore, God says:

- ◆ "hold your minds in a state of *undistracted attention*" (v1;MSG)
- ◆ 'You ought to *live holy and godly lives*" (v11)
- ◆ *Look forward* "to a new heaven and a new earth..." (v13)
- ◆ "Make every effort to be found spotless, blameless" (v14)
- ◆ "Make every effort to be ... at peace with Him" (v14,15)
- ◆ "So, my dear friends, ...do your very best to be found living at your best, in purity and peace" (v14;MSG)
- ◆ "be eager to be found by Him [at His coming] without spot or blemish and at peace..." (v14;Ampl)
- ◆ "Be on your guard so that you may not be carried away ...and fall" (v17)
- ◆ "But *grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord* and Savior Jesus Christ" (v18)

When I consider all these truths, and that God is patient, "not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance" (v9), all I can say to God is:

I read in Ezekiel 46:24 (Ampl): "These are the <u>kitchens</u> of those who do the boiling, where the <u>ministers</u> of the temple shall boil the sacrifices of the people," which teaches me that *working in the kitchen can*

also be a ministry! Children at Dohnavur Fellowship in India sing:

"I scrub my pots, I scrub my pans, I scrub my brasses and my cans, I sweep and scrub each red floor-tile Till I can see it smile."

Pray "Lord, help me to be ready." Go + Do prepare and obey.

The Day of the Lord! Jesus' Second Coming



"The Lord does not delay and is not tardy or slow about what He promises, according to some people's conception of slowness, but *He is long-suffering (extraordinarily patient) toward you, not desiring that any should perish, but that all should turn to repentance*. But *the day of the Lord will come like a thief*, and then the heavens will vanish (pass away) with a thunderous crash, and the [material] elements [of the universe] will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and the works that are upon it will be burned up. Since all these things are thus in the process of being dissolved, what kind of person ought [each of] you to be [in the meanwhile] in consecrated and holy behavior and devout and godly qualities, while you wait and earnestly long for (expect and hasten) the coming of the day of God by reason of which the flaming heavens will be dissolved, and the [material] elements [of the universe] will flare and melt with fire? [Isa. 34:4.]"

2 Peter 3:9-12

2 December: He is my Life!

Pray "Lord, please feed me with Your Word."
Read Ezekiel 47,48 and 1 John 1
Think + write The first letter of John, "the beloved disciple,"
is like a gold mine with no end It is amazing. In chapter 1 I see the
Lord Jesus as my Life (v2) and my Light (v5)! David Pawson says
that this letter was written so that, as a Christian, I can be:
Satisfied and full of the joy of Jesus (1:4),
Sinless , in the sense of NOT sinning habitually (2:1),
Safe (2:26) from Satan's traps and from false teachings,
Sure (5:13) of my relationship with God and what I believe in.
God wants me to have FELLOWSHIP with Him and with others who
are in Him (v3). This fellowship I have in the Lord (with Him and
with others) is a pure pleasure, it's a joy! (v4). It is a
Fellowship of Life (v1-2)
Fellowship of $\overline{\text{Love}}$ (v3)
Fellowship of Light (v5-7)
To have fellowship with God means:

"Socializing" is NOT fellowship. Conformity is not fellowship. True fellowship is only possible *in the Spirit* and through the Spirit of God, based on what Christ did on the Cross. There is NO fellowship without forgiveness; there is NO communion without *confession of sins and cleansing from sins*; there is NO oneness without the Cross of Christ... There is NO fullness and fellowship without oneness, and NO oneness without brokenness, and NO brokenness without openness.... Only when I am in unhindered fellowship with God can I be in fellowship with others who are in fellowship with Him... The bottomline to me is that:

To have fellowship with others who are in the Lord means:.....

Pray "Father, help me to be in the light as You are in the light."

Go + Do expose & confess my sins and receive forgiveness!

In Which World Do I Live?

The World of the Word & of God's

Love Light Life



or ...the World of Sin & of Satan's

Lust Lies Lawlessness

3 December: Do not love the world!

Pray "Lord, I surrender my will to You..." Read Daniel 1.2 and 1 John 2 Think + write According to Willmington we can read in 1 John 2 about: • The Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ (v1-2, 24-25), who dies for the sins of the believers and the unbelievers • The *Surety* that Jesus is indeed my Savior (v3-14, 28-29) • The Sinful Society (v15-17), the world... • The Satanic One (v18-19, 22-23, 26), or the Antichrist... • The *Spirit of God* (v20-21,27)... John refers to the following **stages of spiritual growth** in Christians: **†** "dear children" (v12;13c) "your sins have been forgiven" (v12) "you have known the Father" (v13) "you know the Father from personal experience" (v13;MSG) ♥ "young people" (v13b,14b;TNIV) "you are strong" (v14) "the Word of God lives in you" (v14) "you have overcome the evil one" (v13,14) **†** "*fathers*" (v13a,14a) "you have known Him" (v13,14) As I look at these verses and stages of the spiritual life I see that I am

in the stage of, because of the following reasons:

When God commands me in 1 John 2:15: "Do not love the world or anything in the world," "Don't love the world's ways" (MSG), I understand that He means that

"Everything in the world" (v16) refers to:

- The *lust of the flesh*, the cravings of sinful man...
- The *lust of the eyes*...
- The *pride of life*, the boasting of what a person has and does...

Pray "Lord, may You & Your love in me conquer the world & sin"

Go + Do "not love the world or anything in the world..." (v15a)

because he loved this world, has deserted me..." 2 Tim 4:10 Do NOT crucify Christ all over again! Heb 6:6 ..for Demas,

The SPIRIT of the WORLD

flesh Fashion Fun Feminism (Kali) & Feminization (Shiva) Forgetfulness of God Food Fret Fear Façade finance For self...

"We know that... **the whole world** is under the control of the evil one..." I John 5:19

"Do NOT love the world or anything in the world..." (1 John 2:15); "Do NOT be conformed to the pattern of this world..." (Rom 12:2); "Why do you live as if you still belong to the world?" (Col 2:20; Ampl); "Keep oneself from being polluted by the world..." (James 1:22); "We have not received the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God" (1 Co 2:12); "Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes and enemy of God" (James 4:4). "'The world' is that system of things which organizes it's life without any thought of Jesus Christ" (Oswald Chambers)

4 December: Resolve & Refuse!

Pray "Lord, please help me ...and speak to me."

Read Daniel 3,4 and 1 John 3

Think + **write** I saw yesterday that <u>Daniel</u> (as a young man) <u>RESOLVED</u> to be different than the other young people of the world (of Babylon). He "determined that he would <u>not</u> defile himself" (Daniel 1:8;MSG). He resolved to rely on God and to be true to Him. He **REFUSED** the things the world offered him, **RETAINED** a godly perspective, was **RADIANT** as a result, and (above all) maintained a right **RELATIONSHIP** with God. From this I learn that.......

.....

I also need to *determine NOT to defile myself* with worldly music, immoral pictures, sensual clothing, suggestive chats on the internet or via sms, worldly relationships with boys or girls, desires of my body, pride, rebellion, lust, selfishness, laziness, love for the things of the world, un-thankfulness, etc!! "Oh Lord, please help me - just as You helped Daniel!"

I read in Daniel 3:7 that "As soon as the people heard the MUSIC, they bowed down and worshiped the gold statue that the king (Nebuchadnezzar) had set up" (CEV) ... When "the band started to play, a huge band equipped with all the musical instruments of Babylon, ... everyonefell to their knees and worshiped the gold statue that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up" (MSG). There were only three young men that did NOT bow when the band started to play, ... they REFUSED to be influenced by the world. Whenever I listen to the music of Babylon, the music of Egypt, the music of the world, I come under the power of the spirit of the age. This is true, irrespective of the words of the song. From this I learn that.......

.....

Though these brave young men were then thrown in a blazing furnace, the Lord Jesus Himself was with them in the fire and kept them safe. When they came out, there was not even the smell of fire on them (v27). Someone said: "When things get HOT, trust God a LOT!"

Pray "Father, please strengthen me to choose YOU all the time."

 $G_0 + D_0$ what Daniel & his friends did - they REFUSED evil.

Love it Or Leave it For His sake



Sing Spiritual Spiritual Songs



STOP ...Sensuous Songs STOP ...Soulish Songs Luk 6:43-44 For there is no good (healthy) tree that bears decayed (worthless, stale) fruit, nor on the other hand does a decayed (worthless, sickly) tree bear good fruit. For each tree is known ...by its own fruit... The ROOTS determine the TREE, the TREE determines the FRUIT...

Col 3:16-17 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and **spiritual songs**, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

We are commanded by God to sing spiritual songs, NOT sensuous songs or soulish songs!

Psalm 137:3-4 Sing us one of the songs of Zion. How shall we sing **the Lord's song** in a strange land?

We are to sing the Lord's songs in a strange land (this world), NOT the world's songs in the Lord's land...

Isaiah 42:10 Sing to the Lord **a new song**

We are commanded to sing a NEW song to the Lord, NOT our "old" songs, the ones we used to sing in the world....

Eph 4:17 "So I tell you this, and INSIST ON IT in the Lord, that you must NO longer live as the Gentiles do...

We should also NO longer sing as the Gentiles (the worldlings) do...

1Th 5:23 And may the God of peace Himself sanctify you through and through [separate you from profane things, make you pure and wholly consecrated to God]; and may your **spirit** and **soul** and **body** be preserved sound and complete [and found] blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah).

John 4:24 God is a Spirit (a spiritual Being) and those who worship Him **must worship Him in spirit** and in truth (reality).

<u>Worship should focus on the spirit (and be in the Spirit), it should NOT focus on the senses or the soul....</u>

Romans 12:2 **<u>Do NOT conform</u>** any longer to *the pattern of this world*, but **<u>be transformed</u>** by the renewing of your mind...

We are told by God to NOT take the form, the pattern of this world, this also means we should NOT take the form or pattern of the world in singing...

Lev 10:1 And Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, each took his censer and put fire in it, and put incense on it, and offered <u>strange and unholy fire</u> before the Lord, as He had not commanded them. .. Lev 10:10 <u>You shall make a distinction and recognize a difference between the holy and the common or unholy, and between the unclean and the clean...</u>

We should look at the <u>ROOTS</u> and the <u>FRUITS</u> of songs, to see if it's good or bad...

The **ROOTS** of "Rock" music, for instance, are:

- Voodoo trance dances and rituals. This type of music was used to call the demons. It was played until the spirits came and possessed the people. It still happens today. This music was linked to demon worship, it was born in demon rituals, it's **ROOTS are demonic**...!!!
- The term "Rock 'a Roll" comes from the ghettos and means fornication. Sexual immorality was linked to this kind of music. The **ROOTS** are immoral...!!!

God says: "For if you live according to the <u>sinful nature</u>, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeed of the body, you will live" Rom 8:13

If I live according to my senses or my soul (my emotions, my feelings, my thoughts), and not according to the Spirit, in my spirit, I shall die... This also applies to SONGS, to MUSIC...

It seems to me that there are 3 types of songs:

- <u>Sensuous</u> songs focusing on the senses, the body...
- <u>Soulish</u> songs focusing on the soul, the feelings, the emotions...
- <u>Spiritual</u> songs focusing on the Spirit of God & the level of the spirit of man...

Sensuous songs stimulate the senses, stimulates the body...ALL songs with the emphasis on the "beat", especially the "primitive beat," as in Rock and "Christian" Rock, stimulate the body, irrespective of the content of the words (Christian or not) ...!!! Research found that the "beat" stimulates the heart, it stimulates the body to release endorphines, adrenaline, catecholamines, opioid-like substances, and even sex-stimulating hormones. It causes people to lower their resistance and drop their barriers. It stimulates people to dance or want to dance. It stimulates their BODIES... It stimulates them to be aware of the bodies of others... Do you want that? If not, then leave all such songs!!!

Soulish songs stimulate the "soul", it stimulates the emotions, the "mood", the feelings... It can make you feel lonely or sad or wanting to be with someone..., or feel as if you miss someone or want someone or want to be with someone. It can make you feel depressed or hyper-excited or unfulfilled or "romantic"... It is soppy, "soft", soulish. It is not strong, robust, focusing on God... It makes you vulnerable for thoughts of relationships, etc...

Spiritual songs are from the Spirit of God, it is used by the Spirit of God, it focuses on affecting the spirit of man. It glorifies Jesus, makes me aware of Him, of holiness, of heaven, of the need for a holy life, of the Scriptures, of the need for doing soulwinning, of sacrificing myself for the Lord. It makes me spiritually strong, it puts a holy fight in me against sin and self and the world... It makes me love Jesus more and more (not emotionally, but practically). It makes me hate the world. It make me deny my self and my own desires. It makes me want to glorify GOD ALONE.

When the <u>ROOTS</u> of certain songs (music) are evil, I want nothing to do with it. When its <u>FRUITS</u> are sensuous or soulish or sinful, ...bad, I want nothing to do with it...!!! Decide: <u>will you love it or leave it?!</u> For Jesus' sake, I choose to LEAVE it...!!!

5 December: Quit your sins!

Pray "Lord, I'll quit my sins; I won't quit loving You!"

Read Daniel 5,6 and 1 John 4

Think + write God says so clearly: "Renounce your sins by doing what is right..." (Dan 4:27). "Make a clean break with your sins... QUIT your wicked life..." (MSG). I know that God wants me to QUIT the following sins in my life:

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Like Daniel, I want to *serve the Lord <u>continually</u>* (6:16), with His help. I also saw in 1 John 3 that:

- ♥ God the *Father* loves me (v1-3) therefore I don't want to hurt Him, I want to purify myself as He is pure (v3), and keep myself pure for Him.
- [⊕] God the *Son* (the Lord Jesus Christ) died for me (v4-8,16) to take away my sins (v5), and to destroy the works of the devil in my life (v8). Praise the Lord!
- God the *Holy Spirit* lives in me (v9,10) which means that the "new nature" in me (the Spirit) can overcome the "old nature" (the flesh) in me. God says that "the One who is in you (God the Holy Spirit) is greater than the one who is in the world (the devil or whoever else)" (1 John 4:4). For the "new nature" in me to overcome the "old nature" in me ...I need to *FEED the "new nature"* through daily Bible reading and prayer and fellowship with pure followers of Jesus (2 Tim 2:22b), and I need to *FAMISH the "old nature"* by NOT taking in anything that is worldly, by confessing my sins, by NOT listening to worldly music, by NOT following my desires, by NOT doing sin, by NOT doing my own will, by NOT looking at unholy, worldly, fleshly pictures or films or programs or DVDs... *Please help me through Your Holy Spirit in me!*

I see three foundational facts about God in 1 John 4. I see...

- **♦** What God is: "God is love" (v7,8)
- → What God did: "He sent His Son" (v9-11)
- → What God is doing: "God lives (abides) in us" (v12-16)

Pray	<i>"Father,</i>	
	Amen." $G_0 + D_0$	quit all my sins!

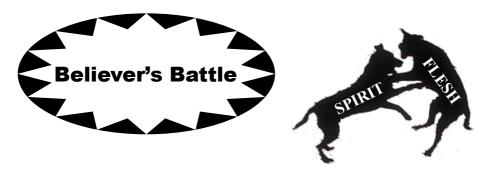
Feed

the New nature the Spirit the New heart



Famish (starve; kill)

the old sinful nature the flesh the old heart



The Believer's Battle		Spirit		
		Sustain	Starve	
Flesh	Famish	Devotion!! ©	Depletion 🕾	
	Feed	Destruction 🕾	Depravity 🕾	

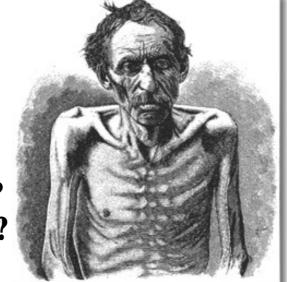
"The winner in the battle between spirit and flesh is determined by which one gets fed the most. We need to actively <u>sustain our spirit</u> with prayer, study and meditation of God's Word, and fellowship with believers. We also need to do whatever it takes to <u>famish the flesh</u> and its evil desires.

It is a daily challenge of faith. When we do <u>sustain the spirit</u> and <u>famish the flesh</u>, we walk in God's light with wholehearted devotion. We experience a rewarding and fulfilling relationship with Christ and victory over temptation."

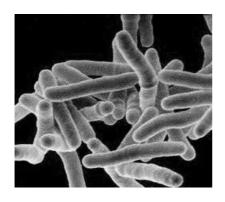
Apart from my battle against my **FLESH**, I also need to continually resist the influences of the **WORLD** in my life, as well as watch and stand and fight against **SATAN** and all the spirits of darkness. Through the Lord Jesus Christ I am more than a conqueror... (Rom 8:37)



MANY people have



Do I have TB?
Do I carry TB?



Mycobacterium tuberculosis

Bacillus
Acid-fast
Survives stomach acid
In droplets in air
Breathed in...
Slow-growing
Parasitic for YEARS
DORMANT for years

You <u>GET IT</u> by breathing it in, through close contact with someone who is breathing (or coughing) it out...

USUALLY between *FAMILY MEMBERS*, but also in taxis, at the workplace, in waiting rooms, in cars, in busses...whenever there is *CLOSE CONTACT*



Initially ...you are a HAPPY, HEALTHY "CARRIER"...

- You seem to have NO problem.
- You are well, you seem to be like any other person,
- ...BUT you HAVE the TB bacterium in your body.
- It does not cause a problem now,
- but you are CARRYING it with you.
- It may remain like this for MANY, MANY YEARS...

THEN, ... at a time when

- (1) certain CONDITIONS are fulfilled and
- (2) your IMMUNE SYSTEM weakens (due to stress, or diabetes, or malnutrition, or pregnancy, or drinking alcohol, or taking drugs, or other sicknesses, especially AIDS, or smoking, etc.)

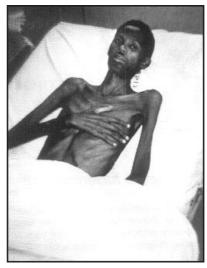
...then the TB germs, which you've been carrying for YEARS, now become ACTIVE and multiplies and causes a lot of damage—it causes actual, *active TB (tuberculosis)*. This may lead to DEATH...





INTERNAL destruction





"SPIRITUAL TB"

works in the same way...!

- ♦ Most people are "*spiritual TB <u>carriers</u>*", though <u>they are not even</u> aware of it...
- ◆ A person may "pick up" the "spiritual TB germ" when they are still very young...
- ◆ This "spiritual TB germ" is "*picked up*" by (1) something I have done or taken in myself, or (2) by the fact that I was born into a certain family that have the "germ"...
- ◆ Just like with physical TB carriers, they may *appear perfectly* happy and healthy even for many years...
- ♦ The "spiritual TB germ" we're speaking about is none other than evil spiritual entities *evil spirits.*..
- ◆ Those spirits that have entered a family and want to stay in that family and cause a problem to all in that family, are called "ancestral spirits" or "familial spirits."
- ♦ This is a much neglected spiritual reality.
- ♦ Many children are born with this demonic burden in their lives. They go through life always repeatedly suffering from *certain problems* (physically, psychologically or spiritually)...
- ♦ Or they have "no problem" for many years..., only to find that suddenly, after many years things start to go wrong. Maybe, certain conditions were fulfilled, and their spiritual immunity has declined, ...with the result that these dormant spirits "wake up" and start to cause problems. It may be slow, but severe internal (spiritual) problems and destruction, but even external destruction and death, if they can have their way...
- ◆ This is NOT right. *Jesus Christ came to destroy the works of the devil* (1 John 3:8). He came to set us free from <u>Sin</u>, from <u>Self</u>, and from Spirits of evil all of them!
- ♦ <u>Humbly come to Jesus, without fear, seek His face, let Him reveal these things to you, let Him deal with it and eradicate it, ...set you completely free—that we can be fruitful and glorify Him through our whole life!!!</u>
- ◆ Don't ignore it. Don't neglect it. Thank God for the opportunity to come to Him for it. *Jesus is Victor!!!! Hallelujah!*

6 December: What is SIN?!

Pray "Lord Jesus, please help me to see what sin is... and to see what sins are in my life... Amen."

Read Daniel 7,8 and 1 John 5

Think + write I need to ask myself: "What is SIN?!" According to the Word of God:

- "All wrongdoing is sin" (1John 5:17). Whenever I do anything that is wrong in God's eyes, I sin...
- "Sin is lawlessness" (1 John 3:4). Whenever I break the law of God, I sin... The great commandment (the law) of God is that I love Him with all my heart and soul and mind and strength, and that I love my neighbor as myself (Luke 10:27). Whenever I do NOT do this, I sin...! When I (not God) decide what's right or wrong, I've become a law unto myself, ...I am lawless as far as God is concerned. This is sin.
- "Everything that does not come from faith is sin" (Rom 14:23b). This is another amazing verse in the Bible! It means that whenever I do anything that did not come from faith, that did not come from my relationship with God, then it is sin. This means that even seemingly "good" things can be sin, if I do it without being led by the Lord. For instance, I read in Proverbs 21:4 that "the plowing of the wicked is sin."
- I also learn in Ezekiel 2:3 that <u>sin is rebellion</u>, <u>sin is a "breaking away" from God</u>.
- The word used for "sin" in Rom 3:23 is αμαρτάνω, ham-ar-tan'-o, which means "missing the mark." This means that when I "miss the mark" that God has for me in anything, I sin...! Even if I'm close to the mark, but I miss it, it's a miss it's SIN! *Oh, may the Lord help me NOT to sin, NOT to miss the mark He has for me!*

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SIN Sears my co	onscience, Stab	s my Savior,	Steals my p	eace and	my
purity, Spoils r	ny character,	Separates me	from God	l, Stifles	my
growth, Spreads	like cancer in	me, Sickens m	ne, Sets me	up for Sa	tan,
Slays me spiritua	ally, and Sends	me to hell! W	hen I consid	der all of t	his,
I learn that					

Pray "Lord Jesus, please save me from my sins!"

Go+Do repent of all my sins, receive God's forgiveness and receive His Spirit who'll enable me to overcome all my sins...

What about Sin in Believers?!

"Sin is normal for the children of the devil, but abnormal for the children of God." Someone said that (based on the Word of God) for believers, sin is:

Indisputable - we do sin
Inevitable - we will sin
Incompatible - we should not sin
Intolerable - we must not sin
Indefensible - we need not sin
Inapplicable - we do not sin
Inconceivable - we cannot sin

I read in the Bible that

- "If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us" (1 John 1:8);
- But also: "We know that anyone born of God does not continue to sin..." (1
 John 5:18a);
- And: "No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in him; he cannot go on sinning, because he has been born of God" (1 John 3:9). The literal translation (from the Greek) actually says: "No one who goes on living in Christ will go on sinning..."

What does it mean, practically? It means that:

- ♦ If I am not born again I'll continue to sin...
- ♦ If I am born again and I <u>GO ON</u> living in Christ, I will <u>NOT GO ON</u> sinning...
- ♦ If I go on sinning, it means that I am not born again ...OR... that I do NOT go on living in Christ...
- ◆ According to the literal translation of John 3:16, if I do NOT go on believing in Christ, He will not go on saving me...!
- ◆ But if I GO ON believing and trusting in Him, and leaning on Him, He'll GO ON saving me...! This is wonderful! Thank You, Lord.

When I sin...



... I crucify Christ again!

How can I <u>KNOW</u> that I have Eternal Life...?!

"Whoever believes in the Son of God inwardly confirms God's testimony. Whoever refuses to believe in effect calls God a liar, refusing to believe God's own testimony regarding his Son. This is the testimony in essence: God gave us eternal life; the life is in his Son. So, whoever has the Son, has life; whoever rejects the Son, rejects life. My purpose in writing is simply this: that you who believe in God's Son will **know beyond the shadow of a doubt that you have eternal life**, the reality and not the illusion." (1 John 5:10-13;MSG)

According to David Pawson, the Apostle John mentions 4 tests that will enable me *to KNOW if I am really a born again Christian*. The tests (expanded) are as follows:

- 1. <u>The Doctrinal Test</u>: ...How do I think about Jesus? Do I know that He is fully God and that He is fully Man, as the Bible teaches?
- 2. <u>The Spiritual Test</u>: ...Do I have the witness (the testimony) in my spirit that I am a son (or daughter) of God? Does the Spirit of God witness in my spirit that I am a child of God? John says: "We KNOW we are sons of God because He has given us His Spirit"
- 3. <u>The Moral Test</u>: ...If I live rightly before God, then my conscience tells me that I belong to the Father, I KNOW it. But if I am rebelling against God's laws and kicking against the way he wants me to live, then I don't ass the third test!
- 4. <u>The Social Test</u>: ...If I love Christ I'll also love other Christians. If I hate my brothers or sisters in Christ, then I certainly don't love my Father, because He loves them...
- 5. <u>The Sin Test</u>. ...If I continue to do a certain sin, if I continue to live in sin, it may be a sign that I am not born again...

"Nothing is more important for us than to know that we are indeed the children of God..."

Dr Martyn Lloyd-Jones In the book

"How can I be sure I'm a Christian?"



Donald S. Whitney mentions 10 evidences of being a Christian, based on what God shows us in 1 John. He says that we are told of at least 10 Attitudes and Actions that characterize Christians only. I need to examine myself in the light of these evidences of true Christianity to know if I am going to Heaven

- 1. Do I share the intimacies of the Christian Life with other believers? Do I have true Christian fellowship with others who walk in God's light, love and life? See 1 John 1:3,6-7
- 2. Do I have a deep awareness of my sin against the Word and Love of God? See 1 John 1:8,10.
- 3. Do I live in *conscious obedience* to the Word of God? See 1 John 2:3-5.
- 4. Do I despise the world and its ways? See 1 John 2:15.
- 5. Do I *long for the return* of Jesus Christ and to be made like Him? See 1 John 3:2-3.
- 6. Do I habitually do what is right more and more, ...and sin less and less? See 1 John 3:7-8,10.
- 7. Do I love other Christians sacrificially and do I want to be with them? See 1 John 3:14.10.
- 8. Do I discern (and recognize) the *Presence of the Holy Spirit in me*? See 1 John 3:24; 4:13.
- 9. Do I *enjoy listening* to the doctrines (the teachings) the apostles of Jesus taught? See 1 John 4:6 etc... Do I love their teachings from my heart and do I listen to it so that I can obey it?
- 10.Do I believe (and love) what the Bible teaches about the Lord Jesus? See 1 John 5:1

If you don't have assurance of salvation, make sure that you FIND IT ...! "If you have assurance, be careful you do not lose it" Thomas Watson

7 December: "Dear lady"

Pray "Lord, may I ask You to PLEASE speak to me..."

Read Daniel 9,10 and 2 John

Think + **write** From his own experiences in life (and from the Scriptures) Daniel saw that he and his people have sinned (Dan 9:5,20) and that *he was helpless to save himself* or his people... (10:16b). *He turned to God*, pleaded with Him (9:3) and confessed his own sins, as well as the sins of others (9:20). God said: "As soon as you BEGAN TO PRAY, an answer was given..." (10:23); "**From the MOMENT you DECIDED to humble yourself** to receive understanding, your prayer was heard" (MSG). This is wonderful. I learn that

The second letter of John was written to "the chosen lady" and others (v1;GW). The CEV says it was written to "a very special woman," amongst others. It has <u>a special message for women</u>. Willmington summarizes the letter as follows:

- ♦ God Commends the chosen lady (v1-4)
- ♦ God Challenges the chosen lady (v5-6). "Dear lady" (v5)...

Continue to love God (v5,6)

Continue to obey God (v6)

- ♦ God Comforts the chosen lady (v8-9)
- ♦ God Cautions the chosen lady (v7-11)

Look out for Satan! (v7,10-11)

Look out for Self! (v8,9)

Don't forfeit your rewards! (v8)

Don't forsake your Redeemer! (v9)

He warns this lady (and me) that "many deceivers, who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ... have gone out into the world. Any such person is the deceiver and the antichrist" (v7). God commands me that I must NOT take them into my house and NOT welcome such people in any way! (v10,11), for anyone who welcomes such people share in their wicked work (v11). This also means that if I welcome immoral pop music singers like Rihanna, Shakira, Eminem, Beyonce, Alicia Keys, Leona Lewis, Timbaland, Mika, Sean Kingston, etc. into my home and room by listening to their songs, then God says I share in their wicked works!!! The same applies to movie and TV "stars"...

Pray "Father, please forgive & cleanse me!" Go + Do stop it.

8 December: I love the Truth

Pray "Lord, I love Your truth - it sets me free. Thank You!"

Read Daniel 11,12 and 3 John

Think + write I learn through the third letter of John that the Lord wants me (as Warren Wiersbe & Willmington put it) to...

- ➤ Walk in the Truth (v1-4) and
- ➤ Work for the Truth (v5-8) like Gauis (the Exhorter)
- ➤ Welcome the <u>Truth</u> (v9-10) and not reject it like Diotrephes (the Egotist)
- ➤ Witness for the <u>Truth</u> (v11-14) like Demetrius (the Example)

Gauis was an Exhorter who was

Faithful to the truth and

Continued to walk in the truth (v3)

Faithful in what he was doing for the brothers (v5)

Full of God's love (v6)

Diotrephes on the other hand was an Egotist who

Loved to be first (v9)

Wanted nothing to do with a true lover of God like John (v9)

Gossiped maliciously about a man of God (v10)

Refused to welcome true brothers (missionaries) in Christ (v10)
Had an evil character (v11)

**Dometrius* the Example was highly esteemed by "everyone" (v12)

Demeirus	. mc Lamp	ic was mgi	if y esteerine	iby cv	cryone.	(v 1 <i>2)</i>
The lesson	that stands	out for me	is:			

In Daniel 11 God says that the devil shall corrupt, pervert and *seduce with flatteries* those who have violated the covenant with God, ... "but *the people who know their God* will <u>firmly resist him</u>" (v32); they "shall prove themselves strong and shall <u>stand firm</u> and <u>do exploits</u>

[for God]" (Ampl). This teaches me that.....

God also says in Daniel 11:35 that "Some of the wise shall be weakened and stumble and fall, ...so that they may be refined, purified and made spotless ...until the time of the end, for it will still come at the appointed time" (NIV & Ampl).

Pray "Lord, please restore me and keep me standing with You."

Go + Do resist the devil, all temptations and sin - for God's sake.

Comparing

2 John & 3 John

Correcting

2 John

3 John

Hospitality—Truth and Love

To a lady*

To a man

Danger—too much love Danger—too much truth

Attitude: too soft-hearted Attitude: too hard-hearted

Door open too wide

Door shut too tightly

Welcome wrong people!

Refuse right people!

Neglect TRUTH

Neglect LOVE

Wrong belief

Wrong behavior

NEED....BOTH

Love and truth Truth and love

in woman in man

^{*} Though every verse in the Bible applies to young and old, male and female, it is important to note that this is the only letter in the Bible that is specifically addressed to a woman. It's message should therefore be read even more carefully by women.

9 December: Kept by Jesus!

Pray "Lord, please KEEP ME in You..."

Read Hosea 1-4 and Jude

Think + **write** God says: "But you, dear friends, carefully build yourselves up... Praying... Staying right at the center of God's love, ...keeping your arms open and outstretched, ...ready for the mercy of our Master, Jesus Christ. This is the unending life, the real life!" (Jude 20,21;MSG). I encounter two groups of people in the letter to Jude: (1) those who <u>did not keep</u> their position in God (v5,6), and (2) those who <u>kept themselves</u> in the love of God (v20,21) and <u>were kept by</u> **Him**...(v24,1). God clearly tells me to

KEEP myself pure (1 Tim 5:22)

KEEP away from sexual immorality (Acts 15:19; 21:25)

KEEP away from idols (1 John 5:21), including "rock-idols"...

KEEP under my body (1 Co 9:27)

KEEP myself from being polluted by the world!! (James 1:27)

KEEP my spiritual fervor (Rom 12:11)

KEEP myself in the love of God (Jude 21)
From this I learn that, practically.....

· 1	3

This is possible...

- → Through the Lord Jesus Christ!
- → When I go on believing that God loves me (as I read in Jude 1,21; 1 John 3:1 and 4:16)
- → When I go on loving God, and as a result go on obeying Him.
- ➡ When I go on believing that He'll do what He promised to do when He said I am "kept by Jesus" (Jude 1) and that He is able to keep me from falling (Jude 24). This is wonderful indeed!

I can truly pray to God:

"Keep me from turning back.

The handles of my plough with tears are wet, The shears with rust are spoiled, and yet, and yet, My God! My God! Keep me from turning back."

Pray "Father, this is indeed my prayer to You. Oh, keep me!"

Go + Do what He told me in Jude to do...

10 December: God's Faithful Love!

Pray "Lord, thank You for Your faithful love—even to me..."

Read Hosea 5-8 and Revelation 1

Think + write The book of Hosea is an amazing picture of <u>God's faithfulness and love</u>...to people who are unfaithful and unloving towards Him. The overriding theme in the book is *marriage*. Hosea married a woman who bore him children, but then deserted him and became a prostitute. He finally had to buy her back out of the slave market (3:1-2)!! This is exactly what happened between God and the Israelites ...and between the Lord Jesus and many Christians today. I need to study it carefully. This is a summary of the book:

♦ The Innocent Husband and his Immoral Wife:

Hosea & Gomer (1:1-9; 2:2-7; 3:1-3), a prostitute...

God and Israel (1:10-2:1,8-23; 3:4-5), and Christians today...

♦ The Wife (Israel) described:

Her Rebellion (4:1-5:15; 6:4-8; 9:7-10; 10:1-4) Her Ruin (9:1-6;11-17; 10:5-15)

Her Repentance (6:1-3)

♦ The Husband (God's) case, invitation & love (ch 11-14)

AM I FAITHFUL TO JESUS

?!

I need to ask myself today:

- ♣ Have I ever been "married" to Christ? Have I ever surrendered my life to Him?
 YES / NO
- † Have I been fruitful to Him and His kingdom? Have children been spiritually born again through me? YES / NO
- The Have I deserted the Lord Jesus? Have I fallen in love with the world or anything in the world? Have I fallen in love with sin? Have I fallen in love with my self? Have I fallen...? YES/NO
- Have I become a slave? Have I become a slave to any desire or person or habit or sin or thing? Can others use, abuse and "buy" me now?

 YES / NO
- ♣ Do I realize that Christ still loves me, and that He has bought me back with His own precious blood on the Cross?
 YES / NO
- ➡ Have I come back to Him? Did I confess my sins to Him? Did He forgive me? Did I accept His forgiveness? Am I faithful to Him again? Do I love Him now with all my heart and soul and mind and strength?

 YES? NO

Pray "Lord, I love You!" **Go + Do** show it and be faithful...

11 December: You have been unfaithful

Pray "Lord, please show me my sins and save me!"

Read Hosea 9-11 and Revelation 2

Think + write According to David Pawson, the *sins of the people of God* mentioned by Hosea were: <u>Infidelity</u> (unfaithfulness), <u>Independence</u>, <u>Idolatry</u>, <u>Immorality</u>, <u>Ignorance</u>, <u>Intrigue</u>, and <u>Ingratitude</u>... Some of the outstanding verses in Hosea thus far for me are:

- > <u>Departing from the Lord is the vilest form of adultery!</u> (1:2)
- ➤ I will lead her into the desert and speak tenderly to her (2:14)
- ➤ I will make the Valley of Achor (trouble) a door of hope (2:15)
- > You are to live with Me... and I will live with you (3:3)
- ➤ My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge (of God) (4:6)
- ➤ A spirit of prostitution is in their heart (5:4)
- ➤ In their misery they will *earnestly seek Me* (5:15)
- ➤ Come, let us return to the Lord... He will heal us... He will bind up our wounds... He will revive us... He will come to us like the rain... He will restore us... that we may live in His presence (6:1-2)
- ➤ Let us be zealous to know the Lord [to appreciate, give heed to, and cherish Him]... (6:3b;Ampl)
- ➤ Whenever I (God) would restore... whenever I would heal... the sins are exposed...! (6:11-7:1)
- ➤ They do not realize that I remember ALL their evil deeds (7:2)
- ➤ Ephraim *mixes* with the nations (7:8)... The children of God mixes with the world! How terrible!
- ➤ Israel has *forgotten his Maker*... (8:14)
- > You have been unfaithful to your God (9:1)
- ➤ They became... like that which they loved... (9:10;Ampl). If I love a certain pop singer, I'll become like that "star." If I love a certain movie star, I'll become like that "star." If I love the Lord, I'll become like Him more and more... ©
- > Break up your unplowed ground; for it is time to seek the Lord UNTIL He comes and showers righteousness on you... (10:12)

Like in Hosea, I read in Revelation 2:4 that God says: "I hold this against you: You have forsaken your first love..." This means that I.....

Pray "Father, have mercy on me, a sinner, an unfaithful bride!"

Go + Do Remember. Repent & Return to God NOW!

12 December: "I will heal your backsliding!"

Pray "Lord, I need Your super-natural salvation & healing..."

Read Hosea 12-14 and Revelation 3

Think + **write** God says to me: <u>I called you</u>, but when <u>others</u> <u>called you</u>, you "ran off and left Me..."! (Hosea 11:1,2;MSG). This is a very sad reality in many lives! It breaks the heart of God. The things that called me away from God are:

I see that:

- ◆ I am called <u>TO</u> God ...by Love, and
- ◆ I am called <u>FROM</u> God ...by Lust and the Life of this world... I ask myself: Whose call shall I answer today? Daily? Oh, Lord I choose to listen to Your call and NOT to listen to the call of the world, the call of sin, the call of the flesh...! Please help me! I see there is a special message in Hosea for <u>those who are AWAY from God</u>, for those who have DEPARTED from the Lord, for those who have

Spiritual Decline & Recovery

BACKSLIDDEN. J.O. Sanders summarized Hosea 14 (adapted):

- ♦ The Reasons for Spiritual Decline are found in the Peril of Superficial consecration (6:4): as "morning cloud"...soon gone Partial sanctification (7:8): as "cake not turned" ...half-saved Incomplete separation (4:17;7:8): as "mixed" ...with world Unconscious deterioration (7:9): as weeds that grow naturally
- **♦** The Divine Remedy

Repent (14:2): stop, change my mind & direction Renunciation (14:3): "cut off & cast away" what's wrong Return (14:1,2): take words of confession *and* steps...

"O...Come back... Come back to God"!(14:1;MSG)

♦ The Resulting Blessing

God says to me: "I will heal your waywardness, your backsliding" (v4); "I will love you lavishly" (v4;MSG); "I will make a fresh start with you" (v4;MSG). This is wonderful!! God also says that as a result of my repentance and His gracious restoration, I will be: Forgiven! Free! Fresh (v5); Fragrant (v6); Flourishing (v7); Fruitful (v6,8); and For Him (v8) only! My response is:.....

Pray "Lord, thank You!!" **Go** + **Do** stay true to Him now...

Beware of Balloons! especially balloons of <u>SIN</u> and SATANIC SUGGESTIONS Associated Press



The Lawn Chair Pilot (true story)

store and purchased 45 weather balloons and several tanks of helium. He securely strapped the balloons to his sturdy lawn chair and anchored it to the bumper of his jeep and inflated the balloons with

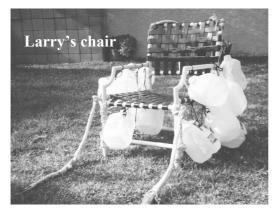
helium. Larry then donned a parachute and strapped himself into the chair as his friends helped him. He also took along a large bottle of soda, a portable CB radio to alert air traffic to his presence, and a BB gun to shoot the balloons when he was ready to come down. Larry's plan was to lazily float around the area and come back down in a few hours. But things didn't quite work out for Larry. When they cut the cord anchoring the lawn chair to the jeep he streaked into the LA sky as if shot from a cannon where he leveled off at 16,000 feet! For several hours he drifted, cold, and frightened. He eventually made his way into the primary approach corridor for LAX airport. A TWA pilot first spotted Larry. He radioed the tower and described passing a guy in a lawn chair...with a gun! Radar confirmed the existence of an object floating 16,000 feet above the airport. LAX emergency procedures went into full alert. Larry finally shot enough balloons to lower himself down safely. Although he was entangled in some power lines, he was uninjured.

Please take note of the **following facts**:

- ➤ This **obsession** started when he was 13 years old...
- ➤ It started with a **THOUGHT**...
- ➤ The obsession was there for 20 years before it materialized...!
- ➤ A girlfriend was involved in the whole thing...
- ➤ He was launched into space from his girlfriend's backyard...
- ➤ He thought he could **control** the whole thing, but he could NOT...!
- ➤ He thought he would go up **slowly**, but he shot into the air at a speed of 1000 feet per minute...!
- ➤ He thought he would just go to maybe 100 feet above the ground, but he shot up to 16000 feet above the ground...!
- ➤ He thought he would come down quickly, but he could NOT...!
- ➤ He thought it would **cost** him little, but it cost him much...! (He was fined many thousands of rands)
- ➤ Larry Walters was born on 19 April 1949 and died on 6 October 1993... from SUICIDE...!

From this I also learn that <u>SIN</u> and <u>SATANIC SUG-GESTIONS</u> will (if we listen to them, think them, accept them, accommodate them, give place to them, and welcome them...), just as the balloons did to Larry:

Take me <u>quicker</u> than I thought it could...
Take me <u>further</u> than I intended to go...
Keep me <u>longer</u> than I intended to stay...
<u>Cost</u> me <u>more</u> than I planned to pay...



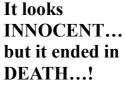
1Co 15:33 Do not be so

(communion, associa-

tions) corrupt and de-

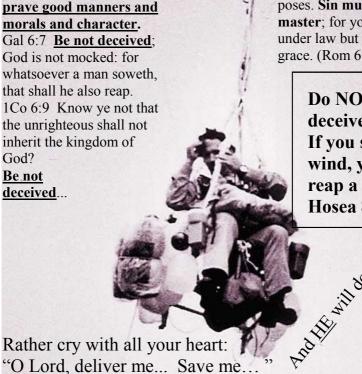
companionships

deceived and misled! Evil



Sin must no longer rule in your mortal bodies, so that you obey the desires of your natural self. Nor must you surrender any part of yourselves to sin to be used for wicked purposes. Instead, give yourselves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life, and surrender your whole being to him to be used for righteous purposes. Sin must not be your master; for you do not live under law but under God's grace. (Rom 6:12-14)

Do NOT be deceived...! If you sow the wind, you will reap a storm...! Hosea 8:7



CHRIST'S 7 CHURCHES IN ASIA

The Lord Jesus "wrote" 7 love letters to the 7 churches in Asia. These 7 churches actually existed, but they also represent 7 stages of the Christian Church in the His-story of the world. Finally, and very importantly, they also represent the types of Christian I may be or find today on earth.

Zac Poonen & W. Wiersbe# describes the 7 Churches or Christians as..

The *Loveless* Church or Christian (2:1-7)

The *Suffering* Church or Christian (2:8-11)

The *Worldly* Church or Christian (2:12-17)

The *Adulterous* Church or Christian (2:18-29)

The *Hypocritical* Church or Christian (3:1-6)

The *Faithful* Church or Christian (3:7-13)

The *Lukewarm, Proud* Church or Christian (3:14-22)

Foolish

According to David Pawson, to each church there is an

Address: "to the angel (messenger) of the church..."

Attribute of the Lord Jesus: "these are the words of..."

Approval: "I know your deeds..."

Accusation: "Yet I hold this against you..."

Advice: "...or I will come"

Appeal: "He who has an ear, let him hear..." **Assurance**: "to him who overcomes, I will..."

Willmington describes each letter in terms of:

The Counselor (the Lord Jesus)

The Commendation

The Chastening

The Counsel

The Challenge

I can use these formats to study each letter very profitably, as if addressed to me, personally. I also see that <i>the Type of Christian I am</i>
at the moment, considering the 7 possibilities mentioned above, is the following:
This means that (according to the Lord's Counsel) I need to:

13 December: Jesus satisfies me!

Pray "Thank You, Lord!"

Read Joel 1-3 and Revelation 4

Think + **write** God's words to me are very precious: "From now on I'm the One who answers and satisfies you… Everything you need is to be found in Me"!!! (Hosea 14:8;MSG). To me, this means that......

I learn from the book of Joel that I need to

- **Proof** Proof Pro
- **Proof** The Proof of the Lord with all my heart (2:12). God says to me: "Come back to Me and really mean it! ... Change your life, not just your clothes..." (v12,13;MSG).
- **⊃** *Rend* my heart (2:13) about the things that rend God's heart...
- ightharpoonup on the Lord (2:21)
- **⊃** *Rejoice* in Him (2:23)
- → <u>Restoration</u>. God says: "I will restore to you the years that the locust have eaten..." (2:23;KJV). This is a most amazing and wonderful word from the Lord. He will restore to me the years that sins have eaten away in my life... Lord, I believe You, I thank You, I wait upon You ...May You be glorified.
- **⊃** *Receive* the poured out Holy Spirit (2:28,29)
- **⊃** <u>Rouse</u> the warriors (3:9) and prepare for war! Spiritual war!
- **○** <u>Reap</u> the harvest (3:13) and bring many people to Christ! (3:13,14)
- **②** <u>Rest</u> in the Lord, in His victory, in His home in heaven (3:21). My response to these precious truths is:.....

John saw "a DOOR standing open in heaven" (Rev 4:1a) & God said to

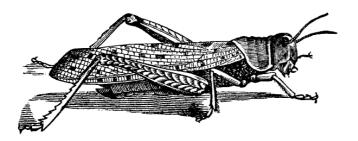


him (& to me today): "Come up here..." (4:1b). Even today the door of God's grace still stands open for anyone who will hear His call and obey and come!!!

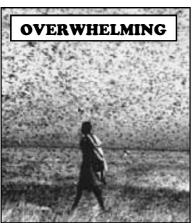
Pray "I come, Lord Jesus!"
Go + Do it...

Lucifer's Locusts

SIN







Eggs are <u>hidden</u> initially
Eggs <u>hatch</u> in "right" circumstances
Locusts start <u>small</u>...
spread...

Locusts DEVOUR
DESTROY
DEVASTATE



God says: I will <u>RESTORE</u> the years the locusts have eaten!!

14 December: I'm called to account...

Pray "Lord, may I see what You expect of me."

Read Amos 1-3 and Revelation 5

Think + write Amos says: "The <u>Lion</u> has roared...," God has spoken, (3:8). In Revelation I read: "See the Lion..." (5:5); He is worthy, He is able... When I looked "I saw a <u>Lamb</u>" (v6). God's Lion is the Lamb. To me this means that.....

Silent
Submissive
Dependent
Sacrifice

Strong
Rules
Conquers
Destroys
King

The following things are <u>enemies</u> of the Life of God in me:....

God teaches me in Amos 2:9 that when it comes to *an enemy of God in my life*, I must destroy the fruit above (the visible) and the roots below (the invisible). I read: "God is calling YOU to account—and I mean all of you, everyone..." (3:1;MSG). He also says: "*I am holding you responsible for all your sins*" (3:2;MSG). This means that I do NOT have any excuse for ANY sin that I have committed. I am responsible before God for MY acts and my omissions, and *I will have to give account to God for all* that I have done or not done...! (Rom 14:12). From this I learn that.

"Can two walk together, except they be agreed?" (Amos 3:3). The answer is "NO!" I cannot walk in oneness with God, except I am in agreement with Him. If I walk in agreement with the world or with some who do not have a PURE heart, I cannot walk with God!

Pray "Lord, please work in me!" Go + Do walk one with God.

15 December: I won't ignore You!

13 December: I won tignore fou.
Pray "Lord, please work in me"
Read Amos 4-6 and Revelation 6
Think + write God says, especially to the women (Amos 4:1),though He had brought hunger on them, and drought, and locusts, and diseases, and even death YET: □ "you never got hungry for Me" □ "you never got thirsty for Me" □ "you didn't notice Me" □ "you never looked My way" □ "you continued to ignore Me" (4:6-11;MSG) □ "you have not returned to Me" (4:6,8,9,10). Oh, what is the situation in MY life? How do I treat the Lord? Do I hunger for Him now? Do I notice Him? Do I look His way now? Do I ignore Him and His pleadings to me? Did I return to Him? All I can say is:
God says: "I can't stand your religious meetings. I'm fed up with your conferences and conventions I'm sick of your fund-raising schemes, your public relations and image making. I've had all I can take of your noisy ego-music. When was the last time you sang to Me?" (Amos 5:21-23;MSG). I understand "noisy ego-music" to mean:
The music that pleases God: (1) Is born in a clean heart; (2) Is played and sung by those who are pure through His blood; (3) Is unstained (unspotted) by the world; (4) Does not stimulate the flesh (the body or the feelings alone); (5) Makes me love God and His Word more; (6)

Makes me hate sin and self-centredness more; (7) Glorifies God ...and not the artist or the singer or the hearer; (8) Is holy unto the Lord...

♦ Seek good, not evil (5:14)

- **♦ Seek Me and live** (5:4b)
- **Don't fool around; Don't waste time** (5:5;MSG)
- **Prepare to meet your God!** (4:12)

Pray "Lord, I'll DO what You told me to do. Go + Do it!

16 December: Prepare to meet your God!

Pray "Lord, may You please work in me by Your Holy Spirit..."

Read Amos 7-9 and Revelation 7

Think + write

I read in God's Word (addressed to me):

- ◆ "PREPARE to meet your God!" (Amos 4:12)
- ◆ "Get these people *READY* to meet the Holy God..."(Exodus 19:10; MSG)
- ◆ "Be *READY*..." (Matt 24:44)
- ◆ "Let us rejoice and be glad and give Him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and His bride has made herself *READY*" (Rev 19:7)

	means that I		
	 rself for the week	 	
lowing. She	 	 	• • •
	 self to meet the	 I need	

- ➤ "Woe to you who are complacent in Zion," you who are complacent in the church and in your relationship with God... (Amos 6:1). God wants me to be on fire for Him daily and to seek Him and serve Him with zeal, every day. Oh, Lord please help me!
- > "Seek Me and live" (Amos 5:4b); "Don't fool around..." (v5;MSG)
- ➤ "I am setting *a plumb line* among My people..." (7:8); I am setting a measuring tool to help you see if you are building in the right way, if your life is right with God, if your heart is right, if your life is straight or not. *God's Word is His plumb line*. His Word will show me if (and where) I'm building in the right or wrong way...

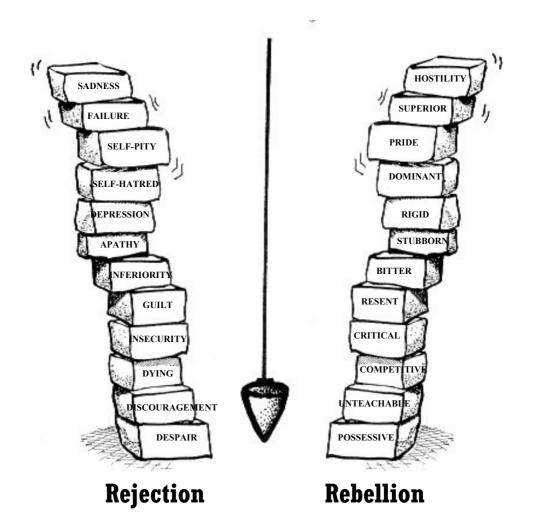
I read in Revelation 7 about the great multitude who *prepared them-selves* and stood in front of the Lamb—they were <u>Cleansed</u>, <u>Conquering</u> and <u>Crying out to God</u> (v9,10). As a *result of being cleansed*, they could Stand and Stay in His presence, Serve Him, be Secure in Him, be Safe, Satisfied, Shepherded by Him, Springs of living water, and ...their Sadness was turned to joy in Jesus. This is wonderful!

Pray "Lord, make me like that too, for You!"

Go + Do what I need to do to be prepared and ready for Jesus....

God's Plumb line

Written Word & Living Word



"Oh, the walls of my heart..." Jeremiah 4:19 (RSV)

.17 December: Pentecost or Pride?!

Pray "Lord, please humble me and fill me with Your Holy Spirit"
Read Obadiah and Revelation 8
Think + write I see in Revelation 8 that when the <u>PRAYER</u> of all the saints of God went UP to the throne of God (v3),the <u>FIRE</u> from the altar came DOWN on the earth. When I compare this to what happened in Acts 2 and in 1 Kings 18, I understand it to mea that.
There is no Dentagest without Draver no Dentagest without Dwite
There is no Pentecost without Prayer, no Pentecost without Purity no Pentecost without "plenty cost",no Pentecost without th
Cross! I read in Obadiah that "the house of Jacob will be a FIRE, an the house of Joseph a FLAME" (v18). It is my prayer that (by God grace and power) I too may be on fire for Him, that I too may be flame that's burning FOR HIM When the Wood of the Word run out, the Fire will go out When there's a famine for the Word of Go (Amos 8:11), the lives of "lovely young girls" and "robust youn men will fall to pieces" (Amos 8:13,14;MSG). From this I lear that
uiat
When I'm proud and think: "I'm so great", "Nobody can touch me" "Nobody can get to me!" (Obadiah verses 3-4;MSG), "Nothing ca bring me down"then I'm in danger of being judged by God as H judged Edom. God says: "Your friends will deceive you and over power you" (Obadiah 7). This can happen in the following ways:
⊗
He also says: "The PRIDE of your heart has deceived you" (Obadia 3). The pride of my heart has deceived me: When I think I can sin, persist in it, and not go to hell When I think I can keep bad company (like when listening or look ing to the songs of immoral pop singers) and not be corrupted When I think I have a right to do wrong, because I think it's okay When I think that worldliness is not serious, it's not sin When I think that I will gain by doing sin When I think that I have no sin Pray "Lord, please open my eyes to see my sins and my pride."
$\mathbf{Go} + \mathbf{Do}$ humble myself before the mighty hand of GOD.
46

Being Filled with the Spirit



Thirsty?
Come
Repent
Obey
Ask

Believe Receive



18 December: Satan's Key!

Pray "Lord, please help me to see Satan's key in the last days..."
Read Jonah and Revelation 9

Think + **write** It is revealed in <u>Revelation 9</u> that at a certain time in the history of the world (and it seems to be the time we live in), a fallen angel (a demon or Satan himself) will use <u>a KEY</u> to open the Abyss. Smoke and demonic locusts (who are ruled by Abaddon or Apollyon, which means "the Destroyer"), will come out of the pit—to make war and bring terrible destruction. The "smoke" has the effect of obscuring people's vision. What was once clearly seen and recognized as wrong is now NOT seen to be such any more... This is terribly dangerous. "The Destroyer" is the name of one of the three main Hindu "gods," also known as **Shiva**. This spirit is prominent in today's world. It is behind the <u>homosexual movement</u> and may also be linked with <u>Islam</u>... It is most probably the spirit which is behind the effeminization of men, and the wearing of earrings and pony tails by men...

Some think, as I do, that the KEY that opened the Abyss is none other than ROCK MUSIC ...!!! The Satanic birth of Rock music a few decades ago changed the world. Through listening to Rock Music ("Christian" or non-Christian), millions of young people are deceived and blinded. They start to think that the music is good and that it will do them no harm... The Satanic smoke has blinded them! Their emotions are entangled and their minds are changed. They start to think that it's okay to have a girlfriend or a boyfriend; they start to think that it's "cool" to speak your mind against your parents or those in authority; they start to think that it's fulfilling to have a "love" relationship (which is nothing else than a lust relationship); they start to think less about spending time with Jesus and His Word... They forget that the music (1) effects their bodies (by stimulating the secretion of sex hormones and other hormones), (2) effects their emotions, and (3) effects their spirits—because there are specific demons behind the melodies and the lyrics of the songs. Rock music was born in hell, borrowed from Voodoo priests, and bonded with sexual immorality, loose living and rebellion. It pollutes; it transforms a person for Satan; it bewitches and steals the Bride of Christ ...!!! I want NOTHING to do with it...!!! I want JESUS...!!! I CHOOSE Jesus...!!!

 $\begin{array}{c} \textbf{Pray} \text{ "Lord Jesus,} \\ \textbf{Go + Do} \text{ God's will--destroy}_{48} \text{the idol of Pop Music in my life!} \end{array}$

Shiva - the Destroyer

This is a sickening spirit

Revelation 9:11

Bisexual: Immoral
Homosexual spirit
Effeminate "man"
Long hair
Earrings
Yoga position
"Lord" of Yoga
"Third eye" opened
Moon "god"
- Muslim link?
Lingam worshipped
Snake prominent

Shiva as Natarajah - "lord" of DANCE



19 December: I run to God - daily!

Pray "Lord, please help me to be teachable..."

Read Micah 1-3 and Revelation 10

Think + write I saw yesterday that <u>Jonah</u>

- **⊃** ran from God to Tarshish (ch 1),
- **⊃** ran to God in repentance inside the fish (ch 2),
- **⊃** ran with God in preaching in Nineveh (ch 3), and
- ran ahead of God in wanting his own will and not

God's will above all (ch 4). This teaches me that.....

Though Jonah was a <u>Reluctant</u>, <u>Rebellious</u> Christian, he <u>Repented</u>, was <u>Revived</u>, and <u>Rededicated</u> himself to God. He became a <u>Refined</u> Christian, who had gone through the fires of suf-

It's millions of times better to run to God, than to run away from God...!

fering and personal correction, and could be a useful missionary—to God's glory. Concerning the Ninevites' repentance I learn that "When God saw *what they did* and <u>HOW</u> they turned from their evil ways, He had compassion and did not bring upon them the destruction He had threatened" (3:10). This is wonderful! Furthermore, I learn from the book of Micah:

- "You were the beginning of sin to the Daughter of Zion" (1:13). It is a terrible thing to cause someone else to sin or to begin to do a certain sin. I can never know of they'll ever repent of that sin or not! I must therefore be very careful NOT to cause others to sin... I also need to make sure I do NOT begin to do sin because of someone else's influence on me.!
- "Woe to those who plan iniquity, to those who plot evil on their beds!" (2:1). I see that I need to guard my thoughts, also when I'm in my room and on my bed...

I read about "the mystery of God" in Rev 10:7. A "mystery" is a knowable secret that can be revealed to a person—only by God. In the New testament I read about (1) The mystery of godliness (1 Tim 3:16; Eph 5:31,32 & 1 Co 15:51,52), and (2) The mystery of iniquity (2 Thes 2:7-12) - which is that someone can sin and believe they'll get away with it. This is the LIE the devil told Eve!

Pray "Lord, have mercy on me, the sinner!" $G_0 + D_0$ His will.

"Lord, I'm sorry I ran from You...

Now I am in chains of sin...

Please have mercy on me, O Lord...



Lord, You are my only Hope
I run to You, I repent of my sins, I surrender them to You
I surrender myself to You too, I bow before You...
Please save me, Lord—for Your glory...

20 December: He is Better than others!

Pray "Lord, there is no-one like You to me!"
Read Micah 4,5 and Revelation 11
Think + write Micah is the abbreviated form of "Micaiah", meaning "Who is like the Lord?" This is a very important question: "Who is like the Lord?" Is there anyone like Him?! Is there anyone like Him to me?! When the Bride (the Christian) in Song of Songs had lost fellowship with the Lord (her Shepherd-King), she spoke to the "daughters of Jerusalem" (the supposed fellow Christians) about her longing for the Lord and asked them to speak to Him on her behalf, to pray for her (5:8). They foolishly answered: "How is your Beloved better than others?" (v9). They didn't know!!! She then burst forth in an ecstatic description of the One she loves, the Lord Jesus, summarizing it all in one expression: "He is altogether lovely"!!! (v16). Indeed, He is better than others to me!!! He is much better than all others to me!!! He is better than
He is radiant, He is pure, He is holy, He is loving, He is innocent, He is strong, He is precious, He is stable, He is faithful, He is reliable, He is wise, He is beautiful, He is glorious, He is patient, He is compassionate, He is forgiving, He is just, He is good, He is gracious, He is truthful, He is perfect, He is incomparable, "He is altogether lovely"!!! Oh Lord, I love You. Thank You for revealing Yourself to me and for saving me to love You and worship You and serve You!
In Micah 2:13 He is described as <i>the "One that breaketh through</i> " (Darby), " <i>the Opener of the way</i> " (BBE), the King To me this is wonderful, it means that
He is also the One who "will teach us His ways so that we may walk in
His paths" (Micah 4:2). Furthermore, He is the One who "will stand and shepherd His flock" (5:4) in strength and in majesty. "He will be their peace" (5:5). He is my peace
Pray "Father,"
$G_0 + D_0$ follow Him as He breaks through every obstruction



I have seen the face of Jesus
Tell me not of ought beside
I have heard the voice of Jesus
All my soul is satisfied
All around is earthly splendor
Earthly scenes lie fair and bright
But mine eyes no longer see them
For the glory of that light
Light that knows no cloud, no waning
Light wherein I see His face
All His love's uncounted treasures
All the riches of His grace

Tersteegen

THE BATTLE between the BRIDE and the BEAST

This battle is fought in my MIND - where I capture every thought and make it obedient to Christ, ...<u>not</u> to my desires or the world's desires or people's desires or Satan's desires...

The battle is fought in my WILL - where I ensure that my will stays surrendered to God, to do His will, not mine...

The battle is fought in my <u>EMOTIONS</u> - where by faith I keep it crucified to self, others and the world, ...and alive to Christ, to direct it according to His will...

The battle is fought in the <u>WORLD</u> - where I am crucified to the world and the world is crucified to me; where I live and proclaim the TRUTH, defeating the LIES of Satan and deceiving spirits...; where I bring the LIGHT to defeat the DARKNESS...

The battle is fought in the <u>HEAVENLIES</u> (in the spiritual realm) - where I (having submitted myself to God) RESIST the devil and all his unclean, deceiving spirits and conquer them in



21 December: The Bride & the Beast!

Prav "Lord, I choose to be part of the Bride, not the Beast...!" **Read** Micah 6.7 and Revelation 12 **Think** + write In Micah 6 the Lord shows me the difference between *Religiosity* and ...having a *Relationship* with Him. He is not pleased with Rituals, but says: "He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God' (Micah 6:8). To walk humbly with God means that.....I also learn: • "Do not trust a neighbor" (7:5), but always trust the Lord. • "Put no confidence in a friend" (7:5), they are all fallible... • "Be careful of your words" (7:5), even to those very close to me... • "a man's enemies are the members of his own household" (7:6). For instance under the following circumstances and in the following ways: • "Do not gloat over me, my enemy! Though I have fallen, I will *rise*. Though I sit in darkness, the Lord will be my light" (7:8). This is wonderful and encouraging. Thank You, Lord. In Revelation 12 God reveals to me the reality of a great WAR. This war rages (1) in the heavenly realm between the great Dragon, "that ancient serpent," the devil, or "Satan, who leads the whole world astray"...and the angels of God (12:7-9), and (2) on earth between the Dragon and "the woman," the Church, or "those who obey God's com-

Pray "Lord, thank You for defeating Satan!" Go + Do it too.

22 December: Beware the Beasts!

Pray "Lord, You are seated above all powers—I worship You!" **Read** Nahum and Revelation 13

Think + **Write** The <u>main enemy personalities</u>, the <u>main evil</u> <u>spirits</u> arrayed against God and His children (which includes me) are: (1) **The Scarlet Beast** (Rev 17:3), also called the red Dragon (Rev 12:2) or Satan; (2) **The Beast out of the sea** (Rev 13:1); (3) **The Beast out of the earth** (Rev 13:11), that looked like a "Lamb," but is a counterfeit Lamb; and (4) **The Woman sitting on the red Beast** (Rev 17:4). ALL inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast (13:8), EXCEPT:

- Those whose names are written in the book of life (13:8)
- Those who belong to the Lamb, the true Lamb, the Lord Jesus Christ (13:8).

I need to therefore ask myself:

Do I worship the Beast? Do I worship his music?

Do I follow his fashions? Do I love his lusts?

Is my name still written in the book of Life?

Do I belong to the Lamb who was slain (and who rose again)? My answer and my prayer is:

God says, in reference to the battle against this beast, "this calls for *patient endurance and faithfulness* on the part of the saints" (13:10). Even more dangerous is the beast coming out of the earth, because it has the appearance of a lamb, but it speaks like a dragon (13:11). He deceives the inhabitants of the earth!!! (13:14). O, how dangerous is *the deceiving power of this beast*!!! Millions of people are deceived by the lies of evolution, the lies of humanism, the lies of sexual "freedom", the lies of Rock music, the lies of spiritism and occultism... *SIN also has the power to deceive me*... It will pretend to be "small," or "innocent," or "right," or "good," or "satisfying," or "needed," or "done by all," or "easy to get rid of (once done)," or "not to be taken so seriously," etc... Once done, it will further deceive me into more sin and deeper sin and darker sin... It will also deceive me into thinking that God cannot and will not forgive me if I repent - which is a lie! I learn that......

Pray "Father, save me from the beasts!" Go + Do God's will.

The "WOMAN" on the Beast

...KALI or Jezebel

See Rev 12 & 17:3



Blood thirsty

Aggressive

Immoral, Seductive

Hair hang loose - "open"

Bedecked with gold jewelry

Tongue out, like many pop stars

Body exposed, shown ...

Nakedness

Ruling many men

Ruling many women

Behind feminist movement*

Behind immoral movement

Brings war

Brings devastation

Red color prominent

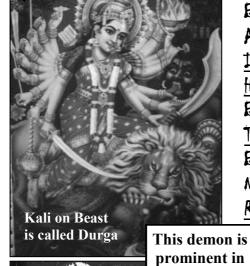
Purple too...*

Involved in ROCK MUSIC...!!

Listening → POSSESSION...!



Filthy KALI snake tongue



| Jesus is | Victor!

Rock music

23 December: Go on trusting Jesus!

Pray "Lord, help me to LEARN from what I read and hear."

Read Habakkuk and Revelation 14

Think + **write** Nahum describes God's righteous judgment on Nineveh. In Jonah's time, Nineveh repented, but not long after that they went back to their old wicked ways, People go back to their sins, because:

Nineveh is described as the "Murder City," "Fun city," "Sewer City," the "Whore City," "fatally seductive, ...the Witch of Seduction" (Nah 3:1,4 & Zeph 2:15;3:1;MSG). God says that He'll deal with her in such a way that "everyone who sees you will gag and say, 'Nineveh's a pigsty: What on earth did we see in her?" (3:7;MSG). I read that "the Lord is slow to anger and great in power; the Lord will not leave the guilty unpunished" (Nahum 1:3). "The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in Him" (1:7). "He recognizes and welcomes anyone looking for help, no matter how desperate the trouble" (MSG).

"<u>Habakkuk</u>" means "someone who embraces God and clings to Him". This is how I want to live, with God's help! To me, some of the precious pearls in Habakkuk are the following:

- **⇒** "You cannot tolerate wrong" (1:13)
- **○** "*The righteous will live by faith*" (2:4) by going on believing!
- **○** "Woe to him who gives drink to his neighbors" (2:15)
- → "Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Savior" (3:17-18)
- **The Lord God is my Strength**, my personal bravery, and my invincible army; He makes my feet like hinds' feet and will make me to walk [not to stand still in terror, but to walk] and make [spiritual] progress upon my high places [of trouble, suffering, or responsibility]!" (3:19;Ampl)

My response to these precious verses is:

Pray "Thank You, Lord!" **Go + Do** go on trusting Him...

24 December: I'm happy to have you back!

Pray "Lord, I want to seek You more and see You more..."

Read Zephaniah and Revelation 15

Think + write God says to me in Zephaniah:

- ◆"I will... punish those who are complacent" (1:12), "amusing themselves and *taking it easy*" (MSG)
- ◆"Seek righteousness, seek humility" (2:3)
- "Seek GOD, all you quietly disciplined people ... Seek GOD's right ways. Seek a quiet and disciplined life" (2:3;MSG)
- ◆"My zeal is a fire that will purge and purify the earth" (3:8;MSG)
- ◆"The Lord your God is with you, He is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing" (3:17). "Don't be afraid... Don't despair... Your GOD is present among you, a strong Warrior there to save you. Happy to have you back, He'll calm you with His love and delight you with His songs" (MSG) NOT with the songs of the world, the songs of immoral pop stars...!

I see that *the redeemed* are described in Revelation 14 as...

- Those who sang a new song (v3), not the "old" songs of the world
- Those who did not defile themselves with women
- ➤ Those who kept themselves PURE
- ➤ Those who follow the Lamb wherever He goes...
- > Those who do not lie
- ➤ Those who are blameless (14:4-5)
- ➤ Those who obey God's commandments
- ➤ Those who remain faithful to Jesus (14:12)

The angel who proclaimed the eternal gospel said in a loud voice:

Fear God Give Him glory Worship Him (14:6-7)

Those who had been victorious over the beast sang "the song of the
Lamb " (15:2,3). I see the difference between "the song of the Lamb"
and the songs of the world, the songs of Satan, the songs of Pop Music
as follows:

Pray "Father, I choose to sing the song of the Lamb. Help me!"

Go + Do sing His songs in this sick world...

25 December: Repent & Glorify God!

Pray "Lord, please help me to always repent and glorify YOU..." **Read** Haggai and Revelation 16

Think + write Some of the saddest words in the Bible are: "<u>THEY REFUSED TO REPENT</u>"... (Rev 16:9,11 and Rev 9:20,21). Despite all the things that God allowed to come their way, despite all the Divine discipline, despite the pain and the suffering, despite the disillusionment, despite the inner drought and the darkness, ..."they refused to repent and glorify Him" (16:9). Zac Poonen said: "'They did not repent' ('they refused to repent') is the spirit that builds Babylon. All Christians who end up in Babylon do so because they do not repent. The opposite of that is true for those who become a part of Jerusalem, the Bride of Christ: 'They do repent'..."

Furthermore I learn that when I report I give glary to God

Joshua 7:19. To glorify the Lord continuously, I need to repent con-
tinuously! To repent means that
The diagram of a color of the c
The things I need to repent of NOW are the following:
I read in <u>Haggai</u> :
➤ "The people <i>procrastinate</i> " (1:2;MSG). Do I procrastinate?
"Take a good, hard look at your life Think it over" (1:5,7;MSG).
"Give careful thought to your ways" (1:5,7;2:15,18). This is very
important. I need to really DO what the Lord tells me to do in this
regard. When I take a good, hard look at my life,and when I
think it over, I see that:
"But NOW be STRONG and WORK, for I am with you" (2:4).
"Don't hold back" (2:5;MSG). This is a wonderful verse. When I
stop doing my own thing, stop building my own house, stop with
my own plans,and start to build God's house and do His will,
then His Spirit will help me (1:14) and He will be with me (2:4).
Pray "Father,"
$G_0 + D_0$ what G_{00} wants me to do, NOT what I want!
What God wants he to do, NOT what I want!

26 December: Snatched from the fire!

Pray "Lord, I am eternally thankful to You for saving me!"

Read Zechariah 1-3 and Revelation 17

Think + write God says so clearly to me through Zechariah:

- "Return to Me... and I will return to you" (1:3b)
- "Do not be like your forefathers..." who "would not listen or pay attention to Me" (1:4)
- "Shout and be glad... For *I am coming*..." (2:10)
- •"I myself will be a wall of fire around it (Jerusalem, and me!) ...and I will be its glory within" (2:5). These are very precious and powerful promises from God. It means that in my personal life and walk with Him....

.....

When the Lord is the wall of fire around me and the glory within me, then I am SAFE and I can SHINE—through His working! I learn many lessons from what happened to *Joshua the high priest*:

- → He was accused by Satan (3:1), as I am often accused too...
- → He was dressed in filthy clothing—he was dirty... (3:3)
- **→** God took away his sin! (3:4b). He took mine away too!
- → His filthy clothes were removed (3:3) and replaced (3:4,5)
- → He was snatched from the fire like a burning stick!!! (3:2b)

 This is exactly what the Lord did for me as well. I am eternally thankful to Him for that!!!
- → He was commanded to walk in God's ways and to obey (3:7)
- → He was told of the Savior to come, the Lord Jesus Christ! (3:8,9)
- → He was made a symbol, a sign of things to come... (3:8)

The great prostitute, the woman on the beast (Rev 17), is driven by **Kali** (or **Durga**). She epitomizes the spirit of Immorality, Idolatry and Occultism (Spiritism). She is drunk with the blood of the saints...! (Rev 17:6). MANY saints have been slain by her...! Some of her characteristics were listed a few days ago. With others, she will make WAR against the Lamb and His followers, but **the Lamb will over-come her** and all the other spirit-enemies, because He is Lord of lords and King of kings (Rev 17:14). **Hallelujah, Jesus is Victor!**

Pray	"Lord,	 	 	
•				,

 $\mathbf{Go} + \mathbf{Do}$ be His victorious, called, chosen, faithful follower (v14)

27 December: Come OUT of Babylon!

Pray "Lord, I will DO what You tell me to DO..."

Read Zechariah 4-6 and Revelation 18

Think + **write** The glorious news is proclaimed in Revelation 18 that <u>Babylon</u>, the Mother of prostitutes, the Woman on the Beast <u>is</u> <u>FALLEN!</u> (18:2-19:5). "Babylon" represents a religious system, a commercial system, a political system, as well as a spirit (or family of spirits), ...the spirit of Kali, the spirit of the world. Babylon is filled with pride (18:7), immorality (18:3,9), excessive luxuries (18:3,9), drug-abuse (18:23), materialism (18:12,13), spiritism (18:2) and sins (18:5). God commands me (and everyone who have ears to ear): "<u>COME OUT OF HER</u>, my people, so that you will NOT share in her sins" (Rev 18:4). When God commands me to "<u>COME OUT</u>", he means that:

.....

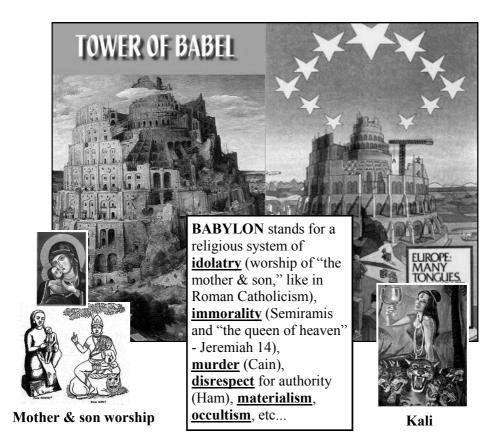
I need to COME OUT of all forms of worldliness and sin. I also note that music was part of Babylon (18:22). There is *the MUSIC of Babylon*, which is immoral, rebellious, seductive, worldly, Satanic... It makes me forget about God, neglect the reading of His Word, stop praying, focus on the flesh, focus on feelings, ...and long for sin. God says to me: "COME OUT" of it!!! This music must STOP in my life (18:22). Zac Poonen says: "There is a spirit in ALL music, and we must discern whether we are worshipping God through music or worshipping the music itself," or worshipping our flesh through the music... There is either the Spirit of God behind the music OR the spirit of Satan, not both. My decision in response to God's command is:.........

"Hallelujah" was shouted 3 times when Babylon was destroyed (Rev 19). The word "Hallelujah" (which means "Praise the Lord"), is used only 4 times in the whole New Testament. Three of the four times it is to praise the Lord for the downfall and destruction of the Babylon system, the Babylon spirit (v1,3,4)! I also say: "Hallelujah!" In Zechariah the Lord says: "Not by might nor by power, but BY MY SPIRIT" - this mountain (whatever mountain!) will be removed, and the temple (even my life) will be built (4:6,7). I should not despise the day of small beginnings (4:10).

Pray "Thank You, Lord!"

Go + Do come OUT...

Mystery Babylon...



All through the book of Revelation I see the CONTRAST between *Babylon (the Harlot)* and *Jerusalem (the Bride)*...

I need to ask myself: Am I part of the Harlot or part of the Bride? Am I part of Babylon (the "great") or part of Jerusalem (the "holy")? Are Rihanna and Shakira and Leona Lewis and JT (and other pop singers) part of the Bride or part of the Harlot? Are these pop singers (and others) part of Jerusalem or part of Babylon? With who am I part?! God says to me...

Come <u>OUT</u>!

28 December: I am a Bride prepared for Jesus

Pray "Lord, I want to be prepared and ready as Your pure Bride!" **Read** Zechariah 7-9 and Revelation 19

Think + write Dr Hudson Taylor said: "<u>If I'm not a mission-ary, then I am a mission field!</u>" I believe this with all my heart. The question is: "Am I a missionary at the moment?" I see three stages in this life of "going in God's will":

- ✓ I am "sent to go" (Zech 1:10)
- **✓** I am "*straining to go*" (6:7)

I understand that <u>the Lord wants me to</u> do the following for Him in this world:

I know that the main things *the devil will try* to use to stop the plans of God in and for my life are the following:

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This is part of God's way of preparing for revival, of preparing for His coming! When God is with me, others will come and take firm hold of me and say: "Let us go with you..." (8:23). When others do not come to me in this way, it may mean that the Lord is not with me as He wants to be and should be. I also read of a great multitude that shouted "Hallelujah" - for the wedding of the Lamb has come and "His bride has made herself READY..." (Rev 19:7), she had "prepared as a bride ... FOR HER HUSBAND" (21:2). This is wonderful! This is exciting! I want to be a prepared, pure Bride for the Lord Jesus Christ!

Pray "Lord, please help me by Your Spirit" Go + Do prepare.

The Bride Prepared Herself For Christ!

She made herself ready!



Hallelujah!

Nothing impure entered her...
She said "Good-bye" to all...
She set herself apart for HIM only
She was willing to work...
She was watchful
She was ready in the darkest night
She loved her Bridegroom with all
her heart and soul and mind and
strength...
She had prepared herself!

29 December: My King is coming!

Tray Lora, help me to daily remember that You are coming soon
Read Zechariah 10-12 and Revelation 20
Think + write I read in Zechariah: "Rejoice greatly! <u>Your King is coming!</u> A good King who makes all things right, a humble King" (9:9;NIV,MSG). When He comes, He "will step in and take care of His flock, He'll revive their spirits, make them proud to be on God's side. God will use them in his work of rebuilding, use them as foundations and pillars, Use them as tools and instruments, use them to oversee his work. They'll be a workforce to be proud of, working as one, their heads held high, striding through swamps and mud, Courageous and vigorous because GOD is with them, undeterred by the world's thugs. I'll put muscle in the people of Judah; I'll save the people of Joseph. I know their pain and will make them good as new. They'll get a fresh start, as if nothing had ever happened. And why? Because I am their very own GOD, I'll do what needs to be done for them." (10:3-6;MSG). My response to this is:
The Lord also says: "I will make the leaders like a flaming torch
among sheaves" (12:6). This means that
When He comes He says: "I'll pour a spirit of grace and prayer over
<u>them</u> . They'll then be able to recognize Me as the One they so grievously woundedthat piercing spear-thrust! And they'll weepoh, how they'll weep! Deep mourning as of a parent grieving the loss of the firstborn child" (Zech 12:10;MSG). " <u>A spirit of prayer</u> " means:
When I consider the state of the world and the soon second coming of the Lord Jesus, I am convinced that I need a true spirit of prayer. In Revelation 20:15 I read that "if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire" For my name to be written in the book of life I need:
Pray "Lord, come quickly!" $G_0 + D_0$ be a praying flame

My King is Coming Soon!



When He comes like a flash of lightning (Matt 24:27), what would I like to be busy with?! How would it be if He comes while I'm listening to Rihanna or Lady Gaga or JT or Mika or Leona Lewis...? How would it be if He comes while I'm sending an unholy sms to someone? How would it be if He comes while I'm lying ...or lusting ...or lazy ...or lifted up in pride ...or living in sin?! How would it be when He comes while I'm praying to Him, or leading someone to Him, or lovingly reading His Word, or doing His will? Oh, Lord, please help me to be ready when You come, help me to be pure & prepared for You...!!!

30 December: The Fountain & the Fire...

Pray "Lord, please cleanse me thoroughly..."

Read Zechariah 13,14 and Revelation 21

Think + write God says: "<u>A fountain will be opened</u>... to cleanse them from sin and impurity" (Zech 13:1), "...for washing away their sins, for scrubbing their stained and soiled lives clean" (MSG). The fountain of Christ's blood can cleanse me from idolatry (v2), from the spirit of impurity (v2b), from lying (v3), and from ANY and EVERY sin. I need to get IN the fountain (to be cleansed), for the fountain to get IN me (to overflow). When I am washed by the Blood of Christ, then I can be filled by the Spirit of Christ! Three of the six stanzas of William Cowper's beautiful song "There is a Fountain filled with blood" are as follows:

There is a fountain filled with blood drawn from Emmanuel's veins; And sinners plunged beneath that flood lose all their guilty stains. Lose all their guilty stains, lose all their guilty stains; And sinners plunged beneath that flood lose all their guilty stains.

The dying thief rejoiced to see that fountain in his day; And there have I, though vile as he, washed all my sins away. Washed all my sins away, washed all my sins away; And there have I, though vile as he, washed all my sins away.

After the Fountain, God says He'll also bring me into the Fire, to refine me like silver and test me like gold (Zech 13:9). As the Fountain speaks of the Blood of Christ, the Fire speaks of the Spirit if Christ, burning out all that is not of God in me and setting me alight for Him—to be a burning and a shining light in this dark, sinful world. I need the Fountain and the Fire in my life to be part of the prepared Bride of Christ when He comes again... (Rev 21:2).



My response is:	
I	
the Blood (for cleansing) and the Fire (for filling) daily in my life	

Pray "Lord, please cleanse me with Your Blood and please fill me with Your Spirit—that I can be Your pure, prepared bride!"

Go + Do what is needed (1 John 1:7-9 and John 7:37-39)

There is a Fountain filled with Blood...

There is a fountain filled with blood drawn from Emmanuel's veins; And sinners plunged beneath that flood lose all their guilty stains. Lose all their guilty stains, lose all their guilty stains; And sinners plunged beneath that flood lose all their guilty stains.

The dying thief rejoiced to see that fountain in his day; And there have I, though vile as he, washed all my sins away. Washed all my sins away, washed all my sins away; And there have I, though vile as he, washed all my sins away.

Dear dying Lamb, Thy precious blood shall never lose its power Till all the ransomed church of God be saved, to sin no more. Be saved, to sin no more, be saved, to sin no more; Till all the ransomed church of God be saved, to sin no more.

E'er since, by faith, I saw the stream Thy flowing wounds supply, Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die.

And shall be till I die, and shall be till I die;

Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die.

Then in a nobler, sweeter song, I'll sing Thy power to save, When this poor lisping, stammering tongue lies silent in the grave. Lies silent in the grave, lies silent in the grave; When this poor lisping, stammering tongue lies silent in the grave.

Lord, I believe Thou hast prepared, unworthy though I be, For me a blood bought free reward, a golden harp for me! 'Tis strung and tuned for endless years, and formed by power divine, To sound in God the Father's ears no other name but Thine.



31 December: "Come, Lord Jesus!"

Pray "Lord, may Your Word bear fruit in my life..."

Read Malachi and Revelation 22

Think + write God says in Malachi (the last Old Testament book): "*I love you*" (1:2;MSG), ...but (sadly) those whom He loves...

- ◆ <u>Do not honor Him as their Father</u> (1:6;2:2)
- ◆ Bring diseased and <u>crippled sacrifices</u> to Him (1:8)
- ◆ See it as a burden to serve Him (1:13), saying "I'm bored" (MSG)
- ◆ Make great promises to Him, but settle for <u>feeble following</u>, half-hearted, blemished sacrifices—they give God second best! (1:14)
- ◆ Have "<u>fallen</u> in <u>love</u>" with foreign women (2:11;MSG) and did not guard their hearts to love and obey God alone... They have fallen...
- ◆ Have become <u>unfaithful</u> to their spouse and even sinned by divorcing them (2:14). God says: "I hate divorce."
- ◆ Are <u>robbing Him</u>! (3:9) of the time, service, gifts, energy, efforts, love, life that is due to Him...
- ◆ <u>Do not surrender their ALL to Him, they do NOT bring the WHOLE</u> of what is due to God to Him (3:10).

God says to me:

- **†** "I the Lord do not change..." (3:6)
- ♥ "<u>Return to Me</u>, and I will return to you" (3:7)
- The whole whole whole will (3:10) "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it" (3:10). From this I learn that:

.....

He also says that "before at great and dreadful day of the Lord comes" (4:5), before the Lord comes back... "He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers..." (4:6). This means that He will destroy the "generation gap." Practically, I learn that:

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If this does not happen, He "will come and strike the land with a curse" (4:6). These are the last words in the Old Testament. While the Old Testament ends with a "curse," the New Testament ends with "grace" (Rev 22:21), because of the Lord Jesus!

From the precious last book and last chapter in the Bible (<u>Revelation</u> 22) I see that:

- **⊃** *There's a River of Life* that flows from the throne of God. This speaks of the Holy Spirit who brings life and true healing and supernatural fruitfulness wherever He works (Ezekiel 47 and John 37).
- **⊃** There shall no longer be any curse! (Rev 22:3). Christ became a curse on the Cross to break all the curses in my life—the curse of sin, the curse of the self-life, the curse of ancestral bondage, the curse of witchcraft, the curse of deceiving spirits...
- **⊃** Christ is coming soon! He'll come quickly! (22:7;KJV) He'll come unexpectedly and without any warning... I need to be ready! "The time is near" (22:10).
- **⊃** *I need to worship God* (22:9) together with "all who keep the words of this book" the Bible (22:9)... To keep company with others WILL corrupt good character (1 Co 15:33).
- **⊃** God says: "Let him who does wrong continue to do wrong; let him who is vile continue to be vile; let him who does right continue to do right; and let him who is holy continue to be holy" (22:11). The word "continue" may also be translated "increase"... This is a most amazing verse at the end of the Bible! Brother Zac Poonen says the implication is that "If you have read through the whole Bible and come to the last page and you still don't want to repent or to give up your sins, then go ahead and be filthy and keep on doing wrong. ... If after reading about God's judgments on sin in the book of Revelation, you still want to indulge in your lusts and to seek after the pleasures of sin, and to read filthy books and to look at pornographic movies, if you still want to retain your bitterness against someone, and to be unforgiving, if you still want to slander and backbite, and be jealous and to live for yourself and for this rotten world, then go ahead and do it. God will not stop you." (Taken from "The Final Triumph," by Zac Poonen).
- **⊃** "Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city" (22:14)...
- → "The Spirit and the bride say, 'Come!' And let him who hears say, 'Come!' Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life" (22:17). This is the final invitation in the Bible... God doesn't want anybody to perish, but everybody to come to Him in repentance and loving trust...
- ⇒ Will YOU come NOW...?! What is my response?!

My personal response to all that I have heard and read is:
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Jesus Himself says: "<u>Yes, I am coming soon.</u>" (Revelation 22:20)... This is followed by the last prayer in the Bible, which is also my prayer: "<u>Come, Lord Jesus</u>" (Rev 22:20)...

Pray "Come, Lord Jesus! I am sick and tired of sin. I am sick and tired of this rotten world. I am longing for that world where righteousness dwells. Come, Lord Jesus...!!!"

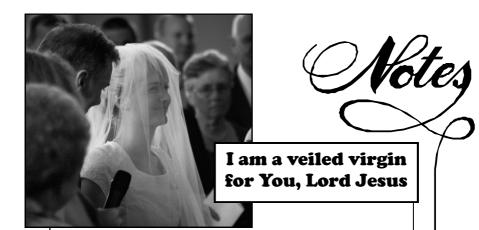
Go + Do what He told me to do in His Word and by His Spirit.



I am a Pure Bride, a Prepared Bride for You, Lord!



Oh Lord,
how I long for You;
to be with You,
to worship,
love and serve You!





Another Year Is Dawning

Another year is dawning: Dear Father, let it be, In working or in waiting, Another year with Thee; Another year of progress, Another year of praise, Another year of proving Thy presence all the days.

Another year of mercies, Of faithfulness and grace; Another year of gladness In the shinning of Thy face; Another year of gladness Upon Thy loving breast; Another year of trusting, Of quiet, happy rest.

Another year of service, Of witness for Thy love; Another year of training For holier work above. Another year is dawning: Dear Father, let it be, On earth or else in heaven, Another year for Thee.

Frances Ridley Havergal (1836-1879)

The Spirit says: "Come!"



The Bride says: "Come!"

Revelation 22:17,20