

Romans 1 -16 NASB

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

The Gospel Exalted

¹Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God,

²which He promised beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures,

³concerning His Son, who birth placed Him in the genealogy of David according to the flesh,

⁴who the Father had declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord,

⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for His name's sake,

⁶among whom you also have received the calling of Jesus Christ;

⁷to all who have become the beloved of God in Rome, called as saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁸First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, because people proclaim your faith throughout the whole world.

⁹For God, whom I serve in my spirit in the preaching of the gospel of His Son, witnesses as to how unceasingly I make mention of you,

¹⁰always in my prayers making request, if perhaps now at last by the will of God I may succeed in coming to you.

¹¹For I long to see you so that I may impart some spiritual gift to you, that you may become established;

¹²namely, that I may receive encouragement together with you while among you, each of us by the other's faith, both yours and mine.

¹³I do not want you to remain ignorant, brethren, that often I have planned to come to you (but something has prevented me so far) so that I may obtain some fruit among you also, even as among the rest of the Gentiles.

¹⁴I feel under obligation both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish.

¹⁵So, for my part, I eagerly reach the gospel to you also who live in Rome.

¹⁶For I do not feel ashamed of the gospel, for it brings the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

¹⁷For in it the righteousness of God has become revealed from faith to faith; as the scriptures declare, " BUT THE RIGHTEOUS man SHALL LIVE BY FAITH."

Unbelief and Its Consequences

¹⁸For the wrath of God has emanated from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,

¹⁹because that people know about God they see within them; for God made it evident to them.

²⁰For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, people have clearly seen, understanding through what God has made, so that they have no excuse.

²¹For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart darkened.

²²Professing to have wisdom, they became fools,

²³and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.

²⁴Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would suffer dishonor among them.

²⁵For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who we blessed forever. Amen.

²⁶For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which we deem unnatural,

²⁷and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error.

²⁸And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a depraved mind, to do those things which we do not consider proper,

²⁹ filled themselves with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice; they gossip,

³⁰slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents,

³¹without understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful;

³²and although they know the ordinance of God, that those who practice such things make themselves worthy of death, they not only do the same, but also give hearty approval to those who practice them.

Romans 2 NASB E-Prime DFM

The Impartiality of God

¹Therefore you have no excuse, everyone of you who passes judgment, for in that which you judge another, you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things.

²And we know that the judgment of God rightly falls upon those who practice such things.

³But do you suppose this, O man, when you pass judgment on those who practice such things and do the same yourself, that you will escape the judgment of God?

⁴Or do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and tolerance and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance?

⁵But because of your stubbornness and unrepentant heart you have stored up wrath for yourself in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God,

⁶who WILL RENDER TO EACH PERSON ACCORDING TO HIS DEEDS:

⁷to those who by perseverance in doing good seek for glory and honor and immortality, eternal life;

⁸but to those who act selfishly ambitious and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, wrath and indignation.

⁹There will come tribulation and distress for every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek,

¹⁰but glory and honor and peace to everyone who does good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

¹¹For God does not show partiality.

¹²For all who have sinned without the Law will also perish without the Law, and all who have sinned under the Law will receive judgment by the Law;

¹³for God does not justify the hearers of the Law, but justifies the doers of the Law .

¹⁴For when Gentiles who do not have the Law do instinctively the things of the Law, these, not having the Law, act lawfully by themselves,

¹⁵in that they show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness and their thoughts alternately accusing or else defending them,

¹⁶on the day when, according to my gospel, God will judge the secrets of men through Christ Jesus.

The Jew Condemns himself by the Law

¹⁷But if you bear the name "Jew" and rely upon the Law and boast in God,

¹⁸and know His will and approve the essential things , receiving instructions out of the Law,

¹⁹and have confidence that you yourself can guide the blind, a light to those who dwell in darkness,

²⁰a corrector of the foolish, a teacher of the immature, having in the Law the embodiment of knowledge and of the truth,

²¹you, therefore, who teach another, do you not teach yourself? You who preach that one shall not steal, do you steal?

²²You who say that one should not commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples?

²³You who boast in the Law, through your breaking the Law, do you dishonor God?

²⁴For " THE NAME OF GOD HAS BECOME BLASPHEMED AMONG THE GENTILES BECAUSE OF YOU," just as the scriptures read.

²⁵For indeed circumcision has value if you practice the Law; but if you transgress the Law, your circumcision has become uncircumcision.

²⁶So if the uncircumcised man keeps the requirements of the Law, will not his uncircumcision become equivalent to circumcision?

²⁷And he who has not undergone physical uncircumcised, if he keeps the Law, will he not judge you who though having the letter of the Law and circumcision a transgressor of the Law?

²⁸For he cannot claim Jewishness who has the outward characteristics, nor does outward fleshly circumcision qualify him.

²⁹But he can call himself a Jew who behaves lawfully inwardly; and has received circumcision of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter; and his praise does not come from men, but from God.

Romans 3 NASB E-Prime DFM

All the World Guilty

¹Then what advantage has the Jew? Or what benefit does circumcision have?

²Great in every respect. First of all, that God entrusted them with His oracles .

³What then? If some did not believe, their unbelief will not nullify the faithfulness of God, will it?

⁴May it never happen! Rather, let us find God true, though every man lie, as the scripture reads,

" THAT YOU MAY FIND JUSTIFICATION IN YOUR WORDS,
AND PREVAIL WHEN YOU RECEIVE JUDGMENT."

⁵But if our unrighteousness demonstrates the righteousness of God, what shall we say? The God who inflicts wrath does not act unrighteously, does He? (I speak in human terms.)

⁶ May it never happen! For otherwise, how will God judge the world?

⁷But if through my lie the truth of God abounded to His glory, why has God judged me as a sinner?

⁸And why not say (as some have slanderously reported of us and as some claim that we say), " Let us do evil that good may come"? They deserve their condemnation.

⁹What then? Do we have more value than they? Not at all; for we have already charged that both Jews and Greeks have placed themselves all under sin;

¹⁰as the scriptures read,

" THERE EXISTS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE;

¹¹ NO ONE UNDERSTANDS,
NO ONE SEEKS FOR GOD;

¹²ALL HAVE TURNED ASIDE, TOGETHER THEY HAVE BECOME USELESS;
NO ONE DOES GOOD,
NOT EVEN ONE."

¹³" THEIR THROAT RESMBLES AN OPEN GRAVE,
WITH THEIR TONGUES THEY KEEP DECEIVING,"
" THE POISON OF ASPS RESIDES UNDER THEIR LIPS";

¹⁴" WHOSE MOUTH FILLS WITH CURSING AND BITTERNESS";

¹⁵" THEIR FEET SWIFTLY SHED BLOOD,

¹⁶DESTRUCTION AND MISERY LURK IN THEIR PATHS,

¹⁷AND THE PATH OF PEACE THEY HAVE NOT KNOWN."

¹⁸" NO FEAR OF GOD EXISTS BEFORE THEIR EYES."

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the Law says, it speaks to those who live under the Law, so that every mouth may close and all the world may become accountable to God;

²⁰because by the works of the Law no flesh will receive justification in His sight; for through the Law comes the knowledge of sin.

Justification by Faith

²¹But now apart from the Law the righteousness of God has manifested, witnessed by the Law and the Prophets,
²²even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there no distinction exists;
²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,
²⁴receiving justification as a gift by His grace through the redemption which we find in Christ Jesus;
²⁵whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith This demonstrated His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed;
²⁶for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness at the present time, so that He would act justly just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.
²⁷Where can we boast? We exclude it By what kind of law? Of works? No, but by a law of faith.
²⁸For we maintain that a man receives justification by faith apart from works of the Law.
²⁹Or do we consider God the God of Jews only? Do we not consider Him the God of Gentiles also? Yes, of Gentiles also,
³⁰since indeed God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith we recognize as the same God.

Romans 4 NASB E-Prime DFM

Justification by Faith Evidenced in Old Testament

¹What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh, has found?

²For if Abraham received justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God.

³For what does the Scripture say? " ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND GOD CREDITED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS."

⁴Now to the one who works, his wage does not credit as a favor, but as something due.

⁵But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited as righteousness,

⁶just as David also speaks of the blessing on the man to whom God credits righteousness apart from works:

⁷" GOD BLESSES THOSE WHOSE LAWLESS DEEDS HE HAS FORGIVEN, AND WHOSE SINS HE HAS COVERED.

⁸" GOD BLESSES THE MAN WHOSE SIN HE WILL NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT."

⁹Does God bless then on the circumcised, or on the uncircumcised also? For we say, " FAITH ACCRUED TO ABRAHAM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS."

¹⁰How then did God credit it? While he had undergone circumcised, or while he remained uncircumcised? Not while circumcised, but while uncircumcised;

¹¹and he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had while uncircumcised, so that he might be designated as the father of all who believe without having undergone circumcision, that righteousness might be credited to them,

¹²and the father of circumcision to those who not only have received circumcision, but who also follow in the steps of the faith of our father Abraham which he had while uncircumcised.

¹³For the promise to Abraham or to his descendants that he would become heir of the world did not attain it through the Law, but through the righteousness of faith.

¹⁴For if those who consider themselves of the Law become heirs, faith becomes void and the promise remains nullified;

¹⁵for the Law brings about wrath, but where no law exists, no violation exists.

¹⁶For this reason it comes by faith, in order that it may accord with grace, so that God will guarantee to all the descendants, not only to those who rely on the Law, but also to those who rely on the faith of Abraham, who we designate as the father of us all,

¹⁷(as the scriptures read, " A FATHER OF MANY NATIONS HAVE I MADE YOU") in the presence of Him whom he believed, even God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence that which does not exist.

¹⁸In hope against hope he believed, so that he might become a father of many nations according to that which had received reputation, " SO SHALL YOUR DESCENDANTS NUMBER THEMSELVES."

¹⁹Without becoming weak in faith he contemplated his own body, now as good as dead since he had become about a hundred years old, and the deadness of Sarah's womb;

²⁰yet, with respect to the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief but grew strong in faith, giving glory to God,

²¹and receiving full assurance that what God had promised, He could also perform.

²²Therefore GOD ALSO CREDITED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS.

²³Now not for his sake only did the scriptures say that God credited it to him,

²⁴but for our sake also, to whom it will accrue, as those who believe in Him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead,

²⁵He who our transgressions delivered over, and God raised because He justified us.

Romans 5 NASB E-Prime DFM

Results of Justification

¹ Therefore, having received justification by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

²through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God.

³ And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance;

⁴and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope;

⁵and hope does not disappoint, because the God has poured out His love within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who He gave us.

⁶For while we still felt helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

⁷For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die.

⁸But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we still lived as sinners, Christ died for us.

⁹Much more then, having now received justification by His blood, we shall receive salvation from the wrath of God through Him.

¹⁰For if while we acted as God's enemies we received reconciliation with God through the death of His Son, much more, having received reconciliation, we shall receive salvation by His life.

¹¹ And not only this, but we also exult in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.

¹² Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned--

¹³ for until the Law sin existed in the world, but we did not impute sin when no law existed.

¹⁴ Nevertheless death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the offense of Adam, who serves as a type of Him who would come later.

¹⁵ But the free gift does not resemble the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many.

¹⁶ The gift does not resemble that which came through the one who sinned; for on the one hand the judgment arose from one transgression resulting in condemnation, but on the other hand the free gift arose from many transgressions resulting in justification.

¹⁷ For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.

¹⁸ So then as through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through one act of righteousness there resulted justification of life to all men.

¹⁹ For as through the one man's disobedience the many became made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One the many will become righteous.

²⁰ The Law came in so that the transgression would increase; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more,

²¹ so that, as sin reigned in death, even so grace would reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 6 NASB E-Prime DFM

Believers Die to Sin, Become Alive to God

¹What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin so that grace may increase?

² May it never happen! How shall we who died to sin still live in it?

³Or do you not know that all of us who have received baptism into Christ Jesus have received baptism into His death?

⁴Therefore we have received burial with Him through baptism into death, so that as God raised Christ from the dead through His glory, so we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also join him in the likeness of His resurrection,

⁶knowing this, that our old self suffered crucifixion with Him, in order that our body of sin might expire, so that we would no longer enslave ourselves to sin;

⁷for he who has died has freed himself from sin.

⁸Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him,

⁹knowing that Christ, having resurrected from the dead, will never die again; death no longer will rule over Him.

¹⁰For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God.

¹¹Even so consider yourselves dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

¹²Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts,

¹³and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.

¹⁴For sin shall not have rule over you, for you do not feel under law but under grace.

¹⁵What then? Shall we sin because we do not feel a threat from the law but under grace? May it never happen!

¹⁶Do you not know that when you present yourselves to someone as slaves for obedience, you enslave yourselves to the one whom you obey, either of sin resulting in death, or of obedience resulting in righteousness?

¹⁷But we thank God that though you had enslaved yourselves to sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you committed yourselves,

¹⁸and having found yourselves freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.

¹⁹I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh For just as you presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness, resulting in further lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness, resulting in sanctification.

²⁰For when you enslaved yourselves sin, you became liberated in regard to righteousness.

²¹Therefore what benefit did you attain derive from the things of which you now feel shame? For the outcome of those things constitutes death.

²²But now having received liberation from sin and enslavement to God, you derive your benefit, resulting in sanctification, and the outcome, eternal life.

²³For the wages of sin equates to death, but God gives us eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord as a free gift.

Romans 7

NASB E-Prime DFM

Believers United to Christ

¹Or do you not know, brethren (for I speak to those who know the law), that the law has jurisdiction over a person as long as he lives?

²For the married woman has bound herself by law to her husband while he lives; but if her husband dies, she will become released from the law concerning the husband.

³So then, if while her husband lives she joins herself to another man, people will call her an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she has freedom from the law, so that people will not call her an adulteress though she joins herself to another man.

⁴Therefore, my brethren, you also died to the Law through the body of Christ, so that you might join yourself to another, to Him who God raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit for God.

⁵For while we lived in the flesh, the sinful passions, which became aroused by the Law, went to work in the members of our body to bear fruit for death.

⁶But now we have received liberation from the Law, having died to that by which we felt bound, so that we serve in newness of the Spirit and not in oldness of the letter.

⁷What shall we say then? Does the Law equate to sin? May it never happen! On the contrary, I would not have come to know sin except through the Law; for I would not have known about coveting if the Law had not said, "YOU SHALL NOT COVET."

⁸But sin, taking opportunity through the commandment, produced in me coveting of every kind; for apart from the Law sin dies.

⁹I felt once alive apart from the Law; but when the commandment came, sin became alive and I died;

¹⁰and this commandment, which God intended to result in life, proved to result in death for me;

¹¹for sin, taking an opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me.

¹²So then, the Law has holiness, and the commandment has holiness and righteousness and goodness.

¹³Therefore did that which we considered good become a cause of death for me? May it never happen! Rather sin, in order that it might reveal itself as sin by effecting my death through that which we considered good, so that through the commandment sin would become utterly sinful.

The Conflict of Two Natures

¹⁴For we know that the Law has spiritual characteristics, but I consist of flesh, sold into bondage to sin.

¹⁵For what I do, I do not understand; for I do not practice what I would like to do, but I do the very thing I hate.

¹⁶But if I do the very thing I do not want to do, I agree with the Law, confessing that the Law has inherent goodness.

¹⁷So now, no longer do I do it, but sin which dwells in me.

¹⁸For I know that nothing good dwells in me, namely, in my flesh; for the willing takes place in me, but the doing of the good does not.

¹⁹For the good that I want, I do not do, but I practice the very evil that I do not want.

²⁰But if I do the very thing I do not want, I no longer do it, but sin which dwells in me.

²¹I find then the principle that evil dwells in me, the one who wants to do good.

²²For I joyfully concur with the law of God in the inner man,

²³but I see a different law in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which dwells in my members.

²⁴Wretched man that I feel myself to have become! Who will set me free from the body of this death?

²⁵We thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, on the one hand I myself with my mind serve the law of God, but on the other, with my flesh the law of sin.

Romans 8

NASB E-Prime DFM

Deliverance from Bondage

¹Therefore there exists now no condemnation for those who dwell in Christ Jesus.

²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.

³For what the Law could not do, weak as it seemed through the flesh, God did: sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and as an offering for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh,

⁴so that the requirement of the Law might receive fulfillment in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.

⁶For the mind set on the flesh leads to death, but the mind set on the Spirit leads to life and peace,

⁷because the mind set on the flesh shows hostility toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it cannot even do so,

⁸and those who live in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹However, you do not dwell in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.

¹⁰If Christ dwells in you, though the body dies because of sin, yet the spirit lives because of righteousness.

¹¹But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit which dwells in you.

¹²So then, brethren, we have obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh--

¹³for if you live according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

¹⁴For all who allow the Spirit of God to lead them constitute the real sons of God.

¹⁵For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!"

¹⁶The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that God considers us His children,

¹⁷and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also receive glorification with Him.

¹⁸For I consider that the sufferings of this present time do not compare with the glory that will take place in us.

¹⁹For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God.

²⁰For the creation suffered subjection to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope

²¹that the creation itself also will have liberation from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

²²For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now.

²³And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our body.

²⁴For in hope we have received salvation, but hope that we see does not have hope; for who hopes for what he already sees?

²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, with perseverance we wait eagerly for it.

Our Victory in Christ

²⁶In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words;

²⁷and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit desires, because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who have received a calling according to His purpose.

²⁹For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would become the firstborn among many brethren;

³⁰and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.

³¹What then shall we say to these things? If God supports us, who can oppose us?

³²He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things?

³³Who will bring a charge against God's elect? God alone justifies;

³⁴who condemns? Christ Jesus died, yes, rather who became raised, who dwells at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us.

³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

³⁶Just as the scripture reads,

" FOR YOUR SAKE WE SUFFER DEATH ALL DAY LONG;
GOD CONSIDERED US AS SHEEP AWAITING SLAUGHTER."

³⁷But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us.

³⁸For I feel convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers,

³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will have the capability of separating us from the love of God, which dwells in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 9

NASB-E Prime DFM

Solicitude for Israel

¹ I tell the truth in Christ, I do not lie, my conscience testifies with me in the Holy Spirit,

²that I have great sorrow and unceasing grief in my heart.

³For I could wish that I myself received a curse, separated from Christ for the sake of my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh,

⁴who have the lineage of Israelites, to whom belongs the adoption as sons, and the glory and the covenants and the giving of the Law and the temple service and the promises,

⁵whose family produce the fathers, and from whom comes the Christ according to the flesh, who rules over all, God (P)blessed forever. Amen.

⁶But it does not seem as though the word of God has failed For they do not constitute all Israel who descend from Israel;

⁷nor can they all claim family membership because they descend from Abraham, but: " THROUGH ISAAC YOUR DESCENDANTS WILL HAVE DESIGNATION."

⁸Namely, it does not depend on fleshly lineage who can claim the title children of God, but the children of the promise can rightfully claim membership in the family.

⁹For this constitutes the word of promise: " AT THIS TIME I WILL COME, AND SARAH SHALL HAVE A SON."

¹⁰And not only this, but Rebekah also, when she had conceived twins by one man, our father Isaac;

¹¹for though the twins had not yet become born and had not done anything good or bad, so that God's purpose according to His choice would stand, not because of works but because of Him who calls,

¹² God said to her, " THE OLDER WILL SERVE THE YOUNGER."

¹³Just as the scriptures read, " JACOB I LOVED, BUT ESAU I HATED."

¹⁴What shall we say then? There exists no injustice with God, does it? May it never happen!

¹⁵For He says to Moses, " I WILL HAVE MERCY ON WHOM I HAVE MERCY, AND I WILL HAVE COMPASSION ON WHOM I HAVE COMPASSION."

¹⁶So then it does not depend on the man who wills or the man who runs, but on God who has mercy.

¹⁷For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, " FOR THIS VERY PURPOSE I RAISED YOU UP, TO DEMONSTRATE MY POWER IN YOU, AND THAT PEOPLE MIGHT PROCLAIM MY NAME THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE EARTH."

¹⁸So then He has mercy on whom He desires, and He hardens whom He desires.

¹⁹You will say to me then, " Why does He still find fault? For who resists His will?"

²⁰On the contrary, who do you presume, O man, who answers back to God? The thing molded will not say to the molder, "Why did you make me like this," will it?

²¹Or does not the potter have a right over the clay, to make from the same lump one vessel for honorable use and another for common use?

²²What if God, although willing to demonstrate His wrath and to make His power known, endured with much patience vessels of wrath prepared for destruction?

²³And He did so to make known the riches of His glory upon vessels of mercy, which He prepared beforehand for glory,

²⁴even us, whom He also called, not from among Jews only, but also from among Gentiles.

²⁵As He says also in Hosea,

" I WILL CALL THOSE WHO I DID NOT CALL MY PEOPLE, 'MY PEOPLE,'
AND HER WHO I HAD NOT LOVED, 'BELOVED.'"

²⁶" AND IT SHALL HAPPEN THAT IN THE PLACE WHERE THE SCRIPTURES SAID TO THEM, 'I DO NOT CALL YOU MY PEOPLE,'
THERE I SHALL CALL THEM SONS OF THE LIVING GOD."

²⁷Isaiah cries out concerning Israel, " THOUGH THE NUMBER OF THE SONS OF ISRAEL AUGMENT LIKE THE SAND OF THE SEA, ONLY THE REMNANT WILL RECEIVE SALVATION;

²⁸FOR THE LORD WILL EXECUTE HIS WORD ON THE EARTH, THOROUGHLY AND QUICKLY."

²⁹And just as Isaiah foretold,

" UNLESS THE LORD OF SABAOTH HAD LEFT TO US A POSTERITY,
WE WOULD HAVE BECOME LIKE SODOM, AND WOULD HAVE RESEMBLED GOMORRAH."

³⁰What shall we say then? That Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, attained righteousness, even the righteousness which comes by faith;

³¹but Israel, pursuing a law of righteousness, did not arrive at that law.

³²Why? Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as though it came by works. They stumbled over the stumbling stone,

³³just as the scriptures read,

" BEHOLD, I LAY IN ZION A STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE,

AND HE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT SUFFER
DISAPPOINTMENT."

Romans 10

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Word of Faith Brings Salvation

¹Brethren, my heart's desire and my prayer to God for them I offer for their salvation.

²For I testify about them that they have a zeal for God, but not in accordance with knowledge.

³For not knowing about God's righteousness and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God.

⁴For Christ serves as the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

⁵For Moses writes that the man who practices the righteousness which has its foundation in the law shall live by that righteousness.

⁶But the righteousness based on faith speaks as follows: " DO NOT SAY IN YOUR HEART, 'WHO WILL ASCEND INTO HEAVEN?' (namely, to bring Christ down),

⁷or 'WHO WILL DESCEND INTO THE ABYSS?' (namely, to bring Christ up from the dead)."

⁸But what does it say? " THE WORD DWELLS NEAR YOU, IN YOUR MOUTH AND IN YOUR HEART"—in other words, the word of faith which we preach,

⁹that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will receive salvation;

¹⁰for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.

¹¹For the Scripture says, " WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT HAVE DISAPPOINTMENT."

¹²For no distinction exists between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord we know as Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him;

¹³for " WHOEVER WILL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL RECEIVE SALVATION."

¹⁴How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher?

¹⁵How will they preach unless someone sends them? Just as the scripture reads, " HOW BEAUTIFUL APPEAR THE FEET OF THOSE WHO BRING GOOD NEWS OF GOOD THINGS!"

¹⁶However, they did not all heed the good news; for Isaiah says, " LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT?"

¹⁷So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.

¹⁸But I say, surely they have never heard, have they? Indeed they have;
" THEIR VOICE HAS GONE OUT INTO ALL THE EARTH,
AND THEIR WORDS TO THE ENDS OF THE WORLD."

¹⁹But I say, surely Israel did not know, did they? First Moses says,
" I WILL MAKE YOU JEALOUS BY THAT WHICH DOES NOT
CONSTITUTE A NATION,
BY A NATION WITHOUT UNDERSTANDING WILL I ANGER YOU."

²⁰And Isaiah became very bold and says,
" PEOPLE WHO DID NOT SEEK ME FOUND ME,
I BECAME MANIFEST TO THOSE WHO DID NOT ASK FOR ME."

²¹But as for Israel He says, " ALL THE DAY LONG I HAVE STRETCHED OUT MY HANDS TO A DISOBEDIENT AND OBSTINATE PEOPLE."

Romans 11

NASB E-Prime DFM

God did not cast Israel Away

¹I say then, God has not rejected His people, has He? May it never happen! For I too come from Israelite stock, a descendant of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin.

²God has not rejected His people whom He foreknew Or do you not know what the Scripture says in the passage about Elijah, how he pleads with God against Israel?

³"Lord, THEY HAVE KILLED YOUR PROPHETS, THEY HAVE TORN DOWN YOUR ALTARS, AND I FEEL ALONE , AND THEY SEEK MY LIFE."

⁴But what does God respond to him? " I HAVE KEPT for Myself SEVEN THOUSAND MEN WHO HAVE NOT BOWED THE KNEE TO BAAL."

⁵In the same way then, there has also come into existence at the present time a remnant according to God's gracious choice.

⁶But if it comes by grace, it can no longer come into existence on the basis of works, otherwise grace does not exist.

⁷What then? What Israel seeks, it has not obtained, but those who God has chosen obtained it, and the rest became hardened;

⁸just as the scriptures read,
" GOD GAVE THEM A SPIRIT OF STUPOR,
EYES TO SEE NOT AND EARS TO HEAR NOT,
DOWN TO THIS VERY DAY."

⁹And David says,
" LET THEIR TABLE BECOME A SNARE AND A TRAP,
AND A STUMBLING BLOCK AND A RETRIBUTION TO THEM.

¹⁰" LET THEIR EYES BECOME DARKENED TO SEE NOT,
AND BEND THEIR BACKS FOREVER."

¹¹I say then, they did not stumble so as to fall, did they? May it never happen! But by their transgression salvation has come to the Gentiles, to make them jealous.

¹²Now if their transgression leads to riches for the world and their failure leads to riches for the Gentiles, how much more will their fulfillment lead to!

¹³But I speak to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I serve as an apostle of Gentiles, I magnify my ministry,

¹⁴if somehow I might move to jealousy my fellow countrymen and save some of them.

¹⁵For if their rejection leads to the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance produce but life from the dead?

¹⁶If God made the first piece of dough holy, He made the lump also; and if the root has holiness, the branches have holiness too.

¹⁷But if God broke some of the branches off, and God grafted you, a wild olive, in among them and became partaker with them of the rich root of the olive tree,

¹⁸do not show arrogance toward the branches; but if you show arrogance, remember that you do not support the root, but the root supports you.

¹⁹You will say then, " God broke the branches off so that He might graft me in."

²⁰Quite right, God broke them off for their unbelief, but you stand by your faith Do not have conceit, but fear;

²¹for if God did not spare the natural branches, He will not spare you, either.

²²Behold then the kindness and severity of God; to those who fell, severity, but to you, God's kindness, if you continue in His kindness; otherwise He will cut you off.

²³And they also, if they do not continue in their unbelief, God will graft them in, for God has the ability to graft them in again.

²⁴For if God cut you from what by nature constitutes a wild olive tree, and grafted you contrary to nature into a cultivated olive tree, how much more will God have the capability of grafting the natural branches into their own olive tree?

²⁵For I do not want you, brethren, to not know of this mystery--so that you will not seem wise in your own estimation--that a partial hardening has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in;

²⁶and so all Israel will receive salvation; just as the scriptures read,

" THE DELIVERER WILL COME FROM ZION,
HE WILL REMOVE UNGODLINESS FROM JACOB."

²⁷"I WILL MAKE MY COVENANT WITH THEM,
WHEN I TAKE AWAY THEIR SINS."

²⁸From the standpoint of the gospel they have become enemies for your sake, but from the standpoint of God's choice He loves them for the sake of the fathers;

²⁹for the gifts and the calling of God do not cease.

³⁰For just as you once disobeyed God, now God shows them mercy because of their disobedience,

³¹so these also now have disobeyed, that because of the mercy shown to you they also may now receive mercy.

³²For God has shut up all in disobedience so that He may show mercy to all.

³³Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable we find His judgments and unfathomable His ways!

³⁴For WHO HAS KNOWN THE MIND OF THE LORD, OR WHO BECAME HIS COUNSELOR?

³⁵Or WHO HAS FIRST GIVEN TO HIM THAT THEY MIGHT PAY IT BACK TO HIM AGAIN?

³⁶For from Him and through Him and to Him exist all things To Him belong the glory forever. Amen.

Romans 12

NASB E-Prime DFM

Dedicated Service

¹Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which constitutes your spiritual service of worship.

²And do not conform to this world, but become transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove the will of God, that which proves good and acceptable and perfect.

³For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith.

⁴For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function,

⁵so we, who appear many, comprise one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

⁶Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, each of us should exercise them accordingly: if prophecy, according to the proportion of his faith;

⁷if service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching;

⁸or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

⁹Let love occur without hypocrisy Abhor evil; cling to good.

¹⁰Show devotion to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor;

¹¹not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord;

¹²rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer,

¹³contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality.

¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.

¹⁶Have the same mind toward one another; do not exercise haughtiness in mind, but associate with the lowly Do not consider yourself wise in your own estimation.

¹⁷Never pay back evil for evil to anyone Respect right in the sight of all men.

¹⁸If possible, so far as it depends on you, remain at peace with all men.

¹⁹Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for the scriptures read, "VENGEANCE BELONGS TO ME, I WILL REPAY," says the Lord.

²⁰" BUT IF YOUR ENEMY HUNGERS, FEED HIM, AND IF HE THIRSTS , GIVE HIM A DRINK; FOR IN SO DOING YOU WILL HEAP BURNING COALS ON HIS HEAD."

²¹Do not let evil overcome you, but overcome evil with good.

Romans 13

NASB E-Prime DFM

Subject yourself to Government

¹Every person should subject himself to the governing authorities For no authority exists except from God, and those which exist God establishes.

²Therefore whoever resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God; and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves.

³For rulers do not cause fear for good behavior, but for evil. Do you want to have no fear of authority? Do good and you will have praise from the same;

⁴for the authority serves as a minister of God to you for good. But if you do evil, have fear; for it does not bear the sword for nothing; for he serves as a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil.

⁵Therefore you should subject yourselves, not only because of wrath, but also for conscience' sake.

⁶For because of this you also pay taxes, for rulers serve God, devoting themselves to this very thing.

⁷Render to all what you owe them: tax to whom you owe taxes; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honor to whom honor.

⁸Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law.

⁹For this, " YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY, YOU SHALL NOT MURDER, YOU SHALL NOT STEAL, YOU SHALL NOT COVET," and if any other commandment exists, we sum it up in this saying, " YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF."

¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love fulfills the law.

¹¹Do this, knowing the time has come, namely the hour for you to awaken from sleep; for now salvation has come nearer to us than when we believed.

¹²The night has almost gone, and the day approaches Therefore let us lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light.

¹³Let us behave properly as in the day, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual promiscuity and sensuality, not in strife and jealousy.

¹⁴But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts.

Romans 14

NASB E-Prime DFM

Principles of Conscience

¹Now accept the one who shows weakness in faith, but not for the purpose of passing judgment on his opinions.

²One person has faith that he may eat all things, but he who has weakness eats vegetables only.

³The one who eats should not regard with contempt the one who does not eat, and the one who does not eat should not judge the one who eats, for God has accepted him.

⁴Why should you presume to judge the servant of another? To his own master he stands or falls; and he will stand, for the Lord can make him stand.

⁵One person regards one day above another, another regards every day alike Each person must convince himself in his own mind.

⁶He who observes the day, observes it for the Lord, and he who eats, does so for the Lord, for he gives thanks to God; and he who eats not, for the Lord he does not eat, and gives thanks to God.

⁷For not one of us lives for himself, and not one dies for himself;

⁸for if we live, we live for the Lord, or if we die, we die for the Lord; therefore whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.

⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, that He might become Lord both of the dead and of the living.

¹⁰But you, why do you judge your brother? Or you again, why do you regard your brother with contempt? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God.

¹¹For the scriptures read,

" AS I LIVE, SAYS THE LORD, EVERY KNEE SHALL BOW TO ME,
AND EVERY TONGUE SHALL GIVE PRAISE TO GOD."

¹²So then each one of us will give an account of himself to God.

¹³Therefore let us not judge one another anymore, but rather determine this-- not to put an obstacle or a stumbling block in a brother's way.

¹⁴I know and have conviction in the Lord Jesus that nothing has uncleanness in itself; but to him who thinks anything unclean, to him it has become unclean.

¹⁵For if because of food you hurt your brother, you no longer walk according to love Do not destroy with your food him for whom Christ died.

¹⁶Therefore do not let what you consider a good thing gain the reputation as evil;

¹⁷for the kingdom of God does not consist of eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

¹⁸For he who in this way serves Christ has made himself acceptable to God and approved by men.

¹⁹So then we pursue the things which make for peace and the building up of one another.

²⁰ Do not tear down the work of God for the sake of food. All things indeed have become clean, but they become evil for the man who eats and gives offense.

²¹ It shows good sense not to eat meat or to drink wine, or to do anything by which your brother stumbles.

²² The faith which you have, have as your own conviction before God. Happy dwells he who does not condemn himself in what he approves.

²³ But he who doubts condemns himself if he eats, because his eating does not come from faith; and whatever does not from faith leads to sin.

Romans 15

NASB E-Prime DFM

Self-denial on Behalf of Others

¹ Now we who have strength ought to bear the weaknesses of those without strength and not just please ourselves.

² Each of us should please his neighbor for his good, to his edification.

³ For even Christ did not please Himself; but as the scriptures read, "THE REPROACHES OF THOSE WHO REPROACHED YOU FELL ON ME."

⁴ For whatever scripture said in earlier times we received for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

⁵ Now may the God who gives perseverance and encouragement grant you to have the same mind with one another according to Christ Jesus,

⁶ so that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷ Therefore, accept one another, just as Christ also accepted us to the glory of God.

⁸ For I say that Christ has become a servant to the circumcision on behalf of the truth of God to confirm the promises given to the fathers,

⁹and for the Gentiles to glorify God for His mercy; as the scriptures read,
" THEREFORE I WILL GIVE PRAISE TO YOU AMONG THE GENTILES,
AND I WILL SING TO YOUR NAME."

¹⁰Again he says,
" REJOICE, O GENTILES, WITH HIS PEOPLE."

¹¹And again,
" PRAISE THE LORD ALL YOU GENTILES,
AND LET ALL THE PEOPLES PRAISE HIM."

¹²Again Isaiah says,
" THERE SHALL COME THE ROOT OF JESSE,
AND HE WHO ARISES TO RULE OVER THE GENTILES,
IN HIM SHALL THE GENTILES HOPE."

¹³Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

¹⁴And concerning you, my brethren, I myself also feel convinced that you yourselves abound in goodness, filled with all knowledge and able also to admonish one another.

¹⁵But I have written very boldly to you on some points so as to remind you again, because of the grace that God gave me ,

¹⁶to serve as a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles, ministering as a priest the gospel of God, so that my offering of the Gentiles may become acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

¹⁷Therefore in Christ Jesus I have found reason for boasting in things pertaining to God.

¹⁸For I will not presume to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me, resulting in the obedience of the Gentiles by word and deed,

¹⁹in the power of signs and wonders, in the power of the Spirit; so that from Jerusalem and round about as far as Illyricum I have fully preached the gospel of Christ.

²⁰And thus I aspired to preach the gospel, not where they already named Christ , so that I would not build on another man's foundation;

²¹but as the scriptures read,
" THEY WHO HAD NO NEWS OF HIM SHALL SEE,
AND THEY WHO HAVE NOT HEARD SHALL UNDERSTAND."

²²For this reason God has often prevented me from coming to you;

²³but now, with no further place for me in these regions, and since I have had for many years a longing to come to you

²⁴whenever I go to Spain--for I hope to see you in passing, and receive help on my way there by you, when I have first enjoyed your company for a while--

²⁵but now, I go to Jerusalem serving the saints.

²⁶For Macedonia and Achaia have willingly made a contribution for the poor among the saints in Jerusalem.

²⁷Yes, they took pleasure in doing so, and they owe a debt to them. For if the Gentiles have shared in their spiritual things, they owe a debt to minister to them also in material things.

²⁸Therefore, when I have finished this, and have put my seal on this fruit of theirs, I will go on by way of you to Spain.

²⁹I know that when I come to you, I will come in the fullness of the blessing of Christ.

³⁰Now I urge you, brethren, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God for me,

³¹that I may receive rescue from those who act disobediently in Judea, and that my service for Jerusalem may prove acceptable to the saints;

³²so that I may come to you in joy by the will of God and find refreshing rest in your company.

³³Now the God of peace remain with you all. Amen.

Romans 16

NASB E-Prime DFM

Greetings and Love Expressed

¹I commend to you our sister Phoebe, who serves the church at Cenchrea;

²that you receive her in the Lord in a manner worthy of the saints, and that you help her in whatever matter she may have need of you; for she herself has also helped many, and of myself as well.

³Greet Prisca and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus,

⁴who for my life risked their own necks, to whom not only do I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles;

⁵also greet the church that meet in their house Greet Epaenetus, my beloved, who came in the first convert to Christ from Asia.

⁶Greet Mary, who has worked hard for you.

⁷Greet Andronicus and Junias, my kinsmen and my fellow prisoners, who have outstanding reputation among the apostles, who also dwelt in Christ before me.

⁸Greet Ampliatus, my beloved in the Lord.

⁹Greet Urbanus, our fellow worker in Christ, and Stachys my beloved.

¹⁰Greet Apelles, the approved in Christ. Greet those who meet in the household of Aristobulus.

¹¹Greet Herodion, my kinsman. Greet those of the household of Narcissus, who dwell in the Lord.

¹²Greet Tryphaena and Tryphosa, workers in the Lord. Greet Persis the beloved, who has worked hard in the Lord.

¹³Greet Rufus, a choice man in the Lord, also his mother and mine.

¹⁴Greet Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes, Patrobas, Hermas and the brethren with them.

¹⁵Greet Philologus and Julia, Nereus and his sister, and Olympas, and all the saints who meet with them.

¹⁶Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ greet you.

¹⁷Now I urge you, brethren, keep your eye on those who cause dissensions and hindrances contrary to the teaching which you learned, and turn away from them.

¹⁸For such men enslave themselves, not of our Lord Christ but of their own appetites; and by their smooth and flattering speech they deceive the hearts of the unsuspecting.

¹⁹For the report of your obedience has reached to all; therefore I rejoice over you, but I want you to have wisdom to do good and innocent in committing evil.

²⁰The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet The grace of our Lord Jesus remain with you.

²¹Timothy my fellow worker greets you, and so do Lucius and Jason and Sosipater, my kinsmen.

²²I, Tertius, who write this letter, greet you in the Lord.

²³Gaius, host to me and to the whole church, greets you Erastus, the city treasurer greets you, and Quartus, the brother.

²⁴[The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ dwell with you all. Amen.]

²⁵Now to Him who can establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery which has stayed a secret for long ages past,

²⁶but now becomes manifest, and by the Scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the eternal God, has become known to all the nations, leading to obedience of faith;

²⁷to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, belong the glory forever.
Amen.

1 Corinthians 1-16

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

Appeal to Unity

¹Paul, called as an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother,

²To the church of God which meets at Corinth, to those who have received sanctification in Christ Jesus, saints by calling, with all who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I thank my God always concerning you for the grace of God which Jesus Christ gave you,

⁵that in everything you received enrichment in Him, in all speech and all knowledge,

⁶even as the testimony concerning Christ received confirmation in you,

⁷so that you do not lack in any gift, awaiting eagerly the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ,

⁸who will also confirm you to the end, blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁹ God remains faithful, through whom you received calling into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

¹⁰ Now I exhort you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all agree and that you should have no divisions among you, but that you may reach consensus in the same mind and in the same judgment.

¹¹ For I have received information concerning you, my brethren, by Chloe's people, that quarrels erupted among you.

¹² Now I mean this, that each one of you say, "I belong to Paul," and "I belong to Apollos," and "I belong to Cephas," and "I of Christ."

¹³ Has Christ become divided? Paul did not submit to crucifixion for you, did he? Or did someone baptize you in the name of Paul?

¹⁴ I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius,

¹⁵ so that no one would say you received baptism in my name.

¹⁶ Now I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized any other.

¹⁷ For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not in cleverness of speech, so that the cross of Christ would not become void.

The Wisdom of God

¹⁸ For the word of the cross seems foolishness to those who perish, but to us who receive salvation, we recognize it as the power of God.

¹⁹ For the scriptures state;

" I WILL DESTROY THE WISDOM OF THE WISE,
AND THE CLEVERNESS OF THE CLEVER I WILL SET ASIDE."

²⁰ Where do we find the wise man? Where do we find the scribe? Where do we find the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

²¹ For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not come to know God, God expressed pleasure through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe.

²² For indeed Jews ask for signs and Greeks search for wisdom;

²³ but we preach Christ crucified, to Jews a stumbling block and to Gentiles foolishness,

²⁴ but to those who have received the calling, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

²⁵ Because the foolishness of God proves wiser than men, and the weakness of God proves stronger than men.

²⁶ For consider your calling, brethren, that God did not call many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble;

²⁷but God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which seem strong,

²⁸and the base things of the world and the despised God has chosen, the things that do not amount to much, so that He may nullify the things that seem to amount to much,

²⁹so that no man may boast before God.

³⁰But by His doing you dwell in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption,

³¹so that, just as the scriptures state, " LET HIM WHO BOASTS, BOAST IN THE LORD."

1 Corinthians 2

NASB E-Prime DFM

Paul's Reliance upon the Spirit

¹And when I came to you, brethren, I did not come with superiority of speech or of wisdom, proclaiming to you the testimony of God.

²For I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified.

³I stayed with you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling,

⁴and my message and my preaching did not come in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power,

⁵so that your faith would not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God.

⁶Yet we do speak wisdom among those who have matured; a wisdom, however, not of this age nor of the rulers of this age, who pass away;

⁷but we speak God's wisdom in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God predestined before the ages to our glory;

⁸the wisdom which none of the rulers of this age has understood; for if they had understood it they would not have crucified the Lord of glory;

⁹but just as the scriptures stated,

" THINGS WHICH EYE HAS NOT SEEN AND EAR HAS NOT HEARD,
AND WHICH HAVE NOT ENTERED THE HEART OF MAN,
ALL THAT GOD HAS PREPARED FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIM."

¹⁰For to us God revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God.

¹¹For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man which resides in him? Even so the thoughts of God no one knows except the Spirit of God.

¹²Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which comes from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God,

¹³which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words.

¹⁴But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they appear foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because one can only spiritually appraise them.

¹⁵But he who has spiritual resources appraises all things, yet no one can appraise him.

¹⁶For WHO HAS KNOWN THE MIND OF THE LORD, THAT HE WILL INSTRUCT HIM? But we have the mind of Christ.

1 Corinthians 3

NASB E-Prime DFM

Foundations for Living

¹And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual men, but as to men of flesh, as to infants in Christ.

²I gave you milk to drink, not solid food; for you could not yet receive it. Indeed, even now you don't seem able to consume it,

³for you still find yourself with fleshly drives. For since jealousy and strife exist among don't you still have flesh, and do you not walk like mere men?

⁴For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," do you aspire to more than mortal humanity?

⁵What then does Apollos represent? And what does Paul represent? Servants through whom you believed, even as the Lord gave opportunity to each one.

⁶ I planted, Apollos watered, but God caused the growth.

⁷So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters consists of anything, but God causes the growth.

⁸Now he who plants and he who waters show a unity of purpose; but each will receive his own reward according to his own labor.

⁹For we serve as God's fellow workers; you represent God's field, God's building.

¹⁰According to the grace of God which He gave to me, like a wise master builder I laid a foundation, and another built on it. But each man must show care how he builds on it.

¹¹For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which God laid, namely Jesus Christ.

¹²Now if any man builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw,

¹³each man's work will become evident; for the day will show it because will become revealed with fire, and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work.

¹⁴If any man's work which he has built on it remains, he will receive a reward.

¹⁵If any man's work burns up, he will suffer loss; but he himself will receive salvation, yet so as through fire.

¹⁶Do you not know that you represent a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?

¹⁷If any man destroys the temple of God, God will destroy him, for the temple of God has holiness, you have holiness too.

¹⁸Let no man deceive himself If any man among you thinks himself wise in this age, he must become foolish, so that he may become wise.

¹⁹For the wisdom of this world proves foolishness before God For the scriptures state, "HE CATCHES THE WISE IN THEIR CRAFTINESS";

²⁰and again, " THE LORD KNOWS THE REASONINGS of the wise, THAT THEY PROVE USELESS."

²¹So then let no one boast in men For all things belong to you,

²² whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or things present or things to come; all things belong to you,

²³ and you belong to Christ; and Christ belongs to God.

1 Corinthians 4

NASB E-Prime DFM

Servants of Christ

¹ Let a man regard us in this manner, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God.

² In this case, moreover, we require of stewards that one should prove trustworthy.

³ But to me it seems a very small thing that you may examine me, or by any human court; in fact, I do not even examine myself.

⁴ For I have not had consciousness of nothing against myself, yet I have not become acquitted by this; but Lord alone examines me.

⁵ Therefore do not go on passing judgment before the time, but wait until the Lord comes, Who will both bring to light the things hidden in the darkness and disclose the motives of men's hearts; and then each man's praise will come to him from God.

⁶ Now these things, brethren, I have figuratively applied to myself and Apollos for your sakes, so that in us you may learn not to exceed what the scripture states, so that no one of you will become arrogant in behalf of one against the other.

⁷ For who regards you as superior? What do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as if you had not received it?

⁸ You have already become filled, you have already become rich, you have become kings without us; and indeed, I wish that you had become kings so that we also might reign with you.

⁹ For, I think, God has exhibited us apostles last of all, as men condemned to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, both to angels and to men.

¹⁰ We have become fools for Christ's sake, but you show prudence in Christ; we seem weak, but you seem strong; you seem distinguished, but we seem without honor.

¹¹ To this present hour we have become both hungry and thirsty, and look poorly clothed, and receive rough treatment, and have no homes;

¹²and we toil, working with our own hands; when we receive revilement, we bless; when we receive persecution, we endure;

¹³when we suffer slander, we try to conciliate; we have become as the scum of the world, the dregs of all things, even until now.

¹⁴I do not write these things to shame you, but to admonish you as my beloved children.

¹⁵For if you would have countless tutors in Christ, yet you would not have many fathers, for in Christ Jesus I became your father through the gospel.

¹⁶Therefore I exhort you, imitate me.

¹⁷For this reason I have sent to you Timothy, who has become my beloved and faithful child in the Lord, and he will remind you of my ways which dwell in Christ, just as I teach everywhere in every church.

¹⁸Now some have become arrogant, as though I did not come to you.

¹⁹But I will come to you soon, if the Lord wills, and I shall find out, not the words of those who arrogantly use their power.

²⁰For the kingdom of God does not consist in words but in power.

²¹What do you desire? Shall I come to you with a rod, or with love and a spirit of gentleness?

1 Corinthians 5

NASB E-Prime DFM

Immorality Rebuked

¹It We have actually heard reports that immorality exists among you, and immorality of such a kind as does not exist even among the Gentiles, that someone has his father's wife.

²You have become arrogant and have not mourned instead, so that the one who had done this deed you would remove him from your midst.

³For I, on my part, though absent in body but present in spirit, have already judged him who has so committed this, as though I had come in your midst.

⁴In the name of our Lord Jesus, when you assemble, and I with you in spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus,

⁵I have decided to deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of his flesh, so that his spirit may receive salvation in the day of the Lord Jesus.

⁶Your boasting does not seem good Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump of dough?

⁷Clean out the old leaven so that you may become a new lump, just as you have in fact become unleavened. For Christ our Passover also suffered sacrifice.

⁸Therefore let us celebrate the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

⁹I wrote you in my letter not to associate with immoral people;

¹⁰I did not at all mean with the immoral people of this world, or with the covetous and swindlers, or with idolaters, for then you would have to go out of the world.

¹¹But actually, I wrote to you not to associate with any so-called brother if he proves an immoral person, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or a swindler--not even to eat with such a one.

¹²For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Do you not judge those who remain within the church?

¹³But those who remain outside, God judges. REMOVE THE WICKED MAN FROM AMONG YOURSELVES.

1 Corinthians 6

NASB E-Prime DFM

Lawsuits Discouraged

¹Does any one of you, when he has a case against his neighbor, dare to go to law before the unrighteous and not before the saints?

²Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world? If you will judge the world, do you not feel competent to constitute the smallest law courts?

³ Do you not know that we will judge angels? How much more matters of this life?

⁴ So if you have law courts dealing with matters of this life, do you appoint them as judges who have no respect in the church?

⁵ I say this to your shame Doesn't any of you have the wisdom to decide between his brethren,

⁶ but brother goes to law with brother, and that before unbelievers?

⁷ Actually, then, you already suffer defeat, that you have lawsuits with one another. Why not rather allow yourself to become wronged? Why not rather allow yourselves to become defrauded?

⁸ On the contrary, you yourselves wrong and defraud. You do this even to your brethren.

⁹ Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not deceive yourselves; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals,

¹⁰ nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God.

¹¹ Some of you used to have this description; but you became washed, but you became sanctified, but you received justification in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.

The Body Belongs to the Lord

¹² All things prove lawful for me, but not all things profit. All things prove lawful for me, but I will not become mastered by anything.

¹³ Food belongs to the stomach and the stomach craves food, but God will do away with both of them Yet the body you should not use for immorality, but for the Lord, and the body belongs to the Lord.

¹⁴ Now God has not only raised the Lord, but will also raise us up through His power.

¹⁵ Do you not know that your bodies belong to the body of Christ? Shall I then take away the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? May it never happen!

¹⁶ Or do you not know that the one who joins himself to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For He says, " THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH."

¹⁷ But the one who joins himself to the Lord becomes one spirit with Him.

¹⁸ Flee immorality. Every other sin that a man commits he commits outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body.

¹⁹Or do you not know that your body you regard as a temple of the Holy Spirit which dwells in you, whom you have from God, and that you do not belong to yourself?

²⁰For God bought you with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

1 Corinthians 7

NASB E-Prime DFM

Teaching on Marriage

¹Now concerning the things about which you wrote, it proves wise for a man not to touch a woman.

²But because of immoralities, each man should have his own wife, and each woman should have her own husband.

³The husband must fulfill his duty to his wife, and likewise also the wife to her husband.

⁴The wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does; and likewise also the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does.

⁵Stop depriving one another, except by agreement for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer, and come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

⁶But this I say by way of concession, not of command.

⁷Yet I wish that all men could live as I do. However, each man has his own gift from God, one in this manner, and another in that.

⁸But I say to the unmarried and to widows that they should remain even as I.

⁹But if they do not have self-control, let them marry; for it shows better sense to marry than to burn with passion.

¹⁰But to the married I give instructions, not I, but the Lord, that the wife should not leave her husband

¹¹(but if she does leave, she must remain unmarried, or else become reconciled to her husband), and that the husband should not divorce his wife.

¹²But to the rest I say, not the Lord, that if any brother has a wife who does not believe, and she consents to live with him, he must not divorce her.

¹³And a woman who has an unbelieving husband, and he consents to live with her, she must not send her husband away.

¹⁴For the unbelieving husband receives sanctification through his wife, and the unbelieving wife receives sanctification through her believing husband; for otherwise people would consider your children unclean, but now people regard them as holy.

¹⁵Yet if the unbelieving one leaves, let him leave; the brother or the sister has not placed themselves under bondage in such cases, but God has called us to peace.

¹⁶For how do you know, O wife, whether you will save your husband? Or how do you know, O husband, whether you will save your wife?

¹⁷Only, as the Lord has assigned to each one, as God has called each, in this manner let him walk And so I direct in all the churches.

¹⁸ Did any man receive a calling when he had already undergone circumcision? He should not try to become uncircumcised. Has anyone receives calling in uncircumcision? He does not have to become circumcised.

¹⁹ Circumcision equates to nothing, and uncircumcision equates to nothing, but what matters consists of the keeping of the commandments of God.

²⁰ Each man must remain in that condition in which he received his calling.

²¹ Did you receive your calling while a slave? Do not worry about it; but if you can become free, rather do that.

²²For he who the Lord called when he still served as a slave, becomes the Lord's freedman; likewise he who received his calling as a free person becomes Christ's slave.

²³ God bought you with a price; do not become slaves of men.

²⁴Brethren, each one should remain with God in that condition in which he received his calling.

²⁵Now concerning virgins I have no command of the Lord, but I give an opinion as one who by the mercy of the Lord proves trustworthy.

²⁶I think then that this seems good in view of the present distress, that it seems good for a man to remain as he finds himself now.

²⁷ Have you bound yourself to a wife? Do not seek release. Have you released yourself from a wife? Do not seek a wife.

²⁸But if you marry, you have not sinned; and if a virgin marries, she has not sinned. Yet such will have trouble in this life, and I have tried to spare you.

²⁹But this I say, brethren, the time has shortened, so that from now on those who have wives should live as though they had none;

³⁰and those who weep, as though they did not weep; and those who rejoice, as though they did not rejoice; and those who buy, as though they did not possess;

³¹and those who use the world, as though they did not make full use of it; for the form of this world passes away.

³²But I want you to have freedom from concern. One who remains unmarried has the opportunity to concern himself about the things of the Lord, how he may please the Lord;

³³but one who marries concerns himself about the things of the world, how he may please his wife,

³⁴and his interests become divided. The woman who has not yet married, and the virgin, concerns herself about the things of the Lord, that she may demonstrate holiness both in body and spirit; but one who has married concerns herself about the things of the world, how she may please her husband.

³⁵This I say for your own benefit; not to put a restraint upon you, but to promote what we consider appropriate and to secure undistracted devotion to the Lord.

³⁶But if any man thinks that he acts unbecomingly toward his virgin daughter, if she has passed her youth, and if it must take place so, let him do what he wishes, he does not sin; let her marry.

³⁷But he who stands firm in his heart, feeling no constraint, but has authority over his own will, and has decided this in his own heart, to keep his own virgin daughter, he will do well.

³⁸So then both he who gives his own virgin daughter in marriage does well, and he who does not give her in marriage will do better.

³⁹A wife has bound herself as long as her husband lives; but if her husband dies, she has the freedom to marry whom she wishes, only in the Lord.

⁴⁰But in my opinion she remains happier if she remains single; and I think that I also have the Spirit of God.

1 Corinthians 8

NASB E-Prime DFM

Take Care with Your Liberty

¹Now concerning things sacrificed to idols, we know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge makes arrogant, but love edifies.

²If anyone supposes that he knows anything, he has not yet known as he ought to know;

³but if anyone loves God, God knows him.

⁴Therefore concerning the eating of things sacrificed to idols, we know that we don't recognize any such thing as an idol in the world, and that we have only one God.

⁵For even if people have so-called gods whether in heaven or on earth, as indeed people have many gods and many lords,

⁶yet for us we have but one God, the Father, from whom come all things and we exist for Him; and one Lord, Jesus Christ, by whom come all things, and we exist through Him.

⁷However not all men have this knowledge; but some, having become accustomed to the idol until now, eat food as if we had sacrificed to an idol; and their weak conscience being becomes defiled.

⁸But food will not commend us to God; we do not make ourselves neither the worse if we do not eat, nor the better if we do eat.

⁹But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak.

¹⁰For if someone sees you, who have knowledge, dining in an idol's temple, will not his conscience, if he has weakness, have the boldness to eat things sacrificed to idols?

¹¹For through your knowledge he who has a weakness becomes ruined, the brother for whose sake Christ died.

¹²And so, by sinning against the brethren and wounding their conscience when it has weakness, you sin against Christ.

¹³Therefore, if food causes my brother to stumble, I will never eat meat again, so that I will not cause my brother to stumble.

1 Corinthians 9

NASB E-Prime DFM

Paul's Use of Liberty

¹Do I not have freedom? Do I not serve as an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Do you not represent my work in the Lord?

²If others do not regard me as an apostle, at least I you do; for you represent the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

³My defense to those who examine me consists of this:

⁴Do we not have a right to eat and drink?

⁵Do we not have a right to take along a believing wife, even as the rest of the apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas?

⁶Or do only Barnabas and I not have a right to refrain from working?

⁷Who at any time serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat the fruit of it? Or who tends a flock and does not use the milk of the flock?

⁸I do not speak these things according to human judgment, do I? Or does not the Law also say these things?

⁹For the scriptures read in the Law of Moses, " YOU SHALL NOT MUZZLE THE OX WHILE HE THRESHES " God does not concern Himself about oxen, does He?

¹⁰Or does He speak altogether for our sake? Yes, for our sake it appeared in scripture, because the plowman ought to plow in hope, and the thresher to thresh in hope of sharing the crops.

¹¹If we sowed spiritual things in you, does it seem too much if we reap material things from you?

¹²If others share the right over you, do we not more? Nevertheless, we did not use this right, but we endure all things so that we will cause no hindrance to the gospel of Christ.

¹³Do you not know that those who perform sacred services eat the food of the temple, and those who attend regularly to the altar have their share from the altar?

¹⁴So also the Lord directed those who proclaim the gospel to get their living from the gospel.

¹⁵But I have used none of these things And I do not write these things so that it happen in my case; for I would rather die than have any man make my boast an empty one.

¹⁶For if I preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast of, for I feel under compulsion; for woe to me if I do not preach the gospel.

¹⁷For if I do this voluntarily, I have a reward; but if against my will, I have a stewardship entrusted to me.

¹⁸What then constitutes my reward? That, when I preach the gospel, I may offer the gospel without charge, so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel.

¹⁹For though I have freedom from all men, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I may win more.

²⁰To the Jews I became as a Jew, so that I might win Jews; to those who are under the Law, as under the Law though not considering myself under the Law, so that I might win those who live under the Law;

²¹to those who live without law, as without law, though not living without the law of God but under the law of Christ, so that I might win those who don't have law.

²²To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak; I have become all things to all men, so that I may by all means save some.

²³I do all things for the sake of the gospel, so that I may become a fellow partaker of it.

²⁴Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win.

²⁵Everyone who competes in the games exercises self-control in all things. They then do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable.

²⁶Therefore I run in such a way, as not without aim; I box in such a way, as not beating the air;

²⁷but I discipline my body and make it my slave, so that, after I have preached to others, I myself will not receive disqualification.

1 Corinthians 10

NASB E-Prime DFM

Avoid Israel's Mistakes

¹For I do not want you to have ignorance, brethren, that our fathers all passed under the cloud and all passed through the sea;

²and all received baptism into Moses in the cloud and in the sea;

³and all ate the same spiritual food;

⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink, for they drank from a spiritual rock which followed them; and the rock we have identified as Christ.

⁵Nevertheless, with most of them God did not feel pleased; for they met their demise in the wilderness.

⁶Now these things happened as examples for us, so that we would not crave evil things as they also craved.

⁷Do not become idolaters, as some of them practiced ; as the scriptures say, " THE PEOPLE SAT DOWN TO EAT AND DRINK, AND STOOD UP TO PLAY."

⁸Nor let us act immorally, as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in one day.

⁹Nor let us try the Lord, as some of them did, and suffered destruction by the serpents.

¹⁰Nor grumble, as some of them did, and suffered destruction by the destroyer.

¹¹Now these things happened to them as an example, and ^(I)they appeared in scripture for our instruction, upon whom ^(U)the ends of the ages have come.

¹²Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed that he does not fall.

¹³No temptation has overtaken you but such as we see common to man; and God demonstrates faithfulness, who will not allow you to endure temptation beyond what you can endure able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will have the capability to endure it.

¹⁴Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry.

¹⁵I speak as to wise men; you judge what I say.

¹⁶ Can we not consider it the cup of blessing which we shared in the blood of Christ? Can we not consider the bread which we had broken sharing in the body of Christ?

¹⁷Since there exists one bread, we who have grown to many become one body; for we all partake of the one bread.

¹⁸Look at the nation Israel; do not those who eat the sacrifices share in the altar?

¹⁹What do I mean then? That a thing sacrificed to idols amounts to anything, or that an idol amounts to anything?

²⁰No, but I say that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons and not to God; and I do not want you to become sharers in demons.

²¹ You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons.

²²Or do we provoke the Lord to jealousy? We do not have more strength than He, do we?

²³ All things I deem lawful, but not all things profit. All things I deem as lawful, but not all things edify.

²⁴ Let no one seek his own good, but that of his neighbor.

²⁵ Eat anything that you buy in the meat market without asking questions for conscience' sake;

²⁶ FOR THE EARTH BELONGS TO THE LORD, AND ALL IT CONTAINS.

²⁷ If one of the unbelievers invites you and you want to go, eat anything that people set before you without asking questions for conscience' sake.

²⁸ But if anyone says to you, "This meat we sacrificed to idols," do not eat it, for the sake of the one who informed you, and for conscience' sake;

²⁹ I mean not your own conscience, but the other man's; for why should my freedom receive judgment by another's conscience?

³⁰ If I partake with thankfulness, why do people slander me for which I give thanks?

³¹ Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

³² Give no offense either to Jews or to Greeks or to the church of God;

³³ just as I also please all men in all things, not seeking my own profit but the profit of the many, so that they may receive salvation.

1 Corinthians 11

NASB E-Prime DFM

Christian Order

¹ Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.

² Now I praise you because you remember me in everything and hold firmly to the traditions, just as I delivered them to you.

³ But I want you to understand that Christ serves as the head of every man, and the man serves as the head of a woman, and God serves as the head of Christ.

⁴ Every man who has something on his head while praying or prophesying disgraces his head.

⁵But every woman who has her head uncovered while praying or prophesying disgraces her head, for she behaves the same as the woman who shaves her head.

⁶For if a woman does not cover her head, let her also have her hair cut off; but if it seems disgraceful for a woman to have her hair cut off or her head shaved, let her cover her head.

⁷For a man ought not to have his head covered, since he reflects the image and glory of God; but the woman reflects the glory of man.

⁸For man does not derive from woman, but woman from man;

⁹for indeed man did not become created for the woman's sake, but woman for the man's sake.

¹⁰Therefore the woman ought to have a symbol of authority on her head, because of the angels.

¹¹However, in the Lord, neither does woman make herself independent of man, nor does man make himself independent of woman.

¹²For as the woman originates from the man, so also the man has his birth through the woman; and all things originate from God.

¹³Judge for yourselves: does it seem proper for a woman to pray to God with her head uncovered?

¹⁴Does not even nature itself teach you that if a man has long hair, it dishonors him,

¹⁵but if a woman has long hair, it glorifies her? For her hair serves as her covering.

¹⁶But if one feels inclined to act contentiously, we have no other practice, nor have the churches of God.

¹⁷But in giving this instruction, I do not praise you, because you come together not for the better but for the worse.

¹⁸For, in the first place, when you come together as a church, I hear that divisions exist among you; and in part I believe it.

¹⁹For there must also develop factions among you, so that those who God approves may become evident among you.

²⁰Therefore when you meet together, you do not do so to eat the Lord's Supper,

²¹for in your eating each one takes his own supper first; and one feels hungry and another gets drunk.

²²What! Do you not have houses in which to eat and drink? Or do you despise the church of God and shame those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you? In this I will not praise you.

The Lord's Supper

²³For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus in the night in which He suffered betrayal took bread;

²⁴and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This represents My body, which I give for you; do this in remembrance of Me."

²⁵In the same way He took the cup also after supper, saying, "This cup represents the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

²⁶For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

²⁷Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner, shall have guilt of the body and the blood of the Lord.

²⁸But a man must examine himself, and in so doing he will eat of the bread and drink of the cup.

²⁹For he who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself if he does not judge the body rightly.

³⁰For this reason many among you have become weak and sick, and a number sleep.

³¹But if we judged ourselves rightly, we would not receive judgment.

³²But when we receive judgment, we receive discipline by the Lord so that we will not receive condemnation along with the world.

³³So then, my brethren, when you come together to eat, wait for one another.

³⁴If anyone hungers, let him eat at home, so that you will not come together for judgment. The remaining matters I will arrange when I come.

1 Corinthians 12

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Use of Spiritual Gifts

¹Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to remain ignorant.

²You know that when you lived as pagans, they led you to the mute idols, however you became led.

³Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus receives a curse"; and no one can say, "I acknowledge Jesus as Lord," except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴Now there exist varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit.

⁵And there exist varieties of ministries, and the same Lord.

⁶There exist varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons.

⁷But to each one God gives the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

⁸For to one the Lord gives the word of wisdom through the Spirit, and to another the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit;

⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, and to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit,

¹⁰and to another the effecting of miracles, and to another prophecy, and to another the distinguishing of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues.

¹¹But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.

¹²For even as the body consists of one entity and yet has many members, and all the members of the body, though they have grown to many, constitute one body, so also does Christ.

¹³For by one Spirit we all received baptism into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we all drank of one Spirit.

¹⁴For the body does not constitute one member, but many.

¹⁵If the foot says, "Because I cannot function as a hand, I do not belong to the body," it does not for this reason become any the less a part of the body.

¹⁶And if the ear says, "Because I do not function as an eye, I do not belong to the body," it does not for this reason consist of any the less a part of the body.

¹⁷If the whole body functioned as an eye, where would the hearing come from? If the whole consisted of hearing, where would the sense of smell come from?

¹⁸But now God has placed the members, each one of them, in the body, just as He desired.

¹⁹If they all consisted of one member, where would the body form?

²⁰But now there exist many members, but one body.

²¹And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"; or again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you."

²²On the contrary, it seems much truer that the members of the body which seem to have weakness have necessity;

²³and those members of the body which we deem less honorable, on these we bestow more abundant honor, and our less presentable members become much more presentable,

²⁴whereas our more presentable members have no need of it. But God has so composed the body, giving more abundant honor to that member which lacked,

²⁵so that there may exist no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another.

²⁶And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if one member receives honor, all the members rejoice with it.

²⁷Now you belong to Christ's body, and individually members of it.

²⁸And God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, various kinds of tongues.

²⁹All do not function as apostles, do they? All do not function as prophets, do they? All do not function as teachers, do they? All do not work miracles, do they?

³⁰All do not have gifts of healings, do they? All do not speak with tongues, do they? All do not interpret, do they?

³¹But earnestly desire the greater gifts. And I show you a still more excellent way.

1 Corinthians 13

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Excellence of Love

¹If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I

²If I become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I become nothing.

³And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor, and if I surrender my body to become burned, but do not have love, it profits me nothing.

⁴Love has patience, love has kindness and does not act jealously; love does not brag and does not become arrogant,

⁵does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, does not become provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered,

⁶does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth;

⁷bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸Love never fails; but if one has gifts of prophecy, they will disappear; if people have tongues, they will cease; if they have knowledge, it will dissipate.

⁹For we know in part and we prophesy in part;

¹⁰but when the perfect comes, the partial will disappear.

¹¹When I lived a child, I used to speak like a child, think like a child, reason like a child; when I became a man, I did away with childish things.

¹²For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face; now I know in part, but then I will know fully just as I also have become fully known.

¹³But now faith, hope, love, abide these three; but the greatest of these consists of love.

1 Corinthians 14

NASB E-Prime DFM

Prophecy a Superior Gift

¹Pursue love, yet desire earnestly spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy.

²For one who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God; for no one understands, but in his spirit he speaks mysteries.

³But one who prophesies speaks to men for edification and exhortation and consolation.

⁴One who speaks in a tongue edifies himself; but one who prophesies edifies the church.

⁵Now I wish that you all spoke in tongues, but even more that you would prophesy; and greater proves one who prophesies than one who speaks in tongues, unless he interprets, so that the church may receive edifying.

⁶But now, brethren, if I come to you speaking in tongues, what will I profit you unless I speak to you either by way of revelation or of knowledge or of prophecy or of teaching?

⁷Yet even lifeless things, either flute or harp, in producing a sound, if they do not produce a distinction in the tones, how will people know what one plays on the flute or on the harp?

⁸For if the bugle produces an indistinct sound, who will prepare himself for battle?

⁹So also you, unless you utter by the tongue speech that which sounds clear, how will people know what you speak? For you will speak into the air.

¹⁰There exist, perhaps, a great many kinds of languages in the world, and no kind exists without meaning.

¹¹If then I do not know the meaning of the language, I will seem to the one who speaks a barbarian, and the one who speaks will seem a barbarian to me.

¹²So also you, since you desire spiritual gifts, seek to abound for the edification of the church.

¹³Therefore let one who speaks in a tongue pray that he may interpret.

¹⁴For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind proves unfruitful.

¹⁵What constitutes the outcome then? I will pray with the spirit and I will pray with the mind also; I will sing with the spirit and I will sing with the mind also.

¹⁶Otherwise if you bless in the spirit only, how will the one who fills the place of the ungifted say the "Amen" at your giving of thanks, since he does not know what you say?

¹⁷For you give thanks well enough, but the other person does not receive edification.

¹⁸I thank God, I speak in tongues more than you all;

¹⁹however, in the church I desire to speak five words with my mind so that I may instruct others also, rather than ten thousand words in a tongue.

Instruction for the Church

²⁰Brethren, do not act like children in your thinking; yet in evil imitate infants, but in your thinking demonstrate maturity.

²¹In the Law it the scripture says, " BY MEN OF STRANGE TONGUES AND BY THE LIPS OF STRANGERS I WILL SPEAK TO THIS PEOPLE, AND EVEN SO THEY WILL NOT LISTEN TO ME," says the Lord.

²²So then tongues serve as a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers; but prophecy serves as a sign, not to unbelievers but to those who believe.

²³Therefore if the whole church assembles together and all speak in tongues, and ungifted men or unbelievers enter, will they not say that you appear mad?

²⁴But if all prophesy, and an unbeliever or an ungifted man enters, he receives conviction by all, he receives a calling to account by all;

²⁵the secrets of his heart become disclosed; and so he will fall on his face and worship God, declaring that God dwells certainly among you.

²⁶What happens then, brethren? When you assemble, each one has a psalm, has a teaching, has a revelation, has a tongue, has an interpretation. Let all things occur for edification.

²⁷If anyone speaks in a tongue, it should occur by two or at the most three, and each in turn, and one must interpret;

²⁸but if one can find no interpreter, he must keep silent in the church; and let him speak to himself and to God.

²⁹Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others pass judgment.

³⁰But if one makes a revelation to another who sits, the first one must keep silent.

³¹For you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all may receive exhortation;

³²and the prophets keep under their under control;

³³for God does not rule in confusion but in peace, as in all the churches of the saints.

³⁴The women should keep silent in the churches; for they do not have permission to speak, but should subject themselves, just as the Law also says.

³⁵If they desire to learn anything, let them ask their own husbands at home; for it seems improper for a woman to speak in church.

³⁶Did it come from you that the word of God first went forth? Or has it come to you only?

³⁷If anyone thinks he functions as a prophet or spiritual, let him recognize that the things which I write to you come from the Lord's commandment.

³⁸But if anyone does not recognize this, he will not receive recognition.

³⁹Therefore, my brethren, desire earnestly to prophesy, and do not forbid to speak in tongues.

⁴⁰But all things must occur properly and in an orderly manner.

1 Corinthians 15

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Fact of Christ's Resurrection

¹Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand,

²by which also you receive salvation, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain.

³For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,

⁴and that He became buried, and that God raise Him on the third day according to the Scriptures,

⁵and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.

⁶After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep;

⁷then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles;

⁸and last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared to me also.

⁹For I consider myself the least of the apostles, and not fit to receive the calling as an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

¹⁰But by the grace of God I have turned into what I have turned into, and His grace toward me did not prove vain; but I labored even more than all of them, yet not I, but the grace of God with me.

¹¹Whether then it came from me or them, so we preach and so you believed.

¹²Now if we preach Christ, that He God has raised Him from the dead, how do some among you say that no resurrection of the dead will occur?

¹³But if we have no resurrection of the dead, not even Christ has undergone resurrection;

¹⁴and if Christ has not undergone resurrection, then we preached in vain, your faith also has proved vain.

¹⁵Moreover people can charge us as false witnesses of God, because we testified against God that He raised Christ, whom He did not raise, if in fact the dead will not undergo resurrection.

¹⁶For if the dead do not rise, not even Christ has risen;

¹⁷and if Christ has not risen, your faith proves worthless; you still remain in your sins.

¹⁸Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.

¹⁹If we have hoped in Christ in this life only, we of all men should receive pity.

The Order of Resurrection

²⁰But now Christ has risen from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

²¹For since by a man came death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead.

²²For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ God will make alive.

²³But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who belong to Christ at His coming,

²⁴then comes the end, when He hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power.

²⁵For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet.

²⁶The last enemy that He will abolish we recognize as death.

²⁷For HE HAS PUT ALL THINGS IN SUBJECTION UNDER HIS FEET But when He says, " All things He put in subjection," it has become evident that He remains excepted who put all things in subjection to Him.

²⁸When all things become subjected to Him, then the Son Himself also will subject Himself to the One who subjected all things to Him, so that God may become all in all.

²⁹Otherwise, what will those do who receive baptism for the dead? If the dead do not rise at all, why then do they baptize for them?

³⁰Why do we find ourselves also in danger every hour?

³¹I affirm, brethren, by the boasting in you which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily.

³²If from human motives I fought with wild beasts at Ephesus, what does it profit me? If the dead do not come to life, LET US EAT AND DRINK, FOR TOMORROW WE DIE.

³³Do not deceive yourselves: "Bad company corrupts good morals."

³⁴Become sober-minded as you ought, and stop sinning; for some have no knowledge of God I speak this to your shame.

³⁵But someone will say, "How do the dead rise? And with what kind of body do they come?"

³⁶You fool! That which you sow does not come to life unless it dies;

³⁷and that which you sow, you do not sow the body which will eventually form, but a bare grain, perhaps of wheat or of something else.

³⁸But God gives it a body just as He wished, and to each of the seeds a body of its own.

³⁹All flesh does not have the same composition, but one flesh appears in men, and another flesh of beasts, and another flesh of birds, and another of fish.

⁴⁰There appear also heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly manifests itself one way, and the glory of the earthly manifests itself another way.

⁴¹There exists one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory.

⁴²So also resembles the resurrection of the dead It becomes sown in a perishable body, it becomes raised in an imperishable body;

⁴³it becomes sown in dishonor, it becomes raised in glory; it becomes sown in weakness, it becomes raised in power;

⁴⁴it becomes sown a natural body, it becomes raised a spiritual body. If a natural body exists, there will also emerge a spiritual body.

⁴⁵So also the scriptures say, "The first MAN, Adam, BECAME A LIVING SOUL" The last Adam became a life-giving spirit.

⁴⁶However, the spiritual does not come first, but the natural; then the spiritual.

⁴⁷The first man comes from the earth, earthy; the second man comes from heaven.

⁴⁸As exists the earthy, so also exists those who consists of the earthy; and as exists the heavenly, so also exist the heavenly.

⁴⁹Just as we have borne the image of the earthy, we will also bear the image of the heavenly.

The Mystery of Resurrection

⁵⁰Now I say this, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

⁵¹Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all undergo change,

⁵²in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and God will raise the dead imperishable, and we will undergo change.

⁵³For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality.

⁵⁴But when this perishable will have put on the imperishable, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that the scriptures say, " LIFE SWALLOWS DEATH UP in victory.

⁵⁵" O DEATH, WHERE DO YOU FIND YOUR VICTORY? O DEATH, WHERE DOES YOUR STING OCCUR?"

⁵⁶The sting of death comes from sin, and the power of sin comes from the law;

⁵⁷but thanks goes to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁵⁸Therefore, my beloved brethren, remain steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that you toil not in vain in the Lord.

1 Corinthians 16

NASB E-Prime DFM

Instructions and Greetings

¹Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I directed the churches of Galatia, so do you also.

²On the first day of every week each one of you should put aside and save, as he may prosper, so that no collections should take place when I come.

³When I arrive, whomever you may approve, I will send them with letters to carry your gift to Jerusalem;

⁴and if it fits me to go also, they will go with me.

⁵But I will come to you after I go through Macedonia, for I will travel through Macedonia;

⁶and perhaps I will stay with you, or even spend the winter, so that you may send me on my way wherever I may go.

⁷For I do not wish to see you now just in passing; for I hope to remain with you for some time, if the Lord permits.

⁸But I will remain in Ephesus until Pentecost;

⁹for a wide door for effective service has opened to me, and many adversaries have appeared.

¹⁰Now if Timothy comes, see that he dwells with you without cause to have fear, for he does the Lord's work, as I also do.

¹¹So let no one despise him But send him on his way in peace, so that he may come to me; for I expect him with the brethren.

¹²But concerning Apollos our brother, I encouraged him greatly to come to you with the brethren; and he did not desire to come now, but he will come when he has opportunity.

¹³ Stay on alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men, remain strong.

¹⁴Let all that you do take place in love.

¹⁵Now I urge you, brethren (you know the household of Stephanas, that they counted themselves the first fruits of Achaia, and that they have devoted themselves for ministry to the saints),

¹⁶that you also subject yourselves to such men and to everyone who helps in the work and labors.

¹⁷I rejoice over the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus, because they have supplied what you lacked.

¹⁸For they have refreshed my spirit and yours Therefore acknowledge such men.

¹⁹The churches of Asia greet you Aquila and Prisca greet you heartily in the Lord, with the church that meets in their house.

²⁰All the brethren greet you. Greet one another with a holy kiss.

²¹The greeting I write in my own hand--Paul.

²²If anyone does not love the Lord, he should receive a curse Maranatha.

²³The grace of the Lord Jesus go with you.

²⁴My love go with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

2 Corinthians 1-13

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

Introduction

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, To the church of God which meets at Corinth with all the saints who live throughout Achaia:

² Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³ We bless the name of God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort,

⁴who comforts us in all our affliction so that can comfort those who have any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves receive comfort from God.

⁵For just as the sufferings of Christ have become abundantly ours , so also we receive abundant comfort through Christ.

⁶But if we suffer affliction, we have received it for your comfort and salvation; or if we receive comfort, we receive comfort for you, which proves effective in the patient enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer;

⁷and our hope for you we acknowledge as firmly grounded, knowing that as you share our sufferings, so also you share in our comfort.

⁸For we do not want you to have ignorance, brethren, of our affliction which came to us in Asia, that we felt burdened excessively, beyond our strength, so that we despaired even of life;

⁹indeed, we had the sentence of death within ourselves so that we would not trust in ourselves, but in God who raises the dead;

¹⁰who delivered us from so great a peril of death, and will deliver us, He on whom we have set our hope. And He will yet deliver us,

¹¹your also joining in helping us through your prayers, so that many persons may give thanks on our behalf for the favor bestowed on us through the prayers of many.

Paul's Integrity

¹²For our proud confidence consists in this: the testimony of our conscience, that in holiness and godly sincerity, not in fleshly wisdom but in the grace of God, we have conducted ourselves in the world, and especially toward you.

¹³For we write nothing else to you than what you read and understand, and I hope you will understand until the end;

¹⁴just as you also partially did understand us, that we represent your reason to feel proud as you belong to us, in the day of our Lord Jesus.

¹⁵In this confidence I intended at first to come to you, so that you might twice receive a blessing;

¹⁶ namely, to pass your way into Macedonia, and again from Macedonia to come to you, and by you to receive help on my journey to Judea.

¹⁷Therefore, I had not vacillated when I intended to do this, did I? Or what I purpose, do I purpose according to the flesh, so that with me we will have yes, yes and no, no at the same time?

¹⁸But as God demonstrates faithfulness, our word to you has not become yes and no.

¹⁹For the Son of God, Christ Jesus, who Silvanus, Timothy, and I preached among you—did not consist of yes and no, but only yes in Him.

²⁰For as many promises God has made, in Him they become yes; therefore also through Him we recognize our Amen to the glory of God through us.

²¹Now God establishes us and anointed us with you in Christ,

²²who have sealed us and gave us the Spirit in our hearts as a pledge.

²³But I call God as witness to my soul, that to spare you I did not come again to Corinth.

²⁴Not that we lord it over your faith, but work with you for your joy; for in your faith you stand firm.

2 Corinthians 2

NASB E-Prime DFM

Reaffirm Your Love

¹But I determined this for my own sake, that I would not come to you in sorrow again.

²For if I cause you sorrow, who then makes me glad but the one whom I made sorrowful?

³This very thing I wrote you, so that when I came, I would not have sorrow from those who ought to make me rejoice; having confidence in you all that my joy would radiate to you all.

⁴For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote to you with many tears; not so that you would sorrow, but that you might know the love which I have especially for you.

⁵But if any has caused sorrow, he has caused sorrow not to me, but in some degree--in order not to say too much--to all of you.

⁶Sufficient for such a one do we regard this punishment which the majority inflicted,

⁷so that on the contrary you should rather forgive and comfort him, otherwise such a one might succumb to excessive sorrow.

⁸Wherefore I urge you to reaffirm your love for him.

⁹For to this end also I wrote, so that I might put you to the test, whether you obey in all things.

¹⁰But one whom you forgive anything, I forgive also; for indeed what I have forgiven, if I have forgiven anything, I did it for your sakes in the presence of Christ,

¹¹so that no one would take advantage of us by Satan, for we have no ignorance of his schemes.

¹²Now when I came to Troas for the gospel of Christ and when a door opened for me in the Lord,

¹³I had no rest for my spirit, not finding Titus my brother; but taking my leave of them, I went on to Macedonia.

¹⁴But I thank God, who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and manifests through us the sweet aroma of the knowledge of Him in every place.

¹⁵For have become a fragrance of Christ to God among those who receive salvation and among those who perish;

¹⁶to the one an aroma from death to death, to the other an aroma from life to life And who proves adequate for these things?

¹⁷For we do not like many, peddle the word of God, but as from sincerity, but as from God, we speak in Christ in the sight of God.

2 Corinthians 3

NASB E-Prime DFM

Ministers of a New Covenant

¹Do we begin to commend ourselves again? Or do we need, as some, letters of commendation to you or from you?

²You represent our letter, written in our hearts, known and read by all men;

³ We maintain that you constitute a letter of Christ, cared for by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.

⁴Such confidence we have through Christ toward God.

⁵Not that we feel adequate in ourselves to consider anything as coming from ourselves, but our adequacy derives from God,

⁶who also made us adequate as servants of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

⁷But if the ministry of death, in letters engraved on stones, came with glory, so that the sons of Israel could not look intently at the face of Moses because of the glory of his face, fading as it seemed,

⁸how will the ministry of the Spirit fail to appear even more glorious?

⁹For if the ministry of condemnation has glory, much more does the ministry of righteousness abound in glory.

¹⁰For indeed what had glory, in this case has no glory because of the glory that surpasses it.

¹¹For if that which fades away came with glory, much more that which remains does so in glory.

¹²Therefore having such a hope, we use great boldness in our speech,

¹³and do not behave like Moses, who used to put a veil over his face so that the sons of Israel would not look intently at the end of what would fade away.

¹⁴But their minds became hardened; for until this very day at the reading of the old covenant the same veil remains unlifted, because Christ removes it .

¹⁵But to this day whenever they read Moses, a veil lies over their heart;

¹⁶ but whenever a person turns to the Lord, the Lord takes away the veil .

¹⁷Now the Lord consists of Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord dwells, there dwells liberty.

¹⁸But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, will undergo transformation into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.

2 Corinthians 4

NASB E-Prime DFM

Paul's Apostolic Ministry

¹Therefore, since we have this ministry, as we received mercy, we do not lose heart,

²but we have renounced the things hidden because of shame, not walking in craftiness or adulterating the word of God, but by the manifestation of truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

³And even if we veil our gospel, we veil it to those who perish,

⁴in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who constitutes the image of God.

⁵For we do not preach ourselves but Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your bond-servants for Jesus' sake.

⁶For God, who said, " Light shall shine out of darkness," has become the One who has shown in our hearts to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

⁷But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, so that the surpassing greatness of the power will emanate from God and not from ourselves;

⁸we have suffered affliction in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing;

⁹persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed;

¹⁰always carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus also may manifest in our body.

¹¹For we who live receive constant deliverance over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may manifest in our mortal flesh.

¹²So death works in us, but life in you.

¹³But having the same spirit of faith, according to what the scriptures say, "I BELIEVED, THEREFORE I SPOKE," we also believe, therefore we also speak,

¹⁴knowing that He who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and will present us with you.

¹⁵For all things occur for your sakes, so that the grace which has spread to more and more people may cause the giving of thanks to abound to the glory of God.

¹⁶Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man decays, yet our inner man renews day by day.

¹⁷For momentary, light affliction produces for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison,

¹⁸while we look not at the things which we see, but at the things which we don't see; for the things which we see prove temporal, but the things which we don't see prove eternal.

While we look not at the things which we see, but at the things which we don't see; for the things which we see prove temporal, but the things which we don't see prove eternal.

2 Corinthians 5

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Temporal and Eternal

¹For we know that if the earthly tent which serves as our house becomes torn down, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

²For indeed in this house we groan, longing to become clothed with our dwelling from heaven,

³inasmuch as we, having put it on, will not find ourselves naked.

⁴For indeed while we dwell in this tent, we groan, feeling burdened, because we do not want to feel unclothed but to feel clothed, so that what we know as mortal will become swallowed up by life.

⁵Now God prepared us for this very purpose, who gave to us the Spirit as a pledge.

⁶Therefore, always having of good courage, and knowing that while we dwell at home in the body we find ourselves absent from the Lord--

⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight--

⁸we have good courage, I say, and prefer rather to remain absent from the body and to become at home with the Lord.

⁹Therefore we also have as our ambition, whether at home or absent, to please Him.

¹⁰For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive recompense for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

¹¹Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade men, but we becoming manifest to God; and I hope that we manifest also in your consciences.

¹²We do not again commend ourselves to you but give you an occasion to have pride in us, so that you will have an answer for those who take pride in appearance and not in heart.

¹³For if we seem beside ourselves, we do it for God; if we have a sound mind, we have it for you.

¹⁴For the love of Christ controls us, having concluded this, that one died for all, therefore all died;

¹⁵and He died for all, so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf.

¹⁶Therefore from now on we recognize no one according to the flesh; even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him in this way no longer.

¹⁷Therefore if anyone dwells in Christ, he has become a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

¹⁸Now all these things come from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation,

¹⁹namely, that God performed through Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

²⁰Therefore, we serve as ambassadors for Christ, as though God had made an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, to reconcile yourselves to God.

²¹He made Him who knew no sin to represent sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

2 Corinthians 6

NASB E-Prime DFM

Their Ministry Commended

¹And working together with Him, we also urge you not to receive the grace of God in vain--

²for He says,

" AT THE ACCEPTABLE TIME I LISTENED TO YOU,
AND ON THE DAY OF SALVATION I HELPED YOU."

Behold, now constitutes "THE ACCEPTABLE TIME," behold, now has come "THE DAY OF SALVATION"--

³giving no cause for offense in anything, so that the ministry will not receive discredit,

⁴but in everything commending ourselves as servants of God, in much endurance, in afflictions, in hardships, in distresses,

⁵in beatings, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in sleeplessness, in hunger,

⁶in purity, in knowledge, in patience, in kindness, in the Holy Spirit, in genuine love,

⁷in the word of truth, in the power of God; by the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and the left,

⁸by glory and dishonor, by evil report and good report; regarded as deceivers and yet true;

⁹as unknown yet well-known, as dying yet behold, we live; as punished yet not put to death,

¹⁰as sorrowful yet always rejoicing, as poor yet making many rich, as having nothing yet possessing all things.

¹¹Our mouth has spoken freely to you, O Corinthians, our heart has opened wide.

¹²We have not restrained you, but you restrained yourselves in your own affections.

¹³Now in a like exchange--I speak as to children--open wide to us also.

¹⁴Do not bind yourselves together with unbelievers; for what partnership does righteousness have with lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness?

¹⁵Or what harmony has Christ with Belial, or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever?

¹⁶Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we make up the temple of the living God; just as God said,

" I WILL DWELL IN THEM AND WALK AMONG THEM;
AND I WILL RULE AS THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BECOME MY PEOPLE.

¹⁷" Therefore, COME OUT FROM THEIR MIDST AND SEPARATE YOURSELVES FROM THEM," says the Lord.

"AND DO NOT TOUCH ANYTHING UNCLEAN;
And I will welcome you.

¹⁸"And I will become a father to you,
And you shall become sons and daughters to Me,"
Says the Lord Almighty.

2 Corinthians 7

NASB E-Prime DFM

Paul Reveals His Heart

¹Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

²Make room for us in your hearts; we wronged no one, we corrupted no one, we took advantage of no one.

³I do not speak to condemn you, for I have said before that you remain in our hearts to die together and to live together.

⁴I have great confidence in you; I boast greatly on your behalf I have much comfort; I overflow with joy in all our affliction.

⁵For even when we came into Macedonia our flesh had no rest, but we suffered affliction on every side: conflicts without, fears within.

⁶But God, who comforts the depressed, comforted us by the coming of Titus;

⁷and not only by his coming, but also by the comfort with which he received comfort in you, as he reported to us your longing, your mourning, your zeal for me; so that I rejoiced even more.

⁸For though I caused you sorrow by my letter, I do not regret it; though I did regret it--for I see that that letter caused you sorrow, though only for a while--

⁹I now rejoice, not that you felt sorrowful, but that you sorrowed to the point of repentance; for you received sorrow according to the will of God, so that you might not suffer loss in anything through us.

¹⁰For the sorrow that accords to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death.

¹¹For behold what earnestness this very thing, this godly sorrow, has produced in you: what vindication of yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what avenging of wrong! In everything you demonstrated yourselves to have proven innocence in this matter.

¹²So although I wrote to you, I wrote not for the sake of the offender nor for the sake of the one offended, but that your earnestness on our behalf might become known to you in the sight of God.

¹³For this reason we have received comfort And besides our comfort, we rejoiced even much more for the joy of Titus, because his spirit has received refreshment by you all.

¹⁴For if in anything I have boasted to him about you, I did not suffer shame; but as we spoke all things to you in truth, so also our boasting before Titus proved true.

¹⁵His affection abounds all the more toward you, as he remembers the obedience of you all, how you received him with fear and trembling.

¹⁶I rejoice that in everything I have confidence in you.

2 Corinthians 8

NASB E-Prime DFM

Great Generosity

¹Now, brethren, we wish to make known to you the grace of God which He gave to the churches of Macedonia,

²that in a great ordeal of affliction their abundance of joy and their deep poverty overflowed in the wealth of their liberality.

³For I testify that according to their ability, and beyond their ability, they gave of their own accord,

⁴begging us with much urging for the favor of participation in the support of the saints,

⁵and this, not as we had expected, but they first gave themselves to the Lord and to us by the will of God.

⁶So we urged Titus that as he had previously made a beginning, so he would also complete in you this gracious work as well.

⁷But just as you abound in everything, in faith and utterance and knowledge and in all earnestness and in the love we inspired in you, see that you abound in this gracious work also.

⁸ I do not speak this as a command, but as proving through the earnestness of others the sincerity of your love also.

⁹For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He had riches , yet for your sake He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich.

¹⁰I give my opinion in this matter, for this proves your advantage, who became the first to begin a year ago not only to do this, but also to desire to do it.

¹¹But now finish doing it also, so that just as you had the readiness to desire it, so you may complete it by your ability.

¹²For if the readiness has presented itself, we find it acceptable according to what a person has, not according to what he does not have.

¹³For this occurs not for the ease of others and for your affliction, but by way of equality--

¹⁴at this present time your abundance providing a supply for their need, so that their abundance also may become a supply for your need, that there may come equality;

¹⁵as the scriptures say, " HE WHO gathered MUCH DID NOT HAVE TOO MUCH, AND HE WHO gathered LITTLE HAD NO LACK."

¹⁶But we give thanks to God who puts the same earnestness on your behalf in the heart of Titus.

¹⁷For he not only accepted our appeal, but showing himself very earnest, he has gone to you of his own accord.

¹⁸We have sent along with him the brother whose fame in the things of the gospel has spread through all the churches;

¹⁹and not only this, but he has also received appointment by the churches to travel with us in this gracious work, which the Lord administered by us for the His glory , and to show our readiness,

²⁰taking precaution so that no one will discredit us in our administration of this generous gift;

²¹for we have regard for what proves honorable, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men.

²²We have sent with them our brother, whom we have often tested and found diligent in many things, but now even more diligent because of his great confidence in you.

²³As for Titus, he serves as my partner and fellow worker among you; as for our brethren, they serve as messengers of the churches, a glory to Christ.

²⁴Therefore openly before the churches, show them the proof of your love and of our reason for boasting about you.

2 Corinthians 9

NASB E-Prime DFM

God Gives Most

¹For I find it superfluous to write to you about this ministry to the saints;

²for I know your readiness, of which I boast about you to the Macedonians, namely, that Achaia has completed preparation since last year, and your zeal has stirred up most of them.

³But I have sent the brethren, in order that our boasting about you may not have emptiness in this case, so that, as I said, you may prepare yourselves;

⁴otherwise if any Macedonians come with me and find you unprepared, we--not to speak of you--will suffer shame by this confidence.

⁵So I thought it necessary to urge the brethren that they would go on ahead to you and arrange beforehand your previously promised bountiful gift, so that the same you would have ready as a bountiful gift and not affected by covetousness.

⁶Now this I say, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.

⁷Each one must do just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

⁸And God can make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed;

⁹as the scriptures read,

" HE SCATTERED ABROAD, HE GAVE TO THE POOR,
HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS ENDURES FOREVER."

¹⁰Now He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness;

¹¹you will receive enrichment in everything for all liberality, which through us has produced thanksgiving to God.

¹²For the ministry of this service does not only fully supply the needs of the saints, but is also overflows through many thanksgivings to God.

¹³Because of the proof given by this ministry, they will glorify God for your obedience to your confession of the gospel of Christ and for the liberality of your contribution to them and to all,

¹⁴while they also, by prayer on your behalf, yearn for you because of the surpassing grace of God in you.

¹⁵We thank God for His indescribable gift!

2 Corinthians 10

NASB E-Prime DFM

Paul Describes Himself

¹Now I, Paul, myself urge you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ--I who seem meek when face to face with you, but bold toward you when absent!

²I ask that when I meet you face to face I need not show boldness with the confidence with which I propose to show courage against some, who regard us as if we walked according to the flesh.

³For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh,

⁴for the weapons of our warfare do not derive from the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.

⁵We destroy speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we take every thought captive to the obedience of Christ,

⁶and we have readiness to punish all disobedience, whenever your obedience reaches completion.

⁷You look at things as they appear outward. If anyone has confidence in himself that he belongs to Christ, let him consider this again within himself, that just as he belongs to Christ, so do we.

⁸For even if I boast somewhat further about our authority, which the Lord gave for building you up and not for destroying you, I will not endure shame,

⁹for I do not wish to seem as if I would terrify you by my letters.

¹⁰For they say, "His letters sound weighty and strong, but his personal presence seems unimpressive and his speech contemptible."

¹¹Let such a person consider this, that what we seem in word by letters when absent, such persons we prove also in deed when present.

¹²For we do not have the boldness to class or compare ourselves with some of those who commend themselves; but when they measure themselves by themselves and compare themselves with themselves, they have no understanding.

¹³But we will not boast beyond our measure, but within the measure of the sphere which God apportioned to us as a measure, to reach even as far as you.

¹⁴For we do not overextend ourselves, as if we did not reach to you, for we came to you first in the gospel of Christ;

¹⁵not boasting beyond our measure, namely, in other men's labors, but with the hope that as your faith grows, we will become, within our sphere, enlarged even more by you,

¹⁶so as to preach the gospel even to the regions beyond you, and not to boast in what another has accomplished in his sphere.

¹⁷But HE WHO BOASTS SHOULD BOAST IN THE LORD.

¹⁸For he does commend himself, but the Lord commends.

2 Corinthians 11

NASB E-Prime DFM

Paul Defends His Apostleship

¹I wish that you would bear with me in a little foolishness; but indeed you bear with me.

²For I feel jealousy for you with a godly jealousy; for I betrothed you to one husband, so that to Christ I might present you as a pure virgin.

³But I fear that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will go astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ.

⁴For if one comes and preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted, you bear this beautifully.

⁵For I consider myself not in the least inferior to the most eminent apostles.

⁶But even if I seem unskilled in speech, yet I have knowledge; in fact, in every way we have made this evident to you in all things.

⁷Or did I commit a sin in humbling myself so that you might receive exaltation, because I preached the gospel of God to you without charge?

⁸I robbed other churches by taking wages from them to serve you;

⁹and when I found myself present with you and felt in need, I did not become a burden to anyone; for when the brethren came from Macedonia they fully supplied my need, and in everything I kept myself from becoming a burden to you, and will continue to do so.

¹⁰As the truth of Christ resides in me, this boasting of mine will not stop in the regions of Achaia.

¹¹Why? Because I do not love you? God knows I do!

¹²But what I do I will continue to do, so that I may cut off opportunity from those who desire an opportunity to take advantage in the matter about which they boast.

¹³For such men prove themselves false apostles, deceitful workers, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ.

¹⁴No wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.

¹⁵Therefore does not surprise us if his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness, whose end will accord to their deeds.

¹⁶Again I say, let no one think me foolish; but if you do, receive me even as foolish, so that I also may boast a little.

¹⁷What I say, I do not say as the Lord would, but as in foolishness, in this confidence of boasting.

¹⁸Since many boast according to the flesh, I will boast also.

¹⁹For you, becoming so wise, tolerate the foolish gladly.

²⁰For you tolerate it if anyone enslaves you, anyone devours you, anyone takes advantage of you, anyone exalts himself, anyone hits you in the face.

²¹To my shame I must say that we have shown weakness by comparison But in whatever respect anyone else behaves boldly—I speak in foolishness--I behave just as boldly myself.

²²Do they call themselves Hebrews? So do I Do they call themselves Israelites? So do I Do they call themselves descendants of Abraham? So do I.

²³Do they call themselves servants of Christ?--I speak as if insane--I more so; in far more labors, in far more imprisonments, beaten times without number, often in danger of death.

²⁴Five times I received from the Jews thirty-nine lashes.

²⁵Three times I they beat me with rods, once they stoned me three times I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have spent in the deep.

²⁶I have gone on frequent journeys, in dangers from rivers, dangers from robbers, dangers from my countrymen, dangers from the Gentiles, dangers in the city, dangers in the wilderness, dangers on the sea, dangers among false brethren;

²⁷I have labored in hardship, through many sleepless nights, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure.

²⁸Apart from such external things, I have the daily pressure on me of concern for all the churches.

²⁹Who has become weak without my becoming weak? Who gets led into sin without my intense concern?

³⁰If I have to boast, I will boast of what pertains to my weakness.

³¹The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, He who we bless forever, knows that I do not lie.

³²In Damascus the ethnarch under Aretas the king who guarded the city of the Damascenes in order to seize me,

³³and they let me down in a basket through a window in the wall, and so escaped his hands.

2 Corinthians 12

NASB E-Prime DFM

Paul's Vision

¹ Boasting may become necessary, though it does not profit; but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord.

² I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago--whether in the body I do not know, or out of the body I do not know, God knows--such a man became caught up to the third heaven.

³ And I know how such a man--whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, God knows--

⁴ became caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which a man does not have permission to speak.

⁵ On behalf of such a man I will boast; but on my own behalf I will not boast, except in regard to my weaknesses.

⁶ For if I do wish to boast I will not feel foolish, for I will speak the truth; but I refrain from this, so that no one will credit me with more than he sees in me or hears from me.

A Thorn in the Flesh

⁷ Because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself, God gave me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me--to keep me from exalting myself!

⁸ Concerning this I implored the Lord three times that it might leave me.

⁹ And He has said to me, "My grace proves sufficient for you, for power perfects in weakness" Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.

¹⁰ Therefore I feel well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I seem weak, then I have strength.

¹¹ I have become foolish; you yourselves compelled me. Actually I should have received commendation by you, for in no respect did I prove inferior to the most eminent apostles, even though I seem a nobody.

¹² The signs of a true apostle you had performed among you with all perseverance, by signs and wonders and miracles.

¹³ For in what respect did you receive treatment as inferior to the rest of the churches, except that I myself did not become a burden to you? Forgive me this wrong!

¹⁴ Here for this third time I find myself ready to come to you, and I will not burden you; for I do not seek yours, but you; for children do not have the responsibility to save up for their parents, but parents for their children.

¹⁵ I will most gladly spend and expend myself for your souls. If I love you more, do you love me less?

¹⁶But though it may seem, I did not burden you myself; nevertheless, crafty fellow that I have prove myself, I took you in by deceit.

¹⁷Certainly I have not taken advantage of you through any of those whom I have sent to you, have I?

¹⁸I urged Titus to go, and I sent the brother with him Titus did not take any advantage of you, did he? Did we not conduct ourselves in the same spirit and walk in the same steps?

¹⁹All this time you have thought that we defended ourselves to you. Actually, it has proved in the sight of God that we have spoken in Christ; and all for your edification, beloved.

²⁰For I fear that perhaps when I come I may find you to have become not what I wish and you may find me not what you wish; that perhaps there will occur strife, jealousy, angry tempers, disputes, slanders, gossip, arrogance, disturbances;

²¹I fear that when I come again my God may humiliate me before you, and I may mourn over many of those who have sinned in the past and not repented of the impurity, immorality and sensuality which they have practiced.

2 Corinthians 13

NASB E-Prime DFM

Examine Yourselves

¹This constitutes the third time I come to you EVERY FACT SHOULD RECEIVE CONFIRMATION BY THE TESTIMONY OF TWO OR THREE WITNESSES.

²I have previously said when present the second time, and though now absent I say in advance to those who have sinned in the past and to all the rest as well, that if I come again I will not spare anyone,

³since you seek for proof of the Christ who speaks in me, and who does not show weakness toward you, but mighty in you.

⁴For indeed He suffered crucifixion because of weakness, yet He lives because of the power of God For we also seem weak in Him, yet we will live with Him because of the power of God directed toward you.

⁵Test yourselves to see if you remain in the faith; examine yourselves! Or do you not recognize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ dwells in you-- unless indeed you fail the test?

⁶But I trust that you will realize that we ourselves do not fail the test.

⁷Now we pray to God that you do no wrong; not that we ourselves may appear approved, but that you may do right, even though we may appear unapproved.

⁸For we can do nothing against the truth, but only for the truth.

⁹For we rejoice when we ourselves seem weak but appear strong; this we also pray for, that you may receive completion.

¹⁰For this reason I write these things while absent, so that when present I need not use severity, in accordance with the authority which the Lord gave me for building up and not for tearing down.

¹¹Finally, brethren, rejoice, receive completion, receive comfort, have like-mindedness, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will dwell with you.

¹²Greet one another with a holy kiss.

¹³All the saints greet you.

¹⁴The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, remain with you all.

Galatians 1-6

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

Introduction

¹Paul, an apostle not sent from men nor through the agency of man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised Him from the dead,

²and all the brethren who dwell with me, To the churches of Galatia:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ,

⁴who gave Himself for our sins so that He might rescue us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father,

⁵to whom we acknowledge the glory forevermore. Amen.

Perversion of the Gospel

⁶I feel amazed that you have so quickly deserted Him who called you by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel;

⁷which we can't really call another; only some have disturbed you and want to distort the gospel of Christ.

⁸But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he should receive a curse!

⁹As we have said before, so I say again now, if any man preaches to you a gospel contrary to what you received, he deserves a curse!

¹⁰For do I now seek the favor of men, or of God? Or do I strive to please men? If I still tried to please men, I would not yield myself as a bond-servant of Christ.

Paul Defends His Ministry

¹¹For I would have you know, brethren, that the gospel which I preached did not come from man.

¹²For I neither received it from man, nor did any man teach it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ.

¹³For you have heard of my former manner of life in Judaism, how I used to persecute the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it;

¹⁴and I had advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries among my countrymen, acting more extremely zealous for my ancestral traditions.

¹⁵But when God, who had set me apart even from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, took the pleasure

¹⁶to reveal His Son in me so that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately consult with flesh and blood,

¹⁷nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who became apostles before me; but I went away to Arabia, and returned once more to Damascus.

¹⁸Then three years later I went up to Jerusalem to become acquainted with Cephas, and stayed with him fifteen days.

¹⁹But I did not see any other of the apostles except James, the Lord's brother.

²⁰(Now in what I write to you, I assure you before God that I do not lie.)

²¹Then I went into the regions of Syria and Cilicia.

²²The churches of Judea which had loyalty to Christ still did not know me by sight;

²³but only, they kept hearing, "He who once persecuted us now preaches the faith which he once tried to destroy."

²⁴And they glorified God because of me.

Galatians 2

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Council at Jerusalem

¹Then after an interval of fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, taking Titus along also.

² I went up because of a revelation ; and I submitted to them the gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but I did so in private to those who considered themselves of reputation, for fear that I might have run, in vain.

³But not even Titus, who accompanied me, though a Greek, did they compel to undergo circumcision.

⁴But because of the false brethren secretly brought in, who had sneaked in to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, in order to bring us into bondage.

⁵But we did not yield in subjection to them for even an hour, so that the truth of the gospel would remain with you.

⁶But from those who considered themselves of high reputation (what they thought of themselves makes no difference to me; God shows no partiality)--well, those who considered themselves of reputation contributed nothing to me.

⁷But on the contrary, seeing that God had entrusted me with the gospel to the uncircumcised, just as Peter had ministered to the circumcised

⁸(for He who effectually worked for Peter in his apostleship to the circumcised effectually worked for me also to the Gentiles),

⁹and recognizing I had received the grace , James and Cephas and John, who had the reputation of pillars, gave to me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, so that we might go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised.

¹⁰They only asked us to remember the poor-- the very thing I also had eagerly sought to do.

Peter (Cephas) Opposed by Paul

¹¹But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned.

¹²For prior to the coming of certain men from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he began to withdraw and hold himself aloof, fearing the party of the circumcision.

¹³The rest of the Jews joined him in hypocrisy, with the result that even Barnabas became carried away by their hypocrisy.

¹⁴But when I saw that they did not act in a straightforward manner about the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas in the presence of all, "If you, considering yourself a Jew, live like the Gentiles and not like the Jews, how do you compel the Gentiles to live like Jews?"

¹⁵"We live as Jews by nature and not sinners from among the Gentiles;

¹⁶nevertheless knowing that a man cannot receive justification by the works of the Law but through faith in Christ Jesus, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, so that we may receive justification by faith in Christ and not by the works of the Law; since by the works of the Law no flesh will receive justification.

¹⁷"But if, while seek justification in Christ, we ourselves have also sinned, do we consider Christ then a minister of sin? May it never happen!

¹⁸"For if I rebuild what I have once destroyed, I prove myself a transgressor.

¹⁹"For through the Law I died to the Law, so that I might live to God.

²⁰"I have suffered crucifixion with Christ; and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

²¹"I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness comes through the Law, then Christ died needlessly."

Galatians 3

NASB E-Prime DFM

Faith Brings Righteousness

¹You foolish Galatians, who has bewitched you, before whose eyes Jesus Christ had become publicly portrayed as crucified?

²This I want to find out from you: did you receive the Spirit by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith?

³Have you become so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, do you now desire to achieve perfection by the flesh?

⁴Did you suffer so many things in vain-- if indeed it seemed in vain?

⁵So then, does He who provides you with the Spirit and works miracles among you, do it by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith?

⁶Even so Abraham BELIEVED GOD, AND GOD RECKONED IT TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS.

⁷Therefore, know that those of faith represent the real sons of Abraham.

⁸The Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, " ALL THE NATIONS WILL RECEIVE BLESSING IN YOU."

⁹So then those who live by faith will receive blessings with Abraham, the believer.

¹⁰For as many as depend on the works of the Law fall under a curse; for the scriptures say, " EVERYONE WHO DOES NOT ABIDE BY ALL THINGS WRITTEN IN THE BOOK OF THE LAW, TO PERFORM THEM RECEIVES A CURSE."

¹¹Now that no one receives justification by the Law before God becomes evident; for, " THE RIGHTEOUS MAN SHALL LIVE BY FAITH."

¹²However, the Law does not take the place of faith; on the contrary, " HE WHO PRACTICES THEM SHALL LIVE BY THEM."

¹³Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us--for the scripture says, " WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT EVERYONE WHO HANGS ON A TREE HAS RECEIVED A CURSE"--

¹⁴in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we would receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

Intent of the Law

¹⁵Brethren, I speak in terms of human relations: even though it represents only a man's covenant, yet when it they have ratified it, no one sets it aside or adds conditions to it.

¹⁶Now when God spoke the promises to Abraham and to his seed He does not say, "And to seeds," as referring to many, but rather to one, "And to your seed," namely, Christ.

¹⁷I say : the Law, which came four hundred and thirty years later, does not invalidate a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to nullify the promise.

¹⁸For if we base the inheritance on law, we no longer base it on a promise; but God has granted it to Abraham by means of a promise.

¹⁹ Why the Law then? God added the Law because of transgressions, having received ordination through angels by the agency of a mediator, until the seed would come to whom God had made the promise.

²⁰ Now a mediator does not decide for one party only; whereas God represents only one principal in the mediation.

²¹ Does the Law then contravene against the promises of God? May it never happen! For if God had given a law was able to impart life, then righteousness would indeed have derived from law.

²² But the Scripture has shut up everyone under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might accrue to those who believe.

²³ But before faith came, we were kept in custody under the law, having acquiesced to the faith which later God revealed.

²⁴ Therefore the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, so that we may receive justification by faith.

²⁵ But now that faith has come, we no longer need a tutor.

²⁶ For you have all become sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

²⁷ For all of you who received baptism into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

²⁸ There exists neither Jew nor Greek, there exists neither slave nor free man, there exists neither male nor female; for you have all become one in Christ Jesus.

²⁹ And if you belong to Christ, then you have become Abraham's descendants, heirs according to promise.

Galatians 4

NASB E-Prime DFM

Sonship in Christ

¹ Now I say, as long as the heir remains a child, he does not differ at all from a slave although he owns everything,

² but his parents place him under guardians and managers until the date set by the father.

³ So also we, while we remained children, suffered bondage under the elemental things of the world.

⁴But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law,

⁵so that He might redeem those who lived under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

⁶Because you have now become sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, " Abba! Father!"

⁷Therefore you serve no longer as a slave, but a son; and if a son, then an heir through God.

⁸However at that time, when you did not know God, you became slaves to those which by nature do not really have any claim as gods.

⁹But now that you have come to know God, or rather that God knows you, how can you turn back again to the weak and worthless elemental things, to which you desire enslavement all over again?

¹⁰You observe days and months and seasons and years.

¹¹I fear for you, that perhaps I have labored over you in vain.

¹²I beg of you, brethren, do as I do, for I also have become as you have become. You have done me no wrong;

¹³but you know that because of a bodily illness that I preached the gospel to you the first time;

¹⁴and that which I considered a trial - my bodily condition you did not despise or loathe, but you received me as an angel of God, as Christ Jesus Himself.

¹⁵What then has become of the blessing you had? For I bear you witness that, if possible, you would have plucked out your eyes and given them to me.

¹⁶So have I become your enemy by telling you the truth?

¹⁷They eagerly seek you, not commendably, but they wish to shut you out so that you will seek them.

¹⁸But it feels good always to have someone seek us out in a commendable manner, and not only when I dwell with you presently.

¹⁹My children, with whom I feel again in labor until Christ becomes formed in you--

²⁰but I could wish to join you presently and to change my tone, for I feel perplexed about you.

Bond and Free

²¹Tell me, you who want to live under law, do you not listen to the law?

²²For the scriptures say that Abraham had two sons, one by the bondwoman and one by the free woman.

²³But the son by the bondwoman had become born according to the flesh, and the son by the free woman through the promise.

²⁴This represents an allegory, for these women represent two covenants: one proceeding from Mount Sinai bearing children who will become slaves; we acknowledge her as Hagar.

²⁵Now this Hagar represents Mount Sinai in Arabia and corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she lives in slavery with her children.

²⁶But the Jerusalem above has attained freedom; she represents our mother.

²⁷For the scriptures declare,

" REJOICE, BARREN WOMAN WHO DOES NOT BEAR;
BREAK FORTH AND SHOUT, YOU WHO DO NOT FIND THEMSELVES IN
LABOR;
FOR MORE NUMEROUS HAVE INCREASED THE CHILDREN OF THE
DESOLATE
THAN OF THE ONE WHO HAS A HUSBAND."

²⁸And you brethren, like Isaac, have become children of promise.

²⁹But as at that time he who came into life born according to the flesh persecuted him who came into life born according to the Spirit, so it has now occurred.

³⁰But what does the Scripture say?

" CAST OUT THE BONDWOMAN AND HER SON,
FOR THE SON OF THE BONDWOMAN SHALL NOT RECEIVE AN
INHERITANCE WITH THE SON OF THE FREE WOMAN."

³¹So then, brethren, we should not consider ourselves children of a bondwoman, but of the free woman.

Galatians 5

NASB E-Prime DFM

Walk by the Spirit

¹For our freedom Christ set us free; therefore keep standing firm and do not subject yourself again to a yoke of slavery.

²Behold I, Paul, say to you that if you receive circumcision, Christ will not benefit you.

³And I testify again to every man who receives circumcision, that he placed himself under obligation to keep the whole Law.

⁴You have severed yourself from Christ, you who seek justification by law; you have fallen from grace.

⁵For we through the Spirit, by faith, wait for the hope of righteousness.

⁶For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything, but faith working through love.

⁷You had run well; who hindered you from obeying the truth?

⁸This persuasion did not come from Him who calls you.

⁹ A little leaven leavens the whole lump of dough.

¹⁰ I have confidence in you in the Lord that you will adopt no other view; but the one who disturbs you will bear his judgment, whoever he may represent.

¹¹But I, brethren, if I still preach circumcision, why do I still receive persecution? Then the stumbling block of the cross has become abolished.

¹²I wish that those who trouble you would even mutilate themselves.

¹³For God called you to freedom, brethren; only do not turn your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

¹⁴For the whole Law we can fulfill in one word, in the statement, " YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF."

¹⁵But if you bite and devour one another, take care that you do not consume one another.

¹⁶But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.

¹⁷For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these oppose one another, so that you may not do the things that you please.

¹⁸But if the Spirit leads you, you will not find yourselves under the Law.

¹⁹Now the deeds of the flesh become evident, namely: immorality, impurity, sensuality,

²⁰idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions,

²¹envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

²²But the fruit of the Spirit consists of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

²³gentleness, self-control; against such things no law exists.

²⁴Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

²⁵If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.

²⁶Let us not become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another.

Galatians 6

NASB E-Prime DFM

Bear One Another's Burdens

¹Brethren, even if anyone catches himself in any trespass, you who have the spirit, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; each one looking to yourself, so that you too will not fall into temptation.

²Bear one another's burdens, and thereby fulfill the law of Christ.

³For if anyone thinks he has become something when he has achieved nothing, he deceives himself.

⁴But each one must examine his own work, and then he will have reason for boasting in regard to himself alone, and not in regard to another.

⁵For each one will bear his own load.

⁶The one who has learned the word should share all good things with the one who teaches him.

⁷Do not deceive yourself, No one mocks God; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap.

⁸For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

⁹Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary.

¹⁰So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who reside in the household of the faith.

¹¹See with what large letters I write to you with my own hand.

¹²Those who desire to make a good showing in the flesh try to compel you to undergo circumcision, simply so that they will not receive persecution for the cross of Christ.

¹³For those who have become circumcised do not even keep the Law themselves, but they desire to have you circumcised so that they may boast in your flesh.

¹⁴But may I never boast, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has endured crucifixion to me, and I to the world.

¹⁵For neither avails circumcision anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation.

¹⁶And those who will walk by this rule, peace and mercy rest upon them, and upon the Israel of God.

¹⁷From now on let no one cause trouble for me, for I bear on my body the brand-marks of Jesus.

¹⁸The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ remain with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

Ephesians 1-6

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

The Blessings of Redemption

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who dwell at Ephesus and who **remain** faithful in Christ Jesus:

²Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³**We bless** the name of God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

⁴just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would attain holiness and blamelessness before Him in love

⁵He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will,

⁶to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

⁷In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace

⁸which He lavished on us. In all wisdom and insight

⁹He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him

¹⁰with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, **namely**, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth. In Him

¹¹also we have obtained an inheritance, having **become** predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will,

¹²to the end that we who first hoped in Christ would do so to the praise of His glory.

¹³In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation--having also believed, you received His seal in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise,

¹⁴who He gives as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory.

¹⁵For this reason I too, having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus which exists among you and your love for all the saints,

¹⁶do not cease giving thanks for you, while making mention of you in my prayers;

¹⁷that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him.

¹⁸I pray that the eyes of your heart may receive enlightenment, so that you will know the hope of His calling, which consist of the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,

¹⁹and we recognize the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. These correspond with the working of the strength of His might

²⁰which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,

²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name one can name, not only in this age but also in the one to come.

²²And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church,

²³which consists of His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

Ephesians 2

NASB E-Prime DFM

Made Alive in Christ

¹And you had died in your trespasses and sins,

²in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that now works in the sons of disobedience.

³Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and behaved by nature as children of wrath, even as the rest.

⁴But God, having rich mercy and great love toward us,

⁵even when we had died in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have received salvation),

⁶and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

⁷so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

⁸For by grace you have received salvation through faith; and that not of yourselves, God has given it to you;

⁹not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.

¹⁰For we represent His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

¹¹Therefore remember that formerly you, the Gentiles in the flesh, who people referred to as " Uncircumcision" by the so-called " Circumcision," which takes place in the flesh by human hands--

¹²remember that you formerly had become separated from Christ, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.

¹³But now in Christ Jesus you who formerly had become estranged had become brought near by the blood of Christ.

¹⁴For He Himself consists of our peace, who made both groups into one and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall,

¹⁵by abolishing in His flesh the enmity, which came from the Law of commandments contained in ordinances, so that in Himself He might make the two into one new man, thus establishing peace,

¹⁶and might reconcile them both in one body to God through the cross, by it having put to death the enmity.

¹⁷AND HE CAME AND PREACHED PEACE TO YOU WHO DRIFTED FAR AWAY, AND PEACE TO THOSE WHO DREW NEAR;

¹⁸for through Him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father.

¹⁹So then He does no longer consider you strangers and aliens, but you have become fellow citizens with the saints, and have entered God's household,

²⁰having become built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself as the corner stone,

²¹ in whom the whole building, which God fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord,

²²in whom God placed you also building together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

Ephesians 3

NASB E-Prime DFM

Paul's Stewardship

¹For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles--

²if indeed you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace which God gave to me for you;

³that by revelation I came to know the mystery, as I wrote before in brief.

⁴By referring to this, when you read you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ,

⁵which in other generations the sons of men had not known, as God has revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit;

⁶For example, that the Gentiles have become fellow heirs and fellow members of the body, and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel,

⁷of which God made me a minister, according to the gift of God's grace which He had given to me according to the working of His power.

⁸God gave to me, the very least of all saints, this grace, to preach to the Gentiles the unfathomable riches of Christ,

⁹and to bring to light the administration of the mystery which for ages has remained hidden in God who created all things;

¹⁰so that the manifold wisdom of God might now have revelation through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly places.

¹¹This accorded with the eternal purpose which He carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord,

¹²in whom we have boldness and confident access through faith in Him.

¹³Therefore I ask you not to lose heart at my tribulations on your behalf, for they occur for your glory.

¹⁴For this reason I bow my knees before the Father,

¹⁵from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name,

¹⁶that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to receive strength with power through His Spirit in the inner man,

¹⁷so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, find yourselves rooted and grounded in love,

¹⁸may have the capability to comprehend with all the saints the breadth and length and height and depth,

¹⁹and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may receive fulfillment up to all the fullness of God.

²⁰Now to Him who can do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us,

²¹to Him belong the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 4

NASB E-Prime DFM

Unity of the Spirit

¹Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling from God,

²with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love,

³showing diligence to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

⁴There exists one body and one Spirit, just as also God called you in one hope of your calling;

⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism,

⁶one God and Father of all who rules over all and through all and in all.

⁷But to each one of us we received grace according to the measure of Christ's gift.

⁸Therefore it says,

" WHEN HE ASCENDED ON HIGH,
HE LED CAPTIVE A HOST OF CAPTIVES,
AND HE GAVE GIFTS TO MEN."

⁹(Now this expression, "He ascended," what does it mean except that He also had descended into the lower parts of the earth?

¹⁰He who descended has ascended far above all the heavens, so that He might fill all things.)

¹¹And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers,

¹²for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ;

¹³until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ.

¹⁴As a result, we can no longer consider ourselves children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming;

¹⁵but speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in all aspects into Him the head, even Christ,

¹⁶from whom the whole body, fit and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

The Christian's Walk

¹⁷So this I say, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind,

¹⁸having become darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God because of the ignorance that exists in them, because of the hardness of their heart;

¹⁹and they, having become callous, have given themselves over to sensuality for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness.

²⁰But you did not learn Christ in this way,

²¹if indeed you have heard Him and have received instruction in Him, just as truth emanates from Jesus,

²²that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which becomes corrupt in accordance with the lusts of deceit,

²³and that you receive renewal in the spirit of your mind,

²⁴and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God He created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.

²⁵Therefore, laying aside falsehood, SPEAK TRUTH EACH ONE of you WITH HIS NEIGHBOR, for we have become members of one another.

²⁶HAVE ANGER, AND yet DO NOT SIN; do not let the sun go down on your anger,

²⁷and do not give the devil an opportunity.

²⁸He who steals must steal no longer; but rather he must labor, performing with his own hands what proves good, so that he will have something to share with one who has need.

²⁹Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word which proves good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear.

³⁰Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you received a seal for the day of redemption.

³¹ Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander disappear from you, along with all malice.

³² Show kindness to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.

Ephesians 5

NASB E-Prime DFM

Imitate God

¹ Therefore imitate God, as beloved children;

² and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma.

³ But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even have association among you, as has proper decorum among saints;

⁴ and there must proceed no filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which do not seem fitting, but rather giving of thanks.

⁵ For this you know with certainty, that no immoral or impure person or covetous man, who practices idolatry, has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

⁶ Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.

⁷ Therefore do not become partakers with them;

⁸ for you formerly walked in darkness, but now you receive Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light

⁹ (for the fruit of the Light consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth),

¹⁰ trying to learn what pleases the Lord.

¹¹ Do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even expose them;

¹² for it has become disgraceful even to speak of the things which they do in secret.

¹³But all things become visible when the light exposes them, for everything that becomes visible receives light.

¹⁴For this reason it says,
"Awake, sleeper,
And arise from the dead,
And Christ will shine on you."

¹⁵Therefore show care how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise,

¹⁶making the most of your time, because the days seem evil.

¹⁷So then do not act foolishly, but understand what the Lord wills.

¹⁸And do not get drunk with wine, for that shows dissipation, but become filled with the Spirit,

¹⁹speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord;

²⁰always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father;

²¹and subject yourselves to one another in the fear of Christ.

Marriage Like Christ and the Church

²²Wives, subject yourselves to your own husbands, as to the Lord.

²³For the husband guides the wife, as Christ also leads the church, He Himself serving as the Savior of the body.

²⁴But as the church subjects itself to Christ, so also the wives ought to subject themselves to their husbands in everything.

²⁵Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her,

²⁶so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,

²⁷that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would emerge holy and blameless.

²⁸So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself;

²⁹for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church,

³⁰because we have become members of His body.

³¹FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND SHALL JOIN TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH.

³²This mystery has greatness; but I speak with reference to Christ and the church.

³³Nevertheless, each individual among you also should love his own wife even as himself, and the wife must see to it that she respects her husband.

Ephesians 6

NASB E-Prime DFM

Family Relationships

¹ Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this demonstrates right behavior.

²) HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER (the first commandment with a promise),

³ SO THAT IT MAY GO WELL WITH YOU, AND THAT YOU MAY LIVE LONG ON THE EARTH.

⁴ Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

⁵ Slaves, show obedience to those who serve as your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in the sincerity of your heart, as to Christ;

⁶ not by way of eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart.

⁷ With good will render service, as to the Lord, and not to men,

⁸ knowing that whatever good thing each one does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether slave or free.

⁹ And masters, do the same things to them, and give up threatening, knowing that both their Master and yours dwells in heaven, and no partiality exists with Him.

The Armor of God

¹⁰ Finally, have strength in the Lord and in the strength of His might.

¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you will have the capacity to stand firm against the schemes of the devil.

¹² For we do not struggle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

¹³ Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will have the capacity to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.

¹⁴Stand firm therefore, HAVING GIRDED YOUR LOINS WITH TRUTH, and HAVING PUT ON THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS,

¹⁵and having shod YOUR FEET WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE;

¹⁶in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will have the power to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.

¹⁷And take THE HELMET OF SALVATION, and the sword of the Spirit, which consists of the word of God.

¹⁸With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, stay alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints,

¹⁹and pray on my behalf, that God may give me utterance in the opening of my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel,

²⁰for which I serve as an ambassador in chains; that in proclaiming it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

²¹But that you also may know about my circumstances, how I do, Tychicus, the beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord, will make everything known to you.

²²I have sent him to you for this very purpose, so that you may know about us, and that he may comfort your hearts.

²³I send peace to the brethren, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

²⁴Grace remain with all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ with incorruptible love.

Philippians 1-4

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

Thanksgiving

¹ Paul and Timothy, bond-servants of Christ Jesus, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who dwell in Philippi, including the overseers and deacons:

² Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³ I thank my God in all my remembrance of you,

⁴ always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for you all,

⁵ in view of your participation in the gospel from the first day until now.

⁶ For I feel confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.

⁷ For it seems only right for me to feel this way about you all, because I have you in my heart, since both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, you all partake of grace with me.

⁸ For God has served as my witness, how I long for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus.

⁹ And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment,

¹⁰ so that you may approve the things that prove excellent, in order to remain sincere and blameless until the day of Christ;

¹¹ having become filled with the fruit of righteousness which comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

Someone has Preached The Gospel

¹² Now I want you to know, brethren, that my circumstances have turned out for the greater progress of the gospel,

¹³ so that my imprisonment in the cause of Christ has become well known throughout the whole praetorian guard and to everyone else,

¹⁴ and that most of the brethren, trusting in the Lord because of my imprisonment, have far more courage to speak the word of God without fear.

¹⁵ Some, surely, preach Christ even from envy and strife, but some also from good will;

¹⁶the latter do it out of love, knowing that I have received appointment for the defense of the gospel;

¹⁷the former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition rather than from pure motives, thinking to cause me distress in my imprisonment.

¹⁸What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, someone has proclaimed Christ; and in this I rejoice. Yes, and I will rejoice,

¹⁹for I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayers and the provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,

²⁰according to my earnest expectation and hope, that I will not have shame in anything, but that with all boldness, Christ will even now, as always, receive exaltation in my body, whether by life or by death.

To Live Comes Through Christ

²¹For to me, to live comes through Christ and to die leads to gain.

²²But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which to choose.

²³But I feel hard-pressed from both directions, having the desire to depart and join Christ, for that seems very much better;

²⁴yet to remain on in the flesh seems more necessary for your sake.

²⁵Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all for your progress and joy in the faith,

²⁶so that your proud confidence in me may abound in Christ Jesus through my coming to you again.

²⁷Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or remain absent, I will hear of you that you stand firm in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;

²⁸in no way alarmed by your opponents--which represents a sign of destruction for them, but of salvation for you, and that too, from God.

²⁹For to you this has happened for Christ's sake, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake,

³⁰experiencing the same conflict which you saw in me, and now hear to occur in me.

Philippians 2

NASB E-Prime DFM

Imitate Christ

¹Therefore if we have any encouragement in Christ, if we have any consolation of love, if we have any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion,

² make my joy complete by having the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose.

³Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves;

⁴ do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.

⁵ Have this attitude in yourselves which existed also in Christ Jesus,

⁶who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing at which to grasp,

⁷but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and made in the likeness of men.

⁸Finding himself in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

⁹ For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which exalts above every name,

¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who dwell in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹and that every tongue will confess that we acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

¹²So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling;

¹³for God works in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.

¹⁴Do all things without grumbling or disputing;

¹⁵so that you will prove yourselves blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world,

¹⁶holding fast the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I will have reason to glory because I did not run in vain nor toil in vain.

¹⁷But even if I feel myself poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I rejoice and share my joy with you all.

¹⁸You too, I urge you, rejoice in the same way and share your joy with me.

Timothy and Epaphroditus

¹⁹But I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you shortly, so that I also have encouragement when I learn of your condition.

²⁰For I have no one else of kindred spirit who will have genuine concern for your welfare.

²¹For they all seek after their own interests, not those of Christ Jesus.

²²But you know of his proven worth, that he served with me in the furtherance of the gospel like a child serving his father.

²³Therefore I hope to send him immediately, as soon as I see how things go with me;

²⁴and I trust in the Lord that I myself also will come shortly.

²⁵But I thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, who has also served as your messenger and minister to my need;

²⁶because he longed for you all and felt distressed because you had heard that he had fallen sick.

²⁷For indeed he became sick to the point of death, but God had mercy on him, and not on him only but also on me, so that I would not have sorrow upon sorrow.

²⁸Therefore I have sent him all the more eagerly so that when you see him again you may rejoice and I may feel less concerned about you.

²⁹Receive him then in the Lord with all joy, and hold men like him in high regard;

³⁰because he came close to death for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete what had lacked in your service to me.

Philippians 3

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Goal of Life

¹Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things again seems no trouble to me, and has proved a safeguard for you.

²Beware of the dogs, beware of the evil workers, beware of the false circumcision;

³for we represent the true circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh,

⁴although I myself might have confidence even in the flesh. If anyone else has a mind to put confidence in the flesh, I far more:

⁵circumcised the eighth day, of the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the Law, a Pharisee;

⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to the righteousness which lies in the Law, found blameless.

⁷But whatever things became gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ.

⁸More than that, I count all things a loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ,

⁹and I may find in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith,

¹⁰that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, conforming to His death;

¹¹in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained it or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I laid hold of by Christ Jesus.

¹³Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead,

¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

¹⁵Let us therefore, as many as have reached perfection, have this attitude; and if in anything you have a different attitude, God will reveal that also to you;

¹⁶however, let us keep living by that same standard to which we have attained.

¹⁷Brethren, join in following my example, and observe those who walk according to the pattern you have in us.

¹⁸For many walk, of whom I often told you, and now tell you even weeping, that they prove themselves enemies of the cross of Christ,

¹⁹whose end leads to destruction, whose god has become their appetite, and whose glory has become their shame, who set their minds on earthly things.

²⁰For our citizenship locates in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ;

²¹who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.

Philippians 4

NASB E-Prime DFM

Think of Excellence

¹Therefore, my beloved brethren whom I long to see, my joy and crown, in this way stand firm in the Lord, my beloved.

²I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to live in harmony in the Lord.

³Indeed, true companion, I ask you also to help these women who have shared my struggle in the cause of the gospel, together with Clement also and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names we read in the book of life.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!

⁵Let your gentle spirit have reputation with all men. The Lord draws near.

⁶ Have anxiety for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let you make your requests known to God.

⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, brethren, whatever has truth, whatever has honor, whatever has righteousness, whatever has purity, whatever has loveliness, whatever has good reputation, if any excellence exists and if anything may seem worthy of praise, dwell on these things.

⁹The things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things, and the God of peace will remain with you.

God's Provisions

¹⁰But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at last you have revived your concern for me; indeed, you felt concern before, but you lacked opportunity.

¹¹Not that I speak from want, for I have learned to have contentment in whatever circumstances I find myself.

¹²I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of having enough and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need.

¹³I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

¹⁴Nevertheless, you have done well to share with me in my affliction.

¹⁵You yourselves also know, Philippians, that at the first preaching of the gospel, after I left Macedonia, no church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving but you alone;

¹⁶for even in Thessalonica you sent a gift more than once for my needs.

¹⁷ Not that I seek the gift itself, but I seek for the profit which increases to your account.

¹⁸ But I have received everything in full and have an abundance; I feel amply supplied, having received from Epaphroditus what you have sent, a fragrant aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well-pleasing to God.

¹⁹ And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

²⁰ Now to our God and Father belong the glory forever and ever. Amen.

²¹ Greet every saint in Christ Jesus. The brethren who dwell with me greet you.

²² All the saints greet you, especially those of Caesar's household.

²³ The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ accompany your spirit.

Colossians 1-4

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

Thankfulness for Spiritual Attainments

¹ Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

² To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ who dwell at Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

³ We give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you,

⁴ since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and the love which you have for all the saints;

⁵ because of the hope laid up for you in heaven, of which you previously heard in the word of truth, the gospel

⁶ which has come to you, just as in all the world also it constantly bears fruit and increases, even as it has increased in you also since the day you heard of it and understood the grace of God in truth;

⁷ just as you learned it from Epaphras, our beloved fellow bond-servant, who faithfully serves Christ on our behalf,

⁸ and he also informed us of your love in the Spirit.

⁹For this reason also, since the day we heard of it, we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may become filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,

¹⁰so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;

¹¹strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience; joyously

¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in Light.

The Incomparable Christ

¹³For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son,

¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵He comprises the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

¹⁶For He created all things, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities-- all things have entered creation through Him and for Him.

¹⁷He existed before all things, and in Him all things hold together.

¹⁸He also serves as head of the body, the church; and He has become the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything.

¹⁹For the Father desires for all the fullness to dwell in Him,

²⁰and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, I say, whether things on earth or things in heaven.

²¹And although you formerly felt alienated and hostile in mind, engaged in evil deeds,

²²yet He has now reconciled you in His fleshly body through death, in order to present you before Him holy and blameless and beyond reproach--

²³if indeed you continue in the faith firmly established and steadfast, and not moved away from the hope of the gospel that you have heard, which we proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

²⁴Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I do my share on behalf of His body, the church, in filling up what lacks in Christ's afflictions.

²⁵ Of this church I became a minister according to the stewardship from God bestowed on me for your benefit, so that I might fully carry out the preaching of the word of God,

²⁶ namely, the mystery which has remained hidden from the past ages and generations, but has now become clear to His saints,

²⁷ to whom God willed to make known the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which consists of Christ in you, the hope of glory.

²⁸ We proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man complete in Christ.

²⁹ For this purpose also I labor, striving according to His power, which works mightily within me.

Colossians 2

NASB E-Prime DFM

You Have Become Built Up in Christ

¹ For I want you to know how great a struggle I have on your behalf and for those who live at Laodicea, and for all those who have not personally seen my face,

² that their hearts may receive encouragement, having become knit together in love, and attaining to all the wealth that comes from the full assurance of understanding, resulting in a true knowledge of God's mystery, namely, Christ Himself,

³ in whom hide all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

⁴ I say this so that no one will delude you with persuasive argument.

⁵ For even though I have become absent in body, nevertheless I feel with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good discipline and the stability of your faith in Christ.

⁶ Therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him,

⁷ having become firmly rooted and now becoming built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you received instruction, and overflowed with gratitude.

⁸ See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ.

⁹ For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form,

¹⁰ and in Him you have reached completion, and He has become the head over all rule and authority;

¹¹and in Him you also received circumcision with a circumcision made without hands, in the removal of the body of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ;

¹²having undergone burial with Him in baptism, in which you also became raised up with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

¹³When you died in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions,

¹⁴having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which demonstrated hostility to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.

¹⁵When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him.

¹⁶Therefore no one should act as your judge in regard to food or drink or in respect to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath day--

¹⁷things which serve as a mere shadow of what will come; but the substance belongs to Christ.

¹⁸Let no one keep defrauding you of your prize by delighting in self-abasement and the worship of the angels, taking his stand on visions he has seen, inflated without cause by his fleshly mind,

¹⁹and not holding fast to the head, from whom the entire body, becoming supplied and held together by the joints and ligaments, grows with a growth which comes from God.

²⁰If you have died with Christ to the elementary principles of the world, why, as if you lived in the world, do you submit yourself to decrees, such as,

²¹"Do not handle, do not taste, do not touch!"

²²(which all refer to things destined to perish with use)--in accordance with the commandments and teachings of men?

²³These matters which have, surely, the appearance of wisdom in self-made religion and self-abasement and severe treatment of the body, but have no value against fleshly indulgence.

Colossians 3

NASB E-Prime DFM

Put On the New Self

¹Therefore if God has raised you up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ resides, seated at the right hand of God.

² Set your mind on the things above, not on the things on earth.

³ For you have died and your life has become hidden with Christ in God.

⁴ When Christ, who has become our life, becomes revealed, then you also will become revealed with Him in glory.

⁵ Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry.

⁶ For because of these things the wrath of God will come upon the sons of disobedience,

⁷ and in them you also once walked, when you lived in them.

⁸ But now you also, put them all aside: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive speech from your mouth.

⁹ Do not lie to one another, since you laid aside the old self with its evil practices,

¹⁰ and have put on the new self who receives renewal to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him--

¹¹ a renewal which shows no distinction between Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and freeman, but Christ resides in all.

¹² So, as those whom God has chosen, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience;

¹³ bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you.

¹⁴ Beyond all these things put on love, which consists of the perfect bond of unity.

¹⁵ Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you received calling in one body; and have thankfulness.

¹⁶ Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

¹⁷ Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.

Family Relations

¹⁸ Wives, subject yourselves to your husbands, as seems fitting in the Lord.

¹⁹ Husbands, love your wives and do not have bitterness against them.

²⁰ Children, obey your parents in all things, for this pleases the Lord.

²¹ Fathers, do not exasperate your children, so that they will not lose heart.

²² Slaves, in all things obey those who serve as your masters on earth, not with external service, as those who merely please men, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord.

²³ Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men,

²⁴ knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. You serve the Lord Christ.

²⁵ For he who does wrong will receive the consequences of the wrong which he has done, and that without partiality.

Colossians 4

NASB E-Prime DFM

Fellow Workers

¹ Masters, grant to your slaves justice and fairness, knowing that you too have a Master in heaven.

² Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving;

³ praying at the same time for us as well, that God will open up to us a door for the word, so that we may speak forth the mystery of Christ, for which I have also received imprisonment;

⁴ that I may make it clear in the way I ought to speak.

⁵ Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, making the most of the opportunity.

⁶ Let you speak always with grace, as though seasoned with salt, so that you will know how you should respond to each person.

⁷ As to all my affairs, Tychicus, our beloved brother and faithful servant and fellow bond-servant in the Lord, will bring you information.

⁸ For I have sent him to you for this very purpose, that you may know about our circumstances and that he may encourage your hearts;

⁹ and with him Onesimus, our faithful and beloved brother, who belongs to your fellowship. They will inform you about the whole situation here.

¹⁰ Aristarchus, my fellow prisoner, sends you his greetings; and also Barnabas's cousin Mark (about whom you received instructions; if he comes to you, welcome him);

¹¹and also Jesus who people refer to as Justus; these constitute the only fellow workers for the kingdom of God who have remained with me from the circumcision, and they have proved an encouragement to me.

¹² Epaphras, who belongs to your fellowship, a bonds slave of Jesus Christ, sends you his greetings, always laboring earnestly for you in his prayers, that you may stand perfect and fully assured in all the will of God.

¹³For I testify for him that he has a deep concern for you and for those who are in Laodicea and Hierapolis.

¹⁴ Luke, the beloved physician, sends you his greetings, and also Demas.

¹⁵Greet the brethren who dwell in Laodicea and also Nympha and the church that meets in her house.

¹⁶ When you read this letter among you, have it also read in the church of the Laodiceans; and you, for your part read my letter that comes from Laodicea.

¹⁷Say to Archippus, "Take heed to the ministry which you have received in the Lord, that you may fulfill it."

¹⁸I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand Remember my imprisonment. I send grace to you.

1 Thessalonians 1-5

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

Thanksgiving for These Believers

¹ Paul and Silvanus and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

² We give thanks to God always for all of you, making mention of you in our prayers;

³ constantly bearing in mind your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the presence of our God and Father,

⁴ knowing, brethren beloved by God, His choice of you;

⁵ for our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of men we proved to work among you for your sake.

⁶ You also became imitators of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much tribulation with the joy of the Holy Spirit,

⁷ so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.

⁸ For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith toward God has gone forth, so that we have no need to say anything.

⁹ For they themselves report about us what kind of a reception we had with you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God,

¹⁰ and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, namely Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath to come.

1 Thessalonians 2

NASB E-Prime DFM

Paul's Ministry

¹ For you yourselves know, brethren, that our coming to you did not happen in vain,

²but after we had already suffered and suffered mistreatment in Philippi, as you know, we had the boldness in our God to speak to you the gospel of God amid much opposition.

³For our exhortation does not come from error or impurity or by way of deceit;

⁴ but just as God had not approve us to entrust us with the gospel, so we speak, not to please men, but God who examines our hearts.

⁵For we never came with flattering speech, as you know, nor with a pretext for greed-- As God can witness--

⁶nor did we seek glory from men, either from you or from others, even though as apostles of Christ we might have asserted our authority.

⁷But we proved gentle among you, as a nursing mother tenderly cares for her own children.

⁸Having so fond an affection for you, we felt well-pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God but also our own lives, because you had become very dear to us.

⁹For you recall, brethren, our labor and hardship, how working night and day so as not to seem a burden to any of you, we proclaimed to you the gospel of God.

¹⁰You witness, and so does God, how devoutly and uprightly and blamelessly we behaved toward you believers;

¹¹just as you know how we exhorted and encouraged and implored each one of you as a father would his own children,

¹²so that you would walk in a manner worthy of the God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.

¹³For this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but for what it really consists of, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe.

¹⁴For you, brethren, became imitators of the churches of God in Christ Jesus that live in Judea, for you also endured the same sufferings at the hands of your own countrymen, even as they did from the Jews,

¹⁵who both killed the Lord Jesus and the prophets, and drove us out. They do not please God, but hostile to all men,

¹⁶hindering us from speaking to the Gentiles so that they may receive salvation; with the result that they always fill up the measure of their sins. But wrath has come upon them to the utmost.

¹⁷But we, brethren, having become separated from you for a short while-- in person, not in spirit--were all the more eager with great desire to see your face.

¹⁸For we wanted to come to you--I, Paul, more than once--and yet Satan hindered us.

¹⁹For who do we consider our hope or joy or crown of exultation? Does it not even consist of you, in the presence of our Lord Jesus at His coming?

²⁰For you represent our glory and joy.

1 Thessalonians 3

NASB E-Prime DFM

Encouragement of Timothy's Visit

¹Therefore when we could endure it no longer, we thought it best to stay behind at Athens alone,

²and we sent Timothy, our brother and God's fellow worker in the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you as to your faith,

³so that no one would feel disturbed by these afflictions; for you yourselves know that God has destined us for this.

⁴For indeed when we dwelled with you, we kept telling you in advance that we would suffer affliction; and so it came to pass, as you know.

⁵For this reason, when I could endure it no longer, I also sent to find out about your faith, for fear that the tempter might have tempted you, and our labor would seem in vain.

⁶But now that Timothy has come to us from you, and has brought us good news of your faith and love, and that you always think kindly of us, longing to see us just as we also long to see you,

⁷for this reason, brethren, in all our distress and affliction we received comfort about you through your faith;

⁸for now we really live, if you stand firm in the Lord.

⁹For what thanks can we render to God for you in return for all the joy with which we rejoice before our God on your account,

¹⁰as we night and day keep praying most earnestly that we may see your face, and may complete what lacks in your faith?

¹¹Now may our God and Father Himself and Jesus our Lord direct our way to you;

¹²and may the Lord cause you to increase and abound in love for one another, and for all people, just as we also do for you;

¹³so that He may establish your hearts without blame in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints.

1 Thessalonians 4

NASB E-Prime DFM

Sanctification and Love

¹ Finally then, brethren, we request and exhort you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us instruction as to how you ought to walk and please God (just as you actually do walk), that you excel still more.

² For you know what commandments we gave you by the authority of the Lord Jesus.

³ For God wills, your sanctification; namely, that you abstain from sexual immorality;

⁴ that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor,

⁵ not in lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God;

⁶ and that no man transgress and defraud his brother in the matter because the Lord avenges in all these things, just as we also told you before and solemnly warned you.

⁷ For God has not called us for the purpose of impurity, but in sanctification.

⁸ So, he who rejects this does not reject man but the God who gives His Holy Spirit to you.

⁹Now as to the love of the brethren, you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves had received teaching from God to love one another;

¹⁰for indeed you do practice it toward all the brethren who dwell in all Macedonia But we urge you, brethren, to excel still more,

¹¹and to make it your ambition to lead a quiet life and attend to your own business and work with your hands, just as we commanded you,

¹²so that you will behave properly toward outsiders and not have any need.

Those Who Died in Christ

¹³But we do not want you to remain in ignorance, brethren, about those who have died, so that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope.

¹⁴For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus.

¹⁵For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who live and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep.

¹⁶For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

¹⁷Then we who live and remain will join them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always remain with the Lord.

¹⁸Therefore comfort one another with these words.

1 Thessalonians 5

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Day of the Lord

¹Now as to the times and the epochs, brethren, you have no need of our writing anything to you.

²For you yourselves know full well that the day of the Lord will come just like a thief in the night.

³While they say, "Peace and safety!" then destruction will come upon them suddenly like labor pains upon a woman with child, and they will not escape.

⁴But you, brethren, do not dwell in darkness, that the day would overtake you like a thief;

⁵for you all represent the sons of light and sons of day We do not belong to the night nor of darkness;

⁶so then let us not sleep as others do, but let us become alert and sober.

⁷For those who sleep do their sleeping at night, and those who get drunk get drunk at night.

⁸But since we represent the day, let us show sobriety, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet, the hope of salvation.

⁹For God has not destined us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

¹⁰ who died for us, so that whether we live or die, we will live together with Him.

¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up one another, just as you also have done.

Christian Conduct

¹²But we request of you, brethren, that you appreciate those who diligently labor among you, and have charge over you in the Lord and give you instruction,

¹³and that you esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Live in peace with one another.

¹⁴We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, show patience with everyone.

¹⁵See that no one repays another with evil for evil, but always seek after that which works good for one another and for all people.

¹⁶ Rejoice always;

¹⁷ pray without ceasing;

¹⁸in everything give thanks; for this represents God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit;

²⁰do not despise prophetic utterances.

²¹But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which proves good;

²²abstain from every form of evil.

²³Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

²⁴ We acknowledge as faithful He who calls you, and He also will bring it to pass.

²⁵Brethren, pray for us.

²⁶Greet all the brethren with a holy kiss.

²⁷I adjure you by the Lord to have this letter read to all the brethren.

²⁸ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ go with you.

2 Thessalonians 1-3

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

Thanksgiving for Faith and Perseverance

¹ Paul and Silvanus and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

² Grace to you and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³ We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brethren, as seems only fitting, because your faith has greatly enlarged, and the love of each one of you toward one another grows ever greater;

⁴ therefore, we ourselves speak proudly of you among the churches of God for your perseverance and faith in the midst of all your persecutions and afflictions which you endure.

⁵ This plainly indicates God's righteous judgment so that you God will consider you worthy of His kingdom , for which indeed you suffer.

⁶ For after all it seems only just for God to repay with affliction those who afflict you,

⁷ and to give relief to you who suffer affliction and to us as well when the Lord Jesus will reveal Himself from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire,

⁸ dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.

⁹ These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power,

¹⁰ when He comes to receive glorification in His saints on that day, and to receive adoration among all who have believed--for our testimony you believed.

¹¹ To this end also we pray for you always, that our God will count you worthy of your calling, and fulfill every desire for goodness and the work of faith with power,

¹² so that you will glorify the name of our Lord Jesus , and you in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Thessalonians 2

NASB E-Prime DFM

Man of Lawlessness

¹Now we request you, brethren, with regard to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him,

²that you not become quickly shaken from your composure or become disturbed either by a spirit or a message or a letter as if from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come.

³Let no one in any way deceive you, for it will not come unless the apostasy comes first, and the man of lawlessness reveals himself, the son of destruction,

⁴who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as equivalent to God.

⁵Do you not remember that while I still remained with you, I told you these things?

⁶And you know what restrains him now, so that in his time he will reveal himself.

⁷For the mystery of lawlessness already work; only he who now restrains will do so until God takes him out of the way.

⁸Then that lawless one will become revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming;

⁹namely, the one whose coming accords with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders,

¹⁰and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to receive salvation.

¹¹For this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they will believe falsehood,

¹²in order that they all may receive judgment who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in wickedness.

¹³But we should always give thanks to God for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God has chosen you from the beginning for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and faith in the truth.

¹⁴For this sanctification by the Spirit He called you through our gospel, that you may gain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

¹⁵So then, brethren, stand firm and hold to the traditions which you received instruction, whether by word of mouth or by letter from us.

¹⁶Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, who has loved us and given us eternal comfort and good hope by grace,

¹⁷comfort and strengthen your hearts in every good work and word.

II Thessalonians 3

NASB-E Prime DFM

Exhortation

¹ Finally, brethren, pray for us that the word of the Lord will spread rapidly and receive glorification, just as it did also with you;

² and that we will have deliverance from perverse and evil men; for not all have faith.

³ But the Lord remains faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one.

⁴ We have confidence in the Lord concerning you, that you do well and will continue to do what we command.

⁵ May the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the steadfastness of Christ.

⁶ Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from every brother who leads an unruly life and not according to the tradition which you received from us.

⁷ For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example, because we did not act in an undisciplined manner among you,

⁸ nor did we eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with labor and hardship we kept working night and day so that we would not burden any of you;

⁹ not because we do not have the right to this, but in order to offer ourselves as a model for you, so that you would follow our example.

¹⁰ For even when we dwelled with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone does not show willingness to work, then he should not eat, either.

¹¹ For we hear that some among you lead an undisciplined life, doing no work at all, but acting like busybodies.

¹² Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to work in quiet fashion and eat their own bread.

¹³But as for you, brethren, do not grow weary of doing good.

¹⁴If anyone does not obey our instruction in this letter, take special note of that person and do not associate with him, so that he will suffer shame.

¹⁵Yet do not regard him as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother.

¹⁶Now may the Lord of peace Himself continually grant you peace in every circumstance The Lord remain with you all!

¹⁷I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand, and this distinguishes my mark in every letter; this demonstrates the way I write.

¹⁸The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ remain with you all.

1 Timothy 1-6

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

Misleadings in Doctrine and Living

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus according to the commandment of God our Savior, and of Christ Jesus, who we acknowledge as our hope,

²To Timothy, my true child in the faith: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³As I urged you upon my departure for Macedonia, remain on at ^(L)Ephesus so that you may instruct certain men not to teach strange doctrines,

⁴nor to pay attention to myths and endless genealogies, which give rise to mere speculation rather than furthering the administration of God which comes by faith.

⁵But the goal of our instruction consists of love emanating from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.

⁶For some men, straying from these things, have turned aside to fruitless discussion,

⁷wanting to teach the Law, even though they do not understand either what they say or the matters about which they make confident assertions.

⁸But we know that the Law has goodness, if one uses it lawfully,

⁹realizing the fact that law does not hinder a righteous person, but for those who practice lawlessness and rebelliousness, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers

¹⁰and immoral men and homosexuals and kidnappers and liars and perjurers, and whatever else proves contrary to sound teaching,

¹¹according to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, with which He entrusted me.

¹²I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because He considered me faithful, putting me into service,

¹³even though I formerly blasphemed and persecuted and became a violent aggressor Yet God had mercy because I acted ignorantly in unbelief;

¹⁴and the grace of our Lord proved more than abundant, with the faith and love which I found in Christ Jesus.

¹⁵ I make a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I lead the pack.

¹⁶Yet for this reason I found mercy, so that in me as the foremost, Jesus Christ might demonstrate His perfect patience as an example for those who would believe in Him for eternal life.

¹⁷Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, belong honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

¹⁸This command I entrust to you, Timothy, my son, in accordance with the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you fight the good fight,

¹⁹keeping faith and a good conscience, which some have rejected and suffered shipwreck in regard to their faith.

²⁰Among these we include Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I have handed over to Satan, so that they will learn not to blaspheme.

1 Timothy 2

NASB E-Prime DFM

A Call to Prayer

¹First of all, then, I urge that you make entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings on behalf of all men,

²for kings and all who exercise authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity.

³This proves good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior,

⁴who desires all men to receive salvation and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

⁵For one God exists, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus,

⁶who gave Himself as a ransom for all, the testimony given at the proper time.

⁷For this He appointed me a preacher and an apostle (I tell the truth, I do not lie) as a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

⁸Therefore I want the men in every place to pray, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and dissension.

Women Instructed

⁹Likewise, I want women to adorn themselves with proper clothing, modestly and discreetly, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly garments,

¹⁰but rather by means of good works, as we deem proper for women making a claim to godliness.

¹¹A woman must quietly receive instruction with submissiveness.

¹²But I do not allow a woman to teach or exercise authority over a man, but to remain quiet.

¹³For God created Adam first created, and then Eve.

¹⁴Adam did not fall into deception, but the woman became deceived and fell into transgression.

¹⁵But women will preserve themselves through the bearing of children if they continue in faith and love and sanctity with self-restraint.

1 Timothy 3

NASB E-Prime DFM

Overseers and Deacons

¹ We make a trustworthy statement: if any man aspires to the office of overseer, he desires to do a fine work.

²An overseer, then, must live above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach,

³not addicted to wine or pugnacious, but gentle, peaceable, free from the love of money.

⁴He must manage his own household well, keeping his children under control with all dignity

⁵(but if a man does not know how to manage his own household, how will he take care of the church of God?),

⁶and not a new convert, so that he will not become conceited and fall into the condemnation incurred by the devil.

⁷And he must have a good reputation with those outside the church, so that he will not fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

⁸Deacons likewise must behave with dignity, not double-tongued, or addicted to much wine or fond of sordid gain,

⁹but holding to the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience.

¹⁰ These men must also first submit to testing; then let them serve as deacons if they prove beyond reproach.

¹¹ Women must likewise show dignity, not malicious gossips, but temperate, faithful in all things.

¹² Deacons must have only one wife, and good managers of their children and their own households.

¹³ For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a high standing and great confidence in the faith in Christ Jesus.

¹⁴ I write these things to you, hoping to come to you before long;

¹⁵ but in case something delays me, I write so that you will know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God, the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth.

¹⁶ By common confession, great we regard the mystery of godliness:

He who revealed Himself in the flesh,
Received vindication in the Spirit,
Viewed by angels,
Proclaimed among the nations,
Believed on in the world,
Taken up in glory.

1 Timothy 4

NASB E-Prime DFM

Apostasy

¹ But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons,

² by means of the hypocrisy of liars seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron,

³ men who forbid marriage and advocate abstaining from foods which God has created to for people to gratefully share by those who believe and know the truth.

⁴ For everything created by God has goodness, and we should reject nothing if they receive it with gratitude;

⁵ for it receives sanctification by means of the word of God and prayer.

A Good Minister's Discipline

⁶In pointing out these things to the brethren, you will become a good servant of Christ Jesus, constantly nourished on the words of the faith and of the sound doctrine which you have followed.

⁷But have nothing to do with worldly fables fit only for old women. On the other hand, discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness;

⁸for bodily discipline brings only a little profit, but godliness profits for all things, since it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.

⁹I make a trustworthy statement deserving full acceptance.

¹⁰For this we labor and strive, because we have fixed our hope on the living God, who saves all men, especially of believers.

¹¹Prescribe and teach these things.

¹²Let no one look down on your youthfulness, but rather in speech, conduct, love, faith and purity, show yourself an example of those who believe.

¹³Until I come, give attention to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation and teaching.

¹⁴Do not neglect the spiritual gift within you, which God bestowed on you through prophetic utterance with the laying on of hands by the presbytery.

¹⁵Take pains with these things; absorb yourself in them, so that all will notice your progress.

¹⁶Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; persevere in these things, for as you do this you will ensure salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you.

1 Timothy 5

NASB E-Prime DFM

Honor Widows

¹Do not sharply rebuke an older man, but rather appeal to him as a father, to the younger men as brothers,

²the older women as mothers, and the younger women as sisters, in all purity.

³Honor widows who actually need assistance;

⁴but if any widow has children or grandchildren, they must first learn to practice piety in regard to their own family and to make some return to their parents; for God accepts this.

⁵Now she who has become widow indeed and who has become abandoned, has fixed her hope on God and continues in entreaties and prayers night and day.

⁶But she who gives herself to wanton pleasure has, in effect, died even while she lives.

⁷Prescribe these things as well, so that they may remain above reproach.

⁸But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and behaves worse than an unbeliever.

⁹We should put a widow on the list only if she has reached sixty years, and had only married one man,

¹⁰having a reputation for good works; and if she has brought up children, if she has shown hospitality to strangers, if she has washed the saints' feet, if she has assisted those in distress, and if she has devoted herself to every good work.

¹¹But refuse to put younger widows on the list, for when they feel sensual desires in disregard of Christ, they want to get married,

¹²thus incurring condemnation, because they have set aside their previous pledge.

¹³At the same time they also learn idleness, as they go around from house to house; and not merely idle, but also gossips and busybodies, talking about things not proper to mention.

¹⁴Therefore, I want younger widows to get married, bear children, keep house, and give the enemy no occasion for reproach;

¹⁵for some have already turned aside to follow Satan.

¹⁶If any woman who we recognize as a believer has dependent widows, she must assist them and the church must not become burdened, so that it may assist those who we recognize as true widows indeed.

Concerning Elders

¹⁷The elders who rule well we should consider worthy of double honor, especially those who work hard at preaching and teaching.

¹⁸For the Scripture says, "YOU SHALL NOT MUZZLE THE OX WHILE HE THRESHES," and "The laborer deserves his wages."

¹⁹Do not receive an accusation against an elder except on the basis of two or three witnesses.

²⁰Those who continue in sin, rebuke in the presence of all, so that the rest also will have fear of sinning.

²¹I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus and of His chosen angels, to maintain these principles without bias, doing nothing in a spirit of partiality.

²²Do not lay hands upon anyone too hastily and thereby share responsibility for the sins of others; keep yourself free from sin.

²³No longer drink water exclusively, but use a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments.

²⁴The sins of some men become evident, going before them to judgment; for others, their sins follow after.

²⁵Likewise also, good deeds become quite evident, and bad deeds we cannot conceal either.

1 Timothy 6

NASB E-Prime DFM

Instructions to Those Who Minister

¹All who find themselves under the yoke as slaves should regard their own masters as worthy of all honor so that they will not speak against the name of God and our doctrine.

²Those who have believers as their masters must not show disrespect to them because they recognize them as brethren, they must serve them all the more, because those who partake of the benefit we recognize them as believers and beloved Teach and preach these principles.

³If anyone advocates a different doctrine and does not agree with sound words, those of our Lord Jesus Christ, and with the doctrine conforming to godliness,

⁴he shows conceit and understands nothing; but he has a morbid interest in controversial questions and disputes about words, out of which arise envy, strife, abusive language, evil suspicions,

⁵and constant friction between men of depraved mind and deprived of the truth, who suppose that they can use godliness as a means of gain.

⁶But godliness actually can lead to great gain when accompanied by contentment.

⁷For we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it either.

⁸If we have food and covering, with these we shall have contentment.

⁹ But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction.

¹⁰For the love of money resembles a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many grievances.

¹¹But flee from these things, you man of God, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance and gentleness.

¹² Fight the good fight of faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you received your calling, and you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

¹³ I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who testified the good confession before Pontius Pilate,

¹⁴that you keep the commandment without stain or reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ,

¹⁵which He will bring about at the proper time--He who we acknowledge as the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords,

¹⁶who alone possesses immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see To Him belong honor and eternal dominion! Amen.

¹⁷Instruct those who have grown rich in this present world not to have conceit or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy.

¹⁸Instruct them to do good, to become rich in good works, to show generosity and ready to share,

¹⁹storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which life consists.

²⁰O Timothy, guard what I have entrusted to you, avoiding worldly and empty chatter and the opposing arguments of what people falsely call "knowledge"--

²¹which some have professed and thus gone astray from the faith. May grace accompany you

2 Timothy 1-4

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

Timothy Charged to Guard His Trust

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, according to the promise of life in Christ Jesus,

²To Timothy, my beloved son: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³I thank God, whom I serve with a clear conscience the way my forefathers did, as I constantly remember you in my prayers night and day,

⁴longing to see you, even as I recall your tears, so that I may fill with joy.

⁵For I stay mindful of the sincere faith within you, which first dwelt in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I feel sure that it dwells in you as well.

⁶For this reason I remind you to kindle afresh the gift of God which dwells in you through the laying on of my hands.

⁷For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline.

⁸Therefore do not feel ashamed of the testimony of our Lord or of me His prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel according to the power of God,

⁹who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which God granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity,

¹⁰but now has become revealed by the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel,

¹¹for which He appointed me a preacher and an apostle and a teacher.

¹²For this reason I also suffer these things, but I do not feel ashamed; for I know whom I have believed and I feel convinced that He can guard what I have entrusted to Him until that day.

¹³Retain the standard of sound words which you have heard from me, in the faith and love which dwell in Christ Jesus.

¹⁴Guard, through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, the treasure which God has entrusted to you.

¹⁵You realize that all who live in Asia turned away from me, among whom we number Phygelus and Hermogenes.

¹⁶The Lord grant mercy to the house of Onesiphorus, for he often refreshed me and did not have shame because of my chains;

¹⁷but when he came to Rome, he eagerly searched for me and found me--

¹⁸the Lord grant to him to find mercy from the Lord on that day--and you know very well what services he rendered at Ephesus.

2 Timothy 2

NASB E-Prime DFM

Remain Strong

¹You therefore, my son, remain strong in the grace that dwells in Christ Jesus.

²The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will have the capability to teach others also.

³Suffer hardship with me, as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.

⁴No soldier in active service entangles himself in the affairs of everyday life, so that he may please the one who enlisted him as a soldier.

⁵Also if anyone competes as an athlete, he does not win the prize unless he competes according to the rules.

⁶The hard-working farmer ought have the first opportunity to receive his share of the crops.

⁷Consider what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.

⁸Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descendant of David, according to my gospel,

⁹for which I suffer hardship even to imprisonment as a criminal; but no one can imprison the word of God.

¹⁰For this reason I endure all things for the sake of those who God has chosen, so that they also may obtain the salvation which comes from Christ Jesus and with it eternal glory.

¹¹ I make a trustworthy statement:

For if we died with Him, we will also live with Him;

¹²If we endure, we will also reign with Him;

If we deny Him, He also will deny us;

¹³If we show faithlessness, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself.

An Unashamed Workman

¹⁴Remind them of these things, and solemnly charge them in the presence of God not to wrangle about words, which proves useless and leads to the ruin of the hearers.

¹⁵Show diligence to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to feel ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth.

¹⁶But avoid worldly and empty chatter, for it will lead to further ungodliness,

¹⁷and their talk will spread like gangrene. Among them we number Hymenaeus and Philetus,

¹⁸men who have gone astray from the truth saying that the resurrection has already taken place, and they upset the faith of some.

¹⁹Nevertheless, the firm foundation of God stands, having this seal, " The Lord knows those who belong to Him," and, " Everyone who names the name of the Lord should abstain from wickedness."

²⁰Now in a large house we find not only gold and silver vessels, but also vessels of wood and of earthenware, and some to honor and some to dishonor.

²¹Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from these things, he will become a vessel for honor, sanctified, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work.

²²Now flee from youthful lusts and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.

²³But refuse foolish and ignorant speculations, knowing that they produce quarrels.

²⁴The Lord's bond-servant must not quarrel, but show kindness to all, able to teach, patient when wronged,

²⁵ with gentleness correcting those who oppose, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth,

²⁶and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, having suffered captivity by him to do his will.

2 Timothy 3

NASB E-Prime DFM

"Difficult Times Will Come"

¹But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come.

²For men will love themselves, become lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy,

³ unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good,

⁴ treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,

⁵holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these.

⁶For among them we count those who enter into households and captivate weak women weighed down with sins, led on by various impulses,

⁷always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

⁸Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these men also oppose the truth, men of depraved mind, rejected in regard to the faith.

⁹But they will not make further progress; for their folly will appear obvious to all, just as Jannes's and Jambres's folly became evident.

¹⁰Now you followed my teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, patience, love, perseverance,

¹¹ persecutions, and sufferings, such as happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium and at Lystra; what persecutions I endured, and out of them all the Lord rescued me!

¹²Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.

¹³But evil men and impostors will proceed from bad to worse, deceiving and becoming deceived.

¹⁴You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned them,

¹⁵and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which have the capacity to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which dwells in Christ Jesus.

¹⁶All Scripture receives inspiration by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness;

¹⁷so that the man of God may become adequate, equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 4

NASB E-Prime DFM

"Preach the Word"

¹I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom:

²preach the word; remain ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction.

³For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires,

⁴and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.

⁵But you, keep sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

⁶For I already have become poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come.

⁷I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith;

⁸in the future God has laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.

Personal Concerns

⁹Make every effort to come to me soon;

¹⁰for Demas, having loved this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica; Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia.

¹¹Only Luke remains with me. Pick up Mark and bring him with you, for he has proved useful to me for service.

¹²But Tychicus I have sent to Ephesus.

¹³When you come bring the cloak which I left at Troas with Carpus, and the books, especially the parchments.

¹⁴Alexander the coppersmith did me much harm; the Lord will repay him according to his deeds.

¹⁵Stay on guard against him yourself, for he vigorously opposed our teaching.

¹⁶At my first defense no one supported me, but all deserted me; may no one count that against them.

¹⁷But the Lord stood with me and strengthened me, so that through me the proclamation might reach full accomplishment, and that all the Gentiles might hear; and I escaped out of the lion's mouth.

¹⁸The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed, and will bring me safely to His heavenly kingdom; to Him belong the glory forever and ever. Amen.

¹⁹Greet Prisca and Aquila, and the household of Onesiphorus.

²⁰Erastus remained at Corinth, but Trophimus I left sick at Miletus.

²¹Make every effort to come before winter. Eubulus greets you, also Pudens and Linus and Claudia and all the brethren.

²²The Lord go with your spirit. May you have grace.

Titus 1-3

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

Salutation

¹Paul, a bond-servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the faith of those chosen of God and the knowledge of the truth which leads to godliness,

²in the hope of eternal life, which God, who cannot lie, promised long ages ago,

³but at the proper time manifested, even His word, in the proclamation with which God entrusted me according to the commandment of God our Savior,

⁴To Titus, my true child in a common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.

Qualifications of Elders

⁵For this reason I left you in Crete, that you would set in order what remains and appoint elders in every city as I directed you,

⁶namely, if any man lives above reproach, the husband of one wife, having children who believe, not accused of dissipation or rebellion.

⁷For the overseer must live above reproach as God's steward, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not addicted to wine, not pugnacious, not fond of sordid gain,

⁸but hospitable, loving what we know as good, sensible, just, devout, self-controlled,

⁹holding fast the faithful word which accords with the teaching, so that he will have the capability to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict.

¹⁰For we can identify many rebellious men, empty talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision,

¹¹who you must silence because they upset whole families, teaching things they should not teach for the sake of sordid gain.

¹²One of themselves, a prophet of their own, said, Cretans always lie, acting like evil beasts and lazy gluttons."

¹³This testimony seems true. For this reason reprove them severely so that they may become sound in the faith,

¹⁴not paying attention to Jewish myths and commandments of men who turn away from the truth.

¹⁵To the pure, all things appear pure; but to those who have become defiled and unbelieving, nothing seems pure, but both their mind and their conscience have become defiled.

¹⁶They profess to know God, but by their deeds they deny Him, behaving detestably, disobediently and worthlessly for any good deed.

Titus 2

NASB E-Prime DFM

Duties of the Older and Younger

¹But as for you, speak the things which prove fitting for sound doctrine.

²Older men need to show temperance, dignity, sensibility, soundness in faith, in love, in perseverance.

³Older women likewise need to show reverence in their behavior, not malicious gossips nor enslaved to much wine, teaching what proves good,

⁴so that they may encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children,

⁵to behave sensibly, purely, becoming workers at home, kind, subjecting themselves to their own husbands, so that the word of God will not become dishonored.

⁶Likewise urge the young men to show sensibility;

⁷in all things show yourself as an example of good deeds, with purity in doctrine, dignified,

⁸sound in speech which people cannot reproach, so that the opponent will suffer shame, having nothing bad to say about us.

⁹Urge bondslaves to subject themselves to their own masters in everything, to have a pleasant demeanor, not argumentative,

¹⁰not pilfering, but showing all good faith so that they will adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in every respect.

¹¹For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men,

¹²instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age,

¹³looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus,

¹⁴who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.

¹⁵These things speak and exhort and reprove with all authority. Let no one disregard you.

Titus 3

NASB E-Prime DFM

Godly Living

¹Remind them to subject themselves to rulers, to authorities, to show obedience, to show readiness for every good deed,

²to malign no one, to behave peaceably, gently, showing every consideration for all men.

³For we also once demonstrated foolishness in ourselves, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another.

⁴But when the kindness of God our Savior and His love for mankind appeared,

⁵He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,

⁶which He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior,

⁷so that receiving justification by His grace we would become made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

⁸I make a trustworthy statement; and concerning these things I want you to speak confidently, so that those who have believed God will carefully engage in good deeds. These things prove good and profitable for men.

⁹But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and strife and disputes about the Law, for they prove unprofitable and worthless.

¹⁰Reject a factious man after a first and second warning,

¹¹knowing that such a man has become perverted and has sinned condemning himself.

Personal Concerns

¹²When I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, make every effort to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there.

¹³Diligently help Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way so that they lack nothing.

¹⁴Our people must also learn to engage in good deeds to meet pressing needs, so that they will not become unfruitful.

¹⁵All who dwell with me greet you. Greet those who love us in the faith. May grace abound with you all.

Philemon 1

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

Salutation

¹Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our beloved brother and fellow worker,

²and to Apphia our sister, and to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Philemon's Love and Faith

⁴ I thank my God always, making mention of you in my prayers,

⁵ because I hear of your love and of the faith which you have toward the Lord Jesus and toward all the saints;

⁶ and I pray that the fellowship of your faith may become effective through the knowledge of every good thing which lies in you for Christ's sake.

⁷ For I have come to have much joy and comfort in your love, because the hearts of the saints have received refreshment through you, brother.

⁸ Therefore, though I have enough confidence in Christ to order you to do what we consider proper,

⁹ yet for love's sake I rather appeal to you--since I make this request as Paul, the aged, and now also a prisoner of Christ Jesus--

Plea for Onesimus, a Free Man

¹⁰ I appeal to you for my child Onesimus, whom I have begotten in my imprisonment,

¹¹ who formerly proved useless to you, but now has usefulness both to you and to me.

¹² I have sent him back to you in person, namely, sending my very heart,

¹³ whom I wished to keep with me, so that on your behalf he might minister to me in my imprisonment for the gospel;

¹⁴ but without your consent I did not want to do anything, so that your goodness would not result, in effect, by compulsion but of your own free will.

¹⁵ For perhaps he for this reason separated himself from you for a while, that you would have him back forever,

¹⁶ no longer as a slave, but more than a slave, a beloved brother, especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷ If then you regard me a partner, accept him as you would me.

¹⁸ But if he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge that to my account;

¹⁹ I, Paul, write this with my own hand, I will repay it (not to mention to you that you owe to me even your own self as well).

²⁰ Yes, brother, let me benefit from you in the Lord; refresh my heart in Christ.

²¹ Having confidence in your obedience, I write to you, since I know that you will do even more than what I say.

²² At the same time also prepare me a lodging, for I hope that through your prayers I will come to you.

²³ Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, greets you,

²⁴as do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, Luke, my fellow workers.

²⁵The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ accompanies your spirit.

Hebrews 1-13

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

God's Final Word in His Son

¹God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways,

²in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.

³And He radiates His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

⁴having become as much better than the angels, as He has inherited a more excellent name than they.

⁵For to which of the angels did He ever say,

"I ACKNOWLEDGE YOU AS MY SON,
TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN YOU"?

And again,

"I WILL SERVE AS A FATHER TO HIM
AND HE SHALL REGARD ME AS HIS FATHER"?

⁶And when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says,

"AND LET ALL THE ANGELS OF GOD WORSHIP HIM."

⁷And of the angels He says,

"WHO MAKES HIS ANGELS WINDS,
AND HIS MINISTERS A FLAME OF FIRE."

⁸But of the Son He says,

"YOUR THRONE, O GOD, LASTS FOREVER AND EVER,

AND THE RIGHTEOUS SCEPTER WE ACKNOWLEDGE AS THE SCEPTER OF HIS KINGDOM.

⁹"YOU HAVE LOVED RIGHTEOUSNESS AND HATED LAWLESSNESS; THEREFORE GOD, YOUR GOD, HAS ANOINTED YOU WITH THE OIL OF GLADNESS ABOVE YOUR COMPANIONS."

¹⁰And, "YOU, LORD, IN THE BEGINNING LAID THE FOUNDATION OF THE EARTH, AND THE HEAVENS REPRESENT THE WORKS OF YOUR HANDS;

¹¹THEY WILL PERISH, BUT YOU REMAIN; AND THEY ALL WILL BECOME OLD LIKE A GARMENT,

¹²AND LIKE A MANTLE YOU WILL ROLL THEM UP; LIKE A GARMENT THEY WILL ALSO CHANGE BUT YOU REMAIN THE SAME, AND YOUR YEARS WILL NOT COME TO AN END."

¹³But to which of the angels has He ever said, "SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND, UNTIL I MAKE YOUR ENEMIES A FOOTSTOOL FOR YOUR FEET"?

¹⁴DO they not all serve as ministering spirits, sent out to render service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation?

Hebrews 2

NASB E-Prime DFM

Give Heed

¹For this reason we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away from it.

²For if the word spoken through angels proved unalterable, and every transgression and disobedience received a just penalty,

³how will we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? After it initially became first spoken through the Lord, those who heard confirmed it to us,

⁴God also testified with them, both by signs and wonders and by various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit according to His own will.

Earth Subject to Man

⁵For He did not subject to angels the world to come, concerning which we speak.

⁶But one has testified somewhere, saying,

"WHAT DOES MAN CONSIST OF, THAT YOU REMEMBER HIM?
OR THE SON OF MAN, THAT YOU CONCERN YOURSELF ABOUT HIM?"

⁷"YOU HAVE MADE HIM FOR A LITTLE WHILE LOWER THAN THE ANGELS; YOU HAVE CROWNED HIM WITH GLORY AND HONOR, AND HAVE APPOINTED HIM OVER THE WORKS OF YOUR HANDS;

⁸YOU HAVE PUT ALL THINGS IN SUBJECTION UNDER HIS FEET" For in subjecting all things to him, He left nothing that has not become subject to him But now we do not yet see all things subjected to him.

Jesus Briefly Humbled

⁹But we do see Him who God the Father made for a little while lower than the angels, namely, Jesus, because of the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone.

¹⁰For it seemed appropriate for Him, for whom came all things, and through whom came all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to perfect the author of their salvation through sufferings.

¹¹For both He who sanctifies and those who receive sanctification come from one Father; for which reason He does not feel ashamed to call them brethren,

¹²saying,

"I WILL PROCLAIM YOUR NAME TO MY BRETHREN,
IN THE MIDST OF THE CONGREGATION I WILL SING YOUR PRAISE."

¹³And again,

"I WILL PUT MY TRUST IN HIM"

And again, "BEHOLD, I AND THE CHILDREN WHOM GOD HAS GIVEN ME."

¹⁴Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, namely, the devil,

¹⁵and might free those who through fear of death felt subject to slavery all their lives.

¹⁶For assuredly He does not give help to angels, but He gives help to the descendant of Abraham.

¹⁷Therefore, He had to become made like His brethren in all things, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

¹⁸For since He Himself received temptation in that which He has suffered, He has the capability to come to the aid of those who undergo temptation.

Hebrews 3

NASB E-Prime DFM

Jesus Our High Priest

¹Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the Apostle and High Priest of our confession;

²He remained faithful to Him who appointed Him, as Moses also remained faithful in all His house.

³For we count Him worthy of more glory than Moses, by just so much as the builder of the house has more honor than the house.

⁴For someone builds every house, but God builds all things.

⁵Now Moses remained faithful in all His house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which became spoken later;

⁶but Christ remained faithful as a Son over His house—whose house we have become, if we hold fast our confidence and the boast of our hope firm until the end.

⁷Therefore, just as the Holy Spirit says,
"TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE,

⁸DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS AS WHEN THEY PROVOKED ME,
AS IN THE DAY OF TRIAL IN THE WILDERNESS,

⁹WHERE YOUR FATHERS TRIED ME BY TESTING ME,
AND SAW MY WORKS FOR FORTY YEARS.

¹⁰"THEREFORE I BECAME ANGRY WITH THIS GENERATION,
AND SAID, 'THEY ALWAYS GO ASTRAY IN THEIR HEART,
AND THEY DID NOT KNOW MY WAYS';

¹¹AS I SWORE IN MY WRATH,
'THEY SHALL NOT ENTER MY REST.'"

The Peril of Unbelief

¹²Take care, brethren, that there not exist in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God.

¹³But encourage one another day after day, as long as we still acknowledge "Today," so that none of you will become hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

¹⁴For we have become partakers of Christ, if we hold fast the beginning of our assurance firm until the end,

¹⁵while the scripture says,
"TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE,
DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS, AS WHEN THEY PROVOKED ME."

¹⁶For who provoked Him when they had heard? Indeed, did not all those who came out of Egypt led by Moses?

¹⁷And with whom did He become angry for forty years? Did it not occur with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness?

¹⁸And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who disobeyed?

¹⁹So we see that they could not enter because of unbelief.

Hebrews 4

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Believer's Rest

¹Therefore, let us fear if, while a promise remains of entering His rest, any one of you may seem to have come short of it.

²For indeed we have had good news preached to us, just as they also; but the word they heard did not profit them, because it did not connect to faith in those who heard.

³For we who have believed enter that rest, just as He has said,
"AS I SWORE IN MY WRATH,
THEY SHALL NOT ENTER MY REST," although His works came to a conclusion from the foundation of the world.

⁴For He has said somewhere concerning the seventh day: "AND GOD RESTED ON THE SEVENTH DAY FROM ALL HIS WORKS";

⁵and again in this passage, "THEY SHALL NOT ENTER MY REST."

⁶Therefore, since it remains for some to enter it, and those who formerly had good news preached to them failed to enter because of disobedience,

⁷He again fixes a certain day, "Today," saying through David after so long a time just as the scriptures has said before,

"TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE,
DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS."

⁸For if Joshua had given them rest, He would not have spoken of another day after that.

⁹So there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God.

¹⁰For the one who has entered His rest has himself also rested from his works, as God did from His.

¹¹Therefore let us show diligence to enter that rest, so that no one will fall, through following the same example of disobedience.

¹²For the word of God lives and acts and seems sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

¹³And no creature can hide from His sight, but all things have become open and lay bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.

¹⁴Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.

¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has suffered temptation in all things as we have, yet without sin.

¹⁶Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 5

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The Perfect High Priest

¹For every high priest taken from among men receives appointment on behalf of men in things pertaining to God, in order to offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins;

²he can deal gently with the ignorant and misguided, since he himself also experienced weakness;

³and because of it he has an obligation to offer sacrifices for sins, as for the people, so also for himself.

⁴And no one takes the honor to himself, but receives it when God calls him, even as He called Aaron.

⁵So also Christ did not glorify Himself so as to become a high priest, but He who said to Him,

"I ACKNOWLEDGE YOU AS MY SON,
TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN YOU";

⁶just as He says also in another passage,

"I APPOINT YOU AS A PRIEST FOREVER
ACCORDING TO THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK."

⁷In the days of His flesh, He offered up both prayers and supplications with loud crying and tears to the One able to save Him from death, and God heard him because of His piety.

⁸Although God confirmed Him as a Son, He learned obedience from the things which He suffered.

⁹And having grown into perfection, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation,

¹⁰Receiving designation from God as a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

¹¹Concerning him we have much to say, and we find it hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing.

¹²For though by this time you ought to serve as teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food.

¹³For everyone who partakes only of milk has not familiarized himself to the word of righteousness, for he resembles an infant.

¹⁴But solid food we reserve for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.

Hebrews 6

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Peril of Falling Away

¹Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God,

²of instruction about washings and laying on of hands, and the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment.

³And this we will do, if God permits.

⁴For in the case of those who have once have received enlightenment and have tasted of the heavenly gift and have partaken of the Holy Spirit,

⁵and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come,

⁶and then have fallen away, it has become impossible to renew them again to repentance, since they again crucify to themselves the Son of God and put Him to open shame.

⁷For ground that drinks the rain which often falls on it and brings forth vegetation useful to those for whose sake it has received tilling, receives a blessing from God;

⁸but if it yields thorns and thistles, we regard it as worthless and subject to receiving curses, and it ends up burned.

Better Things for You

⁹But, beloved, we have conviction of better things concerning you, and things that accompany salvation, though we speak in this way.

¹⁰For God does not act unjustly so as to forget your work and the love which you have shown toward His name, in having ministered and in still ministering to the saints.

¹¹And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence so as to realize the full assurance of hope until the end,

¹²so that you will not show sluggishness, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

¹³For when God made the promise to Abraham, since He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself,

¹⁴saying, "I WILL SURELY BLESS YOU AND I WILL SURELY MULTIPLY YOU."

¹⁵And so, having patiently waited, he obtained the promise.

¹⁶For men swear by one greater than themselves, and with them an oath given as confirmation proves an end of every dispute.

¹⁷In the same way God, desiring even more to show to the heirs of the promise the unchangeableness of His purpose, interposed with an oath,

¹⁸so that by two unchangeable things in which God has proclaimed it impossible, we who have taken refuge would have strong encouragement to take hold of the hope set before us.

¹⁹This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a hope both sure and steadfast and one which enters within the veil,

²⁰where Jesus has entered as a forerunner for us, having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

Hebrews 7

NASB E-Prime DFM

Melchizedek's Priesthood Like Christ's

¹For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, who met Abraham as he returned from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him,

²to whom also Abraham apportioned a tenth part of all the spoils, was first of all, by the translation of his name, king of righteousness, and then also king of Salem, which means king of peace.

³Without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of God, He remains a priest perpetually.

⁴Now observe how great this man seemed to Abraham, the patriarch, gave a tenth of the choicest spoils.

⁵And those indeed of the sons of Levi who receive the priest's office have commandment in the Law to collect a tenth from the people, namely, from their brethren, although these have descended from Abraham.

⁶But the one whose genealogy has not traced from them collected a tenth from Abraham and blessed the one who had the promises.

⁷But without any dispute the greater blesses the lesser.

⁸In this case mortal men receive tithes, but in that case one receives them, of whom we witnessed that he lives on.

⁹And, so to speak, through Abraham even Levi, who received tithes, paid tithes,

¹⁰for he existed in the loins of his father when Melchizedek met him.

¹¹Now if perfection came through the Levitical priesthood (for on the basis of it the people received the Law), what further need did we have for another priest to arise according to the order of Melchizedek, and not receive designation according to the order of Aaron?

¹²For when the priesthood becomes changed, of necessity there takes place a change of law also.

¹³For the one concerning whom these things people have spoken belongs to another tribe, from which no one has officiated at the altar.

¹⁴For it has become evident that our Lord had descended from Judah, a tribe with reference to which Moses spoke nothing concerning priests.

¹⁵And this becomes clearer still, if another priest arises according to the likeness of Melchizedek,

¹⁶who has become such not on the basis of a law of physical requirement, but according to the power of an indestructible life.

¹⁷For God attested of Him,

"I APPOINT YOU AS A PRIEST FOREVER
ACCORDING TO THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK."

¹⁸For, on the one hand, there appears a setting aside of a former commandment because of its weakness and uselessness

¹⁹(for the Law made nothing perfect), and on the other hand there will occur a bringing in of a better hope, through which we draw near to God.

²⁰And inasmuch as it did not occur without an oath

²¹(for they indeed became priests without an oath, but He with an oath through the One who said to Him,

"THE LORD HAS SWORN
AND WILL NOT CHANGE HIS MIND,
'I APPOINT YOU A PRIEST FOREVER'");

²²so much the more also Jesus has become the guarantee of a better covenant.

²³The former priests, on the one hand, existed in greater numbers because death prevented them from continuing,

²⁴but Jesus, on the other hand, because He continues forever, holds His priesthood permanently.

²⁵Therefore He has the ability to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

²⁶For it seemed fitting for us to have such a high priest, holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners and exalted above the heavens;

²⁷who does not need daily, like those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the sins of the people, because this He did once for all when He offered up Himself.

²⁸For the Law appoints men as high priests who have inherent weakness, but the word of the oath, which came after the Law, appoints a Son, made perfect forever.

Hebrews 8

NASB E-Prime DFM

A Better Ministry

¹Now the main point in what we have said consists of this: we have such a high priest, who has taken His seat at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens,

²a minister in the sanctuary and in the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, not man.

³For every high priest receives appointment to offer both gifts and sacrifices; so it becomes necessary that this high priest also have something to offer.

⁴Now if He lived on earth, He would serve as a priest at all, since there exist those who offer the gifts according to the Law;

⁵who serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly things, just as God warned Moses when he intended to erect the tabernacle; for, "SEE," He says, "THAT YOU MAKE all things ACCORDING TO THE PATTERN WHICH I SHOWED YOU ON THE MOUNTAIN."

⁶But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, by as much as He serves also as the mediator of a better covenant, which God has enacted on better promises.

A New Covenant

⁷For if that first covenant had no fault, there would have existed no occasion sought for a second.

⁸For finding fault with them, He says,
"BEHOLD, DAYS COME, SAYS THE LORD,
WHEN I WILL EFFECT A NEW COVENANT
WITH THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL AND WITH THE HOUSE OF JUDAH;

⁹NOT LIKE THE COVENANT WHICH I MADE WITH THEIR FATHERS
ON THE DAY WHEN I TOOK THEM BY THE HAND
TO LEAD THEM OUT OF THE LAND OF EGYPT;
FOR THEY DID NOT CONTINUE IN MY COVENANT,
AND I DID NOT CARE FOR THEM, SAYS THE LORD.

¹⁰"FOR THIS COVENANT THAT I WILL MAKE WITH THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL
AFTER THOSE DAYS, SAYS THE LORD:
I WILL PUT MY LAWS INTO THEIR MINDS,
AND I WILL WRITE THEM ON THEIR HEARTS.
AND I WILL RULE AS THEIR GOD,
AND THEY SHALL BECOME MY PEOPLE.

¹¹"AND THEY SHALL NOT TEACH EVERYONE HIS FELLOW CITIZEN,
AND EVERYONE HIS BROTHER, SAYING, 'KNOW THE LORD,'
FOR ALL WILL KNOW ME,
FROM THE LEAST TO THE GREATEST OF THEM.

¹²" FOR I WILL HAVE MERCY FOR THEIR INIQUITIES,
AND I WILL REMEMBER THEIR SINS NO MORE."

¹³When He said, "A new covenant," He has made the first obsolete But whatever becomes obsolete and grows old, ready to disappear.

Hebrews 9

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Old and the New

¹Now even the first covenant had regulations of divine worship and the earthly sanctuary.

²For people prepared a tabernacle, the outer one, in which stood the lampstand and the table and the sacred bread; this we called the holy place.

³Behind the second veil there stood a tabernacle which we called the Holy of Holies,

⁴having a golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant covered on all sides with gold, in which stood a golden jar holding the manna, and Aaron's rod which budded, and the tables of the covenant;

⁵and above it appeared the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat; but of these things we cannot now speak in detail.

⁶Now when people have prepared these things, the priests continually enter the outer tabernacle performing the divine worship,

⁷but into the second, only the high priest enters once a year, not without taking blood, which he offers for himself and for the sins of the people committed in ignorance.

⁸The Holy Spirit signifies this, that the way into the holy place has not yet become disclosed while the outer tabernacle still stands,

⁹which serves as a symbol for the present time. Accordingly both gifts and sacrifices priests offered which cannot make the worshiper perfect in conscience,

¹⁰since they relate only to food and drink and various washings, regulations for the body imposed until a time of reformation.

¹¹But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things to come, He entered through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, in other words, not of this creation;

¹²and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.

¹³For if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling those who have become defiled sanctify for the cleansing of the flesh,

¹⁴how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

¹⁵For this reason He serves as the mediator of a new covenant, so that, since a death has taken place for the redemption of the transgressions that people committed under the first covenant, those who God called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.

¹⁶For where a covenant takes place, there must of necessity occur the death of the one who made it.

¹⁷For a covenant becomes valid only when men die, for it had never become enforced while the one who made it lives.

¹⁸Therefore even the first covenant had not become inaugurated without blood.

¹⁹For after Moses had spoken every commandment to all the people according to the Law, he took the blood of the calves and the goats, with

water and scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people,

²⁰saying, "THIS REPRESENTS THE BLOOD OF THE COVENANT WHICH GOD COMMANDED YOU."

²¹And in the same way he sprinkled both the tabernacle and all the vessels of the ministry with the blood.

²²And according to the Law, one may almost say, all things become cleansed with blood, and without shedding of blood no forgiveness takes place.

²³Therefore it became necessary for the copies of the things in the heavens to become cleansed with these, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.

²⁴For Christ did not enter a holy place made with hands, a mere copy of the true one, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us;

²⁵nor would He offer Himself often, as the high priest enters the holy place year by year with blood that does not belong to him.

²⁶Otherwise, He would have needed to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now once at the consummation of the ages He manifested Himself to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.

²⁷And inasmuch as men have an appointment to die once and after this comes judgment,

²⁸so Christ also, having offered himself once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time for salvation without reference to sin, to those who eagerly await Him.

Hebrews 10

NASB E-Prime DFM

One Sacrifice of Christ Is Sufficient

¹For the Law, since it has only a shadow of the good things to come and not the very form of things, can never, by the same sacrifices which they offer continually year by year, make perfect those who draw near.

²Otherwise, would they not have ceased to offer them, because the worshipers, having once undergone cleansing, would no longer have had consciousness of sins?

³But in those sacrifices a reminder of sins exists year by year.

⁴For it proves impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.

⁵Therefore, when He comes into the world, He says,
"SACRIFICE AND OFFERING YOU HAVE NOT DESIRED,

BUT A BODY YOU HAVE PREPARED FOR ME;

⁶IN WHOLE BURNT OFFERINGS AND SACRIFICES FOR SIN YOU HAVE TAKEN NO PLEASURE.

⁷"THEN I SAID, 'BEHOLD, I HAVE COME
(IN THE SCROLL OF THE BOOK IT SAYS OF ME)
TO DO YOUR WILL, O GOD.'"

⁸After saying above, "SACRIFICES AND OFFERINGS AND WHOLE BURNT OFFERINGS AND sacrifices FOR SIN YOU HAVE NOT DESIRED, NOR HAVE YOU TAKEN PLEASURE in them" (which are offered according to the Law),

⁹then He said, "BEHOLD, I HAVE COME TO DO YOUR WILL." He takes away the first in order to establish the second.

¹⁰By this will we have received sanctification through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

¹¹Every priest stands daily ministering and offering time after time the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins;

¹²but He, having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD,

¹³waiting from that time onward UNTIL HIS ENEMIES BECOME A FOOTSTOOL FOR HIS FEET.

¹⁴For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who receive sanctification.

¹⁵And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us; for after saying,

¹⁶"THIS DESIGNATES THE COVENANT THAT I WILL MAKE WITH THEM
AFTER THOSE DAYS, SAYS THE LORD:
I WILL PUT MY LAWS UPON THEIR HEART,
AND ON THEIR MIND I WILL WRITE THEM,"
He then says,

¹⁷"AND THEIR SINS AND THEIR LAWLESS DEEDS
I WILL REMEMBER NO MORE."

¹⁸Now where no forgiveness of these things exists, there can no longer exist any offering for sin.

A New and Living Way

¹⁹Therefore, brethren, since we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus,

²⁰by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, namely, His flesh,

²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God,

²²let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

²³Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised demonstrates faithfulness;

²⁴and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds,

²⁵not forsaking our own assembling together, as has become the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

Christ or Judgment

²⁶For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,

²⁷but a terrifying expectation of judgment and THE FURY OF A FIRE WHICH WILL CONSUME THE ADVERSARIES.

²⁸Anyone who has set aside the Law of Moses dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses.

²⁹How much severe punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he received sanctification, and has insulted the Spirit of grace?

³⁰For we know Him who said, "VENGEANCE BELONGS TO ME, I WILL REPAY" And again, "THE LORD WILL JUDGE HIS PEOPLE."

³¹It proves a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

³²But remember the former days, when, after receiving enlightenment, you endured a great conflict of sufferings,

³³partly by serving as a public spectacle through reproaches and tribulations, and partly by becoming sharers with those who received the same treatment.

³⁴For you showed sympathy to the prisoners and accepted joyfully the seizure of your property, knowing that you have for yourselves a better possession and a lasting one.

³⁵Therefore, do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward.

³⁶For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what He had promised you.

³⁷FOR YET IN A VERY LITTLE WHILE,
HE WHO COMES WILL COME, AND WILL NOT DELAY.

³⁸BUT MY RIGHTEOUS ONE SHALL LIVE BY FAITH;
AND IF HE SHRINKS BACK, MY SOUL HAS NO PLEASURE IN HIM.

³⁹But we do not shrink back to destruction, but of those who have faith to the preserving of the soul.

Hebrews 11

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Triumphs of Faith

¹Now faith proves the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

²For by it the men of old gained approval.

³By faith we understand that the worlds received preparations by the word of God, so that what we see did not appear out of things which have visibility.

⁴By faith Abel offered to God a better sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained the testimony that he acted righteously, God testifying about his gifts, and through faith, though he has died, he still speaks.

⁵By faith God took Enoch up so that he would not see death; AND NO ONE COULD FIND HIM BECAUSE GOD TOOK HIM UP; for he obtained the witness that before God took him up He found Enoch pleasing.

⁶And without faith one finds it impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who seek Him.

⁷By faith Noah, when God warned him about things not yet seen, in reverence prepared an ark for the salvation of his household, by which he condemned the world, and became an heir of the righteousness which proves according to faith.

⁸By faith Abraham, when God called him, obeyed by going out to a place which he would receive for an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where God planned to lead him.

⁹By faith he lived as an alien in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, fellow heirs of the same promise;

¹⁰for he looked for the city which has foundations, which God planned and built.

¹¹By faith Sarah herself received ability to conceive, even beyond the proper time of life, since she considered Him faithful who had promised.

¹²Therefore there became born even of one man, and him as good as dead at that, as many descendants AS THE STARS OF HEAVEN IN NUMBER, AND INNUMERABLE AS THE SAND WHICH EXIST BY THE SEASHORE.

¹³All these died in faith, without receiving the promises, but having seen them and having welcomed them from a distance, and having confessed that they considered themselves strangers and exiles on the earth.

¹⁴For those who say such things make it clear that they seek a country of their own.

¹⁵And indeed if they had thought of that country from which they went out, they would have had opportunity to return.

¹⁶But as it turned out, they desire a better country, namely, a heavenly one. Therefore God does not feel ashamed to serve as their God; for He has prepared a city for them.

¹⁷By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son;

¹⁸ God said of Abraham, "IN ISAAC YOUR DESCENDANTS WILL RECEIVE THEIR CALLING."

¹⁹He considered that God can raise people even from the dead, from which he also received him back as a type.

²⁰By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau, even regarding things to come.

²¹By faith Jacob, as he died, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and worshiped, leaning on the top of his staff.

²²By faith Joseph, before he died, made mention of the exodus of the sons of Israel, and gave orders concerning his bones.

²³By faith Moses, when he entered the world, remained hidden for three months by his parents, because he appeared a beautiful child; and they did not fear the king's edict.

²⁴By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused people to call him the son of Pharaoh's daughter,

²⁵choosing rather to endure ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin,

²⁶considering the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt; for he looked to the reward.

²⁷By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured, as seeing Him who remains unseen.

²⁸By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of the blood, so that he who destroyed the firstborn would not touch them.

²⁹By faith they passed through the Red Sea as though they passed through dry land; and the Egyptians, when they attempted it, drowned.

³⁰By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after Joshua had encircled it for seven days.

³¹By faith Rahab the harlot did not perish along with those who disobeyed, after she had welcomed the spies in peace.

³²And what more shall I say? For time will fail me if I tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets,

³³who by faith conquered kingdoms, performed acts of righteousness, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions,

³⁴quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, from weakness received strength, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight.

³⁵Women received back their dead by resurrection; and others endured torture, not accepting their release, so that they might obtain a better resurrection;

³⁶and others experienced mockings and scourgings, yes, also chains and imprisonment.

³⁷They suffered stoning, their torturers sawed them in two, they endured temptation, they endured death with the sword; they went about in sheepskins, in goatskins, having become destitute, afflicted, ill-treated

³⁸(men of whom the world did not deserve), wandering in deserts and mountains and caves and holes in the ground.

³⁹And all these, having gained approval through their faith, did not receive their promises,

⁴⁰because God had provided something better for us, so that apart from us they would not receive perfecting.

Hebrews 12

NASB E-Prime DFM

Jesus, the Example

¹Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race set before us,

²fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

³For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

A Father's Discipline

⁴You have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood in your striving against sin;

⁵and you have forgotten the exhortation which God addresses you as sons,
"MY SON, DO NOT REGARD LIGHTLY THE DISCIPLINE OF THE LORD,
NOR FAINT WHEN HE REPROVES YOU;

⁶FOR THOSE WHOM THE LORD LOVES HE DISCIPLINES,
AND HE SCOURGES EVERY SON WHOM HE RECEIVES."

⁷For discipline you endure; God deals with you as with sons; for what son lives whom his father does not discipline?

⁸But if you have no discipline, of which all have become partakers, then you seem more like illegitimate children and not sons.

⁹Furthermore, we had earthly fathers to discipline us, and we respected them; shall we not much rather subject ourselves to the Father of spirits, and live?

¹⁰For they disciplined us for a short time as seemed best to them, but He disciplines us for our good, so that we may share His holiness.

¹¹All discipline for the moment seems not joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have endured training by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.

¹²Therefore, strengthen the hands that grow weak and the knees that grow feeble,

¹³and make straight paths for your feet, so that the lame limb may not go out of joint, but rather receive healing.

¹⁴Pursue peace with all men, and the sanctification without which no one will see the Lord.

¹⁵See to it that no one comes short of the grace of God; that no root of bitterness springing up causes trouble, and by it many suffer defilement;

¹⁶that there should live no immoral or godless person like Esau, who sold his own birthright for a single meal.

¹⁷For you know that even afterwards, when he desired to inherit the blessing, God rejected him, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought for it with tears.

Contrast of Sinai and Zion

¹⁸For you have not come to a mountain that one can touch and to a blazing fire, and to darkness and gloom and whirlwind,

¹⁹and to the blast of a trumpet and the sound of words which sound resembled such that those who heard begged that God would speak no further word to them.

²⁰For they could not bear the command, "IF EVEN A BEAST TOUCHES THE MOUNTAIN, YOU WILL STONE IT."

²¹And so terrible appeared the sight, that Moses said, "I FEEL FULL OF FEAR and trembling."

²²But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to myriads of angels,

²³to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who have received enrollment in heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect,

²⁴and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood, which speaks better than the blood of Abel.

The Unshaken Kingdom

²⁵See to it that you do not refuse Him who speaks For if those did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less will we escape who turn away from Him who warns from heaven.

²⁶And His voice shook the earth then, but now He has promised, saying, "YET ONCE MORE I WILL SHAKE NOT ONLY THE EARTH, BUT ALSO THE HEAVEN."

²⁷This expression, "Yet once more," denotes the removing of those things which can shake, as of created things, so that those things which cannot shake may remain.

²⁸Therefore, since we receive a kingdom which cannot shake, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable service with reverence and awe;

²⁹for our God resembles a consuming fire.

Hebrews 13

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Changeless Christ

¹Let love of the brethren continue.

²Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it.

³Remember the prisoners, as though in prison with them, and those who some have ill-treated, since you yourselves also reside in the body.

⁴All shall hold marriage in honor among all, and the marriage bed should remain undefiled; for fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

⁵Make sure that your character stays free from the love of money, having contentment with what you have; for He Himself has said, "I WILL NEVER DESERT YOU, NOR WILL I EVER FORSAKE YOU,"

⁶so that we confidently say,
"THE LORD HELPS ME, I WILL NOT FEAR.
WHAT WILL MAN DO TO ME?"

⁷Remember those who led you, who spoke the word of God to you; and considering the result of their conduct, imitate their faith.

⁸Jesus Christ remains the same yesterday and today and forever.

⁹Do not get carried away by varied and strange teachings; for it does the heart good to receive strength by grace, not by foods, through which those who occupied themselves could not receive benefit.

¹⁰We have an altar from which those who serve the tabernacle have no right to eat.

¹¹For the bodies of those animals whose blood the high priest brought into the holy place as an offering for sin, become burned outside the camp.

¹²Therefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people through His own blood, suffered outside the gate.

¹³So, let us go out to Him outside the camp, bearing His reproach.

¹⁴For here we do not have a lasting city, but we seek the city which will come.

God-pleasing Sacrifices

¹⁵Through Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, namely, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name.

¹⁶And do not neglect doing good and sharing, for with such sacrifices God seems pleased.

¹⁷Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would seem unprofitable for you.

¹⁸Pray for us, for we have assurance that we have a good conscience, desiring to conduct ourselves honorably in all things.

¹⁹And I urge you all the more to do this, so that I may become restored to you the sooner.

Benediction

²⁰Now the God of peace, who brought up from the dead the great Shepherd of the sheep through the blood of the eternal covenant, even Jesus our Lord,

²¹equip you in every good thing to do His will, working in us that which seems pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom we acknowledge the glory forever and ever. Amen.

²²But I urge you, brethren, bear with this word of exhortation, for I have written to you briefly.

²³Take notice that our brother Timothy has attained his freedom, with whom, if he comes soon, I will see you.

²⁴Greet all of your leaders and all the saints. Those from Italy greet you.

²⁵I send grace with you all.

James 1-5

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

Testing Your Faith

¹James, a bond-servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes dispersed abroad: Greetings.

²Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials,
³knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance.

⁴And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may become perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

⁵But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and God will give it to him.

⁶But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts resembles the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind.

⁷For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord,

⁸Having become double-minded, showing instability in all his ways.

⁹But the brother of humble circumstances should glory in his high position;

¹⁰and the rich man should glory in his humiliation, because like flowering grass he will pass away.

¹¹For the sun rises with a scorching wind and withers the grass; and its flower falls off and the beauty of its appearance perishes; so too the rich man in the midst of his pursuits will fade away.

¹²God blesses the man who perseveres under trial; for once God approves him, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.

¹³Let no one say, when he falls into temptation, "God has tempted me"; for God does not succumb to evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone.

¹⁴But each one falls into temptation when his own lust carries himself away and entices him.

¹⁵Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin has matured, it brings forth death.

¹⁶Do not fall under deception, my beloved brethren.

¹⁷Every good thing given and every perfect gift comes from above, coming down from the Father of lights, who demonstrates no variation or shifting shadow.

¹⁸In the exercise of His will He brought us forth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits among His creatures.

¹⁹This you know, my beloved brethren But everyone must quickly hear, slowly speak and have self control regarding anger;

²⁰for the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God.

²¹Therefore, putting aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which can save your souls.

²²But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves.

²³For if anyone hears the word and does not do the word, he resembles a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror;

²⁴for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what he previously looked like.

²⁵But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man will receive blessings in what he does.

²⁶If anyone considers himself religious, and yet does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this man's religion has no worth.

²⁷Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of our God and Father consists of this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

James 2

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Sin of Partiality

¹ My brethren, do not hold your faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ with an attitude of personal favoritism.

²For if a man comes into your assembly with a gold ring and dressed in fine clothes, and there also comes in a poor man in dirty clothes,

³and you pay special attention to the one who wears the fine clothes, and say, "You sit here in a good place," and you say to the poor man, "You stand over there, or sit down by my footstool,"

⁴have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil motives?

⁵Listen, my beloved brethren: did not God choose the poor of this world to demonstrate richness in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him?

⁶But you have dishonored the poor man. Does not the rich oppress you and personally drag you into court?

⁷Do they not blaspheme the fair name by which you have received your calling?

⁸If, however, you fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "OU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF," you do well.

⁹But if you show partiality, you commit sin and the law convicts you as transgressors.

¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all.

¹¹For He who said, " DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY," also said, " DO NOT COMMIT MURDER." Now if you do not commit adultery, but do commit murder, you have become a transgressor of the law.

¹²So speak and so act as those who will receive judgment by the law of liberty.

¹³For judgment will show no mercy to the one who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.

Faith and Works

¹⁴What use can it serve, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but he has no works? Can that faith save him?

¹⁵If a brother or sister has no clothing and in need of daily food,

¹⁶and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, become warm and filled," and yet you do not give them what they need for their body, what good can come of that?

¹⁷Even so faith, if it has no works, has perished.

¹⁸But someone may well say, "You have faith and I have works; show me your faith without the works, and I will show you my faith by my works."

¹⁹You believe that God consists of one Entity You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder.

²⁰But can you recognize, you foolish fellow, that faith without works has no use?

²¹Did not Abraham our father receive justification by works when he offered up Isaac his son on the altar?

²²You see that Abraham demonstrated faith in his works, and as a result of the works, faith became perfected;

²³and the Scripture reached fulfillment which says, "AND ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND GOD RECKONED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS," calling himself the friend of God.

²⁴You see that a man receives justification by works and not by faith alone.

²⁵In the same way, didn't Rahab the harlot receive justification by works when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way?

²⁶For just as the body without the spirit will die, so also faith without works will die.

James 3

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Tongue Ignites a Fire

¹ Let not many of you become teachers, my brethren, knowing that as such we will incur a stricter judgment.

²For we all stumble in many ways If anyone does not stumble in what he says, he becomes a perfect man, able to bridle the whole body as well.

³Now if we put the bits into the horses' mouths so that they will obey us, we direct their entire body as well.

⁴Look at the ships also, though they look so great and receive propulsion by strong winds, still receive direction by a very small rudder wherever the inclination of the pilot desires.

⁵So we also consider the tongue a small part of the body, and yet it boasts of great things See how a small fire sets a great forest!

⁶And the tongue resembles a fire, the very world of iniquity; the tongue rests among our members as that which defiles the entire body, and sets on fire the course of our life, and becomes ignited by hell.

⁷The human race has tamed every species of beasts and birds, of reptiles and creatures of the sea.

⁸But no one can tame the tongue; it contains restless evil and full of deadly poison.

⁹With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, whom God has made in His likeness.

¹⁰from the same mouth comes both blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to occur in this fashion.

¹¹Does a fountain send out from the same opening both fresh and bitter water?

¹²Can a fig tree, my brethren, produce olives, or a vine produce figs? Nor can salt water produce fresh.

Wisdom from Above

¹³Who among you claims wisdom and understanding? Let him show by his good behavior his deeds in the gentleness of wisdom.

¹⁴But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not demonstrate arrogance and so lie against the truth.

¹⁵This wisdom does not come down from above, but demonstrates earthly, natural, and demonic qualities.

¹⁶For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, disorder and every evil thing exists.

¹⁷But the wisdom from above demonstrates purity, peace, gentleness, reason, fullness of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy.

¹⁸Those who make peace will sow the seed whose fruit we ascertain as righteousness sown in peace.

James 4

NASB E-Prime DFM

Things to Avoid

¹What causes quarrels and conflicts among you? Do they not come from your pleasures that wage war in your members?

²You lust and do not have; so you commit murder. You envy and cannot obtain; so you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask.

³You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures.

⁴You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world equates to hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to seek friendship with the world makes himself an enemy of God.

⁵Or do you think that the Scripture speaks to no purpose: "He jealously desires the Spirit which He has made to dwell in us"?

⁶But He gives a greater grace Therefore it says, "GOD OPPOSES TO THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE."

⁷Submit therefore to God Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

⁸Draw near to God and He will draw near to you Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

⁹Humble yourselves in misery and mourn and weep; let your laughter turn into mourning and your joy to gloom.

¹⁰Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you.

¹¹Do not speak against one another, brethren He who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks against the law and judges the law; but if you judge the law, you cannot consider yourself a doer of the law but a judge of it.

¹²Only one Lawgiver and Judge exists, the One who can save and to destroy; but how can you presume to judge your neighbor?

¹³Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, and spend a year there and engage in business and make a profit."

¹⁴Yet you do not know what your life will have become tomorrow. You resemble a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away.

¹⁵Instead, you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and also do this or that."

¹⁶But currently, you boast in your arrogance; all such boasting has an evil source.

¹⁷Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, he sins.

James 5

NASB E-Prime DFM

Misuse of Riches

¹Come now, you rich, weep and howl for your miseries which come upon you.

²Your riches have rotted and your garments have become moth-eaten.

³Your gold and your silver have rusted; and their rust will witness against you and will consume your flesh like fire. You have stored up your treasure in the last days!

⁴Behold, the pay of the laborers who mowed your fields, and which have withheld, cries out against you; and the outcry of those who did the harvesting has reached the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth.

⁵You have lived luxuriously on the earth and led a life of wanton pleasure; you have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter.

⁶You have condemned and put to death the righteous man; he does not resist you.

Exhortation

⁷Therefore have patience, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious produce of the soil, exercising patience about it, until it gets the early and late rains.

⁸You too have patience; strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord has come near.

⁹Do not complain, brethren, against one another, so that you yourselves may not receive judgment; behold, the Judge stands right at the door.

¹⁰As an example, brethren, of suffering and patience, take ¹⁰the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

¹¹We count those blessed who endured. You have heard of the endurance of Job and have seen the outcome of the Lord's dealings, that the Lord has demonstrated compassion and mercy fully.

¹²But above all, my brethren, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or with any other oath; but your yes must remain yes, and your no, no, so that you may not fall under judgment.

¹³Does anyone among you suffer? Then he must pray. Does anyone have a cheerful outlook? He should sing praises.

¹⁴Has anyone among you become sick? Then he must call for the elders of the church and they should pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord;

¹⁵and the prayer offered in faith will restore the one who has become sick, and the Lord will raise him up, and if he has committed sins, the Lord will forgive him.

¹⁶Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may receive healing. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.

¹⁷Elijah had a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the earth for three years and six months.

¹⁸Then he prayed again, and the sky poured rain and the earth produced its fruit.

¹⁹My brethren, if any among you strays from the truth and one turns him back,

²⁰let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

1 Peter 1-5

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

A Living Hope, and a Sure Salvation

¹ Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who reside as aliens, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, whom God has chosen

²according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, by the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to obey Jesus Christ and receive the sprinkling of His blood: May grace and peace come to you in the fullest measure.

³ Blessings accrue to God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to receive the spiritual rebirth to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

⁴to obtain an inheritance which does not perish and become defiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

⁵who receive protection through the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to come to full revelation in the last time.

⁶In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, various trials have distressed you,

⁷so that the proof of your faith, more precious than gold which perishes, even though tested by fire, may result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

⁸and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory,

⁹obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls.

¹⁰As to this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace that would come to you made careful searches and inquiries,

¹¹seeking to know what person or time the Spirit of Christ within them was indicating as He predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories to follow.

¹²God revealed to them that they should not serve themselves, but you, in these things which He has announced to you through those who preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven--things into which angels long to look.

¹³Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace which will come to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

¹⁴As obedient children, do not conform yourselves to the former lusts which you served in your ignorance,

¹⁵but like the Holy One who called you, practice holiness yourselves also in all your behavior;

¹⁶because we read, " YOU SHALL PRACTICE HOLINESS, FOR I Embody HOLINESS."

¹⁷If you address as Father the One who impartially judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your stay on earth;

¹⁸knowing that God did not redeem you with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers,

¹⁹but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ.

²⁰For God has foreknown Him before the foundation of the world, but has appeared in these last times for the sake of you

²¹who through Him become believers in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope remain in God.

²²Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from the heart,

²³for you have received a spiritual rebirth not of seed which perishes but imperishable, namely, through the living and enduring word of God.

²⁴For,

" ALL FLESH RESEMBLES GRASS,
AND ALL ITS GLORY LIKE THE FLOWER OF GRASS.
THE GRASS WITHERS,
AND THE FLOWER FALLS OFF,

²⁵BUT THE WORD OF THE LORD ENDURES FOREVER "
And this word we have preached to you.

1 Peter 2

NASB E-Prime DFM

As Newborn Babies

¹Therefore, putting aside all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander,

²like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation,

³if you have tasted the kindness of the Lord.

As Living Stones

⁴And coming to Him as to a living stone which men rejected, but whom God regarded as choice and precious ,

⁵you also, as living stones, have become constructed as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

⁶For this appears in Scripture:

" BEHOLD, I LAY IN ZION A CHOICE STONE, A PRECIOUS CORNER stone,
AND HE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT HAVE DISAPPOINTMENT."

⁷This precious value, then, accrues to you who believe; but for those who disbelieve,

" THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED,
THIS BECAME THE VERY CORNER stone,"

⁸and,

" A STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE";

for they stumble because they disobey the word, and to this doom they appointed themselves.

⁹But GOD has made you A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR HIS OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

¹⁰for you once could not claim kinship as A PEOPLE, but now you have become THE PEOPLE OF GOD; you had NOT RECEIVED MERCY, but now you have RECEIVED MERCY.

¹¹Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul.

¹²Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of ^[a]visitation.

Honor Authority

¹³Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether to a king as the one in authority,

¹⁴or to governors as sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and the praise of those who do right.

¹⁵For God wills that by doing right you may silence the ignorance of foolish men.

¹⁶Act as free men, and do not use your freedom as a covering for evil, but use it as bondslaves of God.

¹⁷Honor all people, love the brotherhood, fear God, honor the king.

¹⁸Servants, submit to your masters with all respect, not only to those who do good and exercise gentleness, but also to those who behave unreasonably.

¹⁹For this finds favor, if for the sake of conscience toward God a person bears up under sorrows when suffering unjustly.

²⁰For what credit do you have if, when you sin and receive harsh treatment, you endure it with patience? But if when you do right and suffer for it you patiently endure it, this finds favor with God.

Christ Provides Our Example

²¹For God has called you for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps,

²²WHO COMMITTED NO SIN, NOR DECEIVED ANY WITH HIS MOUTH;

²³and while people reviled Him, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously;

²⁴and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you received healing.

²⁵For you continually strayed like sheep, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Guardian of your souls.

1 Peter 3

NASB E-Prime DFM

Godly Living

¹ In the same way, you wives, submit to your own husbands so that even if any of them disobey the word, you may win them without a word by the behavior of their wives,

²as they observe your chaste and respectful behavior.

³ Your adornment must not consist of external behavior merely external--braiding the hair, and wearing gold jewelry, or putting on dresses;

⁴but let it reside in the hidden person of the heart, with the imperishable quality of a gentle and quiet spirit, which God considers precious in His sight.

⁵For in this way in former times the holy women also, who hoped in God, used to adorn themselves, showing submission to their own husbands;

⁶just as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, and you have become her children if you right without having any fear.

⁷ You husbands in the same way, live with your wives in an understanding way, as with someone weaker, since God created her a woman; and show her honor as a fellow heir of the grace of life, so that your prayers will not suffer hindrance.

⁸To sum up, all of you behave harmoniously, sympathetically, brotherly, kindheartedly, and humbly in spirit;

⁹ not returning evil for evil or insult for insult, but giving a blessing instead; for God called you for the very purpose that you might inherit a blessing.

¹⁰For,

" THE ONE WHO DESIRES LIFE, TO LOVE AND SEE GOOD DAYS,
MUST KEEP HIS TONGUE FROM EVIL AND HIS LIPS FROM SPEAKING
DECEIT.

¹¹" HE MUST TURN AWAY FROM EVIL AND DO GOOD;
HE MUST SEEK PEACE AND PURSUE IT.

¹²" FOR THE LORD DIRECTS HIS EYES TOWARD THE RIGHTEOUS,
AND HIS EARS ATTEND TO THEIR PRAYER,
BUT THE FACE OF THE LORD SHUNS THOSE WHO DO EVIL."

¹³ Who will harm you if you prove zealous for good?

¹⁴But even if you should suffer for the sake of righteousness, God blesses you AND DO NOT FEAR THEIR INTIMIDATION, AND DO NOT ALLOW THEM TO TROUBLE YOU,

¹⁵but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always demonstrate readiness to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that you have, yet with gentleness and reverence;

¹⁶and keep a good conscience so that in the thing in which people slander you, those who revile your good behavior in Christ will suffer shame.

¹⁷You will find it preferable, if God should will it so, that you suffer for doing right rather than for doing wrong.

¹⁸For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having suffered death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit;

¹⁹in which also He went and made proclamation to the spirits now in prison,

²⁰who once disobeyed, when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the ark, in which God brought a few, namely, eight persons safely through the water.

²¹Corresponding to that, baptism now saves you-- not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God for a good conscience—through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

²²who sits at the right hand of God, having gone into heaven, after God subjected angels and authorities and powers to Him.

1 Peter 4

NASB E-Prime DFM

Keep Fervent in Your Love

¹Therefore, since Christ has suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same purpose, because he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin,

²so as to live the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for the lusts of men, but for the will of God.

³For the time already past has proven sufficient for you to have carried out the desire of the Gentiles, having pursued a course of sensuality, lusts, drunkenness, carousing, drinking parties and abominable idolatries.

⁴In all this, they show surprise that you do not run with them into the same excesses of dissipation, and they malign you;

⁵but they will give account to Him who has the capability and the readiness to judge the living and the dead.

⁶For God's servants have preached the gospel to you for this purpose, preaching even to those who have died, that though they have received judgment in the flesh as men, they may live in the spirit according to the will of God.

⁷The end of all things draws near; therefore, exercise sound judgment and sober spirit for the purpose of prayer.

⁸Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins.

⁹ Show hospitality to one another without complaint.

¹⁰As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

¹¹Whoever speaks should do so as one who speaks the utterances of God; whoever serves should do so as one who serves by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may have glory through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Share the Sufferings of Christ

¹²Beloved, do not seem surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing had happened to you;

¹³but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing, so that also at the revelation of His glory you may rejoice with exultation.

¹⁴If someone reviles you for the name of Christ, you receive a blessing, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you.

¹⁵Make sure that none of you suffers as a murderer, or thief, or evildoer, or a troublesome meddler;

¹⁶but if anyone suffers as a Christian, he should not have shame, but should glorify God in this name.

¹⁷For the time for judgment has arrived, beginning with the household of God; and if it begins with us first, what kind of outcome will befall those who do not obey the gospel of God?

¹⁸ AND IF THE RIGHTEOUS FIND SALVATION DIFFICULT, WHAT WILL BECOME OF THE GODLESS MAN AND THE SINNER?

¹⁹Therefore, those also who suffer according to the will of God shall entrust their souls to a faithful Creator in doing right.

1 Peter 5

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Serve God Willingly

¹ Therefore, I exhort the elders among you, as your fellow elder and witness of the sufferings of Christ, and a partaker also of the glory that will soon come to revelation,

² shepherd the flock of God among you, exercising oversight not under compulsion, but voluntarily, according to the will of God; and not for sordid gain, but with eagerness;

³ nor yet as lording it over those allotted to your charge, but providing examples to the flock.

⁴ And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

⁵ You younger men, likewise, subject yourselves to your elders; and all of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for GOD OPPOSES THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE.

⁶ Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time,

⁷ casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.

⁸ Have a sober spirit, stay alert for Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

⁹ But resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering take place in your brethren who live in the world.

¹⁰ After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you.

¹¹ May God have dominion forever and ever. Amen.

¹²Through Silvanus, our faithful brother (for so I regard him), I have written to you briefly, exhorting and testifying that he stand firm in the true grace of God!

¹³She who lives in Babylon, chosen together with you, sends you greetings, and so does my son, Mark.

¹⁴Greet one another with a kiss of love May all have peace who are in Christ.

2 Peter 1-3

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

Growth in Christian Virtue

¹Simon Peter, a bond-servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have received a faith of the same kind as ours, by the righteousness of our God and Savior, Jesus Christ:

²May grace and peace multiply to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord;

³seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.

⁴For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that remains in the world by lust.

⁵Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in your moral excellence, knowledge,

⁶and in your knowledge, self-control, and in your self-control, perseverance, and in your perseverance, godliness,

⁷and in your godliness, brotherly kindness, and in your brotherly kindness, love.

⁸For if these qualities belong to you and have increased, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁹For he who lacks these qualities has become blind or short-sighted, having forgotten his purification from his former sins.

¹⁰Therefore, brethren, show more diligence to make certain about His calling and choosing you; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble;

¹¹for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, Who will abundantly supply them to you.

¹²Therefore, I will always readily remind you of these things, even though you already know them, and have become established in the truth which resides with you.

¹³I consider it right, as long as I reside in this earthly dwelling, to stir you up by way of reminder,

¹⁴knowing that the laying aside of my earthly dwelling has become imminent, as also our Lord Jesus Christ has made clear to me.

¹⁵And I will diligently make sure that at any time after my departure you will have the capability of calling these things to mind.

Eyewitnesses

¹⁶For we did not follow cleverly devised tales when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we witnessed His majesty first hand.

¹⁷For when He received honor and glory from God the Father, such an utterance as this God the Father made to Him by the Majestic Glory, "This one I designate as My beloved Son with whom I feel well-pleased"--

¹⁸and we ourselves heard this utterance made from heaven when we stayed with Him on the holy mountain.

¹⁹So we have the prophetic word made more sure, to which you do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts.

²⁰But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture becomes a matter of one's own interpretation,

²¹for no prophecy ever came about by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

2 Peter 2

NASB E-Prime DFM

Largely e-prime

The Rise of False Prophets

¹But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will also emerge false teachers among you, who will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves.

²Many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of the truth they will malign;

³and in their greed they will exploit you with false words; their judgment from long ago does not remain idle, and their destruction does not sleep.

⁴For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to pits of darkness, reserved for judgment;

⁵and did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a preacher of righteousness, with seven others, when He brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly;

⁶and if He condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to destruction by reducing them to ashes, having made them an example to those who would live ungodly lives thereafter;

⁷and if He rescued righteous Lot, oppressed by the sensual conduct of unprincipled men

⁸(for by what he saw and heard that righteous man, while living among them, felt his righteous soul tormented day after day by their lawless deeds),

⁹then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from temptation, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment for the day of judgment,

¹⁰and especially those who indulge the flesh in its corrupt desires and despise authority Daring, self-willed, they do not tremble when they revile angelic majesties,

¹¹whereas angels who have greater might and power do not bring a reviling judgment against them before the Lord.

¹²But these, like unreasoning animals, born as creatures of instinct to fall into captivity and die, reviling where they have no knowledge, will in the destruction of those creatures also suffer destruction,

¹³suffering wrong as the wages of doing wrong They count it a pleasure to revel in the daytime They resemble stains and blemishes, reveling in their deceptions, as they carouse with you,

¹⁴having eyes full of adultery that never cease from sin, enticing unstable souls, having a heart trained in greed, accursed children;

¹⁵forsaking the right way, they have gone astray, having followed the way of Balaam, the son of Beor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;

¹⁶but he received a rebuke for his own transgression, for a mute donkey, speaking with a voice of a man, restrained the madness of the prophet.

¹⁷These resemble springs without water and mists driven by a storm, for whom God has reserved the black darkness.

¹⁸For speaking out arrogant words of vanity they entice by fleshly desires, by sensuality, those who barely escape from the ones who live in error,

¹⁹promising them freedom while they themselves enslave themselves to corruption; for by what overcomes a man enslaves him.

²⁰For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world by the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they again entangle themselves in them and succumb to them, the last state has become worse for them than the first.

²¹For it would have become more desirable for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn away from the holy commandment handed on to them.

²²It has happened to them according to the true proverb, "A DOG RETURNS TO ITS OWN VOMIT," and, "A sow, after washing, returns to wallowing in the mire."

2 Peter 3

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Purpose of This Letter

¹This constitutes now, beloved, the second letter I write to you in which I stir up your sincere mind by way of reminder,

²that you should remember the words spoken beforehand by the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior spoken by your apostles.

The Coming Day of the Lord

³Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with their mocking, following after their own lusts,

⁴and saying, "Where do we find the promise of His coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it had from the beginning of creation."

⁵For when they maintain this, it escapes their notice that by the word of God the heavens existed long ago and the He formed the earth out of water and by water,

⁶through which He destroyed the world at that time, flooding it with water.

⁷But by His word God has reserved the present heavens and earth for fire, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.

⁸But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day resembles a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day.

⁹The Lord does not delay about His promise, as some count slowness, but shows patience toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.

A New Heaven and Earth

¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will dissolve with intense heat, and the earth and its works will burn up.

¹¹Since God will destroy all these things in this way, what sort of people ought you aspire to in holy conduct and godliness,

¹²looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will suffer destruction by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat!

¹³But according to His promise we look for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.

¹⁴Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, diligently strive to have Him find you in peace, spotless and blameless,

¹⁵and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation; just as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given him, wrote to you,

¹⁶as also in all his letters, speaking in them of these things, in which we find some things hard to understand, which the untaught and unstable distort, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction.

¹⁷You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, keep on your guard so that you become unduly influenced by the error of unprincipled men and fall from your own steadfastness,

¹⁸but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ To Him we recognize the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

1 John 1-5

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

Introduction, The Incarnate Word

¹What existed from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the Word of Life--

²and the life manifested itself, and we have seen and testify and proclaim to you the eternal life, which existed with the Father and became manifested to us--

³what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed we have our fellowship with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ.

⁴These things we write, so that our joy may come to completion.

God Constitutes Light

⁵We recognize this as the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God comprises Light, and in Him there exists no darkness at all.

⁶If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth;

⁷but if we walk in the Light as He Himself walks in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

⁸If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth does not reside in us.

⁹If we confess our sins, He faithfully and righteously forgives us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

¹⁰If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word does not dwell in us.

1 John 2

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Christ Has Become Our Advocate

¹ My little children, I write these things to you so that you may not sin And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous;

²and He Himself has become the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world.

³ By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments.

⁴The one who says, " I have come to know Him," and does not keep His commandments, lies, and the truth does not dwell in him;

⁵but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly grown toward perfection By this we know that we dwell in Him:

⁶the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked.

⁷ Beloved, I have not written a new commandment to you, but an old commandment which you have had from the beginning; the old commandment you will recognize as the word which you have heard.

⁸On the other hand, I do write a new commandment to you, which proves true in Him and in you, because the darkness passes away and the true Light already shines.

⁹The one who says he walks in the Light and yet hates his brother dwells in the darkness until now.

¹⁰The one who loves his brother abides in the Light and demonstrates no cause for stumbling in him.

¹¹But the one who hates his brother lives in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he goes because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

¹²I write to you, little children, because you receive forgiveness for your sins.

¹³I write to you, fathers, because you know Him who has existed from the beginning I write to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one I have written to you, children, because you know the Father.

¹⁴I have written to you, fathers, because you know Him who has existed from the beginning I have written to you, young men, because you have strength, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one.

Do Not Love the World

¹⁵Do not love the world nor the things in the world If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father does not dwell in him.

¹⁶For all that dwells in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, does not emanate from the Father, but comes from the world.

¹⁷The world passes away, and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever.

¹⁸Children, the last hour has come; and just as you heard that antichrist will come, even now many antichrists have appeared; from this we know that the last hour has come .

¹⁹They went out from us, but they didn't really belong to us; for if they had belonged to us, they would have remained with us; but they went out, so that it would become apparent that they did not belong to us.

²⁰But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you all know.

²¹I have not written to you because you do not know the truth, but because you do know it, and because no lie derives from the truth.

²²Who has branded himself as the liar but the one who denies that Jesus constitutes the Christ? The antichrist denies the Father and the Son.

²³Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father; the one who confesses the Son has the Father also.

²⁴As for you, let that abide in you which you heard from the beginning If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, you also will abide in the Son and in the Father.

The Promise Constitutes Eternal Life

²⁵This constitutes the promise which He Himself made to us: eternal life.

²⁶These things I have written to you concerning those who have tried to deceive you.

²⁷As for you, the anointing which you received from Him abides in you, and you have no need for anyone to teach you; but as His anointing teaches you about all things, and has revealed truth and not falsehood, and just as it has taught you, you abide in Him.

²⁸Now, little children, abide in Him, so that when He appears, we may have confidence and not shrink away from Him in shame at His coming.

²⁹If you know that He encompasses righteous, you know that everyone also who practices righteousness has become born of Him.

1 John 3

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Children of God Love One Another

¹See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that He would call us children of God; and such we have become For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.

²Beloved, now we have become children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be will have become We will know that when He appears, we will resemble Him, because we will see Him just as He appears now.

³And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He comprises purity.

⁴Everyone who practices sin also practices lawlessness; and sin equates with lawlessness.

⁵You know that He appeared in order to take away sins; and in Him no sin exists.

⁶No one who abides in Him sins; no one who sins has seen Him or knows Him.

⁷Little children, make sure no one deceives you; the one who practices righteousness has become righteous, just as He comprises righteous;

⁸the one who practices sin comes from the devil; for the devil has sinned from the beginning The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil.

⁹No one who has become born of God practices sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he has become born of God.

¹⁰By this the children of God and the children of the devil become obvious: anyone who does not practice righteousness does not belong to God, nor the one who does not love his brother.

¹¹For this message which you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another;

¹²not as Cain, who, giving himself to the evil one and slew his brother And for what reason did he slay him? Because his deeds became evil, and his brother behaved righteously.

¹³Do not show surprise, brethren, if the world hates you.

¹⁴We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love abides in death.

¹⁵Everyone who hates his brother behaves as a murderer; and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

¹⁶We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

¹⁷But whoever has the world's goods, and sees his brother in need and closes his heart against him, how does the love of God abide in him?

¹⁸Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth.

¹⁹We will know by this that we belong to the truth, and will assure our heart before Him

²⁰in whatever our heart condemns us; for God has more influence than our heart and knows all things.

²¹Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God;

²²and whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do the things that please Him.

²³This constitutes His commandment, that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as He commanded us.

²⁴The one who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. We know by this that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

1 John 4

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Testing the Spirits

¹Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they come from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

²By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh comes from God;

³and every spirit that does not confess Jesus does not come from God; this identifies the spirit of the antichrist, of which you have heard that it will come, and now it has already appeared in the world.

⁴You come from God, little children, and have overcome them; because We recognize Him as greater who dwells in you than he who dwells in the world.

⁵They come from the world; therefore they speak as from the world, and the world listens to them.

⁶We come from God; he who knows God listens to us; he who does not from God does not listen to us By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

God Constitutes Love

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love comes from God; and everyone who loves has become born of God and knows God.

⁸The one who does not love does not know God, for God constitutes love.

⁹By this the love of God manifested itself in us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him.

¹⁰In this we see love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to serve as the propitiation for our sins.

¹¹Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

¹²No one has seen God at any time; if we love one another, God abides in us, and His love can perfect in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in Him and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit.

¹⁴We have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son to serve as the Savior of the world.

¹⁵Whoever confesses that we identify Jesus as the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.

¹⁶We have come to know and have believed the love which God has for us God constitutes love, and the one who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

¹⁷By this, love perfects within us, so that we may have confidence in the day of judgment; because as He appears now, so also we appear in this world.

¹⁸There exists no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves punishment, and the one who fears has not received perfection in love.

¹⁹We love, because He first loved us.

²⁰If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he lies; for the one who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen.

²¹And this commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also

1 John 5

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Overcoming the World

¹Whoever believes that Jesus constitutes the Christ who has become born of God, and whoever loves the Father loves the child born of Him.

²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and observe His commandments.

³For this demonstrates the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments do not seem burdensome.

⁴For whatever becomes born of God overcomes the world; and this constitutes the victory that has overcome the world--our faith.

⁵Who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus constitutes the Son of God?

⁶This One who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ; not with the water only, but with the water and with the blood The Spirit testifies, because the Spirit reveals the truth.

⁷For three testify:

⁸the Spirit and the water and the blood; and the three agree.

⁹If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God we regard as greater; for the testimony of God consists of this, that He has testified concerning His Son.

¹⁰The one who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself; the one who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has given concerning His Son.

¹¹And the testimony consists of this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life exists in His Son.

¹²He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.

This I Have Written That You May Know

¹³These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

¹⁴This confidence we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.

¹⁵And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him.

¹⁶If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not leading to death, he shall ask and God will for him give life to those who commit sin not leading to death. Some sins do lead to death; I do not say that he should make request for this.

¹⁷All unrighteousness equates with sin, and certain sins do not lead to death.

¹⁸We know that no one who has become born of God sins; but He who has become born of God keeps him, and the evil one does not touch him.

¹⁹We know that we belong to God, and that the whole world lies under the power of the evil one.

²⁰And we know that the Son of God has come, and has given us understanding so that we may know Him who remains true; and we dwell in Him who remains true, in His Son Jesus Christ This we acknowledge as the true God and eternal life.

²¹Little children, guard yourselves from idols.

2 John 1 wfn

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

Walk According to His Commandments

¹The elder to the chosen lady and her children, whom I love in truth; and not only I, but also all who know the truth,

²for the sake of the truth which abides in us and will abide with us forever:

³Grace, mercy and peace will dwell with us, from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love.

⁴I felt very glad to find some of your children walking in truth, just as we have received commandment to do from the Father.

⁵Now I ask you, lady, not as though I had written to you a new commandment, but the one which we have had from the beginning, that we love one another.

⁶And this shows love, that we walk according to His commandments This constitutes the commandment, just as you have heard from the beginning, that you should walk in it.

⁷For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh This represents the tactic of the deceiver and the antichrist.

⁸Watch yourselves, that you do not lose what we have accomplished, but that you may receive a full reward.

⁹Anyone who goes too far and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God; the one who abides in the teaching, he has both the Father and the Son.

¹⁰If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your house, and do not give him a greeting;

¹¹for the one who gives him a greeting participates in his evil deeds.

¹²Though I have many things to write to you, I do not want to do so with paper and ink; but I hope to come to you and speak face to face, so that your I can make your joy may full.

¹³The children of your chosen sister greet you.

3 John 1 wfn

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

You Walk in the Truth

¹The elder to the beloved Gaius, whom I love in truth.

²Beloved, I pray that in all respects you may prosper and remain in good health, just as your soul prospers.

³For I felt very glad when brethren came and testified to your truth, namely, how you walk in truth.

⁴I have no greater joy than this, to hear of my children walking in the truth.

⁵Beloved, you act faithfully in whatever you accomplish for the brethren, and especially when they have seemed strangers;

⁶and they have testified to your love before the church. You will do well to send them on their way in a manner worthy of God.

⁷For they went out for the sake of the Name, accepting nothing from the Gentiles.

⁸Therefore we ought to support such men, so that we may act as fellow workers with the truth.

⁹I wrote something to the church; but Diotrephes, who loves to place himself as first among them, does not accept what we say.

¹⁰For this reason, if I come, I will call attention to his deeds which he does, unjustly accusing us with wicked words; and not satisfied with this, he himself does not receive the brethren, either, and he forbids those who desire to do so and puts them out of the church.

¹¹Beloved, do not imitate evil, but good The one who does good comes from God; the one who does evil has not seen God.

¹²Demetrius has received a good testimony from everyone, and from the truth itself; and we add our testimony, and you know that our testimony rings true.

¹³ I had many things to write to you, but I do not want to write them to you with pen and ink;

¹⁴but I hope to see you shortly, and we will speak face to face.

¹⁵ I send peace to you. The friends greet you. Greet the friends by name.

Jude 1

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

The Warnings of History to the Ungodly

¹ Jude, a bond-servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, To those who have received the calling, beloved in God the Father, and kept for Jesus Christ:

² May mercy and peace and love increase exponentially to you.

³ Beloved, while I tried to make every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith which the saints had received.

⁴For certain persons have crept in unnoticed, those who God had long beforehand marked out for this condemnation, ungodly persons who turn the grace of our God into licentiousness and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

⁵Now I desire to remind you, though you know all things once for all, that the Lord, after saving a people out of the land of Egypt, subsequently destroyed those who did not believe.

⁶And angels who did not keep their own domain, but abandoned their proper abode, He has kept in eternal bonds under darkness for the judgment of the great day,

⁷just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities around them, since they in the same way as these indulged in gross immorality and went after strange flesh, exhibit themselves as an example in undergoing the punishment of eternal fire.

⁸Yet in the same way these men, also by dreaming, defile the flesh, and reject authority, and revile angelic majesties.

⁹But Michael the archangel, when he disputed with the devil and argued about the body of Moses, did not dare pronounce against him a railing judgment, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!"

¹⁰But these men revile the things which they do not understand; and the things which they know by instinct, like unreasoning animals, by these things they will receive destruction.

¹¹Woe to them! For they have gone the way of Cain, and for pay they have rushed headlong into the error of Balaam, and perished in the rebellion of Korah.

¹²These men who resemble hidden reefs in your love feasts when they feast with you without fear, caring for themselves; clouds without water, carried along by winds; autumn trees without fruit, doubly dead, uprooted;

¹³wild waves of the sea, casting up their own shame like foam; wandering stars, for whom the God reserved the black darkness forever.

¹⁴We also learned about these men from Enoch, in the seventh generation from Adam, who prophesied, saying, "Behold, the Lord came with many thousands of His holy ones,

¹⁵to execute judgment upon all, and to convict all the ungodly of all their ungodly deeds which they have done in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him."

¹⁶These grumblers, find fault, following after their own lusts; they speak arrogantly, flattering people for the sake of gaining an advantage.

Keep Yourselves in the Love of God

¹⁷But you, beloved, ought to remember the words which the Lord Christ spoke beforehand through by his apostles

¹⁸that they said to you, "In the last time mockers will arise, following after their own ungodly lusts."

¹⁹These mockers cause divisions, having become worldly-minded, devoid of the Spirit.

²⁰But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit,

²¹keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting anxiously for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life.

²²And have mercy on some, who doubt;

²³save others, snatching them out of the fire; and on some having mercy with fear, hating even the garment polluted by the flesh.

²⁴Now to Him who has the ability to keep you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy,

²⁵to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, we acknowledge as having glory, majesty, dominion and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

Revelation 1-22

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

¹The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show to His bond-servants, the things which must soon take place; and He sent and communicated it by His angel to His bond-servant John,

²who testified to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw.

³ Blessings will accrue to the person who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy, and heed the things which have appeared in it; for the time has drawn near.

Message to the Seven Churches

⁴ John to the seven churches that locate in Asia: Grace to you and peace, from Him who exists and who did exist and who will exist, and from the seven Spirits who dwell before His throne,

⁵and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth To Him who loves us and released us from our sins by His blood--

⁶and He has made us a kingdom, priests to His God and Father-- to Him belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷ BEHOLD, HE COMES WITH THE CLOUDS, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him. So it will happen. Amen.

⁸"I proclaim myself as the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, " who exists and who did exist and who will come, the Almighty."

The Patmos Vision

⁹ I, John, your brother and fellow partaker in the tribulation and kingdom and perseverance which we find in Jesus, resided on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.

¹⁰I found myself in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like the sound of a trumpet,

¹¹saying, " Write in a book what you see, and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea."

¹²Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands;

¹³and in the middle of the lampstands I saw one like a son of man, clothed in a robe reaching to the feet, and girded across His chest with a golden sash.

¹⁴His head and His hair appeared white like white wool, like snow; and His eyes resembled a flame of fire.

¹⁵His feet looked like burnished bronze, when it has become refined to glow in a furnace, and His voice resembled the sound of many waters.

¹⁶In His right hand He held seven stars, and out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword; and His face resembled the sun shining in its strength.

¹⁷When I saw Him, I fell at His feet like a dead man And He placed His right hand on me, saying, " Do not fear; I proclaim myself as the first and the last,

¹⁸and the living One; and I died, and behold, I live forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades.

¹⁹"Therefore write the things which you have seen, and the things which take place now, and the things which will take place after these things.

²⁰"As for the mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: the seven stars symbolize the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands symbolize the seven churches.

Revelation 2

NASB E-Prime DFM

Message to Ephesus

¹"To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: The One who holds the seven stars in His right hand, the One who walks among the seven golden lampstands, says this:

²I know your deeds and your toil and perseverance, and that you cannot tolerate evil men, and you put to the test those who call themselves apostles, and but do not behave like apostles, and you found them false apostles;

³and you have perseverance and have endured for My name's sake, and have not grown weary.

⁴But I have this against you, that you have left your first love.

⁵Therefore remember from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first; or else I will come to you and will remove your lampstand out of its place--unless you repent.

⁶Yet this you do have, that you hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.

⁷ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches To him who overcomes, I will grant to eat of the tree of life which located in the Paradise of God.'

Message to Smyrna

⁸"And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write: The first and the last, who had died, and has come to life, says this:

⁹I know your tribulation and your poverty (but proclaim yourself as rich), and the blasphemy by those who claim Jewishness but do not have Jewish ancestry, but constitute a synagogue of Satan.

¹⁰Do not fear what you will soon suffer. Behold, the devil intends to cast some of you into prison, so that you will receive testing, and you will have tribulation for ten days remain faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

¹¹ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches He who overcomes will not suffer the second death.'

Message to Pergamum

¹²"And to the angel of the church in Pergamum write: The One who has the sharp two-edged sword says this:

¹³I know where you dwell, where Satan's throne locates; and you hold fast My name, and did not deny My faith even in the days of Antipas, My witness, My faithful one, who received martyrdom among you, where Satan dwells.

¹⁴But I have a few things against you, because you have there some who hold the teaching of Balaam, who kept teaching Balak to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols and to commit acts of immorality.

¹⁵So you also have some who in the same way hold the teaching of the Nicolaitans.

¹⁶'Therefore repent; or else I will come to you quickly, and I will make war against them with the sword of My mouth.

¹⁷' He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches To him who overcomes, to him I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, and a new name written on the stone which no one knows but he who receives it.'

Message to Thyatira

¹⁸"And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write: The Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet resemble burnished bronze, says this:

¹⁹' I know your deeds, and your love and faith and service and perseverance, and that your deeds of late have become greater than at first.

²⁰'But I have this against you, that you tolerate the woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, and she teaches and leads My bond-servants astray so that they commit acts of immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols.

²¹' I gave her time to repent, and she does not want to repent of her immorality.

²²'Behold, I will throw her on a bed of sickness, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of her deeds.

²³'And I will kill her children with pestilence, and all the churches will know that I search the minds and hearts; and I will give to each one of you according to your deeds.

²⁴'But I say to you, the rest who dwell in Thyatira, who do not hold this teaching, who have not known the deep things of Satan, as they call them—I place no other burden on you.

²⁵'Nevertheless what you have, hold fast until I come.

²⁶' He who overcomes, and he who keeps My deeds until the end, TO HIM I WILL GIVE AUTHORITY OVER THE NATIONS;

²⁷AND HE SHALL RULE THEM WITH A ROD OF IRON, AS THE VESSELS OF THE POTTER BREAK TO PIECES, as I also have received authority from My Father;

²⁸and I will give him the morning star.

²⁹' He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'

Revelation 3

NASB E-Prime DFM

Message to Sardis

¹"To the angel of the church in Sardis write: He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars, says this: ' I know your deeds, that you have a name that you live, but you have died.

²Wake up, and strengthen the things that remain, which seemed about to die; for I have not found your deeds completed in the sight of My God.

³So remember what you have received and heard; and keep it, and repent Therefore if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come to you.

⁴But you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their garments; and they will walk with Me in white, for they have become worthy.

⁵ He who overcomes will thus receive clothing of white garments; and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.

⁶ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'

Message to Philadelphia

⁷"And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: He who has holiness, who has truth, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, and who shuts and no one opens, says this:

⁸ I know your deeds Behold, I have put before you an open door which no one can shut, because you have a little power, and have kept My word, and have not denied My name.

⁹Behold, I will cause those of the synagogue of Satan, who say that claim authentic Jewishness, but lie--I will make them come and bow down at your feet, and make them know that I have loved you.

¹⁰Because you have kept the word of My perseverance, I also will keep you from the hour of testing, that hour which will soon come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.

¹¹ I come quickly; hold fast what you have, so that no one will take your crown.

¹² He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he will not go out from it anymore; and I will write on him the name of My God, and the name of the city of My God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God, and My new name.

¹³ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'

Message to Laodicea

¹⁴"To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: The Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God, says this:

¹⁵ I know your deeds, that you seem neither cold nor hot; I wish that you would become cold or hot.

¹⁶ So because you seem lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of My mouth.

¹⁷ Because you say, " I have great riches, and have become wealthy, and have need of nothing," and you do not know that you appear wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked,

¹⁸ I advise you to buy from Me gold refined by fire so that you may become rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself, and that the shame of your nakedness will not become revealed; and eye salve to anoint your eyes so that you may see.

¹⁹ Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline; therefore show zeal and repent.

²⁰ Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me.

²¹ He who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.

²² He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

Revelation 4

NASB E-Prime DFM

Scene in Heaven

¹ After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven, and the first voice which I had heard, like the sound of a trumpet speaking with me, said, " Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after these things."

² Immediately I found myself in the Spirit; and behold, a throne stood in heaven, and One sitting on the throne.

³ And He who sat appeared like a jasper stone and a sardius in appearance; and there appeared a rainbow around the throne, like an emerald in appearance.

⁴ Around the throne stood twenty-four thrones; and upon the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white garments, and golden crowns on their heads.

The Throne and Worship of the Creator

⁵Out from the throne come flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder And there appeared seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which symbolized the seven Spirits of God;

⁶and before the throne appeared something like a sea of glass, like crystal; and in the center and around the throne, four living creatures full of eyes in front and behind.

⁷The first creature looked like a lion, and the second creature like a calf, and the third creature had a face like that of a man, and the fourth creature looked like a flying eagle.

⁸And the four living creatures, each one of them having six wings, and appeared full of eyes around and within; and day and night they do not cease to say, " HOLY, HOLY, HOLY do we acknowledge THE LORD GOD, THE ALMIGHTY, WHO EXISTED AND WHO EXISTS AND WHO WILL COME."

⁹And when the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, to Him who lives forever and ever,

¹⁰the twenty-four elders will fall down before Him who sits on the throne, and will worship Him who lives forever and ever, and will cast their crowns before the throne, saying,

¹¹" Worthy we consider You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and because of Your will they existed, and had become created."

Revelation 5

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Book with Seven Seals

¹I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a book written inside and on the back, sealed up with seven seals.

²And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Whom do we consider worthy to open the book and to break its seals?"

³And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth had the ability to open the book or to look into it.

⁴Then I began to weep greatly because they could find no one worthy to open the book or to look into it;

⁵and one of the elders said to me, "Stop weeping; behold, the Lion that comes from the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has overcome so as to open the book and its seven seals."

⁶And I saw between the throne (with the four living creatures) and the elders a Lamb standing, as if slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which symbolize the seven Spirits of God, sent out into all the earth.

⁷And He came and took the book out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne.

⁸When He had taken the book, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each one holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which symbolize the prayers of the saints.

⁹And they sang a new song, saying, " We acknowledge You to take the book and to break its seals; for You became slain, and purchased for God with Your blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation.

¹⁰"You have made them to become a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth."

Angels Exalt the Lamb

¹¹Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne and the living creatures and the elders; and the number of them exceeded myriads of myriads, and thousands of thousands,

¹²saying with a loud voice, " We acknowledge the slain Lamb as worthy to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing."

¹³And every created thing which dwells in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all things in them, I heard saying, "To Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, receives blessing and honor and glory and dominion forever and ever."

¹⁴And the four living creatures kept saying, " Amen " And the elders fell down and worshiped.

Revelation 6

NASB E-Prime DFM

The First Seal--Rider on White Horse

¹Then I saw when the Lamb broke one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures saying as with a voice of thunder, "Come."

²I looked, and behold, a white horse, and he who sat on it had a bow; and He received a crown , and he went out conquering and to conquer.

The Second Seal--War

³When He broke the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, "Come."

⁴And another, a red horse, went out; and to him who sat on it, he received the commission to take peace from the earth, and that men would slay one another; and someone gave him a sword.

The Third Seal--Famine

⁵When He broke the third seal, I heard the third living creature saying, "Come " I looked, and behold, a black horse; and he who sat on it had a pair of scales in his hand.

⁶And I heard something like a voice in the center of the four living creatures saying, "A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius; and do not damage the oil and the wine."

The Fourth Seal--Death

⁷When the Lamb broke the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, "Come."

⁸I looked, and behold, an ashen horse; and he who sat on it had the name Death; and Hades followed him They received Authority over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by the wild beasts of the earth.

The Fifth Seal--Martyrs

⁹When the Lamb broke the fifth seal, I saw underneath the altar the souls of those who had become slain because of the word of God, and because of the testimony which they had maintained;

¹⁰and they cried out with a loud voice, saying, " How long, O Lord, holy and true, will You refrain from judging and avenging our blood on those who dwell on the earth?"

¹¹And each of them received a white robe; and they learned that they should rest for a little while longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brethren who would suffer martyrdom even as they had been, would come to completion also.

The Sixth Seal--Terror

¹²I looked when He broke the sixth seal, and there erupted a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth made of hair, and the whole moon became like blood;

¹³and the stars of the sky fell to the earth, as a fig tree casts its unripe figs when shaken by a great wind.

¹⁴The sky split apart like a scroll when it becomes rolled up, and every mountain and island moved out of their places.

¹⁵Then the kings of the earth and the great men and the commanders and the rich and the strong and every slave and free man hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains;

¹⁶and they said to the mountains and to the rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the presence of Him who sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb;

¹⁷for the great day of their wrath has come, and who has the ability to stand?"

Revelation 7

NASB E-Prime DFM

An Interlude

¹After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds of the earth, so that no wind would blow on the earth or on the sea or on any tree.

²And I saw another angel ascending from the rising of the sun, having the seal of the living God; and he cried out with a loud voice to the four angels to whom God had commissioned to harm the earth and the sea,

³saying, " Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees until we have sealed the bond-servants of our God on their foreheads."

The 144,000

⁴And I heard the number of those who received the seal, one hundred and forty-four thousand sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel:

⁵from the tribe of Judah, twelve thousand had become sealed, from the tribe of Reuben twelve thousand, from the tribe of Gad twelve thousand,

⁶from the tribe of Asher twelve thousand, from the tribe of Naphtali twelve thousand, from the tribe of Manasseh twelve thousand,

⁷from the tribe of Simeon twelve thousand, from the tribe of Levi twelve thousand, from the tribe of Issachar twelve thousand,

⁸from the tribe of Zebulun twelve thousand, from the tribe of Joseph twelve thousand, from the tribe of Benjamin, twelve thousand became sealed.

A Multitude from the Tribulation

⁹After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could count, from every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and holding palm branches in their hands;

¹⁰and they cry out with a loud voice, saying, " Salvation to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb."

¹¹And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures; and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God,

¹²saying, " Amen, blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might, belong to our God forever and ever Amen."

¹³Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "These who have become clothed in the white robes, who do they represent, and where have they come from?"

¹⁴I said to him, "My lord, you know." And he said to me, "These symbolize the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵"For this reason, they stand before the throne of God; and they serve Him day and night in His temple; and He who sits on the throne will spread His tabernacle over them.

¹⁶" They will hunger no longer, nor thirst anymore; nor will the sun beat down on them, nor any heat;

¹⁷for the Lamb in the center of the throne will serve as their shepherd, and will guide them to springs of the water of life; and God will wipe every tear from their eyes."

Revelation 8

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Seventh Seal--the Trumpets

¹When the Lamb broke the seventh seal, there came silence in heaven for about half an hour.

²And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them.

³Another angel came and stood at the altar, holding a golden censer; having much incense, so that he might add it to the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar which appeared before the throne.

⁴And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, went up before God out of the angel's hand.

⁵Then the angel took the censer and filled it with the fire of the altar, and threw it to the earth; and there followed peals of thunder and sounds and flashes of lightning and an earthquake.

⁶ And the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound them.

⁷ The first sounded, and there came hail and fire, mixed with blood, and they the angels threw them to the earth; and a third of the earth burned up, and a third of the trees burned up, and all the green grass burned up.

⁸ The second angel sounded, and something like a great mountain burning with fire which he threw into the sea; and a third of the sea became blood,

⁹ and a third of the creatures which lived in the sea and had life, died; and a third of the ships suffered destruction.

¹⁰ The third angel sounded, and a great star fell from heaven, burning like a torch, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of waters.

¹¹ The star had the name of Wormwood; and a third of the waters became wormwood, and many men died from the waters, because they had become bitter.

¹² The fourth angel sounded, and struck a third of the sun and a third of the moon and a third of the stars, so that a third of them would become dark and the day would not shine for a third of it, and the night in the same way.

¹³ Then I looked, and I heard an eagle flying in midheaven, saying with a loud voice, " Woe, woe, woe to those who dwell on the earth, because of the remaining blasts of the trumpet of the three angels who would soon sound!"

Revelation 9

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Fifth Trumpet--the Bottomless Pit

¹ Then the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star from heaven which had fallen to the earth; and the angel received the key of the bottomless pit.

² He opened the bottomless pit, and smoke went up out of the pit, like the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air grew dark by the smoke of the pit.

³ Then out of the smoke came locusts upon the earth, and power came to them, as the scorpions of the earth have power.

⁴ They had instructions not to hurt the grass of the earth, nor any green thing, nor any tree, but only the men who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads.

⁵And they did not receive permission to kill anyone, but to torment for five months; and their torment felt like the torment of a scorpion when it stings a man.

⁶And in those days men will seek death and will not find it; they will long to die, and death flees from them.

⁷The appearance of the locusts resembled horses prepared for battle; and on their heads appeared crowns like gold, and their faces looked like the faces of men.

⁸They had hair like the hair of women, and their teeth resembled the teeth of lions.

⁹They had breastplates like breastplates of iron; and the sound of their wings resembled the sound of chariots, of many horses rushing to battle.

¹⁰They have tails like scorpions, and stings; and in their tails they have power to hurt men for five months.

¹¹They have as king over them, the angel of the abyss; his name in Hebrew we call Abaddon, and in the Greek he has the name Apollyon.

¹²The first woe has passed past; behold, two woes still come after these things.

The Sixth Trumpet--Army from the East

¹³Then the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which stands before God,

¹⁴one saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "Release the four angels who we have bound at the great river Euphrates."

¹⁵And the four angels, who had received preparation for the hour and day and month and year, became released, so that they would kill a third of mankind.

¹⁶The number of the armies of the horsemen consisted of two hundred million; I heard the number of them.

¹⁷And this I saw in the vision the horses and those who sat on them: the riders had breastplates the color of fire and of hyacinth and of brimstone; and the heads of the horses resembled the heads of lions; and out of their mouths proceed fire and smoke and brimstone.

¹⁸A third of mankind died by these three plagues, by the fire and the smoke and the brimstone which proceeded out of their mouths.

¹⁹For the power of the horses locates in their mouths and in their tails; for their tails resemble serpents and have heads, and with them they do harm.

²⁰The rest of mankind, who did not die by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands, so as not to worship demons, and the idols of gold

and of silver and of brass and of stone and of wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk;

²¹and they did not repent of their murders nor of their sorceries nor of their immorality nor of their thefts.

Revelation 10

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Angel and the Little Book

¹I saw another strong angel coming down out of heaven, clothed with a cloud; and the rainbow appeared upon his head, and his face looked like the sun, and his feet like pillars of fire;

²and he had in his hand a little book which he had opened. He placed his right foot on the sea and his left on the land;

³and he cried out with a loud voice, as when a lion roars; and when he had cried out, the seven peals of thunder uttered their voices.

⁴When the seven peals of thunder had spoken, I readied myself to write; and I heard a voice from heaven saying, "Seal up the things which the seven peals of thunder have spoken and do not write them."

⁵Then the angel whom I saw standing on the sea and on the land lifted up his right hand to heaven,

⁶and swore by Him who lives forever and ever, WHO CREATED HEAVEN AND THE THINGS IN IT, AND THE EARTH AND THE THINGS IN IT, AND THE SEA AND THE THINGS IN IT, that they will tolerate no more delay,

⁷but in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he will soon sound, then the mystery of God finishes, as He preached to His servants the prophets.

⁸Then the voice which I heard from heaven, I heard again speaking with me, and saying, "Go, take the book which lies open in the hand of the angel who stands on the sea and on the land."

⁹So I went to the angel, telling him to give me the little book. And he said to me, "Take it and eat it; it will make your stomach bitter, but in your mouth it will taste sweet as honey."

¹⁰I took the little book out of the angel's hand and ate it, and in my mouth it taste sweet as honey; and when I had eaten it, my stomach became bitter.

¹¹And they said to me, "You must prophesy again concerning many peoples and nations and tongues and kings."

Revelation 11

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Two Witnesses

¹Then I received a measuring rod like a staff; and someone said, "Get up and measure the temple of God and the altar, and those who worship in it.

²"Leave out the court which lies outside the temple and do not measure it, for the nations have received it; and they will tread underfoot the holy city for forty-two months.

³"And I will grant authority to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for twelve hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth."

⁴We see the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth.

⁵And if anyone wants to harm them, fire flows out of their mouth and devours their enemies; so if anyone wants to harm them, he will forfeit his life.

⁶These have the power to shut up the sky, so that rain will not fall during the days of their prophesying; and they have power over the waters to turn them into blood, and to strike the earth with every plague, as often as they desire.

⁷When they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up out of the abyss will make war with them, and overcome them and kill them.

⁸And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which mystically we call Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord suffered crucifixion.

⁹Those from the peoples and tribes and tongues and nations will look at their dead bodies for three and a half days, and will not permit their dead bodies to lay in a tomb.

¹⁰And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them and celebrate; and they will send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth.

¹¹But after the three and a half days, the breath of life from God came into them, and they stood on their feet; and great fear fell upon those who watched them.

¹²And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here" Then they went up into heaven in the cloud, and their enemies watched them.

¹³And in that hour there occurred a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell; seven thousand people died in the earthquake, and the rest felt terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven.

¹⁴The second woe has passed; behold, the third woe comes quickly.

The Seventh Trumpet--Christ's Reign Foreseen

¹⁵Then the seventh angel sounded; and we heard loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever."

¹⁶And the twenty-four elders, who sit on their thrones before God, fell on their faces and worshiped God,

¹⁷saying, "We give You thanks, O Lord God, the Almighty, who has always existed, because You have taken Your great power and have begun to reign.

¹⁸"And the nations became enraged, and Your wrath came, and the time came for the dead to receive judgment, and the time to reward Your bond-servants the prophets and the saints and those who fear Your name, the small and the great, and to destroy those who destroy the earth."

¹⁹And the temple of God which lies in heaven opened; and the ark of His covenant appeared in His temple, and we saw flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder and an earthquake and a great hailstorm.

Revelation 12

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Woman, Israel

¹A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars;

²and she labored with child; and she cried out, suffering in labor and in pain to give birth.

The Red Dragon, Satan

³Then another sign appeared in heaven: and behold, a great red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and it had seven diadems on his heads.

⁴And his tail swept away a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who became ready to give birth, so that when she gave birth he might devour her child.

The Male Child, Christ

⁵And she gave birth to a son, a male child, who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron; and her child became caught up to God and to His throne.

⁶Then the woman fled into the wilderness where she had a place prepared by God, so that there she would receive nourishment for one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

The Angel, Michael

⁷And there broke out war in heaven, Michael and his angels waging war with the dragon. The dragon and his angels waged war,

⁸and they didn't prove strong enough, and no place existed for them in heaven.

⁹And God threw the great dragon down, the serpent of old who we call the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; God threw him down to the earth, and threw his angels down with him.

¹⁰Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for God has thrown down the accuser of our brethren, he who accuses them before our God day and night.

¹¹"And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life even when faced with death.

¹²"For this reason, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them Woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, knowing that he has only a short time."

¹³And when the dragon saw that God had thrown him down to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male child.

¹⁴But the woman received two wings of the great eagle, so that she could fly into the wilderness to her place, where she received nourishment for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent.

¹⁵And the serpent poured water like a river out of his mouth after the woman, so that he might sweep her away with the flood.

¹⁶But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and drank up the river which the dragon poured out of his mouth.

¹⁷So the dragon became enraged with the woman, and went off to make war with the rest of her children, who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus.

Revelation 13

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Beast from the Sea

¹And the dragon stood on the sand of the seashore. Then I saw a beast coming up out of the sea, having ten horns and seven heads, and on his horns appeared ten diadems, and on his heads appeared blasphemous names.

²And the beast which I saw resembled a leopard, and his feet looked like those of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion And the dragon gave him his power and his throne and great authority.

³I saw one of his heads as if someone had slain it, and his fatal wound had healed. And the whole earth expressed amazement and followed after the beast;

⁴they worshiped the dragon because he gave his authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, " Who resembles the beast, and who can wage war with him?"

⁵He received a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies, and authority to act for forty-two months .

⁶And he opened his mouth in blasphemies against God, to blaspheme His name and His tabernacle, namely, those who dwell in heaven.

⁷He received the power to make war with the saints and to overcome them, and authority over every tribe and people and tongue and nation .

⁸All who dwell on the earth will worship him, everyone whose name God has written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who the world has slain.

⁹ If anyone has an ear, let him hear.

¹⁰ If anyone becomes destined for captivity, to captivity he goes; if anyone kills with the sword, with the sword he will die Here we witness the perseverance and the faith of the saints.

The Beast from the Earth

¹¹Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb and he spoke as a dragon.

¹²He exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence And he makes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose fatal wound had healed.

¹³He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down out of heaven to the earth in the presence of men.

¹⁴And he deceives those who dwell on the earth because of the signs which he had received to perform in the presence of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who had the wound of the sword and has come to life.

¹⁵And he received power to give breath to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast would even speak and cause as many as do not worship the image of the beast to die.

¹⁶And he causes all, the small and the great, and the rich and the poor, and the free men and the slaves, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their forehead,

¹⁷and he provides that no one can buy or to sell, except the one who has the mark, either the name of the beast or the number of his name.

¹⁸ Here we find wisdom Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for the number represents that of a man; and his number adds up to six hundred and sixty-six.

Revelation 14

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Lamb and the 144,000 on Mount Zion

¹Then I looked, and behold, the Lamb stood on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His name and the name of His Father written on their foreheads.

²And I heard a voice from heaven, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder, and the voice which I heard resembled the sound of harpists playing on their harps.

³And they sang a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders; and no one could learn the song except the one hundred and forty-four thousand who had received redemption from the earth.

⁴These have not defiled themselves with women, for they have kept themselves chaste These follow the Lamb wherever He goes These have become purchased from among men as first fruits to God and to the Lamb.

⁵And no lie existed in their mouth; they seemed blameless.

Vision of the Angel with the Gospel

⁶And I saw another angel flying in midheaven, having an eternal gospel to preach to those who live on the earth, and to every nation and tribe and tongue and people;

⁷and he said with a loud voice, " Fear God, and give Him glory, because the hour of His judgment has come; worship Him who made the heaven and the earth and sea and springs of waters."

⁸And another angel, a second one, followed, saying, " Babylon the great has fallen, has fallen, she who has made all the nations drink of the wine of the passion of her immorality."

Doom for Worshipers of the Beast

⁹Then another angel, a third one, followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives a mark on his forehead or on his hand,

¹⁰he also will drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which He mixed in full strength in the cup of His anger; and he will suffer torment with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb.

¹¹"And the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever; they have no rest day and night, those who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name."

¹²Here we witness the perseverance of the saints who keep the commandments of God and their faith in Jesus.

¹³And I heard a voice from heaven, saying, "Write, ' Blessed do we consider the dead who die in the Lord from now on!'" "Yes," says the Spirit, "so that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow with them."

The Reapers

¹⁴Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and sitting on the cloud appeared one like a son of man, having a golden crown on His head and a sharp sickle in His hand.

¹⁵And another angel came out of the temple, crying out with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, " Put in your sickle and reap, for the hour to reap has come, because the harvest of the earth has ripened."

¹⁶Then He who sat on the cloud swung His sickle over the earth, and He reaped the earth.

¹⁷And another angel came out of the temple which locates in heaven, and he also had a sharp sickle.

¹⁸Then another angel, the one who has power over fire, came out from the altar; and he called with a loud voice to him who had the sharp sickle,

saying, " Put in your sharp sickle and gather the clusters from the vine of the earth, because her grapes have ripened."

¹⁹So the angel swung his sickle to the earth and gathered the clusters from the vine of the earth, and threw them into the great wine press of the wrath of God.

²⁰And the angel trod the wine press outside the city, and blood came out from the wine press, up to the horses' bridles, for a distance of two hundred miles.

Revelation 15

NASB E-Prime DFM

A Scene of Heaven

¹Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous, seven angels who had seven plagues, which constitute the last, because in them the wrath of God has finished.

²And I saw something like a sea of glass mixed with fire, and those who had victory over the beast and his image and the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, holding harps of God.

³And they sang the song of Moses, the bond-servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying,

" Great and marvelous we acknowledge Your works,
O Lord God, the Almighty;
we acknowledge You as Righteous and true in Your ways,
King of the nations!

⁴" Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify Your name?
For You alone have holiness;
For ALL THE NATIONS WILL COME AND WORSHIP BEFORE YOU,
FOR YOUR RIGHTEOUS ACTS HAVE BECOME REVEALED."

⁵After these things I looked, and the temple of the tabernacle of testimony in heaven opened,

⁶and the seven angels who had the seven plagues came out of the temple, clothed in linen, clean and bright, and girded around their chests with golden sashes.

⁷Then one of the four living creatures gave to the seven angels seven golden bowls full of the wrath of God, who lives forever and ever.

⁸And the temple filled with smoke from the glory of God and from His power; and no one could enter the temple until the seven plagues of the seven angels had finished.

Revelation 16

NASB E-Prime DFM

Six Bowls of Wrath

¹Then I heard a loud voice from the temple, saying to the seven angels, "Go and pour out on the earth the seven bowls of the wrath of God."

²So the first angel went and poured out his bowl on the earth; and it became a loathsome and malignant sore on the people who had the mark of the beast and who worshiped his image.

³The second angel poured out his bowl into the sea, and it became blood like that of a dead man; and every living thing in the sea died.

⁴Then the third angel poured out his bowl into the rivers and the springs of waters; and these became blood.

⁵And I heard the angel of the waters saying, " We acknowledge You as Righteous , who have existed continually, O Holy One, because You judged these things;

⁶for they poured out the blood of saints and prophets, and You have given them blood to drink. They deserve it."

⁷And I heard the altar saying, "Yes, O Lord God, the Almighty, true and righteous we acknowledge Your judgments."

⁸The fourth angel poured out his bowl upon the sun, and he received it to scorch men with fire.

⁹Men became scorched with fierce heat; and they blasphemed the name of God who has the power over these plagues, and they did not repent so as to give Him glory.

¹⁰Then the fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom became darkened; and they gnawed their tongues because of pain,

¹¹and they blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores; and they did not repent of their deeds.

¹²The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river, the Euphrates; and its water dried up, so that the way would become prepared for the kings from the east.

Armageddon

¹³And I saw coming out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet, three unclean spirits like frogs;

¹⁴for they symbolized spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them together for the war of the great day of God, the Almighty.

¹⁵("Behold, I come like a thief the one who stays awake and keeps his clothes will receive a blessing, so that he will not walk about naked and men will not see his shame.")

¹⁶And they gathered them together to the place which in Hebrew we call Har-Magedon.

Seventh Bowl of Wrath

¹⁷Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl upon the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple from the throne, saying, " It has concluded."

¹⁸And flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder and a great earthquake erupted, such as had not occurred since man lived upon the earth.

¹⁹The great city split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell Babylon the great received remembrance before God, to give her the cup of the wine of His fierce wrath.

²⁰And every island fled away, and the mountains no one could find.

²¹And huge hailstones, about one hundred pounds each, came down from heaven upon men; and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, because its plague grew extremely severe.

Revelation 17

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Doom of Babylon

¹ Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and spoke with me, saying, "Come here, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters,

²with whom the kings of the earth committed acts of immorality, and those who dwell on the earth had become drunk with the wine of her immorality."

³And he carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness; and I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast, full of blasphemous names, having seven heads and ten horns.

⁴The woman had the clothing of purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a gold cup full of abominations and of the unclean things of her immorality,

⁵and on her forehead a name appeared, a mystery, "(BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH."

⁶And I saw the woman drunk with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the witnesses of Jesus. When I saw her, I wondered greatly.

⁷And the angel said to me, "Why do you wonder? I will tell you the mystery of the woman and of the beast that carries her, which has the seven heads and the ten horns.

⁸" The beast that you saw will come up out of the abyss and go to destruction And those who dwell on the earth, whose name God has not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, will wonder when they see the beast, that had temporarily vanished will come.

⁹" Here exists the mind which has wisdom The seven heads symbolize seven mountains on which the woman sits,

¹⁰and they have seven kings; five have fallen, one appears now, the other has not yet come; and when he comes, he must remain a little while.

¹¹"The beast which has temporarily vanished, has himself also an eighth and has become one of the seven, and he goes to destruction.

¹²"The ten horns which you saw symbolize ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but they receive authority as kings with the beast for one hour.

¹³"These have one purpose, and they give their power and authority to the beast.

Victory for the Lamb

¹⁴"These will wage war against the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, because He proclaims Himself as Lord of lords and King of kings, and those who accompany Him consist of the called and chosen and faithful."

¹⁵And he said to me, "The waters which you saw where the harlot sits, symbolize peoples and multitudes and nations and tongues.

¹⁶"And the ten horns which you saw, and the beast, these will hate the harlot and will make her desolate and naked, and will eat her flesh and will burn her up with fire.

¹⁷"For God has put it in their hearts to execute His purpose by having a common purpose, and by giving their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God will become fulfilled.

¹⁸"The woman whom you saw represents the great city, which reigns over the kings of the earth."

Revelation 18

NASB E-Prime DFM

Babylon Has Fallen

¹After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth became illumined with his glory.

²And he cried out with a mighty voice, saying, " Babylon the great has fallen, has fallen! She has become a dwelling place of demons and a prison of every unclean spirit, and a prison of every unclean and hateful bird.

³"For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the passion of her immorality, and the kings of the earth have committed acts of immorality with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich by the wealth of her sensuality."

⁴I heard another voice from heaven, saying, " Come out of her, my people, so that you will not participate in her sins and receive of her plagues;

⁵for her sins have piled up as high as heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities.

⁶" Pay her back even as she has paid, and give back to her double according to her deeds; in the cup which she has mixed, mix twice as much for her.

⁷" To the degree that she glorified herself and lived sensuously, to the same degree give her torment and mourning; for she says in her heart, ' I SIT as A QUEEN AND I WILL NEVER BECOME A WIDOW, and will never see mourning.'

⁸"For this reason in one day her plagues will come, pestilence and mourning and famine, and she will burn up with fire; for the Lord God who judges her has strength.

Lament for Babylon

⁹"And the kings of the earth, who committed acts of immorality and lived sensuously with her, will weep and lament over her when they see the smoke of her burning,

¹⁰ standing at a distance because of the fear of her torment, saying, ' Woe, woe, the great city, Babylon, the strong city! For in one hour your judgment has come.'

¹¹"And the merchants of the earth weep and mourn over her, because no one buys their cargoes any more--

¹²cargoes of gold and silver and precious stones and pearls and fine linen and purple and silk and scarlet, and every kind of citron wood and every article of ivory and every article made from very costly wood and bronze and iron and marble,

¹³and cinnamon and spice and incense and perfume and frankincense and wine and olive oil and fine flour and wheat and cattle and sheep, and cargoes of horses and chariots and slaves and human lives.

¹⁴"The fruit you long for has gone from you, and all things that seemed luxurious and splendid have passed away from you and men will no longer find them.

¹⁵"The merchants of these things, who became rich from her, will stand at a distance because of the fear of her torment, weeping and mourning,

¹⁶saying, ' Woe, woe, the great city, she who had clothed herself in fine linen and purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls;

¹⁷for in one hour such great wealth has become laid waste!' And every shipmaster and every passenger and sailor, and as many as make their living by the sea, stood at a distance,

¹⁸and cried out as they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, ' What city compares to the great city?'

¹⁹"And they threw dust on their heads and cried out, weeping and mourning, saying, ' Woe, woe, the great city, in which all who had ships at sea became rich by her wealth, for in one hour she has suffered destruction!'

²⁰" Rejoice over her, O heaven, and you saints and apostles and prophets, because God has pronounced judgment for you against her."

²¹Then a strong angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, "So will Babylon, the great city, become destroyed with violence, and no one will find her any longer.

²²"And the sound of harpists and musicians and flute-players and trumpeters will not sound in you any longer; and no craftsman of any craft will work in you any longer; and no one will hear the sound of a mill in you any longer;

²³and the light of a lamp will not shine in you any longer; and the voice of the bridegroom and bride will not resonate in you any longer; for your merchants previously served as the great men of the earth, because all the nations fell under deception by your sorcery.

²⁴"And in her one could find the blood of prophets and of saints and of all who godless persons have slain on the earth."

Revelation 19

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Fourfold Hallelujah

¹After these things I heard something like a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, " Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God;

² BECAUSE HIS JUDGMENTS PROVE TRUE AND RIGHTEOUS; for He has judged the great harlot who corrupted the earth with her immorality, and HE HAS AVENGED THE BLOOD OF HIS BOND-SERVANTS ON HER."

³And a second time they said, " Hallelujah! HER SMOKE RISES UP FOREVER AND EVER."

⁴And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who sits on the throne saying, " Amen Hallelujah!"

⁵And a voice came from the throne, saying, " Give praise to our God, all you His bond-servants, you who fear Him, the small and the great."

⁶Then I heard something like the voice of a great multitude and like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, saying, " Hallelujah! For the Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns.

Marriage of the Lamb

⁷"Let us rejoice and show gladness and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready."

⁸ She clothed herself in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen symbolizes the righteous acts of the saints.

⁹Then he said to me, " Write, ' Blessings accrue to those who received an invitation to the marriage supper of the Lamb '" And he said to me, " These represents the true words of God."

¹⁰Then I fell at his feet to worship him But he said to me, "Do not do that; I serve as your fellow servant and your brethren who hold the testimony of Jesus; worship God. For the testimony of Jesus equates to the spirit of prophecy."

The Coming of Christ

¹¹And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on we acknowledge as Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and wages war.

¹²His eyes resemble a flame of fire, and on His head rest many diadems; and He has a name written on Him which no one knows except Himself.

¹³He has clothed Himself with a robe dipped in blood, and He has a name called The Word of God.

¹⁴And the armies which reside in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses.

¹⁵From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty.

¹⁶And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, " KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."

¹⁷Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, and he cried out with a loud voice, saying to all the birds which fly in midheaven, " Come, assemble for the great supper of God,

¹⁸so that you may eat the flesh of kings and the flesh of commanders and the flesh of mighty men and the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them and the flesh of all men, both free men and slaves, and small and great."

¹⁹And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies assembled to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army.

Doom of the Beast and False Prophet

²⁰And God seized the beast , and with him the false prophet who performed the signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image; God threw these two alive into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone.

²¹And the rest suffered death with the sword which came from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse, and all the birds filled themselves with their flesh.

Revelation 20

NASB E-Prime DFM

Satan Bound

¹Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand.

²And he laid hold of the dragon, the serpent of old, who we also know as the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years;

³and he threw him into the abyss, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he would not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years had drawn to completion; after these things he must become released for a short time.

⁴Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and they received judgment to them And I saw the souls of those who had suffered beheading because of their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

⁵The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years had come to an end. This constitutes the first resurrection.

⁶We consider blessed and holy the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will serve as priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.

Satan Freed, Doomed

⁷When the thousand years had ended completed, God will release Satan from his prison,

⁸and Satan will come out to deceive the nations which lie in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together for the war; the number of them seems like the sand of the seashore.

⁹And they came up on the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, and fire came down from heaven and devoured them.

¹⁰And God threw the devil who deceived them into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet locate also; and they will suffer torment day and night forever and ever.

Judgment at the Throne of God

¹¹Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled away, and they could find no place for them.

¹²And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books opened; and another book opened, which we know as the book of life; and the dead received judgment from the things which appeared in the books, according to their deeds.

¹³And the sea gave up the dead which had lived in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which had lived in them; and they received judgment, every one of them according to their deeds.

¹⁴Then God threw death and Hades into the lake of fire. This constitutes the second death, the lake of fire.

¹⁵And if anyone's name didn't appear in the book of life, God threw him into the lake of fire.

Revelation 21

NASB E-Prime DFM

The New Heaven and Earth

¹Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there no longer existed any sea.

²And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband.

³And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God resides among men, and He will dwell among them, and they shall become His people, and God Himself will dwell among them,

⁴and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and death will no longer exist; no mourning will exist any longer, nor crying, nor pain; the first things have passed away."

⁵And He who sits on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new " And He said, "Write, for these words proves faithful and true."

⁶Then He said to me, " It has concluded I proclaim myself the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end I will give to the one who thirsts from the spring of the water of life without cost.

⁷" He who overcomes will inherit these things, and He will acknowledge Me as God and I will acknowledge him as My son.

⁸" But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will take place in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which constitutes the second death."

⁹Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and spoke with me, saying, " Come here, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb."

The New Jerusalem

¹⁰And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,

¹¹having the glory of God Her brilliance compares like a very costly stone, as a stone of crystal-clear jasper.

¹²It had a great and high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels; and names appeared on them, which consist of the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel.

¹³There existed three gates on the east and three gates on the north and three gates on the south and three gates on the west.

¹⁴And the wall of the city had twelve foundation stones, and on them appeared the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

¹⁵The one who spoke with me had a gold measuring rod to measure the city, and its gates and its wall.

¹⁶The city lays out as a square, and its length measures as great as the width; and he measured the city with the rod, fifteen hundred miles; its length and width and height appears equal.

¹⁷And he measured its wall, seventy-two yards, according to human measurements, which prove also angelic measurements.

¹⁸The material of the wall consisted of jasper; and the city consisted of pure gold, like clear glass.

¹⁹The foundation stones of the city wall received adornment with every kind of precious stone The first foundation stone consisted of jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, chalcedony; the fourth, emerald;

²⁰the fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, topaz; the tenth, chrysoprase; the eleventh, jacinth; the twelfth, amethyst.

²¹ And the twelve gates added up to twelve pearls; each one of the gates consisted of a single pearl. And the street of the city consisted of pure gold, like transparent glass.

²²I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb serve as its temple.

²³And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God has illumined it, and its lamp consists of the Lamb.

²⁴The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it.

²⁵In the daytime (for no night will exist there) its gates will never close;

²⁶and they will bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it;

²⁷and nothing unclean, and no one who practices abomination and lying, shall ever come into it, but only those whose names appear written in the Lamb's book of life.

Revelation 22

NASB E-Prime DFM

The River and the Tree of Life

¹Then he showed me a river of the water of life, clear as crystal, coming from the throne of God and of the Lamb,

²in the middle of its street On either side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree served for the healing of the nations.

³ There will no longer exist any curse; and the throne of God and of the Lamb will locate in it, and His bond-servants will serve Him;

⁴they will see His face, and His name will appear on their foreheads.

⁵And there will no longer exist any night; and they will not have need of the light of a lamp nor the light of the sun, because the Lord God will illumine them; and they will reign forever and ever.

⁶And he said to me, "These words we know as faithful and true"; and the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, sent His angel to show to His bond-servants the things which must soon take place.

⁷"And behold, I come quickly I count Blessed he who heeds the words of the prophecy of this book."

⁸I, John, heard and saw these things And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed me these things.

⁹But he said to me, "Do not do that I serve as a fellow servant of yours and of your brethren the prophets and of those who heed the words of this book. Worship God."

The Final Message

¹⁰And he said to me, " Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time draws near.

¹¹" Let the one who does wrong, still do wrong; and the one who has become filthy, still remain filthy; and let the one who has righteousness, still practice righteousness; and the one who has become holy, still keep himself holy."

¹²"Behold, I come quickly, and My I bring a reward with Me, to render to every man according to what he has done.

¹³"I proclaim myself as the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

¹⁴ We count blessed those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter by the gates into the city.

¹⁵ Outside remain the dogs and the sorcerers and the immoral persons and the murderers and the idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices lying.

¹⁶" I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches I serve as both the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star."

¹⁷The Spirit and the bride say, "Come " And let the one who hears say, "Come " And let the one who thirsts come; let the one who wishes take the water of life without cost.

¹⁸I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues which I write in this book;

¹⁹and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which I have written in this book.

²⁰He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I come quickly " Amen Come, Lord Jesus.

²¹The grace of the Lord Jesus remain with all. Amen.