

Truth in Practice



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Putting God's Truth into practice is the reality of the Christian life. How to live God's Truth is clearly explained in the Bible, and it is our responsibility to read it, believe it, accept it, and live it every day. The Truth that God has graciously given to His creation is all through Scripture, and it is everyone's choice to live it and enjoy Heaven forever; or to ignore it and suffer in Hell forever.

It is possible—through wrong decisions, wrong choices, and wrong desires, to gain the wealth of the world, but to lose the kingdom of God. *Jonah 2:8* “Those who cling to worthless idols [lying vanities] forfeit the grace [forsake the mercy] that could be theirs.” *Mark 8:36* “For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?”

The Serpent who appeared to Eve, is the same Devil who opposes God's Word to this day—that is why the apostle warned to *1 Timothy 6:12* “Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life.” It is a serious battle with a dangerous enemy. Satan will do everything possible to have us turn away from the Word, and to leave a position of trust on God.

Eden-like conditions—that God wants us to enjoy—are possible by Jesus bearing on the cross, every evil thing inherited from Adam's disobedience and rebellion. The gifts of Christ's Atonement relate to this life on earth—while we wait for the next in Heaven.

Isaiah 53:4-5 “Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.”

The cause of trouble is turning our back on God, and going our own way—*6* “All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity [guilt and sins] of us all.” The penalty for that rebellion was borne by Jesus on the cross—that is why He came to earth.

Luke 4:18 “The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed.”

The Atonement of Christ enables the presence of God in our heart—every moment of every day. *Romans 8:32* “He that spared not his own Son [the greatest of Gifts], but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things [the lesser gifts]?” God wants to give to us everything Adam's rebellion took from us.

We are all sinners through Adam's one mistake, but we can be righteous through Jesus' one sacrifice *Romans 5:17-19*. This cleansing work of the cross gives us the ability to live according to God's Word, and to trust Him in faith as Bible believers did when Jesus was on earth. We have an Atonement right to enjoy health, protection, provisions, and God's peace—all without payment.

During the first Passover in Egypt, not one thing could touch the homes that were under the blood of a lamb *Exodus 11 and 12*. They were not only protected but they were also healed of every

oppression by the divine power of God. *Psalms 105:37* “He brought them forth also with silver and gold: and there was not one feeble person among their tribes.”

Now we are under the Lamb of God—whose Blood would provide that much more protection, healing, deliverance, victory and peace. The poor spiritual condition of most religious people today is because they do not believe, nor claim, their Atonement rights in faith. They believe a lamb's blood protected and delivered people centuries ago, but they do not believe the true Lamb of God's Blood protects and delivers people today.

Believing that Christ has changed, robs us of everything He died to give us—including eternal life. If the shed Blood of Christ cannot deliver, protect, and heal us today, it would not be able to save us from God's wrath either. The truth is *Hebrews 13:8* “Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever.”

Everything we could need in this life is provided by the atoning work of Christ on the cross. The presence of God, through His Holy Spirit within, makes it possible. Jesus became humble and submissive so that we could be spiritually rich in faith *2 Corinthians 8:9*.

The pathway to eternal life is to accept, believe, and practice every divine truth of the New Testament—including the Old Testament where it supports the New Covenant. The Word of God is the road back to the Garden of Eden. Vast numbers of people professing faith in Christ, expect to enter heaven without obeying or practicing God's Word. The teaching of the Bible, however, completely refutes this serious error.

Abraham put his faith in God in practice—by doing what God said to do. Under God's teaching and training, Abraham would have sacrificed his son, rather than disobey the Word.

This is not *law-righteousness*, but soul-saving *faith-righteousness*.

God's plan of righteousness is through faith in the Blood of His Son. God provides the spiritual light, and His Holy Spirit gives the ability to obey—we just make the choice *to* obey—and *to* practice our faith in God. Jesus restored all the blessings lost through Adam's rebellion, and He provides us the ability to meet the conditions to receive those blessings.

Practicing our faith proves we love God. ^{1 John 2:3} *"Hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected."* To keep God's Word is to practice our faith ^{1 John 2:6} *"He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked"*—by faith in the Father every day.

Anyone who lives by faith in God will be putting His Word into practice—a Word that gives advice and instruction on every detail of life—explaining *what* to do, and *how* to meet every situation. Trusting *God* each day means; no money stored up; no anti-theft system activated; no family doctor; no lawyer's number in our cell phone; etc.

We easily accept the advice of people in whom we have confidence, so it is just as reasonable to readily accept advice from God in whom we *should* have the most confidence—advice that will save our soul from the flames. It is all about love for God, trusting Him, and practicing His Truth. ^{John 14:23} *"If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching [keep my words]."*

When we love someone, we want to do whatever they ask us to do; so we should be more than willing to do what God wants us to do—put His teaching, advice, and Truth into practice. Living by faith in God compels us to depend to-

tally on Him. Adam and Eve had a *perfect life*, because they depended on a *perfect God*.

Following the instructions of God's Word, takes us back to the position of total dependence on Him for everything—as Adam did. Going directly to God, as a child goes to a parent; ^{Matthew 18:3} *"Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven."* ^{Philippians 4:6} *"In every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God."*

Faith lessons should be learned each day, because we started life with a rebellious nature, so we must be willing to allow God to teach us. Our self-will is to be rejected, and God's will accepted. ^{Romans 12:1-2} *"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."*

The Holy Spirit begins the training, and He has us get rid of every unscriptural thing or desire in our life—it means to eliminate every human plan and false place of trust. Practicing faith on God means we depend on Him for everything in this life.

Regardless of what the devil suggests, or however he opposes our faith, we must stand firm in trusting God in faith—practicing His Word of Truth concerning every detail of life. We trust God in faith for health, healing, a forgiving spirit, finances, justice when wronged, and for everything else. The Holy Spirit is a perfect Teacher, so He will bring us to where we would rather give up our life, than trust in anything but God.

When our *faith in God* is practiced in our life, the conditions of Eden can be restored and

we are ready to meet Jesus. ^{1 Peter 1:6-7} *"Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness [been grieved] through manifold [various] temptations: That the trial [genuineness] of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found to praise and honor and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ."*

All trouble is from the devil, and he can oppress us *only* where we are not fully surrendered to God's will, or we are not obeying His Word. If the attack is met as the Bible tells us to meet it, and we remain committed to trusting God in faith through it all, the trial of our faith, will be turned into a blessing from the Lord. ^{Mark 11:24} *"What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them."*

The Word is the same as if God told us in person that our prayers will be heard and answered. We are to accept His Word as true, without waiting to visibly *see* anything, but just believing in faith that we will receive what we have asked God for in prayer.

Our faith in God must be perfected regarding every part of our life, just as God perfected the faith of Abraham, Isaac, Joseph, David, Mordecai, and many other Bible Christians who were truly committed to obey the Scriptures concerning every situation confronting them.

They persevered under trial, and stood firm in their faith on God, so they would ^{James 1:12} *"receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him."* That is putting God's Truth into practice—and receiving eternal life as the blessed reward.



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