

# Initialize our Commitment!

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Initializing our commitment to God and His Truth is a priority issue every day. Computers are used by many today, and we often have to *restart* or *initialize* the operating system. With a digital keyboard we are told to *initialize* the board to reset to factory specifications. To *initialize* is to *set variables to their starting values at the beginning of a program*; or: *to clear internal memory of previous data in preparation for use*.

As we awake, we have the *obligation* and the *privilege* to restart the day with sins forgiven by confessing and repenting of past mistakes. Due to the corrupting influence of the world around us—in so many forms and with so many types of communications today, we need to *initialize* our thoughts and *reset* our value system by asking for God's help.

The sinful nature everyone begins life with has influenced and controlled the human mind ever since Adam and Eve rebelled against God—and because of *our* tendency to fall back into sinful ways, wrong thoughts, and ungodly desires—and because of the strong grip the sin nature still has in the world, we need to *initialize* our thoughts by repentance and confession.

We start the day with a *clean slate* and *correct* thoughts when we use the weapon of the Word. 2 Corinthians 10:4 “(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) 5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and

*bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.”*

It is always good to *initialize* our mind and *renew* our thoughts as Satan can have a grip and stronghold on our thinking and reasoning. Romans 3:11 “*There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God. 12 They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one.*”

The devil makes it easy to get some *thing*; some *interest*; or some *person* between us and God. Commandment #1 is a reminder that idolatry is *prevalent* but not *permitted*. Exodus 20:3 “*Thou shalt have no other gods before me.*” Satan often attempts to have us be so interested or involved in something, that our *spiritual* interests are *not* priority anymore, and an idol can form in our heart.

God does not allow us to have anything replacing Him in our heart. Exodus 20:5 “*Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God.*” Jealousy is a strong emotion and has caused more harm in human relationships than we could count.

Love is also a powerful emotion—but our *first* love must be reserved for God. We *initialize* our life by *repenting* of our sins—*confessing* them to God, and He promises to always forgive 1 John 1:9. Mark 12:30 “*Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul Deuteronomy 6, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.*”

*Sin* is giving *in* to temptation. Satan is the originator of temptation, but we can *resist* temptation when we have the Word of God in our heart. 1 John 2:14 “*I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one,*” by the help of the Holy Spirit.

We must make the commitment to *initialize* our mind when arising in the morning—getting

on our knees before God—owning up to our mistakes; admitting our sins in thought, word, or deed; and initializing our commitment to do the will of God. It is a *privilege* to have the *opportunity* to restart—this time in the strength and ability God provides through His Spirit within.

To *initialize* is to *renew* our interest in God's Word, as the Word is the *basis* of our faith and the weapon of our defense. 2 Corinthians 10:4 “(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)” It is how the *strong hold* of Satan is broken over our thoughts and desires—it is how we bring “*Into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.*”

It is through reading and meditating of the holy Scriptures every day that we learn what the will of God is for us with any given situation or temptation. James 1:21 We are to “*Receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.*”

Love motivates every gift. When Jesus explained the most important commandment Mark 12:32 “*The scribe said unto him, Well, Master, thou hast said the truth: for there is one God; and there is none other but he: 33 And to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love his neighbour as himself, is more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.*” Jesus then said, “*Thou art not far from the kingdom of God.*”

We *Initialize our Commitment* to living God's Truth every morning, because we know 1 John 5:19 “*The whole world lieth in wickedness.*” The world is a dangerous place with potential harm and deception everywhere. The people in the world are controlled by an evil devil who wants to *deceive*, *defeat*, and *destroy* anyone at any time—we must be *aware* of what he is attempting to do.

The warning—Ephesians 5:15 “*See then that ye walk circumspectly [cautiously and guardedly], not as fools, but as wise, <sup>16</sup> Redeeming the time, because the days are evil [making the most of every opportunity].*” The *days* are evil because the *devil* is evil and is causing many in the world to act in evil ways. All, who have *not* given their life to God, have the potential to do wicked and evil things.

Ephesians 5:17 “*Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is.*” Sin can still be the issue. The destructive effects of sin should be obvious, but Satan blinds the minds of millions. The devil even uses false doctrines, like *Once Saved; Always Saved* to have people remain in sin and forfeiting their salvation. Millions who may have *once* been saved, were later *lost* due to unrecognized or unrepentant sin.

With modern communication today—wrong thoughts; unscriptural desires; destructive habits; and corrupting influences are everywhere—we need to *initialize* our operating system and *cleanse* our thought-process by *repenting* before God and *restarting* the day with a clean slate.

It is an intense spiritual war—and it will continue until Christ returns—which is soon approaching. We must not allow ourselves to be deceived with false doctrines or wrong teaching that is so prevalent today. Sin is *still* the issue in this day of grace.

Ananias and Sapphira were believers when they were deceived by the devil, who influenced them to lie when questioned by the apostle. Acts 5:2 “[Ananias] kept back part of the proceeds, his wife also being aware of it, and brought a certain part and laid it at the apostles’ feet. <sup>3</sup> But Peter said, ‘Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself?’”

Satan had deceived Ananias to do that—sin was *still* an issue for both Ananias and Sapphira,

even though they *had* once been believers—proving the OSAS doctrine false. Both lost their lives and their salvation because of deliberate sin—even though Jesus died on the Cross to make Atonement *for* sin—but they would have had to repent. Sin was a serious issue *then* and it *is* still a serious issue today. Ephesians 5:15 “*See then that ye walk circumspectly [cautiously, guardedly], not as fools, but as wise.*”

We must be Ephesians 5:17 “*Understanding what the will of the Lord is;*” which is known by reading the Bible—which tells us Romans 12:2 “*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.*” It is scripturally *wise* to allow the Holy Spirit to *enlighten* us to the will of God.

He will enable us to *initialize* our thoughts to be scriptural thoughts. 1 Corinthians 2:14 “*The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*”

Upon arising each morning, we have the responsibility as a believer in Christ, to *act, decide, talk, and treat* everyone as His *representatives* on earth. There are *not many* making that commitment; *not many* living by the Word; and *not many* living by faith in God—but we can by *initializing our commitment* to make scriptural choices and selections that day.

The Holy Spirit enables us to know the importance of making scriptural decisions that definitely affect those around us and everyone in our home. What is *heard; viewed; said; seen, and spoken* about in conversations will affect and influence someone or everyone in our family.

Initializing our Commitment to God’s Truth is extremely important—because being apathetic toward the Truth can be a *gradual* process—which can become a *continual* process if we are

not aware that Satan is deceiving us somehow. *Initializing our Commitment* to God’s will and Word includes our *choices* in reading material, books, magazines, computer programs, movies, music, online surfing, and entertainment.

These are the closing days—we must diligently *seek* God’s will in all that we say, do, and decide. Children and young people *must* see a scriptural example in those from whom they *learn*—those right in their home. Unrepentant *sin* can bring serious spiritual *harm* if it is not dealt with through confession, prayer, and *initializing* our thoughts every morning to be thoughts within the Word and will of God. Jesus said Matthew 24:4 “*Take heed that no one deceives you.*”

As the spiritual war becomes more intense, we must be on a higher state of alert to Satan’s deceptions through his ever-changing disguises and ways to deceive. As the world moves further and further away from any semblance of Scriptural living, we can be sure to ask God to fill our hearts with His *love, peace, and hope* in a world that is filled with *strife, turmoil, and despair*.

In the midst of the resentment, rage, and anger that is common today, God’s original plan for His creation and His children keeps replaying in our mind—*love, peace, kindness, and a living hope* for a future in Heaven made possible by the gift of His Son.

If we humbly seek the Lord Jesus, He will *enter* our heart and *forgive* our sins—He promises. It is still vitally important to *Initialize our Commitment* to His Truth everyday—and thanking God for the privilege to place our many sins and mistakes under the Blood of Calvary.

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