FAITH, HOPE, & LOVE

THREE STEPS TO IMMORTALITY

And now abideth

Faith, Hope, Love,

these three; but the greatest of these is

Love.

1 Corinthians 13:13

These three processes (**Faith**, **Hope** ,and **Love**) can make the believer/receiver **immortal**. That could be you. You have been told to seek immortality.

Where does the Bible tell us to seek **immortality**?

Romans 2:7, To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and **immortality**, (He will give) eternal life:

Peter and Paul gave us patterns to follow that will lead us into **immortality**. We are going to look at **Faith**, **Hope**, and **Love** to see how they lead us into redemption of the Physical **Body**.

We are going to discover the difference between Faith and Hope. We will study how Love enters the equation later. My definitions of Faith and Hope are based on 20 years of deep study of the way that the Bible uses the words. The dictionary will not fully agree with my definitions, and neither will Strong's Concordance. After all, the dictionary is only a catalog of popular usage of words. I believe (am persuaded, convinced, assured) that you will agree with my definitions as soon as you can study your Bible because my definitions are based on the way the Bible uses the words.

Strong's Concordance and I have a little difference of opinion about

FAITH and **HOPE**.

WHAT IS FAITH?

FAITH IS FOR THE NOW - PRESENT

My definition of **Faith** is:

Faith is the **present** tense of the **future** tense verb **Hope**.

Faith is an **act** produced by belief, trust, persuasion, conviction, reliance, and/or assurance. We set the time for **Faith** by acting (doing something) in the present time (now).

Here is something really important for you to do by **Faith**.

Romans 10:9, That if thou shalt **confess** (by **Faith - present tense**) with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt **believe** (**be persuaded, convicted, assured - past tense**) in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

We set the time for the manifestation of **Faith** by acting or doing something like **confessing** at the present moment.

We are not talking about the Catholic **Faith**, or the Protestant **Faith**, or the Jewish **Faith**, or the Muslim **Faith**, etc. That's the way the dictionary uses the word **Faith**. The Bible doesn't use the word **Faith** like that. We will use the word **Faith** like the Bible does.

Faith and **Hope** are so closely connected that they are only divided by the tense of the verb. But, **Faith** and **Hope** are not the same thing and they should not be mixed up in our thinking and/or decision making.

The ACTION is Faith.

Faith is an **act** that produces the **manifestation** at the present time. **Faith** is not just simple belief in what has already happened. **Faith** takes place when you actually act.

WHAT IS HOPE?

HOPE IS FOR THE FUTURE

Hope is desire with expectation for something in the future. **God** sets the time to manifest (bring to pass in our sense realm so we can see, hear, smell, taste, and/or feel) the things that are **Hoped** for.

HOPE AND/OR FAITH?

Faith buys the object with money. Hope waits for the money. Hope waits for everything. By Faith you presently have strength, to have the money, to see the job through. Some people start a job by Faith and Hope it will get finished. JESUS warned us about this and said to make sure you have the Faith to produce the money to finish the job. Have you got enough Faith to finish the job?

BUILD BY FAITH

When you are building a house, it takes a lot of **Faith** and it takes a lot of money. Be sensitive enough to <u>not</u> get into something where **Faith** has to turn into **Hope**. You have to have the **Faith** to go all the way, to finish the house. Don't let your **Faith** turn to **Hope** or the house may not get finished. When **Faith** turns to **Hope**, the job may not get done.

Here is a scripture about having **Faith** to have enough money to complete the job:

Luke 14:28, For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and **counteth the cost**, whether he have sufficient to **finish** it?

FAITH OR HOPE FOR IMMORTALITY?

Christian believers/receivers walk a tight rope when we seek immortality. We must take actions by Faith that can place us in a better position to inherit immortality (eternal life). But we can't exercise Faith for immortality. We must Hope for it. It's a tricky walk.

Remember, we are to seek **immortality**. Romans 2:7, To them who by patient continuance in well doing **seek** for glory and honour and **immortality**, (He will give) eternal life:

The word **immortality** has been also translated **incorruption**, and also **not corruptible**. We are talking about overcoming **Death** in the **Physical Body**. We are <u>not</u> talking about **Dying** and going to heaven.

EXAMPLES

Here is another pattern that demonstrates the difference between **Faith** and **Hope**:

PASSOVER, PENTECOST, TABERNACLES

In the past, the Lamb of God, JESUS CHRIST, was slain at Passover. God set the time.

When the day of **Pentecost** had fully come, the **Holy Ghost** came. **God** set the time.

In the future, when the **Feast of Tabernacles** fully comes, we **Hope** that the glory and the energy of the Father will be revealed in us. **God** will set the time.

As in the above three examples, the timing is set by **our GOD**. We don't get to choose the time; it is set by **our GOD**. We can **Hope** for the coming of the time for the manifestation of the **Feast of Tabernacles** all we want, but **Hope** won't bring **Tabernacles**, no matter how much we **Hope**.

It's a good idea to take actions by **Faith** in order to prepare ourselves so that we can receive **immortality**. But we can't produce **immortality** for ourselves. We **Hope our GOD** will send **immortality** to our generation.

MORE EXAMPLES

Notice the pattern: PASSOVER, PENTECOST, TABERNACLES.

At PASSOVER, **JESUS** came to our **Spirit/heart.**

At PENTECOST, the **Holy Ghost** came to our **Soul/mind.**

At TABERNACLES, we **Hope our GOD** will manifest His **glo-ry** and **energy** in our Physical **Bodies**.

That will produce **immortality**.

PASSOVER RESTORED

The **restoration** of the **Passover Feast** to the modern church occurred at the beginning of the Reformation. (Oct. 31, 1517) Luther and Calvin **restored** the Lamb of **God**, **JESUS CHRIST**, to the church, at the **restoration** of **Passover**.

PENTECOST RESTORED

The **restoration** of **Pentecost** to the modern church occurred on April 9, 1906, at the Azusa Street Mission, in Los Angeles. William Seymour, a black evangelist, was used by **our GOD** to restore the **Holy Ghost** to the church, at the **restoration** of **Pentecost**.

TABERNACLES WILL BE RESTORED

The **restoration** of the **Feast of Tabernacles** to the present day church should occur in the future. It may occur **sooner** than we think. But, none of us can manifest the **Feast of Tabernacles** by our **own Faith** and set our **own time** for it to come. We can **Hope** that **our GOD** will restore the **Feast of Tabernacles** in our own lifetime.

A STRANGE THOUGHT

Passover was restored in October at the time of **Tabernacles**.

Pentecost was restored in April at the time of **Passover**.

If we extrapolate those facts we might logically wonder if **Tabernacles** will be restored at the time of The Feast of **Pentecost** (often in June).

It may be a coincidence, maybe not.

PASSOVER, PENTECOST, TABERNACLES --THE LAW

This quick review of the law might be helpful. Exodus 23:14-15, **Three** times thou shalt keep a feast unto me in the year.

15 Thou shalt keep the feast of unleavened bread: (**Passover**) (thou shalt eat unleavened bread seven days, as I commanded thee, in the time appointed of the month Abib; for in it thou camest out from Egypt: and none shall appear before me empty:)

And the feast of harvest, (**Pentecost**) the firstfruits of thy labours, which thou hast sown in the field: and the feast of ingathering, (**Tabernacles**) which is in the end of the year, when thou hast gathered in thy labours out of the field.

The idea of **restoring** the spirit of OT events to the NT church is in several places of the Bible. Here's one example.

Amos 9:11, In that day will I raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen, and close up the breaches thereof; and I will raise up his ruins, and I will build it as in the days of old:

Here is another. Matthew 17:11, And Jesus answered and said unto them, Elias truly shall first come, and **restore** all things.

A CHANGE FROM THE NORM

Our usual studies of the triune nature of **Spirit**, **Soul**, and **Body** and/or the studies of **Passover**, **Pentecost**, and **Tabernacles** do not produce the usual alignment when we study **Faith**, **Hope**, and **Love**.

That may surprise our students, so notice the difference.

In other words, **Faith** does not line up exclusively with **Spirit**, or **Soul**, or **Body**.

Faith lines up with Spirit and Soul.

Hope lines up with Body.

Love lines up with everything.

THE THREE FEASTS ARE FOR THE THREE PARTS OF MANKIND

SPIRIT, SOUL & BODY

PASSOVER FAITH & GRACE -- Spirit/heart

Faith and Grace are for the salvation of the Spirit/heart. Our Spirits were (past tense) saved by JESUS CHRIST at the Passover Feast. Spirit/heart salvation is a Calvinistic experience.

PENTECOST FAITH & WORKS - Soul/mind

Faith and works are for the salvation of the Soul/mind. Our Souls are being (present tense) saved as we receive the engrafted word (the Bible) which is able to save our Souls. The Holy Spirit came to the church at the time of the Feast of Pentecost. Soul/mind salvation is an Ar-minian, Weslyan, Holiness, Pentecostal experience.

TABERNACLES HOPE - Body

Hope is for the salvation of the **Body**.

Our **Bodies** will be (future tense) **Saved** as soon as **our GOD** sends His **energy** and **glory** into them at the time of the **Feast of Tabernacles**.

At that time a group of **Christian believers/receivers** will become **immortal**.

Body salvation is not a major subject of study in any Christian denomination or large group, yet.

SAVED OR NOT?

Spirit/heart

Grace & Faith are for the **Spirit/heart**.

Ephesians 2:8-9, For by **Grace** are ye saved through **Faith**; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of **God**:

⁹ **Not of works**, lest any man should boast.

Ephesians 2:9 says, "It (salvation) is **NOT** of **works**, lest any man should boast." None of us did anything good enough to get saved in our **Spirits**. It was by God's **Grace**, and His **alone**. If any of us could do anything good enough to get **JESUS** in the **heart**, then it would be **our works** that got us into heaven. But that is not the way it is.

SOUL

Works and Faith are for the Soul/mind.

Philippians 2:12, Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, **Work out** your own **salvation** with fear and trembling.

Philippians 2:12 says, "Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling." The same Bible said salvation is by **Faith** and **not** of Works. (Eph. 2:8) That seems to be contradictory. But it makes sense when you see that the scriptures in the Bible sometimes refer to the **Spirit/heart** and sometimes

refer to the **Soul/ mind**, and sometimes refer to the **Body**.

Here is something that is also confusing until you see the difference between the salvation of the **Spirit/heart** and the salvation of the **Soul/mind**.

SOUL OR SPIRIT?

James 1:21, Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the **engrafted** word, which is able to **save your** <u>souls</u>.

That scripture does not make sense because it was written to people who were **already** saved. If they were **already** saved, how can they become **more** saved? The answer is in the verses just before.

THE BROTHERS ARE ALREADY SAVED!

James 1:1-2, James, a servant of God and of the **Lord JESUS CHRIST**, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting.

² **My brethren**, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;

When James wrote to his **brethren**, (James 1:2) he addressed them as though they were **already saved**. Then he told them to **get saved** some more (James 1:21).

The answer to this perplexing question is that the brethren were **already saved** in their **Spir-it/heart.**

But, even after that, the **brethren** needed further salvation in their **Soul/mind**.

When you read books, listen to tapes, and go to Bible studies, you **hear** the engrafted word and receive it into your **Soul/mind** with meekness. Then the engrafted word is able to save your **Soul/mind**. And that takes a lot of **work** on your part; remember that **Soul/mind** salvation takes your **work** and your **Faith**.

When the Bible talks about working out your own salvation, it is not necessarily talking about working in a soup kitchen, or working in a church office, or working by handing out tracts. In this case, it is talking about working on your own Soul/mind, not somebody else's.

Repeating James 1:21, Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the **engrafted** word, which is able to **save your souls**.

The engrafted word saves **Souls/minds**, not **Spirits/hearts**. **JESUS** saved **Spirits**.

Repeating Philippians 2:12, Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, **work out** your own **salvation** with fear and trembling.

"Work out your own salvation" was written to people who were **already saved** in their **Spirit/heart**, yet James talks about a further **salvation** -- a salvation for the **Soul/mind**. "Receive with meekness the engrafted word which is able to **save your Soul/mind**."

When you begin to look in the Bible very carefully, there is a difference between salvation for the **Spirit/heart**, **Soul/mind**, and **Body**. Most **Christian**s have <u>not</u> noticed the difference; most of our students have. My book titled <u>THE</u> <u>THIRD SALVATION</u> is humbly recommended for further study of **Spirit**, **Soul**, and **Body** salvations.

In order to see the difference between **Faith** and **works**, you need to see the difference between **Spirit/heart**, **Soul/mind**, and **Body**.

Faith and Grace are for the Spirit/heart.

Faith and Work are for the Soul/mind.

Hope is for the salvation of the Body.

REDEMPTION OF OUR BODY

Romans 8:22, For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.

And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves **groan** within ourselves, **waiting** for the adoption, to wit, the **redemption of our Body**.

The **redemption** of our **Bodies** is the same thing as the **salvation** of our **Bodies**.

Here are some scriptures that will give you an idea about putting on **immortality** for your Physical **Body**.

- 1 Corinthians 15:53, For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this **mortal** must put on **immortality**.
- 54, So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this **mortal** shall have put on **immortality**, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, **Death** is swallowed up in victory.
- 1 Corinthians 15:26, The last **enemy** that shall be destroyed is **death**.
- 2 Timothy 1:10, But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath **abolished death**, and hath brought life and **immortality** to light through the gospel:

1 Timothy 6:16, (JESUS CHRIST,) Who only hath **immortality**.

Romans 2:7, To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and **immortality**, (He will give) eternal life:

Here is a little word study that connects **re-demption** with **salvation**.

These words all mean the same:

REDEMPTION, SALVATION, DELIVERANCE

The following modified definitions are from LOGOS Bible Software. They show some of the interaction between the words.

REDEMPTION

Redemption, 3085 lutrosis {loo'-tro-sis}

from 3084; TDNT - 4:351,543; n f

AV - redemption 2, redeem +41601; 3

- 1) a ransoming, redemption
- 2) **deliverance**, esp. from the penalty of sin

SALVATION

Salvation, 4991 soteria {so-tay-ree'-ah} feminine of a derivative of 4990 as (properly, abstract) noun:

TDNT - 7:965,1132; n f

AV - salvation 40, the (one) be saved 1, **deliver** + 1325 1, health 1.

saving 1, that (one) be saved + 1519 1; 45

- 1) deliverance, preservation, safety, salvation
 - 1a) **deliverance** from the molestation of enemies
- 1b) in an ethical sense, that which concludes to the souls safety or salvation
 - 1b1) of Messianic salvation
- 2) salvation as the present possession of all true **Christians**
- 3) future salvation, the sum of benefits and blessings which the **Christians**, **redeemed** from all earthly ills, will enjoy after the return of Christ.

DELIVERANCE

Deliverance, 859 aphesis {af'-es-is} from 863; TDNT - 1:509,88; n f AV - remission 9, forgiveness 6, deliverance 1, liberty 1; 17

- 1) release from bondage or imprisonment
- 2) forgiveness or pardon, of sins (letting them go as if they had never been committed), remission of the penalty

MORE TECHNICAL STUFF

You will discover some jewels in this discussion when you dig for them.

Faith is translated from Greek, Strong's 4102 pistis {pis'-tis}. Pistis is a noun, feminine. In the KJV, pistis is translated; faith 239, assurance 1, believe + 1537 1, belief 1, them that believe 1, fidelity 1, time(s), a total of 244 times.

Hope is translated from the Greek, Strong's 1679, elpizo {el-pid'-zo}. Elpizo is a verb, which is from 1680, a noun feminine. In the KJV, Elpizo is translated: trust 18, hope 10, hope for 2, things hoped for 1, vr hope 1, time(s), a total of 32 times.

Hope is also translated from the Greek, Strong's 1680, elpis {el-pece'}, from a primary elpo (to anticipate, usually with pleasure). In the KJV, elpis is translated: hope 53, faith 1, time(s), a total of 54 times.

Note the fact that 1680 was translated <u>hope 53</u> times and <u>faith</u> one time. That's a red flag! Hebrews 10:23 reads, "Let us hold fast the profession of our <u>faith</u>." It should read, "Let us hold fast the profession of our <u>hope</u>." The KJV translators goofed.

Hope and WAIT are intertwined.

Those **Christian** believers/receivers who are alive and remain to the coming of the Lord are going to have to know and experience the difference between **Hope** and **Faith**.

If you are going to **Hope**, you are going to have to **wait**. **Hoping** and **waiting** are hooked together.

Romans 8:24-25, For we are saved by **Hope**: but **Hope** that is seen is not **Hope**: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet **Hope** for? But if we **Hope** for that we see not, then do we with patience **wait** for it.

Hope is for the **future** and **Hope** requires no action at all. **Hope** requires belief and a lot of **waiting**. **Hope** is not within our time frame of manifesting.

I can manifest **Faith** because the Bible tells me it is time and I don't have to **wait**.

A pregnant woman can **Hope** that her delivery will come quickly, but strong **Hope** will not make the baby come. She must **wait** in **Hope**.

NOW IS THE TIME TO BE SAVED BY FAITH

2 Corinthians 6:2, For he saith, I have heard thee in a **time accepted**, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, **now is the accepted time**; behold, **now is the day of salvation**.

Salvation of the human **Spirit/heart** is for the present -- **NOW** -- and it is by the **Grace** of **our GOD** and your **Faith**.

Now is the day of deliverance and salvation for the **Spirit/heart** and **Soul/mind**.

WAITING FOR THE SALVATION OF THE BODY BY HOPE

The salvation of the **Body** is by **Hope**.

Hope refers to something in the future.

That date is set by **our GOD**, not you or me.

I **Hope** for that day and time which **our GOD** sets.

I want to be in that generation which will be alive and remain to the coming of the Lord.

I **Hope** I'm in that generation.

Paul had something to say about the generation that will be alive and remain to the coming of the Lord:

Romans 8:19-22, For the earnest expectation of the creature (created thing - body) **waiteth** for the manifestation of the **sons of God.**

- For the creature (created thing **body**) was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in **Hope**,
- 21 Because the creature (created thing **body**) itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the **children of God**.
- For we know that the whole creation **groaneth** and **travaileth** in pain together until now.
- And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves **groan** within ourselves, **waiting** for the adoption, to wit, the **redemption of our body**.
- ²⁴ For we are saved by **Hope**: but **Hope** that is seen is not **Hope**: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet **Hope** for?
- 25 But if we **Hope** for that we see not, then do we with patience **wait** for it.

All creation **groans waiting** for the manifestation of the **Sons of God**.

The manifestation of the Sons of God is by Hope and not Faith.

That is what the Bible says. We groan within ourselves, **expecting** and **waiting** for the manifestation of the **Sons of God**; and **hoping** and **waiting** for the **redemption** of our own **bodies**.

We **Hope** the **Body** will be **redeemed** and become **immortal** at the **time** of the **manifestation** of the **Sons of God**.

WE HOPE WE WILL BE SAVED IN THE BODY AT THE TIME OF THE MANIFESTATION OF THE SONS OF GOD

John 11:26, (JESUS said), And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall <u>never die</u>. Believest thou this?

SONS OF GOD ERROR AND SCANDAL

Around 1948, some believers began to see many of these Bible truths. They erroneously claimed by **Faith** that they were manifest **Sons of God**. Claiming by **Faith** that they were manifest **Sons of God**, they took upon themselves some things which the Bible says are reserved in **Hope**.

For instance, true manifest **Sons of God** will always think the right thoughts. The thoughts of the erroneous believers were not always right, but they thought they were. They turned **Hope** into **Faith** on their **own** time schedule. They brought disrepute to the **Sons of God** movement and it brought a great scandal upon a marvelous Bible truth.

What did they do that was scandalous? They took things that were not theirs to take.

As you might expect, many of the scandals were in the realm of improper sexual relations, and/or sex between the wrong people.

The Bible says to receive with meekness the engrafted word which is able to **save** your **Soul/mind**. But those believers had not received **all** of the engrafted word, yet. They saw many of the Bible truths, but they had not yet received **all** of the engrafted word.

They were not fully saved in their **Souls**. Their **Souls** were still receiving signals from their earthly carnal five **senses**. Some of their decisions were based on what they could see, hear, smell, taste, and feel. When they sensed those things, they wanted those things. Wanting those things, they decided to take those things.

The **Sons of God** scandal was due to one main **theological error**; they mixed **Faith** and **Hope**. They thought they were manifest **Sons of God** because they claimed it by **Faith**. The **error** was to turn **Hope** into **Faith**.

They erroneously believed the thoughts that came to their **minds** must have been from **God**. So they produced the **substance** and **evidence** of their own carnal minds by entering into scandalous relationships by **Faith** actions.

Wrong

Around 1952 to 1956 the **Sons of God** movement was really taking hold in the USA among some Pentecostals.

In the early 1960s there was a strong reaction against the movement.

For instance, the words and expressions manifest son or Sons of God were not allowed on Christian television in the decades of the 60s, 70s and 80s, even though those words and expressions are in the Bible and are wholesome.

What a shame!

FAITH IS NOT

Faith is **NOT** persuasion, credence, conviction, truth, reliance, constancy, assurance, belief or fidelity, as Strong and the dictionary have reported. For the most part, those words indicate something you **cannot see.**

Hebrews 11:1, Now **Faith** is the **substance** of things **hoped** for, the **evidence** of things not seen.

When you can **produce** something with **substance** and **evidence** that can be **perceived** in the sense realm, you have **produced** the **evidence** by **Faith**.

Far too many **Christian**s believe (are persuaded, convicted, assured -- past tense) that when something cannot be seen or **perceived**, they should exercise more **Faith**.

Wrong.

Exercise **Hope** for things you can't see.

When you exercise effective **Faith**, you will be able to **see** or **perceive** the resulting **substance** and/or **evidence**.

You exercise **Hope** for the day you can afford to buy a new car.

You exercise **Faith** the day you pay for a new car. Pay the money by **Faith**. "**Faith** is the **substance** of things **hoped** for, the **evidence** of things not seen."

By **Faith** our student bought the car, with the down payment (substance and evidence) he had saved up. He **Hoped** he could keep his good job and could make the monthly payments. By **Faith**, the **substance** and **evidence** of the car is in the driveway. We **Hope** the situation stays that way.

By **Faith** our student put the down payment (something with substance and evidence) on the car.

The **substance** and **evidence** of his **Faith** was the down payment money.

Now, our student **Hopes** that he can keep his job so he can make the rest of the monthly payments.

A LESSON ON FAITH AND HOPE

A pastor told me this story. A person under the influence of some powerful **Faith** teachers sent a very large check to his church.

The pastor said, "I deposited it in the bank, and went far away to preach at my denominational Conference. I sent checks to pay our bills before I left.

"My wife phoned to tell me that the big check bounced. I was in deep trouble because our checks would bounce. We came up with a plan to cover our checks by borrowing cash from many places.

"This is what I was told when I phoned the person to find what was wrong. The person needed a large sum of money. By **Faith** the person wrote the check for a tithe on the sum of money that was needed. The person told me that the check was sent to our church by **Faith**."

Wrong.

The person really wrote the check by **Hope** because there was no **substance** or **evidence** of any money to cover the check.

Remember, Hebrews 11, "Now **Faith** is the **substance** of things **hoped** for, the **evidence** of things not seen."

The person had no **substance** or **evidence**. **Faith** and **Hope** were mixed.

It caused a lot of trouble.

The pastor said, "My error was to write our church checks in **Faith** that his check would clear. I don't do that any more.

"Now, I **Hope** that the checks will clear. As soon as there is **substance** and **evidence** that the deposited checks have cleared I write checks by **Faith** to pay our bills."

That's a pastor who has learned a lesson.

ANOTHER LESSON ON FAITH AND HOPE

Don't go off your medicine until you see the signs of the manifestation of your healing with **substance** and **evidence**.

A man said he went off of his medicine because some powerful **Faith** teachers told him to take his healing by **Faith**. He was told that as long as he took his medicine, he was not exercising enough **Faith**.

Wrong.

When he came to my office he was a skinny bundle of nerves. He asked me why he didn't get better; and why did he get worse? His medicine had been taking care of his problem, without bringing complete healing. Without his medicine he fell to pieces.

The answer? You don't exercise **Faith** for things you **can't** see. You **Hope** for them.

He erroneously exercised **Faith** for a healing that he couldn't see. There was no **substance** and no **evidence** of healing.

By **Faith**, he should have asked for healing prayer. He can **hear** the prayer, so the prayer is manifest by his **Faith** with **substance** and **evidence**. By **Faith** he should have gone to a healing meeting. The healing meeting has **substance** and **evidence**.

He goofed when he flushed his pills down the toilet, by **Faith**.

By **Faith** he should have done things to bring healing; not to throw healing away.

He should have been **Hoping** for healing and been doing things by **Faith** to bring the healing.

The Bible does **not** teach people to throw away their pills, by **Faith**, to bring healing.

"A merry heart doeth **good** like a **medicine**: but a broken spirit drieth the bones." (Prov. 17:22) A **medicine** does **good** and a merry heart does **good**.

Don't let your <u>mis</u>understanding of what a powerful **Faith** preacher says ruin your **good** medicine.

You may even do things by **Faith** and **act** as though you were healed, while you **Hope** for the manifestation of your healing.

He thought he was told to **act** like he was healed by throwing his pills away.

Wrong.

That wrong idea comes from not understanding what JESUS taught about **Faith**.

What to do?

Pray by **Faith**. Go by **Faith**. Do by **Faith**. Study by **Faith**. Testify the truth by **Faith**. Take your medicine by **Faith**.

You can stop taking your pills when you see the substance and evidence of your healing. If you stop before you see the substance and evidence of any healing, you will be doing so by **Hope**, not **Faith**.

BELIEVE FOR THE PAST FAITH FOR THE PRESENT HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

Here is what JESUS said about **Faith**. This small section is quite complicated because of the difficult old English and the translation goofs -- but when you master these concepts, it will be worth your while.

HERE IS THE FAMOUS TEACHING JESUS GAVE ABOUT FAITH

Mark 11:20-24, And in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots.

- And Peter calling to remembrance saith unto him, Master, behold, the fig tree which thou cursedst is withered away.
- 22 And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have **Faith** in God (Have the **Faith** of GOD).
- shall say (by **Faith** present tense) unto this mountain, Be thou removed (by **Faith** present tense), and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall **believe** (**be persuaded, convicted, assured -** past tense) that those things which he **saith** (by **Faith** present tense) shall come to pass (by **Hope** future tense); he shall have (by **Hope** future tense) whatsoever he **saith** (said in **belief** past tense) [Strong's says, **SAITH**, a primary verb (used only in the definite past tense)].

The translators really goofed. They used the English word **Saith** twice. What was the goof? The first word **Saith**, as in "things which he **Saith**," is from Strong's G3004. But the second **Saith**, as in "whatsoever he **Saith**," is Strong's G2036, a different Greek word translated wrong. Strong's says, 2036, a primary verb (used only in the definite past tense). That goof in verb tense by the translators must be fixed in order to understand what **Faith** is.

Mark 11:24, Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, **believe** (**have been persuaded, convicted, assured -** past tense) that ye receive (**received - past tense**) them, and ye shall have them (by **Hope** - future tense). When JESUS cursed the fig tree by **Faith**, He acted like it was already done. JESUS did not disturb the tree in any way. He just walked away. He could have ripped the limbs off of the tree after he cursed it, but He didn't.

He walked away and went about His other business.

Returning later, Peter remarked that it was done. The **evidence** and **substance** were manifest about a week later.

When my guest threw his pills away it was as though he ripped the limbs off the fig tree. That's wrong. He threw the pills away before there was any **evidence** or **substance**.

Curse the fig tree or the illness by **Faith**. Act like it already happened. Walk away and leave it alone. That's right.

When you come back on it and there is **evidence** and **substance** that the tree was cursed (or the illness was cursed and withered away) -- that's the time to burn the dried limbs of the tree (throw your pills away).

HERE IS WHAT JESUS SAID ABOUT PEOPLE WHO DO <u>NOT</u> UNDERSTAND WHAT HE TAUGHT, AND WHY.

ALSO,
HERE
IS WHAT
JESUS SAID
ABOUT PEOPLE
WHO <u>DO</u> UNDERSTAND,
WHAT HE TAUGHT,
AND WHY.

Matthew 13:15-16, For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.

¹⁶ But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear.

REMEMBER SEEK IMMORTALITY FOR YOUR BODY

Romans 2:7, To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and **immortality**, (He will give) eternal life:

We seek **immortality** by doing things by **Faith**. But we cannot manifest **immortality**. So, after we do all we can, we **wait** and **Hope** that **our GOD** will send **immortality**.

REMEMBER

We are saved in the **Spirit/heart** by **Grace** through **Faith**, it is a gift of **our GOD**, **not** of personal **works**. But, the same Bible says to "**Work** out your own salvation with fear and trembling."

The salvation of the **Spirit/heart** is by **Grace** and **Faith**.

The salvation of the **Soul/mind** is by **Faith** and **Works**.

The salvation of the **Body** is by **Hope**.

The salvation of the **Body** will be at the time of the manifestation of the **Sons of God**.

At the time of the manifestation of the **Sons of God**, **Hope** will turn into **Faith**.

WHAT IS THE REDEMPTION OF OUR BODY?

Redemption means salvation.

Romans 8:22-25, For we know that the whole creation **groaneth and travaileth** in pain together until now.

- And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves **groan** within ourselves, **waiting** for the adoption, to wit, the **redemption of our body**.
- For we are saved by **Hope**: but **Hope** that is seen is not **Hope**: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet **Hope** for?
- 25 But if we **Hope** for that we see not, then do we with patience **wait** for it.

When we find the word **Hope**, we find the word **waiting**.

When we find the word **waiting** in the Bible, the word **Hope** is somewhere near. This is because we cannot take the salvation of the **Body** by **Faith**, we must **wait** for it.

The salvation of the **Spirit/heart** can be taken by our **Faith** because of **God's Grace**. We don't have to **wait**.

The salvation of the **Soul/mind** can be taken by our **Faith** and our **works**. We don't have to **wait** to start that either.

But the salvation of the **Body** is by **Hope**. We must **wait** for that.

The **Redemption** of the **Body** is the **Salvation** of the **Body**.

The **Body** of the believer/receiver shall become **immortal** when our **GOD** sets the time, <u>not</u> when we set the time.

WAS PAUL SAVED?

If Paul was saved, why was he **waiting** to be **redeemed** (saved)?

Romans 8:23, And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves **groan** within ourselves, **waiting** for the adoption, to wit, the **redemption of our body**.

Paul said, "even we ourselves **groan** within ourselves, **waiting** for the adoption, to wit, the **redemption** of our **bodies**." **Redeemed** and **saved** mean the same thing.

Was Paul saved? Yes, in his **Spirit/heart**.

Was Paul being saved? Yes, in his **Soul/mind**.

Was Paul waiting to be saved? Yes, in his **Body.**

Paul was not waiting to be saved in his Spirit/heart; his Spirit/heart was already (past tense) saved when he believed in JESUS in his Spirit/heart.

Paul was not **waiting** to be saved in his **Soul/mind**; his **Soul/mind** was being saved (present tense) by the engrafted word which is able to save the **Soul/mind**.

JAMES KNEW THAT THE SOULS COULD RECEIVE MORE SALVATION

James 1:21, Receive with meekness the **engrafted** word, which is able to save your **souls**.

But Paul knew his **Body** had to **wait** to be saved. He had to **wait** for **immortality**.

Paul thought that his **Body** might be saved.

Paul recognized that **Body salvation** was by **Hope**.

Paul said he was **hoping** and **waiting** for the salvation of his **Body**.

Proverbs 13:12, **Hope** deferred maketh the heart **sick**: but when the desire cometh, it is a tree of life.

How sad for some; and glad for others.

WAS PETER SAVED?

Peter, on the other hand, was <u>not</u> waiting for the salvation of his **Body**. Peter knew his **Body** would <u>not</u> be saved. He knew he would <u>not</u> enter immortality of the **Body**.

Therefore, we can get a lot of information about the salvation of the **Body** from Peter. Peter knew that his **Body** would <u>not</u> receive salvation, but Paul didn't know that. Peter knew that **Body** salvation depended on progressive **Love** that he did <u>not</u> have. Peter had the keys to the Kingdom, and he knew things Paul did <u>not</u> know.

Paul did <u>not</u> receive the keys to the kingdom, Peter did.

Peter said, 1 Peter 1:3-13, Blessed be the **God** and Father of our Lord **JESUS CHRIST**, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively **Hope** by the resurrection of **JESUS CHRIST** from the dead.

- ⁴ To an <u>inheritance</u> incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, <u>reserved in heaven</u> for you,
- ⁵ Who are kept by the power of **God** through **Faith** unto **salvation** ready to be **revealed in the <u>last time.</u>**

- ⁶ Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations:
- ⁷ That the trial of your **Faith**, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of **JESUS CHRIST**:
- ⁸ Whom having not seen, ye **Love**; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory:
- ⁹ Receiving the **end** of your **Faith**, even the **salvation** of your **souls**.
- 10 Of which salvation the **prophets** have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the **Grace** that should come unto you:
- 11 Searching what, or what manner of time the **Spirit** of **Christ** (the anointing) which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of **Christ**, and the glory that should follow.
- 12 Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the **Holy Ghost** sent down from heaven; which things the **angels** desire to look into.
- Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and **Hope** to the end for the **Grace** that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of **JESUS CHRIST**;

Verse 4, repeated and analyzed RESERVED INHERITANCE

"To an **inheritance** incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, **reserved in heaven** for you."

An **inheritance** that you don't have yet, is still yours. You can't spend it or do anything with it until the testator dies. It is **not** available to you until the court probates the estate.

Peter said that although the **inheritance** is yours, it is **reserved in heaven**, so you can't have it.

It is like an **inheritance** that is in a trust fund in the bank. When it's in the trust fund in the bank, you can't spend it until the conditions are met.

We know our **inheritance** is soon to be ours; but the wise testator had it held for us (**in heaven - not the bank**) until we become mature enough to handle it.

Verse 5, repeated and analyzed SALVATION REVEALED IN THE LAST TIME

"Who are kept by the power of **God** through **Faith** unto **salvation** ready to be **revealed in** the last time..."

The salvation (inheritance) is ready to be revealed in the last time, last days, the end of this age or the start of a new age.

These are the **last days** of an old age.

These are the days of the beginning of a new age. No, we are not talking about the "New Age Movement."

The term **new age** is used here as it was used by many good **Christian** writers a few years ago, to represent the **millennium**.

2 Peter 3:13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth (new age), wherein dwelleth righteousness.

Sometimes the word "world" means the "earth" and sometimes "world" means the "age."

I happen to **believe** (am persuaded, convinced, assured) that from June 5, to June 12, 1967, the old age began to close and the new age began to open; one door started to shut and another door started to open. This was when Israel took control of Jerusalem during the Six Day War.

My book **DANIEL'S 70 WEEKS** tells why I believe that.

Former generations did <u>not</u> talk about or study the salvation of the **Body** because that subject was <u>not</u> yet revealed by the **Holy Ghost**.

Christians are now engaged in study about the salvation of the **Body** because these are the last days.

The last time.

Now is the time.

Verse 9, repeated and analyzed

"Receiving the end of your **Faith**, even the salvation of your **Souls...**"

Notice that when our **Faith** (and our **works**) are finished, our **Soul/mind** will be completely saved.

Verse 10, repeated and analyzed, PROPHETS AND ANGELS LOOK AND SEARCH

"Of which salvation the **prophets** have enquired and **searched** diligently, who prophesied of the **Grace** that should come unto you." (1 Peter 1:10).

1 Peter 1:12, Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the **angels** desire to **look** into.

PROPHETS INQUIRE AND SEARCH.

ANGELS DESIRE TO LOOK.

This great salvation was somewhat of a mystery to the **prophets** of old and also to the **angels**.

The **prophets** have **enquired** and **searched** about it; the **angels** also desire to **look** into it.

The complete salvation of the **Soul/mind** must be pretty important because **prophets** and **angels** want to know more about it.

THE TABERNACLE IS THE HUMAN BODY.

PETER WROTE ABOUT HIS SOON COMING DEATH.

Peter also said, 2 Peter 1:13-15, Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in this **tabernacle** (**Body**), to stir you up by putting you in remembrance;

14 Knowing that shortly I must put off this my **tabernacle** (**Body**), even as our Lord **JESUS CHRIST** hath shewed me.

Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able after my **decease** to have these things always in remembrance.

Your **Body** is the **Tabernacle**.

1 Corinthians 6:19, What? know ye not that your **body** is the **temple** (**tabernacle**) of the Holy Ghost?

Verse 15, repeated and analyzed AFTER MY DECEASE

"Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able after my **decease** to have these things always in remembrance."

The word **decease** means to **die**.

Peter, when referring to himself says, "After my decease, I want to bring these things to your remembrance."

Peter was thinking about **dying** when he talked about putting off his **Tabernacle**.

In this verse, Peter talks about his **death** in the realm of his Physical **Body**.

Peter knew he would not enter into **immortality** in his Physical **Body**.

WHAT IS LOVE

To understand where Peter went wrong, we need to understand the difference between Agape/Love and Phileo/Love.

1 Corinthians 13:13, And now abideth **Faith**, **Hope**, **Love**, these three; but the greatest of these is **Love** (**Agape**).

EROS - LOVE STORGOS - LOVE PHILEO - LOVE AGAPE - LOVE

These are **four** Greek words used for **one** English word **-- Love**.

It is no wonder that there is little understanding concerning what the Bible says about **Love**.

Perhaps this introduction to **Love** will help.

EROS Love

Eros is a Greek word for Love that is not in the Bible. But Dod is the Hebrew equivalent of Eros and it is in the Bible. Dod means Sexual Love in Hebrew, and Eros means Sexual Love in Greek. When we look up the Hebrew word Dod in the Bible, this is what we find:

Proverbs 7:17-19, I have perfumed my bed with myrrh, aloes, and cinnamon.

18 Come, let us take our fill of **Love** (**Dod** - **Eros**, **Sex**) until the morning: let us solace ourselves with **loves** (**Dod** - **Eros**, **Sex**).

19 For the goodman is not at home, he is gone a long journey:

Song of Solomon 1:2, Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth: for thy **Love** (**Dod - Eros, Sex**) is better than wine.

Song of Solomon 1:4, Draw me, we will run after thee: the king hath brought me into his chambers: we will be glad and rejoice in thee, we will remember thy **Love** (**Dod - Eros, Sex**) more than wine: the upright **Love** (**another** word **for Sexual Love**) thee.

Song of Solomon 4:10, How fair is thy **Love** (**Dod** - **Eros**, **Sex**), my sister, my spouse! how much better is thy **Love** (**Dod** - **Eros**, **Sex**) than wine! and the smell of thine ointments than all spices!

Ezekiel 16:8, Now when I passed by thee, and looked upon thee, behold, thy time was the time of **Love** (**Dod - Eros, Sex**); and I spread my skirt over thee, and covered thy nakedness: yea, I sware unto thee, and entered into a covenant with thee, **saith** the Lord GOD, and thou becamest mine.

STORGOS Love

Storgos means family **Love**. For example, "I **Love** (**Storgos**) my Aunt because she is my Mother's sister."

The word **Storgos** is used in Greek literature but it is not found in the Bible.

PHILEO Love

Phileo/Love is a responsive Love. Philadelphia means the "City of Brotherly Love."

Phileo/Love means, "I'll **Love** you if you **Love** me." "You can count on me if I can count on you."

"I'll stop Phileo/Loving you if you stop Phileo/Loving me."

There are ten more variations of **Phileo/Love**, some of which are: **Love** your husbands, **Love** your children, **Love** towards man(kind), and the **Love** of money.

Most marriages are consummated by **Eros/Love** and nourished by **Phileo/Love**.

Here are some examples of **Phileo/Love**.

John 5:20, For the Father **loveth** (**Phileo**) the Son, and sheweth him all things that himself doeth: and he will shew him greater works than these, that ye may marvel.

John 11:3, Therefore his sisters sent unto him, saying, Lord, behold, he whom thou **loveth** (**Phileo**) is sick.

John 16:27, For the Father himself **loveth** (**Phileo**) you, because ye have **loved** (**Phileo**) me, and have believed that I came out from **God**.

AGAPE LOVE

Love (Agapao also Agape) means Godly Love. It means that "I Love you without requesting or requiring any response." "I'll never quit loving you, no matter what you do to me." "I'll Love you if you don't Love me." "I'll give you bread, even if you're cursing me."

Agape/Love is not human or natural. No one can have **Agape/Love** unless **our GOD** gives it to them.

Galatians 5:22-23, But the fruit of the Spirit is **Love** (**Agape**), joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

Agape is translated **Charity** in the KJV.

Charity Agape/Love meets the needs of others without expecting response.

We give to Charity Agape/Love.

We are not expecting anything back when we give to **Charity Agape/Love.**

Here are some examples of **Agape/Love**.

Matthew 5:44, But I say unto you, **love** (**Agape**) your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

Mark 10:2, Then **JESUS** beholding him **loveth** (**Agaped**) him, and said unto him, One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me.

John 11:5, Now **JESUS loveth** (**Agaped**) Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus.

THE FAMOUS LOVE CHAPTER

1 Corinthians 13:1-4, Though I speak with the tongues and of angels, and have not charity (Agape/Love), I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all Faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity (Agape/Love), I am noth-And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity (Agape/Love), it profiteth me nothing. Charity (Agape/Love) suffereth long, and is kind; charity (Agape/Love) envieth not: charity (Agape/Love) vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,

Faith without Agape/Love is nothing.

AGAPE AND PHILEO AN ENGLISH ECLIPSE

We must now deal with how Peter knew he would **die** in his Physical **body**. Peter knew that he would **not** come into the third salvation, the **Body salvation**. He could **not** become **immortal**.

JESUS told Peter He was going to give Peter a chance to come into the third salvation -- **Body salvation**. But Peter goofed, he made mistakes.

The English translators also goofed. They translated the passage so no English speaking person could possibly understand what the discussion was about.

This passage is truly an **Eclipse** in the **English** language. Sad!

John 21:15-19, So when they had dined, **JESUS** saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, **lovest** (**Agapao**) thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I **love** (**Phileo**) thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. [**JESUS** said **Agape**, but Peter responded with **Phileo**. The English translation misses the comparison completely, because it translates both Greek words into one English word, **Love**.]

¹⁶ He saith to him again the **second** time, Simon, son of Jonas, **lovest** (**Agapao**) thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I **love** (**Phileo**) thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep. [Again **JESUS** said **Agape**, but again Peter responded with **Phileo**.]

17 He saith unto him the **third** time, Simon, son of Jonas, **lovest** (**Phileo**) thou me? (JESUS changed from **Agape/Love** to **Phileo/Love**.) Peter was **grieved** because he said unto him the **third** time, **lovest** (**Phileo**) thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I **love** (**Phileo**) thee. **JESUS** saith unto him, Feed my sheep. [The third time **JESUS** said **Phileo** - not **Agape**. Peter was grieved but still responded with **Phileo**.]

¹⁸ Verily, verily, I say unto thee, When thou wast young, thou girdedst thyself, and walkedst whither thou wouldest: but when thou shalt be old, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee, and carry thee whither thou wouldest not.

This spake he, signifying by what **death** he should glorify **God**. And when he had spoken this, he saith unto him, Follow me.

JESUS said to Peter, "do you Agape/Love me?"

Peter said, "yea, Lord, you know I **Phileo/Love** you."

JESUS said, "feed my lambs."

JESUS said a second time, "Peter do you **Agape/Love** me?"

Peter said, "yea, Lord, you know I **Phileo/Love** you."

JESUS said, "feed my sheep."

JESUS said a third time, "Peter do you **Phileo/Love** me?"

Peter was grieved because JESUS said a third time, "do you **Phileo/Love** me?"

Peter said he **Phileo/Loved JESUS** but **JESUS** wanted Peter to **Agape/Love** Him (**JESUS**). The difference between **Agape/Love** and **Phileo/Love** are:

Phileo/Love means "I will meet your needs, if you meet my needs." "I'll bring the macaroni if you bring the cheese." **Phileo/Love** requires a **response**.

Agape/Love means "I will meet your needs, even if you don't meet my needs." "I'll bring the macaroni and cheese, even if you don't bring anything." **Agape/Love** is unconditional **Love**, no matter what the other person does to you. **Agape/Love** does not require a **response**.

Peter said he could Phileo/Love JESUS, but Peter could not Agape/Love JESUS. As a result, JESUS said that Peter could not overcome the last enemy, DEATH, because he could not become an Agape/Lover. Peter could receive most of the benefits of a good Christian life, but Peter had to die in his Body. Peter did not receive the third salvation, Body salvation. Peter could Phileo/Love, but Peter could not Agape/Love.

JESUS said Peter would **die** in his Physical **Body**. **JESUS** said someone would take Peter and bind him, and take him where he would not want to go (to **die**). Peter could not overcome the last enemy, which is **death** (in the Physical **Body**), because Peter could not **Agape/Love**.

We
don't
want to
be like Peter;
we want to be able
to say to JESUS,
"yes, Lord, I Agape/Love you."

WILL JOHN DIE?

Peter turned around and looked at John; next Peter turned to **JESUS** and asked, "What about John? Is John going to **die**?"

After Peter found that his own **Body** was going to **die**, Peter wanted to know what was going to happen to John.

Peter wanted to know, "Will John become **immortal** or will John **die**?"

John 21:20-23, Then Peter, turning about, seeth the disciple (John) whom **JESUS** loved (**Agapao**) following; which also leaned on his breast at supper, and said, Lord, which is he that betrayeth thee?

- ²¹ Peter seeing him (John) saith to **JESUS**, Lord, and what shall this man (John) do?
- ²² **JESUS** saith unto him (Peter), If I will that he (John) **tarry** till I come, what is that to thee? follow thou me.
- Then went this saying abroad among the brethren, that that disciple (John) **should not die**: yet **JESUS** said **not** unto him (John), He (John) **shall not die**; but, If I will that he (John) **tarry** till I come, what is that to thee (Peter)?

JESUS told Peter that it is none of his (Peter's) business what happened to John._

IS JOHN STILL ALIVE?

John told us many things about **Agape/Love** in his epistles.

The idea of being an **Agape/Lover** and overcoming the last enemy, **death**, centered around John, not Peter. John was an **Agape/Lover** and Peter was a **Phileo/Lover**.

Peter had to go the way of all flesh in his **Body** because **Phileo/Love** is not sufficient to be a **manifest Son of God** and overcome the last enemy, **death.**

As far as we know, **JESUS** and John are the only **Agape/Lovers** that are referred to in the Bible. JESUS became **immortal**, and we don't know if John did or didn't.

A student pointed to this scripture indicating a question about whether John would die or not.

Matthew 20:21-23, And he said unto her, What wilt thou? She saith unto him, Grant that these my two sons (James and John) may sit, the one on thy right hand, and the other on the left, in thy kingdom.

But Jesus answered and said, Ye know not what ye ask. Are ye able to drink of the cup that I shall drink of, and to be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with? They say unto him, We are able.

And he saith unto them, Ye shall drink indeed of my cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with: but to sit on my right hand, and on my left, is not mine to give, but it shall be given to them for whom it is prepared of my Father.

JESUS said James and John would drink the cup (of death) and be baptized (with death) so the idea that John would die has much support. But, that prophesy came before John became an Agape/Lover. Could John's ascent to **Agape/Love** change the prophesy? What if John lost Agape/Love and regressed Phileo/Love and later died? Would that fulfill both the prophesy of JESUS and the truth of John's Agape/Love? That's enough to cross a Rabbi's eyes.

Perhaps JESUS' answer to Peter is the same for us: JESUS told Peter that it is none of his (or our) business concerning what happened to John._

WHO CAN WE TRUST?

Right now we can't trust each other. What if the person sitting next to you was granted permission to sit on the throne of JESUS and rule and reign one thousand years? That person would be dangerous because we are not yet **Agape/Lovers**. The truth is that we are all a lot like Peter, not John. As a Phileo/Lover, you can't sit on the throne. Phileo/Lovers make decisions based on their own needs, not based on the needs of others. Phileo/Lovers make decisions based on responsiveness. Until we become Agape/Lovers, giving, and giving, and giving, without demanding even a thank-you, we can't **rule** and **judge** the nations. Ruling the nations is only for **Agape/Lovers**.

We are standing as candidates to become Agape/Lovers.

JESUS said Phileo/Love is not enough because Phileo demands response. Phileo/Lovers are going to die. Agape/Lovers can live forever.

In order to overcome the last enemy, which is **death**, we who are alive and remain to the coming of the **CHRIST** are going to have to learn to **Agape/Love** in all areas.

PETER HAD TO DIE BUT WE DON'T. WHY?

Now we can better understand the conversation **JESUS** had with Peter about **Agape/Love** and **Phileo/Love**.

JESUS asked Peter if he would **Agape/Love JESUS**, even if **JESUS** didn't take care of Peter.

Peter said he could **Phileo/Love JESUS** if He took care of him (Peter). As long as **JESUS** was there meeting the needs of Peter, Peter said he could **Phileo/Love** Him.

Peter was a **Phileo/Lover** and Peter said he could not **Agape/Love JESUS**.

Peter thought it was too hard for him to be an **Agape/Lover**.

Why has it taken a thousand years (plus) for English Bible readers to find and understand this Bible truth? It could be that this next scripture has the answer:

1 Peter 1:5, Who are kept by the power of **God** through **Faith** unto **salvation** ready to be **revealed in the last time**.

Perhaps this is the **last time.**

Phileo/Lovers do not overcome DEATH.

Agape/Lovers
will overcome
DEATH when they
receive the salvation
of their Bodies in the
last time.

Peter had the Keys to the Kingdom, even though he was <u>not</u> able to be an **Agape/Lover**. Peter understood the **requirements** and **timing** for **Body salvation**.

Here are some of the Keys to the KINGDOM that Peter told us to use:

Peter said, 2 Peter 1:5-15, And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your **faith virtue**; and to **virtue knowledge**;

- ⁶ And to **knowledge temperance**; and to **temperance patience**; and to **patience godliness**;
- And to **godliness brotherly kindness** (Phileo/Love); and to **brotherly kindness** (Phileo/Love) charity (Agape/Love).
- ⁸ For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord **JESUS CHRIST**.
- ⁹ But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.
- Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: **for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall**:

- 11 For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour **JESUS CHRIST**.
- 12 Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth.
- 13 Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, to stir you up by putting you in remembrance;
- ¹⁴ Knowing that shortly I must put off this my tabernacle, even as our Lord **JESUS CHRIST** hath shewed me.
- Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able after my decease to have these things always in remembrance.

Verse 10, repeated and analyzed

"Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never **fall** . . ."

We will analyze the word **fall**.

FAIL, FALL, DIE

The etymology of the word **fall** in Strong's says the word **fall** is the same word as **fail**, or **die**. (4417 fall, 4098 fail, fall, die, 4072 fly away) It says you won't fly away -- you won't **die**, you won't **fail** -- you won't **fall**. There is a generation which is going to be alive and remain until the coming of the **CHRIST** and they are **not** going to fly away to heaven.

WHY DID MOM AND DAD DIE?

It just so happens that in my parent's generation, Mom and Dad **died**. I am not finding fault with them for **dying**. The Bible says the truth about overcoming **death** is only going to be revealed in the **last days**. (1 Peter 1:5)

My Mom and Dad never heard any preacher preach on these subjects. The **Holy Ghost** was not talking about it when Mom and Dad lived. They never heard any preacher preach on **immortality** or **eternal life** like Romans 2:7 says. Romans 2:7, To them who by patient continuance in well doing **seek** for glory and honour and **immortality**, (he will grant) **eternal life**:

SEEK IMMORTALITY!

WHAT A THOUGHT!

KEYS TO THE KINGDOM

Peter had the keys. Peter knew there was a process to get to the point where we would become **Agape/Lovers**.

Just as a key has little "wigglies" on it, if you get them in line just right, the door will open.

You can unlock the mysteries and enter into **Agape/Love** by making it all the way up the **seven** steps to **perfection**.

If you do these things, you shall never **fall**. The word "**fall**" means "**fail**, **fall**, or **die**." You cannot **fail**, **fall** or **die** when you're an **Agape/Lover**.

The subject in this passage is the comparison between Peter's coming **death** and the steps for us to take in order to overcome **death**.

Peter knew he was going to **die** in the **Body**. But Peter said if (when) we overcome, we won't die.

Then Peter revealed the **seven** steps which lead to **perfection** and overcoming **death**.

When you get to the **seventh** step, which is **Agape/Love**, you can't **die**. You will become **immortal**.

Peter said he could <u>not</u> **Agape/Love** and **JESUS** responded that Peter had to **die**.

Peter said those **Christian** believer-receivers who do go up the **seven** steps to **perfection**, all the way to **Agape/Love**, can overcome the last enemy, **death**.

1 Corinthians 15:26, The last enemy that shall be destroyed is **death**.

You can **rule** and **reign** with **CHRIST**. You can actually **sit** on the **throne** and **rule** with Him when you become an **Agape/Lover**.

For example, here are some **Throne** scriptures: Revelation 3:21, To him that **overcometh** will I grant to **sit** with me **in my throne**, even as I also **overcame**, and am set down with my Father **in his throne**.

Revelation 20:4, And I saw **thrones**, and they **sat** upon them, and judgment was given unto them: ... and they **lived** and **reigned with Christ** a thousand years.

Peter had the keys of the kingdom. He knew the revelation of the third salvation, **Body salvation**, would not come until the **last times/days**.

It is **reserved** in heaven. Preachers did <u>not</u> preach about it until the **last times**. Why didn't preachers preach about **Body** Salvation until the **Last Times**?

The **Holy Ghost** did <u>not</u> show it to the preachers, until the **last times**.

That's why my Mom and Dad did not hear any preaching about overcoming **Death**.

How cruel would it have been, to offer **immortality** to my parent's generation, when their generation was **not** the generation that would be here at the time of the coming of CHRIST?

We **Hope** that our generation is the one that will be able to overcome the last enemy -- **Death**.

Here are the **seven** steps to **perfection** and **overcoming death** that Peter revealed to us. We **believe** (are persuaded, convicted, assured) that some readers of this book will be alive and remain until the coming of the Lord.

Add to your Faith, virtue, step 1.

Add to your virtue, knowledge, step 2.

Add to your knowledge, temperance, step 3.

Add to your temperance, patience, step 4.

Add to your patience, godliness, step 5.

Add to your godliness, Phileo/Love, step 6.

Add to your Phileo/Love, Agape/Love, step 7.

HOW MUCH FAITH?

One of the problems with this **seven** step staircase is that some people say they don't have a good foundation of **Faith**.

JESUS did not agree.

JESUS said that if you have the **Faith** of a grain of a mustard seed and you put that seed (**Faith**) in the right environment, it has the potential to germinate and grow and fill the whole earth.

A mustard seed is very tiny. I have heard that a mustard seed is smaller than a grain of talcum powder.

Even if you don't have much **Faith**, **JESUS** said, "don't worry about it." Everybody has some **Faith**, and it doesn't matter how small it is.

If you put your **Faith** (**seed**) in the right environment, it will grow.

Your Faith (seed) has the potential to fill the whole earth.

Luke 17:6, And the Lord said, If ye had **Faith** as a grain of mustard seed, ye might say unto this sycamine tree, Be thou plucked up by the root, and be thou planted in the sea; and it should obey you.

NEVER THINK THAT YOU DON'T HAVE ENOUGH FAITH.

Here is some further analysis of what those seven step words mean, as far as the Bible is concerned:

1. Add to your FAITH,

VIRTUE -- POWER

(The word **virtue** means power.)

2. Add to your VIRTUE -- POWER,

+

KNOWLEDGE the ENGRAFTED WORD

(The word **knowledge** means the engrafted word.)

3. Add to your KNOWLEDGE the ENGRAFTED WORD,

+

TEMPERANCE -- SELF RESTRAINT

(The word **temperance** means self-restraint.) Temperance is the ability to eat one potato chip, while the bowl is sitting in front of you.

4. Add to your TEMPERANCE -- SELF RESTRAINT,

+

PATIENCE -- TOLERANCE.

(The word **patience** means tolerance; don't be in a hurry.)

Patience is tolerance for those other people who are learning temperance. Patience is for parents who are trying to teach temperance -- self restraint to their children. Patience is for school teachers who are trying to deal with children who are having trouble with temperance -- self restraint. Patience is for you to show to other drivers who have <u>not</u> yet learned temperance --self restraint.

5. Add to your PATIENCE -- TOLERANCE,

+

GODLINESS -- AWE.

(The word **godliness** means **awe**.)

Godliness is the knowledge of the constant presence of our GOD. When you come into the knowledge of the constant presence of our GOD, it changes your behavior. When you have godliness, it is harder to do bad things when

you know that **our GOD** is right there watching.

6. Add to your GODLINESS -- AWE,

+

BROTHERLY KINDNESS -- Phileo/Love.

(The words **brotherly kindness** mean **Phileo/Love**.)

"You help me and I'll help you." The Church is on that step right now, learning how to **Phileo/Love** and how to keep **Phileo/Love** in the proper realms; and we're getting ready to learn how to **Agape/Love**.

7. Add to your BROTHERLY KINDNESS -- Phileo/Love,

+

Agape/Love -- Charity.

In the KJV, the word **Charity** is translated from the Greek word **Agape**. In modern translations **Agape** is translated **Love**.

Agape/Love means,
"I'll Love you even if you
don't Love me."

STUMBLING ON THE STAIRCASE

When you go up the staircase, there are certain steps on which you probably stumble and fall.

The reason you trip on that step is because you do not have good footing on the step below.

If you stumble, you have not mastered the step below, and you can't master the next step.

The staircase is like a ladder and you can't skip a rung. You must take every step.

Not everyone stumbles on the same step, but many people admit that **patience** is a big problem to them.

I have wondered if **our GOD** was teaching my Dad **patience**, because I was such an **intemperate** instrument in his life. Sorry, Dad. I know more now than I knew then.

HUSBANDS, Agape/Love YOUR WIVES

The Bible tells us that husbands are to **Agape**/ **Love** their wives, which means to **Love** your wives even if they do not give a **response** in return. **Agapao** and **Agape** are effectively the same.

Colossians 3:19, Husbands, **Love (Agapao)** your wives, and be not bitter (4087, PIKRAINO, sharp) against them.

Ephesians 5:25-33, Husbands, **Love** (**Agapao**) your wives, even as **CHRIST** also **loved** (**Agapao**) the church, and gave himself for it;

- ²⁶ That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,
- 27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.
- ²⁸ So ought men to **Love** (**Agapao**) their wives as their own bodies. He **that loveth** (**Agapao**) his wife **loveth** (**Agapao**) himself.
- For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:
- 30 For we are members of his Body, of his flesh, and of his bones.

- 31 For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.
- 32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning **Christ** and the church.
- 33 Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so **Love** (**Agapao**) his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she **reverence** (5399, PHOBEO, PHOBIA be sore afraid, fear exceedingly) her husband.

No. That did not say that husbands are to act in such a way that they make their wives **fear** them. The Bible says that husbands are to **Agape/Love** their wives. No woman would **fear** a man who **Agape/Loved** her. The word **fear** is a translation problem. Strong's Concordance also says; **fear**, 1c) to reverence, venerate, to treat with deference or reverential obedience. That's not a bad translation.

My translation of (Biblical) **fear** is to be in **awe** of something or someone. When the Bible says to **fear** God, it means to be in reverent **awe** of God. When the wife is told to **fear** her husband (who is an **Agape/lover**) - she is to be in **awe** of such a man. In fact, I believe that all the world should stand in **awe** of a man who is an **Agape/Lover**. Such a man can not **die**.

WASH WITH WORDS

Ephesians 5:25, Repeating and analyzing, Husbands, **Love** (**Agapao**) your wives, even as **CHRIST** also **loved** (**Agapao**) the church, and gave himself for it; That He (**CHRIST**) might sanctify and **cleanse** it (the church) with the **washing** of water by the **word** (the **word** of **God**, the **word** of **CHRIST**).

CHRIST cleanses the church with His words.

Husbands are to **cleanse** their wives with their own **words**.

"I **Love** you." "I want you." "I need you." "I'm glad you are here." "I want to be near you."

It's possible that wives who do not hear enough **words** of **Love** might become contaminated with "spot and wrinkle."

We might also conclude that a wife with "spot and wrinkle" has an unconcerned, uncommunicative, and silent husband. A "clean" wife is the result of a smart, concerned, thoughtful, appreciative, and talkative, husband.

Husbands, "wash your wives" with loving words.

WOMEN PHILEO YOUR HUSBANDS

Titus 2:4, That they (the aged women) may teach the young women to be sober, to **Love (PHILANDROS from Phileo)** their husbands, to **Love** (PHILOTEKNOS from **Phileo**) their children,

HUSBANDS AGAPE --WIVES PHILEO

I cannot find anywhere in the Bible where we are told that wives are to **Agape/Love** their husbands, nor can I find where we are told that husbands are to **Phileo/Love** their wives.

But rather, the Bible says for husbands to **Agape/Love** their wives, and wives to **Phileo/Love** their husbands.

I cannot find any exception to this pattern. As a husband, I admit I would like to.

All husbands must learn to **Agape/Love** their wives -- or else they can not overcome the last enemy -- **DEATH**.

Agape/Lovers shall become immortal.

Men **Agape/Love** other members of the body of **Christ** and also husbands **Agape/Love** their wives.

On the other hand, women are to **Agape/Love** other members of the body of **CHRIST**. Females must also learn to **Agape/Love**. Women **Phileo/Love** their husbands, and **Agape/Love** the other members of the body of **Christ**.

In other words, wives bless their husbands with **Phileo/Love** because they have the right to expect **response**. But, women **Agape/Love** other members of the Body of **CHRIST** -- because **Agape/Love** is **not** based on **response**.

Isn't that interesting? In a few years you may find a book about **Agape/Love** for husbands and other members of the Body of **CHRIST** to manifest, and **Phileo/Love** for wives to give to their husbands -- written by a **Christian** Psychologist or Psychiatrist. When you do -- you'd better buy it and read it.

1 Corinthians 13:13, And now abideth **Faith, Hope, Love**, these three; but the greatest of these is **Love**.

Faith, Hope and Love must become common experiences in our lives.

Without **Agape/Love**, we don't stand a chance of overcoming the last enemy -- **death**.

CHAMPIONS OF FAITH

Hebrews 11:17-40, By **Faith** Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son,

- 18 Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called:
- 19 Accounting that **God** was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure.
- ²⁰ By **Faith** Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come.
- ²¹ By **Faith** Jacob, when he was a dying, blessed both the sons of Joseph; and worshipped, leaning upon the top of his staff.
- 22 By **Faith** Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones.
- 23 By **Faith** Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment.
- 24 By **Faith** Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;
- 25 Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of **God**, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;
- 26 Esteeming the reproach of **CHRIST** (**the Anointing**) greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.

- By **Faith** he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.
- ²⁸ Through **Faith** he kept the Passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them.
- ²⁹ By **Faith** they passed through the Red sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned.
- 30 By **Faith** the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days.
- 31 By **Faith** the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.
- 32 And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets:
- Who through **Faith** subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,
- 34 Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.
- Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection:
- ³⁶ And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment:

- 37 They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented;
- ³⁸ (Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

39 And these all, having obtained a **good** report through **Faith**, **received not the promise:**

40 God having provided some better thing for \mathbf{us} ,

that they without us should not be made perfect.

WHAT IS THE PROMISE??

1 John 2:25, And this is the **promise** that he hath **promised** us, even **eternal life**.

You got to be kidding. **Eternal life**? You mean live in heaven after I die?

Wrong.

BY FAITH:

- Abel offered
- Enoch was translated
- Noah prepared an ark
- Abraham obeyed
- Abraham went out
- Abraham sojourned
- Abraham looked for a city
- Sara received strength
- Sara conceived
- Sara was delivered of a child
- Sara judged Him faithful who had promised
- Abraham offered up Isaac
- Abraham offered up his only begotten son
- Isaac blessed
- Jacob blessed and worshipped
- Joseph made mention and gave commandment
- Moses was hidden
- Moses refused
- Moses forsook Egypt
- Moses did not fear
- Moses endured
- Moses kept the Passover
- Israel passed through the Red sea
- The walls of Jericho fell down
- Rahab perished not

• Rahab received the spies

- Gedeon, Barak, Samson, Jephthae, David, Samuel, the prophets: subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched violence, escaped the sword, were made strong, waxed valiant and turned armies of aliens to flight.
- By Faith women received their dead
- The dead were raised to life again
- Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance
- Others had trial
- Others were stoned, sawn asunder, tempted, slain, wandered about, were destitute, afflicted and tormented.

Hebrews 11:39-40

39 And these all, having obtained a **good** report through **Faith**,

received not the promise:

40 God having provided some better thing for us,

that <u>they without us</u> <u>should not be made perfect.</u>

DO YOU BELIEVE THAT?

AND ALL THESE GREAT MEN AND WOMEN OF **FAITH RECEIVED NOT THE PROMISE**:

DO YOU BELIEVE THAT?

GOD having provided some better thing for **us**, that **they** without **us SHOULD NOT BE MADE PERFECT.**

DO YOU BELIEVE THAT?

And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall **never die**.

Believest thou this?

John 11:26

IS HEAVEN THE PROMISE?

1 Peter 3:18-19, For **CHRIST** also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to **death** in the **flesh**, but quickened by the **Spirit**:

19 By which also he went and preached unto the **Spirits** in prison;

Which sometime were **disobedient**, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of No-ah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.

When **JESUS** died, the Bible says He descended to the lower parts of the earth and preached to the **Spirits** that had been **disobedient**.

Do you suppose those **Spirits**, who had been captive in hell all that long time, listened to the preaching of **JESUS**? Yes, I do, too.

Ephesians 4:8-9, Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led **captivity captive**, and gave gifts unto men.

9 Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth?

JESUS preached to the Spirits in hell.

Then **JESUS** took **captivity captive** with Him.

JESUS took all the **Spirits** of all those men and women of **Faith**, who were **captive** in the prison of hell (and those who were **disobedient**, too) back to heaven with Him.

Those **Spirits** of those great Champions of **Faith** are now in heaven but still they have **not received the promise**.

Wait a minute, you thought heaven was the **promise**? No, it is not. Heaven is not the **promise**. Heaven is a waiting place to receive the **promise**.

"These all having a good report through **Faith**, **received not the promise**: **God** having provided some better thing for **us**, that **they** without **us** should not be made **perfect**."

It is hard to **believe** (be persuaded, convicted, assured). No question. They have <u>not</u> received the **promise** in **heaven**.

We must obtain the **promise** for them.

The thoughts about the great champions of **Faith** in Hebrews 11 continues in chapter 12. There have been times that I wished that the chapter division was not there between chapters 11 and 12 because the thought did not end in 11. It continues without a break in 12.

Hebrews 12:1-3, no break in thought from chapter 11,

Hebrews 11:39-40, And these all, having obtained a good report through **Faith**, **received not the promise**:

40 **God** having provided some better thing for us,

that they without us should not be made perfect.

(keep the thought)

Hebrews 12:1, Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a **cloud of witnesses**, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the **race** that is set before us,

² Looking unto **JESUS** the author and finisher of our **Faith**; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of **God**.

Who is in that great **cloud of witnesses**? Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and all those other wonderful men and women of **Faith**.

Those **champions** of **Faith** are **dead**. All those **champions** of **Faith** are in the **cloud of witnesses**.

The **cloud of witnesses** is a stadium of spectators. All those **champions** of **Faith** witness and watch the **alive** players on the field.

We, the **alive Christian** believers-receivers, run the **race** in the stadium of **life**. The **cloud of witnesses** (the **Spirits** of the dead) cheer us on.

When we win the **race**, our team wins the **race**. Then the **cloud of witnesses** also win the **race**, and we can all be made **perfect**.

Is it possible? Can it be done?

GOD said yes.

THEY WITHOUT US SHOULD NOT BE MADE PERFECT

They, the ones who have died in **Faith**, without us, (the ones who are **alive**), should not be made **perfect** until we (the ones who are **alive**) win the **race** for our team. Then everybody wins the **race**. We are all on the same team.

There's a cheer leading section in heaven cheering us on for the final **victory**. This will be the biggest and most important **race** this world, and other worlds, have ever known. The **race** taking place in this world is affecting the **heavenlies**. The heavenlies are surrounding us and cheering us on to win the **race**.

WHAT IS THE RACE?

To have JESUS in your Spirit/heart,

To have the Holy Ghost in your Soul/mind,

To have the glory and energy of our GOD in your Body,

so you will not die.

We are in a race with death.

When you have the **glory** and **energy** of the Father in your Physical **Body**, then you will overcome the last enemy which is **death**.

You will be **immortal**.

When you overcome the last enemy which is **death**, those **Spirits** in heaven can be made **perfect** and come back to this earth.

They are not coming back until you win.

When you win, they win.

THEIR PERFECTION DEPENDS ON OUR PERFORMANCE

That is why you should want to complete the seven steps to perfection and add to your Faith, virtue.

Add to your virtue, knowledge. Add to your knowledge, temperance. Add to your temperance, patience. Add to your patience, godliness. Add to your godliness, Phileo/Love.

And finally, add to your Phileo/Love, Agape/Love.

Those who can **Agape/Love** win the race.

Those who go all the way up the ladder will become **Agape/Lovers** and they will overcome the last enemy, which is **death**.

They will be **immortal**.

Romans 2:7, To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and **immortality**, (He will give) eternal life:

THERE'S A GENERATION THAT IS GOING TO OVERCOME THE LAST ENEMY, WHICH IS DEATH.

WE HAVE A TREMENDOUS DESTINY!

Revelation 3:21, To him that **overcometh** (**the last enemy - death**) will I grant to sit with me in my **throne**, even as I also **overcame**, and am set down with my Father in his **throne**.

Hebrews 12:1, Wherefore seeing we also are **compassed about** with so great a **cloud of witnesses**, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the **race** that is set before us,

Our destiny is told to us in the Bible.

Those who overcome the last enemy, which is **death**, are going to sit on the **throne**, and **rule** and **reign** with **CHRIST** for a thousand years.

THEY ARE ALL MADE PERFECT WHEN WE WIN THE RACE.

You are running the **race** in the stadium of **LIFE**.

If you **fail** to **win** the **race**, somebody else is going to have to pick up the baton, and you are going to have to go to the other side (heaven).

MANY SAVIORS

Obadiah 21, And **saviors** shall come up on mount Zion to judge the mount of Esau; and the kingdom shall be the LORD'S.

Did that say that there will be a plurality of **saviors** in the world? Yes.

The Bible says that many **saviors** (plural) shall come from Mt. Zion to judge the mount of Esau. The many **saviors** (plural) are the people who are going to win the **race**, in the **Body** realm, and bring **salvation** to the whole world.

That's what the Bible says.

CAN YOU SAVE THE SOUL OF SOMEONE ELSE?

James 5:20, Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall **save a Soul** from **death**, and shall hide a multitude of sins.

Did that say that some people can actually save others? Yes, in **Soul/mind**.

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

Did that say there is only one **begotten** son of God? Yes. **JESUS** is the **only begotten** son of God. But, He is **not** the only **saviour**.

Missionaries, preachers, evangelists save **Souls** of people by giving them the engrafted word which is able to save their **Souls**.

JESUS saved **Spirits**.

James 1:21, Receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to **save** your **Souls**.

JESUS saved **Spirits**. The engrafted word saves **Souls**.

THE PERFECTION OF THE DEPARTED SPIRITS DEPENDS ON OUR PERFORMANCE.

Romans 8:23, And not only they (all creation), but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves **groan** within ourselves, **waiting for the adoption, to wit, the <u>redemption of our Body</u>.**

All creation **groans** for the manifestation of the **Sons of God** to bring the **redemption of our Body.** "They without us should not be made perfect." They (the ones who have died in **Faith**) without us (the ones who are alive and remain) should not be made **perfect** until we win the **race** for them.

What a marvelous destiny.

God thinks we are up to this task!

That settles it!

What an awesome responsibility. The **perfection** of the great cloud of witnesses depends on our winning the **race**.

Your father and mother are depending on you to win the **race** so they can come back. The door is shut and they are not coming back until we overcome the last enemy, which is **death**.

We are **not** talking about **going** to heaven; we're talking about **bringing** heaven back here on earth.

We're talking about **perfection** of the heavenlies.

We're talking about living and loving.

We're going to live and going to Agape/Love.

We're going to be loving livers.

We are going to have JESUS in our Spirit/heart.

We are going to have the Holy Ghost in our Soul/mind.

(receive with meekness the engrafted word which is able to save our souls).

We are going to have the glory and energy of the Father in our Bodies.

We are going to become not just **Phileo/Lovers** but we are going to become **Agape/Lovers**. We're going to be able to **Love** people whether they **Love** us or not.

A lot of things are going to have to change on the face of this earth before the return of the **Christ**.

JESUS said He is not going to come back until we straighten this place up.

Acts 3:20-21, And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you:

Whom the heaven must receive until the times of **restitution** of all things,

Some people teach that **JESUS** is going to come back and straighten things up for us. But the Bible does not teach that.

JESUS said He gives us power to do all the things that need to be done before He can come back.

Some people used to teach that **JESUS** was going to come back and **bring** us the kingdom (goody bags). But the scripture says that when **JESUS** comes back, He will **receive** the Kingdom. It doesn't say He will **bring** the Kingdom. It says He will **receive** the Kingdom.

This means He will **receive** the Kingdom from people who own the Kingdom. They will be glad to give it back to Him.

The people who have the keys to this world right now are **not** ready to give their Kingdom to **JESUS**.

The Bible says you are going to overcome and **take the kingdom**. You are going to be **possessors** of the Kingdom. When you **possess** the Kingdom, you will do it with a light hand, a thin thread. You will be glad to present the Kingdom back to **JESUS** when He comes. He comes to **receive**, not **bring** a Kingdom.

Daniel 7:18-27, But the **saints** of the **most High** shall **take** the kingdom, and **possess** the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever.

One of the problems is that some people have taught **Christian**s to **wait** for **JESUS** to **bring** the Kingdom, when in reality, the goal of the Church is to **possess** and **take the kingdom.** When we **possess** the kingdom, **JESUS** can come back. When we **win**, those who are in heaven can come back.

IT IS FINISHED

John 19:30, When **JESUS** therefore had received the vinegar, he said, **It is finished**: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost. (KJV

JESUS said, "It is finished." JESUS is not going to do another thing. JESUS is not going to do any more until we do our part. Our part is to win the race. The fulfillment of this truth depends on us. We've been waiting for JESUS to finish it. He won't. We must.

Acts 3:20-21, And he shall send **Jesus Christ**, which before was preached unto you: Whom the heaven must receive <u>until</u> the times of **restitution of all things**, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

That pretty well says that JESUS will **not** come back until everything is **restored**.

We pray to the Father for eyes that see, and ears that hear, to change us from what we are, to what we ought to be, to make us victorious in the Kingdom. Let us be **Lovers**, and let us come into that step of **Agape/Love** where we can overcome and be trusted with the tremendous force, power, and energy that is yet to come.

As time goes on, the Lord will bring these truths to our remembrance, so that we can meditate on them, and let them become **light** and **life** to us.

And now abideth

Faith, Hope, Love,

these three; but the greatest of these is

Love.

1 Corinthians 13:13

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Formerly a submarine sailor, Ebaugh received engineering training from the US Navy, University of Wisconsin, Purdue University, New York University, University of Illinois and received his engineering diploma from the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers in NYC. He has made significant inventions in typewriters for IBM. He set up production lines for missiles, and flight simulators for an Aerospace company.

Ebaugh is a senior member of the American Society of Tool and Manufacturing Engineers, and a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, the Society of American Value Engineers and the Institute of Industrial Engineers.

Ebaugh graduated from the Shortridge Bible School in 1947. His full financial support has come from Bible teaching since 1968.

David Ebaugh and Betty LeTourneau were married in 1950. They have four children and ten grandchildren.

Ebaugh's biographical record appears in Marquis WHO'S WHO IN FINANCE AND INDUSTRY, and in WHO'S WHO IN THE EAST, and in WHO'S WHO IN RE-LIGION.

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FAITH, HOPE, & LOVE

THREE STEPS TO IMMORTALITY

© September 1994, Revised November 1994, DAVID PAUL EBAUGH DAVID EBAUGH BIBLE SCHOOL 102 PARK TERRACE HARRISBURG PA 17111

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Christians have been told to seek immortality of the Physical body. Few do. This book is for the precious few who do.

Romans 2:7, To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, (He will give) eternal life:

GOD bless you, double.

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This is a **Faith** ministry.

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